THE GOLD COAST.

1639 - 1645.

The Dutch Commander- and Captain-General, and Director on the Gold Coast, under the Netherlands West-Indian Company.

1639 - 1645.

Name.	Date of the Commission from the States-General &c.
ADRIAEN JACOBSZ VAN AMERSFOORT/ (Commander- & Captain-General on the Gold Coast of Guinea.)	11 March 1639. Arrived from Holland & took over from Nicolaes van Yperen 12 July 1639. Died at Elmina, 6th January 1641.
JACOB RUICHAVER. (Director of the Northern Coast & Northern Part of Africa.)	Appointed provisionally by the Council at Elmina on the death of van Amersfoort. Received no Commission from States General. Sailed home (via St Thomé & Brazil) from Elmina on December 21st (from Mouré 22nd) 1645.
JACOB VAN DER WEL. (Director over the North Coast of Africa and the Island St Thomé.)	6th July 1645. Promoted from Fiscal. Took over from Ruichaver on the (sic) ~~30th November~~ 1645, at Elmina. ~~1st December~~

Resolutions of States General. 1639. (S.G. 3228.)

Veneris 11 March 1639.

Two Directors of the WIC. in the Chamber at Amsterdam appeared in the Assembly and, in accordance with the Charter granted to the same Company, have presented to their Ho.Mo. ADRIAEN JACOBSZ VAN AMERSFOORT, in order to command as Commander and Captain-General on the Gold Coast of Guinea, and places situate thereabouts, requesting that he might be provided with a commission, upon his taking the customary oath. Having deliberated thereupon, their Ho.Mo. have granted the aforesaid Commission, and he has taken the customary oath accordingly.

(Note. There is no copy of this commission in the "Commissie Boek", S.G. 3251)

Veneris 13 May 1639.

Received a letter from the Directors of the WIC. at the Chamber of Zeeland, written at M'burch the 7th instant, and therewith the Points of Convocation on which the Assembly of the XIX of the aforesaid Company shall meet on the 29th inst. Upon which, resolved to commission Messrs L.D.vanV. & R. to preside in the said Assembly, for which the document of commission in the usual form shall be "gedepecheert".

S.G.5772. contains the original of the above letter, with the Points, of which the following is a summary:

. . . . .

[illegible]

4. And as it is understood that the ENGLISH trading to GUINEA at CORMANTIJN wish to make some forts (sterckten) in order to hinder us in the trade there, will the members please to give attention to what, in these circumstances, ought best to be done for the service of the Company.

(The other Points relate chiefly to Brazil)

Sabathy the 6th August 1639.

Received a letter from the Directors of the WIC. at the Chamber of Amsterdam, written there the 5th instant, containing, ... Secondly that they have convened the Assembly of the XIX of the aforesaid Company for the 29th of this month, on the Points of Convocation (Beschrijvingen) which they send in duplicate in the said letter. Whereupon, being deliberated, it was decided that duplicate of the letter and Points be placed in the hands of Messrs D. van V. C. & S. in order to preside at the aforesiad Assembly, for which an document of Commission shall be "gedepecheert".

S.G.5772. contains the original of the above letter, with the Points (17) of which the following is a summary:

6. Further attention will have to be given [redacted] upon what footing the whole coast of Africa could be navigated and traded for the most service of the Company and to present [redacted] of all foreigners nations; [redacted].

16. To resolve for the best of the Company on all the points out of the letters and papers last come from GUINEA, Brazil, and other places, or which may come in at the next Assembly.

(The other Points relate chiefly to Brazil)

Luna the 17th October 1639.

The remonstrance delivered to their Ho.Mo. in the name & on behalf of the Assembly of the XIX of the WIC. now held at Amsterdam, and the thereto annexed extracts from the letters from Nicolaes van YPEREN, sent from the Castle DEL MINA on the 14th February last, are, after previous deliberation, placed in the hands of Messrs Duyst, Van Voorhout, and others their Ho.Mo.'s deputies, who have presided at the aforesaid Assembly, in order to examine, and to formulate their written ~~opinion~~ advice thereon.

(Note. Neither the above remonstrance, nor any written report theron can be found in S.G.5772.)

Resolutions. Zeeland Chamber 1639. (WIC.oc.23.)

6 January 1639.

Resolved that the ship "Middelburch" shall as soon as possible be made ready for the voyage to GUINEA.

29 August 1639.

- "Report of the Commissioners for the purchase of the cargoes for GUINEA."-

31 August 1639.

Mr Anthony Floraen is engaged as Fiscal on the Coast of GUINEA, at twelve "ponte" per month, upon such instructions as shall be given him. ...

Marginal notes to the Points for the Assembly of the XIX on 29th August (vide p.2)

... ...

[illegible]

... ...

21 November 1639.

Approved that the ship "Walcheren" for Guinea shall raise anchor to-morrow, in order to put to sea with this present fleet (vlote) and wind.

14 December 1639.

Is resolved to supply ~~[illegible]~~ up to 30 soldiers on the ship "Walcheren" to GUINEA. ...

Copy Letters from the XIX. WIC. to the Gold Coast.
(Letter Book. WIC.oc.8.)

To the General Claes van Yperen.
Honoured, Valiant, Trusty, Well-beloved,

As the Assembly of the XIX, last assembled in Zeeland, having given attention to YH's request which has now several times been made to them, has been in consultation about sending out a General on the Coast in your place, so has the same Assembly, through their deputies, cast their eyes upon the good services previously received (getrocken) from the General, ARENDT JACOBSEN VAN AMERSFOORT, and have persuaded him to a second journey to GUINEA in the same capacity as before, as you will be able to see from his Commissions from His Highness the Prince of Orange, & the High Mighty Lords States General of the United Provinces, and that from the Company; our request and command therefore is that, on the landing there of the aforenamed General, ARENT JACOBSEN VAN AMERSFORDT, you acknowledge HH as such, and admit him into his office and inform him well of everything which concerns the service of the Company with which YH is in any way acquainted, and withhold nothing that is necessary for the execution of his charge, which we are confident YH is yourself disposed to do; and finally, that you will please to make such arrangements for your return hither as the season will allow (lijden) and the service of the Company shall require. Relying upon which,

Honoured, Valiant, Trusty, Well-beloved,
we commend YH to the protection of the Almighty.

YH's good friends,
The deputies on behalf of the
Assembly of the 19.

S' Gravenhage. 24 March
1639.

"Copy of a certain letter written
by the Chamber of Amsterdam to the
General, Nicolaes van Jperen."

Honoured, Valiant, Trusty, Well-beloved,

How the Assembly of the XIX has finally found good, upon your several times reiterated request, again to appoint the Honoured, Valiant, ARENT JACOBSS VAN AMERSFOORT to his old charge and the Commander- Generalship of that region, and that he is now going there by the ship "Amersfoort" for YH's long-desired relief, YH will be able to see from the accompanying letter from the deputies of the aforementioned Assembly of the Nineteen. Consequently, this will be all the shorter, and chiefly

serve to notify YH that, since our last, we have received YH's acceptable (letters) of the 10th June, & 17 July of last year, and have so availed ourselves of the good advices therein contained, and have given such Instruction, order & charge thereon to the aforenamed present Commander-General as is most expedient for the Company; from which YH will further be able to learn what ships from there have arrived both in this country and in Brazil, and have been sent thither from here; kindly desiring that YH, on your part, after the proper installation of his person in the aforesaid office and the handing-over to HH of the Forts, ships and everything pertaining thereto, will communicate to, and make HH acquainted with, and give him royal and open instruction of everything that concerns the service of the Company, so that HH may commence the charge laid upon him with a good knowledge of affairs and carry out everything for the best service of the Company, with such mutual communication and friendship in everything, as becomes two such Chiefs; which we expect from YH. Relying upon which,

Honoured, Valiant, Trusty, Well-beloved,

We commend YH into God's protection, ~~of the Almighty~~.

~~YH's good friends~~

Amsterdam the 26th March 1639.

YH's good friends,

The Directors of the West India Company, at the Chamber of Amsterdam.

(sgd) Jaecques van Hooren.

(sgd) Henric Hamel.

Arent Jacobss van Amersfort. General in Guinea.

Honoured, Valiant, Trusty, Well-beloved,

As it is reported and made known to us, in this present Assembly, by the deputies on behalf of the Chamber of Amsterdam, of your engagement and the conditions agreed upon on both sides, likewise also (your) departure from Texel, we therefore wish to inform YH by this, that we approve of the engagement and the conditions as made, and are satisfied with the Instructions as they have been given to you by the same Chamber. YH can act and regulate yourself accordingly until we have considered further orders, and sent them to YH. (No Instructions found.)

It has been reported to us here that a Fort (vastigheid) would be made by the English merchants in GUINEA, at CORMENTIJN, with which they will, undoubtedly, seek to hinder us in the trade and to bring it more and more to them. This has therefore been deliberated about, in this our ~~Chamber~~ Assembly, and resolution taken, as we are transmitting

to YH herewith (n.f.) in accordance with which YH will have to regulate yourself in the matter; on the understanding that if YH should think of, or practice any other means whereby the English could be diverted from their intentions or obstructed [redacted]) in their progress, YH can act & do therein as you shall find proper for the best service of the Company and the carrying out of our intentions. Mean time, we shall exert ourselves (ons evertueren), as we have seriously admonished the members of the respective Chambers each in its own, to use every endeavour that our resolution heretofore taken, for the navigation of the Gold Coast (extracts of which have been given to YH by the Chamber of Amsterdam) may be effectually, "sortere" (?), and promptly complied with.

The Chamber of Amsterdam, so their deputies inform us, have their ship the "Cameel" nearly ready, by which that Chamber is sending, and YH has to expect, the necessities of provisions, materials, and otherwise, as YH, before your departure from Texel, had left by memorandum, at the same Chamber.

Since YH's departure, we have got no ships from the Gold Coast, so that we cannot know what is passing, or required, there, in order to arrange according to circumstances.

We will, therefore, recommend to YH to exert yourself in, and advance the service of the Company with all your power, which we do not doubt, [redacted].

The cargoes required for that trade will be sent to YH by the respective Chambers, in conformity with the resolution herefofore taken by us.

Against the next Assembly of the XIX a new general order and regulation over the navigation of the whole coast of Africa will be drawn up [redacted] and sent to YH for your guidance. Meantime we will entrust everything that is there required for the furtherance of our service and increase of trade to YH's vigilance and exertions, and expect pertinent and full advices from YH. from time to time, both of what concerns its profit, and to prevent its injury; also, in the establisment ([redacted]) of lodges, at what places and how manned and supplied, and further, how everything there ought to be regulated.

Before we conclude, we wish most highly to recommend to YH that close regard may be taken to all smuggling and trading by private persons, being our servants, and if anything is caught in it, that it be proceeded against with all vigour.

. . . . . .

Extract. Copy letter to [Aernt Jacobsz van Amersfoort]

[illegible]

We understand from the letter from Mr van Yperen, about the Lodge at ACRAA, that "op dato" he had not been able to obtain (it) from the King; notwithstanding that a good offer of a present of 1½ M(~~f~~) gold had been made. We desire to recommend YH to give attention to this so that the service of the Company can be furthered, either by this, as the aforesiad gentleman writes us that provision would have to be made with a fort (vasticheit) and a garrison (sterkte) of men, because of the "~~voter~~ vilterije" (vilainy?) and treachery of the people there; or that YH will find it advisable to continue the same with "leggers" on the coast, as hitherto. We wish to commend to YH's wisdom in which the best interests of the Company lie.

The Lodges placed at COMANI and CABO CORS, gives us great pleasure. We will hope that, with the departure of the French and English, the trade there will increase more and more: to which YH will please to apply all diligence.

Having seen the report of the Hon.General that the English are claiming CORMANTIJN as their own country ~~(land)~~, and to that end have had their King's Arms hung up;-notwithstanding that we had been allowed by the Braffos and Capusiers to place a house at ANNEBABO (sic) in order to drive our trade, and, after everything had been placed(gestelt), had, at their request, planted a Prince flag thereon, in order to let it be known therewith, the cession (opdracht) of the country (land) to us;-the next day the English, hostilely accompanied by some CORMANTIJNS and FANTIJNS, carried off that flag and cut down the staff (standert) leaving one of their blood flags (meaning the red ensign?) hoited and flying, in its place; about which we are not a little surprised, and intend in a few days to remonstrate about the same to their Ho. Mo., in order to know how YH will have to act in the matter. We will hope to let you know, at the end of this, what will have happened therein.

~~Meantime~~ (Vide note on p.2. supra.)

Meantime we understand, also from the letter from Mr van Yperen, that he had sent messengers to the Braffo and the Capuseros, in order to be maintained in (van) the place granted by them for ditto house; which the messengers (i.e. the Braffo's ?) had postponed for 6 to 7 weeks, as his royal feast will be made over the display and putting on of a Golden Hat - (vertooninghe & opsettinge ~~van~~ eenes Gouden Hoet,-meaning the ceremony of the Braffo's installation?-) - and would then send us his men in order to make

the house and give us complete possession. We wish to recommend YH still to give diligent heed to this, if it has not been done before the departure of the General, which we shall have to learn on HH's arrival.

And as we also understand from his letter that ANNEBABO (sic) is of much importance to us, not on account of the place itself, but in order not to be frustrated from (gefrustreert van) the CORMANTIJN port; because we understand that the English are beginning a small work (werkgen) on the CORMANTIJN beach (although it is small) (which) will become a fort (vasticheyt), with which they would cause great prejudice to our trade both before MAURO (sic) and ELMINA, which ought to be prevented in every way, the serious furtherance of which will be satisfactory to us.

We also understand that the English dwelling at CORMANTIJN has been burnt down. We will hope that it will not be injurious to our trade, especially as now all the Chambers are exerting themselves (~~haar evertuegren~~) to supply the Coast promptly, from time to time, with all the cargoes asked for, as YH will learn; for after the departure of the "Cameel" the Chamber of Zeeland have their ship "Walcheren" nearly ready; and the gentlemen of the Northern Quarter have already purchased their cargoes here; and we hope to continue this according to the foregoing resolution, which should now be able to make all the better progress, as, for that purpose, the good participants have agreed to increase their capital, old and new, by one half, and the State promises to subsidise the Company with F.500,000 (500.V.F.) cash, and F.700,000 annually, so long as the present Charter lasts, above the former grants of the previous years.

The General also represents to us that the English had urged (aengehouden) the new King of SABOU to drive us and other nations from the Coast, for that purpose requesting ~~our~~ his help, when they should wish to undertake (~~voornemen op~~) anything against our Fort NASSAU, on the condition that they will then hand over to him 200 bende gold; which causes us more surprise than what has been related above about the English, and we shall bring it, with the foregoing, before their High Mightinesses, as above. This has been no false report, but the King of SABOU has himself declared it to our factor of the Fort NASSAU, and sworn to ~~sworn to~~ it by his Saints (Santen). Let YH be warned to be always on your guard, and to have a watchful eye on these people, so that the Company comes to no harm.

About ATCHIN (Axim), that it has not yet been, nor could be, brought into our power, because our force there is not strong enough (~~[illegible]~~), we shall, then, have patience until we find proper to take the necessary resolution thereon about which you will be informed separately... — We hope the work on Fort Nassau will be completed. It should be well guarded by 36-40 men, as the English are little to be trusted, & most of the big trade is done there. We request you to be vigilant therein

. . .

[illegible]

The request for a Fiscal, Equippage Master & Pastor, we shall pay attention to. The Fiscal has already been engaged by the Chamber Zeeland & we hope he will depart by these ships. The Equipage Master this Assembly will also deal with, & let you know, at the end of this, what has been done in the matter, & also about the Pastor.

We will hope that the pepper plants sent by the General to Brazil will have good results there, as the pepper here is at an extradinarily high price, at present all 80 ℔ sold; which will serve for YH's information, to give more & more attention ~~thereto~~ to this matter.

As regards the trade in Guinea grains which has risen from 5 ℔ to 11-12 ℔ we wish that YH may make good provision for it, as YH is recommended by the Chamber Amsterdam per the "CAMEEL". We will hope that a good lot will arrive with the General. God bring him in safety.

With reference to giving the garrison food & "~~leengelt~~ wages" it would be satisfactory to us if YH puts it in grain, as we wrote before. And we will take care that YH a good supply of victuals necessary therefor is sent to YH, as some meal. We recommend YH "goede handt aen't selve te houden."

By all ships the requested soldiers are being sent to YH, so that those who have served their time may come home; and we shall continue this i.a.w. the desire of YH's predecessor, and what was promised to YH.

The old unservicable powder which is with you, you can send over. We shall provide YH with other; hand grennades, and other things will be sent to YH.

We will hope that the ACCANIST war against the ABREBOES (sic, meaning Abramboes?) will be ended (te niet gedaen) and the fears which YH's predecessor had will be over: the result of which we will learn from YH. We recommend you to take care that we suffer no damage through it.

We understand from the letter from Mr van Yperen that the fish toll, for the profit of the Company, produces very little, and that HH understands that it would be more advisable "~~te laeten naer voorige gewoonte inde verddelinge der soldaten & onderhoudinge der slaven.~~" to leave it for distribution to the Soldiers & subsistence of the slaves as was the custom formerly

We will request YH to do therein as YH shall find proper for the best interests of the Company.

We have received the ~~piee of~~ piece of lywaet as a sample, we will do our best to obtain the same and if possible it shall be sent to YH.

We have received the gold and tusks by the last ships, but find the tusks small, which will result badly in the sales, and also much larger kinds have been received in Zeeland than in the Chmaber of Amsterdam. Not knowing how this has happened we request that better attention may be ~~pe~~ paid to it. The tusks which were traded with the cargoes of F.150,000 sent by the respective Chambers, in their turns, ~~should be~~ each should receive its ~~pst~~ portion.

YH will please to bear in mind that when lime juice is sent it should not be sent by ships which come home by way of Brazil, as it last time came damaged in the cargo; but sent ~~dir~~ in the ships which come here direct.

The ships which depart from here to the Coast to trade, are supplied with 27 months' victuals, so that YH's forts & yachts there may be properly supplied.

We have taken into consideration the request for the Equipage Master, and have selected therefor Geraerd Wibes, who is at present with you on the Coast with the ship "Postpaert", as we are confident that the service of the Company will be well lookedafter by him ... His Instruction YH will find enclosed (n.f.)

The Chamber of the Northern Quarter have undertaken to supply a Pastor; we hope YH will shortly be provided with one. With which,

Honoured, Valiant, trusty, well-beloved, we commend YH to God's protection. Amsterdam 22nd October anno 1639.

Yh's good friends,
The deputed Directors of the WIC. at the Assembly of the XIX in Amsterdam.

(No addressee's name to the following copy letter).

Honoured valiant trusty well-beloved.

- This goes by the ship "Swarten Arent" with a cargo i.a.w. the formula sent by Mr van Jperen, over which we have placed as factor Willem Janssen van Meeckeren, and sub-factor Daniel van der Heijden, & given them orders so far as we are acquainted with the slave trade, which you will please to supplement. ... The factor has also been given presents for the King of Ardra, with which we hope to obtain his favour.

-As Mr van Jperen has strongly recommended that some "Bougies" be taken we have done our best to obtain 1500 pont

Cowries

pont "bougies", but have found few, and have had to pay f2 per pont "contant in banco", which is very injurious for us. [illegible] if not we will try to obtain them by every means. - The ships last from the East Indies brought some as samples, but they were not the right sort, so we have had to send for some other samples from there.- [illegible]

We see from YH's letter that the wife of the Sergeant who is stationed at the Castle, has been given weekly pay (weeckgelt) by YH, which is not our custom; and she must be subsisted from the weekly pay of her husband, which is done in all our conquests.

Alsoo nu ordre van de equipagie van de Cameren op Guinea is geabsolveert wegen de 18 schepen, soo dat nu in de vergaderinge der XIX andere ordre wije d'eerste equipeeren sal, sal gestelt worden, alsoo dezelve op primo December comende sullen vergaderen, ende met eenen sal UE. verstaan 'Tgehe voorgenomen sal worden, op Argijn," as also also about the repairs of the Castle and appurtenances thereof, and clothing for the soldiers, the sending of ships, carpenters, and otherwise. [illegible]

-Through the death of Gerrit Wijbers, they will arrange for the appointment of an Equipage Master, in the Assembly of the XIX.- With which &c &c. in Amsterdam this 28th November 1639.

(Who wrote the letter is not stated)
Chamber Amst: vide next letter.

To Mr A.J.Amersfoort.
Honoured, valiant, trusty, well-beloved.

Our last was on the 22nd October, copy of which goes herewith, which we confirm; as also the letter from the Chamber of Amsterdam, dated 28th November, both sent by the ship "Swarten Arent". May the good God bring them in safety.

We have since received YH's acceptable of the 17th July, with the person of the Hon.General, Mr Claes van Jperen, who, praise God, arrived to us, in fair health; by the ships "Amersfoort" & "Groeningen" we have also received the return cargoes of that season, which we find to be poor, but, as YH writes, with the war which there is

Vide Extract p. 20a, post

between the ACCANISTS and ABRAMBOURS, no more has been able ~~to~~ come in; we shall hope that the same will come in (~~uitvallen~~) better henceforth, as we understand from YH's letter, and also from the report of the General, Mr van Jperen, that the ACCANISTS had gained (~~behouden~~) the victory.

And as we understand that the English had little cargo on the Coast, and part of it had also been burnt in their house which they had on the beach, and that the Hon. General van Jperen had taken over the cargo of the French there, whereby we hope our trade there will be all the better.

It is indeed true, as we now understand, that the English have fitted out from London three ships with the intention likwise to undersell against us; we therefore hope that before they shall have come there, that YH will have obtained good trade there, because YH now will be completely supplied from the cargo of the ship "Amersfoort" and that of the "Cameel", which we hope YH will have well received; moreover, there is lying ready to sail in Zeeland the ship "Walcheren", and for the Northern Quarter, a ship named "St Jan Baptiste" in Texel (Tessel) in order to depart, with the first good wind, to YH.; and they have already for a considerable time lain ready with the cargoes required by the formulas. May God bring them over with prosperity, and let them arrive. And we are now engaged in this Assembly of the XIX in making a new order for the equippage, whose turn it shall be to make the equippage, as the equippage of the 18 ships, by the last taken resolution is "geabsolveert".

It is satisfactory to us to understand YH's good arrival there on the Coast on the 9th July, and that you had come on shore on the 12th, and taken over from the General everything which we possess there on behalf of the Company, and everything in peace and friendship, which is very satisfactory to us to hear.

materials for

The materials for the repair of the Castle D'ELMINA, for the storage of the merchandise, and ~~convenience~~ (~~commoditeyt~~) ~~of~~ the dwellings, among which, tiles, rafters, laths and other timber, will be sent to YH by the Chamber of Amsterdam, which will be placed in the cargo of the ship by which it shall be sent: but what YH can obtain for beams there, please to arrange there, in order not to disturb the ship's space.

Meantime YH will take care that all proper repair is done to the Fort NASSOUW and CHAMA and other places, so that the Company comes to suffer no damage from those who should wish to do us damage.

The carpenters and masons with their tools, whom YH requests, we will endeavour to send to YH by every opportunity.

We also see the great resolution which the English take on the Coast there, and under the favour which they enjoy from the FANTIJNSEN King and BRAFFO, that they over this

will be very troublesome to us, and have acted with violence against our house at ANNAMABO. Upon which we have deliberated, and our resolution will be made known by this.

That is, carefully to guard over the rights of the Company everywhere, and to check all hostility with all ability and as matters require, and to take care that our cast-down Lodge be again erected by the King of FANTIJN, which can very conveniently be effected, so the General, Mr van Jperen reports to us, even though it must be done with some presents.

We now see that the English go so far that an English Factor has been to the Blacks outside the Castle DEL MINA, which we consider to be of great consequence, for thereby they would be able to entice away our Blacks, which must necessarily be prevented, and indeed stoutly paid attention to, in order to find out the same, and to punish according to merits; for we must strictly guard our jurisdiction which we have obtained by the sword.

YH must also see to binding the MYNSE Blacks to their duty and situation (gelegentheijt) for, as we understand, by such we could hold the whole coast in the balance (in ballance houden) and also wish that they are maintained "met senerieteijt(?)" in their rights (gerechticheijt), for they were accustomed so to be ruled by the Portuguese; but (they) must indeed be put under an agreement, ~~(geconpracteert worden)~~; Y.H. taking care, as you yourself write, being careful that not too many of them are allowed to come into the Castle at the same time, & that which may have been customary in former times may be remedied by gentle means.

"U E daarop lettende t'geene U E schrift, dat se niet te veel teffens op het Casteel en mogen comen t'gene te vaeren mach geredresseert worden."

Attention will also have to be paid to provide ~~over~~ the coast with a competent person for Second. We are well pleased with what YH proposes, to employ the factor Ruijchaver at the Fort NASSAUW, to let him command there provisionally, so that good care may be taken in everything that no injury befalls us.

We will also "sien te excuseren" the sending of the ~~freeters~~ factors, as YH writes that the same can be done well with sub-factors, which we will take into consideration.

[illegible]

[illegible]

We have also taken into consideration the transport of spirits of private persons, and will make arrangements therein, but, as YH knows, we cannot pay attention to everything; therefore YH will please to have this seriously seen to on arrival, as now, with the Fiscal, who is coming with the "Walcheren" from Zeeland, you will have all the better opportunity to do all such; so that YH will confiscate and "executeeren" all what you find, so that everything may come proper, which we charge YH to take into good consideration.

For the sending of medicines, we will arrange that the equipping Chambers shall supply the same with their cargoes, so that YH may be completely supplied.

As regards the sheathing (verdubbelen) of ~~YH~~ the yachts for which YH finds little accomodation at ELMINA in the river, this must then be done at another place. If this can be done at CHAMA, we will send you the necessaries for it, and we will send by each ship "deelen, sprijkers, harpuijs, swavel", and other necessities, so that everything can be done properly.

With regard to Adriaen Jacobsz, the book-keeper, whom YH has promised a salary of fifty guldens per month, subject to our approval, we are satisfied with this, and will hope that he will serve with diligence and care. YH is requested to see that everything about this is carefully entered in the books.

We see with surprise what YH writes about the gold on the coast is so adulterated, and that such is accepted by the sailors, and thesame, being accepted by ~~the traders~~ our merchants from the sailors, comes again into the hands of the Blacks, and so is traded to the Company, which we think strange. We wish that YH could discover such merchants (coopluiden), and they, being discovered, are punished criminally according to their deserts.

[illegible]

Amsterdam 16 December 1639. From the Assembly, XIX. W.I.C.

1639.

Translation of extract letter dd 17 July, on p. 20a.

After we had taken our departure the Englishman now took the opportunity (if it be true what was understood from the Blacks) to complete his treacherous proposal with the Blacks; which God forbid.

Now, lately, it was told me that there was an English Factor with the Blacks here outside the Castle. If I can learn that they are seeking to trade with the inhabitants here I shall forbid them the country & not allow our inhabitants to speak to them. These Blacks whom we have recently had with us are very well disposed towards the Portuguese & could be seduced with gold. For they are masters of our Castle if they intend the worst. They come daily to trade in the fort or Castle & are accustomed to communicate all occurrences to the General or Governor because they have no King, & they stand so firmly upon their rights that they would rather place their lives in peril than be robbed of them by any of the neighbouring Kings. They sometimes come into the hall 50 to 60 able-bodied men in number & if one did them any wrong they might well carry arms or knives under their cloths. Many of our men are lying sick with the Worm, & those who are not on guard duty often go out into the village or by the river & run into great danger. Moreover they know that a great quantity of merchandise is brought here from which they could get a good plunder. I was inclined, as I had previously done at Moure, not to allow more than a certain number of Blacks to come in, but as they are now accustomed to it, I would not like to give them cause to suspect us & so I must continue with it for the present (it is the same at Moure). I don't know how such a bad custom has been allowed to take root. Many are deceived by such confidence but I consider it is due to the fact that they have not respected the Factor Oostdorp (who is young) as they ought but I understand he was experienced enough in trade. He wished he had had here the one who has lain before Cormantijn named Heyn Franszn but one would not know who would be competent to look after that place. However, as the Cameel is expected daily, & before my departure [from Holland ?] I had proposed the person of Jacob Reijchaster, I hope attention will be paid to it – to whom I shall entrust the command of Moure, for he is of a good age & well liked by the inhabitants & traders, & has also been stationed there previously. With which &c.

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Amsterdam

1639.

Copy "Extract from a letter written by Mr Director "General Arend Jacobszn van Amersfoort to the Assembly "of the XIX,sub dato 17 July 1639."

(Enclosure No. 3 to Letter from Dir.Gen. Joan van Sevenhuijsen to the X. dd. ulto July 1700. W.I.C. 97. fol. 295b.)

Edele Erntfeste, etc.

Naar dat wij ons affscheijt hadden genomen etc. den Engelsman heeft nu gelegenheijt (indien 't waar is) dat men van Swarten heeft verstaen, sijn verraders voorslag op een nieuw met de Swarten te voltrekken, dat God wil verhoeden. Nu, onlangs wiert mijn geseijt dat er een Engelse Coopman hier buiten het Casteel bij de Swarten was. Indien ik kan vernemen dat ze soecken te handelen met de inwoonders ~~hier~~ alhier, sal haar 't land verbieden, en ons inwoonders dat ze met haar niet mogen spreeken; dese Swarten, nog onlangs bij ons geweest, hebbende, en zeer tot de Portuguesen sijn genegen, souden door gout kunnen verleijt werden. Want sij meester zijn van ons Casteel, ten ~~quaesten~~ quaesten willende, komen dagelijks in 't fort ofte Casteel handelen, en zijn gewent alle voorvallende saken den General off Gouverneur te communiceeren, omdat sij geen coninck hebben; en op haar geregtigheijt soo vaststaan dat ze liever haar leven soude in perijckel stellen, als door iemant van de omleggende coninnen daarvan berooft te werden. Soo dat ze altemet met 50 a 60 kloeke mannen binnen op de zaal komen, hoewel sij ongewapent sijn (als men schelmagtig practiseert,souden wel geweer off messen kunnen onder haar cleeden dragen). Ons volk die veel siek zijn en aan de worm leggen, ook die de wagt niet en heeft, dikwils buiten gaat in 't dorp off aan de rivier, soo dat het grootelijx perijckel loopt; te meer sij weten menigte van coopmanschappen hier wert gebragt, daaraan sij een goede buijt soude bekomen. Ik waar gesind, gelijk voor dese tot Moure gedaen heb, niet meer als een seker getal van Swarten laten inkomen; maar alsoo nu dus gewent sijn, en ik niet gaarn haar oorsaek gave bij ons suspect te sijn, moet voor eerst dus continueeren (tot Moure is 't van 't gelijkje). Ik weet niet hoe men soo quaden gewoonte heeft laten inwortelen. Door veel vertrouwen wert menig bedrogen; maar achte meest toeloomt dat se de Coopman Oostdorp (jonk sijnde) niet gerespecteert hebben naar behooren. Nogtans in den handel, soo verstaa, genoeg ervarentheijt hadde. Wenste hij, off die voor CORMANTIJN gelegen heeft,genaamt Heijn Franszn, hier hadde; doordien men verzekert is van iemant derselfde, niet weten souw wien bequaam soude sijn de plaats te bewaren. Doch alsoo den Cameel dagelijx wert verwagt en voor mijn vertrek den persoon van Jacob Ruijckhaver had voorgedragen, hope daarop sal sijn gelet,dien ik 't commandement van Moure sal bevelen; want van goede jaaren is en wel bemint van de inwoonders en Coopluijden,die ook voor desen daar heeft gelegen. Waarmede etc.

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1639.
Annex. K.1. to Memorial from W.I.C. to St.Gen.
dd. 29th June 1662, re S.A.C. [Swedish African Co]
(S.G.Loket Kas, Zweden,38.)

"Extract (L.S.) V.Gulderach."

1639.

January 6. After having got consent from the Braffo of FANTIJN (after much trouble) ~~consent~~ to establish a Lodge at ANNEMABO,we began to have it taken in hand by the Fantijn and Annemabo Blacks, and erected a flag staff,at their own request,from which we let the Prince flag fly in order to give information that that place belonged to us. Whereupon the English,the next day,with some Cormabtijners went thither,cutting down the flag staff and taking away the Prince flag,in place of which they set another pole(~~spil~~) leaving one of their blood flags flying on it,saying that the whole FANTIJN territory (~~gebiet~~) belongs to the English Crown. About which news, which on the
8th ditto came to my knowledge, I, with my Councillors, resolved, before falling into any dispute or quarrel with the English about it, to send two Upper Factors,besides three MYNSE Caboceers to the King, with orders to ask him and his Elders (Adel) if he has ever ceded (opgedragen) ANNEMABO to the English and given it to them to possess; and whether this hostility had been committed with his knowledge and consent.
9th ditto. The envoys, van de Walck & Valckheeren along with the three Caboceers went to FANTIJN, having orders that if ANNEMABO was denied us,then to request that it might remain neutral and open to all men (~~like~~ as it had always been). If not, that we should then summon up all our fishermen residing there and elsewhere in his territory, as we did not desire that they should stand under English servitude.
January 12. To-day our Envoys returned from FANTIJN, reporting that they perceived well from the Braffo that he knew about the destruction of our flag, and that this had been done with his knowledge (voorweten consent?), as about what was related he said, laughing, "It is only trifles and also it is my fault". But after many excuses and circumstantial reasons he with his Caboceers declared that ANNEMABO was ours and would always remain so, but on the condition that we bided a short time until his feast, with the displaying of the golden hat, was completed.
February 20. Sent to FANTIJN to ask the Braffo if his feast were ended.

March 9. I sent my messenger a second time to the FANTIJN Braffo and his Caboceros with a present of 4 oz. admonishing them that they should now, without further delay, send their children to me and complete the building of the Lodge, and that I would then issue to them the promised two pounds (pont) of gold; also requesting to know from them whether the King and the principal men would declare in the presence of three of my soldiers that the English had no claim to the said ANNEMABO, as they gave the ownership to us: this I did with the view that the English would have all the less reason for spreading about that ANNEMABO had been given to them, as our witnesses would themselves be English, who would give the certificate to the contrary, in order to have no hesitation in England.

20 Ditto. The Fantijn King let me know that he would shortly send his people to me to fetch the Whites, and would declare in their presence that he ceded (opdroeg) ANNEMABO to us and that the English had no claim whatever to it.

April 20. The Fantijn King and the Caboceros sent their Envoys to fetch our people in order to declare in their presence that they ceded the village of ANNEMABO to us ~~xxxxx~~ without that the English and French had any claim to it.

22 Ditto. The said Envoys departed back to FANTIJN, being accompanied by the Auditor, Sub-Factor and three English from our garrison, in order to grant a certificate of the final cession of ANNEMABO.

26 Ditto. Our people returned from FANTIJN, reporting that the King with his Elders (Adel) had entirely offered the place ANNEMABO to us and promised that no English or French should ever settle there any more; the King, for our further satisfaction and ~~xxxxxx~~ complete contentment, having placed his mark under a written document, which had also been signed by our men (being English and Scottish, among them two sergeants and the Under Barber), in order that we may be able to defend ourselves against the unlawful claims of the English. While our men were there ~~xxxx~~ some of the principal CORMANTIJNERS, sent by the English, came, with the offer of three pounds of gold in order to prevent the cession of ANNEMABO; but they had to depart fruitlessly, as the King said he wished to deal uprightly ~~xxxxxxx~~ and did not wish to fall into any dispute with us. His son and one of the Caboseros would follow shortly as hostages, as ~~xx~~ they were not yet ready, and our men could not wait for them.

May 8. Our ordinary messenger went to FANTIJN for the Braffo's sister's son, with whom on the

9 Ditto, appeared to me along with the King's and Caboceros' people. It was related to me that the English Merchant or Chief had personally come to him, and was taking great ~~tp~~ trouble with gifts to set aside the promises we have received.

Thus extracted from a certain journal kept by Mr Claes van Iperen, Burgermeester of the town Beverwijck, late Director General in Guinea, and by him placed in my hands Notario; being bound in a blue cover and upon which is inscribed, "Journal of that which happened on the ship Valck, and in the Fort Nassouw and the Castle DE MINA in the years 1633, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, and 1639." The aforenamed Mr van Iperen declaring and verifying that what was in the said Journal had truly happened and had been entered in writing by HH. And, after collation, ~~with the said Journal~~ this, so far as concerns the extracts, is found to agree word for word with the said Journal, by me, Jan Cornelissen Velsen, Notary Public residing in the said town of Beverwijck, on the 13th February 1660.
In witness. (sgd) J.C.Velsen.
Not. Pub.
1660.

Resolutions States General. 1640. (SG. 3228.)

31 January 1640.

Received a letter from the Directors of the West India Company at the Chmaber in Amsterdam, written there the 26th instant, and therewith the Points of Convocation, in order to meet thereupon in Amsterdam aforesaid on the 1st March next. Whereupon, being deliberated, it was found good that the aforesaid letter with the Points shall be placed in the hands of Messrs Arnhem, Noortwijck, Croock, Amerongen, Walta, Ripperda & Aldringa, to inspect, examine, and to formulate advice upon each of them, and to make report thereof.

(SG.5772.1640) Letter from the Directors of the WIC at the Chamber at Amsterdam, to the States General, dated Amsterdam 26 January 1640, ~~requesting their Ho. Mo. to appoint their deputies to attend~~ transmitting Points of Convocation, for the 1st March 1640, and requesting their Ho. Mo. to appoint their deputies to attend the Assembly of the XIX on that date, and so to help direct the affairs of the Company with their wise council, as shall be found proper for the welfare of the same.

POINTS upon which all the Chambers of the WIC. are convened, in order, in conformity with the Charter, to send their deputies to Amsterdam against the 1st March 1640, being Thursday, in good time, in order then to enter into business (besoignes), on pain of forfeiting six guldens daily in default, in pursuance of the Resolutions of the XIX, taken thereon, dated the 8th October 1624, & 12th September 1639. (photod).

1.

Firstly, the members are requested to have brought by their deputies, accurate ~~(pertinente)~~ lists of everything they have sent for the rest of the year 1639, and newly resolved for the year 1640, of victuals, equippage, small vessels, ammunition, merchandise, soldiers, sailors, "train" persons: also what ships they have built or bought i.a.w. the resolution of the XIX dated 16 June 1639. Item. What monies have been brought into the respective Chambers over the second increase both of old and new capital, in order to liquidate the same receipt, and to divide them in proportion to the nine parts, and to close the increase.

2.

- To receive the report of Mr Adriaen van der Dussen, now come home, of the whole state of Brazil.- ... ...

3.

(On the same subject).

4.

And as the course of affairs, and various misunderstandings arisen thereout, clearly show that the administration of the Company have got into great confusion ... because the respective Chambers are not bound to make common and proper accounts to the others, but each (as has been practised hitherto) closes its books ... without the others' knowledge, so that great misunderstandings have thereby arisen and are yet to be expected in the future; will the respective members come instructed thereon, whether all the Chmabers shall not make account in the form of an "Accounts-Chamber" (Rekenkamer) of their administration in general; which Chamber being established and furnished with a proper Instruction, would have to report its findings to the Assembly of the XIX, whose authority ought to be held to keep the respective Chmabers to their duty, and means devised in this Assembly in what manner both those in default andthose who exceed their own authority shall be brought to their duty, so that, by that means, the great confusion and disturbances, which seem to threaten more and more, may be prevented, and the Chmabers placed in such a position that they may justly rely upon the duty devoir of the others.

5.

- To consider what steps should be taken to put the conquests and future conquests of Brasil on a proper footing in the interests of the Company, the shareholders, and inhabitants of that country.- ... ...

6.

- The complaints by officers in Brasil over their pay &c.-

7.

- To consider the accompanying requests from the shareholders (n.o.r.)-.

8.

As various matters daily occur which necessarily require expedition, and nevertheless are of that nature that no Assembly of the XIX can be convened about them, such as to give commissions to private ships to go to the limits of the Charter of the Company, as also the distribution of the daily return cargoes (retouren) which are brought in now and then; orders will have to be given at this Assembly to Commissioners, who will be instructed to go further into these matters, and to devise a uniform basis and persons, who shall expedite the same work, so that the limits of the Company and the

navigation thereto may be so used as the tenor thereof provides (medebrengt), and the Assembly of the XIX has, with knowledge of affairs, allowed, as shall henceforth appear; the consents for which ought to be made uniformly, and with common knowledge, in the name of the XIX; also that each may be assured that the desired regulations, and the order and instruction devised or to be devised about it, may be practiced everywhere on the same basis.

9.

-As to the shares in captured prizes.-

10.

-To approve the accounts.-

11.

- As to the disposal of the subsidies of the 500V guldens cash, & of 700V guldens annually for the period of the Charter, and continuance of the Charter for 25 years; & increase of the capital from the Participants.-

12.

As the affairs of Africa come more and more into consideration, will the members please come instructed to elect a Second, or second person to the General, there, and at the same time to produce such accounts, documents, and papers of cargoes and ships which have been sent thither since December 1634 (sic), so that it may appear to the members in what manner the aforesiad Coast has hitherto been maintained (gehouden); also to make arrangements that the same may be continued hereafter in good order, and care taken for all progress (verloop); especially the accounts of the 18 ships ships ought to appear to each, so that the cargoes despatched and the return cargoes thereof may be properly distributed to the profit of the respective portions (aanparten); and that it should not be allowed that those who have sent less cargoes, contrary to the basis planned, should receive with those who have conformed to the resolution of the XIX; and for the future pay attention whether one could not determine upon the proposal made by the General van Jperen, sent herewith under No 2. (n.o.r.), or whether others in the same regard ought to be brought forward.

13.

- Selection of members of the High & Secret Council of Brasil in place of those departing from Brasil in March.-

14.

- To resolve upon all matters arising out of the reports from Brasil and otherwise.-

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Martis the 13 March 1640.

Having heard the report of Messrs Arnhem, Noortwijck, Croock, Walta, & Aldringen, Mr Ripperda being absent, i.a.w. their Ho.Mo.'s appointment of the 31 January last, they having inspected and examined the Points sent by the WIC at the Chr of Amst: to their HO.Mo. for the Assembly of the XIX in that town, have found good and decided that their HO.MO's deputies shall at the Assembly of the XIX help to deliberate advise and conclude upon the afsd Points, as they shall find proper for the country in general and the WIC in particular ... but as regards the the trade at GUINEA, no change shall be made therein without the previous special consent of their Ho.Mo. ...

Veneris the 20th April 1640.

Read the written Memorandum delivered in yesterday by the Directors of the WIC. to their Ho.Mo. Is found good & decided (~~verstaan~~) after deliberation ... and as regards the Memorandum, speaking of the complaints which the English have formulated to the King of Great Britain against the Company of this country, about a certain burnt lodge or hut on the Coast of GUINEA, with the appurtenances ~~thereof~~ thereof, as is more fully reported in the aforesaid Memorandum to which reference is made, their Ho.Mo. have found good and decided that, in conformity with the Memorandum, the Ambassador Joachimi shall be written to, and fully informed of the true situation of the matter, in order to ~~take such~~ be able to take such steps ~~accordingly~~ for the Company accordingly as the occasion and necessity shall require.

S.G.

Note. The memorandum, and correspondence (in/~~WIC~~.5772) referred to in the above resolution, is as follows:-

(1) Copy letter from Ambassador Joachimi to the WIC.

Honoured, Worshipful, Wise, Prudent, Very Discreet Sirs,

Mr Thomotheus Cruso has advised YHH from time to time of what has happened here in the Process in the Cause of the ship "Gulde Wolff" of Medenblicq, I have therefore omitted to write much to YHH about it, as being unnecessary. During the Extraordinary Embassy of Mr van Somelsdijck was here deliberated and a Petition formulated in order to request revision of the Sentence given in favour of George Heulei(?) and Agustus Philips, for which the interest of us both has been requested. But we have found it risky to speak to the King about it in this situation (~~relegenthcit~~) of time and affairs which had to be dealt with with His Majesty; moreover it may be presumed that the Lords

of the Privy Council (Coninckx Raith) who delivered the last Sentence will not willingly see their sentence revised (~~ge-retract(eert)~~). But, on his return home, that affair will be represented by Mr van Somelsdijck, in order to have their Ho.Mo's declaration thereon.

Further, Mr Windebancke, Secretary of the King, has told that gentleman and me that complaints had been formulated against the Netherlands West India Company because the members of the same have set on fire, with the victuals, the Lodge, house or hut in which were kept the goods and merchandise of the English merchants trafficing to the Coast of GUINEA; and the aforesaid complaints would be placed in my hands. I would wish to have report from YHH whether you have any knowledge of that affair; and whether anything of the like has been done in those Quarters about which complaint ~~could~~ can be made (~~quaem verdca geoloeht~~). I am also told by others that the aforenamed English traffickers have requested the King to be allowed to build a fort on the aforesaid Coast, but it is unknown to me upon what the aforesaid request has been based. Herewith, commending myself servicably to YH I pray God,

Honoured, Worshipful, Wise, Prudent, ~~Very~~ Discreet Sirs, that He will keep YHH and the Company in continual prosperity.

At ~~Loden~~ LONDON the xviii March, 1640.

Yours obediently,
(sgd) A.N.Joachimi.

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(2) Copy letter from Claes van Iperen to the WIC.

Honourable, Honoured, Worshipful, Wise, Mighty (~~vermogende~~) Sirs, Gentlemen,

In order to refute the false accusations which the English have made to YHH about the burning down of their Lodge at CORMANTIJN, the following will serve.

Firstly, the burning down of their house having come to my ears, I at once had enquiries made how the same might have happened, in order to have the better care taken in the building of our own Lodges which we thought to erect. I heard and understood from the CORMANTIJN Blacks that this had arisen through carelessness of the Factor, as he had hung the lamp too close to the thatch roof, which the flame ~~reached~~ having reached, caught fire (~~daarvan "ontfonckte"~~, ~~waarbij "ontfonckt" which came "ontbrandt") and veroorzaakt~~ caused the house to be burnt down; in which opinion we have ~~rem~~ remained, as we have never heard ~~anything else~~ otherwise.

Secondly, they ought to have made their accusations shortly after the fire, or, at least, while I was there, as they have always had freedom & liberty enough to be able

to come to me; but it seems that they wished, with premeditation, to wait until I came over in order to deprive me of every opportunity of being able to cover my discharge with legal certificates, which I would then have been able to obtain, yes indeed, from their own people, as their sailors and Officers have never been heard to say otherwise than that the fire was caused by the lamp; I have therefore also never had any suspicions of such false accusations in my place. Yes indeed, it is within my own recollection that their Principal ~~(opperste hoofd)~~ Mr Timothe Mosgia (sic, Musgrave?) said, in course of conversation, to our factor, Heijn Fransz, (who was at that time trading before CORMANTIJN on the ship "Valck"), "If we believed the Blacks, they say it was you who burnt down our house, but we know better." Therefore, at that time, there was no presumption, nor also, afterwards, any foundation for it, as on that night none of our people had been on shore; and chiefly because there had been no thought of it, ~~but als~~ let alone had anything been done "in mij plaats".

This, their false invented, accusation they appear to hazard (in't spel te brengen) in order to resist our weighty and well-founded complaints, which, being forced to it, I will shortly relate.

The Castle del Mina having (through God's disposal) come into YH's power, I resolved with my Councillors to establish some Lodges on the sea-side ~~beach~~, for the maintenance of the trade in order, in that case, to be relieved of the heavy costs of the ships. Our eyes therefore fell upon CORMANTIJN, as the largest trade was driven there; but seeing the Arms of His Majesty of England erected there before the Lodge, we neither dared nor wished to carry out such a thing ~~out~~, in order to give the English no cause whatever of disturbances or claim against us; we therefore turned to the village of ANNEMABO, first requesting the FANTIJN Braffo or King that he would allow us a place in the same village for the erection of a house in order to be able to do trade therein; which, after having received some presents, he granted, and also even gave men for the building of the house, who, after the place for the house had been pointed out to them by the ~~faeter~~ aforenamed factor, Heyn Fransz, with his skipper, having levelled it, and being further ~~being~~ engaged in the labour of preparation, with our permission ~~(voorweeten)~~ erected a staff (standart) and hoisted the Prince flag on it in order therewith to show the possession of that place, as the same village had been given to us by the King as well ~~(aso wel)~~ as CORMANTIJN had been given to the English; but it appears that such neighbours were displeasing to them, for their Principal ~~(Ipperhooft)~~, accompanied by some CORMANTIJNS, came the next morning, took away the flag, cut down the staff, and ruined the work begun, leaving, for the completion (?taffdoen) of our indignation and pride, one of their blood flags (red ensign?) ~~fl~~ hoisted instead; from

which was not only belittlement and contempt for us created, but cause given to us to fall into open warfare, since, as has been said, the country had been transferred (opgedracht) to us by the King who was sovereign of it, as also CORMANTIJN to them. Nevertheless we bore this insult and hostile act with patience, and restrained our MYNSE from showing any hostility towards the CORMANTIJNS, in order still to guard against all disputes, and to carry out YHH's orders to maintain good alliance and friendly communication with them.

This affair having passed, and we still continuing in friendship with them, it was reported to me by one of the SABOUS (sabovers) that on the crowning of the new King, the English had sent two of their people with presents in order to enjoy his friendship and afterwards requested the said King that he would allow and cause his people to surprise ~~and~~ plunder ~~our Fort~~ NASSAU and capture our Fort NASSAU, as a consequence of which ~~our~~ the whole garrison would perish miserably; upon which warning and announcement I at once ordered the Fort's Factor to make enquiry and to question the King sharply about it, who very willingly and openly acknowledged that they had requested ~~the same from him~~ and earnestly desired the same from him, with promises to pay him for it two hundred bendas ~~benden~~ or twenty-five "ponden" gold, which he declared to be the honest truth, and offered to eat fetich, which is their life or death, upon it; and although their appearance at SABOU was known to us, as our own people had seen them there, and this gave us strange suspicions, we however kept silence without admonishing or showing them any ill-will about it, although we had much more reason for hostility towards them than they can have in this invented mattter.

We could allege more inconsistent (ongerijmde) things such as the manifold navigation to and fro of their yachts to St Thomé and ATSCHIM (Axim) which they, in spite of us, reinforce with victuals, ammunition and men, but I think that this account will be sufficient to demolish their false accusation from which (as God Almighty knows) I know my character to be free and pure. Therefore concluding herewith,

YHH's faithful(~~respectfulsuccarde~~)servant,
(sgd) CLAES VAN IPEREN.

Adi 30 March 1640.
In AMSTERDAM.

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(3) Original letter(remonstrance) WIC. to States General.

"Lectum 20 April 1640."

To the High Mighty Lords States
General of the United Netherlands.

High & Mighty Lords,

The Directors of the West India Company, being written to by the Ambassador, Mr Joachimi, that complaints had been formulated to the King of Great Britain against the Company here, that their people in GUINEA had set on fire a Lodge, house or hut in which were stored the goods and merchandise of the English Merchants trafficing to the Coast of GUINEA, desiring therefore our report; the Assembly of the XIX has about this, heard Nicolaes van Jperen, late General on the same Coast, who has reported to them that he, in accordance with the orders of the Company, has always gone with the English Nation, as allies and confederates of this State, in good friendship and communication, and not only of the innocence of our people, but also that(the burning) of the same Lodge was caused by the neglect of their own people because they had hung the lamp or candle too near to the roof, whereby the flame had reached into the roof; but also how van Jperen, with the orders and consent of the Braffo or FANTIJN King, having had a house built in the village ANNEMABO, in order to do their trade therein, the place for it being levelled (~~seplcincept~~) by the aforesaid King(s own people and had placed a flagstaff with the Arms of this State, as evidence that the same village had been given to us by the said King, just as CORMANTIJN, to the English; the Principal of the English nation the next day in the morning, accompanied by some CORMANTIJNS, came and took away the flag, cut down the staff, and planted their blood flag in its place, to their annoyance and contempt; without our inhabitants of DE MINA, who thought they would be hereby incited by our people, having committed any hostilityagainst the CORMANTIJNS over this hostile act, but were kept to their duty in order to avoid all disputes, and to give the English no cause: as further appears in the aforesaid Nicolaes van Jperen's written information, a copy of which goes herewith.

[fishermen living at Anamabo.?]

Further it has previously been shown to Your Ho.Mo. how their ship named the "Wolf" with its cargo, coming from Cabo Verde, was seized, by way of reprisal, by George Henlei(sic) and Augustijn Phillips, about which proceedings had begun before the Admiralty of England, who obtained judgement in their favour: all which has been deliberated and "questie geformeert" in order to request revision: in regard to which, and so that the said Company may be ~~better~~ the better

maintained in their innocence and good rights, the Assembly of the XIX have charged us to represent the same here, and respectfully to request Your Ho.Mo.'s favourable letters to His Majesty of ~~England~~ Great Britain and to Mr Ambassador Joachimi in order that his Council may be informed of the truth, the Company, their Ministers, and the inhabitants of this State ~~(States-General)~~ be maintained in their good rights, and ~~fred~~ freed from all annoyance against the false calumnies, and we will pray God for Your Ho.Mo.'s prosperous Government. (Note. The paper is unsigned)

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(4) Original Draft Letter. St.Gen. to Amb: Joachimi.

To Mr Joachimi, Their Ho.Mo. Ambassador
in Ordinary, in England, the 20 April 1640.

The States &c.

The Directors of the General Chartered West Indian Company of these United Netherlands have today, through their deputies, made remonstrance to us that they, Directors, being advised by you that complaints have been formulated to the King of Great Britain against the aforenamed Company, that their people in GUINEA had set on fire a lodge house or hut in which were kept the goods and merchandise of the English Merchants trafficing to the Coast of GUINEA, and that you were desiring their report about it, the Assembly of the XIX of the aforenamed Company have heard thereon Nicolaes van Jperen, late General on the same Coast, who has accordingly reported to them, that in conformity with their orders of the aforesaid Company he has always gone ... ... (the letter continues in the same terms as that from the deputies of the Company, No (3) supra; but, note, that in this letter the S.G. write, "just as the village CORMANTIJN, to the English"-)... ... ... As you will be able to learn further from the written information of the afnmd van Jperen, a copy of which goes herewith. And as, in our opinion, in the before related material there is sufficient to demolish the flagrant and invented accusation & complaints of the English, & to cause their disappearance, we have found good herewith to charge & order you to avail yourself thereof for the service of the WIC. of these Lands, when occasion offers, & accordingly, to use such endeavours & good offices with the King, and elsewhere where necessary, for & in favour of the same Company, as the need and importance of the matter might require. Actum 20 April 1640.

(Note. This letter has no reference in it to the ship "Wolf.")

Veneris 5th October 1640.

-Read letter from Directors of the WIC. at Chmaber Amsterdam, written there the 2nd instant, with Points of Convocation for the Assembly of the XIX on 27th October.-
-The appointment of S.G.'s deputies therefor, postponed.-
(The deputies were appointed on 25 October)

The above letter and the Points are in SG.5772; the points being:

Points upon which all the Chambers of the WIC. are convened... towds xxvii October 1640, being Saturday... to send deputies to Amsterdam in order to enter into business the following Monday. ...

... ... ~~(illegible)~~.

1.

-As in 1. of the Points on p.23 supra, for year 1640.-

2,

-To report on 2nd payments of increase of old capital- ...

3.

-Increase of Participants' capital for investment in Brazil-...

4.

-As at last Assembly of XIX the 4th Point (p.24 supra) not settled, to resolve further thereon.- ... ...

5.

-To bring lists of all artillery, brass & iron, in ships and forts, and to have ~~unservicable~~ brass guns/brought home to be recast to suitable calibre.-
-Soldiers required for conquests of Brasil.-

6. 7. 8.

-To resolve on reports come & expected from Brasil.-

~~-And~~ 9.

And as the trade on the Coast of Africa is coming more & more into decay, principally because the members do not punctually carry out the orders of the XIX, whereby other nations get the more profit there, will the members come charged to devise such a basis for it as matters shall require for the service of the Company. And as the respective Chambers will also have learnt, from the last advices come over from GUINEA, of the disturbances which increase more & more because one ARENT DE GROOT designs, under the name of the English, to disturb our people in the trade & alliance with Kings & Potentates there, & in fact to dispossess them of the good right & opportunity maintained & employed by our people up to this time, without anyones' hindrance or opposition, against which timely provision ought to be made, so that the disasters and disturbances, which are to be expected from such difficulties, are prevented. The members are therefore earnestly requested carefully to deliberate among themselves, and to come charged to devise a definite & certain resolution about it here.

10.

-To resolve further on all matters arising from reports from Brasil, or otherwise.-

---

End of St.Gen. Resolutions. 1640.

Original Letter from Ambassador Albert Joachimi, to Stat.Gen.
(S.G.Liassen Engeland. 6909.)
(Translated from the Dutch)

"Dat.4 R.12 May 1640."

High and Mighty Lords,
My Lords,

Your High Mighty letter of the xx instant (sic), with a written information from Nicolaes van JPEREN, late General on the Coast of GUINEA on behalf of the General Chartered West Indian Company of the United Netherlands, touching certain matters which had passed there, was handed to me yesterday. Mr Windebancke had, on the xv March, said that here were formulated and prepared complaints against the aforenamed Company, which would be handed over to me after the departure of Mr van Somelsdijck, who had previously taken his leave from the King. I have warned the Directors of the aforesaid Company thereof, and of the deed of which I had heard that it was intended to complain about our people, in order that I might be timely informed of the information which the said Messrs Directors had about it, in order the better to meet the complainants with reasons (redenen). But I have not heard of that matter since. I shall make use of ~~(mij dienen)~~ of the aforesaid information, for the good of the aforesaid Company, and for the service of the country. Better effect would have been made with the same if it had been in forma probante. Sir Dudley Carleton spoke to me to-day ... ... Herewith &c

Your Ho.Mog.
Obedient servant,
(sgd) Alb. Joachimi.

In London the fourth May 1640.

Resolutions Zeeland Chamber. 1640. (WIC.oc.24.)

Jovis Antemeridian 12 January 1640.

Item, a letter of the 7th(?) instant, (from the Chamber Amsterdam?), in which they consent that the 30 soldiers 30 soldiers to Guinea, to be brought on to the Brasil list. going to Guinea may be brought on to our list of the soldiers ~~going~~ for Brasil.

Lunae Postmeridian 30 January 1640.

Read the Points of Convocation for the Assembly of the XIX, on the 1st March 1640 (p.23.supra). -The Marginal notes to which are (inter alia):

... ...

	12.
Regarding the election of a Second on the Coast of Africa, to follow the best advice.	As the affairs of Africa ...

The gentlemen of the office are requested to bring into the XIX all papers and documents regarding the ~~c~~ cargoes despatched, and together to ~~promote that~~ assist in promoting that each is made good his return cargo according to his cargo despatched.

~~At once to~~ Entirely to (reverteren ?) the Protest of the General van Jperen, and to give no ~~turning~~ deciding vote (overstemming te leijden) therein; but to remain ~~on the~~ with the old custom; and to see that the matter is put off to another Assembly.

... ...

Are relative to the Points of Convocation.	(Read a Remonstrance from the trading participants of Amsterdam. Read the "Prouft"(?) of Nicolaes van Jperen regarding the placing open of the trade on the Coast of Africa.

Lunae Antemeridian 30 July 1640.

Messrs the Treasurers were authorised to sell the gold come from Guinea up to 150V f., or to make it into money, for the best service of the Company.

Jovis Antemeridian. 6 September 1640.

"Gold from Guinea." ... ...

Jovis Antemeridian 27 September 1640.

-Messrs Duivelaer & Maecht authorised to buy in the cargo van Guinea at Amsterdam.

Jovis Antemeridian 11 October 1640.

The gentlemen over the provisions are authorised to allow to come (laten volgen) to the wife ~~(Maria Vrouw)~~ of the General, Arent Jacobsz in GUINEA, the half of the lime-juice (Limoensap) come out of the ship "Walcheren".

Lime-juice from the General.

(a similar entry over a case of sugar)

End of Zeeland resolutions 1640.

Letters (copy) from the XIX. WIC. to the Gold Coast. 1640.
(Letter Book. WIC. oc. 8.)

To Mr A.J. Amersfort.

The 4th April 1640. In Amsterdam.

Honoured, Valiant, Trusty. Well-beloved,

We have written to YH. by the ship "Arent", which the Chamber of Amsterdam have sent to the trade in Blacks, in date 22nd October, and 17th December, the copies of which are going herewith, to which we refer. We have not heard from YH since, and as the Assembly is now met together, and the Chamber of Amsterdam is equipping the ship "Leijden" to Angola, we cannot therefore omit to write by it.

The Chamber of Amsterdam are busy equipping the ship "Amersfort" with a good cargo, which will depart shortly after this ship. The Chamber of the Maes, at Delft, are also making ready, and so, afterwards, on the previous basis, four ships will be sent to YH. annually.

We have received a letter from Mr Joachimi, Ambassador of the High Mighty Lords States-General in England, the copy of which we have found good to send YH herein, from which YH. will be able to see how the English are seeking to defame us with the King, and to make us odious to him, with lies, and to seek action (actie) in order to come into dispute with us, as they are with those of the East Indian Company. We have always written to the Generals that they should go with all good communication with the English, in order to give them no occasion, but the trade remain free and liber, for each to do his best. We have summoned before us the late General, Van Jperen, who has declared to us how it happened with the burning of their Lodge at CORMANTIJN. We send YH copy of the declaration of the aforenamed van IJPEREN. YH will ~~plees~~ have attestations laid over (~~belezgen~~) there, if practicable from their own people~~s~~, in order to place them all the more in the wrong, and send them to us by the first ships.

And as we find that the English partly make good their trade of Guinea, with the trade to St Thomé and Seraleone, we have therefore found good to provide Serraleone with cargoes, which this ship, "Leijden", from the Chamber of Amsterdam, is taking with it, in order to leave it there, to trade red-wood and tusks, so as to make that trade, so far as practicable, unprofitable (~~infructueuse~~) to the English.

The Chamber of Amsterdam is also sending by it some cargo for Cabo Verde.

[redacted],

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted],

[redacted],

Amsterdam. 4th April 1640.

To Mr Arent Jacobsz Amersfort.

The 29th June 1640. In Amsterdam.

Honoured, Worshipful, Trusty, Well-beloved,

We last wrote to YH on the 4th April from this Assembly, and on the 26th (n.f.) from the Chamber of Amsterdam, by the ship "Leijden", copy of which goes herewith, to which we refer, as also the letter by the Chmaber of Amsterdam; and as the ship "Amersfordt" from the Chmaber of Amsterdam is lying ready to sail, we cannot omit, as the Assembly of the XIX, is at present met together here, to write further.

The Chambers who must still equip this year, of which the Chamber of the Maes at Delft is the first, are busy buying their cargoes, and the despatch is very highly recommended to them, as also to the other Chambers, who have promised to do their turn afterwards.

[redacted]

[redacted]

. . . .

[WIC oc 8]

Dec 18. Copy letter. Ass. X WIC. Amsterdam. to Sr. Gen. Arent Jacobsz Van Amersfoort. Elmina.

As we learn that the hostility of the English does not ~~abat~~ abate but increases daily, we have resolved, for the better security of our State there, that 30 German soldiers shall be sent by each cargo ship sailing to the Coast, with express orders that any Chamber being in default in this shall forfeit 300 guilders of its share of the gold that comes from there.

. . . . . .

– Will send the aqua fortis asked for as a preventive to the adulteration of gold –

. . . . . .

– Send in a sealed envelope the name of his successor in the event of his death.

. . . . . .

1640

Translations of extract letters on p. 42 a.

Feb. 21. ... JHH order me to report at length how I should be possible, for the Co's profit or injury, to make difficulties for the foreigners. In my opinion the only means is to keep the Coast always supplied with assorted cargoes, bearing in mind what is suitable for Ardra, Benijn, Calbary & Angola which the yachts can distribute at those factories in passing.

Mar 14. ... JHH do not definitely order me what I shall do other than to safeguard the rights of the Co. which I carry out as far as possible. For I still remember well that when I was asked to journey to the Hague with YHHs deputies to hear the advice of their High Mightinesses what I should do against the English, but nothing more was allotted to them than to undersell them. This is not the proper time as I am sufficiently supplied with goods for it.

Mar 19. After the ships Cameel & Cantay had sailed from here on 14th inst. the next day arrived an English ship named Lily, 140 tons, so they said, with 12 guns & 40 men, which at once proceeded to Cormantijn where the Commander Arend de Groot & Skipper Mr Ireland were well received by the inhabitants. This arrival made us decide to reduce the prices to put the linen again from 112 to 120 [yards], the blue serge from 36 ingels to 28 [each], the iron from 3 to 2 ingels & everything else in proportion, as YHH can see from the accompanying price list, which is difficult for the Blacks. The envoy of the Prince of Fantijn came & offered to have a house built for us at Amabee. He requested that I would send a man to him where he could deny everything [that the Englishman said?] when he [the Englishman?] was with him. He saw well that he was deceived by the English. But as soon as the English ship anchored & it was known, he had me told that I should keep friendship with him [the Englishman?] so nothing was said of other matters. The next day the Walcheren sailed to Moure to Fort Nassouw with fresh goods, to store as many as it could, & to bring the rest to the Valk at Cormantijn.

On the 19th some Accanists came by way of Great Commany – whom I had had with me at Moure on the arrival of the Cameel & whom I wished to attract here in order to stay away from Cormantijn.

Their

Their first request was that they should be presented with a pound of gold as the ways from Atty remained unsafe. They promised to spend their gold with us both at the Castle & at Fort Nassau & never more to buy from the English, if we gave them as much as the English at Cormantijn. This was accepted by us & they got one mark gold for opening the way, besides which we would allow them the usual "dashes" of 10 ingots on each pound of gold & that the Captain who came to take up his residence here — now here present, named Ogrua should receive 2 oz. gold every month & 4 oz. on every ship coming from home. The captain & his lieutenant who were staying near Fort Nassau, named Outijn & Coranchy Fom, shall have 12 ingots for each new ship. Satisfied with this they left the Castle & in confirmation, obtained an anchor of liquor which they drank together.

While writing this we got news from Cormantijn that the English were flying their flag at Amaboe, for which it would have been appropriate to have done what they did to ours. But as YHH have not ordered me to employ hostility & that cannot be done without it, I shall, as YHH. order, safeguard the right of the Co. & let the Advocate-Fiscal draw up a protest to protest against the English, & further await YHHs' advice. Now were the right time, if I had orders, to attack them by force. We have sufficient cause & would get still more if it were taken in hand. If it came so far that we dealt with each other by arms, they would soon be robbed of their ship & cargo which we could sell at a good profit. . . For at some time or another we shall suffer so much annoyance that we shall no longer be able to endure it, but we give no one orders to employ hostility. I will await YHHs' orders.

Those who have supplied the linen will feel the undersselling by this ship & in my opinion it would be better if YHH. could resolve to open the trade here, reserving the slave trade for the Co. with always a cargo for the Gold Coast.

1640.

Copy "Extract from a letter written by Mr Director "General Arend Jacobszn van Amersfoort to the Assembly of "XIX, dated 21 February 1640."

(Annexure No.7. to letter from Dir. Gen. Joan van Sevenhuijsen to the X. dd. ultio July 1700. W.I.C. 97. fos 299b-300b.)

Edele, Erntfeste etc.

Den nevensgaande is copia van mijn laaste etc. U.E. ordineert mijn dat ik largo advis sou geven waaraen des Comps profrijt off schade is gelegen om, soo 't mogelijk konde sijn, de uitheemse moeijte te maken. Daar, mijns oordeels, geen middel toe en is als precies op den geordineerden tijt te equiperen, om de Cust altijt van gesorteerde cargasoenen verzien te houden; daarbij wegende 'tgeen dienstig is tot Ardra, Benijn, Calbary & Angola; soo kunnen de jachten, in passand, desselfde comptoiren daarvan sorteeren. [illegible] etc.

Extract, ut supra, dd. 14 Maart 1640.

E. E. etc. ... U.E. ordineert mijn niet resoluijt wat doen sal, anders als 'tregt van de Compe te bewaren, dat naarkome voor soo veel mogelijk is. Want 't leijt nog in versscher memorie als ik eens versogt wierde eerst overgekomen met mijn Ed. Heeren Gecommitteerden naar Den Haag te reijsen om de advijzen van haar Ho. Mogende te hooren wat tegens de Engelse soude doen, wierde niet anders toegestaen als met cladden haar te verdrijven; daartoe nu den regter tijt is, doordien genoeg voorsien sijn van coopmanschappen. Etc.

Extract, ut supra, dd. 19 Maart 1640.

E.E. etc,

Mijn Edele Heeren, naar dat de schepen Cammeel & Caritas, den 14 deses van hier 't seijl gingen, is, 't nanderen daags, een Engels schip gearriveert, genaamt den Lely, groot, soo bij haar wert gezeijt, 140 lasten, gemonteert met 12 stukken & 40 man; die hem dadelijk naar CORMANTIJN heeft begeven, daar de Comr AREND DE GROODT and skipper Mr IERLANT van de inwoonders wel wierde ontfangen. Dees comste heeft ons doen resolveeren de gewenste markt te herstellen; 't linnen van 112 weder tot 120 a. 'T blaauw zaaij van 36 Engels op 28. 'T ijser van 3 tegens 2 Engels: en alles naar advenant; gelijk U.E. bij de nevensgaande Marktbrief kunt sien. 't welk moeijelijk is om de Swarten. Den BRAFFO van FANTIJN, sijn gesant was gekomen en presenteerden ons huijs tot AMABOE door sijn volk op te doen bouwen; versogt ik een man bij hem wilde stieren, daar hij alles tegens mogt seggen, als 't bij hem lag; zag wel door de Engelsen bedrogen was. Maar soo haast 't Engels schip sette en bekent wiert gemaakt, liet aenseggen ik met hem wilde vrundschap houden, soo dat van de andere saaken niet meer verhaalde. 'T schip Walcheren is 's anderen daags naar Moure vertrokken om 't Fort

Nassouw met nieuwe waaren te versien en soo veel goets te bergen als kan; voorts de reste tot CORMANTIJN in de Valk brengen.

Den 17 quamen eenige ACCANISTEN over GROOT COMMANY daar ik tot Mouré met de comste van den Cammeel reede mee hadde gehad, en gaarn hier getrokken, om van CORMANTIJN te blijven. Haar eerste versoeck was dat haar tot openinge van de wegen een pont gouts mogte vereert werden, alsoo die wegen van ATTIJ onveilig bleven, beloofden bij ons soo aen 't Casteel als Fort Nassouw haar goud te besteden; en nimmer meer bij de Engelse te coopen, als wij haar soo veel gaven als de Engelsen tot CORMANTIJN. 'T welk bij ons wierde aangenomen, krijgen tot openinge van de weg een mark gouts; beloofden ook, behalven de ordinaris dassies van ieder pont gout, tien engels haar uittekeeren, en dat de capitain die hier van haren wegen sijn woonplaets quam nemen, mede present sijnde, genaamt Oquva, alle maanden twee onzen gouts genieten sou; en van ieder schip uit patria komende, een onz. Den capitain met sijn lieutenant die bij 't Fort Nassouw ontnielden, Outijn en Corancky genaamt Pon genaamt, souden voor 12 engels per ieder nieuw schip hebben. Waarmede gecontenteert van 't Casteel gingen, en tot bevestinge een ander brande wijn kreegen, die met den anderen wiert uitgedronken.

In 't schrijven van dese, krijgen tijdinge van CORMANTIJN dat de Engelse haar vlagge tot AMABOE laten waijen, daarop wel passen gelijk zij de onsen hebben gedaan. Maar alsoo U Ed. mijn niet belast hostiliteijt te gebruiken, en dit niet gedaan kan werden sonder 't selvige, sal, gelijk U.Ed. ordineert, 't regt van de Compe bewaren en laten den Advt Fiscaal een Protest instellen, om tegen de Engelse te protesteren, en voorts U.Ed. advis verwagten. 'T waar nu de regten tijt als ik ordre had om haar met force aantetasten; hebben oorsaak genoeg en souden nog meer bekomen als in 't werk stelden. Indien soo verre quamen dat men malkander met wapenen bejegende souden van haar schip en goet haest berooft sijn dat tot goeden avance conden vercoopen, en als verstaen wierde betalen moeste wederom uitkeeren. Want den eene tijt off den anderen sullen wij soo veel spijts leijden dat men niet langer sal kunnen verdragen, maar geve aan niemant last hostiliteijt te gebruiken. Sal ordre van U.Ed. verwagten. De cladding door dit schip sullen de geene gevoelen die 't linnen op conditie hebben mede gegeven; en soo de Engelse continueeren is mijns oordeels niet beter indien U.Ed daartoe conde resolveren den handel hier open te stellen, houden de slaaffse handel voor de Compagnie, die ook altemet een cargasoen tot de Goudcust. etc. Waarmede, etc.

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Attestation against ARENT de GROODT, over the seizure of the purchased goods, on shore at CORMANTIJN.

(WIC.Verspreyde.1162. pp 1-3)

In the name of our Lord, Amen.

On this day, the sixteenth April Ao.sixteen hundred and forty, appeared before me, Mr Anthony Florano, Advocate Fiscal on behalf of the General Chartered WIC. of the Free United Netherlands, the Honourable Jacob Symonse Dolphyn, aged 38 years or thereabouts, born at Muninckendam, at present Factor on the ship "St Jan", lying in the roads before the Castle D'elmina in Guinea, and the Honourable Philibert Symons, aged 25 years or thereabouts, and born at Middelburgh in Zeeland, Factor on the ship "Walcheren", also lying in the roads before the Castle D'el Mina, who, in witness of the direct truth, being requested thereto on behalf of the Honourable Mr ARENT JACOBSZ van AMERSFOORT, Commander, Captain, and Admiral-General on behalf of the Chartered WIC. of the Free United Netherlands, in Africa, residing at the Castle del Mina, have, without any simulation, inducement, or persuasion of anyone, respectively hereby declared, certified, and affirmed each on his "manne" truth, honour and piety, offering to take legal oath at all times, if requested, that it is true that they, deponents, have good knowledge that(alsoo) on the 11th April, Ao.aforenamed, some inhabitants or Blacks of CORMANTIJN came on board the ship the "Valck", lying before the aforesaid place on behalf of the Chartered WIC. of the Free United Netherlands, to trade; who having bought some goods or merchandise on the aforesaid ship, the aforenamed Blacks sailed on shore with their purchases. Having come on shore, two English, by order of AREND de GROOTE, Commander of the English ship named "Lily", took away by force from the Blacks their purchased goods, and brought the same to the house of a Caboceer of CORMANTIJN, named MARTEN COENEN. The Blacks went to complain about it to Mr Jan Tielmans, Factor on the ship "Valck" who was at that time on shore having the aforesaid deponents with him, who proceeded to the house of AMMADOU, Captain of CORMANTIJN, and made their complaints to the afnmd Captain over the violence & wrong done to us (sic) by the English. After large protestations,& difficulties (& a present had also to be made to the afnmd Captn of the Blacks) the goods were restored again totthe afnmd Blacks. Which Declaration & Attestation, the afnmd deponents declare they are prepared to renew & refresh, before all "Heeren Banken & Gerechten" if necessary,& if they might be requested thereto. THUS DONE & Passed at the Castle D'el Mina on the day,month & year as above. / Jacob Symons Dolphyn.

Philibert Symons.

1640.

Attestation against ARENT de GROOT, about the laying waste of the Fort NASSAUW.
(WIC. Verspreyde 1162.
pp.4-5)

In the Name of our Lord, Amen.

On this day, the 14th ~~July~~ June Ao. sixteen hundred and forty, appeared before me, Mr Anthony Florano Advocate Fiscal on behalf of the General Chartered WIC. of the Free United Netherlands, the Honourable JACOB RUYGHAVER, aged 40 years, born at Haerlem, at present provisional Commandant at the Fort NASSOUW in Guinea, and the Honourable HEYN CLAASZ, aged 54 years, born at Durgerdam, at present skipper on the "Valck", lying before CORMANTIJN, who, in witness of the direct truth, being requested thereto on behalf of the Honourable ARENT JACOBSZ van AMERSFOORT, Commander, ... (as in previous Attestation) ... residing in Guinea, have, without simulation, ... hereby respectively declared, ... that (alsoo) on the 28th May Ao. aforesaid, by order of the General aforenamed, they went to ZABOU, assisted by a Captain and three Caboceers of D'el Mina. Being there, they addressed themselves to the King na verricht van saecke, questioning him, in the presence of his Caboceers, and those from D'el MINA, whether it was not true that the deceased King, his predecessor, had said to General van IPEREN that AREND de GROODT, the voyage before, had requested him to help him to lay waste the Fort NASSAU. He replied it is true that AREND de GROOT had (by a Black of SABOU named AMPPAGRIJ) asked the SABOUS to ~~help~~ help him to lay waste Fort NASSAU; and that he also had refused him such. Which Declaration, ... (as in previous Attestation) ... ... THUS DONE and passed at the Castle D'el MINA on the day month and year as above.

(sgd) Jacob Ruighaver.
" Heyn Claesz.

1640.

Attestation against ARENT DE GROOT, touching the laying waste of the Fort NASSOUW.

In the name of our Lord, Amen.

On this day, the sixteenth June, AO. sixteen hundred and forty, appeared before me, Mr Anthony Flarano, Advocate Fiscal on behalf of the General Chartered WIC. of the Free United Netherlands, the Hon Abraham van der DOES, aged 33 years born in Gorcum, Upper Factor at the Castle D'elMINA in Guinea, and the Hon Philibert Symon aged 25 years or thereabouts Upper Factor of the ship (sic) and Bookkeeper of the Castle D'elMina, who, in witness of the direct truth, being requested thereto on behalf of the Honourable Mr ARENT JACOBSZ van AMERSFOORT, Commandant, ... residing at the Castle Del Mina, have without simulation, ... respectively declared, ... that (alaoo) on the 4th June, Ao. 1640, the Cabo Ceros of CABOU were assembled at the Castle D'elMina, who were asked if AREND DE GROODT had not, a second time, requested the deceased King to lay waste Fort NASSAU, and to hand it over to him; the Cabo Ceros of SABOU declare it to be true, in the presence of the Captain and all the Cabo-Ceros of D'el Mina, that ARENDT DE GROOT, a second time, (by an Englishman, and the Black AMPEAGUI, referred to in the Attestation of the 14 June, Ao. aforenamed) requested the deceased King to lay waste the Fort, and hand it over to him; and for this he would give the King a large presemt.

Which Declaration ... ...

THUS DONE at the Castle D'elMina on the day, month and year as above.

(sgd) A,van der Does.
" Philibert Symonsz.

(WIC. Verspreyde. 1162. pp. 6-7.)

1640.

Protest (of AREND JACOBSZ VAN AMERSFOORT) against the English.

In the Name of our Lord, Amen,

On this day, the 18th June, Ao. sixteen hundred and forty, appeared in person, before me, Mr Anthonyo de Florano, Advocate-Fiscal on the Coast of Africa on behalf of the General Chartered West Indian Company of the Free United Netherlands, the Honourable Mr ARENT JACOBSZ van AMERSFOORT, Commander, Captain and Admiral-General, on behalf of their High Mighty Lords States-General, His Highness the Prince of Orange, and the Chartered West Indian Company of the Free United Netherlands, in Africa, residing at the Castle D'el Mina: which General aforenamed has declared it to be true that (having arrived, on the 20th March sixteen hundred and twenty four before the Fort NASSOUW) AMBRO BAFFO, King of FANTYN, CORMANTIJN and ANNEMABO, and the inhabitants of the aforenamed places and countries have earnestly requested the Honourable General aforenamed that he would provide their ports with a ship, as formerly, which have now been abandoned for about six months; that he would cede (opdragen) to us his country; and make our enemies his own; promising to allow trade in his country, or before his port, to no one, whatever nation he might be, but to us. Which condition the General aforenamed has accepted, as appears further in the Agreement made with them on ultimo March, Ao. 1624, in the presence of the Cabo Ceros at CORMANTIJN; which same we have always maintained, in accordance with our promises. Which aforenamed Agreement was renewed and confirmed in the time of Mr Nicolaes VAN IPEREN, late General of the aforenamed Coast, on the 23rd April 1639, with the BRAFFO aforenamed, in the presence of his Cabo Ceros. That the English Comapny has sent ships to the Coast of GUINEA, and some have come before the place ~~(e)~~ or port aforenamed, to trade; that it is certain that if the English Company has been given such good and great rights of ownership to the same countries and places, as belong to the Chartered WIC aforenamed, in all justice, without contradiction, they would never have suffered any ships of the Chartered WIC. aforenamed, to trade there, but would, undoubtedly, have driven the same away from there by force. Nevertheless, we have received the aforesaid English with all courtesy and friendship, as becomes Christians, and suffered them to trade at the aforenamed places next to ~~(neffens)~~ us; and have, on several occasions, assisted them in time of need; which Mr Musgrave (Mosgraeff), Factor for the English Company, hitherto, ~~stationed (gelegen)~~ before CORMANTIJN, would not be able, or dare, to deny, who has never had any words with Jan Tielmans, Factor for this Company, also lying

before CORMANTIJN, on the ship the "Valck", but had lived in concord with each other, andtreated each other in all friendship, as subjects of allies are bound to do. So is it that Mr AREND DE GROODT, Commander for the English Company, coming before CORMANTIJN, has, with presents, requested the BRAFFO and inhabitants of the aforesaid place(s) to withdraw from their promises made, in order to hand over the aforesaid country to the English Company; which is contrary to all reason and right, as it is sufficiently well known to the aforenamed Mr DE GROOT that the same countries, places and port have been ceded to the Hon. General aforenamed, and, at the time of General Nicolaes VAN IPEREN, again renewed and confirmed; which appears from the Agreements above referred to, which the aforenamed DE GROODT/being driven by improper desires, seeks to scorn and bring to nought. About which, Mr TIELMANS aforenamed, by order of the Hon. General Mr ARENT JACOBSZ VAN AMERSFOORT, departed for FANTYN, on the 27th March, Ao.aforenamed, assisted by his Under Factor Droogenbrood; and there addressed himself to the BRAFFO, questioning him, after congratulation, whether he was not mindful of what had been done a year ago, by OESJEN (one of his Caboceers) in the cession of his country to the Hon. General aforenamed. He replied that it was well known to him. It was further represented to him that he ought then to know what promises he had then made to the aforenamed General, - not to allow trade by any one except us; to cede his country to the General; and that he would make our enemies his own; - as further appears in the said Agreement. The BRAFFO had nothing to bring in against this, but that his port was open to everyone. Tielmans said thereupon replied to him, how then it came about that the English said that he had again ceded their country to them, and that we must leave the port at once. To this he replied that he had consented to the English making a house or fortification at CORMANTIJN, but would never again suffer that we must leave the port, and that they should hinder other ships coming, for he was glad to see his port provided with ships (of whatever nation they might be). He further asked him whether he was not also aware that, besides the cession (opdracht) of CORMANTIJN, made first to the Hon.General aforenamed, and afterwards to the Hon. Mr VAN IPEREN, he had not also completely allowed to us (toegestaan) the place ANNEMABO. To which he replied that this was true, and was still valid, and if the General should be pleased to proceed with the making of the said house, he would provide the labourers for it. On this, the BRAFFO instead of swearing oath, laid his hand on his head. After completing the business, the

aforenamed Mr Tielmans took leave of the BRAFFO, and his Cabo Ceros with the promises that he would hold everything aforesaid as valid; upon which, he departed, and proceeded on board. So is it that the aforenamed Tielmans, on the ulto March, received an express (messenger) on board, informing him that the King's people had come to plant the flag at ANNEMABO. About this, the aforenamed Tielmans went on shore, assisted by his Under Factor Droogbrood, and proceeded to the house of a Black, named "Dutch (Duitsche) PIETER", where he found the Cabo Ceros with some of the King's people, who told him that they had now come, by express order of the BRAFFO, fully to confirm the cession (opdragt) of ANNEMABO to the Hon. General aforenamed, and therefore demanding from him the Prince flag, which Tielmans handed to them; and with which they departed for ANNEMABO, and planted it there, adding some pieces of leopard skin, as confirmation that the flag was planted in the BRAFFO's name. The aforenamed Cabo Ceros also asked that a small fort or lodge might be completed there at once; that they had the timber ready; and saying that ANNEMABO belonged to no one but the General aforenamed. The aforesaid DE GROOT, being informed of this, came on shore, on the 1st April, Ao. aforenamed, and having betaken himself to the Blacks, asked them what people they were, whether English or Holland disposed. To this they replied "English", whom he made to take up arms, and provided with 24 muskets from the English; being resolved (as some Blacks said) to massacre Tielmans, Dutch Pieter, the aforenamed Black and his people. This, a Black named "Dutch Jacob" had prevented, warning them to be careful what they did, and saying that if they did the Dutch ("Duitschen") any harm, they could expect much trouble from us. Nevertheless, the aforenamed DE GROOT did not fail to incite the Blacks. The aforenamed Tielmans, being warned of this, proceeded with Droogbrood, to the market, which was occupied (bestelt) with Blacks, among whom the aforenamed DE GROOT, who was very busy and indefatigable (die seer noest en druck hadde). Tielmans, coming to him, asked him for what purpose he had made the Blacks take up arms, and if it was intended for them, he should speak, and they would then know how to act. He said it did not concern them, but "there is a rascal and informer here in the village, who shall(get) out of it". Finally, after many words and various discussions, they separated, without DE GROOT having done anything particular with his Blacks at that time, but, meantime, neglecting nothing to incite the Blacks to imagine every vilainy towards us, to the injury of this State. And as

~~by chance~~ Mr Tielmans by chance met the aforenamed Mr DE GROOT again, on the same date, he treated him very rudely, and said with spiteful words, "The Lords States are making themselves too great, and the Company, likewise, wants us to clear out, not only of the country, but also of the port, and not to allow one canoe to come on board."; notwithstanding that the Captain and some other Cabo Ceros have said that he cannot make us leave the port, for it is our country, of which he will never be able to show any cession, the said DE GROOT wants the unlawful possession of this country and port; and with an unheard of wickedness and injustice, on the 3rd April, 10-12 Blacks by order of Mr DE GROOT, marched to ANNEMABO, fetched His Highness's of Orange's flag from there, and kept the same with them.

It is also true that on the 11 April Ao. aforenamed, ... (Repeats, practically verbatim, the statements made in the Declaration of Dolphyn and Symons, of the 16 April, supra, to which the deponent himself refers). ... ...

All which aforesaid acts of hostility, perpetrated by the aforenamed Mr DE GROOT, cannot tend otherwise than to sedition and contempt for our State, which ought not to be done by a subject of His Royal Majesty of England (to whom we all bear honour and respect) as an ally of their High Mightinesses; but who, on the contrary, seeks to do nothing else than to create discord between His Majesty and their High Mightinesses, and to bring their good alliance and peace to a rupture.

All these hostilities being reported to the General aforenamed, and he not being able to tolerate them without wounding his honour and oath, so has the Honourable General Arent JACOBSZ van Amersfoort, Commander, Captain, and Admiral- General, on behalf of the High Mighty Lords States General, His Highness the Prince of Orange, and the Chartered West-Indian Company, hereby expressly protested against all the expence and damage, which the Chartered West-Indian Company has suffered, or may yet suffer through Mr DE GROOT; and that he should henceforth refrain from further hostilities and fighting, from which nothing but bloodshed can ensue; or otherwise, that the General aforenamed, in default thereof, will act as he shall deem proper; desiring the service ("insinuatie") hereof to be made to the aforenamed Mr DE GROOT, and a document of the reply of the said Mr DE GROOT, to be delivered in proper form.

THUS DONE, on the 18 JUNE Ao. aforenamed, in the presence of the Hon. Jacob RUYGHAVER ... and the Hon. Heyn Claesz ... Equipage-Master- General, in Guinea, witnesses summoned and bidden hereto; in accordance with which, I, Advocate Fiscal, accordingly transported myself with the aforenamed, to the aforenamed Mr DE GROOT,

lying before Cormantijn, and , in person, made "insinuatie" inspection, and perusal, to him of what is written above, who asked for a copy of the aforesaid Protest, to which he would reply in writing.

THUS DONE, on the 19 JUNE Ao. aforenamed, in the presence of Mr Yrlant, Skipper on the ship "Lily", for the (Ireland) English Company, and the witnesses aforenamed.

(sgd) Jacob Ruyghaver.
(") Heyn Claesz.

(WIC. Vers: 1162. pp 6-19)

Attestation of the announcement (aandienen) of the aforesaid Protest against the English. (Summary)

Declaration made on the 27 June 1640, before Mr Anthony de Florano, Advocate Fiscal, by Jacob RUYGHAVER (aged 40) provisional Commander at Fort NASSAU, and Heyn Claesz (aged 54) Equipage-Master- General in Guinea, at the request of Arent JACOBSZ van AMERSFOORT, Commander-General over the Coast of Africa, that on the 18 June they had, with the Advocate Fiscal, gone on board the English ship "Lily", and handed the above Protest to Mr DE GROOT, ... and, after some ~~conversation~~ discussion with Mr Jan Tielmans, Factor on the ship "Valck", the said DE GROOT expressed the opinion (venteerde ?) that he had done nothing that he could not answer for to His Majesty, and had not yet done what he ought to have done; for, if he had carried out his orders, much more would have been done.

THUS DONE and passed at the Castle Del Mina the day, year, and month, and year above written.

(sgd) Jacob Ruyghaver.
(") Heyn Claesz.

(WIC.Vers.1162. pp 19-21)

1640.

Protest of AREND DE GROOT, for the English.

Sir,

On the 18th June came to visit us from CORMANTIJN, on our ship, the "Flour"(?), Mr Anthony de Florano, assisted by Mr Jacob Ruyghaver, and Heyn Cleesz, who declared that they would read aloud, by your orders, a certain Protest, a copy of which was handed to us. But we did not then take it in hand, being busy despatching a ship to England; being also assured that you would come before CORMANTIJN in the ship "Walcheren", we trusted, if there was any misunderstanding, to remove the same out of the way, verbally by discussions together, in order to prevent further discord. But finding that there was no hope of your coming here, we have taken it in hand again, and re-read it with more attention and reflexion than before, when we found it was such that we take the trouble to reply to it, in order to maintain and advocate the honour and the reputation of my Lords and Masters, the Directors of the GUINEA COMPANY as also my own; although I am, indeed, not in the least bound to give an account or make any report to Your Honour or to anyone but His Royal Majesty of Great Britain, and the Directors of the English GUINEA COMPANY.

As regards the Agreement, of which Your Honour speaks, made 16 years ago with AMBRO, the King or BRAFFO of FANTYN, CORMANTIJN, and ANNEWABO, by which you claim the right of possession over the aforenamed places for the Netherlands Company, I will not deny; but will shortly relate what has occurred since my arrival on the Coast of GUINEA, for the English GUINEA COMPANY, so that each and everyone may the better judge thereof.

In the year of grace, 1632, in the month August, I arrived, praise God, well, before COMENDO, with 2 ships and 2 yachts, where lay anchored the ship "Nassouw", on which was Facor, Jan Tielmans, who so recommended us there that not one Black or inhabitant of the place dared to come on board, before our Factor, ~~Nuts~~, Jeremias Nuts, had remained on shore as a hostage, and had offered sundry merchandise on shore, such as ~~one~~ commonly brings here, with which to set at nought that we were pirates; and offered to sell the same and to trade further with them, which was the cause of our coming, and not to carry off the inhabitants or Blacks, as they had been told.

Being anchored there, I at once despatched a canoe to CORMANTIJN, in order to report our arrival to Captain ~~ABO~~ AMBOU and all the Cabo Ceros, and at the same time to understand from them whether the people of FANTYN and CORMANTIJN were in any alliance with the Netherlanders,

and desired us to come there, that they should send back to us, by the canoe, 3 persons of CORMANTIJN (who are at present still alive) in order to hear the views of the BRAFFO of FANTYN and of the people of CORMANTIJN, in order to regulate ourselves accordingly.

The canoe returned in a few days with 3 ambassadors from the BRAFFO and from the CORMANTIJN, who declared that they had orders to assure me that they were in no alliance with the Netherlanders; but that they had come to request that I would come to CORMANTIJN with my ship, as they were resolved to come to an agreement ~~(accordeeren)~~ with me in everything that was reasonable.

After having placed matters at COMMENDO in good order, to the satisfaction of the King and inhabitants there, (we) resolved to depart to CORMANTIJN with our Admiral ship, and a yacht. In passing, as is customary at sea between allies and friends, we saluted Fort MASBOUW at MOURE, and the ships in the roads. Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker, then General for the Netherlands West Indian Company, seeing our course was set for CORMANTIJN, followed us in all h ste, with 2 ships, where we came to anchor alone, in the evening.

In the morning, 15( ), at daylight, Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker sailed on shore with ~~"schuiten"~~ barges and boats, and sufficient Company; and we followed him with the 3 ambassadors, in a canoe, sent to me from the shore. I at once proceeded to the house of AMBAW, Captain of CORMANTIJN, where I met Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker; and, after compliments, I proceeded to another house till we were again sent for by the Captain and Cabo Ceros, who declared to me that Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker had applied all possible assiduity that he should refuse to trade with us; but he said that he was disposed to enter into all reasonable conditions with me, about which Captain AMBOW (a man of more than ordinary intelligence) took very great trouble, remembering the very poor treatment of Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker, when he came to visit him at MOURE, and that he had had to depart, ridiculed and laughed at; while he showed the stripes on his back from the blows received from Mr Jan Jolliet, at that time anchored before CORMANTIJN, more to insult and vex them than to maintain the trade: whereby CORMANTIJN had fallen into such decay and poverty that few houses were standing, for all the traders and young men had left for other places in order to support themselves.

[Ambaw] [Ambow] [Moure]

In order to repair this, and to improve their condition, they entered into all conditions that were reasonable and required, with me, and promised to fulfil them; that no one should have any attention (notitie) before their port, but the English nation only. Mr Jan Jochemsen Sticker, being very dissatisfied with with the refusal of his desires from the people of CORMANTIJN, the next day, made a further attempt with the BRAFFO of FANTYN. What reply he got, I am confident Mr Jacob Ruyghaver will remember well; and the messenger, with the present, only returned with his request disallowed ~~(ongequnt)~~.

Mr Ruyghaver declares hereon that the BRAFFO granted his places to both the Netherlanders and English, without being willing to deny them to the one or the other.

If the Netherlands West Indian Company had any right to the places CORMANTIJN or ANNEMABO, through the Agreement made, sixteen years ago, with the BRAFFO of FANTYN, it had been unnecessary for Mr Jan Jochemsz STICKER to request the people of CORMANTIJN, and the BRAFFO of FANTYN to prevent us trading with them; but he ought to have made "insinuatie" of it to us, and to have protested against it so far as ~~(?)~~ it was in danger of prejudicing him; or to have prevented the same by force, as you say in your Protest, we ought to have done to the Netherlands West Indian Company. Mr Jochemsz Sticker could not pretend any ignorance of the Agreement made 16 years ago, as he was with you in the Government, as Chief Councillor, and succeeded you as General; likewise, Mr Jacob Ruyghaver, who had been with you as Chief Factor at Fort NASSAU, for some years, and was assisted by Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker.

As we encountered no ~~no~~ other hindrance from Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker, we proceeded to FANTYN, and there made further conditions with the BRAFFO, "ten beste Conde", who, after ripe deliberation, with the consent of his Cabo Ceros, made cession (opdragt gedaan heeft) to us of his country, as CORMANTIJN, ADYA, and ANNEMABO; and all other ports (Repoorten na) so far as his, or his successors' jurisdiction and authority (gerechtigheid) extends, should be free for His Royal Majesty of Great Britain and his subjects, and for no one else, in order to make house, lodge, forts and castles where they should think fit, without any hindrance; and that they would assist them in everything, as far as possible. This, according to the custom of the country, was cried and proclaimed in every place. After everything had been accomplished, that which had

been agreed upon was paid to the BRAFFO; and in ratification of the truth thereof, we had a flagstaff erected at CORMANTIJN, on which the flag of His Royal Majesty of Great Britain flew everyday when opportunity offered; and a lodge or house was constructed at CORMANTIJN, for which, according to promise, the people of FANTYN brought the materials, and the people of CORMANTIJN worked upon it daily; thus displaying their zeal in the fulfilment of their promises.

At ANNEMABO, matters were also carried out (tot executie gestelt), and all the Blacks from Da MINA, many of whom then lived there to fish, were made to depart; about which the Governor of DA MINA, Don PEDRO DE MASQUARNIER, at various times, requested me in a very friendly manner, that this might be allowed them, but it was never granted him. And a new Captain at ANNEMABO, who is now still alive, was made by AMBOU, Captain at CORMANTIJN; to whom (ie Capt. at A'bo) 4 oz gold was lent for his expenses, which are still being paid to the English Company.

Mascarenhas

Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker, seeing that he could not prevent us making the Agreement or Conditions with the BRAFFO of FANTYN, departed in person to MOURE, leaving one of his ships in CORMANTIJN roads,-Chief Factor Mr Jacob Ruyghaver, who hindered us in every possible way, both by raising the market and spoiling the merchandise (de Marck te verhoogen als te bederven in de coopmanschappen). Wherefore we thought it good to make further conditions and engagements with the people of CORMANTIJN, and the traders or ACCANISTS, then residing at CORMANTIJN, to wit:-

Messrs Willem Jansz & Jacob Ruyghaver declare they have never heard of any goods being confiscated, which had been sold by us to the Blacks before the port of CORMANTIJN.

That no one of the inhabitants of CORMANTIJN, or ACCANISTS, should be allowed to buy any goods of whatsoever kind from the Netherlanders either before the port of CORMANTIJN, or at MOURE, & if the same were landed at CORMANTIJN, ANNEMABO, or other places in the territory (onder 't gebiet) of the BRAFFO of FANTYN, they should be confiscated and forfeited; which has already been carried out several times; and goods confiscated, which had been bought not only at CORMANTIJN, but also at MOURE by KORANKIJN Captain of the ACCANIST traders, DUCTAFFEN(?) QUOW, and other traders who had consented to the said Agreement; who acknowledged that such goods had been rightly confiscated according to

the Agreement made with them.

Willem Jansz van Ackeren being then on the Coast, declares that the aforesaid yacht sold all her current goods before ANNEMABO, and had gone there at the request of the ACCANISTS.

Mr Jacob Ruyghaver declares that he never had any orders to request such; nor requested it. Moreover, also was not then on the Coast; as appears by his Attestation of 19 October 1640. [p 64 pok]

Whereby the yacht "Bruyn Vis", on which was the Factor Hendrik Jansen Rood, being ordered by Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker to trade before CORMANTIJN, had to leave, sailing to ANNEMABO, but encountering the same there, returned to MOURE.

A certain time afterwards, another ship came before CORMANTIJN. As soon as it was anchored, Mr Jacob Ruyghaver with Skipper Cornelis Dircksen of Durgerdam, came on board our ship the "Chrispina", and in the most friendly way requested, in the name of Mr Jan Jochemsz Sticker, that they might be allowed to trade before the port of CORMANTIJN; and that the English nation should enjoy the same liberty before MOURE; which friendly request and condition (we) have granted him and allowed him, as (I) was very sick, and destined to depart to England. After my departure, this friendly permission remained as a custom.

In the year 1636, was again renewed, (though unnecessary) the Agreement made with the BRAFFO of FANTYN, by Mr John WOOD, then Commandant for the English Company on the Coast of Africa, who succeeded us.

In the year 1638, arrived here Mr Timothy MULGRAVE (Mielgrave), Commander for the English Company, bringing with him materials to make a Castle or Fort; which was begun without hindrance, and which is still being worked at daily, by the people of CORMANTIJN & FANTYN.

As regards the Agreement made by Your Honour 16 years ago, that it was renewed by the General Nicolaes VAN IPEREN, is unknown to us: and cannot be held to be a renewal of the Agreement, but as a present and honour upon his departure.

In the year 1638, by order of Mr Nicolaes VAN IPEREN and under the direction of Mr Heyn France, then Under Factor on the ship "Valck", a flagstaff was erected at ANNEMABO, in order to claim the authority (gerechtigheid) of the place, seeing that the English GUINEA Company were proceeding with their design of making a Fort at CORMANTIJN; and fearing that their permitted freedom to trade at CORMANTIJN would be denied them, they had

recourse to ANNEMABO. But as soon as the same was reported to Mr Mulgrave, and complained about to the Captain and Cabo Ceros of CORMANTIJN, (they) at once went there and cut it down, and razed it to the ground: the BRAFFO of FANTYN excusing himself by saying that he had been deceived, for the petitioner had only used the name of "Thym" (Tim?), meaning Thym Vostdorp, Factor at Fort NASSAU; and the BRAFFO thinking it was for "Thym" MULGRAVE, Commander for the English Company. Whether here there were honest dealings, I leave to the judge.

† Mr VAN IPEREN appears to have been a man of sufficient wisdom and understanding to defend the rights (gerechtigheit), honour and profit of his Lords and Masters; and if the rights of the Netherlands West India Company were being encroached upon, he ought to have protested and complained of the wrongs done to them, not only about the cutting down and raizing of the flagstaff at ANNEMABO, but also against the making of the Fort at CORMANTIJN: or to have prevented the same by force of arms, for which he had the force and means enough; as Your Honour says I ought to have done.

I have thought it good to relate at length what has occurred since the coming of the English on these Coasts, so that everyone can the better judge from them it, that what they have done in getting that which they already possess here on the Coast of Africa, they are, with good reason, right and truth, seeking to maintain the same; and they have not sought to further their trade by massacres and wickedness, for they have been sent out with the Commission of His Royal Majesty of Great Britain, in the name of God, by our Lords the Directors of the English of the GUINEA Company, in order to trade, and not to deprive any one of either land or goods.

So that through Your Honour's acts, proceedings and accusations, we are bound to say that a wicked humour must dominate in Your Honour; for after Your Honour's coming here, all the friendship between the English and Netherlands nations has been changed into latent hostility (bedeckte vientschhp vrintschap?). May Almighty God prevent it from bursting out further, to which Your Honour gives daily cause.

It is told us by our Factor, Mr Matheus Reves, now at ANTO (Taccorary?), who formerly employed a friend at DA MINA to buy any necessaries for him, that this is now denied him, as the General was no friend, but an enemy of the English nation.

The yacht the "Vinty", coming to anchor before Chama, through want of water, sent a boat on shore to get a little;

but after having waited half a day, she had to leave with the reply that no water could be given without showing the General's orders.

The Surgeon of the same yacht, 2 days before my arrival, being at DA MINA, was after request, indeed allowed by Your Honour to buy some necessaries, but on his departure he was treated like a dog by some of the slaves, as if he had done something for which he deserved to be punished; and as he was very well known, he ought to have been treated in a different manner. - (Marginal Note.-"The General denies that the Surgeon was badly treated. He was well treated. ... ")

From this, and more of the like about which I will be silent, one can (~~well tell (affinceren?)~~ discern) the favour which Your Honour bears towards the English nation, and if now any emergencies should befall (which God forbid), what favour we should meet with.

We know well that it is not in the least the wishes of the Directors of the Netherland Company, and they will be sorry to hear it; and if it were repaid with evil, what scanty treatment their servants would receive in the harbours of His Royal Majesty of Great Britain.

The advices to us in England, out of Amsterdam, report the intention, with the coming of Your Honour, to make the English depart from the Coast of GUINEA. Likewise, from the words of Mr Jacob Ruyhaver to me lately, who, when we came to speak of the insolence and great wantonness of the Blacks, and that such could easily be prevented if Mr Jacob Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort, would come to an agreement with us about it, ~~siad~~ replied, that if that were done the English nation would continue in the trade. From which Your Honour's intentions sufficiently appear; as also by the stopping of the free passage for the traders, even to those expressly sent down to them.

A Black from MOURE, named HANSJE, has sat in prison for 16 days solely because he had bought some goods at CORMANTIJN, from some traders with us. Such, and more of the like, we could bring in, but it is too long, and unnecessary to relate, and we will not also complain about them in the least if it is only done at places where we have not the Command; and we hope that such will serve us as an example and precept in order to regulate ourselves accordingly in due season.

Therefore we will have Your Honour warned and begged not to take us amiss that such is lawfully done at CORMANTIJN, to the goods of those Blacks who have bound themselves to conditions with us; and will be done yet again at those places where we command (if Almighty God grants us life, and so long as we are entrusted with the Commission

with which we are at present charged) unless Your Honour gives up hindering and molesting us at our legitimate places at CORMANTIJN, Ø ADIJA, ANNEMABO, ANNASHONGH, and ATTA or TOCRADE; in which places we have erected the arms of His Royal Majesty of Great Britain, as a true token that the same have been ceded and belong to His Royal Majesty of Great Britain and of his subjects, the Directors of the GUINEA Company; and ought to be regarded as such by Your Honour.

[Anta or Takorade]

We request that you will cause the ship the "Valck", now in the roads of CORMANTIJN, to depart from there; and in default thereof, we hereby protest against all damage and disaster which might thereby arise, and which our Company has thereby suffered or may yet suffer; that Your Honour's person and goods will have to answer therefor, as well as the claim which we have against the Netherland Company; of which we shall, by the first opportunity make report to His Royal Majesty of Great Britain, who will undoubtedly maintain his rights (gerechtigheid) and will not let his subjects of the English GUINEA Company be injured in their trade.

As regards the wrong done by fetching away the flag of His Highness the Prince of Orange from ANNEMABO, we say that Mr Jan Tielmans has made great mistakes in that matter; for he had first carried off the flagstaff which had been erected there by Mr Mulgrave ~~there~~ in the year 1638; and then again erected another* with the the knowledge of the Captain and Caboceros of CORMANTIJN, under whom ANNEMABO belongs* and who are entitled to look after the place, and not the BRAFFO of FANTYN. It was unknown to them that Mr Tielmans had sent the flag thither by one QUIDAM, in a bag, and it was shut up in a Ø box there, and guarded as something sacred. For as soon as this was told them, the Captain of CORMANTIJN sent thither to fetch it from there, and it was delivered to him without any opposition, and is at presnt with him, but (I) do not know where else it is kept, never having seen it; but (I) do not deny that (I) was on shore at CORMANTIJN when this occurred. If, as Mr Tielmans says, the matter happened with the knowledge of the BRAFFO of FANTYN and CaboCeros, we are surprised that he did not proceed with making the Fort, and with the other promises made to him.

We have enquired especially into the matter, and ~~find~~ found that the "Soliciteur" or ~~Tielmans~~ acted deceitfully in it: making the BRAFFO believe that Mr Tielmans came to him only to give him a present, and reported again to Mr Tielmans on behalf of the BRAFFO, such as he knew was acceptable, and so (alsoo) departed with QUIDAM, who further carried out the work as we have ~~related~~. related.

Tielmans/ "Tielmans" [Onkapitein or Koopjes]

[* Aldaar was opgeworpen, wegte wenen, en dan een ander weder op te richten met wetenschap van den Capte & Caboceros van Cormantijn onder wien Annemabo sorteert]

1640.

We say also that the BRAFFO of FANTYN has no power to allow to another that which is already in our possession or to diminish it anything of ours; but this was all fixed up (besteeken) by a Black named "Dutch Pieter" (but only 12 months ago called "English Peter") who has been supported with large presents by Your Honour, as a rebel at CORMANTIJN, in order to serve Your Honour at every opportunity, to the great injury of the Coast geberally, which must yet be suffered and borne "tot syner tijt."

What happened on the 1st April, arose because of the dispute between him and one of the principal men of CORMANTIJN, named MAERTEN COENEN, who, besides the Captain AMABO invited me on shore as they were resolved to make an end to the daily discord which arose through the aforenamed Pieter, by banishing him from CORMANTIJN; whereby all the people of CORMANTIJN assembled in the square (Plaats) but were stopped (nagelaten) by one of the King's servants whom they met there at the time, and brought a certain reply from the King, through which such was stopped (nagelaten). Mr Tielmans, proceeding to the market, also asked me what was the reason of this meeting, whether it was on his account; to which was answered ~~that~~ No, but in order to banish "Dutch Pieter".

It would be extremely unwise for me to consider Mr Tielmans in this matter. We know his position (qualiteit), that was not in the least empowered, or was the cause of what was done to our injury, or would have been amended if he had been massacred about it; we believe Your Honour reproaches (verwijdt) us, but it is only envy which is spoken against us.

As also that we should have said anything to the detriment of the High Mighty Lords States; then was ~~there~~ no time to speak of such things, and it is also not my way (manier). I know well that they are ignorant of what passes here, and that they are engaged on big affairs, and know better what the interest of the Netherlanders is in the maintenance of the good alliance with His Royal Majesty of Great Britain, as here often is contemptuously spoken by these Company servants. (I) am confident that if such were known by them it would not remain unpunished, which, in order to prevent further discord, (we) will let pass in silence, for this time; until further cause is given to us, which we hope Almighty God will prevent, into whose beneficent protection we commend Your Honour.

Your Honour's affectionate,
(sgd) ARENDT DE GROODT.

Sir,
After writing this we have understood how one named

Stock, Skipper on a yacht, was condemned (geordonneert) in 2 month's pay, because he had given to James Bramton Skipper on a yacht "Vinty", a ~~an oxhead~~ (Hogshead) of water, before COMMENDA; from which sufficiently appears the great pleasure (Blijdschap) which, Your Honour boasts, the English nation has enjoyed through Your Honour; or still has to expect.

(sgd) Arent de Groot.

In our ship "Flawerde Lute"(?)
in the roads of CORMANTIJN,
the 26th August, stilo Anglico,
Ao. 1640.

(WIC. Verspreyde. 1162. pp 22-43)

The General and his Councillors deny that they condemned the aforenamed skipper, Stockman, about giving the water; but, on the contrary, they said he had done well, according to his Declaration, dated 19 October 1640.

Jan Claesz, lying on the "Valck", gave to Meest Pasvelt, skipper on the yacht the "Negoo Merchant", a cable in order to bring his yacht aforesaid; and never received any recompence for it; which also has never been taken amiss by by the General.

(WIC. Versp. 1162. p 43.)

Attestation touching the burning down of the English Lodge at CORMANTIJN.

In the Name of our Lord, Amen.

On this day, the 22nd September Ao.1640, appeared before me, Mr Anthonyo de Florano Advocate Fiscal on behalf of the Chartered West Indian Company of the Free United Netherlands, the respected Abraham van der Does, aged 33 years, born at Gorcum, Upper Factor at the Castle Del Mina, and the respected Laurens FIDDELERUS, aged 36 years born at Maaghdenburgh, Vandrager at the aforesaid Castle, who, in witness of the direct truth, being requested thereto on behalf of the Hon. Mr ARENT JACOBSZ van AMERSFOORT, Commander, ... residing at the Castle D'el Mina, without any simulation, ... have respectively declared, ... that (alsoo) on the 6th September Ao. aforenamed, came here to the Castle D'elmina, Mr John Thomas, Factor for the English Company at CORMANTIJN, bringing with him the Contra Protest of Mr ARENT DE GROOT, Commander for the aforenamed English Company, dated 26th August, stilo Anglico, Ao.1640, which he handed over to the General JACOB ARENTSEN (sic) van AMERSFOORT; and after some talk the aforenamed Gem-er General said to the aforenamed Thomas that he had understood, to his regret that Mr van IPEREN (who had always been a good friend of the English) was unjustly accused that it was with his assistance or by his orders that the English Lodge at CORMANTIJN had been set on fire; whereas it was sufficiently well known to the whole Coast that this had come about through their own carelessness with a light. Whereupon the aforenamed Thomas declared that he did not know about it, & had never heard such from anybody. Which Declaration & Attestation, ... THUS DONE and passed in the Castle D'elmina, the day month & year as above. / (sgd) Abraham v d Does. Laurens FIDDELERUS.

(WIC.Versp.1162.pp44-46.)

To confirm which afsd is placed hereunder my usual signature./In my presence/ (sgd) Anthonio de Florano.

1640.

Attestation touching the burning down of the English Lodge at CORMANTIJN.

On this day, the 15 October Ao.1640, appeared before me Mr Anthonio de Florano, Advocate Fiscal on behalf of the Chartered West Indian Company, the ~~Hon~~ respected Willem van Meeckeren 38 years old, born in Amsterdam, Factor on the ship "Swarten Arend", and in the presence of the witnesses hereafter named, who in witness of the truth, being requested thereto on behalf of the Hon. Mr Jacob Aretsz (sic) of Amersfoort, Commander, ... residing at the Castle St George D'el mina, without any simulation, ... has declared, ... that (alsoo), Ao. 1640, the 11. ~~4th~~ September, Mr John Thomas, Factor for the English Company, coming from HANTO, in passing the Castle D'elMina, proceeded on board the ship "Swarten Arend" lying here in the roads, to visit him, Mr Willem van Meeckeren, Factor on the aforenamed ship (being an old acquaintance). That having talked about the burning of the English Lodge formerly at CORMANTIJN, the aforenamed Thomas declared that he had first heard about it in London, when leaving the Exchange, from a Mr John Wood, ship-owner of the English Company, who said to Thomas, "What do you think of the news ~~about~~ which has reached us from the Gold Coast about the burning down of our Lodge at CORMANTIJN?". To this, the aforenamed Thomas asked how this had happened. To which Wood replied, "It is said, through their own light or fire." The aforenamed Thomas also said he had been very much surprised about the statement of the General ARENT JACOBSZ van AMERSFOORT, when he had been with him a few days before at the Castle D'el mina, that that fire had been caused by us; and declared that he had never heard that from anyone. Which Declaration and Attestation the aforenamed deponent declares he is prepared to renew, ...

THUS DONE and passed, at the Castle D'Elmina, in the presence of the Honourable Abraham van der Does, aged 33 years, ... Upper Factor at the Castle D'elmina, and the Hon Philibert Symons, aged 25 years, provisional Bookkeeper at the Castle D'Elmina, witnesses called and bidden hereover, on the day, month and year as above.

(sgd) Willem van Meeckeren.
(") Abraham van der Does.
(") Philibert Symons.

(WIC. Versp. 1162. pp 46-49.)

Attestation about the giving of a half hogshead of water by Skipper Pieter Stockman to James Brampton.

In the Name of our Lord, Amen.

On this day, the 19th October 1640, appeared before me, Meester Anthonio de Florano, ~~Acting~~ Fiscal on behalf of the Chartered WIC. of the United Netherlands, and in the presence of the witnesses hereafter named, the respectable Pieter Stockman, aged 32 years, born at Amsterdam, Skipper on the yacht the "Vogel Phenix", who, for the asservation of the righteous truth, being requested thereto on behalf of the Honourable Mr ARENT JACOBSZ VAN AMERSFOORT, Commander, Captain and Admiral-General for and on behalf of their High Mighty Lords States General, His Highness the Prince of Orange, and the Chartered WIC., residing in Africa at the Castle St George D'ELMINA, without any simulation, inducement, or persuasion from anyone, has declared, certified, and affirmed hereby, by his manly(?) truth, honour and piety, offering to take oath at any time on being requested, that it is untrue, and he expressly denies, that when he, deponent, lay before COMENDO, on the 21st December 1639, and there gave half a hogshead of water to one James Brampton, Skipper on the yacht "Vintry", for the English Company, on his departure, that he had been condemned in two months over it, or to have heard of any "~~reprocies~~" over it, but, on the contrary, when he reported the same to the General aforenamed, he got reply that he had done well.

Advocate

reproaches

THUS DONE and passed at the Castle St George D'ELMINA, in the presence of the respectable Abraham van der Does, ... and the respectable Philibert Symons, ... as witnesses called and bidden hereover, the day, month and year as above.

(sgd) Pieter Stockman.
(") Abraham van der Does.
(") Philibert Symonsz.

(WIC.Versp. 1162. pp 49-50)

1640.

Attestation against the assertion of Mr ARENT DE GROODT, that he was requested to permit trade before CORMANTIJN.

In the Name of our Lord, Amen.

On this day. the 19th October 1640, appeared before me, Mr Anthonio de Florano, Advocate Fiscal, on behalf of the Chartered WIC. of the Free United Netherlands, in the presence of the witnesses hereafter named, the respectable Jacob Ruighaver, aged 40 years, born at Haerlem. at present Commander, Captn, and Admiral-General, on behalf of the High Mighty Lords States General, His Highness the Prince of Orange, and the Chartered WIC. in Africa, residing at the Castle St George DEL MINA, without any persuasion from anyone has declared, ... it to be untrue, and he expressly denies, ... that he, deponent, received any orders from the General JAN JOCHEMSEN STICKER, before the arrival of the ship "Chrispina", or, on the coming of the aforenamed ship (as he, deponent, was not then on the Coast), to proceed to the aforenamed ship, lying before CORMANTIJN, and there to address himself to the Honourable Mr ARENT DE GROOT, being in the service of the English Company, in order to request, in the name of Mr STICKER, aforenamed, that he would allow them to trade before the port of CORMANTIJN, (&) that the English Nation would enjoy the same liberty before MOURE. Which Declaration, ...

THUS DONE and passed at the Castle D'ELMINA on the day, month and year as above, in the presence of Abraham van der Does, ... and Philibert Symons, ...

(sgd) Jacob Ruyghaver.
(") Abraham van der Does.
(") Philibert Symons.

(WIC.Versp. 1162. pp 51-52.)

1640.

Attestation concerning the burning down of the English Lodge at CORMANTIJN.

In the name of our Lord, Amen.

On this day, the 29th October 1640, appeared before me, Mr Anthonio de Florano, Advocate Fiscal on behalf of the Charterdd WIC. of the Free United Netherlands, the respectable Abrahem van der Does, ... Upper Factor at the Castle St George DEL MINA, and the respectable LAURENS FIDDELERUS, ... Vaendrager at the aforenamed Castle, who, in witness of the "gerechten" truth, being requested thereto on behalf of the Honourable Mr Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort, Commander, ... at the Castle D'EL MINA, without any simulation, ... have respectively declared, ... it to be true, ... that (alsoo) on the 27th October 1640, Mr Malten (sic), Factor for the English Company, lying on a yacht before TACCORARY or ANTA, arrived at D'EL MINA in a canoe, having inladen some goods at CORMANTIJN, to bring them to his yacht, and proceeded to the house of a Black. So is it that the aforenamed Deponents betook themselves to the aforenamed MALTHEU (sic), asking him the reason of his coming; and being satisfied about it, they spoke about the burning-down of the English Lodge at CORMANTIJN, telling him that Timothy Mulgrave put the blame on Mr Nicolaes Van IPEREN, as having happened by his order. Whereupon Mr Maltheu declared himself to be very surprised, as he had lived with Mr Mulgrave for quite 18 months before and after the burning-down of the Lodge, and had never heard this from him: but had indeed seen that Mr van IPEREN, & Mulgrave had always maintained good friendship; but he said it was true that a certain Black (named PINNI) of CORMANTIJN, was the cause of it, as he had broken into the Lodge at night, to steal, and was seized by the leg by a Black, whereupon he drew a knife & murdered the Black, and further set the Lodge on fire; which aforenamed PINNI or Black, Mr ARENT DE GROOT, as he departed the 24th ditto, by the ship "Goede Hoop", for the English Company, to the Island St Thomé, took with him, it was said to administer justice about it, after enquiry made; which statement or words the aforenamed Maltheu has repeated or related again in substance to the General afnmd. Which Deelaration ... THUS DONE and passed at the Castle St George D'ELMINA on the day month & year as above.

(sgd) Abraham van der Does

Which afsd is confirmed under my usual signature, placed hereunder. In my presence. / (sgd) Anthonio de Florano.

(WIC. Versp. 1162. pp 53-55.)

March 1640

[WIC. oc. 56]

Nov. 20. Copy letter Sir Pen Arent Jacobsen van Amersfoort Castle d'Almyna, to Count Mauritz of Nassau & the Council, Brazil.

I am hoping to get the ship Amersfoort from home, but it has yet not yet arrived, I fear disaster, which God forbid for we are in a very sober state. We have not got 8 days provisions along the whole Coast, & to live on the country will come hardly because of the bad harvest again at Craa from which it is feared much will perish. The port of Craa has produced nothing for months. It appears that the traders are so impoverished through the famine, & not 6 marks of gold a month has been received. At the Windward places & here & at Mouree a reasonable amount of gold comes down. At present we have 1200 Marks in the chest. ... If the ship "Leijden had not come half-loaded we should have had 3-400 marks more in the chest. & not one trader would have gone to the English although, since 15 March, 4 new ships have come to them ... ; as on 15th inst arrived here a yacht named the "Sterre", 12 guns, 30 men, sailed from London 8 weeks ago, so they say. It has a smaller

• "In November last there arrived in this river [Thames] a shipp called ye Starr from ye Gold Coast wth about 11000 lb in Gold belonging to ye said Compa ..."
[Petition of John Wood one of ye Guinny Co. to the Comittee of ye Navy, dd may 1644. P.R.O. SP. 16/540]

yacht up on the Qua Qua Coast which scrapes up everything there.... This English yacht is not entirely loaded with current goods yet it brings enough to deprive us of the traders who have for a long time held up gold for the expected ship Amersfoort, which they will now spend with the English, whereby all our previous presents made to the traders to attract them, have been lost. This could so easily have been presented if the Directors carried out their resolution to send a ship every 3 months. It is vexing to us & injurious to the Co. We are deprived not only of provisions but of all necessaries, ammunition & materials; indeed we are as if entirely forgotten. It is now 9 months since the ships Waldheren & St Jan Baptista came here with only some provisions. The sick perish for want of medicines — no match-cord; only a little powder —

The newly arrived Englishman brings news that in August last there sailed from our Fatherland 8 ships with soldiers to capture the Island St Thomé, & that Jacob Jansen of Rotterdam is in command of the ships. This seems strange to us as the advices come by the Leijden said nothing about it. If it is so Yr Honours will know. If granted it may succeed for the benefit of the Co.

. . . . . .

1640.

[WIC. oc. 56]

Dec 14. Copy letter. Wd. Fen. Arent Jacobsz van Amers from Castle Del Mina. to Count Maurits of Nassau & Council Brazil.

. . . . . .

The ship Wald Walcheren alone sailed from here to the Fatherland on 1st July, having on board Mk 899: 7 oz.: 13 ingel gold, & 11,547 lb. elephants' tusks.

We are very much defied by the English, for after Arent de Groot landed here on 15 March, on 21 June a yacht arrived - coming out of Serliones laden with red wood - which, after discharging over 100 casks of lime at Cormantijn, left with the return cargo.

On 29 July another yacht arrived here from England, with subsidiary goods - serges, knives & sheets - which we were out of. Therefore many traders who had settled with us disposed of their gold there; & if they so continue the Co must pay better attention to the equippage & not forget the subsidiary goods which give the best profit.

At present the English have 2 ships & 2 yachts on the Coast. They expect another yacht daily so that they can occupy more trading places than we. Moreover, as they are at present planting the English flag & the Arms of England at many places they thus have possession of the Country. They have forbidden us the port of Cormantijn, where they are beginning to build a stone house at the sea-side. They deprive the Blacks of the goods that are bought from our "lagger".

On the 6th inst. 2 Englishman came here who, by order of Arent de Groot made a written Protest to us to evacuate that port. All that they do is only leading to bring us to hostility, which is not advisable.

Trade goes reasonably well if we were only supplied with cheap new subsidiary goods. The English should not be receiving much as the path from Attij, which goes to Cormantijn, remains closed because of the war, & to all appearance it will not be opened yet.

. . . . . .

Resolutions of States General. 1641. (WIG.ee. S.G. 3228)

Sabathy the 26 January 1641.

Received a letter from the Dirs: of the WIC. at the Chr Amsterdam, written there on the 25th instant, and therewith the Points of Convocation, on which the Assembly of the XIX is convened there for the14th February next: requesting their Ho. Mo. to let deputies appear there to preside ~~there~~ at the aforesaid Assembly. Upon which, decided to appoint deputies.

(SG.5773.) POINTS of Convocation (enclosed in above referred to letter) for meeting of XIX at Amsterdam on 14th (4th?) February 1641.

Nos 1. to 7. re Brazil & Capital.

8.

As at the last Assembly deputies were appointed over the ninth Point of Convocation, concerning the Coast of Africa & its maintenance, the same will be requested to make report about what was discussed about it (gebesoigneerde), in order, after ripe deliberation to dispose therein as shall be proper; and whereas in the matter of the traffic on the same Coast various well-founded considerations arise in order to make that trade render better profit for the Company, the respective Chambers are requested to charge their deputies ripely to examine everything concerning it, and according to experience to help order as shall be judged the service of the Company requires.

9.

As also, to come prepared to proceed with the appointment of a Second on the Coast of GUINEA.

10. Appntmt of 2nd Advocate of Coy. 11. Brazil. 12. Sailors. 13. Maintenance of Pastors. 14. Smuggling by French in Brazil. 15. The situation caused by the revolt of Portugal against the King of Spain.

On 14th April: 18th May: 20th May: 4th June: &c are Minutes relating to the conclusion of a Treaty of Truce with Portugal.

The following is a summary (translated from the Dutch) of the printed copy of the Dutch-Portuguese Treaty of Truce. ('s-Gravenhage. 1642.)

(WIC.oc.19)

(Title Page)

Translation from the Latin into the Netherlands Language. Treaty of Truce and cessation of all Acts of Hostility, as also of Traffic Commerce and Aid, made approved and concluded in 's-Gravenhage the TWELTH JUNE 1641, for the period of TEN YEARS, between Mr Tristão de Mendoça Furtado, Ambassador and Councillor of the Most Serene High and Mighty Don John the Fourth of that Name, King of Portugal, Algarves, &c, And the Lords Deputies of the High and Mighty Lords States General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.

p.1. Experience has taught that Don Philip the Second King of Castile, by the might and force of Arms has heretofore invaded the Crown of Portugal and afterwards deposed the Most Serene High and Mighty King Don John (herebefore Duke of Bragança) from the undoubted right and privilege, as lawful and next heir of the Most Serene Lady Dona Catherina, to succeed to the aforesaid High Crown of Portugal, breaking Agreements and Treaties of Friendship, communication and trade, which the Lords Kings of the Crown of Portugal have always had with other Princes and Nations, robbing the good Inhabitants and Vassals of that Crown of their Laws, Customs and privileges, moreover burdening them with intolerable annoyances and various other kinds of Tyranny, imposing excessive burdens upon them, which, together with the patrimonium of the Royal Crown of Portugal, the Kings of Castile have squandered and consumed in avoidable and improper Wars, whereby the aforesaid good Inhabitants and Vassals of that Crown having become piqued and angered, have, after long patience, with great courage and prudence, finally cast off the unjust and intolerable yoke of the King of Castile and restored themselves to freedom, and subsequently Communi applausu elected proclaimed and sworn the aforenamed John the Fourth as King. And the High Mighty Lords States General, also knowing Passivé of the intolerable Tyranny and too heavy burdens of the King of Castile also his evil intentions to attain to the Monarchy over the whole of Europe, for many years claimed by him, have judged it to be servicable for the common weal to second the praiseworthy intentions of the aforenamed High King John the Fourth, and with him to make and effectuate the present Treaty and Accord, and therewith to let pass many and various occasions which they would otherwise have been able

to utilise ("mesnageren") for their own private profit and benefit at this situation ("occurrentie") of affairs both on this and on the other side of the Line, and in place thereof prefer to allow to revive ("reviviseeren") the old friendship correspondence and trade which there has been from olden times between the Kings of the Crown of Portugal and the Netherlands mutually.

I

Firstly, there is concluded a good firm faithful and indissoluble Truce and cessation of all Acts of Hostility between the aforenamed King and the States General both at Sea, other Waters, and on Land, in respect to all Subjects and Inhabitants of the United Netherlands of whatever quality and condition they are without exception of Places and Persons, as also, likewise, with regard to all Subjects and Inhabitants of the Lands of the aforenamed King of whatever quality and condition they are without exception of Places and Persons [who stand for (houden voor) His Majesty against] the King of Spain, (or shall hereafter be found to stand,) and that in all places and Seas on either side of the Line, upon the conditions and restrictions hereafter respectively declared, for the period of ten Years, which Truce and cessation of all Acts of Hostility shall take effect, in the Quarters of Europe and situate elsewhere (fora do) beyond the Limits of the respective Charters heretofore respectively granted on the part of this State to those of East and West-Indian Company, immediately upon the signing of this Treaty.

[as quais defendam defendem dem contra]

(e daqui por diante se achar que as vão defendendo)

II

- And in the East Indies and the places belonging under the Charter of the East-Indian Company, one year after the date on which the ratification of this Treaty on the part of the King of Portugal shall be brought to this country.- ... ...

III

- The Truce to apply to all East Indian Potentates and Peoples with whom the States General or East Indian Company are in friendship and Alliance.- ...

IV

- Cessation of hostility for 10 years in the East Indies.-

V

-Ships not to be molested in their voyages.-

VI

-Each shall remain by his Treaties & Agreements.-

VII

-Unmolested possession & occupation of places in East-Indies.- ...

VIII

The aforenamed Truce and cessation of all Acts of Hostility shall take (sorteren) effect for the period of ten years/in the places and Seas belonging under the district of the Charter granted by the Lords States General to the West-Indian Company of these Lands "nae dato"/ that the Ratification of this Treaty on the part of the King of Portugal shall be brought over to this country/and the public notification of the aforenamed Truce and cessation of all Acts of Hostility/ shall further have come to any of the aforenamed Places and Seas respectively/ from which time the parties on either side in such Places and Seas respectively will reciprocally have to abstain from all Acts of Hostility/on the understanding/that within eight months after the aforesaid Ratification shall be brought over to this Country/one shall then treat here with the Crown of Portugal/concerning a Peace in the aforenamed Places and Seas/belonging under the aforesaid district of the Charter of the West-Indian Company/for which Mr Tristao de Mendoça Furtado, Ambassador and Councillor of His Royal Majesty of Portugal hereby promises/that within the aforesaid eight months after the handing over of the aforesaid Ratification of His Majesty/shall come within these Lands the necessary Charge/Order/Instruction/also Person or Persons/provided with the necessary Royal Authority/in order to treat over the aforesaid Peace. But in case that contrary to all expectation Peace should not be entered into (getroffen-struck)/that notwithstanding this the aforenamed Truce and cessation of all Acts of Hostility/shall have (sorteren) complete effect for the aforesaid period of ten Years/in manner aforesaid/and upon the conditions hereafter declared. ... ...

IX

Those of the West-Indian Company of these Lands as also the Inhabitants and Natives in the conquests of the same together with all those dependent upon them of whatsoever Nation Condition or Religion they might also be shall have and enjoy in all the Lands and Places of the King of Portugal/and belonging to the same Crown/situate in Europe/such commerce/exemtion/free and privileges/as the other Inhabitants of this State shall obtain and enjoy in virtue of this Treaty. On the understanding ... -trade in Brazil- ... ...

From "A Embaixada de Tristão de Mendonça Furtado á Holanda em 1641." E.Prestage.

Art 8.

As sobreditas tregoas e suspenção de todo o acto de hostilidade terá seu effeito por tempo de dez annos em as terras e mares pertencentes ao districto da jurisdição concedida pelos Senhores das Ordens Geraes á Companhia da India Occidental destas Provincias desde a data, tanto que a ratificação sobre este tratado em nome del Rey de Portugal neste lugar fôr apresentada e a publica manifestação das ditas tregoas e suspenção de todo o acto de hostilidade chegar a qualquer parte das ditas terras e mares respectivamente; desde o qual tempo huma e outra parte em as ditas terras e seus mares se abstenha de todo o acto de hostilidade; comtanto que dentro de oito mezes despois que a dita ratificação fôr neste lugar apresentada se haja de tratar da paz com o Corôa de Portugal nas ditas terras e mares pertencentes ao districto da jurisdição da Companhia da India Occidental das Provincias, como assy promete o Senhor Tristão de Mendonça Furtado, Embaixador e o Conselho de Sua Magesdade de Portugal, para que dentro dos ditos oito mezes depois da sobredita ratificação de Sua Magesdade aqui neste lugar apresentada venha juntamente procuração necessaria, ordem e instrucção, e igualmente pessoa ou pessoas com autoridade Real para tratar da dita paz: comtudo se acontecer contra toda a esperança e desejo que a condição da paz se não effeitue, sem embargo disso as ditas tregoas e suspenção de todo o acto de hostilidade terá inteiro effeito pelo tempo de dez annos na forma sobredita e conforme aos artigos que abaixo se declaram.

Art. 9.

A Companhia da India Occidental destas Provincias e bem assy os subditos e moradores nas suas terras acqueridas e juntamente todos aquelles que dahi dependem, de qualquer nação, condição ou religião que sejão, gozem e logrem em cada huma das terras e lugares del Rey de Portugal e pertencentes á mesma Coroa situados em Europa deste mesmo commercio, izenções, liberdades e direitos, dos quais os demais subditos deste Estado por virtude deste tratado hão de gozar e lograr, com tal condição que a Companhia da India Occidental destas Provincias e bem assy os subditos e moradores em suas terras acqueridas e igualmente todos os demais della dependentes não pretendão levar do Brasil para o Reyno de Portugal assucar, pao Brasil nem outras mercadorias que no Brasil costuma aver e delle serem trazidas, assy como tambem nem a nação Portuguesa e os subditos e moradores nas ditas terras adqueridas, nem menos os que della dependem, pertenderão levar do Brasil ás ditas Provincias e Regiões Unidas assucar, pao Brasil e outras mercadorias que no Brasil costuma aver e delle serem trazidas.

X

-The Netherlands and Portuguese Nations to give mutual help for duration of the Truce.-

XI

All Forts Towns Ships and private Persons whether Portuguese or others in Brazil or elsewhere, who remain on the side of Castile or shall hereafter come under the same power, shall be held and regarded as none other than common Enemies whom both the one and the other shall be at liberty to attack pursue and subdue without regard to Limits; on this understanding that if anyone came to capture such places or Forts, "denselven oock volgen sal het platte Landt ende andere Emolumenten/die van outs daertoe anner zijn geweest/niettegenstaende de sulcke/als boven/in een district van eens anders limitien gelegen mochten zijn."

XII

The Inhabitants of either side shall be left and remain each with his own (yder bij het sijne) as it shall then be found at the time of the notification of the cessation of all Acts of Hostility and the open country (which is necessarily understood to be dominated and conquered) between the furthest Forts of either side mutually divided, the Peoples and Nations belonging thereunder being included herein; which confines, being placed and devised in this manner, the Portuguese Nation on their side and the Inhabitants of these Lands on this side shall know what places and situations each shall have to keep and provide for as their own.

XIII XIV XV

-As to private property.-

XVI

- Each to act in their own Quarter in Brazil.-

XVII

-Portuguese navigation to Brazil. Size & Mounting of ships.-

XVIII

-Supplies to the Castilians prohibited.-

XIX

That which both the Portuguese and the Inhabitants of these Lands posses on the Coast of AFRICA has no need of boundary delimitation (limietschijdinge) as, between both, are situate various Peoples and Nations which separate and divide the same.

Art. 19.

Tudo aquilo que assi os Portuguezes como os subditos destas Provincias possuem nas Costas de Africa não necessita de divisão de termos, por quanto entre huns e outros ha diversos familias e nações que dividem e determinão os termos e ~~limites~~ limites.

XX

But as regards the Trade and frequentation to the same Coast the Island St Thomé and other Islands included thereunder, this shall be free both to the one as to the other, provided that for the same Navigation and Commerce, whether of Gold Blacks or other goods of whatever description which might be done or intended in or about the Towns and Forts which the one or the other might possess and occupy, there shall be paid the Tolls and duties (gerechtigheden) which the ~~Portuguese~~- Inhabitants, Portuguese and Free People of the same places are accustomed to give; Et vice versa.

XXI

-Provision as to Justice.-

XXII

-The possession of goods & property to the present possessors.

XXIII. The subjects of both Nations to live in friendship for the duration of the Truce.

XXIV. Common war against the Castilians.

XXV. Free trade on this side of the Line.

XXVI. Freedom of conscience in Portugal.Freedom of religion on ships and in Ambassadors houses.

XXVII. Assistance of ships.

XXVIII. XXIX. Equipage of ships against the common enemy.

XXX. Freedom of Portuguese ships.

XXXI. Division of prizes.

XXXII. Recruitment of soldiers.

XXXIII. No arrest of merchants,or search,in Portugal without previous information.

XXXIIII. Consuls to be placed in all ports.

XXXV

This Treaty shall be ratified by the King of Portugal and the Lords States General respectively in the usual form within the period of three months commencing ~~with~~ from the date hereof. And the same shall be uprightly and sincerely observed on either side. And His Majesty's ratification being accordingly brought over here into the Hage within the specified time, the same shall be exchanged and accepted on the part of the Lords States General aforesaid.

And we, Ambassador and Commissioners aforenamed, have signed this Treaty with our own hands, and confirmed the same with our ~~seals~~ respective seals in the Hage the xii June 1641.

(Notes on the above Treaty.

The Portuguese revolution broke out in December 1640. Professor Prestage makes the following observations:

The news of the revolution was received with intense joy by the Hollanders, who saw init a serious blow to their mortal foe Spain. ... On February 27th the States published a decree forbidding their subjects to make war on the Portuguese or to seize their vessels, ... The friendliness of the States for Portugal was only on the surface however, for at the same time they requested Count Maurice to remain in Brazil... moreover the Directors of the WIC asked him to make some expedition before a peace treaty could be concluded, and hinted at an attempt to recapture Bahia. p.173. p.174.

The Count ... instead sent a fleet against Angola & St Thomé -under Admiral Jol, who took possession of Loanda on August 26th, though its Governor protested that it had recognised King John IV and that a Treaty had already been signed between him & the S.G. From there he (Jol) sailed for the Guinea coast and captured the chief town of St Thomé after a siege of 16 days.

The policy of the Dutch towards Portugal, which lasted for the next 20 years, namely of peace in Europe (because of the salt they fetched from Setubal) and war elsewhere was thus inaugurated.

... ...

In the meantime (i.e. during the negotiations, in May) the Companies (E.& WIC) continued their efforts to prevent a truce, ... p.178.

The Treaty was only ratified by John IV on November 18th. p.181

...

The drafting (of the treaty) was, however, bad. There were omissions and confused expressions which gave rise to disputes between the parties; the worst defect from the Portuguese point of view was that no provision was made for the restoration of places taken after its signature, but before the proof of ratification reached them. p 182.

As the Dutch decided to ignore their proclamation of February 27th and rest their claim on the words of the treaty, they could argue that the capture of Loanda and St Thomé was not a breach of it, seeing that these conquests were made even before its ratification, and could lay the blame on the King for his delay.

//. ...)

(Resolutions of S.G. continued)

Jovis the 10th October 1641.

Read a letter from the Chmaber of the WIC. at Amsterdam, written there the 6th inst: and therewith the Points of Convocation on which the Assembly of the XIX is convened on the 28th of the same month in Amsterdam. ...

(S.G. 5773.) Points of Convocation (enclosed in the above letter) for meeting of the XIX at Amsterdam on 28th October 1641.

1. Accounts of freights and recognitie to Brazil.
2. Private trading within the Limits.
3. As the General, Arent JACOBSS, had died, and the factor RUIJCHAVER has been provisionally "~~commissaered~~" in his place, will the members come prepared to resolve what ought to be done therein.

Substituted

4. Finance, Brazil.
5. Instructions for factors, supercargoes, &c.
6. Raising new capital.
7. Subsidy & prolongation of Charter.
8. Brazil.
9. Information of prizes taken.
10. To dispose of Points undecided on 8 9 July.
11. To resolve on what shall arise on letters from Brazil, GUINEA, Cape Verde, and other regions.
12. To resolve on what may arise outside above Points.

Sabbathy the 7th December 1641.

Mr Bemmel together with Mr van der Dussen, having lately presided on behalf of their Ho. Mo. at the Assembly of the XIX of the WIC., has represented to their Ho. Mo. that the Resident, Mr Boswel, had previously made a proposal to the Chamber of the aforesaid Company residing at Amsterdam, to make an Agreement so that both nations could trade with profit on the Coast of GUINEA. And that this matter being referred ~~to (afgewesen) aen~~ by the aforesaid Chamber to the aforesaid Assembly of the XIX, it has found little inclination there. Whereupon, being deliberated, it was found good and decided ~~(verstaan)~~ that the Directors of the said Company shall deliver, in writing, reasons and considerations why such Agreement between both nations ought not to be made, in order to make such use of the same as is proper.

Agreement which the English seek to make with the Company in the trade of GUINEA.

Mr Joachimi

Mr Joachimi appeared in the Assembly and first verbally and afterwards in writing represented that advices and rumours are coming out of England that the disturbances which there have been in Scotland, between the King and the Parliament there, as also between the Scots among themselves, have been entirely laid aside by a general amnesty, and that the King will undoubtedly be in London before the ~~month~~ end of the month November, stilo Anglia; wherefore the return journey of their HO. Mo.s' Ambassador in Ordinary to His Majesty ought perhaps to be undertaken at once ~~(tot eerste gevoeren)~~. And as he has not, so far, learnt that their Ho. Mo. have resolved what he shall reply to the request of the English trading to GUINEA, who would like to make an Agreement so that both nations could trade with profit on the aforesaid Coast; and as he might be spoken to by some from the Parliament, of of the ~~Lords (Heeren)~~ Gentlemen (Heeren) about the making, together, of a West India Company. Whereupon being deliberated, it is found good that the aforesaid shall be taken into serious deliberation, and afterwards resolved upon as shall be found proper.

Martis the 10th December 1641.

The Directors of the WIC., present, have, in compliance with their Ho. Mo.s' resolution of the 7th instant, represented (ingedient) to the same, thatthe Assembly of the XIX — having previously examined a certain proposal, herewith handed over in writing, sent to them from England by the Ambassador Mr Joachimi, in order that one might come to a closer treaty with the English trafficing on the Coast of GUINEA — have found that the situation of the aforenamed Company is such that by no means are any conditions or proposals to be devised upon which the same could be admitted to a Society or community of trade ~~(handelingen)~~ with any one else but with damage and confusion, which ought, in every case, to be avoided. The aforenamed ~~Direcotrs-~~ Directors hereby requesting their Ho.Mo. that they will be pleased to charge the said Ambassador, Mr Joachimi, to decline this matter in the most appropriate manner, so that the aforenamed Company may henceforth remain untroubled, without having to concern itself further with any private communication about it; with the humble request to their Ho. Mo. that the aforenamed Company may more and more continue and be maintained in the liberties obtained in their Charter. Whereupon their Ho.Mo. have declared concerning this that attention shall be paid, as is proper, to the 4th point of the Memorandum delivered on the 7th instant by the said Mr Joachimi to their Ho.Mo.

Report of the Company on the Agreement to be made with the English on the trade of GUINEA.

The States General of the United Netherlands have, after previous deliberation, found good, on the annexed Memorandum, to declare as their resolution, that which stands noted hereunder, before each Article.

Memorandum of the points handed over to their Ho.Mo. in writing, the 7th December 1641, by Mr Joachimi, Ambassador in Ordinary on behalf of this State, to the King of Great Britain.

. . . .

iiii.

Mr Ambassador shall seek to decline this matter in the most appropriate manner, and, inter alia, employ these reasons namely: That their Ho.Mo. are bound by the Charter granted to the West India Company, without at present being able to treat outside it, regarding the matter of the trade to GUINEA; but when the aforenamed Charter has expired, and their HO. Mo. have been restored to and remain at liberty in the matter, that then this matter can be resumed on the basis of the proposal already made concerning it, and it can be seen how far the one can then come to an understanding with the other; assuring His Majesty that their Ho. Mo. are disposed to continue in a good faithful friendship and upright communication with him.

Likewise, what he shall reply to the request of the English trading to GUINEA, who would like to make an Agreement, in order that both Nations could trade with profit on the aforesaid Coast.

v. (?)

That if, when in England, a West India Company shall be projected, and the capital furnished for the carrying out thereof, and their Ho. Mo. being informed of the same in the name of His Majesty, that one will then take it up, on behalf of this State, for its consideration thereof, and see how far one shall be able to or may adjust the same mutually, in order to settle it upon some basis or other which may be in any way fruitful.

And if he might be addressed by any of the Parliament, or of the gentlemen (Heeren) about the making, together, of one West India Company.

(End of SG.resolutions)

Secret Minutes of the XIX. of the WIC. (WIC.oc.2.)

Memorandum of the secret discussions by Commissioners deputed and authorised from the Assembly of the XIX.

... ...

AFRICA.

Being read in the letters from GUINEA that the General, ARENT JACOBSZ, had died, and RUIJCHAVER provisionally ~~"gesurrogeert"~~ substited in his place by the Council, opportunity is taken about it, and discussed about the Government there, whether that should be left on the old basis, or altered. In theevent of it ~~being~~ remaining on the old (as one considers it should be), there would be no more capable or honourable man for General than the late General, Claes van Iperen who, if he would allow himself to be employed, it is, without contradiction, found good to propose his person to the XIX. And being deliberated whether he ought not to be sounded at once, it was so decided (Concluij Fiat); Mr Blommert being requested to go to the quarter and to attempt this with dexterity; as also to hear his advice on the formation of the government.

Being further deliberated whether two Councillors should be appointed, besides the General, who might assist him daily with advice in his affairs, the Assembly of Commissioners (factors?) nevertheless remaining as it now is on the Coast; and on the decease of the General, to preside alternately ("prices" ?), until the time that the XIX disposes thereup. Fiat.

... ...

Thus deliberated by the deputies of the XIX at the Assembly of the General Chartered W.I.C. in AMSTERDAM, the 22nd September 1641.

"[illegible]"

Resolutions, Zeeland Chamber. 1641. (WIC.oc.24)

Jovis Antemeridian 3 January 1641.
The following letters are read:

... ...

One to the General on the Coast of GUINEA, Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort, from the XIX. in dato (sic)

Jovis Antemeridian 31 January 1641.
2 metal(brass) guns, firing 4 lb iron, weighing 700 lb, for the General, Arent Jacobsz, shall be sent now to the Guinea, the remaining 2 at the first opportunity.

... ...

- On the Points of Convocation for the Assembly of the XIX for the 14th February 1641 (vide p.75.supra), it was resolved as follows:

Marginal note to Point No 8.:
The deputies are charged to remain by the previous resolution brought in on behalf of this Chamber at the last Assembly of the XIX, to wit, the the trade in Blacks, and on the GOLD COAST shall be kept for the Company; by no means deviating therefrom, also not by "overstemming".

As to Point No 9.;
On this Point Mr Roubergen is deputed, who will please do as the service of the Company shall require.

Jovis Antemeridian 7 February 1641.
"Soldiers to Guinea." ...
Is read letter from this Chamber to the General Arent Jacobsz on the Coast of Guinea, dato 7 February 1641, which is approved to be despatched.

Lunae Antemeridian 15 April 1641.
Read a letter from Cruso, Adij 26 March 1641.
The gentlemen of the office (Comptoir) will please to write to these of Amsterdam about the proposal which is written from Cruso on the part of the English, about making a Company to West India.

Jovis Antemeridian 18 April 1641.
Read: ... ... A letter from the Castle Del Mina, Adij 17 September 1640, from Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort.
The the Commissioners going to the XIX, the affairs of GUINEA, particularly the slave trade, are recommended.

The 19 August 1641.

...

Also read a letter from Jacob Ruijchaver, dated 6 February 1641, from the Castle DELMINA, requesting the vote of this Chamber for the Generalship of that Coast in the place of the deceased Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort. The resolution thereon is postponed till the next Assembly of the XIX.

Jovis Antemeridian 3 October 1641.

Mr Joachimi, Ambassador of their Ho.Mo. appeared at the Assembly - notwithstanding that this Assembly was to come and salute HH himself - offering the Assembly his services; reporting that the Parliament at London was of the intention to make a regulation about the trade of GUINEA, and the whole of Europe, and that, apparently, a West India Company would be founded in England. About which it was found good that, "~~[illegible]~~" a regulation (came to be) made by the Company here, to see whether one would be able to come to an understanding with each other in those parts ~~[illegible]~~) in time

Lunae Antemeridian 23 December 1641.

Deputies having made report of the profits which the Company draws out of the trade on the Coast of GUINEA, are thanked for their trouble; and the deputies going to the XIX shall by no means agree to the aforenamed trade being left to private persons, also not by "~~[illegible]~~"; and they shall also be given a short "deduction ~~in order~~ to show the profits which the Company is drawing out of the aforenamed trade. majority of votes

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Note. There are no copy letters from the XIX to the Coast of Guinea, for the year 1641, in the letter Book, WIC.oc.8.

Minutes of the Chief Participants at Zeeland, (WIC.oc.35) contain the following:
17 April 1641. Read copy letter From Arent Jacobsz to Council Brazil dd Elmina 17 September 1640.
20 April 1641. Ditto Lr from Timothy Cruso, London. re convoys of ships in channel.
16 October 1641. Do. Letter 8 July 1641 from Ruijchaver to XIX from Elmina Castle. On the 3rd Point of C. found good to continue Ruichaver provisionally till suitable person found.

Letters & Papers from Brazil. 1641. (WIC.oc.56)

Extract from the Secret Resolutions of H.Ezcy, and the members of the High & Secret Council.

Mercury the 6 February Ao 1641.

Ø ... ...

Our resolution being then fixed, for the reasons alleged above, to take in hand no land expeditions, at this time, it has therefore been deliberated with both the Admirals, Lichthart and Jol, for what attempts by sea our present fleet shall be employed for the most advantage of the Company and injury of the enemy.

Firstly is taken into consideration (~~te gemoet gezien en in beraad gebracht~~) the Island St Thomé, and the importance of the same for the conservation of the trade in GUINEA, because the English, after trafficing their goods on the Coast, by finding there cargoes there, not only can at all times make good their voyages, but, on that account, being able to sell their goods at a better price, for a great part "besuijden" (?) our people the gold trade. But as, in order to carry out this exploit, a large force is required, and particularly that to make this voyage six months at least would pass, it is therefore not found advisable to take the same in hand, being feared that ~~missi~~ being without such a force on this Coast for so long might be a disservice ~~for~~ to the Company, the more so as the season does not as yet serve to sail quickly to the Coast of Africa.

... ...

Extracts from a letter from Count Mauritz and the High Council in Brazil (to the XIX), dated, "Reciffe de Pharnambuco, ultimo March 1641."

... ...

~~On the 8th instant arrived here the ship Louisine with 6 [illegible] from Guinea, [illegible] the 20 [illegible] Brazil (sic) [illegible] 8200 guilders.~~ We transmit to YHH the copies of the letters from General Adriaen Jacobsz of the 20th November, from DE MINA (vide ~~p.66~~ supra): ~~of the 26 December, from Axim, and of the 4th January from Coberig:~~ (~~[illegible] not copied~~). ... ...

p.66.a

... ...

~~[illegible]~~

Note. Jol's fleet captured St Paul de Loanda in Augt 1641. & then sent on to capture the chief town of St Thome
There are two bundles of papers about these captures in the file, WIC.oc.56.

[WIC. oc. 56]

no date Copy letter. Jacob Ruijchaver (Elmina) to Count Maurits & Council Brazil.

— Reports the death of the General Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort on 6 Jan 1641. & his appointment by the Council to that office, provisionally. —

. . . . . .

[Ibid]

April 2. Copy letter. Same to Same

. . .

Trade on the Gold Coast at present proceeds only reasonably. Since the closing of the accounts on 9 January I have received only Mk 690, the cause being that the Acanist traders departed on 3 March on account of some disputes between Tuttuij [sic- Futu?] & Abramboz [Abrem], which they are trying to settle. Moreover, on the arrival of the Amersfoort they bought much copper ["Kooper"] at 48 lb a benda, which remains lying inland because at such a price it is not in demand there. Also, at this time of year trade is generally bad, as everybody is busy preparing his land for sowing.

On 6 March arrived here a French yacht & pinnace, Capt Jan Boizvijn (?), which had sailed from Dieppe ["Diepen"] 5 months ago. He came with 25 tons grain & 3 tons tusks from the Grain & Tusk Coasts, declaring that quite 50 tons grain & some tusks were to be obtained there. He asked for water which I let him have, but he had sold some iron & Qua Qua cloths before Comanij. I bought his pinnace, 6-7 tons, for 200 guldens, & 153 pieces Qua Qua cloth at 1 engel [Eackie] per piece. He left on 11 March for Cape de Loop [dopez] to sail from there to Dieppe, so he said. . . .

The Grain Coast has so far been left untraded, as I now understand, on the arrival here on 12 Feby of the Ship Swaen . . . that the yacht Postpaert is destined thither.

On

On 19 March came into the roads here the yacht Phenix which had traded 33½ marks gold before Asschine, Abine & the country of Antem, & which sailed on 1. April for Cape de Loop, & thence to cross over to trade the Tuok & Qua Qua Coasts & other windward places, as it is impossible to luff up because of the small land winds & strong adverse currents.

[Amashun] On the same date messengers from Ajasiangh or Don Peter's village came here with a piece of his Majesty's royal Arms (which had been placed there by Arent de Groot) which they had thrown down in the presence of an English factor & skipper, because they had promised much & performed little. They now offer to make us a dodge there, to which I have agreed, but time will show what is done.

The war between Attij & the people of Acanij, which has already lasted for more than two years, still continues. One could wish it would last for ever as it benefits the Co & causes great injury to the English, as they cannot obtain traders except with large presents or by way of Fetuij & Saboe (which lies near to us).

. . . . . .

~~[illegible]~~

~~They now offer to take us a [illegible] to which I have made (tegestaan), doch heet zonder ons mede te bemoeijen uitvallen wil aal den tijt leeren". The [illegible] RATTI and those of [illegible] has already [illegible] as [illegible], [illegible] years [illegible] more to be visited, [illegible] the great injury of the English, [illegible] it lasted for for ever; as they can thereby obtain no [illegible] except with large presents by way of [illegible] and SABOR (which is situate next to us).~~

~~Y.E.& H.S.C. will please excuse me that I have not (al-~~ although I wrote) let the ship "Amesfoort" go to Ascension Island, because it could not be done without danger with such a costly return cargo; but I am giving this, and the one coming after, express orders to put in there if sighting it.

The yacht "Beverwijck", because the keel has quite perished, was fetched into the river here on 27 March, to repair it. If Y.E.& H.S.C. could spare some of the following, of which I have only a moderate supply, and also quite out of some, it would be a great convenience and do service to the Company, to wit, powder, match-cord, parts, smith's coal, lime, stone, irons, "trommels, vellen & lijnen", as little or nothing has been sent out of the fatherland.

Herewith I send Y.E.& H.S.C. 13 sheep, 100 fowls and 107 negroes, as appears from the ~~following~~ accompanying bills of lading. God grant they may come to you well. By the next following ship you have to expect as many sheep and fowls again.

As I understood from the General, Mr Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort that Y.E. & H.S.C. send a copy of this home to the Hon Directors, I think it unnecessary (their Honours (since a ship will soon depart thither from here). I ~~conclude~~ commend, to advise /

Y.E.&.H.S.C. to the protection of the Almighty, & with hearty greetings,

Y.E.& H.S.Cs' obedient servant,

~~(sgd) Jacob Ruijchaver.~~

~~Actum 2 April at the Castle St Georgie Delmyna in Guinea, 1641.~~

~~(B)~~ Copy letter from Jacob Ruijchaver, Elmina, to Count Mauritz & Council. Brazil.

(marginal notes not in the Dutch copy)

"Copy". Well-born Count, Gracious Sir, & Hond, Worshipful, Wise, Prudent, Very Discreet Sirs,

Honourable Sirs, High Secret Councillors,

My last, of which copy is sent herewith, was per "'tWaren van Delft", which left here on ultimo May. What has further happened, I have thought good to inform YE&HSC by this.

Dato 3rd June, at night, the entire end (endt) of the large battery next to the dining room ~~(neffens de eetzaal)~~ as it was only built of clay (as I daily find mostly all the Castle is, and only spread with mortar ~~(kalek)~~ inside and out) entirely fell down through the continuous rains, which lasted for six days; it having happened twice also in the Portuguese times, as I understand from the inhabitants here. It will (as the two fallen-down sides of the small fort Chama) be repaired again ~~(in esse gebracht)~~ slowly through lack of materials and workmen, although we shall do our best. About the round bastions (rondelen) of Fort NASSOU, fallen down through the continual rains, I shall, like as before, through lack of workmen and materials, have to build them up again with wattle and daub (rijs ende aarde). The English small fort, because most of their workman have died, has made little progress, it being mostly in its former shape. On the aforesaid date the English yacht, named the "Vintijn"(?) went to St Thomé to get ready for obtaining a cargo of sugar for their ship "Hope".

Elmina Castle.

On the 5th ditto (June) it was reported to me by Francisco, an inhabitant of ATZIJN, that all the inhabitants of that place, as they ~~have no cargo ready (gereed stuk hebben)~~ nor also were provided with merchandise by the Portuguese, desired that we might come with ships to capture that place. I was assured that they would ~~take no interest~~ in (se haer niet aen en souden ~~braiden~~) not assist the Portuguese, nor trouble themselves in the least about them. As this has happened to me several times, I summoned the Council on the 17th "deser" (June) and is resolved, as we now had here the ships "Walcheren", "Swaen", "Nassou", the yacht "Postpaert", "Hoop", and the pinnace ~~(chaloep)~~ "Jongen Arent", and as it could be done without delay, because the two principal ones must shortly depart to the Fatherland; after having taken off ~~(geloht)~~ the garrisons of the Castle DEL MINA, Forts NASSOU and CHAMA, we sailed thither on the 19th, leaving the Castle DEL MINA garrisoned by Mr van der Does and 30 sailors, and Fort NASSOU by Johannes Drogenbroot and 15 sailors, with ~~(neffens)~~ all the sick soldiers, so that we were altogether 350 in number in these ships, besides ~~(neffens)~~ 60 of our slaves; with the promise of the whole MYNSCHE force if we had need of their help. After we had made every effort with the land and sea winds until primo July, we found ourselves, through the continuous strong currents downwards, no further than off TAKERERI, which is about 7 "mijlen" from DE MINA; and as we had to expect the chief ~~and great adversity (tegenspoet)~~ about Cape Tres Puntas, which was

excuse nothing

First expedition against AXIM.

hindrance

still 6 "~~dijken~~" miles [Dutch] off, likewise, much time would elapse for the home-going ships, we assembled the Council, and resolved to return down to before DE MINA, and postponed the proposed expedition to a further opportunity.

Dato the 3rd aforenamed (July) Mr Molsgraef and ARENT DE GROOT departed with their ship "Hope" to St Thomé for a cargo of sugar, and to sail further to England; but Mr Molsgraef will return hither with their yacht "Vintijn".

Dato 5th August, a French ship named "St Jan Baptista" arrived before COMANI, on which was captain, Monsr Lehin 400 tons ~~(waarnem)~~, mounted with 28 guns and 80 eaters, having, as they say, sailed from St Malo on the 24th April, along the Grain Coast, to here; which, on the 8th ditto, sailed ~~achterwaert~~ to St Thomé in order to proceed as quickly as possible on the voyage to St Malo, according to the assertion of a factor and 4 "Capucinen" (two of whom have already died) who have remained at SMALL KOMENDE with 2 boys and 8 casks and bales ~~(zacken)~~ of merchandise and provisions, till the arrival of their ships, which they declare will follow with merchandise and men & materials for the building of a fortification, over which the aforesaid factor will command. (They) have made request to the King to place a Lodge there, and have lodged themselves in our old Lodge, bought from the French; and when I protested against it, they argued (sustineerden) that, although we had been in that Lodge, we should have to evacuate it, since Bellingranje, so they say, had only sold it to us until their return; so that the Agreement made with them by the Hon Mr van Yperen, which is not here, would be very useful to us in order to work against them with some foundation, "~~dan is mijn presumptie sij lieden om haer quaet comportement aldaer sijn aengeset~~".

French at Comani.

But I presume they have been put on shore there for bad behaviour

The 20th ditto (August) passed here to CORMANTIJN, a new English yacht named the "Revenge", about 60 tons (last), 16 guns, 30 eaters, which sailed from ("~~Dijjne~~" the Downs) on 2nd April, and out of Siara Liona the 28th June, skipper Mr Houw, factor Mr Nick; bringing nothing else, as I as yet understand, than some materials, carpenters and masons to complete their begun small fort. The same yacht departed again on 2nd instant (so they say) to St Thomé for a cargo of sugar. On the 8th August, after long negotiations, the dispute between those of COMENDE and DE MINA, which had now already lasted for a year-and-a-half, was settled (~~dermodergeleijt~~) which I hope will work good results in the trade.

CORMANTIJN Fort.

The trade here on the GOLD COAST goes reasonably, as YE & HSC can see from the accompanying cargo of the ships "Walcheren" & "Swaen" (which departed on 9th July to Cabo

de Loop and further to the Fatherland where God grant they arrive safely) since the departure of which there is again M.700 in the chest. Likewise comes to YE & HSC. the cargo of the prize captured by the ship "Nassou", whose remaining Portuguese I have ordered the aforenamed ships to set ashore at St Thomé.

~~[illegible]~~. I had therefore intended with the good season assiduously to visit Rio VOLTE, Popo, Rio Frocade, and further the whole Bight, which intention of ours (since the expected "Leeuwinne" & "Charitas" from Zeeland have not yet appeared & the "Postpaert" which arrived here on the 16 June departed again on the 4th inst: to the Grain Coast) as we have not the ship "Nassou" on hand, we shall hardly be able to carry out, but on their coming it will be servicable for the Company to try as far as practicable. If also no yachts are sent shortly, in order to trade the Bight, we shall have to stop trading it, as the "Phenix" (which arrived from its voyage on 5th July with 7500 lb tusks, M.10 gold, and 200 pieces Qua Qua cloth) & the "Benyn" are scarcely fit to use.

The fluijt, now named "Duijfje", captured by the ship "Nassou", has been sheathed with the parts sent by the ~~ulWapen~~ "'tWapen van Delft" (so that I am now entirely again devoid of them) which I shall employ in Calbario as soon as the barque arrives here.

On primo September, Claes Cornelisen Duijncker, factor at the small fort Chama (the uncle of the wife of the clerk Jndijck in the office of Mr Walbeeck) after long lingering, died; in whose place has been appointed the sub-factor Johannes Drogenbroot. As 20 soldiers are going per the bringer of this, who arrived here on the 8th ultimo through contrary wind and current, and we are at present very weak, I have thought good to keep here 11 Germans and Netherlanders, among them two with their wives in order to give some instruction to the Mulatine to whom the Vandrigh is married who knows no hand-work; as also 910 lb stock fish, 18 wheelbarrows, 12 hatchets, 12 "beslagen" shovels, 12 spades, 8 pick-axes, 4 "graven", as appears per receipt. The bringer of this, having been missing for eight to ten days, cannot claim any demurrage days (legdagen) over it, as there has been not one hour's delay on our part; for although he had in quite 100 parts, and 35000 stones, which we had need of here, I have, in order not to break his charter-party as theywere lying in the keel, left them.

A certain Portuguese, who with his wife comes herewith, having a small chest (casje) after which the AKANISTS were very covetous, for which I have let him receive a small slave ~~gu~~ girl, which (I) request YE & HSC. ~~te-let~~ "hem vrij gelieven te laten volgen".

On the 4th instant, arrives news from the fatherland that the fluijt "Swarten Beer" sailed from Amsterdam on 14th June, factor Rutgert Lens, and skipper Pouls Jansen van der Schilden, mounted with 22 "gotelingen", 50 eaters, and 30 soldiers, of whom 2 died and 2 have remained at Cabo Verde, provided with merchandise. It brings a Gold Coast cargo of fl18,366.17, consisting mostly in subsiduary goods, which, as we and the English are out of them, are welcome, and I hope will be sold at a good price.

Receive herewith 17 Articles, from the 8th to the 25th, on behalf of the new King of Portugal and their High Mighty Lords States, whereby a 10 years' truce is concluded; which will take effect when the ratification of the aforesaid King shall be made known to their Ho.Mo., and the notification of the same ratification shall be made on the Coast of Africa & Brazil; which apparently will not be done so quickly, so that at the first opportunity I shall see to taking up again the aforementioned expedition to ATZIJN; about which I have found it not inadvisable to keep the aforementioned soldiers, although 26 are also coming here. As no materials nor workmen were sent by the aforesaid ship, I request YE & HSC., if provided with them, as previously written, to send them to us.

Herewith,

Well-born Count, Gracious Sir, and Honoured, Worshipful, Wise Prudent, Very Discreet Sirs,

I commend the Honourable Sir and Se ret Councillors into the protection of the Almighty, and with greetings,

YE.& HSCs' faithful servant,

(sgd) Jacob Ruijchaver.

Actum at the Castle D'EL MINA in Guinea.
Adij the 6th September Ao 1641.

"Articles and Conditions concerted and concluded between General Jacob Ruijghaver and the King of AGUAPPO or COMMENDO, in the year 1641: but this Agreement was found unsigned and without date."

(WIC.eeVersp:1162.pp 67-70. Also a copy as Annexure G. to letter of 29 June 1662, from WIC. to S.G. in SG.Loket Kas. Zweden.35.)

1.

Firstly, notwithstanding our proposal that the King should pay 50 large bendos for the MYNSE woman, Bessisba, killed without any cause by a certain Takie, or deliver that person himself into our hands, like as "Rey de Campo" ("King of the country" -Port:) previously did according to old custom, the ACANISTS, in accordance with their offer, will give on behalf of the King, 6 large bendos besides a slave; which was done on 5th August, with which we are satisfied ~~(souden ons daaraf geconteniteert)~~.

2.

Of the 5 MYNSE slaves to be delivered back, who are in the hands of the COMMENDENAARS, provided the customary dues are paid (mits betalende de gerechtigheit), the King declares he has only 3 women whom he is not inclined to restore, but on payment, for each, of one large bendo; because the MYNSE, at that time, have set fire to his corn houses.

3.

And will not permit any foreign Nation to erect a house or Fortification, and make our enemies his own; notwithstanding that the FRENCH who have been here have already offered ~~(uitgeboden)~~ 12 "pont" gold, he has put them off ~~(afgeset)~~ and replied that in the opening of the way he wished to see how to come to anagreement with us; although he has allowed them to bring merchandise on shore.

4.

That the King will never more panyar any Blacks for debt or anything else, before informing us of it (then shall provision be made thereon), as we also will not do.

5.

He shall place the "Marinyes" (Maringos) in and about his village in order to demand his toll; and always treat the traders well.

6.

That, at the King's request, no Whites nor Blacks shall be allowed to buy any gold on the way, unless with the permission of the General; or otherwise shall be condemned in the penalty therein provided (daertoe staande).

7.

The Hon. General will not concern himself, in the least, with the war between those of ADOM and COMANY.

8.

Tackye shall reside here as an inhabitant, and the King will not demand him from the General ("buyten Bruliade" ("brulhade")).

9.

The King shall, with the coming of the new ships, besides ~~(neffens)~~ the FUTTUYES, receive his dues (zijn gerechtigheit).

10.

In ratification of the above-written, he delivers his son into our hands, but demands no one from us.

Note. In his letter of 6 September 1641 (supra,p.95.) Ruijchaver says that the dispute between Comany & Elmina was settled on 8th August 1641; but he does not report whether the King of Aguaffo had actually agreed not to admit the French to Small Comany. It seems doubtful if the above Agreement was actually entered into, though it may have been.

(End of 1641.)

Resolutions of States General. 1642. (S.G. 3228)

Dominica 19th January 1642.
Read ~~Received~~ a letter from Count Mauritz of Nassau, written in Pernambuco 11th November last, containing a report, upon which no resolution has fallen.

(S.G. Liassen WIC. 5773) The above letter reports the conquest of St Paulo de Loando in the Kingdom of Angola, by Admiral Jol, & Lt-Col Henderson, with 21 large and small ships, on which were 2,000 soldiers and 300 Brazilians. They left Pernambuco 30th May 1641; arrived before the afnmd town on 24th August 1641: the troops landed on 25th August, which was abandoned by the Governor and garrison that day and occupied by the attacking force. - He is atill expecting news of the conquest of St Thomé, whither Jol had proceeded.

(Ibid) ---- An undated Memorandum, signed by Count Mauritz (indorsed as read by the S.G. on 19th January 1641) of the reasons why the trade in Blacks, the town of St Paulo de Loando, and the government of the Kingdom of Angola ought to be an appendage of the Governor and High Council in Brazil, or be combined with the government there.

20th February 1642.
- After hearing deputies from the WIC.(who were in favour of separating the governments) on 18th February, and referring the matter to their own deputies on 19th February, the States General resolved that the government of Loando de St Paulo, should be kept on the same status as it is at present, until such time as further elucidation was available. -

Sabbathy 22nd February 1642.
After reading the Ratification of the Treaty by the King of Portugal, on the 18th November 1641, it was resolved - to ~~reply~~ ratify the Treaty, and despatch the same to the aforenamed King.

Treaty with Portugal.
Ratification.

Sabbathy 1st March 1642.
Read letter from Count Mauritz of Nassau,written in Pernambuco 17th January last, with report, which was ordered to be kept by Griffier Musch.

(S.G. 5773) The original letter, above referred to, reports the capture of St Thomé by Admiral Jol, with the town and Castle St Sebastian, after a 16 days' siege, on 16th October 1641.

Note. As a result of further deliberations, the S.G. approved Instructions for a government of the South ~~Coast~~ District of Africa. These Instructions after amendment were considered by the S.G. on 25th March 1642. Further Minutes of the S.G. on the subject are, 9th. 11th. April: 28th June: 4th July.

A corrected draft of the Instructions is in SG.5773; in which the South District of Africa began at the Equinoctial Line, and extended to Cape of Good Hope; including therein the Islands St Thomé, Annabo, and other Islands, with Loando St Paulo as Capital. (Thus, a separate government under direct supervision of the WIC, which was what the XIX wanted.)

15th March 1642.

"Treaty with Portugal."

Veneris 21st March 1642.

- Resolved also to send notification of the ratification of the Treaty made with Portugal on 12th June 1641, to the Governor of Brazil; the Commander on the Coast of Guinea; and to the Director in St Paulo de Loanda.

Treaty made with Portugal.

(Note. There is no draft of a letter to the Commander on the Coast of Guinea, in SG. 5773.)

Martis 1st April 1642.

- A long Minute with the following marginal notes: Deputed Directors. Report of the State of the Company. Points of "Mesnagie".- (On this latter subject, vide also 3rd. 9th. April, dealing also with "Subsidies".)

Sabbathy 17th May 1642.

-Complaints by the Ambassador of the King of Portugal against the Company, over the conquest of St Paulo de Loando and St Thomé in August 1641, in view of the Treaty of Truce of 12th June 1641, and asking for it to be remedied.-

(Vide also Minutes of 24th May: 6th, 10th, 17th, 25th, 26th, June: 4th, 8th, 18th, July.

Sabbathy 23rd August 1642.

Received a letter from the Directors of the WIC. at the Chamber Amsterdam, written there the 19th instant,& therewith the Points of Convocation on which the XIX have been convened there for the 15th September. Resolved that the Points be examined.

(S.G. 5773.) The above Points are as follows:

1. Bad provision for Brazil. 2. Means to provide the inhabts of Brazil with provisions & negroes at cheap price. 3. Soldiers in Brazil. 4. Religion. 5. Do. 6.7. Brazil. 8. Cultivation, Brazil. 9. Regulation for sea trade in wood & salt. 10. Freights & "Recognitie". 11. 12. Brazil. 13. Agreement with shareholders. 14. Coy's finance. 15. Treaty with Crown of Portugal. 16."Pael" gelt. 17.Ships to Brazil. 18. Freights to Do. 19 Payment of 6%. 20.Actien. 21. Brazil. 22. Maranhaon. 23. Island Curaçao. 24. New Netherlands. 25. Government of St Paulo Loanda. 26.St Thomé. 27. Likewise, on all the particulars which the letters from Guinea bring; and afterwards to make an order & regulation for the trade of the whole Coast of Africa and the appurtenances thereof. 28. Other points which may arise.

4th. 6th. 16th October 1642.
-Minutes re appointment of Hendrik Brouwer, a Dir: of the WIC., his commission & instructions as General, for a certain voyage, and secret exploit to be made by him.

(End of St: Gen: Resolutions.)

"Discussions (besoigne) and report of matters occurred at the Assembly of the XIX. the 5th February 1642."
(A book of Minutes from 5 Feb - 20 March 1642, with some miscellaneous papers at beginning of the book. Stat. Gen. 8275.)

Martis 18th February 1642.

... ...

Report was made by Mr Willemerdinck, and the other deputies appointed, on 13th November 1641, for the third Point of Convocation (vide p. 82 supra); and was found good to appoint ~~and accept~~ the factor, Jacob RUIJCHAVER, in the place of Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort, late General on the Coast; and to allow him a monthly salary of f.300.; provided that although the aforesaid RUIJCHAVER shall, in everything, be furnished with the same power and authority as his predecessors, he shall however not have the title (~~gequalificeert~~) of General, but of Director of the North Coast, or Northern Part (~~gedeelte~~) of Africa, in order hereby as much as possible to obviate and prevent all jealousy which might arise between him and the Southern part of Africa from the disparity and difference of names. Further, in order to maintain all good order in the matter of the Direction on the aforesaid Coast, it is resolved & decided (~~verstaen~~) that all the Upper-factors, who shall be there at the time, shall be held to be Councillors of the Director, and that he shall decide and take in hand nothing without them; and in the absence of the Director, the Upper-factors on the Coast shall preside in turn, every 14 days (~~daer 14 dagen tot 14 dagen~~), on the understanding that we shall be at liberty, in the ~~furture~~ future, provisionally to substitute of appoint someone from among them in place of the Director.

Is also read the project of the said Messrs deputies on some other Points concerning the Coast of Africa; and is found good to let the same be a second time resumed by the former deputies and to make a finding, amicably, in the matters (de saecke in't minnelijk te vinden).

Mercury 19th February 1642.

... ...

Is read a letter from Thimothee Cruso, dd 29/ Janry from London.

...

The deputies commissioned on the 13th November 1641 over the business (besoignes) of the Coast of Africa, & yesterday requested to resume the same, report that, in conformity with the order of rotation ~~turns (tourbeurten)~~ planned for the

the equippage to the Coast of Guinea, and accepteble to the respective Chambers, it is found that the Chamber of Zeeland ought to have sent their ships to sea on ultimo November, but that the gentlemen from Zeeland have declared that the said Chamber's circumstances do not allow it to be able to observe the aforesaid turn.

... ...

All the Chambers shall be bound, every three months, to send over statements of their administration so that the XIX can have full information, and arrange accordingly. ... ...

... ...

Veneris 21st February 1642.

Read the regulations of the Councillors of the Admiralty Amsterdam regarding the examination and search of the Company's own and chartered ships.

Order or Regulation ... ...
(not copied)

Jovis 13th March 1642.

... ...

The report of the Commissioners of Angola, being continued, it is found good that the name of General of the Coast shall cease henceforth, and in place thereof, the Coast be divided into two Directoships, one South, and the other North of the Line; letting LOANDA be the Capital of the Southern District, which shall commence from the Line southwards as far as the Cape of Good Hope, including thereunder also St Thomé; EL MINA, the Capital of the Northern District, commencing from the Line northwards to the extremity of what the Company possesses or can possess.

Further, that at all places where any trade can fall, in order to take possession and thereby to "~~prevaleeren voor~~" prevail against foreign nations, some small fortifications, were it only redoubts, shall be built, and these kept occupied with 6, 8, or 10 men.

That the government or chief-government (opperregieringe) shall be left provisionally with the two Directors being there, and a third shall be added to them, with the same title and quality, namely the factor Hans Mols.

That they shall together be provided with Commission and Instruction from the XIX, on which they shall depend, as by resolution of the 10th instant.

(Note. The following 17 paras: have not been copied, as although Directors are referred to, they appeared to relate only to the Southern District. ~~But they should be copied~~)

Veneris 14th March 1642.

Being read a letter from their Ho. Mo. Lords Stat. Gen. from the Hage, dd 22nd February last, to the Chmaber of Amsterdam, with which are transmitted the Articles of the Truce for the period of 10 years, in Latin, Portuguese, and Netherlands; it was found good that the same ~~"hoe-eer hoe liever"~~ be published at the proper places; but as the ratification of the King of Portugal is not with it, and their Ho. Mo's letter only reports the peace, and not in what manner the publication shall be made, it was resolved to commission deputies from thei Assembly to the Hage, to their Ho. Mo. in order to understand definitely from them by whom & in what manner the publication ought to be made, being thereto commissioned Messrs Loeten, Louysen van Beyen, and the Advocate Gysbert Rudolphy.

– the sooner the better –

Luna 17th March 1642.

The deputies for the Coast of Africa are requested to make reportabout the request from the Bookkeeper Kock in Guinea (about increase of salary). ... – About the equippage by turn for the slave trade in Calbarien & Adrien.

(The last entry in this book is 19th March 1642.)

Resolutions, Chamber Zeeland. 1642. (WIC.oc.25)

Jovis 30th January 1642.

-Marginal Note against No 3 of the Points øfor 28th October 1641 (p.82 supra): "That Ruychaver shall be continued in his office, and attach two Councillors to him."

21st August 1642.

Read letter from the Director Jacob Ruychaver, from Castle del MINA, 13th April 1642, ... and copy of the Journal from GUINEA, relative to the afnmd letter from Ruychaver. (Note. Not on record. Both would have recorded the capture of Axim Fort.)

29th August 1642.

-Decisions on the Points for 15th Sept 1642 (p.103 supra) Against the Nos 25, 26, 27, is the following marginal note:

"That one shall absolutely keep for the Company the trade from the Quarters of Angola; and the deputies are allowed to discuss the order and regulation of the trade, provided the trade remains entirely with the Comp., as before."

(Note. There are Minutes of the Zeeland Chambar on the same subject on 23 April; 1. 5. 14. May, in which that Chamber strongly opposed private trade in Angola and circumjacent places, and were in favour of retaining the trade for the Company alone.)

Monday 22nd September. 1642.

"Liquidatie with Amsterdam Chamber. Guinea gold."

Minutes on "Guinea Gold" on 16, 23, 30 October 1642.

Copy Letters from the XIX. WIC. to the Coast of Guinea.
(Letter Book. WIC.oc.9.)

To the Commander in Guinea. Date 19th April 1642.
from the Assembly of the XIX.

Honoured &c,

We have received YH's letter dated 8 July 1641 (n.f.) per the ships "Swaen" and "Walcheren", which have arrived in this country with the cargoes, to which we will reply.

Firstly, we see that a French ship, Captain Jan ~~Bouvin~~ Boivin (?) had come there on the Coast, which had sailed from Diepe in 5 months, having loaded on the Grain Coast about 25 tons ~~(lasten)~~ grain; and on the Ivory Coast, 30 tons tusks; and that he had departed from there to Cabo Loop. We have advice that a ship has arrived at Diepe with hides, grain, tusks and 200 "pondt" gold, which, so they say, had been traded there from our people. YH says that they arrived there on 5th February, and left on the 11th, in which time so much merchandise could not have been traded from the Blacks; which causes us great suspicion that there ~~there~~ must be something behind ~~in~~ it (~~er wat aen moet zijn~~) that some trading was done with our people. For the 200 guldens for the pinnace (sloup), and 125 Qua Qua cloths, that can be of little import. Our earnest desire therefore is that YH will employ all diligence to learn ~~(onderstaan~~) how this matter stands (~~werck leijt~~). Although we have further "inditien"(?) thereof, as we write, we desire that YH shall give us a proper report of it.

About the English, we can give no further orders than has previously been done. We have good hope that some good ~~is~~ for this State is to be expected from the Parliamentwhich has now been assembled for some considerable time, and especiallywith the new alliance of the marriage of His Highness Prince William with the Princess of Great Britain.

You will give no occasion for complaint to the English, but, in trade, each do his best, in the manner of merchants.

We most highly recommend to YH the trade in Blacks on the Coast of Ardre, Calbarien, Rio Reael, and thereabouts; to which end the Chambers of the Maes & the Northern Quarter have each undertaken to send a ship with cargo for that trade.

And as we are interested in the Island St Thomé, conquered by and brought under us, ~~YH~~ must therefore also make provision ~~(sorge draeg en)~~ for the same. one

And in order that YH may understand our "~~recht Meeninge~~", our meaning correctly so have we divided the Direction of Africa into two Directorships, namely, Guinea, and what is dependent thereto,

beginning from Cabo de Tres Puntas, and further the Coast of Guinea, Ardre, Calbarien, Rio Reael, Rio de Comerons, and the whole Bight as far as to Cabo de Lopes Gonsalves, will stand under the Director of the Northern Division (gedeelten) of Africa.

From Cabo de Loop Gonsalvos as far as to the Cabo de Bon Esperance, ~~including~~ inclusive, St Thomé and all the Islands south of the Line, ~~s~~will stand under the Direction of the Director of Loando St Paulo.

Each shall have, in his "District", the direction of the police (politie), justice, Church matters and trade, in order to give ~~us puntele~~ "puntuele" (report) to us, and to receive further orders from us.

And, since, as previously said, we are interested in the Island St Thomé, so as to cultivate the trade thereabouts and to keep the English out of it whereby they are enabled to make good their trade to Guinea and are in continuous competition (claddinge) against us, to the great injury of themselves and us, the same place must be effectively supplied with necessities, both of merchandise & otherwise..

You will therefore give orders at Ardre & Calbarien that when a ship sails to Brasil with Blacks that it shall run ~~into~~ in there in order to bring some Blacks there, also the merchandise that is desired there, in order thus to take sugar from there.

For the furtherance of the trade to Ardre, we had bought some "boesios" at a very high price, half of which, being 9,000 lb we gave orders to the Chamber ofAmsterdam to load in the ship "Harinck", destined to Angola, but that "hij" should "excaleeren" in Guinea and there deliver the Boesios, together with other necessities, both of equippage,ammunition and otherwise, which the same Chamber must still supply for the Fort De Mina; but the aforesiad ship, sailing out in winter, and having roved long in the North Sea through contrary winds, got into the hands of the Duinkerkers; but the Boesios have come into our hands again. covered

The other half of the boesios are going by the ship"Cameel", by which this also goes, but as it is done by our order,the Boesies must therefore "ten vollen de Camer van Amst: valideren" in their cargo of 150,000 (150V.) guldens which they must send by this ship, as also all the tools of equipage & otherwise which they must still supply, in place of a cargo for Ardre, - which will be supplied by the Chambers of the Maes & North Holland, each with one ship, according to the list drawn up by us in previous Assemblies of the XIX.-

The Chamber of Zeeland ~~has remonstrated to us~~ whose turn it was to send a ship to sea last November have remonstrated to us from what cause they have been behind; and we hope

that YH will have been supplied with the cargo of the ship "Deventer" which was reasonably large, and now again with a good cargo by this ship "Cameel"; and the Chamber of the N. Qr. is also preparing a ~~cargo~~ ship & cargo which will be ready within six weeks, and further, afterwards, those whose turn it shall be.

We will pay attention to the proposal made by YH ~~that~~ to have a "roij fregaat" in order to "varen" from one place to another, and that the same shall be sent to YH.

- They repeat instructions for him to arrange for the planting of Benyn pepper, so that roots, seed, trees, or such can be sent to Brasil.-

We have seen what YH reports of the small Fort, ~~ACH~~ ATCHIN, to bring the same "met dese occasie" under us. ※ ~~If we had "die plaats in consideratie gehouden", we should not have failed long ago to have "ordre daarop gestelt"~~; but as their Ho.Mo. Lords Stat.Gen. have made alliance with the King of Portugal, Don John the Fourth, for the period of ten years, taking effect from the Ratification ~~of~~ by the aforenamed King and the Notification thereof shall have been made within our limits, as YH willbe able to see from the printed copies in "Duyts" and Latin, going herewith,

Our express order therefore is that YH shall observe the same alliance in all points, making the Notification in all places under YH's "District", and will maintain good harmony with the Portuguese without causing them any offence ~~"offentie"~~. Still, never-the-less, so that YH must be on your guard that you are not surprised ~~(overvallen)~~ under that pretext; and you will give us punctual advice whether those of ADCHIJN themselves are willing to accept it or not, or take a document of it from them ~~zelve willen aanveerden ofte niet nemen van hun daar van acte.~~"

This goes provisionally - as the Assembly is in recess, to reassemble in the middle of May - by the ship "Cameel", so that if the same departed before the Assembly, YH may be able to learn our views.

And because of the death of our well-beloved Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort, late Commander General on the Coast, we have therefore found good to appoint and commission YH in his place, but under the name of Director of the North Coast or Northern Part of Africa, in conformity with the accompanying Resolution La A. (vide p. 104.supra), in accordance with which we are confident that YH will so serve in your Office that we shall take satisfaction therein; above all we wish most highly to charge YH not to sully yourself with private trading, but employ all your industry & endeavours for the service of the Comp, & pay close attention that the same is defended (geweert), giving us information of everything; what further might be lacking therein we will advise YH at the next meeting.

And further regarding the Factors or Councillors of the Coast of Guinea, they shall regulate themselves ~~zi~~ a.w.the Resolution taken on 18th February 1642 herwith La B. (p.104). (End).

※ If we had considered that place of importance we should not have failed long ago to have given orders ~~[illegible]~~ about it.

[WIC. oc. 9]

June 19. Copy letter. Ass. XIX WIC. to "The Director of the Coast of Africa"

. . . . . .

– For various & important reasons they have divided their conquests in Africa under three directorships: One over the Island St Thomé: the other two, northwards & southwards from Cape de Loop [Lopez]. The northern district, with its capital at Del Mina, shall extend from Cape de Loop northwards as far as to Cape de Tres Puntas [Axim]. The title of "General of the Coast of Africa" is changed into that of "Director of the North Coast." –

– The capital of the Southern District shall be St Paulo de Loanda. The conquests of Loanda & its dependences to be separated from the government of Brazil, & to be under and the direct administration of the Assembly of XIX —

. . .

[WIC. oc. 54]

Feb. 28. Letter. Count Maurits & Council, Brazil, to Ass. XIX. WIC. Amsterdam

. . . . . .

– They send copy of the letter from General Ruychaver dd. 6 Sept 1641. [p 93 supra] from which will be seen that the attempt upon Achijn had failed.

. . . . . .

April 30 Letter. Same to Chamber Zeeland. WIC. Middelburg.

. . .

The ship Swarte Beer arrived here [Reciffo de Pernambuco] from Guinea on 29 ult., with a very good return cargo of Mark. 1,440: 1 oz: 4½ eng. gold, which we have transferred to the ship Amsterdam as being the most defensible. We wish to know in future what each Chamber's share is, so that it can be distributed among their ships.

. . . . . .

[WIC. oc. 54]

June 25 Letter. Count Maurits & Council Brazil to Chamber Zeeland. WIC. Middelburgh

On 7th inst. arrived here from the Coast of Guinea the ship Leeuwinne . . . By this ship we learnt of the capture of Achem by General Ruychaver, effected on 9 Feb. last. This we judge to be of importance at this conjuncture of time, for the increase of trade on the Coast & the defence of the same against other nations. We therefore congratulate Yr Honrs upon that victory & wish you good fortune with that conquest.

. . . . . .

[Ruychaver's letter to Brazil, reporting the capture of Axim, is not on this file]

[WIC. oc 54]

April 5. Copy letter. Jacob Ruychaver, Elmina to Count Maurits & Council, Brazil

After the departure of the Leeuwinne, on the same day the Postpacht arrived here bringing 50 tons grain, & was at once sent direct home.

The English ship lying before Cabocors, which had been somewhat troublesome to the Co in the accepts, sailed from there to Cormantyn on 24 Feb with a good hand-full of gold, to take over the goods of the "Egger" ship Lelybloem [Lilybloem] which will sail to England with the return cargo

On the 2nd inst I received a letter from the English General, Timothy Mulgrave that Captain Pascoal d'Almeida* earnestly requested passage for his soldiers which I have refused now, without his person; for as he is now in the interior behind Achem, he could easily bring about much disturbance. But if he wishes to depart with all the soldiers, I have promised them safe-conduct.

. . . . . .

* Pasqual de Almeida was the Portuguese Commandant of Axim fort when it was captured. He made a brave defence, & himself escaped.

offence

themselves are willing to accept it or not & take a document of it from them

[WIC. oc. 54]

April 19. Copy letter. Jacob Ruychaver Elmina to Count Maurits & Council, Brazil

- MK. 693:5:11½ gold & 6480 lb tusks one being sent home by the Ships Deventer of Amsterdam & Ommlandia of Groningen. –
- Bells for powder & ball of which much was expended before Achem. & for victuals –

. . .

The Portuguese (4 of whom departed on the 5th inst by the English ship delijbloem) are still in the interior & on 9th inst, along with the Emcassers, pangyarred some 30 Achems who were clearing their farms, 2 of whom were wounded & one decapitated; so they are still doing damage to us in trade.

With this comes at his request, the Portuguese Manuel Pinto with his 2 slaves whom he was allowed to keep as he had been 34 years in the country & is bringing nothing else out of it

. . . . . .

[WIC. oc. 58]

August 12. Copy letter. Same to same.

. . . .

I am at present so scantily provided with victuals that I don't know where to turn ... & all the "leggers" have lived on the country for a considerable time ... as I am expecting no ships from home for half-a-year I earnestly request Yr Hours to come to our help if possible, otherwise I shall have to keep the yachts here unemployed to the great damage of the Co, & feed them from the country.

I thank Yr Hours for the congratulations on the capture of the fort Achem. I had thought it would have been done for the greater profit of the Co, but I hope that in time it will become a convenient trading place as the Portuguese are now entirely out of the country. Captain Pasquael D'Almeda with 3 or 4 soldiers passed here on 6th inst in the English yacht Fintyn to Cormantyn, in order to sail to England with Mr Mulgraave by the ship Thomas & John, very soon.

. . .

The ship Nassau, encountering a Portuguese barque off Cape de Palm (coming from Madera & bound for Rio Genero with 150 pipes Spanish wine) brought it to us here. Seeing from the letter from their Ho. Mo. States General which came by the ship Canneel that the ten

1642.

ten years Truce between the Crown of Portugal & their Ho. Mo. was published throughout the fatherland on 22 Feb, after acquainting the Council I allowed it to proceed, freely & undamaged, on its voyage to Rio Penero on 8th inst, on which 10 of the Portuguese from the captured Achijn embarked. I do not doubt that we have done right.

. . . . . .

The gold trade of this Coast is still sober, through the continual war in the interior. Since my last I have no more than Mark 900 in the Chest; but I don't doubt that there will be an improvement with the arrival of the new goods which I hope will be sold at a good profit, as the English are entirely out of them.

. . . . . .

To save much expense I intend to establish a lodge at Acra, which has been allowed me by the King

- asks for victuals to be sent by the first opportunity. -
- He has had great mortality among the soldiers this year -

[WIC. oc. 58].

August 25. Copy letter. Jacob Ruyckaver, Elmina, to Comm. Maurits & Council, Brazil.

. . . . . .

- This ship ... is ordered first to leave some materials at Acra for the lodge & thence to Calbary ... —
- The gold trade continues sober —

To day, I understand, the English ship Thomas & John will sail, by which Mr Mulgrave, Pasquel d'Almeade, & the French factor are going to England. I have not been able to learn about their return cargo

---

offence/

themselves are willing to accept it or not, & take a document of it from them/

1642.

[WIC. oc. 58]

Nov. 15. Copy letter. Jacob Ruychaver, Elmina to Count Maurits & Council, Brazil.

– The yachts Benin & Jonge Arent have been sheathed in the river here –

Trade has been poor since the closing of the accounts. This chiefly arises from the inland wars, from Axem to Craa inclusive. One no sooner ends than another occurs. Half of the Acanists, named Cocorotiies people, who now for quite 3 years have been on the watch for the people of Atty, fell upon them in mid-September, & from the great force of the Acanists most of the ~~Attys~~ Attys fled to Fantyn, Abou & Fetuij, whither they were pursued by the Acanists, to whom the Kings of those places, as they would not hand over the fugitives, had to pay several pounds of gold.

Trade at Axem has so far made little progress. Since the capture I have received no more than Mk. 4¼. This will undoubtedly improve as the Portuguese have now left the country, both there & here.

The ship Meremin which was employed before Cormantyn as a "Legger" is now in such a bad condition that it could no longer be kept above water. To prevent an accident I have therefore been obliged to remove most of the merchandise out of it. Another "legger" is very necessary as I now have not one to employ there, about which I shall probably have to abandon that port until a further opportunity, which ~~will~~ would come very ill because of the English. As I shall not be supplied from home for some time to come, if Yr Hours could send me a suitable ship it would be profitable for the Co

. . . . . .

(6) Copy letter from J.Ruychaver, to Count Maurits and Council, Brazil. 20 December 1642. (no 58)

- ~~His last (no 5) was by the Cameel on the 10th, which he [illegible] with a quantity of slaves.-~~
~~(He follows a depressing report on the state of affairs on board ship and points out how impossible it is to blockade. He mentions Mouhant, the Director of the Slaves, who has also reported that the ship "was in great [illegible] from CRAA, the [illegible] quantity is now to be obtained through the war".)~~

- Asks for shipping as he has only the yacht "Benin" to sail to the Bight. Repeats his request for a "legger" to send to CORMANTIJN. Also for parts cordage &c.

-Little or nothing has happened since his last. The receipts, ~~since the departure of the Came~~ contraryto expectation have been reasonable, Since the departure of the "Cameel" he has received about 500 Marks gold.

Done at the Castle del
Mina, the 20th December 1642.
In Guyhea.

1642.

The Capture of Axim Fort,

The following account is translated from the Swedish Book, "West-~~Inianisk~~ Indianisk Reese-Beskriffning. Fran ahr 1639 till 1645. Ifran Amsterdam till St Joris de Mina, itt Castell i Africa: Forrattat och beskrewin aff Michael HEMMERSAM. Borg: uthi Nurenberg. Och nu i pawart Swanska Spraak forwand och Tryckt Pa Wijsingzborg. ... Johan Kankel. Anno MDCLXXIV." And from the German edition of the same book, "Micheal Hemmersam's West-Indianische Raiszbeschreibung. Nurnberg. Zu finden bey Paulus Paulus Fürsten Kunsthandlern. 1663." A reprint of the book is published in the series, "Reisbeschreibungen von Deutschen Beamten und Kriegsleuten im dienst der Niederländischen West-und Ost-Indischen Kompagnien 1602-1797. Herausgegeben von S.P.L'Honoré Naber. Erster Band. III. Haag. Martinus Nijhoff. 1930."

(The page numbers are those in the latter reprint)

This book has been sent to University College

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p.30. Anno 1641. died Clauss ~~ban~~ Van Ipern, von Ambsforth, [Note. This is incorrect. It was Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort, who died 6th January 1641] who had been General over the whole Coast and Land of Africa, and the Factor Jacob Rieghaber (RUYCHAVER), who had been sent thither in our ship, as Vice-General, came in his place. The same Clauss van Iperen [read, Arent Jacobsz van Amersfoort] could not die on shore, but they must carry him on to the ship, where he gave up the ghost, and was afterwards carried on shore again, and buried in the Castle, in military fashion.

Anno 1642. we sailed with 7 ships to a Castle which lies at Cabo de Trespunctus, named AZIAM (Axim), in which the Portuguese governed, in order to capture the same and to occupy it with our own men, so that we could also drive our trade at the place with the Blacks, as it is situate only 18 miles (Meilen) from our Castle, and a large(r) trade is driven there.

When we now came near to it, we despatched 6 men and a trumpeter in a boat to them, to deliver to them the letter which we had sent, whether they would ~~resist~~ resist ~~(sich wehren)~~ or deliver the Castle to us. But they called us nothing but dogs and cats, who could do nothing, and encouraged the Blacks, whom they had with them in it, that they were well fortified and no ball could do them any damage.

But when we lay in good order, in a half circle, and had cast anchor, our General had the Castle bravely

fired upon for 4 hours so that our ship had already fired-off
p.31. 200 "Lijsspund" (German,1000 pund) powder. The ship
was named Bewenter (Deventer) and carried 28 guns. But
as they thought nothing much of this, we sailed with our boats
towards to the shore, and, when it was needed retired everytime(hwar
gang) to the rocks, of which there were many in the sea, all
towards the shore, and placed some guns upon them, to fire
into the Castle with this battery. But as the Blacks saw
that the guns did not ~~pa~~ spare them, as the Portuguese had
made them believe, they betook themselves to the woods. When
we perceived that the Blacks had gone away, and the ~~sea~~ tide had
gone down ("Wattnet war afflupit" - tide gone down ?) we pro-
ceeded on shore to cause a greater fear among the Blacks.

When those in the Castle saw this, they fired heavily upon
us, so that one was killed; another was shot in the leg, but
the ball was cut out without loss of life. The next day,
we went on shore, 50 men strong, with a Vaandrig (Fendrick)
Lorenz Fidler (Fidelerus) of Magdeborg; we also had many
Blacks with us. When those in the Castle saw this, they
feared that we should storm them (löpa storm.-German sturm
lauffen), they climbed (stego förtenskull,-German stiegen)
over the walls, on the other side, and betook themselves to
a Negro King, in order to stay there until they could get
an opportunity to go back again to Portugal in a ship. When
we got to know about their flight from a drummer (who had seen
it from a high rock)we hastened to the Castle, and after we
got no resistance there, and we had nothing to open the gate
with (as our General knew nothing about it) we helped one of
our men over the wall so that he could knock the lock off
the door from inside. Then we searched in every corner,if
we could get booty, which we also got. Our General gave
orders that if anyone obtained gold,silver, or any other servicable
p.32. articles such as "Leuchter,Messgewand,and such-like,
he should sell to no-one else but ~~him~~ to him. There-
fore he bought everything, and paid justly for what he ob-
tained; and hereby came a large treasure into the Hollanders'
hands.

After we had now well garrisoned the Castle with our men,
some of us (our men ?),with 2 captains and 4 "Bossman" (Ger-
man,Bossknechten) went out of the Castle for a walk, to look
for Palm-wine, and when they had gone a quarter-of-a-mile,
some Blacks met them,who to their request replied to them in
Portuguese: If they would go with them into the forest, they
would then get as much palm-wine as they needed; which they
did,fearing no danger ~~evil~~,when the Blacks brought them 2 Büth palm-
wine, a Büth is bey 4 Mass" (Swedish, "2 Byth.1 Byth is 2
kaner"). The 2 Captains took one "Büth", and gave the others
to the men. But the Captains could not finish their "Byth",

they therefore gave it to the others, saying they would return slowly to to the Castle, and that they should follow soon, which they said they would do. When they had consumed the wine, they wished to pay for it with money; but they did not want money, but asked if they could give them knives. ~~Our men were glad that they could pay them with~~ and as ~~theemen~~ these men always had them with them, each drew his out and gave it to them.

When the Blacks saw that they had no more arms with them, they let them indeed go out of the forest; but ~~when~~ as they had assembled in a large crowd, and certain among them whom the Portuguese had promised 4 "Loth" gold if they would bring them a German head, they ~~sprang~~ sprang upon them in the open field with a loud cry. And although they tried to escape by running away, as they were wounded by the ~~Blacks'~~ Blacks' assegais, or throwing spears, two of them fell to the ground, upon whom they sprang like wild beasts (rasend
p.33. zugeloffen) and cut off their heads, whereby the others, although mortally wounded, could still run so far that our sentry-guard could see them, who at once sent to their assistance, and the Blacks were driven back again into the forest. And as these two had also shed much blood, they were brought into the Castle dead. So these four ended their lives miserably. And as the 2 Captains had gone a good way in front they suffered no ill.

Afterwards the Blacks came, and wished to make an accord, desiring peace, and promising always to trade with us, which also was promised them, and it was kept on both sides "in ~~der~~ der Zeit".

When our General had garrisoned the Castle, and provided it with everything in the best manner, as we had stayed there already 12 days, we others were sent back again to the Castle de MINNA; when we came there a dispute had meantime arisen. Three miles from us lay a town named FIRDU (Fetu), in which dwelt a Black King, whose principal man, as a Councillor with him, was called HENNEQUA. He ~~took prisoner with his~~ had had taken prisoner by his men a well-known Black, who by us Duitschen was called Jan ~~Fordius~~ Fordiis, and our General's friend, who fell upon him at night, carried him into the interior, in order to cut off his head.

When our General heard this, he quickly sent a mesage to the King of FUDU (Fetu), to tell him to release this Jan Fordiis again and send him back, or he would trade with him no more. Thereupon the King made many excuses that it was not he but his principal Councillor who kept him captive, but he would see if he could get him released.

But this HENNEQUA was a proud, ~~rude man, who also had~~ rough but rich
p.34. ~~nearly~~ rough, but rich Black, and had nearly 400 Blacks

under his command. He had the General told he would not release the prisoner, and would cut off his head, and, with his Blacks, would stop the way to us where we were accustomed to fetch our water every day, which was one mile distant (eine Meilwegs) from our Castle.

50 of our men, together with 3 Companies of Blacks, went out to drive them from the way. But when we came to them, we fired with our muskets among them, so that they at once ran away into the Bush, so we had to return back to our Castle with nothing done; but an agreement was entered into that he send one Pound Gold, and the prisoner to our General. Thereupon (dargegen) our General went into his house to see it, took an ox with him, and presented it to him; 6 of our (us) men must escort him as it was 2 Meil thither. When we came ~~bef~~ before his house we had to fire 3 volleys in his honour, upon which he had his Blacks and slaves ordered to come to him to help him eat (verzehren) the ox.

In the morning early, some of them were already there, who ~~bound~~ took the ox, bound its nose and mouth together, after which they took their shields and assegais, and ran with them in and out of the town, shouting and singing as loud as they could, for three hours; after which they wished to kill the ox, but as we had a cook with us, we would not allow the Blacks to do this.

We went into their houses which were of clay, thatched with grass. ... ... We were there for 3 days, and saw nothing else than shouting and leaping; then we took our way back again to the Castle.

... ...
... ...
...

Original Treaty with the Chiefs of Axim. (WIC.oc.12)

Accord between the General Jacob Ruychaver and the Cabeceros of AXEM, concluded Adij 17th February Ao 1642.

Firstly, that they, together with us, declare the King of Spain and his adherents to be an enemy for ever, and, as faithful servants, will always acknowledge the Honourable Great Mighty General States of the United Netherlands, His Highness the Prince of Orange, and the Honourable Messrs Directors of the Chartered West-Indian Company as their lawful Authorities.

That henceforth, during our government, they will not, without our knowledge, carry on any communication or trade ~~(correspondentie ofte handelingen)~~ with any foreign potentates or republics, of what nation soever.

Mamelucco Portuguese for Mulatto.

The Portuguese, Mulattoes, "Mamelucken", and slaves, they promise to deliver into our hands as soon as possible ~~(metten corsten)~~, if in any way practicable; to whose persons we will not do the least wrong, but treat as friends, and so far as is in our power, bringing them to suitable places.

All civil and criminal matters shall be settled by the Cabeceros and the Factor of the Fort, who shall be president; the penalties (breuke) thereof coming to the profit of the Cabeceros aforenamed, as is the custom at de Mina, which shall be paid immediately without delay, on pain of a double penalty. In case they meet with any war, by whosoever it may be done, we will maintain the same with them, and take it as if it were done to ourselves; which they, likewise, shall be bound to do, making our enemies their own. And all this without either side remaining in default; the contrary being found, the contraveners shall be punished according to the circumstances of the case.

The toll of the fish shall be given to us (ons laten volgen) as at de Mine, one out of five, voluntarily without any opposition from those ordered thereto; and of the ~~one~~ large one, the head. Any one acting to the contrary, his canoe shall immediately be broken or confiscated.

All the houses, gardens, and properties (erven), previously possessed by the Portuguese shall likewise, as also the Fort, belong to us, and, consequently, we shall dispose of the same as we shall find good. No-one, from now henceforth, shall be allowed to do any damage thereto, however small.

For each new ship coming from the Fatherland with cargo for the Gold Coast the Cabeceros aforenamed shall jointly receive, at first (voor eerst), one ounce gold which after the receipt shall be diminished or increased.

Whenever the Blacks come here to buy any goods, they shall receive their "dash" (dasje) from it (daeraff) as at de MINA, to wit, from (van) each benda, four ells coarse lywaet. They shall likewise be bound to live in all peace and friendship, especially with the Factor, as also the other Whites, without causing any disturbance ("bacerol aentestellen" - "bacerol"= "babbelen").

In order that the above-written may be the more binding, it shall be signed by the General on the one side, and by ATTA AUSI together with PETER AGOEIJ on the other side, and for further assurance, shall each deliver into our hands one of their sons as "rofine" (hostage?).

THUS DONE and approved at the Fort AXEM in GUINEA the year and day as above.

(sgd.Original signr) J. RUICHAVER.

The Mark of ATTIJ X AUSI.

The Mark of PETER X AGOEIJ.

Agreement made in the name and on behalf of the Hon. Company, by order of General JACOB RUYCHAVER, with the King of GREAT ACRAA.

I OUCHY, King of GREAT ACRAA and surrounding country, have made a treaty (ben verdraagen) and agreed with the Chief Factors, Willem van Meeckeren and Jan van Hoogenhoeck, together with Skipper Hendrik van der Burgh, on behalf of the Chartered West Indian Company and in the name of the Hon. Director, Mr JACOB RUYCHAVER, to whom I cede (opdraeg) my country and place of SMALL ACRAA, in order to be able to make there such form of Lodge or House, yea even a Fort, as it shall please him the aforenamed Director, to which my people and subjects on the beach shall not have anything to say in contradiction ("waertoe zonder eenige tegenspreeken van mijn volk en ondersaeten op strand iets sal hebben te seggen"). For which I, the King aforenamed, acknowledge to have received eight large bendes gold, calculated at Oz.2.Engels.8, troy ~~weight~~ gold weight once for all; provided he reeives his monthly gifts of 2 Oz: with 3 Oz, ~~2~~ 2 Engels more for his Cabesseros of GREAT ACRAA, and his Lieutenant TEIJ 1 Oz, 14 Engels, all also once for all. Hereof made two of the same tenour (van eender inhout), signed by the above named persons. ACTUM in the Court (Hoff) of the King at GREAT ACRAA, Adij the 30th August 1642.

(Note. The above is translated from the Dutch copy (pp.69-70) in the Book, WIC.Verspreyde, 1162. There the date is given as 30th August 1641, as also in Doorman. Other copies give the date as 1642, some as 20th August. But in view of Ruychaver's own letters (supra), and the date of the copy Memo of expenses, immediately next hereafter following, the correct date appears to be 30th August 1642,ut supra).

Memorandum of the presents made, and expences incurred in obtaining and making a Lodge at SMALL ACRAA, on the beach. Everything done by order of the Director, JACOB RUYGHAVER, since my arrival, on 27th August, before ACRAA aforesaid, till my departure on 13th September 1642.

(Summary)

	Mk.	Oz.	Eng.
Present to the King on our arrival to ask for a Lodge. Lywaet, Serge, & Spirits.		2	8
Paid to the King aforesaid for the Accord & permission for the Lodge at SMALL ACRAA. Gold, M.1-7-8, Benin cloths, O.2-8.	2	2	0
To the King's Lieut. named TEIJ. Gold.		1	14
CaboCeros of GREAT ACRAA. Lywaet. [Linen]		3	2
To the King's children. Lywaet &c.		1	2
CaboCeros of SMALL ACRAA, on the beach. Lywaet &c.		5	8
St JAGO, for the expences paid when at GREAT ACRAA. Gold.			12
Sundry "costgelds". Slaves, canoemen &c.	1	2	0
St JAGO. For assistance in everything. Gold.		4	0
To sundry principal people of GREAT ACRAA, &c. &c.		6	10
Boat money. Gold.		1	8
For spirits consumed, to King & CaboCeros at GREAT & SMALL ACRAA, together with the MANSEVOS. 6½ anckers spirits.		4	14
St JAGO, for expenses. Gold.		1	12
Canoe hire.		3	2
Presents to King & St JAGO, from Director, RUYGHAVER. Lywaet &c.		5	0
Total. M.	8	5	12

[Debased Portuguese for Young Men]

YH's obedient servant,
(sgd) Willem van Meeckeren.

(Translated from the copies in WIC. Verspreyde, 1162. pp. 71.72., and Annexure, L.2. to letter from WIC to S.G. 29th June 1662., in SG. Lok. Kas. Zweden. 38.)

(Note. In the Agreement made between Governor-General Daendels, and the Chiefs of ELMINA, on 15th October 1816, and in subsequent Agreements between some of his successors, and the Chiefs of the same place, recital is made of the Agreement made between Director J.RUYCHAVER and the ELMINA Chiefs on the 1st February 1642. A copy of this agreement cannot be found among the contemporary papers. It may have been made with the special view of obtaining the assistance of the ELMINA Chiefs for the capture of AXEM, but however that may be, the Agreement is apparently nowhere on record.)

(Note. ~~The~~ No Commission was granted to J.Ruychaver as Director of the North Coast of Africa, by the States General ~~(presumably there was one) is not entered in the "Commissie Boek" (S.G. 3252), but~~ (apparently there was one). The following commission granted to the Director of the South Coast is noted ~~(ibid, fol.53)~~) :

Commission for Cornelis Nieulant as Director over the Countries and Towns on the Coast of Africa. [S.G. 3252. fol 53]

The States General of the United Netherlands, to All who shall see or hear read these Presents, Greeting, Make Known. As for the welfare Government, and security of the Countries, Towns, Forts, and places situate on the Coast of Africa beginning South of the Equinoctial Line from Cabo de Loop Gonsalves to Cabo de Bonne Esperance inclusive, the Islands situate between both therein included, conquered through God's blessing, by the ships and men of the General Chartered West India Company of these Lands, likewise also for the chief command and direction of all political and military affairs both at sea and on land there, it is judged expedient to establish a College of Directors, THEREFORE it is that we, relying on the devotion experience and leadership (beleyt) of the person of (x) Cornelis Nieulant of the Political Councillors, & sent there as Director by Count Maurits & the H.S.C. of Brazil & at present staying there, have confirmed & commissioned, as we hereby confirm & commission him as (b) our Director over

(x) Pieter Moortamer. Hans Mols, now factor on the C.of G. have engaged ordered & commissioned, like as we hereby ~~ordered~~ engage ~~order~~ & ~~commission~~ him as (b)

the Southern District and Coast of Africa aforesiad, in order together with the two other Directors, his colleagues, to have and exercise the first authority and direction there, for the conservation and propagation of the true reformed religion, as that is publicly taught here in this country, to promote the Police, Finance, Military, Commerce, the public peace and what is dependant theron, for the welfare of the aforesaid General Company and to check all abuses that might creep in there, to help do and administer right and justice both criminally and civilly, and keep all the servants of the Company thereto so that each one acquits himself properly in his office, service, and business, and to mulct and cause to be punished those who behave badly therein, to execute and cause to be executed all orders and commands which shall be sent from the Assembly of the XIX and to the College of the Directors, and further to do everything according to the Instructions and Ordonnances already given or get to be given by us, as a faithful Director is bound to do on the oath previously made as (x) Political Councillor. We therefore request & desire all Kings, Princes, Potentatates and other persons, summon, order, and command all persons of our service being or having come there, such as those commanding over the military, all captains, factors and officers respectively of higher & lesser quality, both of police, justice, finance, military, commerce, as also all common soldiers & sailors at sea and on land, as also the inhabitants & natives belonging under the afsd Quarters as subjects, & each one whom these may concern, to acknowledge respect & obey, as such, the afnmd Cornelis Nieulant as our Director over the Southern parts of Africa, and to do him all help, favour, & assistance in the fulfilment of these, each so far as it shall concern him, on pain that the contraveners or disobedient shall incur our highest disfavour and "indignatie", as we have found such to be proper for the service of the Country and the Company.

(x) Moortamer.
Hans Mols, as Factor.

DONE in our Assembly in the Hague on the 6th May 1642.

(fol 54) A similar Commission mutatis mutandis granted to Johan Trist as Director over the Island of St Thomé. Done in our Assembly in the Hague on the 6th July 1642.

(End of 1642.)

States General Resolutions. 1643. (SG.3228)

Lunae 2nd February 1643,

Received a letter from the Dire ctors of the WIC, at the Chamber of Amsterdam, written there the 27th January last, and the Points of Convocation, on which all the Chambers of the aforenamed Company are convened for the 21st instant in Amsterdam; which was placed in hands of Deputies for report.

S.G. 5773. Points of Convocation for meeting of 21st Feby: 21 Points, in cluding the following referring to Guinea:

14.

And as the accounts of many years trading (handelens) show that, instead of profit, remarkable damage is done, since there has had to be underselling ~~Complaint has to be made (moeten worden geclot)~~ against other nations, whom (we) have not been able to keep from there; as also through other inconveniences besides, which do not yet cease, and are sufficiently known to everyone, will the members please to deliberate and appear at the assembly in order to resolve to suspend that trade of the Company for a time, and to help to devise conditions in order to place the open; unless anyone could indicate certain means whereby that trade could be made profitable for the Company again.

xxxx

Veneris the xix June 1643.

Received letter from the Directors of the WIC. at the Chamber Amsterdam, written there on 16 June with Points of Convocation on which the Assembly of the XIX were convened there for the 11th July 1643.

These Points (SG 5773),19 in number, contain nothing about Guinea: but on 1st July six further Points for the same Assembly were received, including the following:

4.

As the practice hitherto, and the advice lately come from the Northern Coast of Africa testify that the same is not sufficiently provided with cargo for the trade nor with necessities both for the maintenance of the people ~~doing~~ in the service of the Company there, and for the navigation of the places,notwithstanding the numerous resolutions taken about about it; will the Chambers please to cause to be brought in such advices that the resolutions to be taken can be effectively ~~pursued~~. carried out

xxxx

-To draft reply 22.
to Proposition of the Port: Ambass: dd 12 Oct 1642, copy of which already sent to the Chambers.

Mercury 2nd December 1643.

Received letter from the Directors with P. of B. for Assembly of XIX on 12 December. Among the Points being one about the appointment of a Fiscal in Guinea, vice Antonio de Florana, transferred from there to Brazil.

...

Is at the Assembly read a Remonstrance to their Ho Mo delivered by the Council & General of the Mint, requesting, inter alia, that the WIC may be written to that a certain quantity of gold lately come over from Guinea to this country, may be delivered to the Mint, or at least to one of the Chartered "Wissel Bancken" so that it can be brought from there to the Mint ~~in this country~~, and converted into money in this country. Whereupon, after deliberation, the gentlemen from Holland have taken copies of the said Remonstrance to be communicated in detail among themselves.

Note. Among the S.G. resolutions are many entries of resolutions about the Proposition of the Portuguese Ambassador about the capture of St Paulo de Loando & St Thomé; but there appears to be no reference in these lengthy minutes to the capture of Axim Fort.

There are no letters from the XIX to the Gold Coast for 1643.

Resolutions Zeeland Chamber. 1643. (WIC.oc.25)

1st January 1643.

The deputies for the purchase of the cargoes for Guinea are again requested to take the matter in hand at the first opportunity.

5th March 1643.

On the 14th Point of Convocation (p.133) tending to the placing open of the trade to Guinea, is entirely rejected, and the Commissioners are requested to maintain this resolution, and to make it acceptable to the other members.

9th July 1643.

- Marginal note to No 4 of the further P.of B. for 11th July (p.133) :

To follow the best service of the Company herein; six ships being more servicable than 4, provided the 600V (600,000) guldens is not exceeded in the year.

30th September 1643.

XIX. Being deliberated whether one ought not to let the equipage & the dealings with Guinea be taken charge of & cared for by Commissioners out of the respective Chambers, ... according to the proposal at the Assembly of the XIX made on the 19th September 1643; is after deliberation found good to authorise the deputies at the XIX to resolve with the other members of the other Chambers for the best service of the Company for the benefit of that Coast, provided they pay due regard to the interests of the inhabitants of this Province.

13th November 1643.

Hendrick Carloff of Groningen having sailed out in Jan. 1639, having been Auditor at St Thomé, and departed from there on 1st July 1643, makes some verbal report of the situation when he left the Castle. ...

(Note. There is no reference to the capture of Axim Fort in the above minutes.)

1643.

In February 1643, the Chief Participants (at Amsterdam?) passed resolutions in favour of keeping the trade to Guinea for the Company. (WIC.oc.35)

Letters from Brazil to the WIC of 8 Jan.,2 April,31 Augt, 1643, report arrivals of Cargos of slaves from Guinea. (WIC.oc.58)

Extract from copy letter from J.Ruychaver to Count Maurits & Council,Brazil. "Pmo Feby op't Casteel De Mina,1643. In Guinea." (WIC.oc.58)

... ...

"Trade since my last has still been reasonable. I have obtained about 400 Marks; and now have placed the lywaet here at 120, and at CRAA 110 pr bende, and if I find good demand I shall one day place it at 112 & 100; and if a new ship appears, other merchandise in proportion, so there will be a good "~~avance~~", as the Englishman/~~is~~ being entirely out of them, cannot be in the way, which, through the tumults (i.e. civil war in England ?) might well last a long time."

... ...

"Soude den Brenger deser wel eerder affgevaerdicht hebben, maer alsoo op 17 Januario door een groot Meester(?)
A. den Conninck van CRAA vermoort is, waerover vreesende voor eenige tumults, hebbe 'tselve tot Secours van de Logie derwaerts gesonden, alwaer tegenwoordich noch leijt, ende sal van daer alsoo geen swaricheijt is, sijn reijs na Ardra vervorderen. Hiermede."

Extracts from copy letter from J.Ruychaver, to Count Maurits & Council Brazil, dd "The 25 Juny op't Casteel de Myna.In Guynea 1643." (WIC.oc.58)

... ...

"... Met doeffheyt verstaen uyt missive die Hr Directeur Trist, als oock mondelinge vande Skipper Hillebrant Wenterschap, de sobere stant desselfs Eylant, waervan U
B. Extie ende Hooge Secrete Raeden aperantlijk mede wel onderricht sullen sijn. Bij soo verre geen andere ordre met den eerste wert gestelt, staet te beduchten 't Eylant weder verlooren sal gaen, daer nochtans voor de Compe alwaer't maer om de Engelse wille, veel aengelegen is;want recht te(?) voor hier op de Gout Cust geen goederen noch schepen meer sijn hebbende dan alleenlijk 6 personen tot bewaringe van haer begonnen Sterckte.Hebben alle haeren goederen aen ons vercocht.... ..."

p 136.

A. I should have dispatched the bringer of this earlier but as on 14th January the King of Crara was murdered by a great "Master" & fearing some disturbances I sent it thither for the succour of the Lodge, where it is still lying at present, & if there is no trouble it will continue its voyage from there to Ardra.

B. Learn with regret from the letter from Director Tarot, & also verbally from Skipper Hillebrant, the sorry state of his Island [St Thomé] about which Y.E. & the Supreme Privy Council will probably also have been informed. If no orders are not given about it as soon as possible it is to be feared that the Island will be lost again; in which however the Co is greatly concerned, were it only on account of the English who now have no goods nor ships here on the Gold Coast but only six persons to take charge of & safeguard their begun fortification [i.e. at Cormantijn]. They have sold all their goods to us

---

As witness to the truth, have the King of JABY with some of his Caboceros, as also those of CHAMA, signed with their own hands, together with ours. (Anno 1643.).

(sgd) Laurens Fiddelerus. [Fiddelius]
(") Hendk Froen. [Froon]
(") Baqua Quakita.
(") Oben Ockirre. [Oquirre]
(") Ahur Aqueda. [Aqueda]
(") Bryma.
(") Adan.
(") Adar. [Adau]

The above was translated from the copy in the Book, WIC.verspreyde, 1162. pp.73-74. This copy is not dated. The copy in WIC.oc.II 13. is dated as above.

(End of 1643)

States General Resolutions. 1644. (S.G.3228)

(In June & onwards, some minutes re proposed combination of the two Companies.) [EIC & WIC.]

Mercury the 28th December 1644.

Received the report of the Deputies of their Ho.Mo., of the discussions (besoignes) in the W.I.C. held at Amsterdam (in Oct.Nov.& Dec 1644), and annexures, delivered in by them; whereupon the gentlemen are thanked for their trouble. ...

(S.G.5773.) "Exhibitum 28th December 1644."
Report of the Deputies of their Ho.Mo. Henrick van der Capellen, (& others)... at the Assembly of the W.I.C., at Amsterdam, convened in October 1644.

High & Mighty Lords,

... ...

"Dispute among the Chambers." ... ...

"Complaint of the Chambers over the poorness (onvermogenheid) of the ships." ... ...

"Equipment of ships." ... ...

"Redress of excesses and abuses in the Conquests." ... ...

"Concerning the particular orders made." ...

1.
Brazil. ... ...

2.
In GUINEA. The letters last come from GUINEA have reported that in three or four months no ships had been on that Coast; that because of ~~about~~ that, the African traders had had to go back again with their gold. Whereupon it was found good in future to provide that Coast better with ships and cargoes from time to time, and for that purpose, two ships are now again ready to sail; the one from Amsterdam; the second

from Zeeland; and the third from the Northern Quarter is also being made ready.

The Director of the said Coast has also been written to that he shall provide for those Forts by the Negroes settled under his authority (die Negroes onder sijn gebiet sittende); and have so much land cultivated with rice and corn(milie) by them, as is necessary for the maintenance of our people there.

And he has also been given orders that he shall have those Negroes residing in subordination to this State (onder die gehoorsaamheit van desen Staet woonende), instructed in the Christian religion.

Also, this order has been given, that if the one or other Chamber henceforth remains in default in providing this Coast with sufficient merchandise, the following Chamber shall be able to send thither, provided it draws fifty per cent from the return cargoes "~~pour avance~~ as profit".

3.
In Angola. ... ...

4.
In Island St Tomé. ... ...

5.
In New Netherland. ... ...

Ø. Minerals.

"Provisional order against the enemy." ... ...

"Estimates (beraminge) of Government in Brazil." ... ...

(There are six annexures to the above report, none of which refer to the Gold Coast.)

Zeeland Chamber Resolutions. 1644. (WIC.oc.25. 26.)

23 January 1644.
"Concerning the gold lately come over from Guinea."

Jovis Antemeridian 5 May 1644.
Messrs Van de Velde and Buremans, deputed from the College of the Chief Participants here, declared that they have understood in their College, through a certain letter written from Amsterdam, that the Chief Participants there had deputed six of the same to "besoigneren" over the trade on the Coast of Africa, that the same ought to be placed open for all; which matter was so feared by their Honours that they had found good to charge their Chief Participant Director, by letter, that he would please not to agree to that trade being placed open, but be retained for the Company: they therefore also requested that this Chamber would be pleased to instruct their Deputies at the XIX, that the trade on the aforesaid Coast be not placed open, but must be entirely kept for the Company, without in any way yielding ~~anything~~ thereon; and that if anything occurred in the Assembly of the XIX about it, to notify this Chamber thereof betimes. Upon which, opinions being asked, the request was granted, and the deputies were thanked for their trouble.

Lunae the 8 August 1644.
Was read a memorandum given by Maria Hendrixs, ~~"Huisvrouw"~~ wife of Jacob Ruyghaver, Director of the North Coast of Africa "op" Cornelis Jannsen Boudewijns, in order to receive from Jan Christoffelyn, skipper of "Zeelandia", 24 casks limejuice, sent over to her by her husband; and being reported what the said Director writes in the advices about the limejuice, is after opinion asked, found good to send only 20, and to retain 4 for the Company.

Thursday 18th August 1644.
...
Also read a letter from the deputies from this Chamber at the Assembly of the XIX, from Amsterdam of 16 August, that the Assembly had considered whether it were not necessary that the Guinea cargoes be purchased at once. It was found good to reply that their Honours, should very seriously admonish the Chamber of Amsterdam, before proceeding to the equipage, in accordance with the resolution taken in the matter, before their departure; also say to them that one would let no gold come to them unless such "verssckerheit" was done by them over the equipage, that

one ~~may~~ may rely upon the "vervolg" thereof, and so that the aforesaid means of "contraincte effect may sorteren ", the deputies from here shall try to dispose the other Chambers also, in conformity with our intention.

Received a letter from Jacob Van der Wel, Fiscal, written on the North Coast of Africa the 22nd March(?) 1644, from the ship "'t Wapen van Dordrecht", before the Fort Nassauw, containing inter alia, that the ship "Postpaert" from the Chamber of Amsterdam is navigating the windward places, the Gold Coast, and Bight, & has done so for a long time(?); that it nevertheless is his opinion, according to the resolution of the XIX that it ought not to trade but at the Grain Coast, and over this would prejudice the other Chambers. It is found good to send extract from the letter, of the afore said, to the deputies at Amsterdam, in order to enquire about the circumstances and the resolution of the XIX, and accordingly to take care for what concerns the respective Chambers.

22nd August 1644.

It was reported by Mr Loyssen (come here because of the illness of his son) what has happened in Holland, at Amsterdam, at the Assembly of the XIX, up to his departure, and especially about the division of the gold and subsidues.

As also by Mr Somers, expressly come over for that purpose, what has afterwards happened over the disputes occured between the Chambers of Amsterdam and Zeeland, together with the means proposed by the deputies of their Ho.Mo. in order to decide those differences, according to the Charter, in case they should not come to a satisfactory understanding with each other, their Honours requesting to learn the intention of the Assembly, in order to return at once and arrange accordingly. Upon which, being deliberated, is found good to persist in the resolution taken on the 18th instant concerning the equipage of the Chamber of Amsterdam to Guinea; but in case they solemnly promise to complete their equipage in arrear, the gold shall be placed in their hands, but so that thay make it good to this Chamber again out of the subsidies received.

26 September 1644.

-Resolved to send the ship "Zeelandia" to Guinea, victualled for 9 months, with 24 eaters & 8 brass & 12 iron guns; & as many soldiers as Assembly last approved.

3 November 1644.

-Read letter from Ruychaver to XIX dd 6 June 1644.(n.o.r.)-

Copy Letters from the XIX. WIC. to the Gold Coast. 1644.
(Letter Book. WIC.oc.9.)

(1).
To Mr Ruychaver,
Director in Guinea. The 14th January 1644.

Honoured &c,

YH's letter dated 26th June last (n.o.r.) came to us safely by the ship "Noort Hollandt", as also received the return cargoes by the aforesaid ship, in conformity with the Bill of Lading; the same being somewhat less than we had expected, although we could well judge that the scarcity of cargoes had contributed to it, which we nevertheless hope will be completely remedied with the arrival of the cargoes both by the afnsd ship "Noort Hollandt" and also "Zeelandia" sailed from here in April last, and these coming from the Mase and Groningen; and YH have the means to animate the trade in every way, for which the better opportunity will occur because of (mits) the departure of the English, reported (vermaent) in YH's letter.

We have seen from the same, the increase and good probability of trading at AXEM, mostly because those from ABINE and ASSINE came daily to that place with their merchandise; in order to give no hindrance to which, and to prevent all disorder in the trade, we have found good and will in future sharply order and forbid all ships going thither to call any more, much less to sell any merchandise at the afsd places ABINE and ASSINE; meanwhile recommending to YH that those places are provided with what is necessary from there.

-The bad state of the trade at Arder and collection of their debts (68 slaves) on the other hand causes them much surprise, and he is to enquire carefully whether the hostility of that nation is due to failure of, or caused by the servants there; if so, to punish the guilty as an example to others.- ...

-They approve his removing the "leggers" and merchandise from Arder, and the trading of the place with ships, in good time.- He must cultivate the friendship of the King of that place in order to keep the Portuguese away and prevent them getting any seat at the Court (stoel ten Hove) there .-

The taking over of the English residue (restant) from the ship of Mr "Jan Taems", we have seen with great displeasure, for although the goods, in themselves, could cause no injury to the Company, they would have had to rove about much longer, to the exclusion of the same, and others in England wait the result of his trading, or returning with

the same, his masters might easily have become faint-hearted thereby. Likewise, on the contrary, they thus being able to get rid of their residue, they cannot fail to make a profit; we cannot therefore approve of this being done any more, in the furture. Likewise also, you will avoid all occasion to give them any cause of complaint, letting each do his best in trading, according to the manner of merchants.

The sending of the 200 Marks gold to Loando St Paulo has likewise given us no satisfaction because we do not consider the same is needed there, and the consequences will be the more injurious as we have more fully pointed out in our previous dd 24 October (n.o.r.). We cannot therefore approve of this being done any more in the future under any circumstances whatever.

The erection ~~(oprechten)~~ of a "~~college" (sic, meaning~~ lodge) at ACRA has pleased us well; but the men who are entrusted with the same and the trading there ought to be of such experience that they remain in good correspondence with the also inhabitants, and do not come to irritate them. We have ~~therefore~~ gladly seen (~~zoo hebben geerne gesien~~) the establishment (~~oprechten~~) of a school for the education of the children of the Blacks and Mulattoes, & recommend YH please to keep a good hand on it; particularly that the children of the principal Officials (Gequalificeerste) may be drawn into it, and careful endeavours resorted to that they advance in the Christian faith and become more and more favourably disposed towards us; also become practised in the Netherlands language. The necessities required of "berdekens" (blackboards?) books &c will be sent to YH by the next opportunity. Likewise, then, on the coming from the Stad and Lande, many of the necessaries called for have been shipped in their ship at present lying ready, The others, still wanting in the lists sent, we will provide for, and give orders that they shall follow, without fail, and YH will have to expect them, by the next ships. So, likewise, we will take care that the "legger", in place of the ship "Meermin", the two yachts and a roving frigate "~~roey fregat~~" are sent to YH by the next.

The bad condition of much of the merchandise sent by the ship "Noort Hollandt", and how badly that ship had been laden, and provided with many of the necessities needed there, we have learnt with regret; nevertheless the pertinent notice thereof given by YH is satisfactory to us, in which YH will please to continue; for our part, we will make such provision against it so that such complaints need not be made in future.

Regarding the smuggling discovered by the Advocate Fiscal in the afsd ship, we are informed here that many

other goods have been smuggled and taken with it from here, "sulke daar men het minste vertrouwen van heeft of bekent te hebben". It were to be wished that we could be served here with faithful officers, as it is mostly concealed, than we know for certain of the afsd ship, who make rather more of it than so easily to forget their honour and oath; and not having such, it is in vain to search (~~visiteren~~) the ships here. Even unloading cannot help, for they know how to add and to ship their smuggled goods under and together with those of the Company; therefore, as for so many times, we desire once again earnestly to recommend to YH not only to keep and to animate the Fiscal to the search of the ships arriving, but to offer a helping hand, and to support him in case of opposition, as we have further written to YH in regard to the new Fiscal. Van der Wel, going thither: but, in order to give no time for the smuggled goods to be brought ashore at night or otherwise to conceal them, immediately on the arrival of the same, the Fiscal and some servants and men must be sent on board for the unloading, and the skipper, factor, and officers taken off and kept kept on shore for so long until the ships are completely unloaded and properly searched(~~gevisiteert~~), but keeping at least two of their own crew expressly as witnesses to stand by the unloading in order to prevent the skipper taking any exceptions against responsibility for the bills of lading which he otherwise might take; having the outcoming goods properly inventaried, and keeping an accurate note of the smuggled goods - whether the same are in cases, packs,casks, bales, how marked and numbered, and, if it can be discovered, from whom sent, and to whom entrusted - the duplicate of which you will transmit to us at the first opportunity; meanwhile causing the seized and smuggled goods to be proceeded against by the Fiscal for confiscation, & the punishment of those guilty thereof, without remitting the same, as YH writes that you did with the spirits and knives out of the aforesaid ship.

The aforesaid "recherche" ought also to be completely done over the gold and other merchandise which is brought over from there by the common folk and officers in great quantity, to the great injury of the Company.

On the ships at present lying ready in the Case and Groningen, some smuggling has already been discovered, and those tainted with it dismissed from their service; but we fear that this is but of the least, and that others more guilty will set sail with it: we have therefore wished to advise (~~a~~) YH thereof, and recommend that our aforesaid orders be given effect to, over these ships, as soon as they drop anchor, without respect or consideration for whom, or why.

-They have seen with satisfaction the reasonable number of slaves obtained on the Gold Coast, Calbarij, and the Bight, & urge the extension of the trade.-

-Instructions as to keeping the accounts, the goods paid for each (slave) whether young, man, or woman.-

-The cargoes will be made up according to the lists sent by him.-

-They approve the promotions (not specified) made by him.-

-With referance to his request to comehome, they will consider the appointment of a person to relieve him.-

-They will likewise pay attention to the request of the Pastor, "Mr" Meynert Dirriesz.-

-They notified him in their former of 24 October, of the promotion of Antonio de Florano ~~to Brasil~~ to Fiscal of Brasil; and on 24 December, advised him of the appointment of Jacob Van der Wel in his place, to which they refer.-

A good supply of the necessaries for the repair of the Forts & otherwise are being sent to YH by the ship "Omlandia" from the Chamber Stad & Lande, now lying ready to sail; and you have to expect the remainder by the following ships, and among them the provisions & other necessaries required for the country.

The order drawn up by the Assembly for the despatch of the ships is being precisely followed for the future, so that the complaints on that account will come to cease.

We had hoped that the Chambers would have punctually carried out the resolution to send by each ship 30 Netherlands soldiers, but because of the scarcity of men, they could not be produced. Some soldiers are being sent by the present, and afterwards more attention will be paid to the order aforenamed.

-At the present Assembly they have approved the instructions sent him by the Chr Amst: on 4 Dec last, who were authorised to do certain things at the separation of the last Assembly.-

-The bill of exchange for 3600 gldns presented for payment they will not fail to satisfy the holder.-

-They have seen the letter he wrote to HE & HC. on 16 July 1643.-...

-It is satisfactory that he writes to them, and he is to continue to do so; but nevertheless he must continue to report to them (XIX) on everything that occure in trade and otherwise.-...

-Regarding the necessaries required, he is to expect the same according to the annexed list.- "Etc"

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(2).

To the Director
Ruychaver in Guinea.

The 22nd August 1644. In Amsterdam.

Honoured &c,

Our last to YH was by the ship "'tWapen van Dordrecht" dated the 21st December of last year, since when have come to our hands YH's letters of 16th November of the same year (n.o.r.), and of 22nd March last (n.o.r.), which we shall now shortly answer, as far as necessary.

By the ship "Zeelandia" departed the 31 December 1644.

-On his advice of the bad timber & cooperage in the ship "Zeelandia" they have admonished the Chamber concerned to enquire who is responsible, and that this does not occur in the future; also as to the casks of meat, pork, oil, and butter, which they regret to learn were in such a bad condition.-

-The return cargoes of slaves and elephants' tusks traded in the Bight, were reasonably good, and they hope the Chambers will henceforth provide such cargoes that they may continue, and they have again admonished the Chambers to pay better attention to the cargoes.-

-They have also considered the sending of a consignment of victuals so that the purchase of milio there can be "~~ge-~~ ~~excuseert~~", which according to his letters causes great ~~expen~~ expense to the Comp,& cannot be relied on.- avoided

About the situation of the ~~Holland~~ Dutch Portuguese "fluyt" which had arrived there before CHAMA, we have examined the Placade of the Ho.Mo. Lords States General, dated 14th June 1632 (q.v. sub anno) as also the first Article of the Charter, both sent herewith; and have accordingly found good to communicate to YH that, in accordance with the aforesaid Placade, you have the power to take off (~~lichten~~) the inhabitants of this State who have taken service under foreign potentates, whether Portuguese or others, and ~~our~~ are found on the Coast in the one ship or the other, for further proceedings to be taken against them and their goods: and in order that one may obtain information whether the traders of the aforesaid ship~~s~~ are domiciled (~~'thuys hooren sullen~~) in this country, such persons as shall be taken off by YH shall be sharply examined in order that, such being found, namely that the aforesaid traders are resident here, likewise to proceed against the aforesaid ship, and for the confiscation of the same, as is more fully recited in the Charter.

-As a "legger", the ship "'tWapen van Medemblijck" from the Northern Quarter has already been ordered for that and ~~the~~ the yacht "Real" is being sent by the Chamber Amsterdam, &

orders will be given to despatch another yacht, so that YH can employ such vessels as he thinks fit.-

-The lime asked for will be sent.-

We regret that the Chambers of the Mase & N.Qr. have not properly carried out the resolution about sending soldiers, and they have now, as we are informed, sent the full number, which will also be pursued in the future, so that the Coast may be properly supplied, and the old soldiers be relieved in due time.

-To the previous complaint of lack of provisions, supplies will be sent.-

From the sentences sent over we see that the case of a certain Black Jongen was not properly dealt with, and such heavy punishment is not and ought not to be permitted, but to be checked, so that the Company does not come to suffer that which is all too cruelly and contrary to the proper course of justice committed by their subjects (ondersaten).

Having written so far, we came to the examination of YH's letter dated 21st March last, in which we again learn, in various parts of it, the injury which the Company must bear over the lack of duty (wan devoiren) committed by the Chambers in the matter of the equippage; but as the same has been done and cannot be remedied, we must leave it there, and we will take care that it does not happen any more in future.

~~-As to the bank "Pipies" [illegible] which [illegible] Bar-[illegible] decs to trade alone.-~~

-They are pleased that he received some goods from the Dir: in Angola, which were not wanted there, and approve the like being done in future if proper accts are kept.-

-They recommend him to continue to trade in the new river called Rio Furcado, & will take care that a suitable cargo is sent according to his formula.

Likewise we recommend the continuation of the trade at Ardre in order thereby, besides other reasons, all the better to be able to get the old "restanten". The Boesges are at present at a high price here and difficult to obtain; we shall nevertheless see what we can be done therein for the best service of the Company.

-As regards the "belastinge" of cargoes done by the Chambers of the Mase & Groningen, they have not yet been able to take any resolution, owing to shortness of time....-

We have seen with regret that YH takes some displeasure in the matter of your Direction, for the reason that we, having chosen YH for that charge, have not also sent over a proper Commission. So far as we have concerned we can declare that the omission of the afsd Commission was not because we had any displeasure in YH's service, as indeed we also have none; but we judged it to be sufficient, as

has frequently been done before, that we did it by letter from this Assembly; with the request that YH will please continue in the aforesaid Direction until such time as further arrangements shall be made.

We will not neglect, ~~met ten eersten, and~~ -if possible still at this Assembly, to look out for a suitable person who may assume the office of pastor there, after the departure of Meyndert Hendricksz.

-The Chamber of Amsterdam report that they have not yet received the complete returns (retouren) from the cargo of the ship "Postpaert" equipped by them, and YH will therefore send the rest by the first opportunity.-

-The Chr of Amst: has given us a memorandum of mistakes in the accounts which is sent herewith for report.-
Signed. (end).

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(3).
To the Fiscal Van der Wel. The 30th November 1644.

Hon. devout, discreet,

We have received your letter of the 6th June last, in the Castle del Mina, and have gladly seen from it the good state of affairs of the Coast there, and the advice of what foreign ships had been there, but particularly their small doings; and we will hope that with careful and faithful supervision there, and the despatch of the required cargoes from here, that the same foreign traders will be kept wholly and entirely from there, for which we most highly recommend and desire you to contribute your part. Particularly also in the discovery, seizure and confiscation of the contraband goods being brought thither by our own ships: and what has previously happened about the smuggling from the "Gulden Ree" and the seized Benin cloths is entirely displeasing to us, for the skipper of it to come home without he having been first previously examined about the aforesaid smuggling, as he probably was not free from it: besides which, soo valt ook dese "dispitie" about the afsd Benin cloths, that the same alle voor cargo van hier sullen wesen ingehandelt. In short, it is clear from this and such-like how shamefully the Company is in every respect robbed and defrauded, and that by their own ~~servants~~ sworn servants: against which you must place yourself by all possible and imaginable means, like as we are relying upon the promises made by you to us,

By the ship "Zeelandia" departed the 31st December 1644.

to that end, before your departure. Still, the best and only means to prevent the same frauds must be,-as all all ships going thither from here are bound first to come before the Castle d'elmina- that,as soon as they cast anchor, you proceed on board immediately, with some of the most trusty persons specially deputed and sworn thereto, and as immediately cause the skipper with the entire crew to leave the ship, without allowing them to take with them any packages,boxes,bags &c. and they being away, quickly proceed to unload. and after taking over the invoices, make a good inventary of everything, and bring it into the warehouse of the Company at the Castle d'Elmina. Also, after the unloading, inspect the ship's victuals, previously requireing the list from the skippers, and that over the whole ship, no place excepted. Which being so done, as we have already written to the Director on 16th (sic) January, and is again hereby our express order, much and great smuggling will be discovered; but the skipper and officers and crew must be examined for the persons here who have given them any goods, and their names, together with lists of the contraband goods transmitted to us here: and the appointment of an "audicteur" for your assistance in this and other matters will be taken into consideration by us.

To the request of the Director Ruychaver for discharge, we have previously requested HH to continue for some time ~~yet~~ yet, but if he persists in coming home attention will also be given to your person by us. Herewith/ Honble, &c,

(sgd) Henr van der Capellen toe Ryssel.
" Atadle Wyn.
" Charles Loten.
" Joh. Pilletier.
" ~~Sy~~ Semeyns.
" Bern. Julsing.

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(4).
To the D. Ruychaver. The 3rd December 1644.

Hond, Valaint, Trusty, Well-beloved.

Our last to YH was dated 22nd August, by the ship Haerlem, from the Chr Amst:, copy of which goes herewith, hoping that the ship will have arrived there in good time and safely.

By the ship "Zeelandia", departed the 31st December 1644.

Since then we have received YH's letter dd 6th June by the ship "Eenhoorn" which, together ~~with~~ with the other two, "'tWapen van Dordrecht" & "Omlandia" arrived here about mid-September.

By YH's same letter, we have seen the want of a yacht to employ there before CORMANTIJN, for which the ship "'tWapen van Dordrecht" had to be employed so long. We hope this will already have been remedied by the ship "'tWapen van Medemblijck", expressly ordered thereto, or the yacht "Real" which has gone thither with the ship "Haerlem", as is also a yacht, about 60 "lasten" made ready by the Chr Amst:, to go with the ship "Elias" which will be ready any day. So that then you will be provided with sufficient yachts.

The taking over of the Pieces-of-Eight, purchased from the Englishman, is pleasing to us, and we hope in the future so to supply the Coast that all foreign competitors (cladders) will be kept out, to which we are the more animated because we understand that the English have now entirely abandoned the Coast.

The sending hither "~~adroiture~~ direct" of the above written three ships YH has mostly based on the small price of the negroes in Brasil: but we would rather have seen otherwise, because there appears (?) to be a lack in Brasil, where-by much sugar has remained there, and because we cannot by any means approve relaxing the trade in negroes which YH will, as much as possible, continue, and despatch lots to Brasil by every opportunity.

We see that the cargo of "Omlandia" was found ~~bad~~ a bad sale and especially the lywaet, serge, beads (corael) and sheets of which 159 were lacking; about which we have spoken to the Chr of Groningen, and admonished them and other members to a better supervision in the future, but the mistake in the sheets we have not been able to find, and it apparently lay as the skipper reported to YH there. We have likewise ~~requested the~~ represented to the Chr of the Mase at Dort. the missing of the case No 67 with 231 lb beads. ... The smallness of the French lywaet is not well to be remedied, or must be entirely excused, which we would not like to approve as in quality and price it is much better than the Slessigen.

We are not at all pleased that YH has now for some time been so soberly provided with cargoes, especially lywaet, and see that YH therefore calls for three ships, with increase of cargoes of 150 - 180V gldns, in order thus thoroughly to take possession of the trade there and to keep off the foreigners, which we would gladly see effected; therefore we have spared no efforts to animate the Chrs, whose turn it was for it, and to take this opportunity, which they have so far done that in Zeeland at present the ship "Zeelandia" is lying ready to sail; here at Amsterdam, the ship "Elias" with a yacht is ready any day, with which two ships YH's formula last sent has been complied with as far as possible; and the Chr of the Northn Qr declare that they hope shortly to be ready with a cargo for which they already have the ship lying ready: so that with these three, which will sail a little after each other or possibly at the same time, YH's requirements will mostly be satisfied, and the Coast will be sufficiently provided: also with soldiers, 30 of whom will proceed with each ship.

And in order to keep the Coast continuously well supplied we have resolved to send thither annually four cargoes, each of 180V gldns, Arder & Bight therein included; and moreover that the ships for the transport thereof shall be supplied with 18 months victuals, four "lastboomen", twenty soldiers as recruits, and the necessary vessel: which we have thus approved so that YH, being in need, can take off (lichten) some provisions thereout for the garrisons, but using such discretion that the ships may remain properly provisioned for their voyages; and we wish to recommend to YH the cultivation of the land there, and that the fishery may be as much as possibel furthered and kept in train, ~~so that~~ "op dat wij bij noodt en met ter tijt daer shars aan mochten vinden"; and have particularly had in view, in that resolution and "aenneminge", thereby to be excused from the injurious dealing out of the Company's gold, like as YH has had to keep the amount of 163½ marks, as that makes too great a difference to us, and with such, we must pay three for one.

We are well pleased with YH's intention to establish the trade everywhere along the Coast as much as possible, and had already made a beginning with it at FANTIJN and CORMANTIJN, the effect of which is to be awaited; but, on the other hand, must be considered places where we have to expect no profit, such as Caap de Mont, where YH does well to recall the legger from there.

-They are glad to learn that the Pastor will continue for 8-10 months more, meantime they are busy getting another person in his place.-

-They think the increase of pay of f30 above skippers pay,

for the Equipage Master, Barent Jansen, too much.-

-Regarding his request for relief, they hope that, as instructed ~~as~~ ~~de rescriptie~~ in their last, he will continue for some time yet.-

-Various materials for repair of warehouses have been sent.-

-Large-paper Invoices have been sent.-

-For the 1400 lb damaged powder sent over, new will be sent, also geweer, by every ship, and trust by repair of the powder magazine, it will be better preserved in future.-

-They see he will report further on the smuggling by the "Gulden Ree" by next opprotunity.-

As we understand from the letter from Fiscal Van der Wel, at AXEM a certain large canoe had been caught, and the Blacks had pilfered ~~ontjaecht~~ a case of 205 "gromquispels", had the canoe broken to pieces, and afterwards had some Benin cloths also brought to De Mine, of which the "recht" had also not been finally discovered. We willnow give YH no order till YH has discovered th ground of the one and the other, and so punished the guilty as we have so many times previously recommended to YH in writing; and it would have been ~~better~~ more satisfactory to us if the skipper of the "Gulden Ree" had been sharply examined by YH over the smuggling, rather than see that he comes home with report (~~voorschryvens~~) that he had acted well in everything against the private trade. We know no better means than we have advised YH in our letter of 16th (sic) January last, which if it is only practised by YH, also over the ships coming from Brasil as we high ly recommend, this disloyal smuggling, and light breaking of oaths can be hindered and prevented for the most part; for then no goods given from here can escape falling into our hands there, whereby the traders living here, will lose courage to risk their beads, pieces-of-eight, &c.

As many of our people at St Thomé, through the unhealthiness of the air, are dying, and there are ordinarily many sick among the soldiers, through which occasion the Portuguese, notwithstanding the agreement and Accord made, will try to do us an affront there, YH is recommended, as the nearest situate place to our conquests, to take this into consideration, and if required send them all help which YH could spare: provided that YH takes good care for your own preservation. Herewith/Hond &c,

(sgd) Henr van Capellen toe Rijssel. Ataelewijn. Charles Lotens, Joh. Pillettier. Seymeyns. Bern. Julsing.

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(5).
To the Director of the North Coast of Africa,
Ruychaver.

The 19th December 1644.

Hond, Valiant, Trusty, Weal-beloved.

We get advice here from Lisbon, that in Portugal ships are being fitted-out, among them one mounted with 46 guns, and men in proportion, under the pretext of bringing the Governor, Salvador Correa Desea, to Rio de Genera, but with the intention also to go and visit the Quarters of Africa under us. Wherefore we have found good to advise YH of this, in order that good order and watch may be kept and also provision made that we - in case the aforenamed ships or any others might come to attempt anything in the conquests belonging under YH - suffer no injury or damage. Also, in case YH receives advice from the island St Thomé that the Portuguese contrary to the treaty concluded on the 24th June 1644, between our Diretor there and the pretended Portuguese Governor, have attempted, or wish to attempt anything prejudicial, YH will do well to, and it is our earnest desire that YH continually, send there according to opportunity, such assistance as YH can spare, without depriving yourself, upon which we rely. Hond.&c &c, (sgd) Henr van der Capellen. Seymeyns. Symon van der Does. Jhan Ghyseling. N. Ten Hove.

By the ship "Zeelandia" departed the 31st December 1644.

In case, which God forbid, the Portuguese come to visit YH, you will take particular care that the Blacks living at the Castle del Mina, act according to their bounden duty, as they would be indeed somewhat ~~to~~ be suspected, as they have been under the Portuguese, and many were born under them: which nevertheless we do not hope from them.

The only letter from the Gold Coast on record is the following:-

[WIC.oc.59] "Extract from the letter written by Mr Agent Cock, Bookkeeper at the Castle d'el Myna in Guynea to Mr Anthonij de With, Free-trader here at the Reciffe."

Nov 3. 1644. Since 6 March last we have had no ships nor yachts here from home, whereby we are very scarcely supplied with everything. Our warehouses are empty of merchandise, which comes difficult for us, as the traders return fruitlessly into the interior with their gold. But the Co. suffers the damage...

States General Resolutions. 1645. (S.G.3228.)

Mercury 29 March 1645.

Received letter from Directors of the W.L.C. at Chmbr Amst. written there 27 March 1645 - requesting them to appt deputies for assembly of xix so that discussion of affairs of Company be no longer delayed. (No P.of B.)- Deputies appted to preside.-

Jovis 6 July 1645.

On the request made to their Ho. Mo. by in the name & on behalf of the Directors of the W.I.C. at the Chbr at Amst. is, after previous deliberation found good and decided that Commissions in proper form shall be despatched for Cornelis Hendriksen Ouman on (op) the SOUTH Coast of Africa, and for Jacob van der WELK, as Director over the NORTH COAST of AFRICA.

Martis 15 August 1645.

Received a letter from the Directors of the W.I.C. at Middelburgh with enclosures (dd 10 August) about a Fluyt ship de Hoope defrauding and contravening the Charter by trading grain and tusks on the GRAIN Coast.

Received a letter from the Dirs of the WIC. at the Chbr at Middelburgh in Zeeland, written there on the 11th inst., and therewith the Points of Convocation upon which the Assembly of the xix would meet in M'burch on 2 Sep.(Saty) for assembly on 4th (Mon), and asking their Ho.Mo. to appoint Deputies to help direct the affairs of the Company for the best, ... -upon which deputies appointed.-

(S.G. 5774.) Original letter with the Points, of which the following are noted:-

7. - To consider how best to increase the slave trade ~~in~~ at St Paul de Loanda.

11.

Since previously the order devised for the trading of the NORTH Coast of Africa is as good as can in any way be made, and nothing is wanting but that the equipping through disorder in the respective Chambers (although actual means therefor have been placed in their hands) has not been fulfilled(naargecomen) in such a way as it ought in accordance with the intention and resolution taken by the Assembly of the XIX, the Chambers are therefore requested to authorise their deputies to propose means, and from them to determine upon one whereby each is constrained to observe the resolution taken better than hitherto in order that the aforesaid

Coast be no longer neglected through disorder, and opportunity given to the foreigners to trade there to the injury of the Company, and consequently to the State of these Lands and the inhabitants in general.

... ...

16.

It being found daily that private inhabitants of these Lands venture more and more to navigate within the limits of the Charter without the consent of the Company, it is given to the Chambers for consideration whether one ought not actually to provide against the same by virtue of the 1st Article of the Charter, and to that end to let some ships cruise to such (op soodanige).

... ...

Note. The S.G.Resolutions towds the end of the year refer to the revolt and troubles in Brazil; and to the Portuguese Ambassador (~~vide Prestage~~). Also about the continuation of the East, and West India Comapnies Charters, and to the subsidies of f700,000 and f500,000.

The Minutes of the "Besoignes" of the deputed Dirs. of the Chbrs of the Chartd WIC. in the Hague (WIC.oc 2 x) which begin on 1 Dec 1645 & end on 4 Mar 1646, commence with a reference to the speedy care of and maintenance of the conquests in Brazil, which are in great denger through the treachery of the Portuguese.

Commissie Boek. (S.G.3252.)

Commission for Jacob van der WEL as Director over the North Coast of Africa and the Island St Thomé.

The States General of the United Netherlands to all those who shall see or hear read these Presents, Greeting. As Jacob RUYCHAVER, at present Director over the North Coast of Africa, has faithfully served out his years and therefore, at various times, has requested that he may be discharged from his service, and We, being moved by his reasonable prayers, have discharged him from the same, as we hereby do. And it being therefore necessary to appoint another in is place, SO IS IT that We, relying upon the experience and ability of the person of our trusty and well-beloved Jacob van der WEL at present Fiscal on the aforesaid Coast, have accepted, appointed and commissioned, and hereby appoint and commission him to be Director over the aforesaid Coast and the Island St Thomé, in order, with the Council appointed and yet to be appointed beside him, to serve the office of Director at sea and on land and in the same capacity to take good care for the advancement, maintenance and increase of friendship, alliance and commerce; to direct all matters concerning both war and trade; to place good order for the security of the Castle d'Elmina, the Island St Thomé and all other places which are held, and might yet be taken possession of (bemachtigt) there, on behalf of this State and the General WIC; to administer law and justice both criminal and civil, and to maintain everything therein in good order for the service of the United Netherlands and the aforesaid General WIC. in accordance with the Charter and the General and particular Instructions given or yet to be given him. And further to do everything concerning his post and office that a good and faithful Director is bound and ought to do on the oath of fidelity heretofore taken by him as Fiscal. WE therefore summon and command the present Director and all other our Officers and Servants whom this may concern that they acknowledge, respect and give assistance to the aforesaid Jacob van der WEL, as Director on behalf of Us and the aforenamed WIC. on the North Coast and the Island St Thomé, as we have found such to be proper for the service of the Company. DONE in our Assembly in the Hage on the vi July xviC five and forty.

———

(S.G. 3252.) Commission for Cornelis Henricxss OUMAN as Director on the South Coast of Africa. Done (by the S.G.) in the Hage on the 6th July 1645. ~~(Photo'd but~~ (Not translated).

Resolutions Zeeland Chamber 1645. (WIC.oc.26)

12 June 1645.

Are read the following letters; one from the General RUYCHAVER in Guinea, dato 19 January 1645 (post).

... ...

22 June 1645.

At the Assembly appeared ... ... deputied from the Chief Participants, requesting redress over some points arisen out of reading the letters lately come from Brazil, GUINEA, Loanda St Paul, and St Thomé, and to come into communication with the Directors about them, what best ought to be done on this occasion, and to that end have submitted the written memorandum, hereinafter inserted, as follows:

> Some points which Messrs the Chief Participants at the Chamber Zeeland have found good to represent by their deputies to the Directors of the same Chamber.

That means be devised whereby the whole Coasts of GUINEA, Angola, St Thomé, as also Brasil and all other places must be provided with merchandise, provisions, medicines, ships, seamen and soldiers as required, and therein continue so that in default of all the same or any defects thereof the Company is not deprived of the trade, at least remarkably denuded of the profits.

That order be devised so as to hinder the foreign traders, as it is notorious is happening with the slave trade on the Coast of Guinea, Angola and thereabouts; to which end, to request a Placade from their Ho. Mo. in order to provide therein according to possibility.

That the provisional regulation dd 29 April 1638, decreed by their Ho. Mo., may be pursued; in pursuance of which all those who bring contraband goods into Brazil may be punished by confiscation of goods, as otherwise, and also to devise further means to prevent such in future.

(sgd) Abraham Boreel.
" Jere Willemsz Alchina.
" ...theras van Poort.

Whereupon, being deliberated, is found good to thank the deputies for the trouble and care taken, and to add, in further reply to them, that already deputies from this table had been nominated to make resumé (?) out of all the letters lately come from all the conquests of this Company. That the Coasts of GUINEA, Angola, St Thomé, and Brazil were now

better provided than formerly; as also a placade was had been unsed "~~genoveert~~", which was issued (~~geemanoert~~) in June 1632 against smuggling on the Coast of Guinea. As regards the goods of contraband, the same were very few, and now orders had been given so that such would happen no more.

In which reply the Deputies have taken little contentment, and requested to hold communication with the Directors, and and declare that they take little satisfaction in the redress that is said will be done in the Assembly of the XIX. Whereupon, being again deliberated, is found good, because of the weakness of this College, to postpone this matter till another meeting.

Note. On 29 June deputies were appointed to endeavour to meet the objections of the Chief Participants. They reported on 3 July, and were thanked.

20 July 1645.

Being introduced, it is found good to request the gentlemen of the office to settle a letter to the Director over the North Coast of Africa about what one understands here ~~of "Jan-Chris~~ from Jan Christoffelsen (that) a ship has been prepared in England with the intention to come thither, to the end that he, the Director, pays attention and proceeds against the same, as also all others, in accordance with the Placade of their Ho. Mo. and the instructions of the Assembly of the XIX

11 August 1645.

The Points of Convocation, drafted by the deputies appointed thereto, are read and approved, - for the Assembly of the XIX at M'burch on 4 Sept. (vide p.157)

30 September 1645.

On the 11th Point of Convocation, over the devising of a means of constraint for the completion of the equippage to the North Coast of Africa, was read a certain proposal made by the deputies from the xix; and other means being proposed by members, it was resolved to authorise the deputies at the XIX, after having exd the old resolutions, and also the new proposals herein, then to help to decide as they shall find proper for the best service of the Company.

10 November 1645.

Read letter from Jacob Ruychaver from the Coast of Guinea dated 27 May 1645.

27 November 1645.

"~~Repartitie~~" of the gold. Distribution

Copy letter~~s~~ from the XIX.WIC. to the Gold Coast.
(Letter book,WIC.oc.9)

To the King of Congo. The 6th July 1645. Amsterdam.

Royal Majesty,

The open Act which Y.M. has been pleased to give from the capital,Salvador, of the Kingdom of Congo on the 10th December 1643 and to address to the Serene High-born Prince and Lord, the great Prince of Orange, and also to the "over voortreffelich" Lords of the High Commendable Company of West Indies, has been handed to us (as representing it). We have likewise seen from it the satisfaction which Y.M. has taken in the actions of Cornelis Hendricxsen Ouman, our servant, and the inclination which Y.M. again has to acknowledge the trouble taken therein by him. To that end we consider such for good "weslen"(?) and reward him also with promotion, which will please Y.M. In reply to all that which Y.M. is pleased to demonstrate to the aforesaid Ouman in respect to us, we have gladly seen, with the assurance of our inclination to the conservation of the alliance made between Y.M. & our Directors in Loanda. In order also to show in other matters,besides, advantageous to Y.M. & your kingdom, as also to gratify Y.M.'s good affection towards the aforenamed Ouman, we have thought to commission him to be Director over St Paulo de Loanda, being the greatest and most considerable charge with which we could honour anybody; with reliance upon the attestation which Y.M. has been pleased to give of him,in the aforenamed Act, that he will ~~wil~~ be a satisfactory means whereby Y.M.'s disposition towards our Company will be more and more ~~increased~~-aroused, and we, as allies, maintain each other against our common enemies; for which our "ministers" in Paulo aforenamed, according to our inclination, are charged to devote all their energy, and we request Y.M. also to be pleased to contribute towards it in your power. Herewith. May the good God grant His gracious blessing to Y.M. and Kingdom, We remain Y.M. "etc".

(no signatures.)

On the complaints about the medicines, the Chamber of Amsterdam has given us the accompanying report which can serve for YH's information there; further, the Commissioners of the respective Chrs have undertaken, when medicines shall be despatched, to give an eye that they are in good condition and well packed.

As regards the continuance of good correspondence with the respective Conquests, YH remains recommended.

Concerning the trading of Rio Furcado, we commend it to YH's direction; but because the slaves are not wanted in Brasil this need not be stopped, as otherwise it will be became entirely appropiated by the foreign ships, and secondly of the situation of St Thomé, from where we are advised by the latest letters, that the inhabitants are asking for two thousand slaves, which we have decided YH shall send thither successively, better than to Brasil, from the negroes traded in Ardre, Calbary and Rio Furcado. In the transport, the skippers will have to be charged to give as much supervision and care for the negroes as is possible, so that they may come over fresh and few die on the voyage; and YH will do well to enquire what negroes are most desired there, as it is here reported verbally that they would much rather have youths and old women there; to which YH will please pay attention.

About the loading of the cargoes, YH has reason to complain, and it ought not to happen but out of consideration that the cargoes have been increased from 150 to 180,000 gulden(180V); and that YH must be continually provided from with victuals, we have learnt that those will be found in the cargo, as also, this time, the aforesaid "roey fregatte" which the Chr of Amst. has taken on, without any other Chr being able to add more to it.

A Pastor, in place of Meyndert Henricx is being looked for by the Chr of the Northn Qr who have undertaken it; on being found, obtained, he will be sent out by the first opportunity.

Having regard to the insistent urging of Director Ruychaver for his discharge, we hereby grant it, and in his place have appointed and commissioned Jacob van der Wel, at present Fiscal there, in the confidence that he will so behave with all fidelity, diligence and prudence therein, that his acts will accord with our opinion, and we are not deceived. The necessary Commission goes herewith.

And in his place we have found good to appoint HENDRICK CARLOFF, and his Act is going in the annexures. We are confident that he is capable for it, and will perform his duties with a will. If it happen otherwise, advise us, so that provision may be made therein; and likewise our earnest intention that interlopers and smuggling may be prevented without any connivance.

To the aforesaid direction of the North Coast, to which, as

stated above, Jacob van der WEL has been commissioned, we have found good to adjoin the Island St Thomé, so that the affairs both in trade, responsibility for all effects, accounts of the previous month, provision of necessities, may be duly performed and done; and YH shall send thither for the same such persons as shall be necessary and capable, firstly to have the accounts taken up and to advise us of what has hitherto been done there, with the sending over of the books, making accurate inventories of ~~the~~ what remains and taking it over; and, from there onwards, having new books begun and kept in the manner of Guinea, so that the administration and advance occurring in the trade may continually be apparent to us.

Commandant Muller of St Thomé advises us that he has carried out the attempt on the Portuguese Fort with intelligence, as will be known to YH, and that he with the others have agreed that the Portuguese should abandon and demolish the Fort; as also that their guns, ammunition, and soldiers shall be sent to Portugal; which is satisfactory to us and will be good for the quiet and security of the Island if it is effected according to the conditions; which we very much doubt as we are informed by people now come over with the ships that the barracks or soldiers quarters which stood within the Fort, as also the"berdingen(?) daar het op gestaen", as also the drawbridge over the moat alone have been burnt, and the guns carried away without the walls (wallen) being thrown downalso, as they ought, the guns and ammunition at least delivered into our hands or also the soldiers sent away. But, on the contrary, they have buried the guns in the bush and have kept their soldiers, as also our deserters, with them; so that, considering their crafty tricks which they have employed at other places, we are afraid that so long as the conditions are not punctually complied with "d'onse een partie spelen mochte". In order to prevent this, we find good that YH should seriously enquire into what has been reported, and "met eenen" take care that our men do not frequent too familiarly with the Portuguese, let the same come into our Castle at St Thomé, and the Portuguese Fort be entirely demolished, and the guns and ammunition carried away, so that they do not at any time go and lodge in the Fort, repair it and cause damage to, or surprise us and ours. What we have further found good to write to St Thomé, YH will see from the open letter herewith, which YH will send thither under cover, and keep the same to corresponding continually with YH and us, as affairs shall require.

We also send herewith, for YH's information, copy of the Instruction which the Captain-Commandant has, as also of the last letter come from there.

The Chamber of the Northern Quarter has undertaken to let return, at the first opportunity, the ship "'t Wapen van Medenblik", which was destined for a "legger" on the Coast

and was sent here with St Thomé sugar from there.

Those of ST Thomé have written for a yacht which might cruise continually round the Island. We consider it would be very serviceable that a yacht be continually kept there to prevent any foreign ships coming there to trade. YH will do well to arrange accordingly, by sending a yacht thither.

In the beginning of this month commenced the right of the Chamber of Zeeland to preside for the period of two years, according to which YH will have to regulate yourself in the sending of letters papers and otherwise to the same, and let the aforesiad Chamber receive, for that period, such right and privileges as the Chamber of Amsterdam has hitherto received.

Their Ho Mo the Lords States have sent us the Remonstrance delivered to them by Walter Strickland, Envoy of the Parliament of England, the contents of which are in the annexures, and YH can see further in the letter to St Thomé. We find it good and necessary that report thereof be given us by the first opportunity, as we say in the aforesiid letter to St Thomé, to obtain which YH will do well to contribute as much as possible. Also, anything occurring on that Coast between the English and us, which should come in any way to cause disputes and claims, YH will bear in mind to have sufficient reports made thereof, and send the same to us.

Herewith,

Honoured "&c".

(no signatures)

"Note. The list of the papers belonging to this letter, as "also for the letter from St Thomé, are behind the letter to "St Thomé." (n.o.r.)

Letters from the Gold Coast to the XIX. WIC. 1645.
(WIC.oc.11)

(1). (Jan.19.1645).

"Copy". Honourable, Honoured, Worshipful,
Wise, Prudent, Very Discreet Sirs,

~~My~~ Honourable Sirs,

My last to YHH dated ultimo October, copy of which goes herewith, was per the English ship the "Star", with which Mr Thimoto MULGRAVE also departed, but first sailed from CORMANTIJN on 1st November. On the same day also departed to Brasil Commander David Wiltschut leaving here, as he was very much in want, 17 "adelborsten" [cadets] and (?) soldiers attached to him as he was soberly (provided) with victuals for 8 weeks.

On the 17th ditto I sent the yacht "Leeuwinne" with Factor Dirck Geerlofsen to Ardre, to collect the outstanding slaves; as also the "Gulde Ree" as the same ought to be sheathed or otherwise be reduced to be broken up, which, through its draught cannot be done here; with express orders to drive no trade before it is found that the outstanding debts can be conveniently recovered. ~~To which end Factor [illegible] was gone with them, as also [illegible] himself, who had [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] through [illegible] but he [illegible] he will [illegible] at [illegible] which both of them have been sent thither.~~ The cause of the aforesaid yachts not being despatched before was through the sheathing of the yacht "Visser" which, on the 22nd ditto, also sailed thither for the Bight trade, in order to be in the way of the English, who daily appear here ~~so~~ in such numbers, in the tusk trade. For since the 20th November I have already seen 5 namely, first the ship "Salamander", sailed from the Downs, 30th August, ~~Factor~~ Supercargo Mr Robbert Willemsen, Skipper Francis Clober, bringing a little serge, Tallow ~~fat~~ (smeer) and liquor, which it sold to the English Factor at CORMANTIJN, and left for the Bight for slaves, ~~[illegible] for the purpose [illegible]~~ 6700 f. consisting in "boesies" [cowries] and copper rods ~~(steven)~~.

~~On the 29th ditto (Nov.) a new ship named the "Prophet Samuel", about 150 tons (lasten), [illegible] (pieces) and 20 guns, skipper and supercargo [illegible] together; on the 30th ditto its yacht named "St Francisco" with [illegible] men and 4 guns, both sailed from Plymouth on 24th September, and they left together on 2nd December for Calabar for barter 400 to 600 slaves, having for that purpose, as they say bought and taken in at Amsterdam 30 casks [illegible] ([illegible]) [illegible], and 200 cases of copper rods. On the 20th December~~

[illegible]",
[illegible] men;
[illegible]-
[illegible] of London, [illegible]t
[illegible]),
[illegible] quantity of
[illegible]s. Also on the 30th ditto appeared (the ship?) named "Thomas & John", skipper and supercargo Mr Thomas Crauan of London, had then sailed 4½ months from England; had been in Serralioons, finding there the yacht "Hasewint" of Commander Wiltschut, and, on 20th November, before Rio de Sester a "fluyt" trading grain, which had sailed on 5th September, together with the "Sayer", from Texel, with commission from the ~~Earl (graaf) of~~ Duke of Courlandt, on which were all Waterlanders, but mostly Durgerdammers, before which village the aforesaid "fluyt" had been fitted out, and all its merchandise taken in there, which was sufficiently rumoured abroad at Amsterdam would come hither. I am surprised that YHH did not forestall it & stop the voyage ~~"daer niet voor sijn geweest" and stopped its voyage~~, which was more practicable for YHH than for us, (as they) declare they will touch at this Coast, and so, to go on for slaves. What will come of it time will show. The aforenamed Englishman, having no Gold Coast cargo, departed, together with the yacht "John of London", on 2nd January from Cormantijn to the Bight to trade slaves. "Somma, [ons partye die strycken jaar op jaar met desselfs negotie wacker de cooten (?), vermits sij se op een ander marckt als de onse in Brasil weeten te verhandelen, en geevent al de naem van de Corrybissen,] doch twijffele niet of aen de Vaste Cust woter oock bij menichte daer se wel van een tien maacken verhandelt;" which is not possible for us here to prevent. So that undoubtedly their trade will increase from year to year; and they will apparently not be negligent to bring with each, 3-4000 f. merchandise in demand here on this Coast, which they can conveniently sell in passing; whereby on each occasion (reyse) they can make the "marckt" fixed by us, be altered, which is a "cancker" for YHH if we are always ~~not~~ provided with no merchandise.

[our rivals go ahead vigilantly with their trade year by year as they can trade at another market than ours in Brazil, & call it the Caribbean [Islands]]

On December 7th arrived here the ship "Haerlem" together with the yacht "Royaal", equipped by the Chr of Amst., sailed from Texel on 30th August and from Plymouth on 17th Sept, the ship having 22 guns and 72 men, among them 29 soldiers for the country two barbers and a smith, bringing a Gold Coast cargo of 129,120 f., everything in condition, to which it is necessary that pertinent attention be paid henceforth; yet it were heartily to be desired that that the quantity had been greater and according to formula, which, with the yacht "Royal", by which ons wort vervult victuals ammunition of war equippage and other "oncosten", amounting altogether to 20924 gul. as more fully appears in the "aanvoering achter int generaal Extract." On the same day the Fiscal,

Jacob van der WEL, shipped by canoe to AXEM, in order to look out for new ships and yachts from the Bight; coming between COMANY and CHAMMA, he encountered the above-named ship, being unknown, lying out at sea, and transferring into it, at once had the anchor raised, and dropped down to del Myna; I then sending him 6 soldiers in order diligently to watch out for private trade, who, with the Fiscal stayed there until the ship had been completely unloaded; but they found nothing else than what appears in the accompanying list which was sent to us by the Hon deputies of the Chamber Amsterdam at Texel, which, because of its small quantity, was not confiscated but declared free. I am assured, and YHH may well believe, that there was nothing else of importance in the ship, for no boat sailed from it either by day or night, but it was examined by the Fiscal himself, and no canoes ever came alongside. It were heartily to be desired that such good attention were paid to all ships, in the fatherland; it would cause us here great peace of mind, and the Company great profit. The ship had also been as well and "deftig" stowed as any that have appeared here before, and everything in good condition according to invoice and other lists received. But the yacht "Royaal" which was also properly examined by the Fiscal, which was sent to us in place of a "roey fregat" cannot be used for the purpose, as in the bad season there are no land winds to be able to use it like another yacht in order to provide for the Factories; but, for a long time, we have had to help ourselves chiefly with canoes, with which it can be done conveniently and therefore we shall continue so till further opportunity; but it comes rather expensive, as appears in the accounts. We are now busy (vastdoende) in ~~fixing up (opzetten)~~ putting together the 2 boats sent by the Amsterdam Chamber, which we shall also use for the purpose.

Having received YHHs' letter, and other documents, of 25th August, they shall be replied to herewith as follows.

The arrival of the ship "Zeelandia" and the yacht "Postpaert", and that the return cargoes were in conformity with the bills of lading was very satisfactory to me. I hope that those sent subsequently, and the one now going will likewise be received without mistake.

That better attention than previously be paid to the cargoes, both in quality and quantity in accordance with the formulas, as also the victuals, is very highly necessary. Through the sober equipment of the respective Chambers, we shall apparently be obliged to stop the tusk and slave trade; but in so far as no improvement comes in Brasil, little profit could be received in the slave (dienstbaren) trade.

By the aforenamed ship "Haerlem" was sent to us by the Chamber Amsterdam, 40 casks meat, 10 ~~groats~~ casks groats; but no

beans, oil or butter (of which we are greatly in need) were received.

On the point of any of our nation appearing here with the ships of foreign potentates, I had well wished to have been somewhat better instructed by YHH; for to take off (lichten) anyone, cannot apparently be carried out without hostilities, over which great damage might easily be caused to the Company. Should such now happen, we will carry it out as best we can, with the least danger, and deal with it according to YHHs' orders.

That the ship "'tWapen van Medenblick" was ordered for a "legger" here, I have never previously understood, and it is at present, not knowing better, being employed at the Island St Thomé; but as we need it, the Commander, Molder, is being informed thereof by bearer.

As regards the Equipage, Amminition of war and other necessities, we are now well provided for a considerable time, except some trifles. All which, as we have not failed to do hitherto, will be properly employed; which, if it does not weary you, YHH will be able now easily to learn verbally from the friends coming home, Pastor, skipper and sub-factors, to whom I refer; but there should be no omission in the sending of 30 soldiers by each ship, as many die daily, and others depart when they have served out their time.

With referance to the medicines, I have now got a chest again, but much in it spoilt and leaked out, as appears pr the accompanying memorandum, and some of them placed somewhat higher in price than they could be obtained at the Apothecary's. Also the extract Catalicij so bad that it is indeed disgraceful, and although any one be given the correct dose, it does no good. This ought to be seen to. I am therefore sending herewith another list which I request may be approved and sent.

"Wegen de Sententie van seeckere Swarte Jongen dat aldaer wat Civijl sie te werk gegaen is gesprooten uyt oorsaack niet met boos opset tot dien eynde int werck gestelt. Verhoope U.Ed.Heern van alte rigeur ofte civijl clachten sullen hooren, maer dat soo veel mogelijk sij de middelmaat by ons tot nog toe is gehouden."

Regarding the Commission which His Excy had handed to the barque "Prins Mauritz", it was to the same effect as others which have been issued to skippers by him in Brasil.

We shall ot fail in good correspondence with the Director in Angola, and to keep good accounts and estimates of all the merchandise received, inorder to relieve or debit the Coast therewith, and to send them to YHH from time to time.

The trading of the new river called Rio Furcado - as only slaves, which are little required, are got there and the village where the trade must be driven lies quite 30 miles up, which is very inconvenient,- I have therefore not

~~handled~~ traded since; but if we hear of improvement in Brazil, we will not fail to be diligent in the trading of it. Meantime, the goods ordered per formula can well be sent, since they are also desired at other places. Regarding the trade at Ardra, I refer to what has been written previously, and above.

It is highly necessary that better attention be paid by the respective Chambers to the loading (~~belastinge~~) of the cargoes than is now customary; otherwise we shall always be soberly provided.

YHH will please to excuse me for any dissatisfaction which you may have had over my service, but that I wrote about a Commission, seemed to me to be just and right, since all the previous Commanders have received them; but it was not necessary that one should be handed to me now, for I have been satisfied with YHH's letter, received by the ship "Cameel", in 1642. But my intention was, as is sufficiently clear from my previous letters, to obtain a Commission in the name of his Highness the Prince of Orange, such as all skippers, Commanders and others ordinarily receive. Meanwhile, I do not doubt that YHH will have given attention to my relief, as I have touched upon in my previous letters, so that I can return home in June at the latest; upon which I am relying.

It were heartily to be desired that another suitable person be sent at the first opportunity in place of Pastor Meyndert Hendricxen who is now going home, who during the time of his service has behaved irreproachably both in office and intercourse; so that the good work begun for the establishment of a congregation does not fall into decay, but, on the contrary, continue.

In accordance with YHHs' orders, is now coming the final account for the Chamber of Amsterdam, for the remainder of the cargo sent out by the "Postpaert", except what remains at Cabo de Monte, which cannot be done as yet for want of proof; but, if in any way possible, I will close it for the next and, if God pleases, bring it over myself.

About mistakes in the accounts

~~Belangende de abuysen door de Camer van Amsterdam U.Ed. op-~~ gegeven, werden by deesen gesolveert, eerstelyk de 3928 p.ringen, syn ponden, doch op de naaste reeckeninge in 11846 p. gestelt. 606 oncen fyn Coraal is alsoo, maar sult op de bosse reecke van ultmo October 550½ once in accory verhandelt vinden, die vergeeten syn op de Generale reecke afteschryven. de 1000 -(?) tinnewerk wert op dit comende Extract vergroot 223 -(?) Filymort(?) sult inde Slaafse reecke verhandelt vinden. Dan is is meede door abuys op de generale reecke afteschryven vergeten. Belangende de salsa syn op't Extract ulmo 7ber, Anno 1643 bygevoegt, becoomen goederen uyt Angola ter Fesilies & Weerschyn, Armosyn, syn mede voordesen in de reeckeninge van ulmo Septber aengevoert ~~gebragt, soo dat als nu niet beter wetende alles sonder foute~~ is.

Concerning trade, before the arrival of the ship "Haerlem" it was extraordinarily sober, through lack of merchandise, and in the month of November we received no more than 83 Marks along the whole Coast; yet there was sufficient gold on hand among the ACANISTS, as indeed appeared on the arrival of the afnmd ship "Haerlem", for within the time of 10 days, 450 Marks were received at Castle de Myna, Fort Nassau and Craa, against such prices as in the accompanying "marckt brief"; of which ~~at~~ 206 Marks at de Myna, and 172 Marks at Mourée; mostly consisting in "Lywaat", "rouhessens"(?), serge, "stoofbeckens", "nepten", iron, boatswains knives, "gebrande" dito, and "Houmessen" and coral work, which are now found current, half-bleached and sheetings have been in little demand, but will undoubtedly be also when it comes to the point (aen de man raacken). About this, I have not been able to provide the other factories, and they must, as yet, lie fruitlessly. Through inconvenience (ongelegentheit) I have had to summon the yacht "Dolphyn" from CORMANTIJN, in order to take in her merchandise, which first sailed thither with the goods on 3rd January, when the "ontfangst al was geschiet", and now has a good large sum in the chest both here and at Fort Nassau, therefore I have, since the closing of the accounts, received 237 Marks more. From which YHH can easily see that the neck of the now arrived cargo has been entirely broken, so that again, as before, if no ship appears shortly, the monthly salaries which amount to a good deal and which so much concern YHH, will be received by us fruitlessly; which God, the Knower of all hearts, knows well, I regret very much. If this long ~~lasting~~ equipping be not remedied, it is in my opinion best to abandon CHAMA, COMANY and CABO CORS as they can now never be supplied with merchandise, but other places must lack it, which, being otherwise well provided, have reasonably good monthly receipts, which has been found previously. The Fort AXEM continues yet in sober trade since, through the war of the surrounding places, no gold can come down, and those at ACHINEE and ABBINEE, are well visited by the passing Englishmen; so it has been resolved to leave the iron standing continually at 3 engels there. If YHH can approve, it would not be a bad thing in my judgement, at first, to treat that place [Axim] as a Lodge only, and to occupy it with 8-10 men; for we have nothing to fear from the Blacks, and also, in view of ~~(staande)~~ the Peace between the Crown of Portugal and our country, as also that the King of Spain is not much concerned, we have not to be on our guard against any outside enemy. For YHHs' advice.

I do not doubt that in so far as the Port of CRAA is properly provided with merchandise, it will be on its old footing again, and get 60-70 Marks monthly in the chest, since I daily find that if any new goods appear they are sold at once,

and it is now, so it appears, relieved of war; as we also are here, God be praised, along the whole Coast, which is well provided with ACANISTS not without gold; so that nothing is lacking but merchandise, merchandise, merchandise ! which will the "albestierende" let come to us as quickly as possible. [Providence]

As it is daily found in the trading that the traders very much like to receive Haerlem cloths as "naagift" and "dashes" (dasies) which comes convenient, as they receive one engel for each bende; wherefore we have found good to place a large quantity in the accompanying formula, as we are in a position to trade quite ten thousand annually. I therefore request that attention may be paid to the quantity, and that they may be sent to us at not less than against 20 stuyvers. Also no other Turkey stuff than of one gulden 10 stuyvers; for against a less price, as has now appeared, it is too bad and is not wanted by the Blacks; schiet gelijcke wel als voors een Sentjen over, as the one is sold against 1½ de a, the other at 1 engel the piece. To which attention should be paid.

Herewith are sent to YHH the accounts of the slaves of this Coast; the remaining English cargo bought; confiscated goods; & list of the presents and other expenses since 9 January 1641-9 January 1645, kept by me. I hope YHH will be pleased with them.

As the yacht "Jongen Arent" - which was sent with the "Groote Gerrit" and "Charitas" to Calbary and Rio del Rey for slaves - has now been more than 6 weeks over her time from here, it is to be feared that the yacht has been hauled on shore at St Thomé, as worm had got through most of the oak sheathing (huijt), but hope for the best. We will now, within 2 or 3 days send thither the yacht "Royal" or "Dolphyn" in order to take off (lichten) the "legger" at Ardre, and return cargo from Benyn with the view now, as it is the good season, to come again alongside (bij de wal opte-comen).

By the bringer of this is sent to YHH 1702 Marks, 2 ounces, 8¾ engels, fine Guinea gold, namely: residue "Postpaert" 86 mark, 3 ounces, 10¼ engels; to Lucas van de Venne 20 mark, 5 ounces, 7 engels: and for the general account 1595 marks, 1 oz, 7½ eng: making together as above. Also 19550 lb Elephants tusks: as further appears per the Bill of Lading and accompanying cargo. May God Almighty let them come home safely to YHH.

I have used my utmost endeavours to despatch this ship "Haerlem" as quickly as has been at all possible, so that if the first fleet in Brasil might sail, it might go home with it~~(?)~~, together with the return cargo. Thro' lack of vessels and also sober demand at Phernambuco, is found good to send no slaves (dienstbare) with it.

For the rest, as it is not possible to pay attention to everything, I refer to the annexed Journal (not on record).

Herewith &c,
Your obedient servant,
(no signature)

Done the 19 January,
at the Castle del Myna
in Guinea, 1645.

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(2) Letter. Dir. Gen. Jacob Ruychaver to the XIX.
27 May 1645. (original)

Hon. Hond. Worshipful, Wise, Prudent, Very Discreet Sirs.

Sirs,

My last was by the ship Haerlem which sailed home from here, by way of Brasil, on 19 January; hoping it may have reached you safely with the return cargo. Meanwhile I will report what has happened since. The yacht "Reaal" sent thither on 21st ditto to take off the return cargoes from Benyn and the "legger" at Arder, arrived back here on 17th March with the Factor Dirck Gerloffsen, having traded there 588 pieces cloth; 502 slaves, of which 150 have been shipped in the "Gulde Rhee", and 341 on the "Leeuwin", which have sailed with them to Brasil. He has not as yet been able to to get in all the outstanding debts, but declares that the Blacks are quite willing to pay and were quite otherwise to what they have been previously, so that undoubtedly the Company would suffer no damage if the port were traded with ships; but the goods for that purpose have already long been asked for and ought to be sent without fail, as here there are none other than silk (~~zijde~~) goods which are not wanted by the Blacks. I shall therefore see if they can be sold on the Gold Coast. She brought from ~~there~~ Benyn 1745 pieces small "drijbants", where everything also was still in good order.

"Three Bands" [Cloths made up with ends 3 strips]

On 31st ditto, arrived here unexpectedly the yacht "Jongen Arent", ~~having traded in Cabo de la Boy and Cameroons 1692 cloths and 43 slaves, of which 140 were delivered to "Groote Oranje" and 290 to "Charites", with which they left for Fernando~~. By her received letter from Commander Jan Mulder that the Island St Thomé was now in a good state and the inhabitants, being desirous of slaves, were very insistently asking that they might receive them by the first opportunity, promising to pay 52 "aroben" sugar therefor. The Commander therefore asks that he may be supplied with them at once.

On the aforenamed date came into the roads here an English "doch" boat named "Rachel", coming from Barbadoes, mounted with 2 small guns, 10 men("eaters"), the skipper and supercargo named Mr Matheus Warners; wishing to go to the Bight for 40-50 slaves; requesting some trifles of iron-work and water, which I let him have, and he left again on 4 February.

[Cribbans?]

~~The same days coming passed by here from the "Cribden" the previously mentioned barque "Prins Maurits", commander Cris Boffel Biaschop, provided with one small gun and 2 men, also destined to trade 80-100 slaves in the Bight, and proceeded thither on 9th ditto.~~

On 6th March, again, appeared a yacht named "Joseph of London", about 60 tons (lasten), having 10 small guns, 20 men,

supercargo William Deyers, skipper Joseph Troph, sailed from the Downs on 20 December, without any Coast cargo, also destined for slaves, as above, and on 9th ditto departed from CORMANTIJN to the Bight.

On the 28th ditto, again, a similar yacht named "Charles", mounted with 7 guns, 20 men, sailed from Plymouth 12 February, which without calling at CORMANTIJN proceeded direct to Calbary for slaves. And the next day a "wackre" English "Fluyt" 160-80 tons, sailed from Plymouth with the former, having 20 guns, 50 men, the captain, being supercargo and skipper, named Johannes Broeckhooven, born in London from an Antwerp father & Zeeland mother, bringing a cargo of 40,000 gl. of which about 27,000 gl. suitable for sale on this Coast; which he has offered to sell to us, and placed the price at which he would give it, against which I have made an offer to him; yet in order to comply with YHHs' order (I) could not agree to, "soude andersints wel een moeye stuyver op gewonnen geweest syn", which has now fallen out to the contrary, since I have at once had the "Markt brief" altered, and placed the goods at such a price as appears per the accompanying Marktbrief, in which he has been obliged to follow us, so that he will not make much profit by it. Still, I hear he has sold some merchandise, namely sheetings and boatswain's knives somewhat better than we, and the half on credit, which may very likely come in slowly. And as he departed on 15 March to Caep de Loop with the view, as he himself writes to me, to proceed to Cabo de Bon Esperance, Madrigaskus and on to the Coast of India. What will come of it time will show, (Note. Evidently an East Indian Co. ship). He has shipped into the Lodge at CORMANTIJN, and sold to the Factor, Mr Francis Cherles, 13,000 a. Lywaet, 1000 lb. Cooper, 10 p. Saey, 30 p. "rouw hessens", & 20 pieces Rapynnen, the half in cash, the rest on credit; therefore have placed the markt brief, except the lywaet, on the old footing.

On the 26 April, again, an English yacht, sailed from St Christoffel on 12th November, having 2 small guns, 17 men, anchored here before del Mina, named "Speedwell"; supercargo Matheus Bachus, skipper Jooris Ysaesx, both from London; having taken on board at St Jago, one of the salt islands, over a debt, 3 asses and 2 she-asses, which I have bought from them for one mark gold to see if they will breed here; and then they departed to CORMANTIJN, whence they sailed on 7 May to the Bight for slaves. From this and the afore-mentioned, YHH can see how our rivals (party) seek to "beneficieeren" the slave trade; from which can easily be perceived that they know how to sell at a better price (markt) than can be done by us, which it is not possible to prevent by those who are here.

* Otherwise a pretty stuiver would have been made on it

that it had not been possible to get in anything for the sailors.

On 2nd May was sent to us from Angola by Mr Director Hendrick van Redinchooven, by the yacht "Reyger", such merchandise as appears pr invoice "achter in't general account". And as noblue Benyn 5 band/ ~~bants~~ cloths were on hand we have again added 937 p. large and 936 p. small Annebaes as appears in the accompanying bill of lading, with which it departed again on 15th ditto.

This being what has happened here since my last, I will now come to the reply to YHHs' letters (dated 3 & ~~9~~ 19 December) received by the ships "Zeelandia" & "Fortuyn".

I was very glad to hear of the safe arrival of the three ships "Eenhoorn", "~~t~~ 't Wapen Dordrecht" and "Omlandia" about mid-September: I hope those sent subsequently will also come in safety.

As regards employing "'t Wapen van Medenblicq" as a "legger" before CORMANTIJN, I have not yet heard of it, and apparently it will never be done since probably it has been "~~achter om schacht~~" detained/ in Brasil; "doch sy t sedert de compste des jachts "Fortuyn", aldaer geinployeert", whither I also ~~went~~ down as the aforenamed English ship "Leeuwinne"(Lioness) lay before that port, in order to attract the Blacks to us; making handsome presents to those of FANTYN, CORMANTYN and the principal ACCANISTS. But I have however ~~found~~ afterwrads perceived and clearly found that they were more devoted to the rivals ~~(de party)~~ than to us, which has also indeed appeared before this. So that in my opinion ["weinich aengelegen was", the port of CORMANTIJN wiert abandoned,] as otherwise we were continually nourishing (~~noeden~~) our enemies, namely by making the ACCANISTS continue to sit there; which would be remedied by the abandonement of that place - "als de Engelsen niet beter op passen"gelijk nu een wijl is geschiet" - and they be obliged to come and sit here at de Mine or under Fort Nassauw: as I do not doubt that this would happen in a short time if attention is paid by the respective Chambers to suitable equippage, which will also take away great expenses for the Hon Gentn. And even if there is an Englishman there, we can under-sell him in as good a fashion as by trading their port; which also, through lack of vessels - since the yacht "Fortuyn" ought shortly to be sent to the Bight to advance the slave trade - will have to be carried into effect: which perhaps would cause those of FANTYN & CORMANTIJN, if they seriously desire our trade, to make a Lodge for the Company, despite ~~(tegen wil & dunke van)~~ the English.

I shall henceforth despatch no more ships direct homewards with the return cargoes without YHHs' orders, but always let them go by way of Brasil: and exert myself so much over the slave trade as the season, merchandise and vessels can in any way allow. I regret that though lack of ships all the sugar could not be brought from Farnamb:.

*: it would not matter much if Cormantijn were abandoned

It were heartily to be desired that all the mistakes which are made found here and written about were paid more attention to by people. If it had only to do with advise it would in my judgement be quickly remedied, "dan wert bevonden dat d' affecten, langer hoe minder volgen". In stede men carguasoenen van 180 soude herwaerts schikken compt er een maer 57,000 gl. En den Elias sal met Brasil ons hier vergeten 't Noorder Quartier achte noch in 6 maanden niet te beoogen, so that one gives us but an apple to play with, which tends to the great injury of YHH; still, if the resolution to send 4 ships annually, each with 180 thousand gulden cargoes, Arder and ~~Henyn~~ the Bight reckoned therein, victualled for 13 months, is performed, we can then conveniently take out of them our necessities along the whole Coast, then all the former aggravations (verslimde) be forgotten and remedied.

Barent Jannsen, the Equipage Master, gives YHH his hearty thanks for the improvement granted, which is also given on my part.

In accordance with YHHs' desires, ~~sal mijn verblijf dan niet geern(?);~~ if meantime no relief happens I will stay here till next January, but with a friendly, sincere and respectful request that I may nevertheless be relieved as it is now quite long enough. I have, so far as I know, given YHH satisfaction. Otherwise, as written before, I shall take my own permission and hand over the direction provisionally to the Fiscal, Jacob van der WEL, as the Hon. gentlemen will be as well served by him as by ~~anyone~~ me or anyone else who might come. I therefore desire approval for hime, who is now lying sick and is not able to advise, about which he asks to be excused. That this will be done by me, ought not to be thought that it is done out of any displeasure with YHH or wanluste of this Coast, but solely for the contentment of my family and old mother. I also daily perceive great weakness of limb and obscurity of sight, for which no improvement is to be expected here, but which, on the contrary, might well happen at home. Therefore again respectfully request YHH to listen to me in this, in order to guard against all disasters. The Hon gentn will please to order whether I shall return home by way of Brasil or direct.

As regards the smuggling done on the "Gulde Rhee", the skipper, Claes Janssen, was found not guilty of it, he was therefore sent home unscathed, with the recommendation that he had behaved well, as nothing was known otherwise. If the contrary had been found, this would not have been done. Such good attention is kept on the "snece" and smuggling "niemant tena gesproocken, als bij ymant in't werk soude connen gestelt werden". In which we shall not be wanting, but always continue.

As regards the Island St Thomé, I shall not fail to be as helpful as necessity requires and the opportunity offers here.

I am pleased to understand that it is now going according to desire. God grant that it may long continue.

If any Portuguese vessels, our enemies, appear here, we shall seek to acquit ourselves as honourable vassals under their republic or Princes are bound to do. I had, indeed, wished that a good quantity of powder had been sent to us.

By the Chamber Zeeland was placed in my hands a list of the gold come over by ditto ship, in which the same had been of better alloy than that sent previously, with the request whether it were not possible "te pracktiseeren, alles Reijers gout hier te becoomen", which is impracticable, and there is no other means than to see well to it that good gold is received, which has been strongly urged upon all factories.

I shall not fail henceforth, i.a.w. YHHs' resolution taken on 12 Sept 1641, about the transport of slaves, continually to charge all the skippers therewith, in their Instructions.

As regards the state and situation of the Coast from AXEM to CRAA, it is, as already before, ~~this hinted at (aengeroerd)~~ in a reasonably good state. But at GREAT COMANY there has been considerable ~~(meij-wot)~~ discord for some time ~~(meuwlteen wyd)~~, because one brother has expelled the other (being sons of the deceased King) and now occupies the Kingdom with force; yet, since it does not concern us, everything without hindrance or injury to trade, which for the last 4½ months has been fairly respectable; and we have received Mk.1324. 2. 10½ engels ~~namely~~, namely; at AXEM, through Factor Cornelis van der Cort, which is sober, Mk.23-0-14 eng.: in the Castle DEL MINA, pr the Chief Factor, Arent Cock, Mk.421-1-12 eng.: at Fort NASSAUW, thro' Jacob Symonsen Dolphyn (who died there on 29th April, in whose stead has been placed Jan Foullon), 205-3-13 eng.: at CORMANTIJN, by the said Foullon, ~~519-18~~ 519-1-8 eng, which is much, but the cause arises from the underselling against the English fluyt "Leeuinne": as here at the Castle and at Moure I had closed the trade for nearly the whole month and taken it in hand only before CORMANTIJN, I being present, according to the markt brief; whereby all the traders both from here and elsewhere betook themselves thither, and we received 260 marks in the month; which, in my opinion, is not advisable any more. In the Lodge at CRAA, by Jooris van Hoogenhouck, Mk. 160-2-7½ engels (making together the above-named sum ~~which it does not~~ [it makes Mk.1329-2-10½.] ~~but the figures in the original are clearly lost~~ ~~"hoen ende noo ce tyte geleenthoyt, vermitte de hoore rifamere (adore) heeft gevolcht, alsoorse ce"~~, ~~and~~ Improvement is still to be expected daily if only merchandise might be supplied, of which we are again soberly placed at present, as appears pr the accompanying general residue(rest). If any foreign nation appeared now we should be able to do little for the injury of their trade.

The factories CHAMA, COMANY and CABO CORS, through lack of goods, have received little or nothing.

All the above-named Chief Factors and the Book-keeper Isaack Coeymans, also Barent Janssen the Equipage Master and the Vaendrig Laurens Fidleris will have completed their time of 4 years in January next and therefore request to return home then, in which provision ought to be made by YHH, ~~alsoo der tot noch toe geen stoff(?) is.~~

The goods most current ar now found to be Lywaet, rouw hessens, sheetings, serges, Haerlem cloths, stoof bekens, large & small neptens, besides all other cooper-werken as tin, iron rods, houbootmans- and gebrande knives, orangin, lemoen past, white, violet, green(?) and striped ditto.

We are at present well provided with meat but the best of it is now about 2 years old, so that it is nothing special. Therefore I have had 10 lb weighed out monthly to each man of the garrison on their costgelt, but we are entirely devoid of all other victuals, so that after this I shall not be able to provide for the yachts sailing to the Bight. The groats (gort-oatmeal) that were sent us were found so bad that it is disgraceful. On 14th February I had 17 casks wimmowed which only filled eight, and still unfit for Whites to eat, which I have given to the "Dolphyn" for the feeding of the slaves, "'tgeen continueelijck inde jachten soo mede wert bevonden, soo dat de Potspuys geen hallf en verstreeckt, 'twelck niet hier maar in 't patria alsoo syn gecomen." - Therefore better attention ought to be paid to this by the Hon.Gentn.-

~~We have now, in accordance with asking up the formula, calculated our accounts according to the order made by YHH and we have received 180,000 gulden, Arder, Boom and Sight therein in Alcadre. It appears to us that the Corsa Sight will be extremely expensive (?) and we emhelp ourselves with bills of Sight for the same. Therefore we draw, by this occasion a credit of 20,000 rb, & do not doubt that they will easily be obtainable at a small price from some head merchant or other.~~

~~With this accompanied their request the Factors Huybrecht van Goddeijcke & Jan Hamack both been cooper 4 years, & Corsa Jacob is not known to us, because they will have completed their time, also Soldiers the rest who are as Corsa's whose time is expired, must through their domicil (soberheit) remain.~~

~~Wilde Fidleris, Jacob Kobben doch de vreemde natie soo verd te verchrommen als epicheiste mogelijck is, want de noot aan de man Gommels wert niet off ons deur op sonder moogen verlaten.~~

Per this ship "Zeelandia" is sent to YHH Mk.1251-7-14½ engels fine Guinea gold and 16863 lb elephants tusks; further appearing pr bills of lading, cargo and "extract", with the view to fetch a further cargo of sugar from St Thomé to Brasil. God grant that everthing may come home to YHH safely.

~~[illegible] I have not been able to add any slaves; daar dijnkhe[illegible] met onze yachts niet [illegible] weer [illegible], en [illegible] we shall continue.~~

As it is not possible to advise everything properly I therefore refer to the accompanying Journal (Q.V.post) pp 211-224]

Herewith &c
YHHs' faithful servant
(sgd) Jacob Ruychaver.

Done at the Castle
Del Mina the 27 May
1645, in Guinea.

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(3) Letter, Jacob Ruychaver to (Presd.Chr.WIC ?). Original. ~~(As this letter, which is shorter, covers the same ground as the one above dd 26 ond, so summarised)~~. 27 May 1645.

- Acknes receipt of their letter of 30 December recd on 22nd Febry, per ship "Zeelandia", skipper Jan Janss. -
- Glad to hear of safe arrival of ships Eenhoorn, Omlandia, and 't wapen Dordrecht. -
- # [D'ontblootinge ons party deeses Custe heeft hun tsedert weder Contrary verthoont ende sijn verscheyde soo groot als Cleynne met Custe en slaeffse goederen verscheenen; waerdoor M UE Carguasoen ... na contentement niet hebbe connen doen venten, maar tot leedweesen met weynich proffyt vercocht, alsoo de marckt brief pr vernietinge der Engelsehe seer laech had ingestelt twelck om beters wil is geschiet.]
- Mistake in the figure of value of a cargo. -
- Recd 30 casks of meat which already very old. ~~The same as in letter above~~. -
- As regards smuggling, will not fail to do everything possible-.
- Regrets to hear of death of Johannes Droogbroot.-
- Hopes the equippage of Chrs Amst & N.Cr. will soon appear. -
- About the accounts of deceased persons. -
- Mistakes in the cargoes sent, in tin &c.-
- The 80 dozen kettinges which ought to be in case 306. -
- Short weight in meat and pork. -

In accordance with request I have placed Supercargo Adriaen Donaels as Sub-factor before CORMANTIJN; Valckvaren at the Fort CHAMA, receiveing increase of f.4 per month; as also Tobias Stofferis at DEL MINA and Peter Harmensen, sub-factor at Fort NASSAUW. I don't doubt that they will acquit themselves properly. ~~Cordially thanks YHH for the honour shown his wife about the sending of the lime juice.~~ -

- ~~As also for the what due as received by this skipper, viz,~~

. . . . . .

[The lack (of goods) of our investment of this coast has since been shown to be the reserve & show several small & large (ships) have appeared with Coast & slave goods, whereby I have not been able to dispose of YHHs' cargoes satisfactorily but, with regret, have sold them at little profit, as I placed the price list very low in order to ruin the English ...]

(4). Dir. Gen. J. van der WEL to the XIX. 21 December 1645.

(Original).

Hon. Hond. Worshipful, Wise, Prudent,
VeryDiscreet Sirs,

Honble Sirs,

With the arrival of the ship "Zeelandia" of Middelburgh on 21st Febry last I received YHHs' agreeable letter of 30th November 1644, ... reply to which ought to have followed by the ditto ship "Zeelandia" which left for home on 27th May last. But owing to my indisposition and the extreme pain which I was suffering at that time, I was obliged to neglect the same and to rely upon the reports of the Hon Mr Ruichaver about what had happened concerning my office. Consequently, I hope to be excused, and at this time consider it unnecessary to touch further thereon, but say, shortly, that we have endeavoured as far as possible to carry out YHHS' orders in that letter.

Only blyven wij daar voor staan that never more can the skippers coming here calculate perfectly the victuals which they have in their ships; although a list is ~~sometimes~~ sent by some Chambers for what period they have victualled the same, yet YHH never write to us how much of it has been consumed before the ships put to sea, daar nochthans de Schippers hunlieden ordinaris op beroepen van schips victuals afgenomen te hebben en geschaft soo voor de geordonnerde personen omme de te varen as 'sjouwers-[means men employed in loading or unloading but not belonging to the crew]- over which we cannot control them, as no definite list is sent by the deputed directors who schip leggen, how the ships are left in provisions when they put to see; but as YHH are nevertheless as much concerned in the state of the skippers as they themselves, we therefore request that that may be done which has been said before, so that henceforth the food is not immoderately issued to the crew on the homeward voyage, and other improprieties committed.

And in order to fulfil my bounden duty, since after the the departure of the afnd ship, I have found my self so well (~~eloueh~~), to inform YHH of the most notable of what has occurred on this Coast, YHH will therefore please to understand th t we were daily looking out for a new ship and instead of that, on the 8th July last, we saw to our regret an ~~English~~ English ship, on board of which I proceeded by order of the Hon. Mr Ruichaver, ~~and was informed~~ before she had passed Del Myna, and was informed by the supercargo with the Skipper Master Jerlant, and James ~~Lacy~~ sub super-

Ireland. Lucy

cargo, who had previously been on the Coast with ARENT DE GROOT, that their ship had been sent out on behalf of the new English Company in London, with 40 men(eaters), 20 iron guns, the ship about 90 tons(last), having a Coast cargo with a suitable assortment of everything. They had then been three months on the voyage, and meantime had called at SERLIOENS for some tusks as return cargo. They brought out of that river a person who had stayed there about six years trading in the service of the English, who related that the Courlander, which had been here, had tried its fortune a second time on the Quaqua Coast till it arrived in SERLIOENS on 14 or 15 April; and after trading about 2 tons (~~last~~) tusks at a dear price and ~~at~~ with little profit, departed on ultime ditto out of the aforenamed river in order, as they spread about, to set course direct for home. God grant that they have already found deserved punishment on arrival. We have good hope that YHH will find good opportunity for that, seeing that when they lay in Serlieens various difficulties had arisen between the officers and sailors, as the sailors also wanted to sell "~~haar hebbende sneserie~~" which the captain opposed and wished to prevent. ~~them it~~.

their smuggled goods

Meantime, we find ourselves a little stunned(bedwelmt) by the arrival of the aforesaid ship, especially when we examined our state and found it so bad in "~~behouvende~~" profitable merchandise particularly current goods; nevertheless we attacked the matter with courage and complete resolution, as we found it necessary, for the service of the Company, and to injure the rivals(party) as much as possible, to fix the prices(markt) for underselling, in the hopes that we shall shortly see a new ship & cargo from home. Accordingly, at the request of the Hon Mr Director Ruychaver, I proceeded to CORMANTIJN to help to direct that trade and underselling as further opportunity therein might be revealed; but before we came to actual trading, which we thought to draw away (vertrekken) as much as possible, the rumour came that a ship had arrived before Del Mina, which Mr Ruichaver confirmed by letter on 16th, with orders to me to proceed to windward "~~alsoo~~", so the trade now "~~[illegible]~~" for the first eight days was gestut. (stopped)

Thereupon, on 17th at night I voyaged up by canoe until at daybreak I arrived at the ship named "Eendracht" of Amsterdam, where I found Mr Ruichaver who told me the ship had brought a Coast cargo of 116,000 f., which I afterwards found was merchandise in good condition; taking suitable measures that day to make enquiry how I could find private merchandise, as it appeared veel van de rechte gasten op te hebben, over which I made sharp examination for several days, in which the skipper displayed great diligence in helping me. But before the ship had been

completely unloaded, sickness overtook me a second time, which so weakebed me that I could do no more service and Had to proceed on shore taking in ~~verseeckeringe~~ the following which I had found in theexamination, namely:

210 lb.Orange,green,& lemon quispegren.
109½ do Gebrande knives.
29 d..(?) small fish hooks.
300 (?) large ditto.
20½ (?) Riaele van achten.
1 anker liquor.

Waerop nae mijne gedaenen eijs en conclusie bij den Ed Hr General & raeden is verstaan de eigenaers van dien volgens de marck te voldoen,mits den viscal te contenteren. Hadt niet gemeent(?) of souden in dit schip meer gevonden hebben,alsoo verstont dat aen de gelegentheit int patria om t schip te crijgen ---------- niet en heeft ontbroken, met confessie van de schips volk aan de genegentheit niet en ontbrak. Maar dewyl de gecommitteerde Perges dickmael tegens den skipper souden gesegt hebben,(") Laat al incomen en ontziet U geen coste tot advijs aan de Heeren te doen("), or diergelijke woorden; which the aforesaid skipper made known among the crew, and caused them such a fright that they stayed their intention thro' fear that the ship would have been unloaded again, and thereby got into trouble (schade). Whether this is to be entirely accepted, YHH can believe as you please, only in this connection I must say that this is certain, that through the close supervision which is resorted to at home, we observe that the private trade is not by a long way so much in vogue as it used to be; which we hope will be maintained.

Coming again, in this connection, to the afhd English ship, whose factors stoutly complain everyday about the prices fixed by us, and the sober amount of gold received; there also appeared on 29th August last, a slaver, about ~~200~~ 100 tons (last) mounted with 16 guns & 35 men, intending to go Rio Calbary for slaves, and then to make the voyage on to the Island Barbadoes with them. He provided himself with some necessities before CORMANTIJN, and after eight days 't soucken gebracht, raised anchor and set sail.

So likewise did the aforenamed Trader, on 17th October last, with the intention to set course direct to England, without we getting to know what return cargo it carries from the Coast. It left 7-800 iron rods and a little other merchandise on shore under the aforenamed James Lucy. We therefore restored the "markt brief" in the hopes that it will remain a long time which it seems will not be, doordien de navolgende bijvallen ons opsteren. I will, on this occasion, say shortly that we trust that the rivals (partye) with this traded cargo "de porfite wel te korsen(?) sal hebben". Nevertheless,

it comes difficult that the Company comes to suffer extreme injury in driving them away, added to which is the fear that it will not stop in a short time. unless we could undersell them with more reality; which must take some time ~~be~~through lack of merchandise.

Meanwhile arrived before DEL MINA on 10th October, ~~arrived~~ the yacht "Postpaert" of Amsterdam, having done good trade along the Grain and Quaqua Coast, in obtaining 213,035 lb grain, 12,508 lb elephants tusks, and 11 Mark, 7 oz, 2½ eng. ASSINEE gold; all shipped in the Amsterdam "Eendracht" & consigned to the account of that Chamber. The second yacht, "Dolphyn" of Hooren, brings 9,676 lb elephants tusks traded both in the Bight and the above places, and moreover delivered 281 slaves to Commander Molder.

The next day, being the 11th ditto, late, the Fluyt ship "Eendracht" of Enchuisen, by the grace of God, dropped anchor; to which I at once proceeded, and from the invoices saw that the cargo amounted to f.150009 (??? ~~[illegible]~~), and in the selling of it that the goods were only in reasonable condition, such as lywaet, cooper and bead work; but as the Blacks were somewhat lacking in current goods, some of them were disposed of (~~[illegible]~~).

The thirty-one soldiers who came by it we have had to place them all here, because 35 to 36 are leaving by these two ships, so that the Island St Thomé cannot share them. On these will follow by the first going ships another 16-18, who have completed their time; so that for the necessary maintenance of both the Coast and St Thomé, not less than 50 "slechte" soldiers ought to come with each ship, without aantenemen any "Adelborsten" or other officers; as by this ship from Enchuisen, 20 "Adelborsten" have come, who can be got very unwillingly to ~~staen tot op schildwacht~~. With each ship ought to be sent, besides the other necessities, 3,000 lb bread for the yachts, & 600 lb ~~for~~ powder for the Land.

stand on sentry-go

By the Skipper of this ship which has come, I was verbally told what had happened at home with regard to my person, which we saw the next day, when the Hon Mr Ruichaver opened YHHS' acceptable letter of 6th July last; and saw the Commission ~~for both~~ from both the Ho. Mo. & YHH, namely my selection & promotion to the Office of Director, in place of the Hon Mr Ruichaver, now going home; which I have accepted as thankfully and worthily as ever a servant, receiveing anything from his Lord & Master, can do, so with regard to the honourable gift which is liberally cast to me by the High States of the Country and the laudable United WIC. It is indeed a matter which ought not to be regarded but with Godly motives but, with Joseph, to keep in continuous memory my recent previous slavish state, and sudden change. May God

pp 193/4 Translation of A.[ ].

We will certainly carry out the proposed proceedings against those who mixed up with some inhabitants of the United Provinces, come to harass us; but YHH can well imagine that such will not appear here unless they can shew their documents of permission from some potentate or other, or if they were allies of our Provinces it will be troublesome to attack them, having regard to the difficulties that a Director would incur on his own account upon such an occasion. Indeed it might happen that in order to take off a cook or his mate troublesome measures would have to be grasped in order to get hold of them. Therefore if it should happen that any English, French or other foreign ships come & we were assured that they had some of our nation on board – whether supercargo, skipper or crew – we earnestly ask YHH. whether we could use force in order to bring them under our command, provided that a friendly request were first peacefully made, & upon refusal then to attack them hostilely in the names of their High mightinesses & YHH. For ~~in such a way~~ it might be that a ship were navigated entirely by Y.HHs' inhabitants with the result that, by taking them all off, the ship was rendered incapable of putting to sea, although their Commission was satisfactory in like manner as the Courlander which was here. We will therefore await YHHs' instructions thereon.

Almighty be pleased to give us his liberal blessings that we may carry it out to the honour of His Divine Majesty, and may increase the Company's prosperity; and accordingly conclude these lines - Thanks be to God of all the Heavens, their High Mightinesses, and YHH, my worshipful discreet Honourable Lords and Masters !

I have, however, not been able to find out in the afsd letter what monthly salary YHH have intended for me, but I hope it will not be less for the Direction of Guinea than Mr Ruichaver's; to which now falls the difficult "occupatie" which I see will extend to the governing of St Thomé ~~sal streeken te bereersche over St Thomé~~. I wish from my heart and soul that I could have been excused ~~from~~ that, and that, for reasons which already occur to me, and of which I make mention afterwards. Nevertheless I shall rely upon YHHS' accustomed discretion with firm confidence of being begiftigt van YHHS' cordiale weldaden as formerly, daarby te mogen getrocken ende in vigeur sal blijven de poincten en contract van alle jaren an assignatie van six months over te maken, and to pay such sum dan compt te monteren; mede wegen de limejuice te sullen genieten, made by YHH with Mr Arent Jacobssen deceased.

To fill the place of my former service with the person of HENDRICK CAERLOF will be very satisfactory to us, in the confidence business, ten dien einden as other ~~bessignes~~, which we shall have occasion to place in his hands, that he will be found diligent and vigilent for the good of the Company. Consequently we will now proceed to reply, point by point, to YHHS' aforenmd letter of 6th July last.

And say, firstly, that as regards devising a means to keep the ships of foreign nations from this Coast, it is, speaking shortly, for YHH to send to us necessary and proper cargoes, as required by the Formulas, so that the rivals (partye) may thereby be discouraged, as they always have a watchful eye on ~~yeu~~ YHHS' equiprage, and partly regulate themselves accordingly; according to the confession made to our Factors by Tymen Molsgraef en doen YHH geadsiseert. But, to our regret, advice is never made to us when any English ship is being got ready, and for that purpose seeks goods in the City of Amsterdam, in order to come to the Coast; daar nochthans ~~liefhebbers~~ friends of the Company, namely private persons, sometimes get to write to us, ~~en de Company met gelegenthede groote dienst in geschiet~~ & do the Co much service thereby.

A. [De voorgenome proceduiren die vermengt met eenige Inwoonderen of the United Provinces ons comen bestooken, sullen wij in alle billicheit ter execusie stellen; doch MEdel can wel afmeten soodaniche hier niet en sullen verscheynen of daerby sufficant syn acten van permissie d'een of d'ander potentate te toonen; and if they are allies of our Provinces, it will be difficult to attack them, having regard to the difficulties that a Director would incur on his own account, on such

an occasion. Jae diswils connen voorvallen dat om de Cock of syn maet te lichten becommerlijcke remedie om die te crijgen sullen aengegrepen moeten werden. Therefore we earnestly request YHH of't geviel that any English, French or other foreign ships came, and we were assured that they had some of our nation on board, either supercargo, skipper or crew, wij deselve met de macht die costen gebruiken te sien tot onder ons Comando te halen, mits eerst een vriendelijk versouck te doen met vreden te wi willen volgen, en bij weigering van dien, uit de naem van Ho.Mo. en UEd hun met hostiliteijt aen te tasten; want soo daniche entrevalle connen daerop volgen, dat de 'tschip alle met UEd inwoonderen mocht gevoert werden en door 't lichte van deselve hun schip onbequaem wiert gemaeckt om door zee te brengen, en dat evenwel hun commissie aennemelijk souden syn; sulcks en op soodanich een manier als den hier gewesen Corlander. Willen dienvolgende op UEd aencomende instructie wachten.]

We shall be glad to see the "roey fregat" on the Coast; and after its arrival we shall employ the jacht "Reaal" of Amsterdam, which will shortly take off the Benyn return cargo, to navigate the Coast the Bight, om alle wegen ons metten uijte spreijen tot becoming van elephants'tusks, that the foreign nations may be ~~frustated~~ frustrated from it.

With regret we have heard and seen for so long the sober zeal of the Chamber whose turn it was to equip to this Coast, as the Company suffers considerable damage from this, as now still appears, vermits het arrivement des schips "Hoop" from London, en achter ter bequamer tyt van aenvoer.

D' voornemen van UEd om vivres te senden, en van Hollantse cost te schaffen sal soo verstaen one t'eerst comende schip aenbrengen, dat ik wens niet bij de hand was genomen, evenwel UEd wil voor ons wel excuseren, maer is te duchten dat wij soo redelijck gesonden volck niet sullen houden als van t'lant te leven doen, waer van door experientie connen spreecken, twijfel niet of t'advijs van de Hr Jacob Ruichaver sal soodanich vallen, doordien Zijn E. wel bekent is dat maendelijk aen ieder soldat 3 f(?) aen vleesch wert uitgereickt en liever gout in plaets genoten. Soo om de outheit van 't selven als te claegen niet connen verteeren. (consume, digest)

Clachten over de vivres uit patria, & lieve gout hadde.

Seggen andermael dat stricktelijk vooreerst dient onderhouden het senden soo voor de Cust als St Thomé, met ieder schip 50 soldaten daer van wij sien de Camer Enchuisen eerst in gebreecken blijft. Hebbe tot vervullingh van dien niet een matroos van beijde schepen ~~neetsaeckelijck de jachte die~~ willen lichten dewyl geen connen missen. Nochthans vereijst

50 soldiers with each ship.

nootsaeckelijck de jachte die de Bocht behandelen, en St Thomé om cruisen met volk versien. Soo dat wij alle de strevende missen en de plaats niet connen vullen ~~though~~ through the scarcity of the men whom we find on the ships coming here, of which YHH will please to be mindful; with the request that 5 or 6 more men may be put upon each ship for that purpose.

The recommendation of good correspondence in the conquests and elsewhere we take to heart ~~ondhoge achting~~; but it seems that Commander Molder daartegen souckt te stellen, according to letters come to us by the yacht Fortuin on 29th November, daar hier namaels largo van aen roer.

As regards trading the river Furcados sullen wij voor eerst staacken dewyl wert onderricht met de oncosten die op syn te doen, de slaven eer meer als minder tot Arder comen te costen, and yearly can give 400 p. at the most. Moreover must be fetched from that river with much trouble ~~&~~ sailing high up it. which takes much time, and the merchandise necessary for~~t~~ that purpose was lacking.

~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~

About sending a competent Pastor, we had not thought that the gentn of Enchuisen would have remained in gebrek, but since such is verswijmt I beg YHH with respectful supplication please to think of the high necessity that the schuldige godsdienst may be maintained with due reverence and the Shepherd Christ may keep his flock together.

As regards the situation of the Island St Thomé, we have sought to know by sending the yacht Fortuin thither with victuals, which on its arrival, as afterwards reported ~~int large~~, (found) that it was so sober that we can take no take no satisfaction whatever in the one thing or the other. The yacht "Visser" left on the 27th October for that Island, both with victuals, as also to send all the documents which were sent to us by the Noorder "Eendracht", so that YHHS' wishes may be carried into execution. Ende daerbij met ons brieven gewaerschuwt wanneer dees schip aant voorss Island hoop

te wesen, so that everything bij den anderen mach soucken tgeene tot retour sal streken. Meantime the afsd "Visser" will visit the Bight and after verrichtingen van dien, return to St Thomé to find Mr Ruichaver en ons van't gebesougeerdd als passeerde kennis te geven.

The yacht Postpaert vertrekt snachts daaraen volgende om to trade the R Gaboøn and C. de Lobo Gonsalvo and again to sail to the Grain Coast, and to be there as soon as possible, as the proper season, because of its late departure from home, is pretty nearly expired.

Cormantijn abandoned.

~~Weeree~~ We are glad to learn that the yacht "Medenblick" will come to us, although we hav no need of a "legger" before CORMANTIJN, as that trading place has been abandoned; and that, for the reasons given by Mr Ruichaver in the letter of 27th May last; and now can be done verbally by HH on his coming over. But we shall nevertheless not be embarrassed with that yacht, as we propose to employ it for the slave trade to Calbary and then to bring to Brasil or St Thomé, ~~and meantime fetch~~ It will also serve to cruise round the island St Thomé and meantime fetch slaves in Calbarij, but shall send the yacht Fortuintje for a parcel of slaves traded at Ardre for St Thomé

Mulgraeff.

We have seen with surprise the remonstrance handed over by Mr Strickland to their Ho. Mo. together with the declaration made by Mr Molsgraef. We thought, under correction, that at this time something else ~~then~~ ~~vervied~~ than that such trivialities ~~beuselingen~~, ~~vermengt~~ mixed up with great ~~leugenen~~ untruths, came into consideration. Truly, if the Honble Lords of the Parliament saw how their subjects ~~in veel actie tegen ons aanstellen, daarin wij hun tegemoet comen, I am vertrouw geen goet genougen soude nemen~~; but we daily observe more and more that the English nation seek nothing else than to get into contention with us, with little foundation.

Ende alsdan haere actie tegens UEd te institueren dan Godt sy lof, ~~wij hebben ons op UEd's gestatige recommendatie tot nog toe daer voor gewacht en gesocht met hun in alle vriendschap te leven, which the serbare among them must and will rightly acknowledge~~; about which, we hope that the false statements of the aforesaid Mr Mossgraef will be paid no attention to; nevertheless, in order ~~te~~ ons te prageren(?) [Justify?] the report of what happened is going herewith, closed in the packet from Mr Ruichaver. If anything else occurs we shall according to YHH's wishes, also employ the pen, so that we can be armed against such complaints. And with this, I consider that I have fulfilled what was necessary to serve in reply to YHHs' acceptable letter of 6th July aforenamed.

happen

oppose us in much their they do? I don't think they would be pleased

We have liberty, or YHHs advice has sought to live in friendship with them, which they who are honourable must acknowledge

[With further advice that when we had encouraged the Fiscal

HENDRICK CAERLOF to the acceptance of the office presented to him by YHH; he resolved upon it, but ~~vertrouw~~ he would rather have been a Chief Factor of a "cappitael" factory both because of the difficulty which ~~steeckot in~~ his office and the peril om nae welgevallen de Ed Hr contentment te doen. Never-the less he goes on board the ship "Eemdracht" which has come with recommendation and instruction how sal geraecken tot atrapperen of private goods; to which he has been diligent and obtained 60½ ankers spirits, 35 sheets, and 18000 small fish hooks; all belonging to the persons who staen bekent op de information laid by the Fiscal and two deputies from the Council, also enclosed in the packet from Mr Ruychaver, from which YHH will see the besonges daarop gevolgt and the vrijgeven of the goods. Ingevallen wij 't seggen, en de presentatie om met Eed te verificieren, van 't volk mogen geloven, soo have they op aenmanen & instantelijk begeren of the Fiscal, ieder met een sincere gemoet te voorschyn gebracht, wat elck particulier hadden; hun daerop beroepende dat consent hebben gekregen from the Chamber Enchuisen, which we niet gehouden and maar stukken wijs aannemen, doch soo wat van importantij bedrouch, souden ons reguleren nae 't aenschryven of the Chr XIX. Never~~t~~ the less I have to request that each Chr resply will please to make mention ~~d~~ in their letters that they have given no consent to anything, om ons ter behoorlijke tijt daerover mogen disponeeren; for the production of such a letter at the meeting of Council breaks down all the assertions of the sailors, and the proceedings which therupon ensue can be taken by the Fiscal with better foundation.]

Crew, what ~~each~~ they took with them, with consent of Enchuisen.

relative / to / attaches /

[smuggling by the crews]

After the departure of the afsd English ship we have sought to intrekken the markt of the goods, ten besten of the Coy, in the hope lang soo soude duren om de verliesen van de gedaene cladding te onderstutten. But we daily find that not so much gold comes down as we had wished. Nietemin werden ons de courantste goods ontruckt soo dat nae een ander ~~niw niewut~~ nieuwt ship te beoogen dagelijks de intsicht namen; finding ourselves so placed that if now any foreign nation appeared, we could ~~doch~~ do little against them ~~tegenweer~~. But instead of the expected Amsterdammer, arrived, on the 29th ulto, the yacht Fortuin from St Thomé with a (cargo) traded at the Gabon and Quaqua Coast; over which it brings 8020 lb elephant tusks, die gaern hebben / aentenemen, but not such letters and reports from Commander Molder as YHH can see from the copies thereof going herewith (n.c.).

It is truly a ~~small~~ small intelligence (kennis) which that Commander displays, both by setting at nought YHHS' wishes and setting the foot on the ample Commission of their Ho. Mo. & YHH received by me. Derhalve can ik niet verstaen van de mindre coruptie te lijden is gehouden, but we hope that Mr Ruichaver, on his coming there, will make a good redress in everything,

bysonder om elcke qualiteijt van boucken suiver en na behooren te stellen connen niet anders verstaen, en is ook sulxs den Commander Molder & Factor Hasenberch klaer ~~geschreven~~ aangeschreven that from the time the direction was placed under this Coast, they should close the former books and let the pure residue come to us with the return of the "Fortuin"; and from the time that he has received the goods from the aforesaid Fortuin, which arrived here by the yacht Eendracht from Amsterdam and what he subsequently receives, to enter in new books; from which time onwards the Director of the Coast has to concern himself, and not with the previous.

... ... And henceforth bekleet Castle Del Myna with the Upper factor Isaeck Coeimans who besides, as previously done, will remain Bookkeeper, receiveing 90f. pr/mt; at the Fort NASSOUW the U per factor Cornelis van de Cost; at CRAA Joris van Hogenhouck; at AXEM, Reyner Doekes; at CHAMA, Hendrick Froen; at COMANY and CABO CORS no Opperhoofden have as yet been placed, for lack of them, dan wij soude lichtelijk dees twee cleene comptoren verlaten omdat wij voordeel voor de Compy daerin connen sien.

YHHS' intention to employ no more old factors, we beg may be stayed and changed because both with deaths and staying at home this Coast is deprived of competent ~~raakt verstoockenvan behoorlijk~~ factors. Truly if at present 1 or 2 chief factors came to fail us, I do not know how the trade could be carried on with repute and necessary knowledge by others. YHH must take this in hand if it pleases you, but I fear it will cause great damage to the Company and can already sufficiently perceive it.

Besides the unsatisfactory letter and reports received from St Thomé the Factor Geerloff - (on the yacht Fortuyn) - tells us that he has been to an Englsih yacht about the river of SARBRA, which had parted ~~versteeken~~ 2 or 3 days from her ship, both wishing to come to this Coast; which ship appeared on 29th November in the afternoon, as the Fortuyn had arrived in the morning. At Sunset that ship passes Del MYNA and sets course along the Coast to sail to CORMANTIJN. Whereupon we sent the Factors Foullon & Van der Coat thither in order ~~redenen~~ to make report ~~and advijs doen~~ of what it is necessary for us to know; which we obtain on 1st December following, and understand that the ship has her freighters in London, ~~sijn~~ about 200 tons ~~(last)~~, mounted with 24 guns, with which the Factor Mr Molsgraef comes; bringing a well assorted cargo, 26 soldiers, among whom some werkmen ~~arbeits lieden~~ in order to "prepareren" the Fort, as also stone & lime necessary for the work.

It therefore appears anew that they intend great things, which I believe slecht sal bevallen. Nevertheless it is to be feared that the Company niet sonder schaden sal afcomen, and they make good profits as we are sufficiently devoid of current goods. And met verstelle of the markt, soo te ~~versteeken~~ verstreken, that meantime the expected ship from Amsterdam will appear which we achte would now come at a

convenient time in order to prevent the rival (partie) selling the current merchandise according to his wish, which, with the aforenamed ship staying away (weg blijven), he can otherwise do according to his will.

Their yacht, which is very sober & small, appeared on the 10th December following, which we understand they intend to employ in sailing to Benyn and the Bight.

Since 3 - 4 months we have perceived a new manner of trading in the Blacks and that is, when an English ship is ~~[illegible]~~ (~~[illegible]~~) expected they hold up (~~ophouden~~) their gold till that time, wel wetende als wij coopmanschappen hebbende de hant door ons wert gelicht om de partye te bederven. Dees voorss practijcq laet hem van buiten (?) aen sien of tot groote prejuditij of the Company sal streeken; maar connen in dese geen swarigheit sien dewyl wij ons dan wat beter in goederen sulle connen houden, daer te vooren altyt sober syn versien geweest. We had thought that the Amsterdam ship would have been on the Coast now after the skipper of the northern "Eendracht" on his arrival had told us that met patientie verwachte om de vorengeseide reden.

These two ships, both named "Eendracht", and departing op dato we hope, through God's grace, will reach safely. And so that these ships may sail most usefully and profitably, we have thought good to send the "Fortuin" and "Dolphyn" beforehand to Arder both to take in the outstanding slaves there, and to trade some to the total number of 300 or more, which we hope will reach St Thomé by the afsd ships, and on the departure thereof the slaves onder benefitie den Commander Molder, & Haesenbergh te laten, mits te nemen behoorlijk recipisse, and then further to regulate themselves according to instructions given to the Captains (Opperhoofden), copy of which goes herewith.

And so that we may properly know the state of St Thomé, both verbally and in writing, what has happened in the presence of Mr Ruichaver, we have found it advisable to send the Fiscal CAERLOF thither, with express order that he shall advise YHH of everything and accordingly rely upon that, and expect CAERLOF back by the yacht "Visser".

If YHH approve, (I) ~~can~~ find it well necessary that the Director of this Coast ought once a year, and when he considers his absence from the Coast can best be suffered, to travel~~s~~ to the aforesaid Island in order to inspect everything and to make good "redres"; for which voyage at least 2 months is necessary. In so far as YHH, as well as I, ~~think~~ find this good, I shall await YHHS' orders, and willingly regulate myself accordingly, seeing that we perceive such to be highly necessary, so that we can at once get suiverheit of the books~~s~~.

Henceforth, and from the 1st December current when the Direction was handed over to me by Mr Ruichaver in YHHS' name,

we will form new books to be debited with the residue of the goods I have received from Mr Ruichaver, and as they may afterwards come to us. But we shall instellen the same with such verstanden dat alle het t'gena hebbe ofte comen te ontfangen, de generale reckeninge sullen nomen(?), and that with regard to the maeklijckheit wy daer insien, als te verhoeden de abbuisen die te vooren lichtelijk konden vallen; vermits de ~~boehste~~ bochtse ofte slaefse reeckeninge met vertrek van yachts in't gemeen uit de gener[?] mosten leenen(?), t'geen nu bequam met 1-2 linie meer in't credit van de boecken te maecken sal connen verhoet werden, daerbij sullen alle handelinge soo claer blijcken als voor desen gedaen.

The garrison books of all Forts and Lodges which have hitherto been kept at Del MYNA will remainas before and annexed to them the accounts of the men who sail on the yachts, provided the books are sent over every year as YHH desire, which we hope to observe, and copies of which YHH and each Chr have to expect copies in the coming year.

With the warning that the books both of the merchandise & otherwise touching St Thomé, we shall keep separate accounts, as we are duly informed of everything by Factor Hasenbergh.

The Forts, so far as we ~~do not~~ know ~~otherwise~~, have been handed over to us in a good state, especially DEL MINA, which we shall endeavour to maintain, if what is necessary, according to the list, is sent to us by YHH; for at all ~~pla~~ places the roofs ought necessarily to be renewed both in timber and tiles; 4-5 carpenters and 2-3 masons must be sent to us for that purpose since all the masons are leaving. It is quite true that [doctor?] we have engaged another as master, but he has not yet uitgestaen the country sickness so that with his death we might vallen seer verlegen.

The Fort AXEM ~~is~~, in my opinion, can be kept at less expence than it has been for a long time since, as we should find it not inadvisable to take away 16-18 soldiers; for there is no fear of being attacked by the Blacks, and if any violence were done by Christians sal weinich tyts connen tegenhouden. I consider that noone will seek to attempt anything in that regard since the small amount ~~soberheit~~ of the gold that we receive there would not be worth the trouble of doing so. We will therefore await YHHS' orders hereon.

YHH will please to bear in mind that that the fortifications here are so soberly provided with powder and about this not forget that at least 600 lb ~~powder~~ ought to eb sent by each ship.

YHH should also so provide those ships so that we may take 3000 lb bread out of each ship, dat het voornemen om de yachten op bochtse voyagie te laten gaan, de behouwende fictualie soodanich niet doet beletten dat nu ons voorgecomen soude hebben(de), by soo verre wij t'weinig volgens nevensgaande list niet uit de vivres voor St Thomé gesonden, en hadden

gehouden, dienvolgende doch mach gedacht werden geen potspuys oil butter wine and otherwise one tot provideren van dito yachts nae hen vertrekken vinden. Jae, soodanige ruimten in de kelders ~~vinden~~ bemerken, we are obliged to beg YHH please to provide the same with butter cheese oil wine and everything that you please for ~~the verquicking of~~ weak nature. strengthening
We find ourselves so placed that we cannot refresh a sick man with a drink of ~~wa~~ wine; immoderation in the use of the same on this Coast, we are confident YHH have not heard. We hope to continue therein, but that which nature in reason requires for the preservation of health we beg may be sent us for giving no ration of wine to the soldiers is often complained about by them, especially when ships come here from St Thomé and say that they receive more "costgelt" there than here, besides a ration of wine.

- Asks for instructions whether ships from St Thomé are to sail home direct or by way of Brasil; till receipt of orders, he will send them via Brasil -.

- Owing to the good conduct of the Vaandrager, who has served long over his time, the whole Council has, at his request, increased his monthly pay by f.12 a month, which he hopes they will approve.

- Asks for a ~~Leerar~~ teacher to be sent for the congregation to take the place of the Revd Meindert Hendrickx whom they have had to spare to their regret, as his time had expired.-

Just when this letter had been completed we heard of another English ship, the particulars of which we have not yet heard, except, shortly, that she is a slaver having a cargo of 15-16000 f. for this Coast.

Herewith, &c.&c.&c.
YHHS' obedient servant,
(sgd) J.van der Wel.

21 December, at the Castle St George
DEL MINA, in GUINEA, Ao. 1645.

Resolution. (No 6. in List on p. 188.supra. WIC.oc.11)

On the summons of the General JACOB RUICHAVER, the undersigned persons have met and resolved on 1 August 1645, as follows,

As the merchandise and provisions, sent here pr the ship "Eendracht" of Amsterdam for the benefit of the Island St Thomé, ought necessarily to be ~~sent~~ shipped thither, but as we are devoid of any vessels, it is therefore considered, after ripe deliberation, that, since by much underselling the ACCANISTS are more and more settling at CORMANTIJN and that place is increasing in traders (who are much more attached to the English than to us) we ~~are~~ are thereby "~~onse partye selfs in alle vordringe syn stijvende~~", have therefore found good and decided to remove the yacht "Fortuyn" now lying before CORMANTIJN from there, partly to employ her for the despatch of the aforesaid St Thomé goods, as also ~~to leave the~~ henceforth to leave the port of CORMANTIJN untraded (&) empty, in the hopes (&) with the view that when the ACCANIST traders find themselves not properly accomodated by the English in the assortment of goods, they will then come and settle here under MINA, or the Fort Nassouw.

encouraging our adversaries in every thing

All which we find to be proper for the best service of the Company.

Thus done and resolved at the Castle DEL MINA in Guinea, datum ut supra. Signed. J.Ruichaver. J.van der Wel. Arent Cock. J.Foullon. Barent Jansen. J.T. Betterlijk(?), Harpert Claessen. Groenwout(?).

Muster Roll. (No.7. in list on p. 188. supra. WIC.oc.11).

Muster Roll of the persons who were in the service of the Chartered West Indian Company along the Gold Coast at the Castle DEL MYNA, the Fort NASSOUW, AXEM, CRA, CAMA, COMANY, and CABO CORS; and on the ships and yachts.

At the Castle DEL MYNA.

Director.	Jacob Adriaens van der Wel.	Delft.		
Fiscal.	Hendrick Caerloff.	Rostock.	72.	(F.p.m.)
Upper Factor.	Isaq Coymans.	Amsterdam.	90.	"
Equipage Master.	Harpert Claess.		80.	"
Vendrich.	Lourens Fiddelerus.		54.	"
Siekentrooster.	Adriaen Louwrens.	Medenblick.	36.	"

(Then follow the names of 2 sub-factors at 26.&24.: 1Asst,at 14.: 1 Constabel,20.: 1 Smith,28.; 1 Locksmith,15.: 2 carpenters,16.: 1 Mason,10.: 1 Cooper,16.: 1 Bosschieter(?),10.: 1 Sergeant,18.: 1 Captn d'Armes,;4.: 2 Corpls,12.: 2 sub do,11.: 17 Adelborsten, 10,: 45 soldiers,8.: 1 Drummer,10. 16.

Fort Nassouw.

Upper-Factor, Cornelis van der Cost,Delft, 60. : 2 sub-do: 1 Asst.: 1 Domine,30.: 1 Sergt.: 1 Cap d'Armes : 2 Corpls: 2 sub-do: 10 Adelb:. : 11 Soldiers; 1 each Coperslager, Carpenter,Drummer, Suragien. 2 boys.

Fort Axem.

Factor,Reynier Doeckens: 1 each, Siekentrooster, Asst., Curagien, Constapel, Cuyper, Sergeant, Capt.d'armes; 2 corpls, 2 sub-do, 3 Adelborsten, 14 soldiers.

At Craa. Uppr Factor Joris van Hogenhoeck. 1 sub-factor. 1 Adelb.. 7 soldiers.

Samaa. Factor Hendrick Froon. 1 Asst. 1 Corpl. 3 (soldiers).

~~COMANY~~

Comany. Asst. Jan Claes. Cabo Cors. Asst. Adriaen Corn.de Hont.

Yacht Visscher. Skipper. Factor. and 12 others.
" Fortuyn. Factor, Skipper. and 12 others.
" Dolphyn. Factor. Skipper. and 12 others.
" Reael. Skipper. and 7 others.

Total "~~Eaters~~" 220 "Eaters".

Letter.(Original) from Dir. J.van der Wel to WIC.(Presd.Chr?)
(No.14.in list on p.188.supra. WIC.oc.11)
Dated "December 21st at the Castle St ~~de~~ Joergie de Mina."

This letter contains nothing new inaddition to the foregoing ~~one~~ very long one of the same date; but the following extract is made from it:

"Wij bemerken een nieuwe practijcq nu cortelijk door de ACANISTE of Swarten cooplieden tot harer besten by de hant genomen,doordien in drie d laettste gepasseerde maende soo veel gout niet is afgebracht als ons dunkt te behooren; derhalve wij voor seecker houden en wert door sommige ACANISTE volcome bekent dat met voorwil een gedeelte van hun gout ophouden tegen de compste eenich vreemt schip wel wetende als wij van Coopmanschap versien syn, de marckt grotelijcx om d'party te bederven, wert herstelt, daer en tegen seer in getrocken als de vreemde natie geen coopmanschap op de custen hebben.

"Dit voøren geseide heeft van buyten aen te sien,een(?) oock schijn tot groote preiuditie van de Compe te willen streøcken maer en wert int minste deel ten regarde van dien geen swaericheit bij ons gemaeckt en gedenken ten hoogste tot voordeel van de Compe sal dienen overmits door sulckx doen de cust altijt van coopmanschap sal versien weesen (daer Godt betert lange jaren aen heeft ontbroken) en ons tot allen tijde gereet vinden tegen de partye te mogen cladden,en hun soodanige mart stellen dat wij seeckeren staet connen maken geen profyte voor hen is te doen, wij bevinden aen veel actie dat de Engelse haer selve seer kittelen(?) dat se lachgen doch t'markt als boven ~~gestelt~~ geseyt soo veel avance voor haer geven soude de Custø naestiger bevaren dan wij hebben een vermoeden dat daer op laeren(laeven?) de een of ander tijt hoopen met onse natie in contentie te raken, om haer verliefe aen de Compe te soucken daar wij hopen door de genade Godts ons op UE gestadige recommendatie voor te wachten met vertrouwen haer selve eyntelijk sullen doot loopen.

"Want UE gelieve dit te consideren dat sy haer goet in eene prijs neffens ons als gout willen ontfangen moeten vercopen, doch wij hebben dit wel gesien dat ons lieten vercopen en hun 'thaer ophielde op hope dat wy 'teynde coopmanschap soude ~~reeeken~~ rakende namaals hun goet tot wil t'venten, maar als de cust gestadig van behoevende coopmanschap wert onderhouden soo is sulks wachten een groote schade voor haer te halen,en eindelijk om t'goet vant verderf te verhoeden genoodsakt sal syn tot vercopen,ondertusschen de tijt noodeloos sullen verquisten In fyn wy hebben een goet gevoelen by soo verre als voren dikmael geseyt wel wert geequepeert d' Cust tot volcomen devotie sult crijgen welke voorsiende proffite als dan niet te verwerpen sullen weesen."

... ...

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p. 204

We observe a new practice adopted a short while ago by the Acanists or Black traders for their own benefit, because in the last 3 months not so much gold has been brought down as we consider ought to have been. We therefore take it as certain, & it is fully admitted by some Acanists, that they deliberately hold up a portion of their gold against the arrival of any foreign ship, well knowing that if we are supplied with goods most of the prices are revised in order to injure the rival, which are again withdrawn when foreign nations have no merchandise on the Coast. This practice, seen from our side, would seem to lend to the great prejudice of the Co, but we have no objection to it whatever to in & consider it will serve the best interests of the Co provided the Coast is always supplied with goods (which, God forbid, have been lacking for years) & we are thereby always in a position to undersell the rivals & can so fix the market that no profit is made by them . . . . . for they must sell their goods at the same prices as ours if they want to receive gold . . . . . .

The following papers have been translated from copies in the book, WIC.versp.1162. Copies of the three Declarations about Cormantijn ~~(photos)~~ are also in WIC.oc.11.)

To the Director in Guinea.

Letter from the Assembly of the XIX concerning the English complaints about the placing of ~~the~~ a Lodge at CORMANTIJN, and the refusal about the collection of their debts at St Thomé.

Honoured, Trusty, Well-beloved,

After closing the letters respectively addressed to YH, and the Captain-Commandant of St Thomé, there has still been sent to us "van lande over" a certain further Memorandum in justification of the complaints of the English GUINEA Company, about what happened before CORMANTIJN, and St Thomé aforesaid, which we have found good to send herewith in order that you may obtain pertinent clear declarations about the contents of the same, and transmit them to the Assembly of the XIX as early as possible, together with succinct reports about what happened both at CORMANTIJN and St Thomé, in order to deliver the same to their High Mightinesses, and ~~[Ranke te vertoonen, met van de voorz klagten, en te handen van de Heeren]~~, and to send a copy of the Memorandum to the Captain-Commandant for his explanation.

... ...

YH's good friends, the Directors of the W.I.C. at the Chamber here.

Amsterdam, 21 July 1645.

(WIC.versp.1162.pp.94.95.)

[or to demonstrate whether those complaints are justified or not]

Complaints made by the English Principals about the placing of a Lodge at CORMANTIJN.

"Translated from the English".

The 27 June Ao.1645. London.

Mr Cruso,

I declare that the Memorandum which was sent to the WIC.,was a true and not a false report about the building of a house between the Fort of the English and the Town CORMANTIJN, to verify which Thomas Herret(?) the skipper of the ship "Star", and ten or twelve other witnesses can be procured, how that at the time of my arrival on the Coast, the Fiscal, van der WEL by name, was lodging on board the ship which then lay in the roads, in order to effect the building of the aforenamed house; who had corrupted not only the Natives (Landsaaten) but also the King of that country, and made him believe that the English

were bankrupt (Note. Referring no doubt to the Civil War), and would not come and trade any more; upon which erroneous report he had got the consent of the Natives to build there. About which, a carpenter of ours being there, told them that if they wished to build (timmeren) there, they would first have to kill him & the other English there [They were evidently the 6 persons left in charge of the incomplete fortification referred to at B. on p 196 supra] ~~"van hem en de andere Engels & daar eerst moesten aan kant helpen"~~. This was reported to me by the aforesaid carpenter, and by the Natives there. Upon which information "soo hebbe den Fiscal en de Landsaten by den andere gebracht", who in his presence acknowledged that he and the others had deceived them with the above-written information. Regarding the matter at St Thomé ... ...

(sgd) Thimoteus Malgraves.

Translated, Ady 19 July Ao 1645 in Amsterdam by me,
(sgd) J.Steyns.
Notary Public. Ao. 1645.
(WIC.versp.1162. pp96-99.)

Complaint made by Walter Strickland, Envoy of the Parliament of England to the Ho.Mo.S.G. over the refusal of the payment of the English Company(s debts at the Isle St Thomé.
Le Haye. June 27 Ao. 1645. (Not copied).

Attestation about the building of the Lodge at CORMANTIJN, in refutation of the complaints made by the English concerning it.

We the undersigned declare and attest, like as we hereby attest and confirm that on the 16 October 1645, being on shore at CORMANTIJN at the house or Lodge of the English situate there, whose Factor ~~of which~~, by name Francisco SEARLE (who had come out as sub-factor on 4th August 1644 by the ship "Star", on which Mr Thymon Molgraef was Chief ~~presideerde as Opperhooft~~ & ~~Skipper~~ Factor) as also the skipper & ~~opperhoofd~~ chief of the ship now lying there, named Mr Yerlant, received us gladly. After some talk, the aforenamed Searle asked Jan Foullon whether the letters which he had ~~given~~ given to Mr Thymon Molgraef on his departure home had been well delivered. To this Foullon replied that he had understood that not the right person, but the WIC had got them into its hands; also that the English had complained about our nation in England, by saying that the Dutch(Duytse) had tried to drive them away by force from the port of CORMANTIJN. Wherefore the afnmd Foullon begged Francisco Searle, in the presence of Yerlant, to disclose the truth thereof; who thereupon declared that he had never heard nor understood such from our people, but on the contrary had several times heard him, Foullon, say that he had been admonished by General Jacob Ruyghaver to live in peace, concord and good friendship with the English; which we are willing if necessary to confirm by oath, In witness whereof we have signed this.

Actum, 21 October Ao 1645, in the Fort Nassouw in Guinea.
(sgd) Gerrart van Tets. Sub-factor.
(") Joost Scharenhorst.
(WIC.versp.1162.pp.101-103.)

Another Attestation about the placing of the Lodge at CORMANTIJN, in refutation of the complaints made by the English concerning it.

We the undersigned declare and confirm, as we hereby attest and certify it to be true that on the 18th November in the year 1645, being on shore at CORMANTIJN at the house of an inhabitant there named COFFY BRUYNY alias "Red", with whom, besides us, sat James Luice, Factor, and Hendrik Janss, Carpenter, on behalf of the English; coming with them from one discourse to another, the aforenamed carpenter was asked by J. Foullon whether he remembered what had been said ~~([illegible])~~ at the time when the ~~FANTYN and~~ CORMANTIJN and FANTYN Caboceros had requested us to place a Lodge there. Whereupon the carpenter replied yes. "Gevraagt aan" Foullon what reply Mr van der WEL gave when he was requested that one (regarding the placing of a Lodge there) should tarry till the coming of an English ship, replied that van der WEL had said that he would report it to the General. Foullon again asked the carpenter whether, since that time, we had attempted or taken in hand anything regarding the Lodge. To which the carpenter replied that since that time he had heard nothing at all of such, but that everything afterwards remained quiet. In witness hereof we have signed this with our usual signatures. Actum at the Fort Nassouw in Guinea, 20th November 1645.

[Coffy ~~Bruyny~~ Bruynys would mean Coffy Whiteman ?]

(sgd) J.Foullon.
(") Corn. van der Cost.
(") Joost Scharenhorst.
(WIC.versp.1162. pp.104.105.)

Third Attestation about the placing of the Lodge at CORMANTIJN, in refutation of the complaints made by the English concerning it.

We the undersigned declare and attest at the request and instance of the General Jacob RUICHAVER, and that each separately and generally demonstrate the further declaration how that it is true, declares first, separately, the then ~~late~~ Fiscal, Jacob van der WEL, that he was several times told by Mr Ruychaver, and has also heard and seen that the Captain named AMADOE and some "bij hebbende" Caboceros of CORMANTIJN have requested, yes prayed, also in the name of the BRAFFO and Caboceros of FANTYN that HH. would be pleased to resolve to place a Lodge, in order to send suitable goods on shore, so that they, as well as other factories, might be freed

from suffering damage [by having to buy goods on board]. Over which expressed desire of the Captain and Caboceros the said Ruichaver has deliberated and found good to tell the said Captain and Caboceros that he had indeed some inclination towards their requested, provided that the Caboceros and Braffo must hold HH. freed from getting into any dispute with the English; and that the cost of making the Lodge must not be a charge on the Company; but that after the placing of the Lodge he would then resolve to bring either a Factor or some merchandise into it. The aforenamed General took this matter to heart and ordered me, deponent, to proceed with the aforenamed Captain and Caboceros to CORMANTIJN in order to learn out of the mouths of all of them, the Braffo, Captain and Caboceros, whether that was entirely their meaning (of haar volcomen meninge tot dien eynde was treckende). Having arrived in the afternoon at(aan) the yacht "Gulde Rhee", and taken leave of the aforenamed Captain who would fetch me on shore the next day about the further ~~materialisation (materie)~~ discussion of the matter. This was done on the 7th July 1644, and I took with me the Upper-Factor Jan Foullon, admonishing him to pay good regard to what occurred, ~~as well as me,~~ which Jan Foullon aforenamed declares to be true that the said Fiscal told him this. Accordingly, and in order to carry out our order from the aforenamed General, we both presented ourselves at the house of the Captain of CORMANTIJN from whom we understood that he had had the deputed FANTYN Caboceros together with all of that place summoned. Meantime appeared one of the principal Blacks for the English, named AUGUA, living about their Lodge, who also had the chief command over their slaves, and doing other service, to whom the Fiscal respectfully (respectief) spoke with the request that he would go to the English in order to tell them about what was about to happen this day, further reporting to the said AUGUA what the aforenamed Captain and Caboceros had requested from HH; for we did not wish to proceed clandestinely, but make them acquainted with all the former, and to relate to us shortly (?) what the English had to say about it. He departed at once, we waiting patiently for the report. Meanwhile we, the two deponents, retired to a Caboceros named MARTE COENE where, (after he had been away two hours) the said AUGUA came back together with a carpenter, then being ~~Opper-head hoofd~~ without a Chief of the English, accompanied by several other Blacks, arriving in "superbe Manieren", asking us, the two deponents, what we had in mind now they were ~~devoid of a "Opperhoofd"~~. Whereupon he, the Fiscal, replied that which he had previously ~~informed~~ told AUGUA. To this the carpenter replied that he firmly believed that we had incited and bribed the Blacks to it, saying further that the character of the Blacks was well known to him who when they made a present

of a fowl liked to be recompensed for it with two "Pees" or 16 gulden. Against this we protested that his suspicion was untrue, but that he should ask the Cabocero MARTE COENE (in whose presence the statements were made) who declared to him in reply that ~~all the Caboceros~~ it was the doing of all the Caboceros who had earnestly requested and besought the aforesaid General for it. The carpenter questioning us sharply who had been deputed to request this from ~~the~~ HH, we informed him, saying Captain AMADOE and two Caboceros.

Meanwhile the aforenamed Captain invited us to come to his house saying that the Caboceros were assembled there. We requested the carpenter to go with us, to which he resolved. Having come in to the assembly and being yet scarcely seated, the ~~party (partij)~~ usual began to speak very improperly, asking the aforenamed Captain if he ~~he~~ had asked the General for the intended work of his own motion or by whom he had been commissioned. To this we, deponents, ~~that~~ declare that the following reply was given by the Captain: that he had done so in the name of the BRAFFO of FANTYN as also in his own and of the CORWANTIJN Caboceros, adding the following reasons: it being observed that few English ships came to visit them here with merchandise, and for a long time they had made no supplies contrary to promises, about which they had been compelled to request the Hollanders to place a Lodge so that they might always be supplied with merchandise, as other factories, as they saw the traders very much passed by ~~(verliepen)~~ because of the good opportunity of other places; in that it often happened that they could not put to sea for 7-8 days because of the heavy surf and then the traders went to Mouré; asking all the respective Caboceros whether this had not persuaded the BRAFFO and them all to request the aforenamed General that they would place a Lodge at their own cost in the hopes that merchandise would be brought into it by HH's order. To which ~~"gemeenden hant"~~ they replied unanimously yes; and in order to make the Englishman the more believe that it was not true that it was our doing, we asked the Caboceros generally whether there was anyone amongst them who could with truth declare that they had been asked to do this with gifts and presents, begging them in the presence of the English carpenter not to simulate. To this they roundly replied No, adding that they did not wish to bind themselves to one Nation alone, but that the aforenamed BRAFFO wished to marry two white wives (both of whom he loved equally).

The aforenamed carpenter then taking the Fiscal somewhat to one side, asked him to see to persuading the General not to proceed with the making of the Lodge, but to ~~step~~

discontinue it till the arrival of an English ship; to which the Fiscal replied that he would report this to HH. Herewith concluding their deposition, they declare that if necessary and being ~~required~~ requested thereto, they will confirm the same by oath. Thus done at the Castle D'El Mina in Guinea the 15th December ~~164~~ Ao. 1645.

(sgd) J.A.van der WEL.
(") Jan Foullon.

(WIC.versp.1162.pp.105-102.)

Summary. Declaration made on the 20th October 1645, before ~~the Auditor~~ Johan van den Perre, Auditor at the Island St Thomé, by Mathys Bachuys, late supercargo on the ship "Speedwell", that on the 26th April he came to anchor with the ship "Speedwell" before the Castle del Mina, without the customary salutes and striking of the flag being done by the ship. Whereupon the Fiscal, Jacob van der WEL, came on board to examine the goods in her; and as there were brought in the ship five Borykskens (?asses?) from the Island Cravo, the Fiscal bought them for Mr Jacob Ruyghaver, General on the Coast of Africa. These being paid for, he, declarant, and the skipper Josias Isaak, begged the Fiscal to let them have an anker (anchor) which they lacked, indeed about which dispute had arisen among the crew, who would not put to sea without it; which the Fiscal promised to put before the General, and thereupon left the ship, and was followed by the declarant and the skipper, who while going on shore, and standing up to his knees in the water, the Fiscal came from the Castle ordering him to proceed on board again, and then to depart because he had not shown proper respect, which the General took amiss. Whereupon they proceeded on board, raised anchor and sailed to CORMANTIJN, where they found an English ship "Leones", Capt. Jan Bronchaver, and the yacht "Fortuyn": he, the declarant, going on shore on 2nd May, thinking to do some trade and to obtain some victuals for the crew and slaves. ... ...

"Continuation of the Journal [Ruyghaserò] sent to the Mother-country by the ship "Haerlem" via Brazil."

(Translated from copy in WIC.oc.11. The previous Journal is not on record.)

January 19. -Departure of the ship "Haerlem" (by which Michael Hemmersem went home) for Brazil and home, via St Thomé, with letters to the Company, gold, tusks, soldiers &c. -

January 20. Meeting of Council, as appears in the Resolutions. A sub-factor left overland for Fort Nassau; and Factor Foullon and Coeymans by canoe to CORMANTIJN, taking the boy(s) of Arent Cock Adriaan, to set them at CABO CORS. ...

January 21. ... About 10 o'clock appeared here a soldier from CHAMMA, who had struck the Factor, Ille Hemmingh, on the head without cause, who was placed in the cell. ... ... With the closing of the gate, Symon Rutgersen together with ... the boy of the "Baas" to COMANI to take charge (waertenemen) henceforth, of the trade in the Lodge. To four of the principal ACCANISTS vizt: BEYDE JACCON, AFONNABA, CASSEE and DUAUW, who have been here now for 5-6 days from CORMANTIJN, promising if it be in any way possible to come and live at Elmina, was therefore ~~paid~~ made a present of 6 oz.

... (movements of staff & soldiers) ...

January 25. ... Four fishing canoes from Small COMANY sunk, through the harmattan, at LARJOU. ... This afternoon comes DONCQUOS from CABO CORSE here; declares that the Caboceros therewished to receive 5 "pees", and threaten to take them by force; all of whom (sic) I sent there at once with orders not to allow them a stuiver in that gelegentheit.

January 26. The sub-Assistant, Jan Claes, appears by canoe from COMANI for some merchandise, who returned there at once. Understood from him that the King of GREAT COMANY would appear there in 2 or 3 days. ...

January 27. -Death of soldier from Westphalia, sent out in 1643, appointed a cooper.

January 28. ... Understand that the people behind LARJOU (die van achter Larjou) are in hard war against AGUANNEER.

January 29. -The little son of the Vaandrig Jacobus Viddelerus died.-

... ...

January 31. ... The CRAA monthly canoe appears, where have received 60 Marks. ... ...

February 3. ... ... Found good to employ the yacht "Jongen Arent", till further opportunity, instead of the "Dolphyn", at CORMANTUJN, and to send the "Dolphyn" to the Bight for slaves and to St Thomé....

February 5. A Crom(Caromme) under Great COMANY plundered by TACQUY'S people, about which the people of GUAFFO pursued them and found one of our slaves, whom they wounded, but of no significance, and also panyarred a MUNSE servant. The "Dolphyn" saided hither from CORMANTIJN.

February 6. Had the aforenamed TACQUY called in, and asked why this had been done by his people yesterday. He declares it to be false, but that the people of COMANY on the 3rd inst., to his regret, had made fast a "muescatte" to four poles(?) on the way here near DEMYNE, placed with the head in this direction, which was released by his people, and again had had made a "fouttysie", to the affront of the GUAFFENFER, over which the disaster had arisen. ...

British

... ...

February 11. ... Forbade the MYNSE to make any stone houses without my knowledge. ...

February 12. Sent orders to CHAMA, when the Axem canoe appears to send it hither full of pallissades.

February 14. ... The mason and the master of the "Dolphyn" were placed in cell for spending the night outside the Castle, in the village, without permission

February 16. With the land wind the yacht "Dolphyn" sailed to COMANY for corn, where it anchored at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

February 17. At midday heard a great crying of the women at the river-side, calling out together that the people of COMANY had ~~ad~~ afgeset their "Wastersen", and had killed some; whereupon most of the MYNSE men armed had run there, but found it nothing else but that Jan Claes had panyarred 2 of TACQUY'S people for debt, and the party had again taken 3 of Jan Claes's; all of whom, after having understood the real reason, are sent to their masters, and shall settle the matter tomorrow.

occupied their waterplace.

In the afternoon, at 4 o'clock, appears the Axem canoe which has loaded palissades at CHAMMA, By it, understand from letter from Van der Cost that a Holland ship had lain..

trading before ASSINEE for 12-14 days. Apparently the Cheur- [Courlander]
lander; well provided with goods, as the Natives say. Therefore Domine Fiscus, with Van Sweeden, sailed at 7 pm. for COMMENDO to keep a look-out, with orders, on seeing a sail, to go on board and to exert themselves to the utmost to the profit of the Company.

February 18. In morning at 2 o'clock appeared Jan Geelendonck (Asst.Axem) again from AXEM. Understood from him that the Cheurland Fluyt had passed Cabo de [Courland]
Tres Puntas, and through a tornado had anchored about BOTTRY, intending, as they had declared to Geelendonck who had been on board, to fetch ballast and water before TACQUERARY, and then to proceed to CORMANTIJN to sell their goods, consisting in sheets, serges, knives, copper, and all kinds of bead work, which they offered to sell to us, namely: serge 2 oz., knives and sheets 20 pr benda. They had sold all their iron and rings to windward. (Note in margin: "Interloper on the Coast".). ... The dispute between TACQUI and Jan Claes now terminated.

Understand from Simon Entgersen that the King of COMANY does not wish any corn to be shipped on the "Dolphyn".

The sea battery near the Ensigns [Quarters], raised as a curtain

February 20. "De zee batterij als Gordijn bij de Vaandrig doen ophogen."

February 21. In morning at 8 o'clock see sail, which at 10 o'clock anchors above COMMENDO, and received Letter from the Fiscal and Arent Cock, who were on board, that it was the ship "Zeelandia", and will remain lying there till my advice. Therefore at once wrote that they should come down.

February 22. -The ship "Zeelandia" arrived from Zeeland Chamber with a Coast cargo-. Sent hither on 1st January; 20 guns, 70 "eaters" among whom 30 soldiers, who were at once sent on shore.

February 24. With the opening of the gate appears Jan Foullon who at my order has bought all the goods from the Commander of the Cheurland Fluyt, amounting to M.160. He therefore at once sails to TACCORARY in orer to receive them, with the object of transferring the merchandise into the "Dolphyn" at COMANY.

February 25. ... An ACCANIST, named ALEPHA, who has been away through the dispute, now comes here again. In the afternoon at 4 o'clock receive a letter from Foullon that the "Begierders" of the Fluyt do not intend

to deliver the goods bought by him before they have the gold in their hands, from which is to be observed that they must be "onvrij"; therefore decided that the ship "Zeelandia" should sail with the land wind to-night to TACQUERARY to see if anything can be carried out to the Company's profit, with the view to proceed thither myself to-morrow by canoe, to which end I am sending 12 soldiers on board so that there are now 19 altogether. To-day all the galleries (Gelderye) and also curtain (Gordyn) around the Castle were entirely completed (voltrocken) so that one can now conveniently make a public instead of a blind round.

[unauthorized]

[complete]

Praise God, at CHAMMA.

February 26. The ship "Zeelandia" set sail with the land wind and I then, with the opening of the gate, shipped by canoe to COMANY with Arent Cock, Dolphyn and the Baas, where, at 9 o'clock, we came into the yacht "Dolphyn", and departed again at 11 o'clock for CHAMMA, where arrived at 2 o'clock, leaving orders to skipper Baeert that to-morrow morning he should proceed to windward with the yacht by the land wind. Before we had come to CHAMMA, we saw a sail coming down, which came to anchor above the roadstead about a mile at sea. Meantime, Jan van Sweeden, coming from the Fluyt whither he had been with Foullon, appearing before me at CHAMMA, declared that they intended to come before COMANY; therefore at once sent him to the "Zeelandia" and the "Dolphyn", with orders to tell them not to set sail at night. Meantime the Fluyt had come to anchor as aforesaid. I therefore sent Ille Hammingh thither to learn why they had anchored ~~stopped~~ there (~~daar geset~~), who came back at once and reported that the skipper and factor of the Cheurlander did not intend to come down to the "Dolphyn" and "Zeelandia", nor were they willing to wait for them. We thereupon resolved that in the coming night the aforenamed ship and yacht should proceed as far as possible to the Fluyt; which I have let the Fiscal and Skipper know by letter.

February 27. This morning at 1 o'clock, the ship "Zeelandia" and the yacht "Dolphyn" set sail with a little land wind, as also did the Fluyt. About 10 o'clock Jan Foullon and van Sweeden, who had been sent at night to by the Fiscal to the Fluyt, came, from whom understood that the Cheurlanders did not intend to wait for the "Zeelandia", but desired that we would come with the "Dolphyn", and they were then disposed to hand over their goods. Whereupon we decided again to send thither Foullon and van Sweeden by canoe, to tell them that in so far as their Commission and all further dependant thereon were found to be good that they would then be treated as becomes neutral friends; but being to the contrary, we shall treat them as

is due to Interlopers; but the aforenamed friends had not been able to embark as they and our ships had already put to sea (~~het al 't zeewaert over hebben laten slaan~~), but the Fluyt to windward (Note in margin: "The Interloper escapes"), and towards evening they were all getting out of sight, and Foullon and van Sweeden came on shore again.

To the Lord be the honour, at the Castle del Myna.

February 28. ... As the ship "Zeelandia" and the yacht "Dolphyn" will undoubtedly appear to leeward, I have found it advisable to proceed to DE MYNA again (leaving orders with Ille Hammingh to send a White daily by canoe to SACCONDE to see if he could sight the Fluyt), where I appeared again at 3 o'clock with Cock, Dolphyn, Foullon, ~~van~~ Harreweyer and van Sweeden. ... This month redeived M.163.

March 1. ... The CRAA canoe, which had appeared on 26th, was now again despatched with orders, on hearing of the Fluyt, at once to advise me. ...

March 2. At the opening of the gate, found the "Zeelandia" about ½ mile above the roadstead, and skipper Baeert(?) came on shore, from whom understand that for the first 24 hours they had run S.E., close to the Fluyt; and if on the 27th there had been two hours more daylight, they would have overhauled the Fluyt, but on that night she had escaped (~~ontduistert haar~~). At 10 o'clock the "Zeelandia" comes to the roads and Domino Fiscus, skipper and 12 soldiers on shore, who also report as above; not doubting that the Fluyt will have left the Coast. ...

March 4. A canoe and a White sent to AXEM, likewise also to CRAA, to see if they could hear of the Cuurland Fluyt anywhere. ...

March 5. Ille Hammingh appears here from CHAMA. ... In afternoon the yacht "Visscher", full of merchandise, set sail to Fort Nassou (~~"om te lossen"~~; with her 4 soldiers: and towards evening Dolphyn, per ca-noe, taking with him a new flag of 7½ "cleeden". ... To discharge the K

March 6. This afternoon at 3.30., £ TACQUY (sic) [that the people of GREAT COMANY have expelled (uitgestoten) and again accepted (weder aannemen) his half brother IDWAN.] Therefore the said TACQUY has proceeded to FUTUY with all his people, to see if he can effect anything to his profit. As the King of FUTUY has panyarred some MYNSE, three Caboceros will "marcheren" thither, together with Arent Cock, Foullon and Harre-weger, who therefore went out at the closing of the gate. ...

[heard (?) that the people of Great Comany have expelled Tacquy or again accepted his half-brother Idwan]

March 7. With the opening of the gate, Arent Cock and the other friends came in, who came in again because of the report that TACQUY* had not gone away. ...
... At 9.30. DOUCQUES (? Reynier Doeckens, in Muster Roll as Factor at Axem in Dec.1645) who came in the morning leaves again for CABO CORSO by canoe with merchandise. The sub-assistant of COMANY appears, from whom understand that the expelled (uitgestotene) King with his mother had proceeded to CHAMA JNIABY (Jabie ?). TACQUY is still stopping (houdt hem) at CHIMBY (Simbo or Simeo ?).

March 8. At daybreak a canoe appeared from CHAMA, which at once sent back, with two COMANY ditto, full of merchandise. Also comes the sub-assistant Adriaan from CABO CORS, by canoe, which being laden, likewise sent back. At southern sun ("suyder sonne") Harreweger together with 3 MYNSE Caboceros to GREAT COMANI to further (tot vorderinge van) TACQUY'S affairs; also a Black, Jan VERDOES to FUTUY. ... ...

March 9. ... With the opening of the gate comes Harreweger, who had appeared here again last night at 10. He declared that the people of COMANY were not at all favourably disposed to TACQUY, and likened him to a foreigner, giving as an example, that if a General died here, whether one would choose an Englishman or a Frenchman as the head; which is only nonsense as TACQUI is a COMANIST born, also his good father (beste vaar) and uncle have been Kings there. He found the Quarter of the expelled(uitgestoten) King entirely burnt down. JAN VAN DER DOES reports to me from the mouth of the FUTU King that the latter will, as far as possible, be in TACQUY's favour (vafeur). The yacht "Visscher", being laden a second time, sailed in the evening at 7 o'clock for Fort NASSOUW, to be discharged. ...

March 10. Resolution taken. ...

March 11. The yacht "Visser" having discharged, came again into the roads here, from which understood that yesterday in the tornado a small boat of the "Jongen Arent", with the Vissers men and their clothes (as the hauser broke) had stranded about DON PEDRO'S VILLAGE, [bolsters?] and the Blacks had stolen their "bultsacken" and "bultvangers"; which I have ordered them to give back or shall burn their village. Sent the carpenter thither to repair the boat. In the afternoon, the yacht "Dolphyn" sailed to discharge inladen cargo before CORMANTIJN and CRAA, and then to proceed to St Thomé in order from there to search for the Cheurland Fluyt. ... Jan Foullon left by her for CORMANTIJN, & 4 soldiers and a mason to CRAA, to relieve the old ones. ...

* Tekki appears to be the generic name of the rulers of Eguafo. The name occurs in the 18th century, when there were similar instances of the King being expelled by his brother.

March 12. At this time Jan Suerman and Tryntien(?) married by the Sick-nurse(Ziekentrooster) Adriaen Lourensen, in the presence of, as Bidesman(?) (speelnoots) Meester Pieter Dominicus, the sister(?-~~sister~~)- "suyder") of the Vaandrigs wife Helene. May God grant his blessing. And they have held the marriage outside in the Vaandrigs house(Case). In the evening at 7 o'clock was the first chief (Hoofd) round done by me round the Castle, which will be continued; and as the Corporal will not give me the orders, I have put him in irons for bad sentry-go.

March 13. ... The bell ("clock") on the sea battery changed. ... ... In the evening at 7 o'clock the yacht "Visser" left with merchandise for MOURE & CORMANTIJN.

March 14. Simon Rutgeren departed with merchandise to COMANI. The bells(clocke) above the hall where prayers and sermon are held likewise changed. Six "halve leggers", among which 3 full of corn(milye), a flag, a "clocke", together with my goods and 12 soldiers sent to the ship "Zeelandia", where Domine Fiscus has done a general examination: but nothing of value found but 9 ankers spirits, 29 (doz??) knives, and two kegs beads, besides a good parcel of hooks. He therefore returned on shore with the 7 soldiers who were sent for supervision.

Praise God, at the Fort CHAMA.

March 15. This morning the ship "Zeelandia" sailed to windward; and at the opening of the gate, I sailed thither with the Baas and Harreweger by canoe, in order to proceed by the ship "Zeelandia" to AXEM, to inspect it and provide it with everything. Landed at SMALL COMANY about 8.30.,and shipped again from there at once. Arrived at CHAMA about 11.00. In evening the "Zeelandia" came to anchor a little to windward of us. ...

Honour to God, on the "Zeelandia".

March 16. In morning at 6 o'clock sailed on the "Zeelandia". -Obliged to anchor at 11 am.,owing to calm. ... The Fiscal left DE MYNA at 7 am for CRAA, in order there to take charge of ~~(waarnemen)~~ the yacht "Royaal" which was expected from Benyn with return cargo, and also from Ardre.

March 17. Sailed at 2 am., but becalmed and anchored at 6 am till afternoon, when raised anchor and sailed again for about an hour, then anchored again in 8½ fathoms, the village of ABARY being N.W. of us.

Praise the Lord, at Sacconde & Taccorary.

March 18. No land wind. Becalmed. At 7 o'clock went ashore by canoe with the persons with me, and arrived at the village Sacconde about 8.30. In afternoon sent 2 Blacks to TACQUERERI to inform them of our coming there. At 4 o'clock shipped thither and arrived at 6 pm.

March 19. In morning, with the land wind, the "Zeelandia" again set sail and in the afternoon "~~settende het dicht onder de wal~~" we gained ½ mile. In evening at 7 o'clock a little rain, ~~the~~ and as the wind was coming from the shore again, the "Zeelandia" raised anchor and set sail. ...

Setting course close under the shore

Praise the Lord, on the "Zeelandia".

March 20. Went on board the "Zeelandia" at 8.o'clock with the friends. At midday becalmed 3 miles above TACCORARY. At 1.30 pm again under sail. Becalmed in evening and dropped anchor in 20 fathoms, according to guess opposite Cape Three Points. ... (At Elmina soldiers put on the "essel" by the Fiscal for threatening each other with the "houwer").

Wooden horse

March 21. -Becalmed at midday at about the middle point of the Cape. ...

Praise the Lord, at the Fort AXEM.

March 22. There being no land wind, at 2.30 am shipped by canoe to AXEM. Arrived there about 11. In evening sent a canoe and a soldier with a letter to Cape APOLONIA, with orders to keep a good look-out, and if a sail passed to instruct it to come here. ...

March 23. The soldier returned in the night, fearing a tornado, but now left again for Cape APOLONIA. Last night the expelled (~~uitgestoten~~) King of COMANY sailed passed de MYNA to SABBOU. [Asabu]

March 26. ... In eveni-ng at 4 pm. saw a sail, Sent Anthony Herreweger thither.

March 27. In morning at 7 am. Herreweger returned, who declared that the sail which passed yesterday evening was an English yacht named the "Scharris"? (sic), 7 guns, 20 "eaters", skipper & factor (sic); wishing only to go to Calbarry for slaves, and with them to the Carribees; sailed from Plymouth 12 Feb. with an English Fluyt from which she was separated which they thought would shortly appear here also. ... At 9 o'clock saw another sail.

Sent Harreweger to her, but in afternoon she ~~stopped~~ anchored ~~(zettend)~~ here before AXEM. Herreweger came ashore with the Skipper Harbert Clasen Groenewoudt; being the yacht "Fortuyne", equipped by the Amsterdam Chamber; 60 tons (lasten - last = 24 cwt); 6 guns; 15 eaters; Sturman Claes Francke; having a Gold Coast cargo of F.57,000; sailed with the ship "Amsterdam" 30 December 1644, for Brazil....

March 28. Saw another sail at daybreak. Sent Herreweger on board who came on shore reporting that it was the English Fluyt "Leuwinne"; 160 tons; [dromes] 20 guns; 50 eaters; left Plymouth, with previous yacht, 12th February with Gold Coast Cargo; intending, after having traded the same, to proceed to Cape of Good Hope, and further to the Island St Lourens; the factor and skipper named Johannes Broockhooven, born in London but of a Brabant father and Zeeland mother.

Praise the Lord, on the yacht "Fortuyne".

March 29. Left AXEM by yacht "Fortuyne" to return to the MYNA.

Now at the Castle Myna, honour to the Lord.

March 30. Arrived at MYNA at 3 pm., after stopping at CHAMA (Factor Ille Hammingh).

March 31. Sent to Fort Nassouw a cask of meat, to be distributed to the soldiers for their costgeld; and ordered Foullon at ~~(tot)~~ CORMANTIJN to get in the way of the Englishman with his trade, as far as possible. ... [subsistence]

April 1. The CHAMA canoe sent thither with knives & fish hooks. The CRAA monthly canoe appears. Per the Land boat, with treins people & 4 soldiers for the "Visser", 20 weeks victuals sent to CORMANTIJN. The price list (marckt brief) now changed as appears from the same. ... To the King of FUTUY presented 2 oz. 4 eng. provided he will sow corn (vermits milyo in de aarde sal smijten).

April 3. The CRAA canoe sent back and ordered Domine Fiscus to come up.

Praise God, on the yacht "Fortuyne" at CORMANTIJN.

April 5. -Went on board the yacht "Fortuyne" with Harreweger. In evening anchored at CORMANTIJN, Fort Nassau firing 3 shots when passing it. Jan Foullon came on board to me; also the English Captain Broockhoven, and the Land Meester Francies, who returned ~~to~~ again to their ship at 9.pm.

April 6. In morning Foullon coming on board, sent him with Anthony Harreweger to the Englishman, who returned again at once bringing an invoice of merchandise as well as the price (~~koop~~), at which he would hand it over. Having examined the same, ~~examined~~ proposed the price at which I would accept them, as appears from the invoice below, and sent the 2 before-named persons with it a second time to the Englishman's boat.

Invoice of merchandise in the English boat.

... ...

... ...

... ...

...

These goods would, at a guess, have cost f.27,000 in Holland, and the increased (monteering) according to our offer denotes (importeren) M.150-1-4. But the aforenamed persons returning, reported that the aforenamed Broeckhoven could not decide to hand over the goods at such a price, but said he would come to me himself in person in the afternoon, as he in the evening appeared. And although it was late (since the purchase could not be agreed upon) nevertheless together with Francis, who also came, went on shore by the chaloup in order to make a present to the people of FANTYN, and at once went for that purpose. Ordered the yacht "Visser" to set sail to Mouré and Myna, as soon as the land wind blows.

April 7. ... ... Understood from the Blacks that the English had been to FANTYN. ... ...

April 8. This morning a large canoe came on board from Mouré, which at once sent back there again with 190 copper pots. At 8 o'clock, Domine Fiscus, from CRAA, came to me on board the "Fortuyn", and I then went on shore with Harreweger, taking with me "Linen Case No 58", some spirits, and six "tappity". Coming into the village, I took my lodging in VOTIJS house (Case) (Rotijs?). The ACANISTS and Caboceros came to ask me to lodge in the Captain's house (Case), which I would not do, because I had been three days in the roads, and they had not once visited me, but the Englishman. The ACANISTS and the Caboceros presented me with several sheep, and requested that I would again renew friendship with the Captain, which I would not listen to (verstaan).

[Rooties April 18 post]

April 9. At 9 o'clock foremoon, Domine Fiscus, Foullon, and the skipper of the yacht "Fortuyn" came on shore. In afternoon sent the CRAA canoe to Elmina with 8 sheep. ...

April 10. Presented one anker liquor to the ACANISTS. The English boat came on shore to break stones. In the afternoon the English came to us, vizt; Captain Brockhoven, Francis, and Master Ewout; at 10 o'clock they took their leave and went to the Lodge. Op the Captain AMEDOU, I and Brockhoven each presented with a cow.

April 11. This morning the dispute between me and the ~~afore-~~ aforenamed Captain was settled at the request of the ACANISTS and the Caboceros; on the Captain being condemned to give to the ACANISTS and the Caboceros each ½ benda, and for the poor ½ benda. At midday, at the pressing request of the English, went to dine with them. Took our leave at 5 pm. and went to the village "~~daar deftich van de Swarten ingehaalt.~~" where received by the Blacks in state.

April 12. In morning Domine Fiscus, Foullon and the skipper, together with the ACANISTS, went on board to trade. To the Caboceros ½ anker liquor given. In afternoon understood from the Blacks that Domine Fiscus had again gone thither by the CRAA canoe, in order to look out for the yacht "Royaal". Sent a letter to DE MYNA, by canoe and 5 sheep. In evening presented a carpet (tapyt) to the Captain of the ACANISTS. ... ...

April 14. Received letter from DE MYNA that on 12th in the night the western Zee punt of the Castle DEL MYNA was fallen down ~~afgevallen~~. Sent letters to Myna and Mouré. In afternoon presented a cow each to the ACANISTS & Caboceros. Sea so rough for the ACANISTS that they have not been on board. ... ...

April 15. The English fetched ballast with boat & chaloup. The cows presented yesterday now slaughtered. To-day a cask liquor came on shore. The Blacks made merry "~~balyaarden~~" over the cows.

April 16. Easter Sunday. Understood from Blacks here, who came from CRAA, that they had seen the yacht "Royaal" before YEMBA.

April 18. Gave an anker liquor to Caboceros & Captain, and also 4 p. lywaet; presented ½ anker liquor to ROOTIEN, as also ½ anker to Captain AMEDOU. ... Also ordered that the Captain of the ACANISTS shall receive 3 pees. monthly, as those at MYNA & MOURE do. ... In afternoon, Domine Fiscus, having examined the yacht "Royaal" came on shore with Dirk Geerlossen & Gageldonck(?). ½ anker liquor presented to MARTIN COENEN. ... ...

April 19. In morning at 8 o'clock sent the soldiers to the beach to go on board with the boat.

Praise God, at DE MYNA.

April 20. At 1 am. returned to de Myna by canoe with Domine Fiscus and Harrewegen, and into the Castle at the opening of the gate. The ship "Zeelandia", coming from AXEM where first arrived on 15th so that she has been just a month on the way, anchored in the roads, having on board ... ... 12 soldiers.

[Portuguese ~~boat~~ = canoe]

April 21. ... Per Almadia, 25 turkey carpets(tapyten) & 6 ditto carpetten sent to CORMANTIJN, waaraf understood through Jan Foullon that he had received 40 Marks yesterday; and our rivals(party),the English, 10 Marks, which the Blacks had bought at less price than from us, which sounds strangely in my ears, as all the ACANISTS and CORMANTIJNS had promised quite otherwise, about which, also, I have caused them to receive a handsome present. ...

April 23. The yacht "Royaal", which had sailed on 20th from CORMANTIJN (but touching at MOURE), comes into the roads at 3 o'clock in afternoon, with 425 Marks gold, which I have had brought to the "Zeelandia" by Coeymans.

April 27. With the opening of the gate appears Domine Fiscus, who had come into the village here last night at 8.30., relating that the aforesaid ~~ship~~ sail (i.e. the one seen to come to anchor before COMANY at 4.30 the previous afternoon) was an Englishman, named the "Spoeyswel" ... ... 50 tons; 17 eaters; 2 brass guns; having sailed fro St Christophel on 21st November last, having meantime called at St JACO, one of the salt islands; having no Coast cargo, but "rouwe" rings to barter for slaves in the Calbary, where they intended to proceed at once to obtain 100, and then to voyage again to St Christoffel; offering to sell 5 asses, among which 2 she-asses (which they had had to accept at the aforesaid Island St Jaco over a debt from the Portuguese), and desiriing 10 ounces for them; meantime have left COMANY and come dropping down. About which I sent Domine Fiscus thither for the purchase of the same, in so far as he could get them for one Mark (in order to see if they will further breed(teelen) for the convenience of the inhabitants); and comes to anchor here in the roads about 12 o'clock with the flag at top ~~(van boven)~~ without showing the proper honour to the Castle. The purchase of the asses having been made by the Fiscal for 8 onz., he seds the asses on shore by the "Zeelandia's" boats, and appears himself at south-western sun, not knowing otherwise than that the English yacht will set sail. But about 1½ hours afterwards, saw the boat coming hither. Made a guess that they

[Cape Verde]

would solicit an anchor as they had told the Fiscal that they had lost two at the Island St Jaco, and only one was still on board. But as they had not shown proper respect to the Company on coming to anchor, therefore found them unworthy to besichtigen or to enter the Castle, ordered the Fiscal with 6 soldiers to ~~waarnemen~~ meet them in the river and to tell them they must proceed on board again, and if they had need of anything to ask for it at CORMANTIJN where their Fort & an English ship lay; which, after some words of protest and request for an anchor, was at once done; and in the boat were the skipper, factor and mate. Whereupon they set sail.

April 28. At day-break the Englishman was still between this roadstead and CABO CORSO, but set sail; but thro' the Easterly wind "~~is geset~~" anchored about the aforenamed Cape, and afterwards, with a southerly wind, dropped further down to leeward.

April 29. ... To-day an ACANIST, named QUAQUO, who brings much gold, appeared and intends to stay here at DE MYNA; therefore gave him 2 onz. At 5 o'clock received letter from Arent Cock that at 2 pm. the Upper Factor Jacob Symonsen Dolphin had died at Fort NASSOUW.

April 30. Dolphyn's body brought from Fort Nassouw for burial. At this time did our first parade with the whole Company along the ~~gordynen & geldereye~~ curtains or gallery round the Castle; and fired at the great point (~~en vier op de groote punt doen geven~~), with the view of continuing ~~th~~ this every Sunday.

May 1. Dolphyn buried at the side of the Church.

May 5. Appeared by canoe from CORMANTIJN, Captn Broeckhaven ... .

May 6. In afternoon at 4 o'clock Captn Broeckhoven [after offering to sell his residue which I roundly refused him) departed with the ~~Predicant~~ preacher with their boat.

May 8. Meeting of Council. -(Vide post) p249).

May 11. Appear, with their gold and accounts, the comrades ("quanten") from CABO CORSE & CHAMA.

May 12. ... ... Understand that Captn Broeckhoven ships some goods on shore in the Lodge at CORMANTIJN. After closing of the gate comes a letter that the boat of the "Jongen Arent" had capsized in the surf at ATTITACQUI, whereby rather "getramponeerd". ~~[illegible]~~ [damaged ?]

May 15. Foullon & Valckraven appeared bringing attestation that Captn Broeckhoven with his ship "Leeuwinne" had this morning, at daybreak, set sail from CORMANTIJN to Cabo de Lopes. ...

May 18. ... Just understand from the ACANISTS BEDE JACON, ANIM, and PONCO, who ~~were~~ came here yesterday, that Captn CORRENKYNSCHEEFHALS*(??), AFFOMBA alias Ruichaver, & ADDUAUW alias Meester Leu, being also 3 ACANISTS; as also AMMEDOU Captn of CORMANTIJN with some others have bought various sheets and boatswains knives at 2 a 24 p. ... from Captn Broeckhoven, but have got quite half on credit, which they will pay at opportunity to Meester Francis.

... ...

(Sundry entries re fights and quarrels among the garrison. Last entry, May 26th.)

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* meaning, Correnkyn "Wry-neck"

[Flung-haser?]

"Continuation of the Journal, going home by the ship "Zeelandia", this 27th May 1645, at the Castle DE MYNA."

May 27. -"Zeelandia" sailed with a cargo of slaves for Brazil, to sail home from there with cargo of sugar.-

June 1. The yacht "Jonge Arent" sailed to CHAMA to cut firewood for the lime kilns.

June 2. Towards midday appeared the AXEM monthly canoe, where the dullness of trade still continues, and not more than M.3 Oz.7 Eng.20 received; mostly arising from the fact that since the arrival of the Durgendam-Courland Fluyt the ACHENEESE & ABBINEECE have not yet been there. Also they have had to do with an AXEM women, ~~who has very much threated that she is here [illegible]~~ therefore they dare not come down. Still, they have been told by Van der Cost that they might appear freely and no wrong should be done them. Also has a Black there, "ditto Factor eenich gelt op't hoofdt verschooten", killed ~~shot dead~~ a man, which is causing much disturbance(bruliades); all to the injury of the trade. ...

June 5. The people of COMANY request "Cussee" the way might be opened. Het nedergestoorte zee rondeel at Fort Nassau weder opgemaakt.

June 17. [illegible] The Craa monthly canoe arrived.

June 8. An ACANIST named BAFFER, who has been away about 1½ years and used to bring down much gold, appeared again.

June 9. The Craa canoe, with 3 ps. turkey stuff, 5 bos. Lonts(?) together with the gold chest, sent back there. -English yacht, Mr Lucas, passed having only a slave cargo, for CORMANTIJN, Calbary and to Barbadoes (with slaves). Visited by Heyndrick Caarloffs, (Domine Fiscus being sick). ...

June 11. ... In evening at 5 o'clock, a Black, HENNEQUAAS Cusyes brother, besides a woman with her child, drowned in the first river between Jan Claessens (from) Carom and FUTUY.

June 12. The fishermen at MOURE are playing the master (stellen wacker de pipe) about their giving toll; and will not let more than one fish be received, whether much or little be caught; about which some of the Caboceros are detained in the Fort. ...

June 14. ... The ACANIST, OESJEN, having been here 5-6 days, left again. ... [Jonker]

June 15. The AXEM canoe sent back there. The Land ~~rondeel~~ turned at Fort Nassouw, towards the garden, also ~~afgevallen~~. fallen down

June 17. The wife of the King of FUTUY, ADUACQUUMA, gave birth to a daughter.... The English yacht, Mr Lucas, sailed from CORMANTIJN to trade 100 slaves in the Calbary.

June 22. At the Fort Chama a soldier died (who had come out in Zeelandia in 1645).

June 23. ... Understand that the ACANISTS who are staying at ABRAMBOE, among whom also some who have gone from here, have been fighting against the people of AMP JAFFERS (being a District between ACANY and ABRAMBOE - Tjuffer ?) on account of panyarring; upon which 4 of the aforesaid AMP JAFFERS were killed and 2 captured. [Abrem].
...

June 30. From a letter~~s~~ from Foulldon understand that some Sailors on the yacht "Fortuyn" are suffering severely from the country sickness; over which Master Egbert together with the skipper & factor to-day shipped thither. The ACANIST traders having previously bought (~~gecocht~~) their goods in great quantity and at a small price, they now wish to sell (~~venten~~) them at a very high one; to which the other traders are not willing(~~graach~~), therefore the goods mostly remain lying, which causes a sober receipt along the whole Coast; as also the aforesaid ABRAMBOUSCHE dispute (~~questie~~); so that since 16 May we have received not more than M. 208 Oz. 2 Eng. 14.

July 3. Understand that the people of AMP JAFFER have been against each other at a burial, over which 3 ter neder syn gehouden. [where killed]

July 4. About 10 am. sent the AXEM slaves to CHAMA to bring the firewood to the yachts. In afternoon the whole palissade from the gate to the beach fell down. Rained hard the whole day.

July 5. One of the asses now died in the bush. The soldiers who stayed outside put on the wooden horse.

[Polar] July 8. At night Master Pieter, as some soldiers at CHAMA are sick, went there with the AXEM slaves. At the opening of the gate Arent Cock and Coeymans left overland to Fort Nassouw to visit Foullon. The CRAA canoe, which came on the 4th, returned thither. At 11 o'clock see a sail S.W. of the Castle, to which Domine Fiscus shipped before the closing of the gate. Also returns at once to declare it to be an English ship with cargo, named "Mr Jemmis": 100 tons; 20 guns; 40 eaters; skipper Mr Yrlant; sub-factor Mr Lucy: having sailed from the Downs about 3 months ago~~:~~: on 13th May sailed into and on 13th June out of SERRA LEONES; where they understand that the Courland Fluyt had been on the Quaqua and Grain Coasts, where she had traded more ~~ivory~~ tusks, also got a parcel of the same from the English Legger in Serra Leons, and had departed out of the aforesaid river homewards in the early part of April. Also, ~~had parted~~ on 2nd instant near Cabo de Palm, had parted from the yacht "Bruyn Visch" which was destined from the Chamber of Amsterdam to East India. ... The fallen palissade repaired again.

July 9. Before the sermon(predicatie) Domine Fiscus again shipped to CORMANTIJN in order to see if he could effect any thing with the Englishman to the profit of the Company.

July 10. Had some boxes filled with sand where the Blacks pick out gold, on the sea beach along the village. ...

July 11. At MOURE also, had some boxes filled with sand from the beach. ...

July 12. Understand that the English, with the little merchandise still berustende with us, are vrij wat gestut in the trade; and at Fort Nassouw 21 Marks gold received to-day.

July 13. From the privé factories, to wit, CHAMA, COMANY and CABO CORS, received 200 p.knives, 33 p.sheets and 14 p. yellow serge. Another ass died.

July 15. Here at DEL MYNE, as at Fort Nassouw, we find the soldiers alarmed by the great sickness. To-day HENNEQUA and JAN CLAESSEN spent M.27.

July 16. ... The ACANISTS of Mouré, as here, have, at my request, firmly promised thet they will not visit the English. ... The ship "Eendracht" arrived from Amsterdam; skipper Jan Teuniss(?); sailed from Texel 13th May with Coast cargo of f.118,005; 24 guns; 53 eaters, among whom 12 soldiers consisting in one corporal, 9 Adelborsten, & 2 schildergasten ... ... also some merchandise & provisions amounting to f.23,000 for St Thomé and voort, as now that Island has been placed under our direction of the Northern part of Africa; with orders to send one of the most capable Factors here thither to take charge of the trade and victuals besides the goods which have come.

July 20. Sent Jan Foullon to CORMANTIJN to see how it was with the Englishman, taking with him ~~a present (recompentie) of~~ payment for the beer & bread presented. ... The Fiscal found an anker of gebrande knives (and other goods) at transshipment of sugar from the yacht "Jongen Arent". As the skipper threatened him, he was brought ashore, and put in the cell.

July 21. As a Black, COFFY, has had to do with one of HENNEQUA's wives, have therefore ordered him to pay one large benda and one sheep. Two ACANISTS being drunk played the master(~~a~~ wacker de pippen gestelt)

with shield & spear (schild & asegeyien) against ADOUAUW QUAQUOU, over which they were put in irons by the Captain. Get letter from CORMANTIJN written by Geerloffsz that the Englishman complains very much about the ACANISTS who are there, as they do not keep their promises to buy his goods at the underwritten prices; he is therefore very sad about the arrival of our ship. Lywaet, 126 pr benda; serge & croon ras one do; boatswains knives 21; gebrande do 28; large comme 16 p.; medium 24 p.; small 32 p.; copper work 56 lb per benda; and rods 2½ engels.

July 22. ... The two Acanists who yesterday played the master (pypen gestelt) had put in the cell. ...

July 23. The aforenamed Acanists of HENNEQUA and JAN CLAESSEN and others voor beede gelicentieert. Before the closing of the gates, Jan Foullon appeared again from CORMANTIJN, from whom understood that the English are out of knives and sheets.

July 24. Now the last ass has died, from which can be observed that beasts cannot live ~~(naturen)~~ in this climate.

July 25. ... All the ACANISTS who are here, being summoned by the King at FUTUY over the dispute which occurred on the 21st, have all gone there.

July 26. ... The Barber [Doctor], Master Egbert Lomeyer of Groningen (came out in 1644) at Fort Nassouw ~~ie~~ died having already come through the country sickness.

...

July 28. A week of rough seas, but now ~~extraordinary~~ extraordinary, upon which no canoes at all can come out at CORMANTIJN; wherefore the English trade is at a stand-still. We also, in order not to undersell the goods fruitlessly, de ACANISTS soo veel moogelijk sy ophouden. ... The ACANISTS appeared here again from FUTUY.

July 29. Through the rough seas we could not as yet get any goods on shore; about which the ACANISTS are very difficult(moeylijk) and persistent for a present. ...

August 1. Meeting of Council; and found good, through lack of vessels, to call up the yacht "Fortuyn" from CORMANTIJN, in order to transport the goods to St Thomé, with the view to abandon the port of CORMANTIJN;

in order to see if I could draw the ACANISTS here or under Fort Nassau, since we, by keeping the traders there, are useful to out rivals (party) especially as we find that the Blacks there are more attached to the English than to the Company, which by abandoning their port will aparently produce a change. The Price list (Markt brief) now changed. At "suyder son" the yacht "Ryaal" sailed to Fort Nassouw with merchandise.

August 2. As the ACANISTS take great offence at the current prices (markt brief), have given them 6 onz. for their contantment. Arent Cock, the Baas, OESJE HENNEQUA, and some other Acanists have been on board the ship "Eendracht". ... The AXEM monthly canoe appeared, which at once sent up again. Understand that TACQUY last night marched up from CHIMBY to COMANY. [Simco ?] How it will progress, time will show.

August 3. The Acanists begin to trade and have spent about 40 Marks.

August 4. Towards midday appears Van der Cust hier. An ACANIST, ~~who~~ having spent 13 marks ~~here~~ gold, left again with promises that he will again take his dwelling at DEL MINA towards the FUTUY feast (kermis), and also promises that he will not go and trade with the Inglish, over which sent them(haar) 4 onz. Now again received 40 Marks.

August 5. The "Eendracht" begins to take in ballast. Today again received 40 Marks, and at Fort Nassouw where it was the first day of trading, 51; so that in two days received 171 Marks, consisting chiefly in serge, sheets, knives, nepten and iron. ...

August 6. Dirk Geerloffsz appeared here overland from Mouré. Reports that the English lywaet is very small and bad; they also give 140 a: also that they are sending talck and some iron on shore. The CRAA canoe came with an anker sinkesou; has there received last month 41 Marks. ...

August 7. ... The Adelborst Claes van Reyn, who has been in dispute at CHAMA with the Blacks over the fish beschaaren, comes here wounded in two fingers. [pelfering] Therefore sent there Valck Proeven, who is still sickly to enquire into everything, and the Corporal van Ditteren at midday; and the Caboceros of DE MYNSE also go thither at night. Captain

had sent to open the path to the dead chief Ahin Ousi who had already received 2 pieces (cloth?) for that purpose

Captn ETTROU hebbende (having capacited?) een COMANIER ~~welke~~ (whom) den Koning ADUAM, (om den wegh te openen aan een der Opperhoofde Ahin OUSI die daar toe reeds 6 pees hadde ontvangen gesonde) whereupon had them both sit in the cell besides a Mynse Mancebe who had gone between them both, To-day received 19 Marks.

August 9. The CRAA canoe left ~~to-day~~ again. To-day received 16 Marks.

August 10. .... Understand that the English have panyarred some goods bought here by the CORMANTIJN ACANISTS; also, previously, from ANIM 6 Bende gold, which Captn CORRANKYN had brought on board in order to buy something

August 11. Now all the goods have been brought on shore out of the "Fortuyn", so that she will again take in goods for the Bight, St Thomé & CRAA. Understand from letter from CHAMA and the MYNSE Caboceros that the dispute about the fish ~~bescharen~~ (pilfering) has come on through both the Whites and Blacks, and the Adelborst has self de Harpoen in hand gehaalt. ...

August 12. ... Ordered that both Whites and Blacks at CHAMA shall prevent further dispute, or shall find other means there.

August 14. A great ACANIST, residing at CORMANTIJN, named BEDIACON, has the request made, with the showing of his signet, that he might come here, which was allowed him per monstring eenes stocx als nu meete vriende in't land een(s) colven geweest.(gewest).

August 15. Jan Foullon left overland again, as also Dirk Geerloffsz, to see how it ~~is~~ stood with the English merchandise. ...

August 16. ... -Yacht "Visser" returned to-day from voyage to the Bight, with 13666 lb. in 397 p. tusks.- ...

August 17. ... At midday at 12, DIEGO ROPOSO, being the principal & discretest MYNSE Cabocero, died of apoplexy. ...

August 20. ... At the opening of the gate appears Dirck Geerloffsz who declares that the English have brought nothing else on shore but some iron, and give their lywaet at 130 a pr benda; but receive little and intend to depart within a month. ... ...

August 22. By the CRAA canoe which arrived the day before yesterday, sent two spades and an anker liquor. Ysaack COEYMANS and Geerloffsz sailed to the yacht "Visser" in order to look after the merchandise of the late Harreweyer deceased. The arrested MYNSE again released, provided they promise to pay onz.8, eng.4, to the Caboceros. At 1 o'clock in afternoon Heyn Jantsz, who came out as Adelborst, died at the small Fort St JAGO. ...

August 23. This morning another of the principal Caboceros, named ANTHONY FERERE(?), died.

August 25. ... This morning a large canoe with an Englishman from CORMANTIJN, having some Turkish cloths and other trifles with him, shipped to windward, apparently to look out for the English ship coming down (which understand is lying before TACQUERARY).

August 27. The Captain of the ACANISTS at CORMANTIJN asks us to come and trade there again, which we have refused him.

August 29. -Heyndrick CAERLOFFEN (the Fiscal being still sick) returns from visiting the English Fluyt anchored before COMANY, bound for Calbary for slaved.- ... To-day an ACANIST from CORMANTIJN, named COFFY, came to live here from CORMANTIJN.

September 2. -The Axem canoe arrived with Jan Melaat.-

September 3. -Jan Melaat left again with merchandise for Axem.-

September 4. The Assistant of COMANY, who came yesterday, left again thither with merchandise.

September 6. The sub-assistant of CABO CORS appeared here and at once returned with some merchandise.

September 8. To-day again one of the oldest Caboceros died. Jan Foullon, who has been at CORMANTIJN (to see how it stands with the Englishman) has learnt that they are still well provided with lywaet.

September 9. ... The Council met & passed sentence on the delinquants.

September 11. The mason & carpenter appeared again by the

monthly canoe from CRAA. Jan Foullon again departed for Fort Nassouw. Understand from ~~Craa~~ CRAA that the people of ACQUIMMA (Akim?), being a village some distance inland (vrij lantwaert in) besides some ACANISTS, in about 6 days spent about 20 Marks extraordinary fine gold; so that if the English do not prevent it, a good ~~trading~~ new trading town is to be expected there. ...

September 13. To the Caboceros paid the debt of Quau Henrico, namely ~~4~~ 5 onz, 8~~eng~~g. .... The sea, which has been closed since May 21st, placed open again by the Caboceros, so that now everyone may freely fish again with nets or otherwise.

September 14. An ACANIST from CORMANTIJN, named BEDE ~~JACON~~, JACON, came here.

September 15. The yacht "Visser" again to CHAMA for firew wood.

September 16. Had a kitchen ~~(combuys)~~ of 11 foot long and 5½ broad, made at each side of the Church, against the pillars.

September 18. As now the Cabocero DIEGO RIEPOSO, who died on 16th ulto, was buried with great solemnity, where a beast has been killed in his honour, and since he was the most distinguished of all the MYNSE Chiefs (Opperhoofden), I have joined to it a corporal's guard of soldiers, who fired 3 volleys.

September 19. ... The ACANIST BEDE JACON, with promises of coming to settle here within a month, upon which presented him with 2 onz., left again for CORMANTIJN. ...

September 20. The Black goldsmith who having panyarred a Mynse woman without reason, has sat in the cell for 8 days, was released provided he pays a "asievanou" to the Caboceros.

September 21. Another Black, named Elephant, who has also sat in the cell for about 14 days, had flogged and released, about which QUAU of Mouré, who came here yesterday, was so gestoort, and is doorgegaan sonder spreeken. ...

September 22. The King of FUTTUY's wife appeared here today to bury a body that was her & TACQUY's susterling, and left again in evening with a present of 2 onz. ...

The Lord be praised, at Fort Nassouw.

September 25. In morning about 7.30, went with 6 Adelboorsten overland to Fort NASSOUW where arrived about 1 o'clock, and received a warm welcome from Whites and Blacks.

September 26. Door de Caboceros & Acanists hartich versouck, doch hier te mits eens wilde comen.

Praise the Lord, at the Castle DE MINA.

September 29. With the opening of the gate returned to DEL MINA with all the aforesaid friends, as also Foullon & Douckes; where arrived about 12.30 in the garden. ...

September 30. After morning prayer Foullon & Douckens left again overland. Understand that yesterday, on the COMANY way, one of TACQUES slaves, going for wood, was strangled at a tree; not knowing whether it was done by himself or by another. Also that DOUCQUES has panyarred a JAMBASCHE Black on the head of Anthony POTKAES, who has been away now for about a month; alle welke door de Captn & Caboceros voornamentlijk den BRAFFO, met gewelt uit de booyen heeft gehaalt. The CRAA monthly canoe appeared. Found that those of ACQUIMMA have spent nearly 90 Marks there this month; so that the receipts along the whole Coast have been M. (sic).

October 1. As to-morrow is the FUTUY feast I have sent Arent Cock, skipper Jan Tounesen, Butler, and Siekentrooster, and Sergeant and 12 soldiers, also Symon Cock, with a present of 7 onz. for the contentment of the King; strictly charging them to inform him of the discourteous behaviour (onheüsch bejegenen) of the CABO CORS people. ...

October 2. -The yachts "Visser" & "Reyal" to CHAMA for firewood. The CRAA canoe with a case cutlasses (houwmessen), 7 bas hooks and a "nachtglas" returned thither.

October 4. ... Understood that Mr Ekerts(?) in order to collect debts, has proceeded to AYASIANG, where [Amashun] Foullon has ~~made~~ also gone, from whom we learnt that Mr Yrlant was still fairly well provided with iron & lywaet. ... Before the closing of the gate the friends returned from FUTUY and have been very well treated there by the King HENNEQUA & JAN CLAESSEN. They declare HEYNPONY (the King?) has promised to ~~perform the work~~ do the business of CABO CORS to our contentment.

October 5. ... This morning ACCRISSANGS, alias Jan CLAESSEN had a young daughter born.

October 6. ... Understood from a certain Black at CORMANTIJN, named Jantie van ROEYE, that the English had brought on shore into their Lodge, 14 cases lywaet, 3 do. serge, 700 p. rods, 100 copper pots, some small nepten; but there was still something in the ship.

October 7. Yesterday, as to-day, 14 marks spent by HENNEQUA and JAN CLAESSEN.

October 9. Understand that at Mouré a CRAA slave, going by orders of Schraël, to the Salt Crom to collect debt, was killed(gemassaegt) by the debtors.

October 10. See two sails to which Domine Fiscus proceeds by canoe, the one being the yacht "Dolphyn" which anchored, having traded a cargo of 297 slaves at Calbary and the windward Coast, and delivered it at St Thomé. ... ... The other being the ship "Postpaart" having traded at Rio Sester, Cabo Mount, ACCKINE, ABBINE &c.

October 12. Fluyt "Rendracht" arrived; skipper Cornelis Schuyt; sailed from Texel July 28th; 240 tons; 72 eaters, among whom 30 soldiers & one named Alpert Rickes van Jewaerde with his wife Grietjen; 20 guns; bringing a good Coast cargo. By it received leave from the Assembly of the XIX to proceed home. Mr Fiscal Jacob van der WEL appointed in my place; and in his place Heyndrick CAERLOFFSZ, sub-factor; for whom proper Commissions and documents were sent; and after reading the same had 7 shots fired. ... Foullon appeared here from Mouré.

October 13. The price list (markt brief) changed. Foullon applied for leave to go home, which was granted. ... DOUCKES appeared here from CABO CORS. ...

October 14. Foullon and Doucker left again.

October 15. Ordered that Foullon shall proceed to CORMANTIJN in order to learn the state of the English, as also to make a attestation of our doings. Doucken appeared here again.

October 17. ... Learnt from Foullon that the English have only 2 canees cases lywaet, but a good deal of iron on shore; and Mr Cheerles has declared in the presence of Skipper Yrlant that he had never heard that I had tried to remove them from CORMANTIJN; of which

attestation has been laid over(belegd). And the English ship "Mr Jemmis" left CORMANTIJN in the afternoon about 4 o'clock, for England, with which the said Cheerles left, leaving in his place at the Lodge James Lucy. ...

October 18. The AXEM canoe, which came yesterday, sent back thither with Cas(?) half geb. 6 pieces serge~~d~~ and a case sheets.

October 19. Meeting of Council -as per Resolution. ...

October 23. The Land boat set sail to Fort Nassouw with Sergeant Lot (Lotreynders in Muster Roll), 2 corporals, 6 Adelborsten, 2 schildergasten & the Barber of the "Postpaaert", in order to relieve the old. ~~Mette MYNSE raet were appointed(gestelt)~~, in place of the 3 deceased Caboceros, ~~AQU~~ were appointed(~~gestelt~~) AQUOAW, ACRA, and HENRICO pardoned and again ~~aengenomen~~ released. With the Mynse Council

October 24. In morning at 7 o'clock the boat returned from Fort Nassouw with 9 soldiers. Understand that yesterday at CORMANTIJN great disturbance(bruliade) arose over which 9 were killed (doot gebleven) among whom SANGERS(?); which arose over a cow which JEMS, a Black, who formerly resided with the English, gave to the people of INCOM, upon which the BANTIER Quarter had been very jealous and have ~~shot~~ pierced the beast with spears(asegeyen) in the hide, when it appeared in the market; that this had given rise to a great calamity, and INCOM Quarter, except MARTEN COENS house, had also been entirely burnt down.

October 31. Towards evening QUAUW or SPECKIE, who has been now over three weeks at FUTUY with quite 100 other ACANISTS, came to DEL MYNA with 300 strong. This last month received not more than M. (sic), the cause being that the aforenamed ACANISTS are keeping their gold against the arrival of an English ship; as also over some disturbance(bruljade) that has arisen among them.

November 1. ... Gave a beast and 2 ankers liquor to the aforenamed ACANIST, as also 2 onz. to the Caboceros, for their entertainment. Meeting of Council, ... as also, since Cock & Foullon are departing, Coeymans was appointed here, and Van der Cost at Fort Nassouw, as Upper Factors, receiving the same pay. Also Pieter Haermensen sub-factor granted 25 gl. p.month.

November 2. QUAUWE or SPECKIE now accepted(aangenomen) by us as the Captain of the ACANISTS here, and placed him first at ABEOU, with promises that ~~hij die~~ the COCORITISCHE soo wel als CRISACQUEESCHE ~~sal toegedaan sijn~~ shall be added to him; upon which they have consumed the beast and ankers liquor. ...

November 3. Jan Foullon and Van der Cost departed to Fort Nassouw with orders at once to proceed to CORMANTIJN in order to speak with the English carpenter about the making of the Lodge. ...

November 4. In morning the yacht "Ryaal" came into the roads and brought on shore 2 cases lywaet which were not wanted at CRAA, as also M.165 gold. To-day the ACANISTS (who have spent nothing since 10th ulto) begin to trade, and spent about 44 marks, chiefly consisting in nepten, laekens, serge, & iron.

~~Understand that the Baas has obtained 3-kegs auriferous~~

November 9. - 5 soldiers placed on the "esel" for staying out at night.-

November 12. Understand that the Baas has obtained 3 kegs auriferous(goutreich) sand, and 4 beams at CHAMA.

November 13. As now at FUTTUY great disturbances (bruliade) have occurred through some ACANISTS, over which one killed(doot gebleven) which tends to the injury of the trade, HENNEQUA's wives consented to stay and dwell here at DE MYNA.

November 15. ... As now, over the marriage of a woman, great dispute has again arisen in ACANY, whereby two have been killed, all of EFO OUSIE's friends ~~who~~ wishedto go there over it, which have for this time stopped ~~gestut~~; which is however for the injury of trade.

November 16. ... The Captain QUAURBE and HENNEQUA left in order to settle the dispute at FUTTUY.

November 20. Received from Jan Foullon an attestation of the English, who has been at CORMANTIJN on Friday & Saturday. Sent some of my goods to the Amsterdam "Eendracht".

~~November 24~~

November 24. Because of the dispute at FUTUY cannot yet be settled, few ACANISTS appear, which causes the receipt of gold to stop ~~(stutten)~~. ...

(2) November 26. As the Sick nurse(Sieckentrooster) Adriaen Lourensz was sick, Is. COEYMANS preached the sermon(sermoen gedaen), being Sunday.

(1) November 25. Have the Privy broken down, and daer 9 beams of 36(?) feet and een in't vierkant doen in steecken, as now Mr van der WEL the chamber of the tower ingenomen. The CRAA canoe with some refreshments and a soldier shipped thither.

November 27. ... Now the people of ABRAMBOE have killed 8 FUTTUYS over a trifling cause.

November 28. ... A little before evening prayer, see a sail, to which the Fiscal ~~ships~~ goes; and comes to anchor about 7 o'clock somewhat above the roadstead.

November 29. With the opening of the gate appeared Skipper Schuyt from CHAMA. The aforesaid sail fired 3 shots, and as it is the yacht "Fortuyn", the Factor Geerloffsz & Skipper Haerpert come on shore; having, on this voyage, traded 8020 lb tusks, 75 cloths, & 12 Rogge vellen; with which received letter from Mr Commander Mulder that he was not minded to place himself under our Direction, but would much rather depart home, and has also no garrison nor victuals, requesting(?) we will send them. ... The aforesaid yacht, on the Grain & Quaqua Coast, has been near an English ship the "Hope", on which was Mr MULGRAVE, who also had with him a yacht in order to trade Benyn and the Bight; from which our people have understood that Mulgrave has a well assorted cargo; and also Mr Jemmes Branton, with also about 16,000 guld. merchandise, ~~who had died there~~ at C. Verde, who had died there. So that it appears that there is a new Company (which) will earnestly take this trade in hand again. Which ship was sighted by us here about 10 o'clock, but through a tornado from the East was obliged to anchor a mile above the roads. Towards evening Foullon & van der Cost appeared here. [St Thomé]

November 30. The English ship passed in the night, & lies becalmed between Mouré and CABO CORS.
To-day, being Thursday, morning, after sermon, handed over the whole of my Direction to Mr Jacob van WEL, and in the presence of the garrison & the ships' companies, on the large battery, produced(voorgestelt) the

Commission of their High Mightinesses, as also that of the Fiscal. Whereupon followed 3 discharges of musketry & the firing of all the cannon both at the Castle Del Myna and ronduyt St Jago, as also on the Amsterdam "Eendracht", "Fortuyn" and "Dolphyn"; but the yacht "Ryaal" through lack had to remain silent. May God grant good fortune & heil; but as, through the closing of the accounts, I should have to be daily on shore, I have resolved ~~somewhat to behouden my overblijf here~~ stay here for while. ...

December 1. -Foullon & van der Cost to Fort Nassouw to hand and take over the goods there. ... Now TACQUY pays his long outstanding debts. ...

December 4. -Yacht "Dolphyn" to CHAMA for water & firewood.-

December 7. ... Presented to the 3 Captains and Caboceros 3 bendas and 3 beasts. Understand that the English ship "Hope" had 24 guns and many men on board, among them 20 destined for the shore in order to rebuild(weder optemaken) their ruined(vervallen) Fort. It brings here, so they spread abroad, a respectable(deftige) cargo. Now the whole ["plaesse"] of the Castle de Myna entirely overlaid(overleyt) with ["klipsteen"]. (courtyard) (paving stone)

December 8. -An ACANIST, OTTYEN COFFY, died at FUTUY. Council again assembled. ... ...

December 9. Foullon and van der Cost appeared here towards midday, who had been at CORMANTIJN to the English; declared that they had seen some laakens, serge and tin work sold there. (cloth-sheets)

December 10. ... Last night Captain OESSIES wife, Abbee, died at Mouré; as also here, ~~and~~ at FUTUY, and elsewhere, many Blacks do, from sore throat (seers keelen), from which 20 were buried at FUTUY, ~~yesterday~~ 5 here, 5 at Mouré, yesterday. ...

December 11. To the King of FUTTUY and his Caboceros presented 6 onz. gold tot vertreeckinge. The ACANIST, BEYDE JACON, appeared here from CORMANTIJN, from whom understood that the English were selling their lywaet 120 a.; copper 56 lb.; serge 1 benda; and laakens 20 p. ; but through lack of gold the receipts were still small.

December 13. Last night the brother of the FUTTUY King, Ahin JUCAM, who long since in syn memorie geslagen is geweest, died. ...

December 15. ... A canoe from CORMANTIJN appeared. In it various goods, besides an English youth, who left in it this afternoon for TACCORARY, with the view, so the party gave to understand, to make a Lodge there again; and to that end a sub-factor had previously been sent there. ... ... The people of FUTUY have very brutally wounded a MINSE slave, without cause. ...

December 17. My gratuity (fooy) given to all the friends at the Castle DE MINA.

Praise the Lord, in the ship "Eendracht".

December 18. At midday again see a sail which passed in afternoon at 3 o'clock being the aforenamed ship of ditto Branton, which, so one says, brings a Coast cargo of 16,000 gl., destined to get slaves in the Bight. ... Took my leave of Mr van der WEL and, with Arent Cock, Jan Foullon, van der Cost, Coeymans, Barent Janssen, and Adriaen Lourensz proceeded by boat to the Amsterdam "Eendracht". Thereupon shots were fired round the Castle, & also on coming to the "Eendracht". Towards evening Hogenhouck van der Cost & Coeymans went on shore again.

December 19. In morning Cock, Foullon, & Adr Lourens went to the Castle. Mr van der WEL makes known that his ~~things~~ business will be ready on 21st & will bring them on board himself.

December 21. In morning at 9. Cock, Hogenhouck & the Vaandrig & his wife came on board, but the 2 last were at once sick and went on shore again, as also did Hogenhouck in evening.

December 21. About 8 o'clock, Mr van der WEL, with the letter for their Honours, came on board with the Fiscal, Hogenhouck, van der Cost, and Adriaen Lourensz; and, after we had dined, the "Eendracht" sailed along the coast to before Fort Nassouw, where came to ~~nöher~~ anchor in evening, and went on shore with the others. Presented 6 bendas to the Captain, Caboceros, the King of CHABOU and his people, and the ACANISTS, on taking leave. [Acchu]

December 22. ... After had taken leave of Mr van der WEL on the beach, went on board, and at southern sun set sail in the "Eendracht".

December 23. At daybreak heard 5 shots. Suppose that Mr van der Wel was leaving Fort Nassouw for DE MYNA. Land still in sight. ...

... ...

January 8. (1646). - Arrived at St Thomé.-

... ...

... ...

...

Note. From St Thomé the "Eendracht, with Ruichaver on board, proceeded to Brazil. The last entry in the Journal is April 22,1646, before the river of Perimba.

Journal kept by Dirctor Jacob van der WEL, commencing 11th October 1645.
(Copy in WIC.oc.11.)

October 11. Went on shore to ~~consult (omslach maken)~~ arrange with HH. how the yacht "Post/paert" should conveniently be discharged, and search made for private goods which might be in the yacht. The ship "Eendracht" of Enckhuysen, laden with a cargo of f.150,059, mounted with 22 guns, 40 eaters sailors, and 30 soldiers for the government, with a married soldier & his wife, arrived; with Commission from their Ho. Mo. the States General, and the Directors, appointing me to the office of Director over the Northern District of Africa and the Island St Thomé, which surprised me ~~with various bedencken~~.

October 12. In morning at sunrise had three shots fired and the flag hoisted, upon which Corts with the Skipper & sub-factor sailed on shore. By HH. and other friends was congratulated in the Government, and after having read the letters from the XIX and examined my Commission, 7 shots were ordered by the General to be fired with the heavy cannon. May God Almighty grant that I may prosper in soul and body, and make prompt account and "reliqua" to the Hon. Lords and Masters to their satisfaction. Have summoned the appointed Fiscal, Heyndrick CAARLOF, and offered him the office with which he has been presented with the recommendation to act faithfully therein, which he has accepted; and considered it good to proceed to the arrived ship "Eendracht" and to quit himself as was proper. In the afternoon the soldiers came on shore, consisting in 31 persons and one woman. ...
I sent a letter to the Fiscal, CAARLOF, to proceed to the "Postpaert" to-morrow early to make examination so that they may afterwards proceed to unload it. Had the day before yesterday and yesterday sent to the "Postpaert" & "Eendracht" 8 soldiers for supervision.

October 13. Factor Jan Foullon, at his request, ~~was given permission~~ and having completed 4 years, ~~was given permission~~ on the 11th instant, was given permission to depart home. We have revised the Price List (Marckt brief) in various items. The Factor Reynier Douques (Doeckens in Muster Roll) was summoned in order to speak with him. ... In afternoon made a division of the merchandise arrived, in order to supply each Factor as required. Towards evening Douques came from CABO CORS, to whom we told our intention that he shall in future have the place of Factor at Fort AXEM, for which he shall receive

f.46 each month. To-day received a letter from the Fiscal CAARLOF that in the examination of the ship "Eendracht" he has found a case of 36 p. sheetings. According to his letter, he finds himself very much incommoded in his duties by the Sergeant (Cergie) and wishes to be ~~relieved~~ discharged.

Ocotber 14. This morning, as the steward(Proviant Meester) of the Hon. General Ruichaver is allowed to go home, on expiration of time, another is selected in his place, namely Simon Pietersz Cock, at the Castle Del Myna, for which he will receive f.25 per month. ... Mr Douques was ordered to proceed to CABO CORS in order to hand over the merchandise and everything else in his charge, to the "bij legger" Adriaen Corn.Blijart, and to come to us as soon as possible. ... Mr Foullon also leaves for CORMANTIJN with a letter to Mr Yrlant, come by the yacht "Postpaert" from Serleones, with orders to learn his state, as far as possible. And as some false calumnies and declarations against the rulers(regenten) of the Coast have come in the name of Mr Molgraef, he shall to that end seek to obtain counter evidence at CORMANTIJN. ... A Black from CORMANTIJN, who is in our confidence, tells us that the rival(partij) has brought on shore 1100 rods, 11 cases lijwaet and a little more merchandise, and intends to go to England within 2-3 days.

October 15. ... Mr CAERLOF a second time makes verbal protest before Mr Ruichaver and me, with the request to be relieved of that charge, declares he has no desire for it, and "em entrem" has no mind to serve in it; * but afterwards gives us contentment that he will serve in the same until the XIX have made other arrangements. The ship "Eendracht" from Enchuysen will begin to unload to-morrow and the merchandise brought on shore. In the examination was obtaine by the Fiscal 60½ ankers liquor, 36 shhets and 18,000 small fish hooks. The goods were sent on shore by Mr CAARLOF to-day.

October 16. ... In evening departs Reynier Douques to AXEM in order to take the office of Factor from the Factor Corn. van der Cost there. Mr van der Cost will come down to keep the books in place of Mr COEYMANS whose stipulated time has expired, and he urgently requests to be allowed to go home. We have today made a calculation(opslach) of the soldiers who have duly served their time, whom we find to consist of 35 - 36 men along the Coast, and now only 31 are sent us by the northern "Eendracht", consequently we can send none to St Thomé; so that at least 50 soldiers ought to be

* [illegible]

sent with each coming ship, in order to provide StThomé with 30.

October 17. Towards midday receive a letter from Johannes Foullon, who reports that he has been to CORMANTIJN, and is well informed that the rival(partij) has but one case lywaet, one cask copper, and still a good parcel iron; therefore found good to put the lywaet at ~~11~~ 100 a. pr B(?). and the iron Behda(?) the p.

October 19. Meeting of Council. Some changes in the crews.

October 25. This morning report was made to us that the inhabitants of CORMANTIJN had got into dispute with each other, in consequence of which two were dead, some wounded, and a great part of the place much damaged by fire. ...

October 27. -The "Eendracht" of Amsterdam to CHAMA to provide herself with firewood & water. -

October 30. A servant of the King of FUTUY comes to tell us that the expected ACANIST, called by us SPECK and by the Blacks QUAUW, will be here to-morrow or the day after, with a following of ACANISTS both from FUTUY and many from MOURE. He appears here for the purpose of standing as Captain over the ACANISTS. Is a loose Black, having a sponging(claplopige) character, so fear that we shall have much difficulty and expense with him.

October 31. Appears here one of the principal inhabitants of Mouré, named Dirck Cabo Cors, whose daughter's husband to-day slaughters 2 beasts, and after having greeted us, presents Mr Ruichaver and me each with a sheep, with congratulations; throws out (smackt uit) a shell fish in order to catch a cod. Nevertheless we know well that we must accept the same out of respect of the person. In the afternoon still great expenses for the Company are disclosed because of the arrival of the beforenamed QUAU, accompanied by about 100 ACANISTS, who have their seat at FUTUY and MOURE, together with their followers, both stool and baggage carriers, which certainly consist of not less than 100 people. After speech and congratulations were made to us, the Captain and others asked that a suitable place might be provided, for which arrangements were made and they all left the Castle together at about 6 o'clock. This QUAU has stayed at FUTUY about three weeks without much gold being received in that time, either

Mouré or here. They will rather come to trading when any foreign nations op d sangh (? d angh ?) willen ~~voorkomen~~ voorbrengen. We are somewhat given to understand that all the Blacks are holding up their gold till some foreign ships or nations come to the Coast, well knowing that then is given cheap (de hant werd gelicht) in order to spoil the English. It appears that this will be very injurious to the Company but the consideratie which are to be regarded (in achting te nemen) gives us a consolation that it is voor eerst more profitable than injurious, because on such occasie we shall get(racken) richly in merchandise, in order to be able to oppose the foreign nation, in good fashion, in the matter of underselling....

November 1. In morning Mr Ruichaver presents a cow and 2 ankers liquor to the aforesaid ACANISTS. ... Mr Ruichaver summons his Council, when the Fiscal makes his demand(eisch) for the confiscation of 60½ ankers liquor, 36 p. sheets, & 18,000 small fish hooks, found in the ship "Eendracht" of ~~Amsterdam~~ Enckhuysen; and having considered the matter, by a majority of votes the liquor te voldoen ~~andere~~ according to the Price List (markt brief) and to be "Vrij gekent", de weesper tegen 24 guldens, France(?) 32 gnt(?) the anker. The sheetings will also be voldoen according to the Price List. Because of the departure of Jan Foullon, Factor Cornelijs Van der Cost, ~~is~~ placed in his stead at Fort Nassouw, will now henceforth receive 66 gld. per month instead of 46. Isaac COEYMANS, Bookkeeper, also takes the Factor's appointment at the Castle Del Myne, and will receive 90 gld. per month for both charges, instead of 50 f. ...

November 2. In morning, with the opening of the gate, appears the newly-arrived Captain QUAU, and also Jan Willemsz, Captain of the ACANISTS at Mouré, besides the aforementioned traders, to report that the said QUAU had come to be Captain over the ACANISTS here, and had been appointed(gesteld) by the Caboceros in ACANY; to which we replied that it pleased us well, provided he shall bear no more favour(sucht) towards the one than the other, but do right to everyone, and that we shall then treat him like all the late Captains previously, which he accepted, and asked how the Price List was placed; which they very much opposed and sought to make alterations in some items, "maar gaven ons eindelijk soo bloot dat in andere ~~gelentheden~~- gelegentheden niet nauw souden sien, te weeten, to give presents, which we find more profitable for the Company than to alter the Price List. To-day, the beast given will be

slaughtered and an anker liquor added to it. As for 6 years past there has been some dispute between the ACANISTS, which sometimes causes great hindrance to trade, we very earnestly requested that the two parties should be completely united, and the ACANIST, ANIM, who now has to stay in a poor little village named ASIANG, between CORMANTIJN & MOURE, as he has been turned out(uitgestoten) of all principal places. This ACANIST, ANIM, ~~from whom(daaruit)~~- was one of the principal people from whom(daaruit) the dispute and war has arisen. Having listened to us, they earnestly begged that we would not speak about it, but that they would allow him to come here or to Mouré to spend his gold and then leave again to where he now sat; in which(we) consider the Company is much concerned to get him from there, as he is a person who brings down much gold. "Enows(?)te nae CORMANTIJN onthout, eindelijk soo verre gekomen dat hoopen mettertijt tot CABO CORS sal mogen setten. ...

November 3. ... Heard that the newly arrived ACANISTS would have spent their gold to-day, but we were told in secret by JAN HENNEQUA of FUTTU, that they were still waiting for more to be given, and probably(licht) will depart next Monday.

November 4. In afternoon the Blacks resolve to buy goods, & this day spend 44 Mks. ...

~~November 5. ..[illegible] ...~~

November 6. This morning the Mouré ACANISTS departing, General Ruichaver presented them with ½ anker liquor. ...

November 8. ... Captain SECK(sic) we request a second time to consent to ANIM residing at CABBO CORS, ~~on the~~ (geekennen) provided we recognise him to which he seems to be willing to listen. ... ~~A soldiers condemned by the council to d[illegible] ...~~

November ~~7~~10. Called up the Captain of De MYNA to consult as to what means should be taken so that the ACANISTS may be well accomodated, so that others may thereby be encouraged to come here. They agree to consult about it.

November 11. ... The Captain of the ACANISTS begins to work, of himself in the hopes of getting presents, that ANIM may have his residence at CABO CORSO.

November 13. The Caboceros come up and ~~say~~ tell me they have found means for the accomodation of the ACANISTS, some of which were accepted by me and others te niet ~~geed~~ gedaen.

November 16. ... The Captain of the ACANISTS takes his way to FETU, welck niet heb connen afsetten of most hem een turx tappyt vereeren. We shall meantime await the ACANIST ANIM here, to receive his gold. ...

November 18. ... ... The ACANIST, ANIM, tells me it is certain that the Blacks are keeping half their gold till the arrival of some English ship, *[geen van buiten aan te sien tot groote prejuditie van de Compy te willen strecken; maar wij sijn, Godt lof?, in dese deelen geen swarichheden, dewijl soo diende in de Coopmanschap sullen raecken om te mogen uit de borst tegen de party te cladden.]

November 22. At 3 am. Factor Joris van Hogenhouck came into Elmina, and with the opening of the gate reported all well at CRAA. ...

November 27. The Captain and some principal Blacks of Moure came to visit us. Towards evening came news that the people of ABRINBOU had [Abrem] killed ten FUTUNAERS.

November 28. General Ruichaver received a letter from Jan Foullon that op dato the principal English of CORMANTIJN had come to visit (him). Understood that t macalreren of the FUTTU Blacks had come over ['disputes'] a small trifle.

November 30. ... The usual Thursday sermon was read by the Sick nurse, Adriaen Louwertsz, after the 100th Psalm had been sung, and at the conclusion of the sermon, humble prayer made to Almighty God, about the government which I have received to-day. Afterwards Mr Ruichaver had all the soldiers under arms come on to the battery by the kitchen, and further read the Commission from the High Mighty Lords States General, in the presence of all the officers and sailors, and the soldiers asked if they had

*[which outwardly seems to tend to the great prejudice of the Co, but, praise God, it does not cause us difficulties so thoroughly we shall be so well supplied with merchandise as to be able energetically to undersell the rival]

anything against it. To which they replied with a shout, No!; with promises to respect and acknowledge me as their Commander. HH. thereupon hands over the keys to me. The Commission of the Fiscal was also read, and after congratulations, the soldiers call for wine. I had them given 1½ anker liqour, and the ~~adelbersten~~ drummers eight "floryn". Hereupon followed three discharges of musketry; also all the guns fired on the Castle, St Jago, and on all the ships and yachts lying in the roads. This day was mostly spent in rejoicing. In the evening I gave the first order in my capacity of Director which was: "In God's Holy Name, May He grant that I may carry out that over which I have been placed, with honour. Amen". ~~[illegible]~~ ...

December 7. ... ... General Ruichaver had all the Captains and Caboceros invited into the garden to give them presents(foey); after which, having eaten something, we proceeded (there) accompanied by the Factors and Skippers; further presented with 10 ankers and some pots of wine and ankers liquor and 3 cows. Made merry till even- and with great satisfaction each went to his house. This afternoon got advice from the Upper Factor, Cornelisz Van der Cost, who had been to CORMANTIJN with Foullon, about the English ship "Hope" which had arrived; about 200 tons(last); the Factor, Tymon MALSGRAEF, who left here last year; mounted with 24 "gotelingen"; was full of goods, both merchandise and for the repair of the Castle at CORMANTIJN; had landed 20 soldiers and brought "vast" stone. It seems as if they will begin afresh. They say, which cannot well believe, that they are selling in the following manner: half-bleached at 12 engels; "Wirry" 9 eng.; Saiy 2 onz, leng(?); Copper 50 lb. It is sad that we can(not) in many things oppose (tegen wesen) them, as we are devoid of most "bijwaren". Nevertheless we fixed the prices(markt) for underselling....

December 8. ... ... -Asst Reynier Carstensz made sub-factor at CRAA at 24 f. The ~~subfactr~~ sub-factor Hendrik Froen(Froon) will be transferred from there to the small Fort CHAMA, to take charge of the trade and what further occurs there. ...

December 11. This morning early appear from CORMANTIJN one of the greatest and principal ACANISTS, besides a newcomer from ACCANI, of whom I have little knowledge. Each presented me with a sheep with congratulations; ~~so that, like Birke Cabo Corsgiving at court, they begin speaking~~. In afternoon, at invitation of the Vaandrig, dine

in the garden in company with the Factors and Skippers.

December 12. ... The ACANIST, ANIM, comes to the Castle Elmina, at the time that Captn QUAU was there to trade which caused mischief. QUAU wished to depart to FETUY, which we stopped , through intervention, provided that ANIM at once must depart to his dwelling place, AGUNANGH.

December 13. ... The King's brother, who died last night would be buried to-day, therefore the King sent for something in which to wind his brother.

December 14. In morning the King of FUTTUY sent an express with request for a present of an anker liquor in order to supply his subjects therewith for the honour done at the burial of his brother, which for reasons resolved to give him.

December 15. In morning comes to anchor here a canoe belonging to the English. In it an English lad, & laden with merchandise, wishing to go to TACRARY, where a Lodge will be made by him. "Insgelijks tot Anbe sorch dat se op dees plaats de bodt geweldich sullen vergenchebben!" - To-day inventory made of the Castle & Lodges & goods taken over from Mr Ruichaver.-...With Mr Ruichaver, & the Factors made a formula servicable for the Coast. ...

December 16. In morning came 2 Acanists from CORMANTIJN reporting they wish to leave, with promises that they will live here & be here within a month. Wish to decoy such birds from CORMANTIJN. Gave them both a tapyt & ½ piece bleached lywaet, in the hopes it will fall out for the best for the Company. The Captains & Caboceros come & complain to me that a woman going to fetch water was severly wounded by a FUTTU slave: over which agreed together to send express to King of FUTTUY to report matter to him, in order to regulate ourselves accordingly. The surgeon has her bound up & declares she is mortally wounded in neck, back & left hand.

December 18. Mr Ruichaver went on board "Eendracht" in aftn.....

December 19. This morning most of the ACANISTS left for FETU once more to mourn the death of King's brother....

December 21. In morning I went on board by canoe to say goodbye to the friends & hand over the letters.

Notes of some further Resolutions of Council, in WIC.oc.11.

On the summons of the General Jacob Ruichaver, the undersigned persons assembled and on the 26 February 1645 resolved as follows,

As, by our orders, Factor Jan Foullon has bought 160 Marks merchandise from the Commander of the Courland Fluyt we shall therefore, as she is lying before TACQUERARY in order to receive the same, proceed thither by the yacht "Dolphyn" and ship "Zeelandia". But, meantime, it was resolved by the Courlanders to go before COMANY in order to deliver the goods; but becoming aware of us, came to anchor a little above CHAMA and let us know that she did not intend to await the ship "Zeelandia". From which it is sufficiently to be perceived she must be "onvrij". Where- [unauthorized]
fore I have sought to entrap them, in order to vorderen de ontfangst, but she set sail too quickly for us and has left the Coast. All which we find to be proper for the best service of the Company. THUS DONE and resolved at the Castle DEL MYNA in Guinea, Datum ut supra.
(sgd) J Ruichaver; Jan van der WEL; Arent Cock; Jacob Symensen Dolphyn; J Foullon; Barent Jansz; Jan Jansen.

On the summons &c &c. 10 March 1645.
Since the Courland Fluyt has left this Coast and apparently gone Bight-wards or to the Cape, the yacht "Dolphyn" shall at once set sail by way of St Thomé to look for her - (further thereon) - Signed by above.

On the summons &c &c. 8 May 1645.
- "Zeelanida" to go home early in May.-
Jan Foullon placed at Fort Nassau vice J.S.Dolphyn decd., & in his place on yacht Fortuyn before CORMANTIJN, Dirck Geerlofsz. Huybrecht Valckranen to CHAMA vice Ille Hoogen-Hammingh left. Joris van Hoogenhouck having faithfully served as Upper Factor "voor de Poort" CRAA for past 4 years allowed f.20 p.m. increase. Sgd by above except Dolphyn plus Harpert Claessz.

Resolution of 5 Dec. 1645 by Ruichaver, Wel, Coeymans, Cock, Hogenhouck, Claessz, Groenwout, Jansz, A.Janss.
To send yachts Fortuyn & Dolphyn to Ardre to obtain 300 or more slaves, there & transport them into ships Eendracht of Amst. & Enckhuysen, to St Thomé, to be brought from there to Brazil, & if they don't meet the ships to deliver them to the Factor at St Thomé.

Inventory of all the goods along the whole Guinea Coast, belonging to the Directors of the W.I.C., handed over by Mr Jacob Ruichaver to the General Jacob van der WEL on the 1st December 1645. (WIC.oc.11.) (Summary)

Castle Del Myna. 21 "metaal" guns. 3 "Bassen". 7 ditto. 4 iron guns in the French battery.
Ball for the guns. Grenades. Powder. Muskets. Tools for the constabels, cooper slagers, masons, locksmiths, groff smiths, coopers, carpenters, Equipage. Victuals. &c &c.
In the Hall. 1 wageschotte -?- hanging Casjen. 2 old trek tables. 2 schraeck ditto. 2 old Italiand bancken. 1 pers. 24 Spanish chairs, 8 with leuningen. 5 bedsteads, 1 with hangings. Some paintings/and maps. 2 table cloths. 19 cushions. 2 doz.table cloths. Ø 5 doz. serviettes. 2½ doz. towels. 9 tinne dishes 3½ lb., 2½ doz ditto 3 lb., 8 ditto 2lb., 8 ditto 1½ lb. 7 p.hollebacq. 6 doz. tafel borden. 5 salt vaten. 4 mustard pots. 10 marmoes commetjes. 1 lampet.2 trechters. 1 water pot. 2 half pintjes. 2 mutsjens. 2 half mutjens. 2 double stoops cannen. 4 puytjes. 2 cooper candelaars. 2 steene drinck water potten. 17 silver spoons with one beeker. 2 silver mustard spoons. 1 silver com with 2 ooren. some spices. SLAVES, 68 men; 30 boys; 52 women; 23 girls; 11 sucklings; 184. 1 man at Cabo Cors; 1 man at Comany; Total. 186. In the "Reduyt" St Jago.6 guns, Ball.Grenades.
Fort Nassau. 6 guns. Constabels & Cooks tools. In the Hall, 1 treck table; 9 table cloths; 29 serviettes; 3 towells; 22 large tinne dishes; 4 small do; 3 small do old; 3 large commen, 4 medium do, 6 small do; 3 copjens; 4 large sosieryens, 12 small do; 36 tel fooren(?); 2 salt vaten; 1 mustard pot; 4 slap(?) cannen; 7 Spanish chairs; 5 cushions; 1 silver schael; 2 spoons; 1 bedstead; Books,Bible; Bulgerium(?);Martyrs Book;Uitlegging of the Psalms; Vasinus Schar(?) book; 2 horne books; 1 verclaring der Cathegend.
Fort Axem. 7 metaal, 2 iron guns. Table goods;victuals; Slaves 23 (16 m. 5 w. 2 s.)
Fortje Chama. 4 iron guns; 9 muskets; powder; ball; Slaves. 15. (8 m.5 w. 2 b.)
Craa. 3 metaal guns; 2 muskets; Slaves 21.(9 m. 8 w. 4 b.)
Yachts, Fortuyn, Dolphyn, Visscher, Reaal, ...

Total of all slaves was 409. Fort Nassau omitted from above, 156 (54 m. 49 w. 20 b. 22 g. 11 s.) also 10 on the yachts.

Inventory signed by J.van der Wel.

The following note about the first SWEDISH voyage to the Gold Coast has been extracted and translated from the Swedish book: "LOUIS DE GEER, 1587 -1652, Hans Lif och Verk, pa uppdrag af hans ättling, Friherre Louis de Geer till Leufsta." Tecknade af E.W,DAHLGREN. Uppsala 1923. [copyright]

Volume II.

... ...

p.333. Plans for Swedish navigation to the Gold Coast in Africa had been hinted at several times. Samuel BLOMMAERT, in Amsterdam, especially, had been their spokesman, notwithstanding that he, as a member of the Holland West Indian Company ought to have been solicitous that no encroachment was made on the Company's privileges. Gold and ivory were the most important wares that were fetched from there, and Swedish copper & iron, as articles of barter, should bring in considerable profit.

Plans were now taken up by DE GEER in connection with the newly opened relations with Portugal. When, on the 11th September 1645, was ~~"öfverlades" in the riks rådet~~ deliberated in the State Council about the employment of the unemployed warships, it was stated that "Louis de Geer is seeking ~~to promote~~ the

p. 334. Guinea trade" ~~especially~~ which was to be promoted "especially if there was no fraud therein". That referred probably to a question which had simultaneously been the subject, several times, of the Council's deliberations. Stockholm's municipality had had a parcel of linen, belonging to De Geer, seized on the complaint that he was not entitled to trade in such goods; against which was pleaded on his side that he had purchased the linen, not to sell it in the country but to export it to GUINEA, and that he had the intention to form a "special company" for that export. Whether this was regarded only as a pretence in order to drive illicit trade, or that it was not desired to begin a measure that would arouse displeasure in Holland, it is enough that DE GEER did not suceed in obtaining from the Government any privilege for carrying out his plans, still less did any company come into existence at that time.

But these vicissitudes did not hinder him from making a trial of the African market, at his own risk. In the autumn of 1645, or spring of 1646, he sent out to GUINEA a ship under one of the best captains of the auxiliary fleet, Arent GABBESEN. He had been Admiral Anckarhielm's next man in the naval battle at Femern, and had gained his chief's warm praise for his good conduct, above others, at it. Apparently he had taken in his outward cargo in Holland,& on 1 August 1647,he arrived at Göteborg after a completed voyage,carrying a cargo of tobacco,sugar,indigo cotton & tusks,together with "a fine parcel of gold". (Sailcloth)

... ...

(End of 1645.)

"gold") to judge from the first-named goods he had, perhaps, as a majority of the Holland ships engaged in the African trade, selected his voyage to the West Indies, & he had also completed his cargo at Lisbon on the homeward voyage. Carrying the gold with him he forwarded overland to Stockholm immediately after his return: and what the enterprise evinced great attention. . . . . .
