

[HMS] Surprise, Succowee Road / Jan^y 1750-1

Sir
 During my Stay at Xucome wth His Majesty's
 Ship Surprise under my Command I sent my
 Officer to / Dutch Fort at Bontry to Demand
 f^r / Commander thereof / British Cannon
 t^h had b^en Seized & made Prisoners therein, like-
 wise / British Rebels Subjects, Ahe yankey
 Quaco Croom, Coffe Heydrice, & Tye, to be
 Delivered to / Governor & C.C.C. To wh^o Demand
 I rec^d an evasive answer f^r / Chief o / Fort
 affores^d Mr John Credo Bacot, by no means
 Satisfactory. Therefore Sir my Officer waits
 edgetom) you to Demand / British Subjects &
 Prisoners & Deserters ~~affores^d~~ affores^d
 f^r wh^o I expect f^r / Immediate Compliance &
 Order t^h they may be ~~deliv~~ Delivered up.

I am wth respect rc rc

(Signed) Pat Baird

Capt Baird to / Gen o Elmira

(Chief o Bontry) Translaⁿ o John Credo Bacots
 Letter to Captain Baird o His
 Majesty's Ship Surprise [nd]

Most Hon^{ed} & Most Noble S^r

As ye decient^t did me / Hon^{ed} f^r y^e & by
 y^e Order to come & See me yesty, in order to
 Question me on two Points, & as he w^o not wait
 till I had put my Answer in Order, & after t^h trans-
 lated it into French (accordg to his Order) hec t^h
 it grew late he [edge tom] away, wth my Promise o

sendg an answer as soon as possible, I beg pardon
 of my evil manner o writg, beg a Dutchman & not
 at all accustomed to writg French, & therefore per-
 haps deservg Pardon, but not to kifle yr Illus-
 truous Attemⁿ, I se / howt to tell y^e / Mislead
 Paper [more] containg / Questions proposed to me
 by yr Honble Order, & my answer in Dutch, are
 couched in much / same words as / follows -
 My answer to Mr Peter Thomas Crotte, ~~Lieutenant~~
 Lieutent^t o / Royal Ship o War called / Surprise,
 Comanded by / most Noble Royal Captain Baird -
 The sd Lieut^t demands by / Order & in / name
 o / Above mentioned respectable Captain
 First to deliver to him / English Britanick
 Prisoners in my Fort, &
 Secondly Demands o me / Rebel Subjects o /
 above mentioned English Naⁿ (viz) Atheyyansky,
 Coffee Hydru, Quacco Croom, & Tyz, wth the
 People

To wh^{ch} I, in / first place answer, t^h no
 Prisoners in my Fort who are Subjects o / English,
 & consequently cannot deliver t^h wh^{ch} is not
 in my Fort, But these Prisoners (Subjects to /
 English) are indeed Imprison'd by / King o
 Aphantah, & / sd King o Aphantah came & took
 these Prisoners (wh^{ch} belonged to him not to me)
 at / time he had taken / resolutⁿ to Release a
 good way into / Bush wth all his Domesticks,
 & People o Aphantah, f^r wh^{ch} reason they
 came to take y^m out o my hands to conduct
 them away (those Prisoners havg before this
 bⁿ in my Fort) havg first Promis'd me
 not to use them ill - As they sd they was
 in hopes t^h / most Noble Royal Captain wd be

so kind & w^od do them / Justice & favour to Enquire
into the said condin. f so long a time / before he'd
permit new Hostilities to be Commenced to wh
End an Enquiry m^t be made o / Director Gen
Jan Van Voorst, & they hoped by / Sage & most
Noble Interposin o yr Dignity, t / happy & much
desir'd Accomodaⁿ o the Queen w / single
Man on / Coast would be brot ab^t, after wh the
w^d be so Difultly in Deliverg up those Prisoners
wh are Demanded o me, & Doub^t w^gt Reason,
Worned [Worned - worned ??] by these Pacifick
Sentiments & Desires, they Insisted on my Producing
these the Ardent Prayers & Supplications before y,
most Hon^{ble} most Respectfull, & most Royal
Captain, wh I now do in / best Manner I can
& w / lowest Submissⁿ. The people o this Country
hope the Difulty will be terminizated, & t by
yr Gracious & Wise Intervent the former Freedom,
Peace & Condin will be restored to them, f /
Obtaining o wh they hd made many Instances
(but w^t effect) to our John Roberts, Presid^t &
Chief Agent f / Affairs o / Royal African Co o
England, o themselves, as well as by ~~means~~
by / means Means o / Director Gen^l & his
Commissaries f Accomodatg / Affairs in a
friendly manner, as / many writgs & a on
/ Occan fm t time to this will sufficiently
Witness. This will also serve f answer to
/ Second Quesⁿ (viz^t) / Delivery o / Rebel
negroes Theyyanthy, Coffee Hydrus, Quascoo
Lwom & Tye, w the People, who not begⁿ
in my Possession (f they are retird into /
Bush) its impossible f me to Deliver them
up accordg to / Demand, f wh never the less
I should h / g^oest Respect if in reality /
Complic^s w it Depended upon me. I therefore
beg yr Greatness to Consider this & most

Humbly Pray y^e to (as I only Command here
 under / Direcⁿ o' / Above mentioned Gen. & as I
 am in this Place w^o only my Garrison, my own
 Servants & / Dutch Co Slaves, in yr Gr^t wis-
 dom & Grandure to Inform y^e Self o' present
 Point rather fm my Gen than fm me, who
 doubtless will Answer y^e better in w^o thing
 than I (who beg only his Delegate) can be
 Suppos'd to do. And on my Part I sh^d after
 havg Dispatched this letter to yr Gr^tness
 Inform him o' all t^h has happen'd to me
 this Day, as I reasonably may. This is /
 Essential part o' my Translanⁿ o' Dutch
 Paper wh^o Accompany's this. I must add
 t^h I flatter myself y^e will be pleas'd w^o /
 Answer o' my Superior / Director Gen.
 & most certainly / Persons Demanded will
 w^o Joy appear & receive such Judgement as
 sh^d be given at / Tribunal o' yr Gr^tness
 & o' my Superior / Director Gen. w^o a perfect
 Assurance o' all this I subscribe myself w^o /
 most Profound Respect & Submission

Most Noble & most Hon^d Sir. In
 Gr^tness most Humble & most Entirely
 Obed^t Serv^t.

Jans. Credo Baer

Declaraⁿ & Remarks o Mr Andrews
Johnson contradicting Seel Allegans in /
Dutch letters relatg to / Aghanta Palaces
April 1750

T John Roberts Esq^r never insisted on
King Entervys beg deliverd up, but only /
rebellious English Subjects

T Mr Roberts propos'd to Messrs Bacot
& Volkmar if they woud deliver / Rebels
Subjects, Mr Roberts woud upon the Enter^d
Discove rate, deliver Entervy two Women
ont at / Same time - T Messrs aforesaid
promis'd to see if they could Deliver them
& to let Mr Roberts know / next mo^o -
but never did

T / s^d Mr Roberts did not by any o
his People Attack or make War upon any
Dutch Subjects what^r, nor Invaded any
o / Territories o / States, neither did he by
his People or his Soldiers make any Incurⁿ
into Buba, a Town in strict Justice
belongg to / English, / Natives o wh /
Dutch he incited to rebellion, & protected in
panyar^d / Royal African Co's Subjects, &
tho in Actual & Open Rebellion ag^t the
Constituents

T / English Subjects were not pursued
to / Walls o Ductions [sic] after such Attack,
none hav^d bn made as is falsely &
Scandalously suggested

To / 2^d Paragraph o Soldemar
 + Bacot's lre to / Gen^l. 24th
 April 1750

↑ Mr Roberts never desired
 King Enterry to Surrender himself but
 only waged his com^d to make his Palaver
 + to he shd h full liberty to pass + repass.

To / 4th Paragraph
 o 3^d letter

↑ Mr Senior's never Order'd his
 People to Panyar Enterry's, or to goe near
 / Town o Saneot

↑ after Enterry's two Women were
 brot into Dixcove Fort, he sent to Enterry
 to know if he hd / Co's Slaves, + offer'd
 / two Women if Enterry wd deliver / Co's
 Slaves, wh Enterry refused

To / Gen's 20th April 2^d Paragraph

↑ / two first Women Senior pan-
 yard were in Dixcove Town, one a Sister
 o Bossu / Cabocheer + Allied to one o / Rebel
 Rebel Cabocheers

To / Gen's 30th May 2^d Paragraph

↑ / English Subjects in Dixcove
 Fort' go'g to Rasaw were fired at by / Busha
 People who hd Erected hells within Gun
 Shott o Dixcove Fort

↑ / English return'd / Fire, Enterry's
 People retreated but beg reinforced return'd

agn & fired upon / English Slaves & Subjects,
whereupon they were ordered into / Fort.

It is also positively Affirmed & more of
Discom Garrison in t^e rencounter went ont
o Accia's Plantan on ont o Sight or Call from
/ Fort as is falsely pretended, noz were any
white men ont t^e day as them

Andrew Johnson

[Nothing more abt / Discom's palaver in T.Yo. 68]

[1751. n. 2]

T.Yo. 1514 [Detached Papers]

Indorsed "To John Roberts & Thos Botler

Apr 5 & 6 Feb^r 1750/1

"CC. 5th Febr^y 1750/51.

Dear Gentlemen

I h Received yr favours o / 3^d
Instant togr^e us / Sundry letters f Accia &
Winnetsah, but as / Dames Governore, is here,
& in a Condin not fitt to be Remov'd & therefore
could not proceed as so soon as y may h expected
in / Awmg Canoe So I h forwarded / 3^d
Pacquet as they were Directed, in a three hand
Canoe, I imaging t both Mrs Wickers & Mrs

744
Davies may be glad of few Days notice to may now
Interseve before / Arrival of / Arriving Canoe w
them, to settle & put the Affairs in a Situation
that may admit the Absence from the Respective Forts.
The Dames Gode & Lady present the Compliments
& beg leave to stay three or four Days in
wh time they hope to gain Strength enough
to Enable them to Proceed on / Remains of the
Voyage.

I sent y by my last, / Answer of / Chesleer
to my first letter, toge w my Answer to his Second,
wh was made before y^r letters came to my
hands, abt sendg / some first for y^r Perusal &
I h now / Pleasure to acquaint y^r t on / Receipt
of / sd Answer, they weigh'd the Anchors &
went to Ammission where they are fillg the water
in order to proceed to seaward, wh havg
done anythg on / Coast.

I observe what y say abt / Palawour, &
Old Dick & Bossu's Death, / I th Starve them
both, why did they not Dye before, I think
it best to keep Aquala here to see how / Pala-
wour goes on at Succondee, & if it is likely to
go Contrary to y^r Expectation, then to Dispatch
him immediately w / need full & let Intiforce
Conclude / Dispute, & Matters Right wh /
Dutch h / Assurance to Contest w us.

This letter I did intend to h be sent y yest /
but it was not possible to get / Anchors finished
last night
I h indeed nothing to fear from / Palawour at Succondee

therefore don't say much abt it in any of my
letters & I am sure there are two so
qualified to encounter / Dutch & to settle
affairs of consequence w / Athan Tabb, as y^{am}
both are known to be, it wd only be presumpⁿ
in me to say anything thereupon, I sh therefore
conclude to assure y Gentleman t I am
re W.H. [Husbands]

Since writing / above . . .

Feb^r 6. 1750/51

T. 70. 1514

Inclosed " 16
Deposiⁿ
David Lamb
16.

1728 right to
Tys Plantaⁿ
& Atchua "

The Deposiⁿ of David Lamb

Saith

Tabb / End of year 1728 he
entered into / Co's Service as a Soldier at Dixcove
Fort then under / Command of Mr William
Stuckforth (he having the left / Vessel to
wh he did belong to & was as a Mariner on
board) at t time he bound / Sawyers & o^{er}
/ Co's Slaves constantly kept Employd (as
was by what he could learn the usual

[= Stuckforth in copy in CO 388/45]

Custom of a long time before t), in Cutt9
 Timber & Planks in & abt Tyes Croom
 Atchuma Bush & all / Places thereab^t, & so
 they continued to do evy day f fourteen
 years togr t he Remained ab t Fortress
 to his own part^r knowledge, durg wh
 time he never knew o any Disturbce
 Molesta^m or Hindree given to / sd Work-
 men or any Claim made to any o / Places
 aforesaid by / Dutch or any o th^r Subjects
 or any Disput^s raisd by them Signifyg
 any Encroach^m Infringem^t or Trespass
 committed upon th^r Ground or Priviledge by our so
 do^g t . on / Contrary / Natives th^r & th^r abt
 did allways esteem themselves / Subjects o / English
 Submitted themselves to th^r Jurisdic^m & Abided
 in all th^r Palabres by th^r Decis^{ns} & he never
 knew any Occurrece durg all t time to h^e
 happened whereby any o / People Inhabitg
 / Places aforesaid disputed / Sd Authority or
 avng any Dependancy upon / Dutch nor
 did they / Dutch by any one Act done to his
 Remem^bce durg / Sd time whereby it sh^d
 Appear they Disallowed our Right over / Sd
 Crooms & Places or Pretended themselves any
 Inpremac^y or Exercis'd any Authority
 over / Same

David Lamb

[orig sign]

Sworn before me
 October 13^d 1751
 Rich^d House

[orig sign]

T. 70. 1517

Indorsed

" Deposition

William Daves

17

T Atchua is English

1742 - T Theyantley is English & had a Certificate from him thereof

T one Boermeester a Dutch Chief o Bonting asked his permission to gather Lime Stone there

William Daves

Deposition

T from / year 1742 to / year 1745, during all wh Time he was Chief o Dixcove Fort, he frequently sent / Co's Slaves to gather Limestone at Atchumah & to Cut Timber in t Bush & t / people o Atchumah were always ready to assist them & obey any Orders they received from / sd Deponent, & during / whole Time o / Deponents residence at Dixcove accounted themselves English Subjects.

This Deponent further saith, t Myjn heer Boermeester Chief o / Dutch Fort at Bonting having Occan f some Limestone to repair t Fort, did send to / sd Deponent f permission to gather some at Atchumah wh sd Deponent granted.

Further this Deponent saith t Owim Yankee
 came into The Fort at Discove, accompanied
 w Bossee, Awah, & o's The Caboseers o
 That Town, & did complain t The Chief o
 Accoda hd sent a white man & some Dutch
 Companys Slaves to panyar dese Stock at
 his Croom, wh as he was an English Subject
 he wd not suffer, and requested / sd De-
 ponent to give him a Certificate t he was
 under / Jurisdiction o / English at Discove,
 wh Certificate / sd Deponent by / Desire &
 Advice o / abovesaid, Caboseers drew up
 & gave to the sd Owim Yankee,

Will: Daves

[Long Sign]

Sworn before me
 October / 3^d 1751

Richd Howe

[Long Sign]

"Whilz t ~~London~~ g^r Part o / Carolines repairs
 were performing I was obliged to retire to Disc-
 covre / Defce o / Co The ~~Eng~~ requiring my Presce
 in a War / Dutch & natives o / Phanta
 Country Commenced agst Us."

Tpa 1477

unscrubbed
undated A paper bound folio cap book
on / cover: -

"European & Foreign
letter Book Begun
5th April 1751"

C.C.C. 5 April 1751.

Sir Charles de Blon

Honble Sir I am favoured w / Duplicate o a
letter wrote me pmo July & yr much respected
favour o / 6th October

As to our Publick Affairs here The Same are in
a Sad Condition, our Supplies long ago ex-
hausted & our Private Circumstances to / last
penny expended we remain engaged in / War
against w / Dutch & natives & altho we had two
o his Majesty's Ships o Wars here on / Coast
(to wit / Surprise Capt Baird, & / Pounce

Henry Capt Jasper) neither o them wd
interfere therein so far as to Obtain us
any Redress or interpose f a Cession, one
be attentive to Selling a Private Adventure
o Woollens & Gums he brok out, / Or in Pur-
chasing what Slaves he cd at Gambia & /
Winnward Coast, We Sustained gr Prejudice
& Disrespect fm the behaviour & I am sorry
to say this is not a negoe in our interest
but Lamently either o them ever Came On this
Coast. Honble Sir &c

Mr Peter Taylor

CCC. 5 April

I was agreeably Surprized w a letter
 fm J Doted 6th July p. nelly.
 I'm / wist ~~place~~ place. I Doubt not
 but J are Sensible o / Push made here to
 Present / French trade wh hd taken such Root
 on their Coast by / Countence they met at
 Cape Coast Castle before my arrival. I know
 / Satisfac^{ion} to informe J t / many Curbs /
 Traders o t Man has met fm q nebufts o
 Some True British Captains (to wit) Capt
 Darbyshire o Liverpool, Captains Duncan o
 Boats. they quite ~~to~~ decline / Trade or Em-
 deavourg at fur Success, / former o / Captains
 mentio^{ned} has B^m indefagable abt t good
 work left his Trade f Weeks to^{ge} at Ann-
 amaboe. Taken them fra under / Guns o
 Elmira o Convoyd three or four o them
 one after ano^r w^t / Limits o / Co's Charter. By
 wh o Our measures Taken by land to Distress
 / English Merchant men Embrace / Trade o
 all / Fantym Country to / g^t Discomfit o the
 Privats afores^d who h not for want^g as I
 presume to make g^t Complaints to the Owners
 o Merchants o to burthen / whole bad Success
 attendg / many unprosperous Voyages t h
 bn lately made by them to the beq restrained
 fm o kept out o / Road o Annamaboe, wh I
 am / more inclined to Credit bec we lately
 had a Visit fm Two French Ships o Wars called
 Le Content o Auriflamme o / 4 + 64 Guns
 to Defend / French Trade in these Parts, who

after an incredible Deal o Gasconade & threat
what Terrible Thgs they wd otherwise at length
Paraded Down / Coast & Anchored at
Anamaboe where they got on Shore, Mustered
all / Fantyns Logg wth John Courante &
after Tryg / Prevalence [sic] o some Con-
siderable Presents Set up the pretences to /
Trade o / Country, Offered to Establish a
Settlem^t & build a Castle ther, but receiv^g
Timely advice o th^r Intents we were long
before hand wth them & hd got John Courante
& all / head Caboshers to hoist our Flags
all / way down / Fantyn Coast Demonstrat^g
o Our Right, & wh^{ch} John referred / French
gentle men to, at / same time Enquiring o
them wh^{ch} they hd got leave o / King o Eng-
land to build a ffort ther & Trade at Ana-
maboe, if not they must go back & ask
him, f^r / Fantyn Country & Anamaboe
belonged to nobody but / English, where-
upon they repaired on board th^r Vessels,
Drew up Protests & remonstr^{es} to CCC
wh^{ch} wth / answers are transmitted to / Co
to whom I refer y. In / interim some o th^r
boats beg ont a fishy, near Shore, Old
John discharged Seyl Cannon at them fm
Shore, whereupon findg our Jurisdiction
Property too well Confirmed & beg Sickly
on board as well as Distrusted f^r Waters &
Pyrius they weighed & are gone entirely
fm off / Coast.

In / 2^d place if are not insensible o/ War
 we are engaged in, wh / Dutch & Natives o /
 Phanta Kingdom commenced ag^s us / Letter
 End o March 1750 & wh we honourably main-
 tained fm time to time, our property in t
 Country beg at Stake in hopes one Day or ano^r a
 Ship o War w^od arrive to our Assistce & procure
 us some Redress by Reducg / Dutch Gen here
 to reason & a Peace. I must therefore inform if we
 were Relieved in our Anxiety by / Arrival o His
 Majesty's Ship Surprise Capt Baird, whereupon
 we immediately entered into terms o accomodaⁿ
 us / Dutch so far as to h a hearg o Contest &
 Examinaⁿ o / Sw^r Witnesses at Succoodee before
 Capt. Baird. To whom / Decisⁿ o / Troubles was to be
 referred in order to terminate / Same. Accordg by
 all Parties met & Proceeded upon / Inquiry fm
 End o 3^d Decem^r to sev^l Days in March whereby
 / Oppressⁿ o / Dutch were sufficiently mani-
 fested to & Confessed by 3^d Capt. The Examinaⁿ
 eg ended we went on accordg to / ~~Best~~ Best o our
 Will & Assistce to Abstract them & Draw a State
 o / Case on both Sides in order to lay / Same
 before Capt Baird [Notw^g he had heard & seen /
 sev^l parties examined] it appearg to us he sat
 often too unattentively thro / Course o / Proceedg
 in order f him to Consider more maturely thereupon
 & at his Leisure give his opinion, but Sin after /
 Steps taken afores^d to our gr Concern & Mortificaⁿ
 Captain Baird returned fwr Cape & unread
 Unconsulted told us he had no Orders to Concern
 himself in our Debates & to seek Purport write to
 / Dutch Gen. & t he w^od give up no points ag^t /
 Dutch, & o Course nothg in favour o / English,
 addg how he had sent Back our papers unopened

and had not so much as read our European Christian
Deposition touching / Palaver. Such behaviour
Dear Sir you may well Conjecture afforded gr Triumph
& rejoys amg / Dutch partisans & on / Contrary
Burthened Ourrelves & Allies w too lge a Proportⁿ o
Grief & Defeet it appears exceedg Strange & un-
accountable even to / Very blacky t a Captⁿ o a
Kings Ship they hd always bn learn^d high no^s o
Shd^d Sit to hear a Palaver abt^t above two months
& yn / End refuse his Country men his Opinion
what Side was right or Wrong. A little before this
Crisis down came / Prince Henry, Captain Japper
& anchored in / Reach o Succowee, to whom, on /
Emergency afores^d we applied, f redress in
/ most Condescendg manner possible. Set forth our
hardships & Oppressⁿ, demonstrated in what Danger
/ Cos Property was, therefore prayd his interpositⁿ
w our Enemies only to obtain a Cessⁿ o Arms t
/ Cases (as Captain Baird wd not Determine /
matter) mt be transmitted home & Submitted
to / Decisⁿ o Each ~~Part~~ O^rs Constituents, & in /
interim / English Prisoners who hd bn unjustly
Seized & Confined f whose Parol we were ready &
wiltg to be answerable [see].

We fur findg it Disagreeable to Capt Japper
to come on shore to treat w us he havg Declared it
beneath him to Enter into Consultⁿ w an
inferior Governour & Council o such a Place as Cape
Coast Castle unless they waited upon him, did
(tho quite an uncustomary thg) attend him f sev^l
Days on board / Prince Henry, read over &
informed him in / most impartial manner all
Part^s relative to / Contestⁿ o^r Dispute, as also o
/ Laws & Customs o / Countrey. Whereupon he
was pleasd to Confess / Justice o our Cause & sincerely
promise to get us relief, but, Sir wh^o for any
Point o honours prevailg amg / gentlemen o / Navy

not to interfere in an affair Captain Bavid had undertaken to hear & determine first, or who Mr Jasper who played / Comodore in these Parts, & to whom / Country was rather Disagreeable bec / men Natives too frequently expose the Posterior &c & / women the nakedness to / naval thro Custom & Scantiness o the Dress, m^t not approve or permit his interposi^{on} & throw away any little Oil upon his blame. I know not, but we reaped no harvest or assistance from him, but on / Contrary w^o mark o Disrespect & Scandall a man cd industriously continue to beg upon us & Depreciate us in ev^{er} am^g, our Natives Negroes & Barbarians, in short betwⁿ friends they w^od Jaspers o^r lustre / best Lapidary, cd make no impression on them. Upon / behaviour above, Sir, my Self & Council deemed it no longer worthy o us to attend him (& more especially as his Officers, disgusted wth his behaviour assured us wth reserve he w^od Study fur^r Methods to render us Despicable) but sent our Proper Officers wth our Sentiments in writ^{ing}, endeavoring thereby to remind him o his Promise to assist us, yet regard to his word he bore none no^r Respect to our honble Cos affairs Adieu, adieu, ye am^g / numbers o Captains who upon acct o yr Conscience or Punctilio o honour, Sacrifice / Trade interest &c Jewells o yr Country am^g yr brothers & fellow Citizens, rather f^r the Situaⁿ to be pitied than rendered contemptible & ~~dis~~ Dyesteemed, & may I never more behold either yr Countenances on this Coast

What, Dear Sir, can our Subjects think o us, who, tho Negroes are far from beg foods, when at a Season our Supplies & Private Pittance o Fortune was were long ~~and~~ exhausted in Defray^{ing} a

long twelve months were to Defend Our Country's
Property & Jurisdiction Two o his Britannic Majesty's
Ships & Wars came w/ Carells in their hands, one o
whom heard / Palatour & wd not give his Opinion
o/ matter, / Or promised to obtain a Peace. but instead
o prosecuting Steps thwnto strove industriously / may
put himself to gr Trouble) to Depreciate & Vilify the
agents & Managers here as to / Point o Orders,
whr they hd or hd not any, it was in the Power to h
struggled f a Peace or at least a Cessaⁿ, w/ / Expence o
a single Shot, wh we never wanted cheap to Discharg
ntwz what has bn gd w regard to Board, he hd, tis
True some private Interviews w / Dutch Gen's Secretary
on board, whence the (to / natives Bilusg it true I do
not suggest twas possible f / Gen to make any
Impression on either his Majesty's Capt by Virtue o/
Dutⁿ o this Country, f / one or t'other may be as
Hungry & poor as Parly man, yet the Country's
good so much at Stake got / Better o necessity
undoubtedly, yet I Payment to Say hd / Captain's
hd more regard f the honour & W^r Japper more
respect f Common honesty, / former hd done
the Country Service here & / latter not carried
away my Gold Snuff box (o gr Value) & oblige
a Prosecuⁿ agsⁿ here if wth so fortunate to
reach England. However, to h some mercy on yr
Time & Patie I forbear Digressⁿ fur^r whilbt I
return to Succonda, by / way obsvng t I don't
know, But if Commodore Japper hd arrived
Sooner w us so as to h Sate & heard / Palatour,
debated himself, but he mt h entered into
/ merits thereof & Done us some Service. But
alas, unhappy f ats he got into Cadiz & waited
the / Oppⁿ f a greward o Convoys a Spanish
Vessel to Tenerif where stoppg some time & go
back to Madeira he was Enabled & did w
Part o / Gratuity aforesd buy a quantity o Spirits
Gun powder Wines &c in order to Purchase
Slaves, now stoppg a longer time at Gambia

than ordinary, & set places to Windward to
Purchase / Slaves he wanted, & may well
judge took up some time in so much that
all / sail he cd Crowd it was not Practicable
of a man to do so much business on his hands
to reach us till 23^d February. Sacconde, both
Vessels left havg first bn first witnesses
t / Dutch Determined to carry on / War agst
us landed some 34 lbres ~~to~~ to
beg to Bear upon / English Fort thro, & Proceeded
to Cape Coast Castle, where myself & Colleague
returned likewise, & agn renewed our applicⁿ
to / g^t man Jasper - but we m^t us well b
whistled to / Wind so obdurate & inflexible was
his mighty Soul, too tenacious o' honour, too
jealous o' leav^g his madona favourita on
board, was so obligg to Water & exercise his
ill Temper as much as he thot proper agst
us. Then weighed & both Ships Sailed to
Anamaboe, where not content w / exploits
he hd Performed to Windward, fm / abundance
o' his Gaul, Playd / g^t Commander w / English
Traders thro, partly Captains Darbyshire &
Duncan, havg fired two Shot through /
Former (full o' Slaves) & threatened to whip
/ latter at his gangway, at / same time
to serve them singularly w / Trade o' t Place,
& t / British ships m^t Slaves off more
expeditiously, countenanced a Portugeze
to anchor thro f / sake o' a reward to Cons^o
him down / Coast & forestall / market o'
Slaves by Drink o' his Tobacco, insomuch t /
English Traders could not make

one Purchase, an unprecedented Behaviour
it beg a Truth, my good friend, well known
t in / memory o' oldest Trader on this
Coast no Portuguese ever anchored, at Anamaboe
to buy Slaves. The sd Portuguese having made his
market, both Ships a War took her under Convoys
& I must say (whosoever may be / Commander)
happy he / Day had he never met so
many ~~her~~ hungry Protectors, however they are
all proceeded down / Coast, not beg able to
see a French Vessel at anchor a little to Wind-
ward o' them waiting the Departure to come down
& partake / Trade. They gave us no acct
whither they are proceedg nor / oppy o' sendg
a few Lines on board, under pain o' whippg
our messengers & tossg them overboard. May
well betide old Baird & / or lovely long
Parr, paid in Cuzil, paid in Publick Commands
She / Sole Judge o' his Longitude, he Lord & Gov-
ernor o' her Equator

As to what regards / Captains o' Merchant-
men mentioned is no Concern o' mine. The
Complaints are transmitted / the sev'l Merchants
& Owners; / or Singularities its my Duty
to apprise y^rself o', as a gentleman, as a
friend to a private Character & Patron to
ev'ry well-wisher to his Countrey. / sev'l
papers sent to my Constituents amg / no
y^rself. In / meantime I rest content under
these our Tribulations & tho' (as hinted before)
/ Cast Penny is spent o' Publick & each
our private Pittances, these forts & Settlements
sh be defended hopg ev'ry day Succours will
reach us, wher as Rumours proclaim, under /
Sole Direcⁿ o' our Melior I know not nor

than ordinary, & sail places to Windwards to
 Purchase / Slaves he wanted, & may well
 Judge took up some time in so much t w
 all / sail he cd Crowd t was not Practicable
 f a man to do so much business on his hands
 to reach us till 23^d February, Sacconde, both
 Vessels left havg first bon first witnesses
 t / Dutch Determined to carry on / War agst
 us landed some 34 Cbles [~~to~~ ~~to~~] to
 brig to Bear upon / English Fort thro, & Proceeded
 to Cape Coast Castle, where myself & Colleague
 returned likewise, & agn renewed our applic^{ns}
 to / gr man Jasper - but we mt us well h
 whistled to / Wind so obdurate & inflexible was
 his mighty Soul, too tenacious o honour, too
 Jealous o leavg his madona favourita on
 board, was so obligg to Water & exercise his
 ill Temper as much as he thot proper agst
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these our Tribulations & tho (as hinted before)
/ Cast Penny is spent o / Publick & Each
our private Pittances, these forts & Settlements
sh be defended hopg evry day Succours will
reach us, wher as Rumours proclaim, under /
Sole Direcⁿ o Mr Melvil I know not nor

care not, I have taken no steps to deserve a
Removal & perhaps through / ~~Defect~~
Difficulties I met & he had here, to encumber, ~~my~~
my Demerits may stand / censure o any man.

As to / new Schemes so much illustrated &
bayed [?] up by a certain party, it will be a song
to be sung for a small Season & like an ill begot
Embryo last one Summers, swim or perish in
Foetus, / w^{ch} Methods prescribed in / Act will put
/ whole Coast in an uproar, in two years time
the won't be a native abidg, under an English
Settlem^t, / Dutch already hug themselves upon
it. However I sincerely wish / new Commis-
sioners good Success, but my fears suggest /
Contrary — ~~That~~ these Settlements can never
Subsist or answer any good beneficial purpose,
but under / managem^t o a Co w^{ch} a considerable
Stock, may I be deceived in my Conjectures
it will be far better than shouldg a tear on /
Contrary side. . . . I sh be glad to kiss yr
hand in London more fully to inform y w^{ch}
part^s wh y need not doubt o, as soon as
possible after Mr Melvill's arriv^l.

[at / d^r end o / book]

PS to Mr Taylor's letter.

I will not detain yr time & Attenⁿ fur-
ther to Inform y / Prince W^m o Annamaboa
father & is at / Ambigaⁿ ~~no~~ no doubt o / Late
Gov^r. Stockwell, who is ramblg abt the
Panyard, or taken Captive / Worthy Capt:
Darbyshire (f no Care to use yr learn, but
Keepg / French out o / Road o Annamaboa)
whose life is in / most imminent danger, we

are so distressed on Acc^o afores^d & are obliged
to set 25^y engine at work, to get / Enlarge m^r
& preserve / life o^t G^t. man & preservers o^t his
Country's rights here, t^h scarce time to com-
mand to declare myself &c. J.R.

P^ops this is an Inst^o o^f gr Loyalty &es
highness o^t Annamaboa bears / English Naⁿ
f / gr Expence & Civilities

[Encl. presumably
5 April 1682
1682.]

My lord Cape Coast Castle.

I cannot help continuing (tho' an x^try anxiety)
to intrude upon yr Ldp^s time & Patience / Occurrences
within my Province here with^o respect^o how far such
may merit yr Consideration as Public or Privat Concerns
& hereby Confess to yr Ldp / kind notice y^h has
pleas'd to take o^{me} in a letter Communicated by
Captain Patrick Baurd o^t our Sovereigns Ship Surprise
gives me fresh hopes & indeed urges Complain upon
me I am not totally forgot by, yr Ldp. / Part^o
bear / gr honour & o^t yr Lordps Remembrance in t^e
letter sh be industriously observed w^o regard to
Mr William o^t Annamaboe, & as to o^r little ver-
ball Comands by him & o^r who he kindly
instanc'd yr Lordships desire o^t more shells. I
same sh not pass unmentioned altho' it wd
h Charmd me hd yr Lordship bⁿ more Part^o
w^o respect to / sorts o^t Fossils worth sendg & t^e
an Injunctⁿ hd bⁿ laid upon me to Collect
any singularities this Part o^t World may be
Productive o^f Agreeable to / Curiosity, wh^o bⁿ
want o^t advice & a totall Slupidity to / amuse^{m^t}

care not, I'll take no steps to deserve a
Removal & perhaps through / ~~Defection~~
Difficulties I met & he had here, to encumber, ~~any~~
my Demerits may stand / Censure o' any man.

As to / new Scheme so much illustrated &
boast [?] up by a certain party, it will be a song
to be sung for a small Season & like an ill begot
Embryo last one Summers Sun or perish in
Foetus, / w^{ch} Methods prescribed in / Act will put
/ whole Coast in an uproar, in two years time
tho' won't be a native resid^g under an English
Settlemt, / Dutch already hug themselves upon
it, However I sincerely wish / new Commis-
sioners good success, but my fears suggest /
Contrary — ~~tho'~~ these Settlemts can never
Subsist or answer any good beneficial purpose,
but under / managem^t o' a Co w^{ch} a considerable
Stock, may I be deceived in my Conjectures
it will be far better than shedd^g a tear on /
Contrary side. . . . I sh^d be glad to kiss yr
hand in London more fully to inform y^r self
part^r wh^{ch} y^e need not doubt o', as soon as
possible after Mr Melville's arrival.

[at / d^r end o' / book]

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Panyard, or taken Captive / Worthy Capt:
Darbyshire (f^r no Cause to use y^er learn, but
Keep^g / French on^r o' / Broad o' Annamaboa)
whose life is in / most imminent danger, we

are so distressed on Acc^ot^t afford^d & are oblig'd
to set w^oy engine at work, to get / Enlarge m^r
& preserve / life o^t G^t. man & preservers o^t his
Country's rights here, t^h scarce time to com-
mand to declare myself &c. J R.

P^o This is an Instance o^f gr^t Loyalty &es
highness o^f Annamaboa bears / English Nam^e
o^f / gr^t Expence & Civilities

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[n.d. presumably
5 April 1782
1782.]

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& hereby Confess to yr Ld^s / kind notice y^e h^o but
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gives me fresh hopes & indeed urges Conviction upon
me I am not totally forgot by, yr Ld^s / Part^r ?
bear / gr^t honour o^f yr Lord^s Remembrance in t^h
letter sh^o be industriously observ'd w^h regard to
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h^o Charmd me h^o yr Lordship b^en more Part^r
w^h respect to / sorts o^f Fossils worth sendg & t^h
an Injunctⁿ h^o b^en Laid upon me to Collect
any singularities this Part^r o^f World may be
Productive o^f Agreeable to / Curious, wh^o b^e
want o^f advice & a totall Stupidity to / amuse m^r

o a Vertue, Slip me unregarded, unnoticed, however
 (not apology) I am convinced yr Lordship will Pass
 no Censure on my ill taste in Collecting, but under
 /Circumstances aforesaid accept /will or Interm
 f /Insufficiency o/ Deed, & in such Confidence
 take / Present Oppy a few more Shells, little
 diff^r fm / former, here beg in truth no gr
 Variety. As to Prince William heretofore
 mentioned, whom I think it my Duty to give yr
 Ld^{sh} some acct o, he has bin wth John Courantee
 at Annamaboa these 6 Days Past, & will
 return to C. C. Castle, where I h^{ve} order'd him a
 proper apartm^t, give him due encourage^{mt}, &
 he sh^{ld} be an employ^{ee} in / Service Suitable or equall
 to his Capacity & Perform^{ce} o wh^{ch} I doubt not
 his send^g yr Lordships (on his own Accord)
 satisfactory advice

Captain Baird used him v^y Politely on/
 Passage as I h^{ve} heard & indeed in Part Experienc'd
 by what I saw / repeated visits I paid t^o Gentleman
 on board. After / aforesaid Captains arrival
 on this Coast we had a visit fm two french Men o
 War named L. Continent o y^e 4 Guns & Auristlamme
 o 64 - who after exceed^g threats & a deal o Gas-
 conad on / Windward Coast, to Establish the
 Trade at Annamaboa, Sre^t a Fort^r chr, & Punish
 / English who Presumed to Forsake or admit
 the Right o Jurisdiction, in / End reached
 Annamaboa, where they anchor'd, went on
 Shore to John Couranties, made the Ports

Præter^{ns} & wth strong offers o^f Dabbers & Pearls
Pushed resolutely f^r his Continuance & Permiss^{on}
to ingress / Fanteyn Trade & Establish a
Settlemt, wh^{ch} havg bn long warred oⁿ wth
w^{re} not wantg in beg before hand wth them
w^{is}o much t^h John & / natives gave /
Chevalier an answer well Calculated (i.e.)
t^h if he Brot orders fm / King o^f England to
establish a Settlemt & trade th^{er} he was ready to
assist them in such work upon / providing those
orders, if not, they must go to England &
get / Kings Consent, f^r wth / French hd no
right at Annamaboa, nor shd h any en-
couragem^{nt} th^{er}. Upon / above / Commodore sent
two memorialls or Remonstrances to C. C. Castle
Settg up / right / King his Master hd & Subjects
at Annamaboa wh^{ch} were Properly answered,
whence & ~~the~~ Courantees sticking to / integrity
ofesaid / French Commanders grew weary
o^f fur Remonstratg & applicat^{on} to / natives,
& on sendg a few days afterwards the boats
a little near / Shore to fish Currantees dis-
charged a few rounds th^{at} at them upon wh^{ch}
they retired to / ships, & / Crews beg v^{ry}
sickly, in want o^f water & they Proceeded to
Leeward & are departed quite off / Coast, How-
ever I must not omit observg to yr Lord-
ship wth respect to John Courantee Th^{at} he hath
f^r a long Course o^f years behaved so Arbitrary
amg / Fanteyns, so inhumanly to his own
People

[Contd on p 473]

Pr Sr Capt Cole

CCC. 5th April 1751

I Recd yr Seal Letters per / Nelly
 + Surprise what y do repeatedly recom-
 mend respectg Stockwell & Husbands of the illint
 Trade, I hall / Melian in / World to put in Execu^m
 & did hint somewhat o it to Capt Baird, who is so
 v^y tender & givg his Opinion upon / most brifly
 Affairs t^e I obtained little Encourage^{mt} fm him, & as
 to Stockwell he has f a long time past idled away
 his time fm place to place on / Coast complaining o
 hardships, & leaves his Affairs in / hands o Messrs
 Husbands & Boteler yet unfinished he talkg no
 pains to settle his Accts, I advised y in my former
 Letters he was gone to Popo to attempt Establishg a
 Settlement & build Castles wth / least possibility o Success,
 I continued talkg o wh, in a manner, turnd / poor
 man's brains, how^{er} after stayg at Popo some time
 he thot proper to return & entirely dropt / Scheme.
 but a few days ago advices
 reachd me fm Inland t^e a Civil War t^e had sub-
 sisted f some time amngst / Ashantees, a g^d
 tradg people, was finished, in consequ^{ce}
 thereof we are in daily expecta^m o trade & better
 times. The Palawan advisd y of already, rests
 still undetermined, on / arrival o Capt. Baird we
 were in hopes o obtaining Redress, & accordgly enterd
 into ~~an~~ a agreem^{nt} w / Dutch Gov^{rs} f holdg a Congress
 at Succovdee, to enquire before Capt. Baird into
 / rise & progress o / whole affair, in consequ^{ce} ther^{of}
 all parties met, & we went on w our Enquiry fm
 part o ~~the~~ Xb^{rs} to / beginning o march, Capt Baird
 daily attendg to / Arguments & Eviden^{ce} on both Sides,
 but upon finishg / whole affair Abstractg / Examina^{ns}
 togr w drawg a State o / Case f his perusal &

determinⁿ, both parties had agreed to submit /
affair to him, Capt Jasper o / Prince Henry came
down o Anford in Succowd Boach, on / 23rd
Febr^y, to whom we were not wantg to pay all
possible respect regard o Respect, but after
two or three days stay, o applyg to Cap^t
Baird to give his Opinion o Determinⁿ on /
Contest, we had / mis fortune to receive our
papers back fm him, w a denial to read them,
o to find by a letter fm Cap^t Baird to /
Gen. t he had privately informd him he had
sent our proceedgs back unconsiderd o, o as
to / Dutch, he could not determin in the
favour o o course give ~~no~~ nothg agst /
English, if they were ever so wrong, in short
he refusd so much as to give his private opinion o
/ Affairs, wh extremely depressd us as I may
truly conjecture, o added no small additional
Spirits to our Enemies who sculld g^{tly} t a Cap^t o
/ English Ship o War, had sat above two months
hearing a Debate, o after all w^o not give his Country-
men his opinion wh they were right o
wrong or right. Under / circumstances aforesaid
/ Congress broke up o affairs go on in / usual
State o War, by wh o want o Succowd, /
Supplies h^o been long exhausted, o indeed / little
private Circumst^{es} we were Masters o. We
made applicⁿ to Cap^t Jasper o Redress, o waited
on him on board w Mr Boteler, informd him
o / whole Affair, produced all Depositions o papers
on both sides, o after a perusal o considerⁿ
o some days, had a promise o assistⁿ fm the
Gent^l o a Confessⁿ it plainly appeared to
him we were right o had been g^{tly} oppressed,
whereupon we begged o him in / most moving
manner we were capable o, only to interpose

for a Lesson of Arms, to obtain a restoraⁿ of our
 Subjects who had bin unjustly seized, & for Dutch
 & us to submit / Cases To each of his Constituents of
 this Decim at home, to effect w^{ch}. Capt. Jaspers
 gave us good Assurance, but in / end, after wait^g
 & Sollicit^g him daily, to come on Shore to Dinner
 wth us Jaspers, took Part at some innocent Dis courses
 of some of / Co's Officers, & Carried th^{gs} so high &
 lofty & it was not possible to bear his behaviour,
 quarrell'd wth us abt / customary Salutes of Country
 & took all possible methods, instead of procuring us
 redress, to diminish / Co's Officers in / Eyes of
 Natives under our Command, & indeed say his
 ill treatment, & not espous^g our Cause than a
 100 years will win retrieve. During / time he
 anchored at Succondee we did (notwth his
 haughty temper & bad Usage) not fail to court
 him by all Oppies to a Consultaⁿ wth us on shore
 upon our Distresses, & he as often maltreated
 our Chiefs & Officers telling them they were per-
 sons unworthy of attend^g him, send^g our
 Remonstrances back unopened, persist^g it was /
 Petty Governour & Councils duty to wait daily
 upon him. In short I never saw any one man
 Master of so much Pride & Indiscreⁿ & suffered /
 Dutch to Land [~~land~~ ~~upon~~] two 34 lbs on /
 Battlements of the Fort ag^t ours at Succondee, tho we
 had preadvise^d him of the design of a Sloop belong^g
 to / Dutch West India Co towed them upon
 Rafts into Succondee Road dur^g / time he lay
 at anchor th^{re}. In our passage from thence he
 sent one of his Boats & an Officer therein to invite
 his Boteler, Self, & E worthy African Cudjoe
 (who were on our passage here in Canoes) on
 board him, & on our Arrival Saluted us wth
 11 Guns (at same time in Sight of two

Dutch forts, one o wh / (Principal one) beg
/ Compliments paid a black Cabochan, this
affair has dispirited our friend Cudjoe who
is ~~scarcely~~ exceedg exasperated at both /
Captains, as well / Prince W^m who arrivd
safe w / Baird, he is also sensible o /
Affair, & laments much our hard usage, We
perused all measures we could devise to
engage Jasper to obtain us Justice. Perhaps
if Jasper had reachd us earlier he woud h
heard / Examina^{ns} for & ag^v us himself, &
h done / Services we wanted, but he (unfor-
tunately f us) accordg to / Discourse o his
Officers, got into Cadix & waited thro / Oppy
(f a good Gratuity) o conveyg a Spanish
Vessell thence to Teneriff, stayg a little time
thro, wh Enabled him on his go^g back to
purchase Spirits, wine, & Gunpowders, w
part o / profits f Convoyg as aforesaid, in
order to buy Slaves, stoppg at Gambia,
& to Windward some time to Accomplish
such purchases, did not arrive at ~~Saint~~
Succowdee till sd 23 Febrg. when he an-
chored at "C.C.C." (beg Commodore) Baird
left / whole managem^t o Affairs to him,
addg what he ~~wd~~ woud h done if Jasper
had not arrivd. I can't say wh some
Punctilio o honor betwem them selves int
not prevent those gr men fndog thro
Country Service & proung Relief f /
British Subjects so unjustly Oppressed,
not w^g / ill treatm^t Received. We Renewed
our Applican to Commodore Jasper but to

no purpose, and / particulars ask'd o him, ~~was~~
 we beg'd he'd take three Prisoners on board his
 Ship, or Surprise, who had been lodged here in
 Town, by some Masters o Merchant Ships, as the
 Safety depended upon / oforeaid Prisoners be'g
 Secur'd, who left Accusations agst them, desir'g they
 m'd be put on board / first o his Majesty's Ships
 t arrived, two o whom had been actually guilty o
 Piracies, / d^o only found a design to run away
 w a Vessel, w d^o Conspirators, but did not effect
 / same. We cd not obtain t favour, tho he
 acknowledged they were Pirates, & promis'd to
 take them on board, in consequence thereof we
 sent / Officer o / Guard off to Deliver them, but
 to our gr^t Surprise they were return'd, as he would
 not suffer them to Enter his Ship, as regard
 to his word he had ~~at~~ none, forfeit'g it on any
 oceaⁿ & in a most scandalous manner (if
 may be allowed to say so) to / good old man
 Cudjoe, wh gave him gr^t uneasiness - As to
 Capt Baird he (as I hinted before) got deep
 into a Correspondence w / Gen, & had on on board
 board his ship w / Gen's Secretary, Private
 Interviews, w^t Informing our Council, aught o
 / matter, but I wd not be tho't to insinuate
 / Gen could make any Impression upon his
 or Jasper's heart, by Virtue o / Trust o this
 Country - bec on / one hand both be'g
 Officers o his Britannick Majesty, on / o^r
 must consequently be men o Honour &
 Integrity, how press'd soever / necessities o
 / former, or Poverty o her & Mrs Jasper, who

I doubt ~~not~~ added some Oil to / blame, as she
bore no small Command in these parts by sea
& land & I must say he such an excessive pro-
pensity to Gold. It on only Compliments her wth a
little Snuff on^{ly} o my Box, she had / pride to
carry / same away. (beg o value) fm off / Coast,
& will put me to / trouble o Prosecut^g o / same
when I h^{ave} / happiness to see England. The two
Ships anchored in this road, & water'd, but /
Commanders deny'd com^g to any Consultⁿ wth us
on shore, / Reason, Mrs Jaber was afraid o it,
when I w^{as} all / Phetorick I was Master o,
Imbreach she w^{ould} h^{ave} me wth her Co, was
deny'd, as / Naked black Women (having no
Garments above the Navels) were offensive to
her Modesty, & it was intimated to me by some
o his Officers, he did not chuse to leave her
on board, f^{or} reasons not alleg^d wth foundatⁿ
as it was surmised she was not so prodigious
nice thro in his Absence - we pursued all methods
imaginable wth Jaber, but he weigh'd fm Cape
Coast, & lies at Annamaboa, where we hear
noth^g fm them, nor what they purpose do, &
w^{ould} h^{ave} us^{er} these Accts by him but he has
threaten'd & Attempted to flog my Boys, or
any belong^g to / Sents o / Council, if they
come wth any Messages wth him. A Rumour
prevails he intends go^g directly home fm
St. Thomas, & o send^g Baird to Jamaica.
In february last two French men o War
came down / Coast, / Content & Aurri-
flamme, Commanded by / Chevaliers,
Glandeyes, who after much Vapouring & Noise
o what they w^{ould} do agst / English, Anchord
at Annamaboa. I was then Examining Wit-
nesses at Succondee Relative to / Dispute

us / Durk, but took such methods as John
 Curranter & / Farlants, by virtue o' presents
 re t' day's robes & English Colours at every
 place o' consequence, in where it was practicable
 they wd attempt Landg all / way down / coast, &
 when / French Commodore sent his Officers on
 shore at Rmanaboa, all / Fain apac people
 beg got logs, sd Officers returned a night to
 t' place & to build a fort, John Curranter
 be heard & would w'ill, asked / Commodore
 Deputies of / King o' England sd given them
 Orders to find th' & to come on shore, if not
 they should go to / King of Madagascar & get his
 leave, t' / Fantasy Country belongs to / English
 & no other had a right to Rmanaboa, as
 the particulars sent to / Co to be beg leave
 to refer - day made of or offers but old John
 Refused all, & they went on board agn, & a day or
 two after sent the boats to fish near shore,
 at whom John Bichongd his g'ns, & they
 returned to the vessels, beg sitting on board,
 in want o' partners presented to Leonard &
 one gone off / Coast, w' / Intemperance & others
 o' his Majesty's ships, w' of more observe to y
 as regard to Curranter he has all his life time
 behaved so barbarous & cruel to / Nations, t' was
 age comes fast upon him he is for sensible his
 people are not likely to forget his wrongs, &
 will undoubtedly take / advantage o' him, &
 his family, therefore t' his own safety is
 advised / Commodore / Build o' a Fort at
 Rmanaboa, & would give / English presence
 were use will supply
 to begin such work, / James / Butler, & w'ise

(End will be to he will Encourage / French or
Portuguese to do it, & I am told has declared
so to Capt. Baird, I have ordered / Gov William
an Appointment in "C.C.C." & his Table, & will
appoint him some little office accordg to his
Capability, I better to keep John in good
temper, wh will be o Advantage, & no bad
part, paid f. Mr Melvil, or any of Successor
o mine on this Coast, f. as I learn fm all /
late Ships t Passed, I Supplies are to be under
I Gov o him, who comes out Director Gen, under
such Circumstances we must not Content I
done nothing to deserve removal therefore can
help, not yourself neither, I am convinced, this
rumour does our Affairs no good as / Natives
don't respect Removals, & Cudjoe is determined
let what person will come out, if / new Scheme
comes an end there's a free trade [sic] in /
confused manner its talked o here (ie)
many people settling on Shore, he'll remove
w his people & reside in / Country, & I must
say when t becomes / Case, Adieu African Affairs,
in t man's honest heart centers / whole

Strength o / English in these parts, I would
write a Volume to Explain / bad Effects o
such an Illjudgd plan, / or Establishg
Captains, Factories under / Forts, in two years
time will ruin / whole trade, f in / first
place, they will overbid each o' in Price &
will interest the goods to / Natives, who are
prone to run in a Whiteman's Debt, &
when they are not paid at / time appointed
will Seize & carry away / free people
not w^g / Clause in / Act to prevent / same,
fm whence continual Broils & Mischief,

my friend, I may be Assur'd t/ British
 Trade to Africa cannot be improved & ex-
 tended, but by a Co w a Considerable Trade
 Stock. The number o French Traders, f a few
 months past by / measures we h taken, & /
 laudible & brave behavⁿ o some true Brit-
 ish Captains (to wit) Darbyshire, Bonts &
 Duncombe, are much reduced, / former has
 drove many o them Entirely off / Coast, taken
 o's out o / road o Elmina, conveyed them to
 Leeward o / river Volta, & dur'd behav'd
 so well, too much cannot be sd o his good
 Services, as indeed o / Captains Duncombe &
 Bonts, they h also made generous Offers to
 assist us in our troubles & Distress agst /
 Dutch & Athanta Natives, & help'd us w the
 Craft to support ~~our~~ our Sinking reputⁿ.
 Pray speak Honourably o these Gents to all yr
 good Acquaintance, Darbyshire & Duncombe
 need wth ill treatm^t fm Jasper at Annama-
 boa, o wh I make no Doubt they will make
 a proper representⁿ to the owners, therefore
 Concern myself no fur^r ab^t t Affairs . . .

Shd Melvill come on^t I will take an
 Oppy, by one o our own Vessels, o Kiss
 yr hand myself w / Boys &c, have
 found a good plan, wher^t t Affairs
 happens, to get more Cash than by
 beg^g Gov^t o "CCC" on such an ^{con} contract
 tenure. I must Submit o^r thy to yr

Consideration & Conclude. Capt. Baird at / beginning
o / Palawan at Succondee, took an oppy by
message, by Mrs. Williams, to signify to me
t he had brot a private adventure w him,
wh if I wd not buy he'd not sit & hear /
Palawan. Upon Enquiry I found his Asser-
ment v'y bad & dear Consistg chiefly o
Perpet's Junes rs, & t I was not able to
vend them at / Price he Expected wh after
some time, I inform'd him. Anor thg he took
an oppy o Communicatg to me thro' / black
boy aforesaid t he Expected a present o Slaves
before he sat down to hear our Complaints, t
I Co allowed Capt's o Men o War such Disre-
at home, & insinuated t if we did not give
some to him, we wd hurt him ill, & did not
fail to charge them to I Co in our Accts, Such
are his Majestys Capt's o Men o War
Honr. As to his Goods, findg he ~~was~~ expos'd
them to sale to / Natives at Nunarnakwa, I
sent down privately to Capt Jenson thr, who
made a bargain & bot / whole f us rather
than a Capt's o a Ship o War shd expose
himself so much. Hd / Capt's o / Prince Henry
& Surprise properly espoused us in our
Affairs, I had made such an Alliance w /
King o Warsaw (o whom I inform'd y' in
some o my former letters) t 15,000 men
hd come down to our assistance, Sufficient to

h^e repelled any Dutch Force here, & will still
do / Same, on our own private Friendship
Contracted, were we Masters o' Supplies, &
able on such occasions to make them / Custom-
ary Dashes o' Country. The whole Pro-
ceeds had been sent by this oppy, but f /
precariousness o' Conveyance &c
I am &c I.R.
[2 folios on]

"The remainder o' Capt Cole's letter wh refer
back to 2 folios"

I am taken o' this Instant by an Acc^t Capt.
Dartmouth was justly seized, maltreated
& made Captive, & hence to his vessel by
Prince William, father &c & detained at Annama-
boa, at / instigation o' Stockwell (we fear) who
is rambling abt the army / negroes, insinuatg
he sh be reinstated in my place. This affair
put me in such a ~~state~~ Consternation & distress
I am at a loss to know what to say to y^e, or
cause to assign it to, unless it be his
Keepg / French on o' Annamaboa & thereby
Presentg some Customs, I h det^d my Enquire
to work to procure / Enlargem^t & save /
life o' t^e g^t Man who is in imminent
danger, & wh^{ch} if I can possibly Effect by
any means sh not be wantg. This is /
first Instance we h Experienced o' Attack

1/ g^t promise o Annamaboa bears to / British
Interst & his noble Patrons, & doubt not
as time slips on, experiencing o / like good
Services, having diverted himself already o
his Christianity & is already desir'd
on to / Native Barbarian, so strong is
Nature, so feeble / Efforts o Education, In
short I must plainly tell y^e there is no
washing a Blackamoor white, not beg bless'd
wth / Principles o Humanity equal to /
waterside Inhabitants such as our friend
Cudjoe whose family he wth Virtue a
black man can be Master o instilled
into them . . .

Yours &c J.R.

Contd from p 461:

People & be guilty o such injustices, t^h findg
age grow Powerfully upon him & wth body
not only his Enemy but resolved one day
o o^r to take advantage o his Family, is
determined at all events to establish a Fort
at Annamaboa. 6 / Defe^{at} o them & him-
self o in this affair will give Part^r preference to
/ English, wth if they reject or don't shortly
Embrace, he is determined at all events
(if / reasons aforesaid) to give / French or
Portuguez / opp^s, whereby / Trade will

be rendered / Property & right o such Foreigners,
 as any o' / English Merchants. I must also
 observe to yr help whilst / men o war were at
 Annamaboa I was at Succoodee wth Captain
 Baird enquiring into / Athanta Contest o^r
 Palaver before his Majesty's Captain aforesd,
 therefore wth regard to / French men o War
 ordered Mr^r Husband's my Colleague to get
 flags hoist wth where on / Coast all down /
 Fantyn Country & to send / Cabocheers
 dahheers, wh were wth expensive (but o little
 consequence compared to / Prisoner's o our
 Rights & Jurisdiction) by wh & o^r methods too
 long to trouble yr Lordship wth, we obtained
 / success aforesaid & / French too sensibly
 found our Gen interest & Power throughout
 / Fantyn Country; but to return to / former
 Part o this Paragraph regards / Palaver,
 our Enquiry into / same took up fr^m / latter
 end o December to / bequing o March durg wh
 time we met wth many oppressors fr^m t overbear'd
 man / Dutch Generall, & much abt / time o Con-
 cludg / Examinans, / Prince Henry Ship o
 Wars, Captⁿ Jasper came down / Coast & an-
 chored in / Road o Succoodee, fr^m whom as
 an English man we expected some Countenance
 & Relief, therefore abttracted our Examinans,
 drew up a State o our Case, & by Agreement
 did lay / same before Captⁿ Baird f^r him to
 give his opinion thereupon, wh / Generall also
 Pressed, but, f^r what reason we know not, Captain
 Baird refused readg our case, examining our
 Europeans dispositions regardg t^o Affair, or undeed

so much as to give his opinion who were wrong or right
in / Contention, declaring, as we discovered by Private
letters & Passed betwixt him & / Gen^los we afterwards
discovered) that we give up no points to / Prejudice
o' Dutch, nor could not determine o' consequence
anythg in favour o' English, having no orders to
interfere in any Palavers betwixt / two Co's, where-
upon our Congress was dissolved, & tho' so much
time was spent as aforesaid, / troubles still remain
unsettled.

In this dilemma we took it our duty to apply to
Captain Jasper & did (wh. is an unusual thg;
neglect affairs on shore, & wait several days upon
Gentlemen on board w' Papers & Proceedings, & fully
informed him o' / whole affair, wh. took up
some days, in order hereby to get, if possible,
/ favour o' his interposiⁿ so far as to demand
a Cessⁿ o' hostilities, / Enlargem^t o' our
English Prisoners, & our Cases not be referred
home f' decision o' our Constituents, & in / mean-
time a Peace be maintained. After / Captain's
perusg all Papers, hearing our just Informants, &
duly considering / same, he was so kind as
[to] commiserate our Circumstances & to confess /
justice o' our Cause, but, f' what reason we
know not, could not obtain /m. him / redress
aforesaid, or least service, but quite ~~to~~ on / Contrary
/ more we continued to Remonstrate & push his
interposiⁿ / more was he Pleased to keep off, &
wth just Reason, reason or Provocⁿ, got a Took
an oppy to Prejudice us in / Eyes o' our own
People & dependants, & to render our Co despici-
able to / natives. We failed not, my Lord, to
make all Concessⁿ, to demean ourselves, &
laboured (as I may truly say to yr Lordship)
Religiously to satisfy / Pride o' t' St^r man

Mr Jasper, but still with Success. Wee found he
 expected our Constant attendce on him on board,
 Mr Boteler & Self did not fail in daily humouring
 him in T Point, he beg Pleas'd to Express how
 much beneath him it was to Condescend to Com^g
 on Shore to Consult w/ Insignificant Governours &
 Council o Cape Coast Castle, but all to no Purpose,
 Wee sent our proper officers to wait on him, whom
 he maltreated & returned our Correspondence unopened,
 in short left Succedee & have anchored in /
 Road o C Coast till he had watered, deriv'd com^g
 to any Consultaⁿ to us, but left / road w^g giving
 us / opp^y & send^g this & a few letters by him to
 England, He also staid w / Surprise a short
 time at Annamaboa, suffred a Portuguez to
 anchor th^r & carry / Trade by overbedd^g /
 English Captains, & some small Punctilio's o
 Respect, & firing two shott into Captain Darby-
 shire o Liverpool, went w / Surprise down /
 Coast, leav^g a French Trader at / Castle o
 Elmina, wait^g his departure, Ready to Come
 & fore stall / Trade o Annamaboa. Indeed, as
 to Captain Jasper's Tyrannous departm^t to /
 English Captains I ha no Concern w^t it, they
 themselves will fully inform the Merchants in
 England thereof, especially / Commanders
 Boats, Duncorn, & Darbyshire, fm whom wee
 received in our distresses repeated offers o
 Assisten^{ce} w^{ch} the Vessels to obtain Redress
 fm / Dutch & Ahantees, & I can truly say
 (wh^{ch} it wd be injustice in me to forbear) those
 Gentlemen are English men, worthy o / name,
 Preservers o the Country's Rights, & to Protec^t /

Trade, Captain Darbyshire [compelled?] three
 french vessels at a time to quit Annamaboa
 & go intirely off / Coast.

I must likewise take upon me, wth [y^r] Ldp's
 indulg^{ce} to sett forth t^e / g^t expence attendg
 our dependants & war w^{ch} h^{as} bin above these
 twelve months engaged in, hath not only
 Exhausted / Supplies, but drawn out Private
 Property, w^{ch} h^{as}, its time, frequent news o
 fresh Supplies comg on, but not yet (tho
 / year is so far advanced) on / Passage, &
 those to be under / Care o^f Mr Melvil, appan
 appointed director General to superceed
 myself, wh^{ch} I can bear as Patient as any
 man will know / uncertainty o^f Co's Em-
 ployment, & w^{ch} a heart not conscious o^f having
 taken one step but f^r my Country's good, &
 as a means to effect / same, h^{as} not spared
 my Private Purse, whereby I sh^{all} return wth
 Sixpence acquired or my own Capital &
 Adventure Preserved

Sometime past I mentioned to y^r Ldp
 an Affair betw^{en} Captain Bouter's o^f Bristol
 & a Portuguez trader whom / former went on
 board & P. force took a Lge Quantity o^f To-
 bacco. I now enclose a translation o^f / sd
 Portuguez Captains Protest.

[at / or end o^f Duck]:

PS. to L^d Halifax's letter

I am Debarred fr^{om} puttg y^r Ldp to fur
 trouble or imposs^g upon y^r Patice havg rec^d /

Melancholy news to Prince W^m as / first Act o
 Loyalty & regard to English name, Parryard &
 Seized Capt Darbyshire f Keepg / French un^o o
 Road o Annamaboa re re re says is his
 father John Curranter, at / instig^m we fear
 o / late Gov^r Stockwell, who is at Annamaboa
 amg / natives. We are in / utmost distress &
 Confu^m to release & obtain / enlarge^m o t Good
 Man, whose head is in / most^o imminent danger,
 & wh^o our Dear friend Cudjoe heartily inter-
 feres in, so t I am oblig^d oblig^d much ag^t
 Inclina^m to take no fur Liberty w /r Ldp.
 than beg leave to declare myself re JR

Letters o similar purport as / above to Lord
 Halifax & Capt Cole also written by Roberts to:
 Edward Fitzgerald (short) } all dated similarly
 Hon^r J Vaughan (long) } 5 April 1751.
 Henry Hascelles (long)

Also a long letter to "My Lord" dat 5 April.
 Containg / some informa^m
 Roberts refers to a previous letter he wrote in
 "August^o last" & / addresses un^o, perhaps,
 Lord Viscount Barrington

Mr John Stokes " C.C.C. 11th April 1751.

I this moment recd yr letter, advise
what y say respectg / Palawoni, y must not be
forward in offerg anythg, the demand is most
exorbitant, but I don't doubt but they will
fall to 100 Bends (if not 100 oz) so t if
Darbyshire can get off. f / latter sum, its better
fast than last, & I think Darbyshire will be
well off to get fm / villains upon such Terms,
tell John Curranee it gives me concern he
does not make / Palawer easy to Darbyshire as
he will get a bad name in England, notw^g
I h wrote home to Mr Dalifore & sev^l o^rs to
inform them how well he had behaved in
keepg / French fm Settling etc, this says it is
people t keep Darbyshire will be o no
avail, as / people o England think he is
so gr a man & has so much power t he can
do what he pleases, wh Mrs W^m is well enough
acquainted w, so t what's damage Capt.
Darbyshire Receiv^r they will be look'd upon
to be / Cause, therefore if John Curranee
& Mrs W^m can by means o the Interest w /
Fanteens or o^r Methods procure his enlarge^{mt}
it will be the Interest to do it, & they will be no
losers in / end by Oblig^g / English Nam. I
desire y will demand / Goods & tell / Fanteens
we insist upon them as they do not belong to
Capt Darbyshire, or anyone but ourselves, there-
fore they had better deliver them. Advise me if
I can be o any Service in any Shape & I will do it,
as will also Messrs Husbands & Boteler, w / g^lest
wilegness, Suppose t y was to propose to
William t Darbyshire will give him & his father

a Dashce, more to John's Advantage than what they can get in / Palaver. I sh expect one or my Boys to come up every night to Inform me how / Palaver goes on, if y h not time to write, as no Excuse sh write them, rain or not
 I am to J.R.

32 "CCC" 5th April 1751

From / small acquaintance I h / how: o us y, I take upon me to inform y t some three days past / brave & well deservg Capto Darbyshire in y^e Employ^{mt} was panyard by / Negroes o / Fantym Country (to w^{ch}) John Curranties pe^{pl} people re, & Eyes a Captive at Annamaboa. We leave no stone unturnid to get his Enlarge^{mt}, & doubt not effectg it soon. God recommend t y put y^rself to no manner o Concern, his Slaves to above 300 beg well on board also his Gold & d^r Effects Safe. The Cause o / above Affair we know not as yet. The Prince o Annamaboa is th^r & inclinid to do him no kind o Service, & God knows wh^r he & / late Gov^r Stockwell who is also th^r had hd any hand in it. Demands are v^y lge upon him wh^r its hopd w^{ill} be moderated, 'tis out o our Power to get t good man Redress by force, who deferned / Trade in these parts & restrainid / ffrench th^r from, more within these few months past th^r has bin done f some years & his Confine^{mt} is a Gen Concern. notwth / above we doubt not his makg a

prosperous Voyage as (I had times considered)
a Man could possibly do. We hear / Trade
o this Coast is put upon a new plan & wish
sincerely I may be mistaken in / Consequence
thereof, & t any o^r good may attend it than
continual Melancholy Circumstances like / Case
o Cap^t Darby shire. How^r time will conveⁿ
convince / British Traders & o^r Merchants.

I am &c &c J.R.

Thos Seal Esq^r Liverpool

Cape Coast Castle 14^{^a} May 1751

Dr Sir^x

I wrote y a long letter p^r Hunter
Sloop Capt Cockburn wh I hope will be
honoured wth yr Perusal as it contains an
impartial & faith full acct o two o his Majesty's
Capts. Jasper & Baird wh y may Depend was
literally true a t I wd not Decieve y in my
informam. . . . I p^r some Conveyce writ / Co
lord Halifax, Barrington & seal^d as I ha
not an Oppy o dog set it by / man o War.
/ Reasons men^d in / afores^d letter. It
actually [sic qly?] Surprizes Every body here
what can Detain / Supplies We cannot
conjecture we were sent here to starve you

* Addressee's name is not recorded.

People who by manage^{mt} of African Affairs
 can think we can subsist upon / live in this remote
 Region, it wants but a few days or 6 months since
 my arrival here, durg wh^{ch} time we h^{ad} not traded
 wth French; but findg we are so neglected & no
 care taken to send out supplies, & as it is impossible,
 to procure common necessaries o^{ur} life to support / Co's
 European & o^{ur} servants wth / Gov's aid was regularly
 sent out, or tradg wth French, who are always ready
 to put the Cargoes on shore when / English will not
 trust any part o^{ur} this; if wh^{ch} reason, o^{ur} two early,
 sh^{ip} table / least, nor wth / persuasions o^{ur} sev^{er}
 British & American Captains who were judges o^{ur}
 our situa^{on} & / necessity the way of our tradg, wth /
 French. Therefore in preference to seeq / Co's ser-
 vants starve & ourselves not able to supply
 Dixons Fortress wth such necessaries / garrison
 stand in need o^{ur}, & at same time hav^g 20
 Slaves in Castle t^{hat} had b^{een} offered in / course o^{ur} 3
 months to sev^{er} British & American Capt & by
 them refused, I agreed to trade wth French & at
 / end o^{ur} this month took a Cargoe o^{ur} a Snow,
 belongg to Stange de Gray, on shore, & sh^{ip} continue
 to trade wth / ships o^{ur} 2 wth / Gov's aid arrives.
 I wanted sev^{er} months after / supplies were exhausted
 & / time t^{hat} sev^{er} one t^{hat} gave themselves / trouble to
 think abt it must imagine they must be expended
 fm / acct^s sent home by / Masters o^{ur} private traders,
 & o^{ur} ourselves o^{ur} dullness o^{ur} trade &c; not to men^{tion}
 our b^{eing} engaged in a most expensive war in
 def^{ense} & preserv^{ation} o^{ur} one [o^{ur}] our most valuable
 Settlements; fm wh^{ch} I infer myself & o^{ur} / Co's ser-
 vants h^{ad} b^{een} extremely ill-used & severely treated,
 & under no oblig^{ation} to refuse ~~to~~ any trade offered,
 hav^g spent / lab^{or} skillg o^{ur} our own property
 & made use o^{ur} our credit to its utmost extent.
 I cd write a Volume on / subject was not / con-
 -veyed a Dutch ship & may be judged f^{rom} many

got

manifest reasons precarious, therefore sh^d only
advise t^e us deftly I got Capt Darbyshire info/
hands o/ Fantees [say / people o/ Anamaboe]
but they obliged him to pay near £400 stg f^r his
enlargem^t & used / poor man so extremely ill
he has bn in gr^t danger o/ his life since, what a
shame it is t^e these forts are not supported
in such a manner as t^e rebat^t such insolent
insolence in negroes. It's better they were des-
troyed than kept as marks o/ possession &
disgrace to Britain. The Fantees told
Darbyshire t^e / Capt^s Jasper & Baird informed
them he hd no power to drive / French
Authority fm Anamaboe, & t^e they wd^d use
him right to make a palaver on him f^r it: wh^{ch}
they greedily swallowed & y^e see / Consequ^t
t^e followed those gr^t mens' advice, & fur^r now
/ French ships may trade at Anamaboe wth
f^r molestam^t, wh^{ch} / Capt^s o/ British ships
hd entered into an engagem^t to keep off
till / arrivall o/ ships o/ war, & hearq what
/ Commanders o/ them quite out; wh^{ch} has
intimidated them, & one French ship does at
~~present~~ this juncture lie v^y near
Anamaboe undisturbed, uninterrupted, so
t^e it will be better to trade wth them here
than let them carry on a commerce wth /
natives, as / latter will find such advantage
therby, they will give them / prefer^{re} o/ the
trade to / people o/ any o^r nan; & depend
upon it, f^r / French are not forbid com^g
on / Gold Coast by th^e own Gov^r & kept
entirely off by ours properly supply^g / Forts
& keep^g Cruisers, as I^h before informed I.

of t purpose, ~~advice~~ advice British trade in
 these parts. The Boy Williams (has bin
 here for some days from Anamaboe) designs
 continuing, & behaves very well, I give him / best
 advice I am capable [to] in what manner he
 sh act & ~~conjecture~~ during his stay conjecture he
 will behave to Lord Halifax's satisfaction, &
 sh give him a salary to stay, as / people o
 Anamaboe are such sad fellows, there is no
 answering of his conduct if he gets among them.
 He's this moment come into my room to let me
 know Mr Stockwell wanted to enter into a part-
 nership w him & settle at Anamaboe, but t his
 father not ~~him~~ he wd not give Mr Stockwell
 answer till he had consulted me. I told him he had
 better keep by / Castle than enter into any scheme
 o t Hand (sic-kind?) wh he assured me he wd
 & t he shd not h thro' o any such thg but t / Capt
 Captains Jasper & Baird & Governor Stockwell
 had endeavoured to persuade his father not to let
 him come to "CCC", by wh I may plainly per-
 ceive / pains & understand methods those gentle-
 men put on success & how near they were to
 in do'g the Country's disservice from an idea o
 sole conceit o this, it wd hurt us to h a palace
 w / Fanteens, & t / petty Governor & Council o
 "CCC" had not right to employ private ships
 to drive / French off / Gold Coast & t notwithstanding
 all they strive to do t mt prejudice & depreciate
 us & aggrandize themselves. (I latter we also
 study to do in all respects & to make them appear
 in the proper light before / Natives, as well as
 from / inclinⁿ we had to pay all due reverence to his
 Majesty's officers, as I hopes o receive assistance from
 them; but, my good friend, they were Jaspers o
 such sort / best Lapitary wd h employed his

arts to little purpose, it be^g impossible to make
impresⁿ on the Obdurateness. I can't say what
I ~~think~~ think o this country properly applied m^t h
done, but in those times it was too scarce
a commodity to try experiments w^t)

- I h reason to believe John Courantee &
Fam^l terms wd goe any lengths to serve us when it
costs him nothing but labours. H^d we where-
with to make his people / usual presents, wh
is / only way to engage Negroes in yr interests,
I am persuaded / English man wd reap
advantage by / service he & o^r o^r our friends,
leadg men in / country, wd do at our request
were we able to support them. Courantee sh
always h his due praise fm me as demerits
as Deserves / one, to other w^t. favour or affectⁿ,
pique, or prejudice, & at juncture ~~cannot~~
can venture to say he is strongly engaged in
our interests. It is painfull to me to inform
of what a terrible situatⁿ we are in, or upon
/ footg / new schemes will get / man profit
or honours. Some of Arts reached me & / if
I may be allowed to [say] so) I never per-
used such; if any Plan but t o a Joint
Stock Co ever extends & improves / Trade
to Africa, I will gladly stand impeached by
my credulous stupidity. The v^y circum-
stances o makg / Trade open forbids success,
& of weighty & innumerable reasons no
man can judge so well o as he on / heart;
in short fall back, fall edge, time will
determine / consequence o this Plan. I h con-
sidered it in partially all manner o ways
& can judge & foresee little but destructⁿ
attend it & not one tolerable reason in its

favours. The Dutch rejoice well knowing in
 a very little time they will be masters o' say
 English Subjects, what black Cabocheers will
 live in a town under obedience to 1 Fort & in
 Subjects to half a dozen, or perhaps more,
 factories. The Natives find it enough to be
 Subject to 1 Law o' Castle. I really see
 dreadful consequence & a sad source attends
 thy labour, O Ingenious Melvill. However
 to quit Publick Concerns
 be Sir yr most obliged most affect &
 Dev^t friend

previous one dd 14 May - / next one 14 June

Africa Cape Coast Castle [nd.]

Dear Sir

much o

[note. This letter contains] / some informⁿ
 some times verbatim as the previous one.

The following extracts only are: made [m.e.]

I wrote y a long letter dated / 5th o April

. . . Thy / same Conclusee wrote / Co & / Lords
 Halifax & Barrington & sent it . . .

It does not avail making protestⁿ not to
 Trade w / French when neglected & drove to /
 necessities we are. There is no refusg / European
 servants subsistee or those o Africa if its
 possible to get it, & suggestⁿ th^t can be no
 plainer proof o it than our running ourselves in
 Debt to support / Settlements till / supplies arrive

addresses name not recorded,

When there was a Co / servants wd rest content
f^r this pay & even wd advance money wth a promise
f^r & dependence on / managers here t^h they
shd be reimbursed on / arrival o a Co's ship, or
beg paid by / Co when they went home; but
now / case is quite diff^r, they dont know who
may be sent wth / merch^{ts} Supplies, or perhaps wth
orders f^r no arrears to be paid upon / Coast
wth them. By / acts we receive affairs seem so
perplexed & unsettled that they do not know
who is to become the paymaster in Europe, if
they were able to subsist wth takg up the pay.
I must own it gives me no small uneasiness.
I often wish I had never come out upon such an
uncertain footg as I find / promises o supplies
to a man when in Europe are not to be relied
upon, & I ament beg oblig'd to trade wth / French
I had much aversion too but as / Supplies h^{ve} b^{en}
retarded, I also lament I did not trade wth / French
f^r my first arrival as by t^h means I shd h^{ve} b^{en}
enabled to h^{ve} carried on / dispute in / Ahanta
Country agst / Dutch Gen^l g^ong to / honours
& advantage o my Country & Satisfacⁿ o /
Natives under British Protecⁿ upon this Coast
& acquired reputⁿ myself; not wth all / dis-
advantages I h^{ve} laboured under I h^{ve} not given
up or ceded a foot o British Property to / Dutch
Gen^l but h^{ve} defended / same agst / vigorous
attacks made thereon by him & his Black
allies & h^{ve} pleasure to inform y^e t^h all /
disaffected English Subjects h^{ve} deserted him
& returned to the allegiance I am now
a treatg wth them abt buildg the Towns ab^t /
Fort & wythg in t^h Country is in a state o
tranquillity

The Dutch Genl has imprisoned many o his
 people bec they wd not continue / War &c &
 he has some o / British Subjects in Elmira
 Castle wh I hope / next o his Majesty's ships
 will be orders to demand & not behave in /
 manners / last Commanders did, who sd they
 had no orders, & if they had, / Dutch had so gr
 an Interest in our Ministry, tho they acknow-
 ledged we had Justice on our side they sd &
 assured us it was dangerous f them to meddle
 in any affair where / Dutch were concerned or
 to act in any manner agst them as / Dutch by
 thir interest may do them a Prejudice

To return to / French . . . [as in previous letters]

The Black Boy William . . .

I told him . . . he wd be sure o Protecⁿ
 let what Resolutions or disturbances happen at An-
 nama loka or / death o John Courantee who
 cannot live long, & f him to take care what^r
 Factions or disputes may happen he shd make
 it his study to deserve / Governours favours,
 thank God we h no disputes or Factions I
 may venture to say we live as happy as
 people in our Circumstances wantg Supplies can,
 looking out wry day f a Co ship . . .

But to return to / Black Boy he is good Security
 while here f his Father's behaviour & he has
 conserved a girl on^r o married one of / best
 Family in / Pantycorn Country who is here, &
 likewise a good Security f / behaviour o those
 People. John Courantee & / rest o / Fanteem
 People I am persuaded will go any length
 to serve me, where it cost them nothing but
 labour, had I / wherewithall to make them /

usual Presents wh is / only method to engage
negroes in yr Interest, & how I am convinced
/ British Manⁿ wd reap considerable advantage
by / services he & or lead men in / Country w
whom I he enticed into Engagements by convincing
them / Deserjors Designs ~~is~~ / Dutch had intrud
into us thro' inemics to intercept all / People at
/ Waterside wh since my informⁿ, some
Circumstances h corroborated & confirmed them
fully o my Friendship for them, The reason of
this Designe of Dutch is too long to insert
or Delvidat here.

John Currenly shallways h his due praise
or demerit fm me as he deserves / one or tother
wt favours or affection, pique, or prejudice, & at
this juncture can venture to say he is strongly
engaged w / King o Wasaw, & some of
head Cabbicers in / English Interest & they
do nothing wt consulting me, Was I supported
I cd do what I pleased, w^t Dutch wh /
Dutch Gen is sensible o, or wise he wd push
/ Palaces on in / Ahamta Country, but his
Partizans h no doubt informed him o /
strong Alliance I h brot abt wh is concluded
conformable to / Customs o / Coast Therefore in
Consequ^e if I was properly supplic^d, am
under no manner o doubt but to be able to
do my Country Service & Honour.

Mr Joseph Maresty, Africa Cape Coast Castle 14th June
1751.
Sir / I recd yr most esteemed favours o
28th August: " - - -

Doubt not ~~if~~ but y^e h^o learned h^o
informed Capt Darbyshire was seized &
made prisoner by / Fantem People (i.e. o
Annamaboe) & sh refer to him to relate /
part I took in procuring his enlargement &
methods to get him his liberty & out o this
hands.

He is now ready to go off / Coast w 420
Slaves, but after he had done his Trade four
days agoe he stopped on board his Vessel
Trading People & Slaves in number Twenty
three who belong to Annamaboe in order to
oblige those people to refund / money they had
extorted from him & make restitution f / injuries
they had done him, when as here among them
them, poor man, he was in a perilous ~~pos~~
situation. From my own part did not expect his
life wd h^o be preserved, he has also bin in gr
danger from a fever he was seized w when
ashore but is now in a fair way o recovery. The
fantem findg this People were detained on
board Capt Darbyshires Vessel sent a num-
ber o People by land & seized two mates
belongg to Capt Galley & all / People t were
settled in factories who at this time remain
in the Possession. They at same time sent a
fleet o Cannoes to seize all / English boats
at / sev^l places o Trade down / Coast &

informaⁿ has this moment reached me they h^{ave}
taken out & imprisoned / Crew in / Dutch Castle
at Comantone & y may be assured / officers
o t Nan who are not insensible o / little regard
t has bn taken o the behaviour of some years
past & o / situaⁿ we are in f want o / Gods
aid beg regularly sent out, will put in exe-
cution my measure the invenⁿ points out
to embrace / affairs, as before this affair
happened / fantasye People had entered into
allie w me to act offensive & defensible,

I instantly sent my messengers to Com-
namahos, but before they cd get th^{ere}, mess-
engers arrived fm / fantasye telling at my
request they gave Cap^t Darbyshire his En-
largem^t t he had seized th^{ese} People & if
he wd not give them th^{ere} liberty they had one
& all agreed to declare war agstst / English
wth excepⁿ & were determined to seize /
Persons, Boats, & Effects o any British Subject
they cd lay th^{ere} hands upon, wh^o belong^d to
/ Co or Private Traders as all Englishmen were
alike to them & they sh^d not steal & carry
off th^{ese} People as they did those upon /
Windward Coast. I answered I was a friend
& mediator, interferred between them & Cap^t
Darbyshire to settle / dispute they had, & sh^d
do / same now, & endeavour to accomodate
matters to th^{ere} Satisfacⁿ &c. But it sig-
nifies nothing talk^g or making Proposals to an
unraged People, besides has bn had [sic]
f these two days past t its impossible to get
a Canoe off w my messenger to Cap^t Darby-
shire, when he can if he persists in carry^g
off / People he has seized off / Coast I fear
it will be o fatal consequence to / British

Interests & Commerce. What a Shame it is these
 forts & Settlements are not supplied in such
 manner as to enable / British officers to resent
 & punish Insolent & such Nature of Kind in
 Negroes equal w those of th Mans, in my poor
 opinion it wd be better they were destroyed than
 kept as marks of Possesⁿ & Disgrace to Britain,
 or on / present uncertain Tenure, The Negroes
 are not so ignorant but they are sensible of our
 necessities, Distress & Power of want^t of proper Supplies,
 as well as we do ourselves, & how far we are able
 to act Offensive, Defensive, or of the Protection &
 Security.

There are five British & American Vessels at
 Annamaboe the Names & Places they come from
 at foot [more] Slaves are tolerably plenty
 unless to a Person who is extremely nice in his
 choice. Then not ~~but~~ he has an X^{ty} Assort^{mt}
 his purchase will be tedious. The price is
 considerably lower than it has bin for some time.

Capt Cole.

"CCC." 10th July 1751.

B^c Sir.

I had writt of a long letter full of Complaints of
 want^t of Supplies to a boat before a conveyance
 offered, on / 18th Ult^o the arriv^d here / ship
 Flys Flamborough from / Committee w / Ingenious
 Mr Melvil & 56 People, all Scotch except one
 Irish & two Englishmⁿ. I assure of / arrival
 of Supplies gave me gr^t Pleasure, tho under /
 Direcⁿ of Mr Melvil, as I blatter myself

to h taken no step to deserve a removal, &
perhaps through / Difficulties I h met & had to
encounter my Demerits may stand / Test o
any man. not w^g / Delay / Supplies met Dic-
cove Fortress, & w^g Inch o British Property
remain Secure, havig w my Colleagues spent /
last Shill^g o our private Fortunes & made use
o our Credit to its utmost Extent in defendg
& supportg / same, & refer it to / Judge m^t o
/ Europeans upon / Coast, who w Hon^r or m^t,
& Advantage to / Ships Tradg hither, I am
persuaded I h no Occasⁿ to be at any pains
to show / Inconsist^{cy} o / new Scheme, / Gallant
Schemes I am satisfied is puzzled what method
to take to execute it & ca, I h already sd so
much ag^t it I sh not enlarge & doubt not but
/ people o England concern'd in / African Trade
will find I had no Intenⁿ to Deceive them,
therefore sh be silent & leave it to / Captains
o Tradg Ships to reclaim & write ag^t / Pro-
jectors o a Plan so manifestly to any Person on
/ Coast Prejudicial to th^r & Owners Interest. I
could write a Volume on / Subject but sh defer
troub^lg y till I h / pleasure o Kissg y^r
hands wh will be as soon as possible after
my Acco^ts are finished wh will detain me on
/ Coast some months to compleat. If I am so
fortunate as once more to see old England I
doubt not but to be able to demonstrate t I've
prefer'd / Hon^r & Interest o my Country &
Countrymen & not set them in competⁿ w my
own private Views & advantage. The Captains
o / British & American Vessels upon / Coast
havig somethg in England was reported to my

his advantage, voluntarily offered to sign any
Instrument I would draw up, to invalidate / same,
by / enclosed copy [now] you'll perceive, & / Petition
they sent to / Admiralty in August last^o, they h^o b^o
perfectly satisfied wth my behaviour. I got
Derbyshire out o^f Fantyns hands but they
oblig'd him to pay near £400 st^r of his
enlargem^t, they us'd him so excessively ill
when they first seiz'd him he has since b^o in
danger o^f his life, what a shame it is^t these
Forts are not supported in such manner as to
enable British Officers to resent & punish
such Insolence in Negroes equal wth Officers
o^f any o^r Nation.

Derbyshire seiz'd & detained 18 o^f Fantyn
people onboard his ~~Ship~~ Vessel . . . & in
consequence o^f a Letter I wrote him, arrived
at Cape Coast in order f^r me to accomodate
/ affairs betw^{en} him & them, The Fantyns seiz'd
all / Persons, Boats & Effects belong^g to / private
Traders t^h came in the way, in / return Mr
Melvil arriv'd, he wellcome quest to / Natives,
I resign'd my Command to him, not w^g w^od
us'd all / Interest I had wth Capt^r Derbyshire
to terminate / Dispute betw^{en} him & / Fantyns,
& do say, wth Vanity, was / principal Cause o^f
its beg^g settled, as I knew its subsist^g must h^o
b^o a fatal consequence to / British Interest &
Commerce in these parts.

on his way from Cape Coast to his vessel by 9 at Abbe
Henry Hascelles Esq^r CCC 10th July 51.

Sir

The Acc^{ts} are near completed by / expen-
sure o / Gov's aid. I brot out o our Advance^{mts}
so I wish want little o Mr Melvil's Clerk's ass-
istance when I sh h / pleasure o
personally payg my respects to y wh will be by
/ first oppy after / Acc^{ts} are finished wh I sh
be diligent to expedite so as to be able to leave
/ Coast in two months time

[He says in this letter t Darbyshire had to pay ^{above}
519) £300 for his enlargement. In his letter to Cole
supra he says "near £400 sterlg"]

Honble Court o Committee 23^d July 51.

Honble Sirs

The before god is / Duplicate [not here] o
a letter wrote by Sloop Hunter Conjoint w Messrs
Husband & Boteler wh w / papers t acc-
ompanied it I hope hath isse this Recd for Honour
perusal. / Contents were literally true except a
Paragraph relatg to Mr Stockwell & / black Boys
be^g concern'd in seizg Captain Darbyshire &
carryg him on shore at Annamaboa wh upon
my Sett^g / Affairs to both Parties satisfac^m
I bound, on Examina^m premature.

By / Deposits o / European & Black
Evidences relatg to / Athanta War ye'll
clearly perceive how / Dutch officers h

oppress'd us & how much we must in consequence
 suffer for want of Supplies, / Necessity this was to
 do all things for preservation of Dix come Fortures after
 Gods aid was exhausted in preference to / making
 Concessions to / Dutch, Dishonourable, to / British
 Property, to / last Shilling of our private Circum-
 stances, & not only did / same, but made use
 of what personal Credit we had on / Coast to its
 utmost extent, by which means I have / Honour to
 say tho' Supplies reach'd us not we made such
 vigorous Resistance to / efforts of / Dutch Gen &
 Phantese, & for some time pass'd / latter had Inter-
 course w / Garrison, altho' beg in a profound
 tranquillity, & / respect of yr Subjects has bin
 presented by nothing else than / Dutch Gen's
 detaining / Concessions & Slaves (unjustly Panyard)
 prisoners in Elmina, & refusg to deliver up some
 Aghanta People he has seiz'd for security /
 expense he hath bin at ~~the~~ during / War wh
 demonstrates him a Principal therein. The o^r
 Papers regardg t^e Dispute I am perswaded when
 laid before yr Honours will be satisfactory &
 convincg t^e I have bin in no shape / Aggressor,
 but only a Defender of yr Possessions from /
 Dutch, who put my Engine at work to force
 yr Subjects from under yr Protection, to make a
 Conquest of yr Property, & distress us, but
 such materials beg not compleated to / send
 of my Direcⁿ. I defer sendg them, flattering
 myself to be able to leave / Coast about /
 1st October, as I shall use my utmost endeavours

to Expedite / Conclude Affairs by the time & hope
shortly after / Oppy to lay them before yr
Honours, as / 18th ulto arrived / ship flyg
Flamborough as Mr Thomas Tho: Melvil
56 Officers, Soldiers & Artificers wh sent in
produced a Commission from yr Honours appointing
him Presid^t o / Council, Chief Agent &c, &c,
but offered no letter o Orders from yr Honours
to me to Resign yr Affairs, I want o wh
leads me to ~~being~~ presume I mt h refused
him Possⁿ o yr Forts &c as I took charge o
them chiefly by virtue o such a letter, what I
mean is t tho I hd permitted him (wh by hd a right
to) / Use o yr Forts Warehouses &c f manag^g
& expndg / Supplies in, / Gov o / w^y / Identical
Buildgs & Sites was in my self, however, I take
/ liberty to say hd not myself, bn as willing to
Resign as Mr Melvil was to Receive Command
o wh, h bn no hard matter to h kept him out
o Authority, & believe hd I done so, I wd not
h bn unjustifiable, bec it does not appear to me
fm any ~~Public~~ Publick proceedings t yr Honours
are Disestd o t property f Honours yr
Hon^r me w / Charge & Command o, how^r
beg Satisfied fm private letters / Publick Acd
was on board sd ship sent out / by a
Committee o Merch^{ts}) under Mr Melvils
Manage^m I was o course led to suggest yr
Honours concurred thro t & to my Remoral.
wherupon on / 20th ulto I Resigned my Charge
& Refer to all Mankind who h bn, during my
Employ, in these Parts to Declare wh I Directed
Affairs f Advantage, o / British Traders & w
honour to my Constituents, or not, & as I h

received Informⁿ some certain people, to serve
 private Ends & Ends, industriously reported in
 England & I acted Arbitrarily & c^d it w^o cost
 me v^y little Trouble to prove / Contrary, & c^d
 such Aspersions were w^t foundation

Before I did my Charge I inquired o^r Mr
 Melvil if he had Orders to Reimburse Messrs
 Husbands, Boteler & Self our Advances, w^{ch}
 who answered he had. I desired to peruse
 such Orders - but was Refused - at / same
 time assuring me he sh^d strictly abide by /
 purport o^r them. I Requested Informⁿ
 what such Orders were regard^g / Paym^t o^r
 over Disbursements, & was told by Mr Melvil
 he had Orders fr^m / Committee to pay / grow^g
 Salaries fr^m / Expiratⁿ o^r / Supplies sent out
 by Mr Bazelles, but if he sh^d find /
 Demands etc, then to pay at least / 5th
 Salaries advanced since / Expiratⁿ o^r / year
 fr^m my Arrival. Whereupon I got / Pay
 Bills ready Amount^g to £2392. 16. 10
 Gold Value & 10/0. 2. 6 Trade Money Sal-
 aries Advanced to Europeans & Natives fr^m,
 1st Feby 1/50 to 20 June 1/51 & enclosed
 / same in a letter to him on / 12th Instant,
 but Received no Answer. On / 20th Instant
 again to Mr Melvil to remind him o^r Acct^t
 & desire his Determinatⁿ thereon & to Solicit a
 copy o^r c^d part o^r / Committee's Instructions or at
 least a / perusal o^r them, wh^{ch} I take / liberty
 to say w^d h^o b^e but Regular, had those

Gentlemen sent me out on / 21st Recd of
Answer Mr Melvil cd not venture to pay
Self & Colleague more than £1000 in Goods
at Gold Value wh was / utmost length he cd
venture to go, but refused me any Satisfacⁿ
respectg his Orders. It much surpris'd my
body Mr Melvil shd be so Caution & Reserved
& t when he took Charge he did not read, accord^t
to Custom his Instructions fm yr Honours or / Com
mittee, or anything more than run over / late
Statute & Commission yr Honours favour'd him
w, & intreated to know what Directions he was
under respectg / Trade & what service myself
wt expect as a free Trader fm / Castle, beg
resolv'd to settle in Cape Coast Town, / time
I am oblig'd to stay upon / Coast, wh he
refus'd, I wd not be construd to suggest
but t / Committee h more honour than to give
any Orders but such as they design'd shd be
made Publick, & to promote as well / Interest
o myself as any^r free Trader. It really gives
sew o yr Honours Servants (who h bn dis-
charg'd w^t Cause, & than to make Room for /
People sent out by / Committee & Mr Melvil's
Favourites) who are oblig'd to settle in Town
gt Uneasiness specially beg all o them Sensible
Melvil, Young, & Mackie h a considerable
private Cargo brot on^d in / same Ship w /
Supplies, & t they are concern'd w some Gents
in London tho not w any [o] / Committee
I (of my part) own part) am well satisfied
wh o's not acquainted w those Gents are far
fm beg. The Presid^t & Council are likewise

sendg Goods to / Outports w wh / Chiefs are to
 trade f them, So t in plain terms this new
 Plan seems Calculated to enrich a few people
 in / Managem^t o Affairs at / certain ruin &
 destructⁿ o / d^r Adventurers in this Trade who
 imbarque in it under / Deceptⁿ o its begⁿ
 free & open. How is it possible Gent^l f my
 Self, & o^r Free Trader Settled in this or any
 o^r Town under / Forty to afford to Trade so
 cheap as those who h the Goods bro^t out ffreight
 free, w persons who h / use & laborer o 42 Honors
 Slaves, Warehouse & Carvers, at no expenze & win
 / v^t Dabbees paid f them; has a free Trader
 who must pay all / above Charges any tollerable
 Chance in Traffick of a set o men who ha^{ve}
 them paid to the hands, w / addin o good
 Salaries & a fine Maintenance w d^r advantages
 I forbear mentioning. I will be needless
 Kowldg y^r Honours w o^r since o any poor
 Observant on this ill concerted Plan, will
 knowg y^r Judgem^t & Experis in African Matters,
 Sufficient^t to point out Inconsistencies Sufficient^t
 yet I cannot help Observg in my Opinion /
 Schemer deserves little better than / ffate
 o Hamon & who, now he has got on / Coast,
 modestly confesses his Doubts, it can^t
 answer & is embarrassed how to execute w a
 tollerable face his ~~own~~ bad project. It is a
 Truth y^r Castles h no Authority & t the Melish
 hath already experim^t d it is not in his
 power by virtue o his Presidentship o Open
 Scheme to command five hands to work a
 Canoe to supply a Partish Captain w Water
 who is at this time in y^r Castle, Slaw'd off
 & in g^t Debtess f / Same. I ed write ~~Exp~~ a

Volume on [17] had Conseques attendg / present
Management, but it becomes me to forbear till I
can in person lay before y / fur Observans
I am Master o, therefore return to / affairs o Mr.
Melvils Instructions for / Committee wh h hitherto
by hitherto kept Secret, & I am credibly in-
formid were not so much as read to / present
Council, Is it not Remarkable in a Scheme
to establish an open Trade / Directors Orders
to suppress / same shd be kept a Secret? Ya
Honours Instructions, Letters & Credentials to
Agents on taking Command & Charge here were
always Publicly read & expatiated upon, not
only a Member o Council, but a Minute Factor
had a Right to hear / same, & to ask what Quest^{ns}
he pleas'd thereupon. As I observ'd before, Mr
Melvil will pay us no more, to us, than £1000
& why, for a Caution he publicly confesses him-
self, t / Suppliers will not hold out, is not
this most Xing. We h supported / Settlements
5/12th o / year, for / expiran o t Term, after
my Arrival, & he refuses to pay us 1/3^d o /
Supplies brot out for fear / Remainder shd not
last / o 1/12th. Good God t a man shd
be five years in London, taking pains to
procure less there / summer he brot out wd
be sufficient, & as soon as he put his boot
on Shore in Africa, alter his Opinion, &
not experiencing / Maintenance o / Forts neither.
Is it not demosttrable hence t / good
People o England h bn deceived by /
Proprietor & t he was not Master o his
own Plan. The Man seems to h a Spirit

Projector

o Contrasts in him, & even deceived Messrs
 Husbands Boteler & Self, at his first Ar-
 rival, f he took no small pains to assure
 us we shd be punctually paid our Salaries
 Actuariell fm 1st February & / next day
 deny'd / same. I believe this is become
 nothing more plain to him than t / v^y Natives
 here are dissatis fied w his Scheme & Man-
 agem^t & tis a truth, had he paid us our Sal-
 aries, we shd h Carry'd all Trade fm him-
 self & Colleagues fm a due Knowledge o wh,
 he has v^y politely witheld / same, & deny'd
 pay^t us, thereby to ~~preserve~~ preserve / Trade
 to himself & distress us in our Circumst^s
 I thank God I am able to bear & I hope Sur-
 mount all such hardships & Imposins, & above
 all Considerat^s comfort myself t since my
 arrival I h done no acts to merit Supercemⁿ,
 hav^g punctually perform'd my Duty to /
 Maⁿ & yr Honours o wh I doubt not to con-
 vince / Publick & yr selves wh will be / most
 Infinite Satisfaction to
 Honourable Sirs
 &c J. R.

Henry Casceller Esq^r CCC 23^d July 51.

[only contains what is in / above letter to
 / Court o Committee, in somewhat
 shortened form]

Committee, CCC 23^d July 1851.

Gentlemen

[A similar letter, on instructions given
by this Committee to Melville.]

Some letters addressed from C. C. Town
The last one is dd CCC. 6th Nov^r 1851,
at / end o f book is a copy^{shut} letter in
Roberts' own handwriting dated "London
4 August" (1852?) addressed to "Dear
Friend"

End o T. 70 1474

[This is the end of John Roberts's
Governorship, or of his reports
on the Polar ice at Siberia
& dispute about Achoua]

"Translatⁿ o/ Portuguese Agst Boucher"
 [vide p. 444 supra]

I h^e not Spirit to Trade w/ English by Reason
 o a Robbery I met w in Annamaboa by
 Captⁿ Boucher o 100 Kells o Tobacco wh by
 force he made me give him takg f them /
 paym^t in Perpet^s. I was obliged to take them
 not hav any o^r Remedy, & See^d I was as a
 Prisoner o a Thief or Pirate as my Vessel beg
 disposed off & Order'd by him (and at
 this time it does not appear t my Sovereign
 is in war w any Naⁿ especially / English,
 f wh reason at present h Orders fr /
 Vice Roy not to Trade w / sd Naⁿ untill
 it sh be heard o by our King) by wh I
 Recd gr prejudice in / Brazils by pay^t
 f / sd Robbery & Insolce & by havg /
 Perpet^s at a gr Price & / Tobacco at a
 low one wh is what offers & at present am re

T. Yo. 68.

Capt Darby shire Cape Coast Castle 24 June
1751.

S^r. We were in hopes when y came ashore last Sat y intended to do something in yr Justice Palaver & were v^y sorry you went off w^o our Melid's Knowledge & before he had an opp^t o hear y what y had to say abt it especially as y know t / ~~nam~~ Annamahoe People were waiting in Town to be / whole Palaver heard before / Council. But as y went away we cd not be t Satis fac^d & therefore sent f John Currenty's People last night & examined them, a copy o wh^o Examinaⁿ we send y inclosed ~~fast~~ t we may know what y h^o to say in answer to it & thereby we may come at / whole Truth. I may remember Mr Melid informed y t / Act f Extending t^a is now in force here as / Royal African Co h given it^s full consent thereto

Therefore lest y sh^d be ~~an~~ ignorant o t^s Law, we beg y will duly Consider / following Paragraph Viz^t

And be it full Enacted by / Authority of oursd T no Commander or Master o any Ship trad^g to Africa sh^d by fraud force or Violence or by

any ^{of} indirect Practice whatso^{ever}
 take on Board or carry away from
 the Coast of Africa any Negroe or
 native of sd Country, or commit
 or suffer to be committed any
 Violence on / Natives to / prejudice
 of sd Trade. And t^{he} w^{ho} Person so
 offendg sh^{all} b^e w^{ithin} such offence
 forfeit / Sum of one hundred pounds
 of lawful money of Gr^{eat} Brittain; one
~~Moiety~~ Moiety thereof to / Use of
 / sd Co hereby Established & the
 Successors for towards ~~Maintain~~
 Maintaining / sd Forts & Settlements
 & /^{the} other Moiety to & f^{or} / Use of him
 or them who shall Inform or
 Sue f^{or} / same.

Thus y^e see t^{hat} y^e will h^{ave} £ 2300 (besides
 costs) to pay at home f^{or} those People y^e
 now h^{ave} on Board, as y^e cannot deny
 t^{hat} thereby / Trade of / Coast is preja-
 diced & t^{he} / consequence of yr Parlyarg
 must be fatal to those poor Englishmen
 who are now seized by / families by
 way of Reprizal f^{or} yr Proceedg^s

We ~~entreat~~ ^{entreat} y^e to consider
 what grief it must be to yr Owners & to /
 Town of Liverpool. to find t^{he} Act wh^{ich} Mr
 Hardman made such Efforts to procure

at / 04 first Broke Thru (and) by one
o the Capt: & / danger o oblig /
legislature to make such Regulations f
effectually presentg / like Proceedg^s
f / time to come as may lay /
Captains o Ships under gr Restrictions

We sh be v^y glad to know yr
answer to / inclosed Papers & what
y are resolv'd to do & are

Sir Yr obedient Servt

Thomas Melvil

Wm Husband [S^r]

Thos Boteler

Chenz. Young

Captain Derbyshire's "CCC"
Palawan accordg to Saturday, 23^d June 1757.
/ Fansteem Relan.

More [than] three years ago Capt Derbyshire's
Long Boat got in Cape Coast to Annamaboe
w^{ch} / Blacks nets o the fish; wh by the
Laws is Death. They catch'd his people, car-
ry'd them on Board, told the fault & /
penalty & made / affairs f / oz. Some time
after, Capt Derbyshire had his Boats sail
steal, he ed not find out by whom, but
at last discover'd part o / Boll Prope in a
Cannon belongg to his Gold Tables. He

panyard / Cano man. The Gold Taker offered
 to forgive him 24 ounces (1 Wages then due
 to him by Capt Derbyshire) provided he wd
 release him. This Capt Derbyshire absolutely
 refused, ~~to do~~ & he was killed by ill usage
 in / Passage to / West Indies as Captain
 Derbyshire himself, confessed before J^{ts}
 Stokes & W^m Curran at Annamaboe.

This Voyage / Annamaboe People Panj
 yared Capt Derbyshire. 909 in a Canoe fm
 Cape Coast to Annamaboe, carried him
 ashore w^a design to keep him till his
 ship shd go off / Coast & then put him
 on board some o^r in order to prevent his
 doing any further mischief; but released upon
 a message fm / Council o Cape Coast on his
 pay 60 Oz. Slave Price f / Canoman at
 / time Capt Derbyshire hd / Palays ab / nly
 Capt Dawson was likewise at Annamaboe
 who observ^d & somebody stole his goods, &
 suspect^d / people ashore went off in / night
 he watched & detected a Canoman in / Fact
 he fired & killed / two Canomen, upon w^{ch}
 he determined to take no further notice o it as
 he hd punished / offenders. But Capt
 Derbyshire persuaded him to Panjyar
 Quassa (Curran's Cousin), Peter ~~Blow~~
 Blow & Appa; w^{ch} Capt Dawson refused,
 but took off & carried off 3 Men & 2
 Women Slaves, w^{ch} were carried on board
 board him f sale, f w^{ch} they oblig^d
 Capt Derbyshire to pay 31 Oz. is

702 f men & 502 f women. This voyage
Capt Darbyshire took a Pawn for one
Quancum, a Fantee f 802. The Pawn
died on Board & Capt Darbyshire did not
acquaint his friends therewith, but threw
him into / Sea. On wh they demanded
paym^t. He told them he had lost his Debt
wh he thought was enough, but gave them 302
to make Custom f him.

It cost Capt Darbyshire 10 ankers o
Brandy drank durg / Palaver. And after his
Release he gave John Currantees Boys two
half Sags f the attende durg his Confe
Confirma^t. After Capt Darbyshires
Release he required an order on Capt
Lawson signed by all / Cabochers o
Annambosoe f / 31025 he paid f / five
Slaves, wh they granted, & they on the
part required a paper under his
hand, signifyg / Palaver was settled, wh
he gave as follows:

This is to Certify t I Thomas Darby-
shire beg discharged by / Cabochers o
Annambosoe, I do declare I h no
Palaver w them as witness my hand
this 15th day o April 1751

Thos Darbyshire.

and upon delivery thereof declared they
wt go on Board w all Safety & Trade
as formerly, wh accordgly they did, ~~com~~
carryg him Slaves, ~~com~~ Com^o t^h w^h
any molestⁿ f above a month, ab

last he seized 23 People, beg free Traders & the Slaves & Cannomen.

The Palavers above rested [recited?] beg finally settled & concluded, / Factors desire Capt Derbyshire to shew / reason o his seizing these 23 People. & if is if any o them owe him any money, if anythg has bn stolen fm him, or if they h since done him any ~~any~~ injury.

After hearg o / above / Council asked / followg Question - How do y know t Capt Lawson was content w Killg / Thieves & t Capt Derbyshire persuaded him to panyas Quassa, Clois & Appeal.

They answered / Slaves Capt Lawson panyared belonged to Clois & Appeal, ~~who asked him~~ who carried them on board his ship. When Capt Lawson seized them they asked him f what reason? He told them Capt Derbyshire advised him to seize them selves t / goods wh were stole, wh he refused, sayg, I will panyas no Caboccers bec it will make a more noise at Home, but I will take y^r Slaves.

[A copy of followg letter in T. 76. 1514 is dd. d / Cape Coast Road. Monday morn 24 June 1751]

Gentlemen

At my comg on shore on Saturday was wth intentⁿ to ~~hear~~ hear what

/ Fantees had to say. But I was informed
they did not come up to hold a Palawer,
they wd return no money. Thus my lord
[sic] told me to sell Persons People in/
Castle. Then I was told yr if I did
not agree to those termes I was to be
detained in / Castle, or by / fantees, so
I choo best to go off, but my go off w^t /
knowledge o^r yr will^t was not f^r want o^r
respect but f^r fear o^r fall^t into / hands o^r /
fantees agn & I was down on / Parade when I
heard what was to be my fate & I so v^y weat
& a long way to Mr Melchior's room. I was in
hopes he wd excuse it. As to my people wth I
I fish net they did not catch them & they
always swore it was not them. But I paid £16
I had my Boat Sailes stole out o^r her in a chest
o^r all / Sailors cloths & 4 or 5 peices o^r cloths in
it. I found out / man & learned by seer
hands t^t he was a slave to a woman at Cape
Cort. I do believe I shd never h^e medled
wth him, but / day I sailed Cross & Aqua o^r
Anamaboe came on board o^r me to desire
me to go on board o^r Capt Lawton to make up
/ Palawer f^r them. I asked them where the
slaves was f^r him. They sd Lawton had
killed 2 Slaves t^t was sufficient. at t^t he
began to tell me / laws o^r the Country &
am^{ng} / number is one t^t if I had any goods
stole, whose hands y^e found them in
became yr slave, if he was John
Lawantens son. Our Boatswain stand^g
by told me t^t / man t^t stole my Boats Saile
was along side & sd t^t if I refused to let

them shake him they wd not go home w/ ship
 b^c they was sure they must pay for them, /
 Boats sails & o^r goods amidst. I drove him
 off / Quarter Deck, went on board o Lawson
 w/ Cross & Aqua to help them to make up /
 Palaver; but they cd not agree. At my
 return I found to my ship, I found /
 Canoman in Irons & ill abused, by my People,
 t he never recovered. As to / Gold Takers, I
 sent for them off shore, they came. One o them
 hd not bn on Board for months before & was v^y
 Sick & / o^r v^y drunk. I knew nothing o the
 offer of 21 oz. of / Slave, it was not to me, on
 / contrary. I offer'd to give him for a boy o
 3 1/2 foot, wh they refused; but / Gold Taker
 t was sick was obliged to go on shore, left
 me w a drunken fellow t I cd make nothing o.
 As to Capt. Lawson's Palaver I h no business
 w. I endeavoured much before to make t
 Palaver up. The fantees brot me ashore at
 Annamabo & used me in a Barbarous manner
 & sent me on Board agn as soon as they hd
 got as much money as they cd. I took a
 Pawn at / desire o my Gold Taker. The boy
 was sick. They told me it was only sea sick-
 ness, but he grew worse evy day. I sent 9
 times to Annamaboe to his father to fetch
 him, but they make me lose / Slave & pay
 6 oz bury him. But I hope they will think
 better of give me my money agn. As to /
 note fm under my hand I baney anyone w/
 same intenⁿ as me wd to h got off. As to

Capt Lawson Palaver^g / Slaves I know nothing
 o' it. I heard him say indeed he wd do so. But
 f / Slaves belong^g to Cross & Aqua it is false,
 f when they had left those Slaves they all
 came on board o me. I don't remember
 any but one John, old Annamas Son. o
 Aqa had two o them. It is not to be believed
 I can remember all, but w^t w^t I h^d s^d I
 can swear it all true. Now if / Fantees
 will give me my money agn I w^d pleasure
 will return the Slaves agn. The number is
 eighteen, fante 14 o wh^r where [sic] The o^r
 h^d I bot but detain'd / goods. On a refusal

I will run / risk o / Law & absolutely sell
 them at Popo. It is true this Palaver is a
 Detterment to Trade, but it is not my fault
 fault, its / Fantees. I may as well blame
 me f not putt^g myself into the hands to
 be made a Sacrific^e o. It will become a
 Custom to them if they be protected in it.

It was not me only they wanted, but
 any one t was a cause a low^g / Price
 o Slaves. Capt Powers sent his Boat
 down fm Cape Coast & stay'd all night.
 They took his Boat at 10 o'clock at night, brot
 her on Shore & abused / men barbarously hee /
 Capt was not in her. I am Gentlemen to

Goods forced fm me
 6 Slaves t I received fm ships
 10 a Slave t died 8 oz. To bury^g him 6 oz
 Twenty long yells
 Seventeen whole Sails
 Ten ounces Twelve Articles at 10 a p^t Oz
 Sixteen Anchors Brandy 2 Pils o check

Cape Coast, Monday noon

02^o 129, 6

Capt Derbyshire Cape Coast Castle June 25 1751.

Sir Jost J / Council sent y / Acc^{ts} / Fantons
 fantons gave us o yr Palaver, to wh I must
 intreat for answer as the are seol white men
 in the hands, to whom the imprisonment &
 bad usage they probably h met us may prove
 fatal if they be not speedily released. It is
 a gr mortification to me to h such an affair to
 encounter w upon my arrival & it is y only
 who can assist me in making an end o it wh I
 hope y will do. If I know yr Determinⁿ
 then I cd consider what steps are proper to
 be taken. Therefore be so good to furnish
 me w t by / canoe wh carries this.

I am Sir. yr most H^{ble} Serv^t

Thomas Melvil

~~Comptroller~~ Tyo_1514

Cape Coast Castle

At a Council held on Sunday 23^d June 1751.

Present.

Thomas Melvil Esq	President	Chief Agent, Treasurer
William Husbands Esq	&	Warehouse Keeper
Thomas Boteler		Chief Agent
Ebenezer Young		Co & Accountant
		Counsellor

The Messengers fm J^{no} Curvantee & The
 Fantons, beg come here & desiring to represent
 to / Council a Complaint agst Capt Thomas
 Derbyshire o / Smeau Jenny o Liverpool

belong to Messrs [sic] of Council
beg met in Compliance wth the Request
Ordered t^o send Fanciers Messengers be sent
to give a Relatⁿ thereof

The Messengers beg present are desired (to
better understand / Matter o^f Complaint)
to begin the Relatⁿ from its first rise. Which is
interpreted by Cudjoe Cobbecker as follows
"Above 3 years ago"

[This is verbatim / same as / account
on p 507 supra. ~~initially copy~~
in T. 70. 60. This copy minute
ends wth words "will take 42 slaves"
or does not contain any resolution of
Council upon / statement]

This Paper is endorsed: -

"No. 1.

Copy

An Act. o^f Palaces between
Capt Darbyshire & / Fanciers"

[End o^f Darbyshires Palace]
The decision on it is ^{post on Melville's} ~~not for~~ former
letters 11th + 23 July 1751]

Thos Melvil's Presidency

T. 40 1514 [Detached Papers 1751]

London / 22^d April 1751

Arrest o/ Officers & a whom / Committee o/ Co
o Merchants tradg to Africa & shipped on board
/ Rys Flambrø Capt J Dod Bonell

No	Persons names	Stans	Salaries
1.	Thomas Melvil Esq ^r	Chief Agent, Presi- dent o/ Council Treasurer & Ware- house Keeper	400
2.	Ebenzer Young	Assistant & Successor in Care o/ Death o Mr Melvil to all above Titles & Member o/ Council upon his Arrival	100
3.	Mathew MacKaile	Physician & Surgeon	100
4.	William Tynswell	Factor	80
5.	Joseph Harmer	"	"
6.	John Emerson	"	"
7.	John Bussel	"	"
8.	James Wickliffe not gone	"	"
9.	Charles Bonville	Writer	60
10.	Andrew Farquhar	"	"
11.	Joseph Sayer	"	"
12.	John Andrews	"	"
13.	Thomas Westgate	Surgeons Mate	"
14.	Peter Pousill	"	"
15.	James White	"	"
16.	John Slater	Engineer & Surveyor	100

The Committee allow f/ Publick Table 400

N.B. Mr Melvil's Pay is to commence fm / 4th Decem^r last
Mr MacKaile's fm / 1st April . . . all o/ Salaries are
to commence upon the arrival at Cape Coast Castle. The officers &
o/ at present upon / Coast are to be paid accordg to / Return
o/ old Co till the indentures expire & then accordg to / above
except Mr Husband's & Mr Bailer's who are fixed at £200 Pa Each.

Here follow / names o 42 Soldiers each at £27. pa
+ / names o / Wives o 2 soldiers

Endorsed "Cape Coast Castle

11 July 1751

Mrs Johⁿ Melvil

recd 18th November 1751

inclosg References fm

No 15 B

no. B delivered to Mr Johnston
as an Order of "Mechin"

Cape Coast Castle July 11th 1751.

Gentlemen

We arrived here / 20th Ult^o all in good
Health. Sent o our People h fallen Sick since we came
ashoars, but I hope they will recover. On my Land^s
found / Affairs o / Coast in as ticklish a "Situaⁿ"
as I believe they ever were since / English first came
here. All Trade was stopped at Annamaboe upon
Acct o Cap^t Derbyshires Palaver (or Quarrel) /
Part^s o wh^o h inclosed (no 12.) The Fanteens
declared t if they hd not the People returned they wd
look upon it as a Declaraⁿ o War & take the Revenge
This was too much in the Power as they hd in the
Hands 5 or 6 Englishmen belong^d to / Ships at
Annamaboe besides 2 or 300 Ounces in Goods, there-
fore we were obliged to allow all the Charge agst^o
Derbyshire to be just (tho' it was v^y far fm his
so in sev^l Part^s) & h Recourse to the own Cn^{ty}.
We told them t tho' the Claim agst^o him f/ Money
was right, yet they shd not h beat or abused him
when they carried him ashoars. This they owned
was wrong. Upon t Concesⁿ we told them t
Cap^t Derbyshire hd seized the People upon t Acct

only. They sd they wd make him some small Satis-
 factⁿ, & asked what he demanded, We answered
 ten men Slaves, upon wh they went out o/ Coast
 in gr Rage threatening to return home sayg we had
 only sent f them on purpose to laugh at them.
 On wh I sent f Cudjor Cabbocur & desired him
 to try what terms he cd brg them to, accordingly
 he carried them to his House in Town & after talkg gr
 Pains, & offerg them a Slave himself they agreed to
 pay four men & one Woman Slaves, wh terms
 we accepted of. The next thg to be done was to
 furnish w C.D. who declared he wd be Satis factⁿ
 fm none but / Fantrens themselves & t if they
 did not give it him in three days, he wd go
 down to Annamaboe & hang / most considerable
 o his Prisoners in sight o two Friends, fire a
 broad Side into / Town, & go off / Coast. therefore
 Mr Hasbands & I went aboard his Ship in this
 Road, told him I Fantrens acknowledged the
 Fault, Submitted / whole Affair to us, & desired
 him to be as moderate as possible in his De-
 mands, He replied t as by Cap^t Lawsons Affair
 he had Effects & his in his Hands & cd pay
 himself, But f / First he wd be Eight men &
 one Woman Slaves, wh we agreed to & gave him
 our Notes f / same. I foresaw fm / Beginning
 t if I shewed too gr Eagerness to make up
 this Affair / Expence wd fall upon / Co &
 therefore sent / inclosed letter no 3, to / Masters
 o / Ships at Annamaboe & received the Answer
 wh is likewise inclosed no 3, Yesty I received
 three Slaves & ten ounces Goods wh will just
 pay C.D. his Demand & our Expences in Camo-
 here liquor, &c Thus ended this Affair wh Cudjor
 declared to me was / most troublesome he
 ever saw, & wh if it had not bin so ended wd

h cost / Comp^y more than what is sent out. All /
Capts. who signed / letter fm Annamaboe paid what
they promised except Capt Henry Ellis o Bristol
who wrote / letter & prevailed upon / us to sign it,
& makes / merit o t compensate for his share
o / Expence. Before I finish this I must inform
of t / Fantoms declared they had a Grudge at
C. D. for driving away / French & lowering / Price
o Slaves; they say if we will buy all this Slaves
they do not want to see a Frenchman, but
they cannot trade if we do not take half / Num-
ber they lay down & will not suffer them to
sell / Remainder to those who will buy them; this
they say makes them indiff^r abt / Slave Trade
as they run such Risques o loss by it. Derby-
shire likewise forced them to lower / Price o
Slaves fm ten to eight Dunus, wh they can-
not easily forgive. He has been most useful
to / Forts in helping my Predecessors to throw in
Supplies into Discove, & lost one o his Men
thereby whose Head he tells me is now put
upon a Pole in one o / Dutch Forts, a very pretty
Spectacle.

I come now to / Affairs o Discove, wh has cost
abt \$6000 o Mr Lascelles's Supply & is still unsettled.
Mr Roberts has Volumes wrote upon / Subject, is
going home w loud Complaints agst / Dutch & /
Capts o our Men o War, both too true if my
Intelligence be good. I w note / inclosed letter No 4
to / Gen & yesterday received / Answer No 4. This morn^g
I had / letter No 5 fm / Chief o Discove, so
t I am afraid of / Men o War for not Orders to
see Justice done as we sh be forced either to
abandon Discove in Time or Support it at a
monstrous Expence. If / former, we must
acknowledge / Dutch our Superiours & lose

~~over~~ Reputation amongst / Negroes. In Cap^t D
 Palaver / Gen sent Presents to Annamaboe
 to induce / Negroes to make War upon us,
 but they refused them. He has sent to a
 Place near Tantumquery where we gather
 Oyster Shells to prevail on / Natives to come
 under Dutch Protection & not to suffer us to
 gather more of / Repairs of our Forts. The
 Cabo cer (Gov^r Principaf Mam) has despatched a
 Messenger to me wth / News, & to tell me he
 wd not let / Dutch go thro unless we gave it
 up. I thanked him; told him we wd not
 give it up; sent him a Present & promised to
 give Orders to / Chief of Tantumquery abt it.
 I hope soon to be able to give y^e a full Acct
 of Origin & Progress of / Disease Quarrel, /
 Effects of wh are so sensibly felt here; Out of
 7 or 8 Cannons, / Co's whole Stock fit for Business
 / Dutch Gen has 5 or 6 along wth 22 free Men
 belongg to this Town in Troop of offering to carry /
 Gov's Stores & Provint to our Fort of Disease wh is
 such a Piece of Insolence I hope some Notice will
 be taken of it, & t^h / Men of War will h Orders to do
 us Justice upon / Coast in / View of / Natives, /
 Witnesses of / Inults we h been obliged to suffer.

A few Months ago / French sent 2 Men of
 War of 60 & 40 Guns to make a Settlement at
 Annamaboe. They sent a Lieutenant abhoar
 to ask to whom / Forts belonged. John
 Curran answered to / English. The French-
 man told John t^h / King of France had sent
 them to build a Fort thro upon wh John de-
 manded whether or no they had brot him a
 letter fm King George. The Lieut. replied
 "no," then says John go back & beg one of

y sh not settle here w^t his lease; upon wh / French-
man threatened to land Men & settle in spite
o John, wh so moved his Indignatⁿ & he ordered
him off directly, & told him t if ever he catched
any o them ashore agn he wd cut off ther Heads.
So / Men o War were obliged to lye in / Port till
they hd sold ther Brandy to / English Ships (f wh
they received v^y bad Gold as / English Captains
themselves confess) durg wh Time they buried a
gt Part o ther Ships Crews & will not, in all
Probability, attempt any more Annamaboe
Expeditions in a Hurry. John Carrantee is
affronted t Cudjoes shd h a Sword & he none,
he is not a Woman, he says, to be fond o a Cloth
when o^r People younger than himself h
Swords sent them by / Co. Pray let him h one
like Cudjoes next year, on / one Side o Blade put
John Carrantee English Cabbouer at Annama-
boe; on / o^r The Gift o / African Co. Such Pre-
sents flatter ther Vanity & are more valued by /
Negroes than twice / Value in Goods.

Upon my comg here I found William
Ansa Sesarakoo upon / Booths as a Writer
at Cape Coast Castle. This is / Boy who was
called / Prince o Annamaboe in England,
& who is indeed a v^y honest, modest & a
sensible Lad & who I believe deserves
Encouragem^t v^y well. John takes gt Notice
o him & his Behaviour & / Countence o / People
here get him Respect fm / Blacks. I intend
to get / Rubbish o / Fort at Annamaboe
cleared away; to build a black Mans House
in it, & send down William w some white Man
to live thr o heib^t English Colours, in Order
to keep a Mark o Possession at an easy Rate.
I gave out amg / Negroes t we intend to

but build / Fort & sh send / Surveyor thro to
 make an Estimate o / Expencc, but I am vry
 for for advis^g / buildg o it at present. The
 Fanteens are an avaricious unruly People

... [Fisher p. 44]... will go into ano^r Family.

I am landg / Flamborough's Cargo of a
 monstrous Expencc, beg obliged to employ free
 Carcoemen, / ~~the~~ Co have none. W^y Th^{is} is
 in good Order, & a Cargo wh bears more
 advance upon / Invoice never will come into
 this Country. This is nothing in it but what
 is good. Next year you please remember
 to get Dutch Papers f English does not answer
 in this moist Air, at least what we brot out
 out does not. I am vry sorry to make ~~com~~
 complaints ag^t any Person y are pleased
 to employ, but when poor Peoples lives
 depend upon it, I shd be g^{tly} wantg in my
 Duty if I sd nothing, & therefore must acquaint
 y t y^r Druggist has used y vry ill. He has
 put up good Medicines f Cape Coast where /
 Surgeons was to use them himself, & has
 put up bad Ones f / Out Forts where there
 was a Chance o the passg wth Examinaⁿ, &
 has changed these latter at / some Price wth
 good Ones. He little knew our Doctor, if he
 imagined this wd escape undetected. I sh
 say no more, as I am sure he will never be
 in his Power to play / some Trick agⁿ. The
 Invoice o Medicines f next Year is inclosed,
 No 8, as is also / Species o Goods & / Stores,
 No 6. Y may observe sev^l Articles am^g
 / Stores No 7, wh will probably be sold.
 Ships are many Times in g^t Distress here

f anchors so tis v^y reasonable to make them pay
 f them, & they will bear as good an Adv^{ance}
 as any Woods y can send mt.
 Upon my com^g ashore I found t/ Agents
 were obliged to take all Factors & Writers in
 / Castle [to the table - in Copy], the beg. so gr a
 Scarcity o Purins here t they cd not live upon
 the Pay. I h done / same, they pay half the
 Salaries f the Table. Messrs Husbands Boteler
 & myself h agreed to contribute £100 each p. Ann.
 out o our Salaries to support them comfortably,
 but t will not do it, so I hope y will grant
 a P^{ro} allowance or we must set them to shift f
 themselves & then I am sure half o them must
 Starve.

I h discharged sev^l People mt o / Cos
 Service since I came ashore, at the own Requests,
 some o them are gone to Town in Pursue o /
 Act o Parli^{am^t}, Messrs Roberts Husbands &
 Boteler (who are in Co) h sent out all the Goods,
 & I sh do / same when^r I get my House built.
 I am tryg to buy a proper Spot to build on but
 h not yet got one

Messrs Roberts, Husbands & Boteler h given
 in the Claim f the own Salaries, / Salaries
 o Factors & Writers here & / Soldiers re here
 & at / Out Forts, likewise f / Pay o / Cos Slaves
 Cabocers & J^{es} who are ~~re~~ upon / Establish^{mt}
 amt^g to £2392.16.10 f Salaries, & £1070.2.6
 f Black mens Pay since Febr^y 2d, / Expire^{m^t}
 o Mrs Roberts' Year. The former o these Sums
 is Goods at Gold Price, & / latter at Slaves
 Price. This Claim is exclusive o all Charges, I
 sh pay as much out o / Goods I brot out as conveni
 only. I can, but h no inclinⁿ to leave myself
 destitute to pay the Debt.

I h given Orders to all / Chiefs o our
 Forts to conform exactly to / Act o Parliamt
 in grantg full Liberty o Trade & sh conform
 to / same myself. I read / Clause o / Act
 to Cudjoe before Capt^l Bonell & Capt^l Henry
 Ellis o Bristol. I cannot say he received it w
 / Satis factn I m^t h expected, f he asked me
 if we were free to trade w Foreigners at
 Forts. I answered no, then says he yr Act is
 not worth any Thg, f / English will not
 buy / French Slave & will come down, & therefore
 / Dutch will get all / Trade as they buy evy
 Thg & trade w evy Ship. I am sorry to say
 since writg / above t I find his Words too true.
 f on^t a forty Slaves wh Mr Husband's has, he
 has pecked on^t only five o best f. Capt^l Derby-
 shire to pay f / Fantiens & he will not take
 one o them & therefore we are obliged to dispatch
 a Canoe awgy this night to Anraamaboe to
 borrow some fm Capt^l Grayson o Liverpool, to
 whom I believe we sh be obliged to pay Gold
 & suffer f our Pains.

I am told Mr. Boteler intends to remonstrate
 upon this Subject in / Name o himself &
 Partners, both to y & to / Board o Trade, if he does,
 I sh transmit it & wait yr Orders; in / mean
 Time h given Orders to / Outports to h no
 Intercourse w / French fur than supplyg them
 if they are in Distress, f Wood, water, or
 Provins. I must confess in / present View o
 Affairs I see nothg is to be done by me, fur
 than keepg them on^t o our Roads, to drive
 them off / Coast is / Departmt o / Men o
 War, & / Gov^t is to consider wh it is exped-
 ient to give such Instrumts

They are now at Annamaboe Two
Bristol Ships; Cap^t. Henry Ellis & Cap^t. Abraham
Galley, One Liverpool Ship, Cap^t. Anthony Tragon,
& three New England Ships wth Rum, Cap^t. Keith
Carpenter, & Lepson, these wth Cap^t. Derbyshire
who is here & who goes off / Goods to moduro are
all 1 Ships o^f any Na^o upon this Coast at present
& yet this is but an indif^t Trade at Annamaboe.
The Fantems declare t^h it is not worth the while
to trade wth / English f, say they, when we go up
Country & buy Slaves we are not sure o^f a Market,
& therefore we may as well stay at home as
lose indeed / Ships in some Measure remove
this Objecⁿ, f when they hear o^f a French man
comg down they buy up refuse Slaves to put
off the worst^h Goods & sell them agn to /
French then join to^g & drive them away.

I think it my duty to inform y^e o^f the State
o^f w^h they here to / utmost o^f my Power. Pardon
/ Incorrectness o^f this Letter wrote by Snatches
wth People interruptg me ev^{ry} Minute, f^r what
wth Fantem Palaces, landg Goods & sendg
Men & Supplies to o^ur Forts I h^{ad} not had a
Moment's leisure since I came ashore. Cap^t
Bonelle sails next Week. wth him I sh^{all} write
& am Gentlemen

Y^e most obed^t. hum. Serv^t
Thomas Melvil [orig sign]

To / Committee o^f Co o^f Merch^{ts} tradg to Africa

"List o Papers inclosed"

1. Copy o letter fr Capt. Mayors [n.f.]
2. Copy o letter to / Dutch Gen & Answer
3. Warehouse Keeper's Stores, CCC Sep 10. 1751 [mc]
4. Carpentier's Stores " " 9 " [mc]
5. Smith's Stores " " " " [mc]
6. Bricklayer's Stores [mf]
7. Cooper's Stores CCC Sep 9. 1751 [mc]
8. Gardener's (?) Stores [mf]
- 9 Cooks Stores [mf]
10. Gunners Stores CCC Sep 9. 1751 [mc]
11. Sawyers Stores [mf]
12. Armourers Stores CCC Sep. 9. 1751 [mc]
13. Turners Tools [mf]
14. Gold Smiths Tools CCC Sep 9. 1751 [mc]
15. Castle Bomboys Stores [CCC Sep 9 - 9 mens chains Handalls re]
16. Valua^m o / Compys Stores at Cape Coast

In this is / letter to / Dutch Gen
& Ans Answer.

2. Copy o a letter to / Dutch Gen [Vide p. 561
post]

Monsieur, Le nommé Joseph Cowles un des soldats appartenants a ce chateau deserta il y a quelque tems; et j'entend qu'il est a present a la mine; j'espere que vous aurés la bonté de me le remettre, selon la coutume établie entre les deux Compagnies.

Comme vous me semblés resolu a ne point livrer les prisonniers entre vos mains avant que la disputa de Hanta soit finalement terminée je prieus que vous les retenez, jusqu'à l'arrivée du Capitaine Horse, qui doit

venir en qualité de Commandant des Vaisseaux
destinés à croiser sur la côte; avec lequel j'ai
ordre d'agir conjointement en toutes choses.
J'aspirerois à l'honneur de mettre fin à tous les
différends avant son arrivée; mais il me paroît
que vous n'êtes point d'humeur à me l'accorder,
au reste je ne suis nullement porté à croire
tout ce que disent les Nègres, surtout quand
c'est au préjudice de ceux avec qui je souhai-
terois pouvoir vivre en parfaite union: c'est
pourquoi je n'ai point ajouté foi aux
discours des Hantab, qui disent que vous
leur conseillâtes par vos messagers de ne point
finir leur querelle avec nous; qu'étant
étranger nouveau venu, je serois prêt de
leur accorder telle satisfaction qu'il leur
plairoit. J'ai l'honneur d'être etc

Thomas Melisil

Au Chateau de Cap Corse 31 Juillet 1751. VS.

Copy o/ Dutch Gen's answer

Monsieur L'homme nommé Joseph Cowles
qui s'absenta le 25 du mois passé du chateau
de Cap Corse arriva le même jour ici; et comme
je ne doutois point ou vous le demanderois je
l'ai gardé depuis ce temps prisonnier dans le
chateau pour le vous remettre sitôt que vous
jugerâtes bon d'en dire à son regard; mais je
suis obligé de demander votre clemence pour
cet misérable, à cause de sa jeunesse, il est
présentement sur l'hôpital fort mal; si vous
juges donc bon qu'il y reste jusqu'à son re-
établissement, vous pourriez envoyer une
pirogue pour le chercher

Votre m'auriez fait plus de justice, Monsieur,
de croire que je ne souhaite que de finir ce
l'amiable, plutôt aujourd'hui que demain, la
dispute survenue dans le pais de Hanja entre
votre Predecessor & les Natifs, pour cultiver
d'harmonie entre les deux Nations respectives ici
à sur la Côte, et lier une amitié Sincere avec
vous, a fin de priver les Natifs de l'occasion pour
nous troubler de fausse rapports de part et
autre. J'étois dans l'esperance de recevoir
une réponse plus amiable sur ma dernière, que
me sembla contenir aucune chose contre les
Loix Civiles, ne demandant qu'une Satisfaction
pour ceux qui sont été offensés, et obligés
de faire des dépenses, pour ne pas devenir
la victime d'un Humeur Capricieux.

Et puisque vous vous expliquez au fin
de votre ~~lettre~~ lettre de vouloir donner
Satisfaction, je serai bien aise de savoir dans
quoi cela consisteroit pour pouvoir terminer
l'affaire, J'ai d'honneur d'être avec estime &c.

Jam Van Voorst

A la Mene ce 14 aout 1751 n. 9.

16. "An Acct of Slaves, belongg to Royal African
Co at Cape Coast Castle September 14th 1751"

A Nominal Roll fm wh / followg has
bn extracted

Contains / names o 110 Men Slaves. The oldest 64 years
The youngest 6. Total Value £4127. Net Value
after deductⁿ o amts o et debts o Value o old Slaves
[50 per centwards] £240 = £3867.

Men Slaves include

Year 30. Carpenter pay 4 ac p month Value £100,
+ 11 o^r Carpenters

Cudjoe 4¹/₂ Cooper

Coffee 4¹/₂ Bricklayer pay 6 ac p m Value £100
+ 14 o^r Bricklayers

Quashes 38 Brickmaker pay 3 ac p m Value £80
2 o^r Brickmakers.

Abbot 40 Smith 4 ac p m Value £100
5 o^r Smiths

Dugall 36 Armourer 4 ac p m Value £100 + 4 Boys

Qui 31 Cooper 4 ac " " £100

Taggal 31 Goldsmith 3 ac " " £800

Attroom 31 Surgeons mate 5 ac p m Value £100

Quomino 40 Canal Bombay 4 ac p m " £80
1 o^r Canal men

Women Slaves

Nominal Roll o 121. The oldest 40; / youngest 8

Total Value £844; net value after deducting value o old
slaves £340 = £504

They include are all described as "labourers"

Highest Value £20, lowest £10, Pay fm 1 ac p m to
2 ac 1 ac. 6 to 2 ac p m.

Total Value o

Men 387

Women 504

Total Value o all Slaves 4391

Boys & Girls

Nominal Roll o 24 Boys Age 2-10

36 Girls

80

No Values, no pay recorded

2 months - 10 years

2 months - 4 years

Endorsed "French Letters" [Vide p. 559 post]

(no 8)

Extract from Gov^r Melville's letter 26th Aug 1751.

"Since my last a French Ship stopp'd here bound for Whydah. I sent off / enclosed letter & received / Answer copied likewise"

"The Gov^r's lre is dated 15th August 1751

"French Captains Answer 24th August vizt

Copy of a letter to / Captain of a French Ship

Monsieur, Si l'eau vous manque de Compagnes Angloise & Africain nous ordonnons de vous en fournir mais nous defend de faire aucun trafic d'esclaves avec vous, au consequence de quoi nous vous prions de ne point vous arreter ici; ne a aucun autre fort Anglois en deca de la rivière de Volta. Nous avons cru que... S mander ces choses par... lettre seroit la maniere la plus polie de vous communiquer nos [?] ordres d'autant que cela vous epargnera le tems et... la peine et l'embaras d'arriver inutilement j'ai l'honneur d'etre T. M.

Augth 15th 1751

[Very faded & some words obliterated by PRO rubber stamp]

Copy of French Captain's Answer

Messieurs Je suis bien sensible a la peine que
vous vous êtes (?) donnée de m'écrire
pour me communiquer les ordres de votre
Compagnie; puis quelle ne défend pas que
vous nous laissez faire de l'eau chez vous,
je m'en prendrai avec votre agrément
Je me proposais d'avoir l'honneur d'aller ce
soir vous assurer de mes devoirs mais
comme c'est un peu tard je suis obligé
de différer jusqu'à demain. J'ai l'honneur
d'être
Tobias Clarke

a bord de l'heureux de Nantes

Le 24 Aout 1751 N.S.

Another endorsement:

"Copies of letters between
Mr Melvil & Capt. o a
French Ship in Augt 1751"

Endorsed

"Cape Coast Castle

23^d July 1751Thos Melvil Esq^r"

Gentlemen Inclosed is / letter I wrote y by Cap^t?
 Thos Darbyshire of Jamny o Liverpool who
 saild fm this a week ago w 430 fine Gold
 Coast & Popo Slaves, he having disposed o
 those he purchased to Windward, to / French.
 By giving two Owners above / Ship Price at
 Annamaboe we got him / Slaves he wanted
 of Fanteens, & sent t w Difely, he was so
 extremely nice in his Choice, & Capt. Grayson
 & Cap^t Ellis refused to lend us any to pay
 him. This troublesome Affair beg ended,
 allow me one Reflexⁿ upon it & t is t /
 Fanteens are, & w^e will be, our Masters
 while / Masters o Ships put it in th^r Power
 to seize th^r Boats. But were all English
 Ships to lye & trade here, where Experience
 has shewn they can do it to as good Purpose
 as at Annamaboe, when they are unanimous
 & at / same time if a Man o War was to lye
 at Annamaboe to prevent / Ships o o^r
 Nav^y fm tradg th^r, we sh^d soon see /
 Fanteens humbled. But this will never
 be done except all / Merchants at home give
 strict Orders to th^r Cap^ts to lye in this Road,
 therefore Annamaboe must continue / Mart
 o Trade, & our Ships submit to / Insult &
 Depredat^{ns} o its Inhabitants. Messrs / husbands
 & Botlers delivered me / inclosed Remonstrance.
 I asked if they had traded w / French durg
 Mr Roberts's Gov. & when they were in Co

w him? They owned to they had, & Mr Roberts
says he has wrote home to justify himself for
so do^g. They are determined to trade w whom
they please accordg to Act o Parliament &
sue me at home if I offer to seize the Goods.
This is an Affair o a most serious Nature, for
on yr Determination it depends wh^r Trade
o this Coast is to be carried on at English
or Dutch Forts; As Natives will carry the
Slaves to Dutch or French if we will not
buy them, make what Regulations y please.
likewise such o yr Servants as are not disposed
to obey yr Orders may easily by means o
Negros, break thro them w^o any Fear o
Detectⁿ. It is a Point I am v^y clear in to yr
Ships wd make quicker & better Voyages if
Trade was w^o any Restriction, than they can do
now. At present blue Half says, & Green
long Ells will buy any Thg. Let a French man
go now to Annamaboe & give 10 Oz for
Slaves, an English Ship, who gives only eight
Oz & a half Say upon each Slave, sh^d be
Refusal o all Slaves. The Fantoms say, if
we once teach French to buy our best Slaves,
who them will take off / head? To Windward
Manchester Checks & Grass Green Long Ells
are g^oly in Demand, former is equal in
Value to four, & latter to six Perpets.

The Asthmantees, who are / gr^o traders on this
Coast by / Gods Assistⁿ, we sh^d be
done w^o them. [Fisher p 48]. My Pro-
ceedgs in this Affair are a Secret for my
Brother Agents who laugh at / Attempt wh

They say cannot be done under £3000, but I hope soon to show it will not cost above £300 Sterlg.

I have agreed to pay Messrs Roberts, Hubbards, & Boteler £1000 Goods at Gold Price out of Supply I bro't out. I do not chuse to part wth more at present, lest / Blacks shd agn see / Forts in Want, & thereby imagine / Govt. as poor as / late Co. Roberts's Supply went in few months, but then he had British Prerogative, British Authority, The Honor of his Royal Master, & I know not what, to support & cure of a Consumpⁿ into wh, it seems all these Thgs had fallen. In my Time White Men are gone & daily go^g to live am^g / Negroes, whom I must not treat on Maitre hop^g to make up / Deficiency of British Authority, by / increase of British Commerce. I must^t entreat / to send me out Supplies, & on my Part I sh^d be as frugal as possible, Since my Com^d Mr Tymeusell is made Gov^r of Com^menda to / g^t Satisfacⁿ of People who love him for his former Behaviour to them. Mr Hippisley who was Surgeon & Secretary here upon my Arrival is made Gov^r of Succoondee. As t^e Fort is situated in / Hamtah's Country, w^{ch} whom Gov^r Roberts was at War, I thot it most proper to send a capable Man, who was thoroughly acquainted wth / Dispute, & not a new Comer who mst be imposed on, & run us into fresh Quarrels

The Surveyor, Mr. Slater, has bin sick almost
ever since he came here, so has made but a small
Progress in inspecting / Repairs o this Fort, As
soon as he is well he sh^d proceed to make Estimates
o what is wantg at all / Forts, & likewise what
/ rebuilding Annamaboe will cost, sh^d t were
become necessary.

As sev^l kinds o Manchester Goods answer
here as well as any Indian, & many more
m^t be introduced th^t they / Material o the
Manufacture cheaper; I h^e ever since I came
ashore bin preachg up to / Negroes / Advan-
tages wh^{ch} wd accrue to them fr^m plantg Cotton.
They h^e hearkened to my Doctrines, & h^e already
begun to clear away / Bush abt this Town,
So t next Year I expect to see all Hands
employed in t Commodity, & / Country
thereby, fr^m beg / most wh^{ole}some in /
World, rendered both wh^{ole}some & advantageous
fr^m European Settlers, Some Indico will likewise
be plantd next Season as this Country abounds
w^{ith} a spot in many Places, & sh^d / Negroes
w^{ould} fall into / Way o makg it, / French must
leave off, & we sh^d buy t here fr^m our own
Manufactures wh^{ch} they now oblige us to pay
Money fr^m. In Short, fr^m / Eagerness o / Negroes
shew in plantg Cotton, I foresee t in a v^l few
Years we may if we please annihilate /
French Colonies, fr^m trifflg local Considerations
& groundless Prejudices do not, some where, get /
better o publick Good. When Men are schemg
fr^m thei^r own Advantage they will take Care o /
Execum, & they will venture thei^r lives fr^m thei^r own
Interest thei^r not fr^m t o o^r People. Hence in /
Month I h^e bin here thei^r is already a g^oter

Progress made in extend^d this Trade by / Increase
 of Produce, than th^r was dur^g / Eighty Years
 / Co^d had the Charter. I h^e sent a Small Bag
 o^f Cotton to Mr. Hardman who will acquaint
 me how it is liked. I sh^d be glad to know
 wh^r th^r be any Duty payable upon / Importaⁿ
 o^f it. As / Negroes clear / Ground f^r Cotton
 I design to make them plant Cutcher Trees
 wh^r, tho they will be, no Advantage to ~~me~~
 me y^t in twenty or thirty Years will enable
 / Negroes to furnish us wth Gum, w^{ch} be^g
 obliged to / French. A little Industry may
 soon convince us t^h God has made Ground
 enough f^r us all, & t^h we need not squabble
 ab^t this Coast, as long as we are possessed
 o^f more than we can make use o^f.

As soon as / Flamborough is gone I sh^d take
 an Acc^t o^f all / Co^d's Stores & Stores oc^u upon
 this Coast & send y^r / Inventories. I delay
 entery upon / Subject o^f Dispute wth / Dutch
 wh^{ch} brot on Mr Roberts's War. Matters are
 quiet sever since our Money was out, & I
 want to know how far Cap^t How can assist
 me, lest I shew once more t^h / Dutch are
 our Superiors, if I demand what I cannot
 enforce. Inclosed are two Bills o^f Lad^g f^r
 Cargo & Stores shiped on Board / Flamb-
 borough endorsed. Th^r is likewise a Certificate
 f^r one Cash Carrier wh^{ch} was lost in pull^g
 it into / Canoe in / Road. I h^e given
 Cap^t Bonell all / Dispatch in my Power, w^{ch}
 o^f Slaves has obliged me to buy his Wood
 o^f Cudjo & employ free Canocemen to unload
 him at a gr^t expence. If I h^e omitted
 anyth^g in this letter I must excuse

me of Jam 5/1 Moment interrupted by some
Body or 2 & can only write by Starts two or
three Minutes at a Time Jam

Perpetuum
In most obed^t hum^l Serv^t
Thomas Melvil

Cape Coast Castle July 23^d 1751

P.S. A Soldier & our Cooper are dead since we
came ashore, & many of our People
are now Sick, tho' but few dangerously so

Ships
In this Port The Flamborough
Capt Jepson of New England 150 Slaves got off
Annamaboe

Capt Ellys 2300 Slaves
Capt Gally } 0 Bristol almost done Slaves
390

Capt Keeth for New England finished 115 Slaves

Capt Grayson of Liverpool almost finished want^g 14 Slaves

- No Ship of any o^r ~~the~~ Ham upon this Coast

To / Committee of Co of Merch^{ts} Tradg to Africa

Enclosed "Letter from Husbands & [Duplicate
in C.O.
Botlers to Mr Melvil 388/45
Cape Coast Castle July 1751" Dec 54]

Cape Coast Castle July 1751

To Thomas Melvil Esq President of Council,
Chief Agent, Treasurer & Warehousekeeper of /
Committee of Co of Merchants Tradg to Africa.

Sir At / first Council held in Consequence of yo^r
Arrival here you were pleased, after Reading / Publick

Letters, to produce an Establishment for / Committee
 of / Co's Merchants Trade to Africa & the Officers
 on this Coast by wh^{ch} I found myself appointed
 one of the Chief Agents & Accountant at a certain
 Salary of £200 p. Ann & consequently a reducⁿ of
 £300 p. Ann, to wh^{ch} I made no Objection having
 gathered from Private Conversation, as well as from
 Tenour of / Publick Letters, that a Free Trade agreeable
 to / Act of Parliamt^t was allowed to all / Co's
 Servants & concluded it had been judged an
 Equivalent of such Reducⁿ of my Salary & therefore
 accepted of / Terms

At our next meet^g I desir^d of all / Co's
 Servants beg laid before / Council in order
 to appoint any one the proper Stams & to Supply
 such as were Vacant, I moved, as necessary
 before the Business was Entered upon, for yr^{ts} Instructions
 to be read, that we might first know
 each of us our own Stations, & how far it was
 our Business to meddle in / Direcⁿ & Manage-
 ment of / Public Affairs on this Coast, wh^{ch} if
 were pleased to do, when to my gr^t Surprise, I
 found in / first Instructions given by / very first
 Committee of / Co's Merchants Trade to Africa
 formed in Consequence of an Act of Parliamt^t of Day
 / Trade Free & Open to all his Majestys
 Subjects, there was a Restriction laid upon / Trade
 of such a Restriction as will intirely deprive /
 Servants of the Co from ever being able to do
 any Good for / Nation or themselves, & therefore
 so render the Service not worth any Mans
 Acceptⁿ who means Honestly to Comply therewith.
 It beg to / best of my Memory, to / follow^g Effect, viz^t.
 You are thereby not only your self forbid to
 Trade wth any Foreigner, except / Portuguese of

Tobacco & Gold, But I are also to discourage, any
one as far as yr Powers & Influence extend, fm so
do; wh is in fact sayg I are not to suffer any
of our Servants to trade w Foreigners, I am abt
to express myself as I wd by no means be thro
Jests, but I cannot tell how better to express my Con-
ception thereof than by sayg it appears to me
a Free Trade w / myn Sisters Colonies t or possibly
be laid upon it, & begg pardon of Congress / or us
o my Masters, I cannot help thinkg it is directly
Contrary to / true intent & meaning o / Act o Par-
liamt wh says this Trade sh be free & Open to all
his Majesty's Subjects w any restraint upon / Trade
or Traders whatso, & t no Orders or Regulat^{ns}
to be made by / Committee sh tend to lay any
restraint whatso on / Trade, or Traders. Now
Sir I confess to y before readg yr Orders I allways
understood by / words Free & Open was meant
t / Trade shd at least be as free & Open to his
Majesty's Subjects, as to / Subjects o any o Powers
settled on or tradg to this Coast, and I do not
learn t these Powers h prohibited th Subjects
fm tradg w Foreigners, on / Contrary they do
all trade w each o or any ships whatso, Yea
more, I am as well assured as a man can be
who has not seen / Contracts or Correspondce o
Partners, t / Present Dutch Gen namely Jan
Van Voorst Esqre is actually Egly engaged in
French Caraves, & so will all his Successors as
long as they find an Advantage therein, & wh
will be as long as thr is any Trade to Africa,
Unless / Powers settled here fall upon some method
totally to exclude all foreigners fm comg hither
Indeed, ~~the~~ / nature o / Trade to Africa (if I
fm a 12 years Experience ^{may}) be allowed to be any
Judge thereof) appears to me to be such as
will admit o no Medium whatso, t is to say, it
must be either absolutely free or an Absolute
Monopoly.

Now Sir, it is / Sense o' / Nam wh they be
 past into an Act o' Parliamt & this Trade sh^d be
 be Free & Open to all his Majesty's Subjects.
 The Committee o' Merchants Trade to Africa
 established upon this Decree or Act o' Parliamt h^e
 judged it reasonable in Consequence o' this Act o'
 Parliamt & / Liberty o' Trade thereby Granted, to
 reduce the Servants' Salary, partly myself
 fm £500 to £200 p. Ann. Allow me then
 to enjoy t' Liberty & I am Content w' / Terms, or
 if I am mistaken please explain to me / Means
 o' / Act, t' I may know / Terms & Tenour
 thereof. This, Sir, is all I h^e to say w^{ch} regard to
 myself as a Co Servant.

But as a British Subject w^{ill}g to
 Settle in this Town by Virtue o' / Act o' Parliamt
 f' extendg & improvg / Trade to Africa, as well
 as to wine / Equity o' my demand, I sh^d proceed
 to offer some Few Reasons founded on / Nature
 o' this Trade; Begg Leave first to Advance, w^{ch} re-
 spect to Trade in Gen. t' / Hope or Prospect o'
 Gain is / principal Inducem^t w^{ch} evy person f'
 adventuring into Trade or Business, & what
 evy prudent man will Consider before he
 engages in any part^r Branch thereof

Now / advantage o' Rebarter Trade, by
 which I mean buyg up / African Commodities
 fm / Natives, & Sellg them to Shipp, is /
 principal, & indeed only, motive t' can
 prevail w^{ch} any man to Settle in this
 Country; And he cannot possibly propose
 any advantage fm such Trade, unless he
 can enjoy an equal freedom therein w^{ch} evy
 one else round about him; F when /
 w^{ch} Country Traders come down w^{ch} the

Trade, in order to give them due encouragement
it is necessary to buy all they bring, / bad as
well as / good wh if I cannot, they will not
trade wth y, provided any one else will. Is not
this / reason / Farther urge ag^t y^e of debar^r
/ French ships fm com^g to trade wth them. Do
they not say what must they do wth the ord^r of
Slaves & do they not tell y^e if /
English Ships wd buy the ordinary
Slaves. I may keep / French away if y^e
please? Was not this / first Quesⁿ
Ludjo Caboger ask^d o^f when I acquaint^d
acquainted him y^e was not to suffer him
to trade wth / French or any^e Foreigner?
Did he not immediately tell y^e this ~~scheme~~
Scheme was defective in it point? And
let me ask y^e Sir, If a French Ship offers
me a good Barter am I to tell him, "Sir y^e
are a foreigner, I can't trade wth y^e, but my
Neighbour at / Dutch fort within pistol
shot of me, can supply y^e I wd recommend
y^e to him" & so he immediately take him
up & draw all / trade out o^f English Town.
Does not every one t knows anythg o^f Situation
o^f English & Dutch forts know t this will
be / Consequence o^f Orders. I mean if people
will comply wth them. Does not every Merchant
in England know t his refusal to deal wth
any Man will consequently send t man
to his next door neighbours if he deals in
/ Same Wares, & will not this be / Consequence
o^f y^e Orders. I mean if people will comply
wth them, If not, there are ways enough, for them
to keep it fm y^e knowledge. The restraint

54
+ Channel

I Co always laid upon the Factors o buyg
f them none but / Choicest Slaves, f no ^{one} ^{not} ^{to}
wd be accepted o fm them, turned / Chan^{nel} ^{pe}
o Trade out o the Towns into those o / Dutch.
a notes t / Dutch hourly Expect agn a free
Liberty o Trade, may they not hope f / same
Effect to be produced fm / same Cause. In
short if / People who may settle on shore
here h do not in the power to buy all t
comes to market, wh they can never pretend
to do w^t they may also sell them agn to
whom they please, while o^r h t Liberty, tis
in Vain to Expect to see / English flourish
in this trade. Mr Husbands & myself
found it true in practice, t is to say,
we found we cd not get / Channel o
Trade turn'd fm / Dutch, while we con-
tinued to be nice in / Choice o our Slaves,
this made us resolve to buy w^t thing t
came to market, we did so, & immediately
found our advantage therein, Did we not
ingross / whole trade & make / Dutch
sitt still? Such prefer^{re} h / English
Commodities over those o o^r Nears, t they
will allways ~~carry~~ carry / Trade while
we enjoy an equal Liberty w^t them, &
has not our beg debared t priviledge
since Mr Roberts's arrival o tradg w /
French sunk our Trade agⁿ into nothing.
Competitors in Trade will allways be com-
plaining o each o^r & Jealousy & Envy will
naturally arise, Fm hence / Complaint o
our tradg w / French, & I may presume

from hence arose this restriction in your Orders. But Surely while / French & other Foreigners are permitted to come upon this Coast, it is at least as good for / British Subject to Trade wth them as to sit still & see / Dutch trade wth them.

I have heard _____ _____ Masters of Ships endeavouring to shew / insignificance of these efforts, urge as a reason that they never were of any use to them, they wd never find a Slave in any of them to purchase, whereas at / Dutch efforts they cd always pick up from two to twenty. And now behold these efforts are ~~now~~ at once grown up to such an exorbitancy wth / Trade as to be able to ingross / whole or if not debased by a restriction from trading wth any foreigners & / Dutch efforts, of so little significance that they can do / Trade wth no harm, left free to trade wth all Nations. Is not this Caprice? is not this / Effects of Jealousy & Envy? Nothing else. I will take upon me to say they had no just Cause of Complaint & I can prove that at / 1/2 time we were trading wth / French etc sold more Slaves to / Ships in Annamabot Road belongg to / English than they were purchased for this Coast in / same time. & who^{se} will be at / trouble to compare / purchases of / English Ships at Annamabot at t^e time wth those of / like time since t^e period, I am convinced will find / former to be at least double / latter. Not only so, we went further, we gave them / choice of our Slaves, sold them to them at \pm 4 less than we were, at / same time, receiving from foreigners of / other Slaves, & took the long goods at 20 per Cent higher price than we

received them fm / French & Dutch & Supplied
 them w Tobacco & such goods as they cd
 not sell at Annamaboe, an Article they
 were before & h^{on} since t^e time obliged to ~~buy~~
 buy w Gold fm / Dutch Gen. & t^e at / rate o
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb [£6?] pr Boll. In short we just gave
 them a full specimen what Service these
 Castles cd be o to them, If they wd but let
 us alone, but instead ~~at~~ thereof it only
 served to raise a Clamer agst us, lest
 any one shd doubt o / truth o what I h^{ere}

here said relatg to / Shipg, I
 appeal to Capt^s Wade, Geddes, & Burroughs o
 London; Boucher, Habbing [?] & Saunders o
 Bristol; Bartley & Doubt o Plymouth, & many
 o^rs t^e were at Annamaboe at t^e time, & wh^o
 we did not take off / Refuse o most o t^e
 Cargoes at t^eir g^og off, to / Extent o 10, 20 &
 30 Slaves fm a Ship. In short, our Towns
 were full o traders, our Roads w Ships &
 Cape Coast Castle was like a fair Market
 place, & was almost become / Mark^t o Trade. Our
 Influence over / Fantoms gag^d as so gr as to
 prevail on those People who were at first up
 in Arms agst Capt. Wade & driv^g / French
 away, themselves, Slaves, / French Boats
 refuse them water, & drive them off / Coast.
 I mean such as did not trade w us.

I mention these Instances only as an Argum^{nt}
 f / Necessity o allow^g a free Trade w
 foreigners & w^o one Else, not on^t o any
 Vanity or Boast^g o what mighty feats
 we performed, on / Contrary, Sir, I

can assure y^e it was no Concerted Plan o
ours, no deep laid Scheme, nothg more
than what naturally resulted as Effects
fm the first Cause, namely, free trade.
We had no hand in all this more than first resolv^d
to buy all t^e Came to market, wh^o our Interest
pointed out to us, they were Consequences wh^o nature
naturally grew up by Gradual Ascend. far
beyond what w^e expected. Do y^e but sett out
on / some footg or butt allow a free trade, &
y^e will find / some Consequences result fm
it w^o w^e beg at / point w^o to think o
abt them. Upon / whole I think I h^o almost
proved t^e it is by dealg w^o Foreigners freely
& openly (while foreigners are allow'd &
incouraged by y^e h^o sett^d here to Come
hither) t^e y^e will w^e be able to Answer /
Intenⁿ o / Act o Parliamt, I will w^e w^e
induce people to settle on shore here, & by t^e
means Extend & Improve this trade, & make
it answer / Merchants' hopes in sendg the
Ships hither, f / Trade o / Shippg will
always be in proportⁿ to / trade in / English
Towns; t^e is, / more trade in these towns /
more trade will / Ships h. Do but once make
y^e towns / Mart^s o Trade & y^e Shippg will
equally find / Benefit thereof w^o / Factors
in y^e towns. Tis a Grand mistake to Appre-
hend / Trade on Shore will prejudice / trade
o / Shippg, English Commodities are always
wanted here & will always command /
preference, therefore Factors sett^d here must
always trade w^o / English Ships or, wh^o is /
same thg, h^o ships o the own w^o Cargoes fm

England or by / time they become Capable o
 Extendg thir trade to t length, they will be
 thinkg o Returng home, No man comes here
 f pleasure or will stay longer than he can
 acquire a moderate Competency to return
 home w.

If any man shd observe fm what I h
 sd t all this time we are equally benefitg
 / Foreigners w ourselves I wd desire him
 to ask / Merchants o Durnthorpe & Calais of [?]]
 whom we principally dealt, what good Effect
 they found by our tradg w thir Ships, & I
 believe fm thir Answer he will be convinc'd
 as well as myself t / best way to prevent
 foreigners beq advantaged by this trade,
 will be to advise them to trade w us agm.
 They furnish y w Weapons agst themselves
 by drawg / trade to yr towns, this immedi-
 ately gives y an Influence in / Country, fm
 fm hence flows Respect, & fm t Authority &
 Command, & by these means y h d in yr
 power when it does not suit yr interest
 or Conveniency to trade w them, to prevent
 thir tradg elsewhere. Thir is no knowg to
 what height o Authority y may by such
 practice arrive at. In our short time besides
 / Instances I h ~~given~~ already mentioned o
 / Fantyns dring / French mens away at our
 desire, we wem brot them to sollicit Sollicit
 [Sollicit] us to take up such French Ships as
 hd / best Assorted Cargues, & to engage to
 find us Slaves to send them off, wh was
 / Case w / last French Ship we dealt

us. 'Twas at the Request & promise o' finding
us Slaves. What was the Interest in this, why
they found a Ready Vend at a reasonable
profit f' the ordinary Slaves, this made it worth
the while to Stir abt f' trade, the best
Slaves they Carried to / English Ships & /
Best they brot up to us. And what has
bm / Case since we h'bm hindered tradg
w' / French, why / Fantiyas find it not
worth the while to be at any pains to look
out f' / prime Slaves only, f' / English Ships
therefore sitt still & Yr Ships get only such
few Slaves as drop down by accident, & / Ships
in Annamaboe Road f' this month past
have not purchased 10 Slaves apiece. Nay,
Capt. Dymcombe before he went off assured
me he hd not bot 1 Slave f' 12 days &
Darbyshire not f' a month. Now, Sir, if
all the sd are facts, & t, I am perswaid
no man now upon / Coast even in Ships
or t hath bm on / Coast during t' Period o'
time - I mean betw' / ul to June 1749
& / ul to June 1751 - will deny, o' wh' no
man now in / Castle will refuse beg am
widge t' y may ask, I think it is plain while
foreigners are allowed to come upon this Coast, /
only way to prevent the Injurge this trade o' /
English Nan is f' / English on / Coast to deal
w' them, keep them off / Coast intirely & prevent /
Dutch fm bringg French Cargoes & carryg the
Slaves to / French West Indies wh' wd imme-
diately be / Case f' / French were Excluded
this Coast. I say if / French cd be totally cutt
off fm this trade t' would alter / Case. But
so long as / French do come upon this Coast

in spite o all / Masters o/ ships can say, I do
 avow & hope I sh sufficiently proved tis more
 beneficial even f/ them & evy Individual f/
 / English Ports, to deal w/ them than t they
 either ~~had~~ deal w/ Dutch or make the
 own Trade w/ Negroes. And f/ National
 Intrest / Question is vj short only whether wher
 / Profits are best Carried to England or
 / Holland or left on / Coast in / Hands o /
 Natives

And now Sir, having taken notice o/ Complaint o/
 Shipps agst Traders settled here f/ dealg w/ foreign-
 ers, give me leave to mention / Complaint o/
 Factors has agst them, this I sh found on a sup-
 posim t we cannot sell our Slaves to anyone
 else but them, & while t is / Case as has bn lately, &
 therefore I speak fm Experience They are so
 scrupulously nice in / Choice o the Slaves t tis
 impossible f any man to run / hazard o
 buyg who is subject to the Refusal, F they will
 not even buy fm f such Slaves as they will
 fm / Natives. I can be upon Oath o have
 many times sold to ships by sendg off my
 Slaves in Company w a Negro Broker / Very
 Slaves they h before refused fm me & h
 received as good Goods & as full a price as I
 h askt fm them, but this is so constant a
 practice t it needs no Assurance or Evidence
 to prove it; The Case is they know y want
 to sell as much as they do to buy, & therefore
 think themselves sure o y at last. Besides,
 as I sd before, the beg a natural Jealousy they
 suspect t some one has h / refusal o them
 before & it wd be an eternal disgrace on any
 o them to buy what any one else has refused
 be they ever so prime Slaves, Agn, if y
 x Assurances

thought 10 or 20 Slaves Slave of Goods [sic] for them
/ Choice of 100 will not satisfy them. Not long
ago since our house was engaged to a vessel
of 10 Slave Value of Goods to be paid in Slaves
or Gold as suited our Convenience best, he had
/ Choice at diff times of 40 & still wrote us he
preferred Slaves to Gold, at last out of a Lott of
16 he pickt out 4 & cd find no more to please
him so down went / Gold & / Ball of Act. The
next Day a Gentleman borrowed one of these Slaves
wh / man he refused, sent him to Annam above
gott / same price we had before received fm /
same man, & / Capt Boasted to his Brethren
in / Road what a fine Slave he had bot to day
& at / same time knew & acknowledged it was
one of Slaves he had refused fm us. Capt. Pollipus
Hammond of New England was / man, & Capt.
Richard Powers of Bristol / Person who sold /
Slave to him & / Gentleman, to whom I
appeal & / truth hereof. Agn we were in-
debted to Capt Jureney Wall of 6 men
Slaves. By an Insurrection in his vessel
three of his windward Slaves seized & went
off w his Boat; were taken by / Natives who
sold them to one of our Factors who sent them to us.
Slaves were then exceeding scarce & we were
puzzled to pay him. We offered him those vj three
Slaves in part paymt at / price our factor had
purchased them, he refused to take them on those
terms but offered to purchase them fm us, &
no Slaves we cd offer him in paymt cd please
him, at his go off we offered him his Choice
of all we had but none wd do, till Capt. Powers of
Bristol, James Bruce of London & Thos Darbyshire
of Liverpool who were present, tryed out Shame
agst him & prevailed upon him to choose out /

Value, o his Debt Remarkable they sd either o them
 wd buy any or all those Slaves, & his Answer
 was so wd he, yet wd not take them in paymt
 till much persuasion was used. But why need
 go so far back, Have we not now Sir, 40
 Slaves in our possessⁿ all wh we bot f good
 Slaves, we offered them to Capt. Anthony
 Grayson now in this Road & his Answer was
 he believed he cd pick out Ten. Pray, Sir, allow
 me to ask what we are to do w/ Rest & when
 to put an End to / trouble occasioned by some
 dispute betwⁿ Cap^t Darbyshire & / Fantyns. I
 agreed to pay what cd not be collected by
 Contribum & we were to furnish / Slaves till I
 cd reimburse us. Did not y find t Cap^t
 Darbyshire wd not touch one o / 40 Slaves
 nor hardly any Slaves t cd be brot to him
 tho. To satisfy him we offered ten Dunes pr
 head f such as he shd approve o. Do y think,
 Sir it will ever be worth any mans while
 or t any man ever will purchase at / Hazard
 o such a Sale, & wh^t our Complaints are not
 as weighty & reasonable as this, & wh^t I think
 a Salary o 200 pounds p Ann to be paid
 in goods at a Nominal Gold Price wh will
 require more time to turn over so as at / Years
 end to realize into Gold [more?] than / Office
 o an Accountant^s cap. Spare is worth any mans
 Acceptce at / cost o his Liberty as a British
 Subject, or shd this Order & meetⁿ / Sameⁿ
 o Parliam^t & pass into an Act, wh^t any
 one wd were Venture to settle under y^r
 protestⁿ at such to Trade at such, I may say,
 certain loss; & if People cannot meet
 w/ sufficientⁿ encourage^mt to settle in y^r

Towns / of intent & means, as I apprehend, o /
Scheme is lost, & / Trade will remain just as
it is, w this diffc only, t / Reducⁿ o Salarys
& Expenss will just so much lessen yr
Intrest & Authority

But w regard to / Trade,
possibly ed not get on his Slaves [Fisher p 85]
Therefore unless y can carry on a Slave Trade,
wh its impossible y shd wt enjoy an equal
privilege w those round abt y, y will never
be able to purchase a sufficiency o Gold w^{ch}
to provide yrself w necessarys f yr own &
/ Table use, what then are yr poorer Ser-
vants to do w such Goods y can give them
on ths pay. They will never be able to buy
Country provisions w them, f where no trade
is ths no market will be, what will it
avail ~~to~~ those poor people to tell them
they h free Liberty to trade, they are starv^g
w Hunger - y know what ths Trade will be.

Some Negroes dependant on / Castle will retail
Rum to them at an Exorbitant Price & take ths
Goods, wh they get on ths pay, at half / price
they receive them, by wh means they will be
drunk one week, Pinched & almost Starved /
next week, feed upon such trash as throws
them into fluxus agst / 3^d [per?] week, &
Die at / end o / Month. Compassⁿ will extort
fm y some small advance on ths pay, & at
last they leave y, Sir, to Balle / Acc^t.

I doubt not, Sir, but yrself & evy one
else who reads this will Conclude y h some
private turn to serve, some Self Intrest
in all this. What then are / Facts I relate

true or are they not, & will / Consequences be
 what I say or not. I sh^d an Interest therein
 or a v^y l^ge Interest I acknowledge, & will also
 acknowledge, t^ho I not an Interest therein. I sh^d
 not h^{ave} given myself / trouble o^r / writg^{ing} nor y^e o^r
 Readg^{ing} this. Yes, Sir, I h^{ave} a v^y l^ge Interest therein
 & such an one, as demands & Merits Yr^e Protec^{tion} I
 do intend to embrace / Liberty o^f / Act o^f Parliam^{ent}
 & extend my trade as far as I am able & I want
 to do this fairly Openly & in / Eyes o^f / World, &
 If I cannot do so in / Co^s Service, I will not o^{ther}
 I wd^{ould} Scorn to lease y^e & take / advantage o^f the
 beg^{ing} nobody on / Coast I can carry on yr^e Busi-
 ness t^{ill} will accept o^f / Place up / Pittes annex^{ed}
 thro^{ugh} one half o^r whereof at least is so absorb'd
 in / Public Table, But then I mean not to
 sell my Liberty thereby. I do not mean to men-
 ace I only demand by Virtue o^f / Act o^f Parli-
 am^{ent} Liberty to do t^{his} openly wh^{ere} y^e must
 know I can do privately if I was inclin'd &
 in order to Obtain t^{he} permission I h^{ave} taken /
 Liberty to print out to y^e some few o^f ad-
 vantages t^{hat} will arise to / Nam^e in gen^{eral}, as well
 as ev^{ery} individual thereby, & / Detrim^{ent} / Restraint
 will be Not by a Suspicion o^f Yr^e insensibility
 thereof but by a Justificam^{ent} o^f Reasonableness o^f
 my Demand w^{hich} those who may not be so
 well Acquainted thro^{ugh} it, & by t^{he} reason, I sh^d
 now beg leave to shew, y^e how it is in my
 Power to do it w^{ith} yr^e knowledge. First then,
 By / Act o^f Parliam^{ent} ev^{ery} Negroe has free
 Liberty o^f trade, can I not employ them: who
 is to Queen^{em} them where or how they came by
 those Goods, or Slaves, where no Complaint

o Theft is lodged agst them. The Co's servants
 who claimed this right by virtue o the
 Charter found it impossible to prevent / pry
 & is not, by / same act o Parliamt / Towns, Paths,
 & dandy places free to go / one? what then can y
 do, to restrain me, not search my Warehouses or
 Seize my Goods, & I think y h no Authority b, &
 foreigners for anchoring in y Roads, & if y do
 will they not find Refuge & good Encouragem^t
 for / Dutch to anchor in the Roads, Does not
 Maurice Castle lie so contiguous to this, & the o
 Forts o Succouda, Commeda & Acora, to y^d, &
 the y ~~to~~ no odds whose Roads they lie in
 & h I not Craft to follow them shd they be
~~decreed~~ decreed the & are there not landg
 places enough on / each o either (at least where
 I can land / Goods in / night). Is there any g^t
 trouble or expence in sending Slaves to a French
 Ship at whydah w whom I can may ~~send~~ h
 previously agreed when I send a Vessel of Tobac-
 co, may I not make a Contract to deliver so
 many Slaves agst a certain time at St Thomas
 or St Jago's Islands. In short Sir, / point is
 w^{ch} / them will allow / French to come upon
 this Coast or No, & w^{ch} they can g^t / Dutch
 Honesty to Consent to keep them off. Not
 w^{ch} / English Subjects sh trade w them or
 No if they are to come, I depend as long as
 they are allowed to come upon this Coast,
 & I will always be rather wth French or
 Dutch Colours, people here will find an Interest
 in trading w them, & therefore will trade w them
 1/2 Prohibition or Restriction may turn / Scale so
 far as to make me obliged to / French & Court
 them instead o the Ass^tg me, & therefore cause
 me to be content w less Profit but never
 totally prevent. Do not w^{ch} y^r masters o /

Ships who alone are / Complainers agst
 foreigners, so soon as they hear o a French
 Vessel, buy up all / ordinary Slaves to get
 off the refuse part o the Cargos, and sell
 these Slaves agst / French by means
 o the Gold Takers, before they drive them off.
 Has not Capt Darby shire now here, more
 than whom, no Body has bin more Vigorous
 in drivg / French off, sold them, since he^s
 in Annamaboe road, all his Windward
 Slaves a many more, but at Annamaboe on
 Purpose, does he not tell y this, a what he
 Trade he made w / French Men o Water,
 buyg whole Long Boat heads, a Brandy for
 them a anythg else t suited his Convenience.

If then, Sir I h proposd to y t tradg w
 foreigners (while they are suffered to come
 upon this Coast) be an advantage to / Maⁿ,
 or if I h only, proposd t while they do come
 upon / Coast t is better for / English to
 Trade w them than to send them to / Dutch or
 h them to trade w / Natives, if I h also
 Shown t I cannot prevent them from / practice
 who are determind to trade w them, I flatter
 my self y will not entertain / worse Opinion
 o me for tellg y plainly I do intend a will
 Trade w them, nor deny me / favour I h to
 ask o y Namely, t y will not Obstruct or
 hinder me therein by not Sufferg fore-
 eigners to Anchor in yr Roads. T. is, allow
 me to do openly what I can do privately a
 what I think I am entitld to by / Act o
 Parliamt, however Coast [sic] I shd be in

I Wrong, I sh Submit this to / Consider^m o our
Superi^{ors} & purpose to transmit a Copy hereof
to / Right Honourable / Lords Comm^{rs} of Trade
& Plant^{ns} as I doubt not y will send this
to / Committee o / Co^s Merchants tradg to
Africa, to whose Dec^{ns} I sh pay all due
Obedience, at present I sh to desire this may be
laid before / Council here & sh attende yr
Answer.

I am Sir Yr most Humble Servant

Thomas Boteler

Cape Coast Casite July 23. 1751

Sir As y are sensible I am so much hurried by
/ Ships departure t I cannot gain time to get more
than one Copy wh I intend to send by this Conveyance
to / Lords o Trade & plant^{ns}, And as I apprehend /
Subject however coarsely treated o by me, is a matter
o so gr^t Imp^t t no time sh^d be lost in dispatching it
I hope y will be so good to make my Excuse to /
Committee f sending so bad a Copy thereof. I am
Sir Yr most Humble Servant

Thomas Boteler

As I do agree in opinion w Mr Boteler
in what he has above sett forth, on / Nature
o Trade here, I sh taken / Liberty
herunto to Affix my Name as his Partner
in Trade, in Co^s w Mr Roberts now
out o / Service. W^m Husbonds

Endorsed

"Cape Coast Castle

9th August 1751.

Thos Melvil Esqr"

Gentlemen

I wrote y by Capt Bonell a Copy o
 wh is enclosed. I expected by this time to have
 able to have sent y an Acc^t o / Cos Slaves, but
 cd not till I paid them / four months wages
 due to them, & t I wanted to do in / most
 frugal manner, f wh Purpose I waited till I cd
 h some Portuguese Tobacco & yesterday I got 30 Rolls
 by wh I sh save y above £100, & pay / Slaves
 more to the Content than by ~~buying~~ buying yr ex-
 pensive piece Goods, into Fathoms & pay of them
 @ 2/6 p. yard. I sh want some more Osna-
 burg his next Year to pay / Tradesmen as they
 are strong & wear well, I pay them to / Slaves
 @ 2/6 p. yd. As to / Affair o Dixcove,
 I amuse / Dutch Gen. but wait f / Arrival
 o Capt. How, & as I am no Governour w a high
 Character, I sh give him / Pas & make no doubt
 but we sh settle w y Th^s. I am taking Measures
 to make myself Master o / whole Dispute, &
 when I am: sh lay it before y in as clear
 a Manner as I can. I beg y will dis-
 patch / Supplies as fast as y can f tho' I am
 no fighting Man, & therefore will hardly go to
 War, yet / People must eat. Evy Thg on /
 Coast is in profound Tranquility, except those
 whose Incomes are lessened & whose Opinions it
 is t / Scheme will never answer. Some
 Acc^ts o Disbursements upon my Arrival are given
 into me by Messrs Roberts & Co (by Co I mean
 Husbards & Boteler) & such Charges made

as plainly prove what Husbands & Boteler confessed
t they want to get ~~one~~ as much out o me as
they cd. However this will come before y in
proper Time. Goods most in Demand here
are blue half Sags, grass green & goshin green
long Ells, red Baguta pants, negamine pants,
blouseid Cuttances, Allejairs, & f / Windward
Forts, Black burn Checks 20 yds, a lgc Quantity
likewise some Chellets. Y need send few or no
Guns next Year, but if y send any let them be
Dames & Bridg - no Beads - Corn Brandy in
iron bound Butts to am^t o £500.

Capt. Ellis wth 400 Slaves fm Annamaboe sails
to morrow. Cap^t Keith w 112 Slaves goes along
w him, Remains / Parado Cap^t Anyou o Luce-
pool alone. I am

Gentlemen
Y^r most obliged & Obed^t Serv^t
Thomas Melvil

Cape Coast Aug^r 9th 1751.

Endorsed "Cape Coast Castle
26th August 1751
Thos Melvil Esq^r"

To / Committee o / Co o Merch^t tradg To Africa.
Gentlemen, I wrote y / 9th Curr^t a Cobby o wh is
enclosed, I h taken an Acct o / Co's Slaves, & intended
sendg y a To h sent y / Valua^m w this, but / Chief
o Outports in the Valua^m h got in my Opinion,
gone upon just Principles, f they h mentioned

them all worth something, whereas, I have set down many
 of them worse than nothing by £10 or £20. And your
 Reason is that they are all to be maintained, who
 is having an Annuity of life from / Co, therefore such as
 thro' Age or Infirmities cannot work, must neces-
 sarily be worse than nothing by all / Money paid
 them while they live. I sh^d procure Estimates
 upon this Plan from / Outports & send them all together.
 Indeed I thought I sh^d have been able to have sent them by
 Capt. Anyou, but I hear he goes from Annamaboe
 to-morrow Morning. He was here last Sat. but
 did not think it worth his while to come near
 me, & went away w^o my Knowledge. Such
 Neglects I do not ~~resent~~ resent of / your Good &
 Trade. The Capt. of all Ships sh^d w^o meet w^o
 any Assistance in my Powers let their Behaviour
 be ever so slighting. It is a Duty my State de-
 mands & I ask no Thanks for it.

Inclosed is an Account of what is wanted for
 Repairs of this Castle [Incl. signed by John Slater, /
 Surveyor, n.e.]. Mr Slater sh^d when his health
 is a little restored make Estimates of Repairs
 wanted at / Outports. You will find it cheaper to send
 Timber from Bristol & Liverpool in Bright & Bonny
 Ships than to cut it on this Coast where they have no
 Horses.

After Capt. Anyou sails (he has abt 260 Slaves)
 there will be no Ships at Annamaboe except one
 Rum Schooner from Barbadoes consigned to Mess^{rs}
 Roberts, Husband & Boteler, / Cargo of which will
 go off at 8 or 9 Shill: p Gall. in Gold, / Con-
 sequence of the abundance of Rum & more bad
 Voyagers. These Gentlemen begin to feel /
 Advantages of open Trade, tho' they still are of
 Opinion it will not do under any or Managem^t
 than to a few whom they imagine had some little

hand in bring^g it abt. but I look on as mere
Compliment it will do under / Govt o any Man
who will do his Duty, & whoever does not, turn
him out, he who he will.

I find myself grly distressed f liquors to
defray / necessary expences o / Castle, f a Fort
here may as well be w^t Guns, as w^t Rum
or Brandy, I had some half Bottles & Cases
fm Holland, wh I cd h sold f Gold, & usual
/ half Ankers, & h bⁿ obliged to keep them f y.
If I take on o y^r Cargo such Goods as will br^g
Gold, I sh disort it & raise a Clamour, yet y h
no Goods in so gr Demand as my Brandy,
therefore I am obliged to disort myself, I h now
ly little left & sh be obliged to apply to elimina
f a Supply, as I luckily h some Dutch Goods o
my own, wh they count to give in Barter, if
I had not, I must h pd Gold. F sure it wd be
madness to pay 3 or 4 shillings f Rum to pay
Castle Charges, when I can get Corn & Spirits
at five. This is a Case may often happen &
therefore, I wish y wd explain yrself upon
it. If yr Instructions are absolute, in this
Case I must either lock up / Castle Gates or get
liquor where I can, I neither imagine y want to
distress / Forts committed to yr Care, nor to
supply them w my Goods to / Prejudice o my
private Fortune.

Since my last One French Ship stopped
here bound f Whydah. I sent off / inclosed
letter & received / Answer copied likewise.*
The Capt got 16 Casks o Water wh he payed f.
While he lay here I saw gr Numbers o Canoes
fm Mouree & Annamaboe go aboard loaded w
Slaves. o wh, as he promised me, he did not

* Vide pp 530 / i supra

buy one to / Negroes' gr Disappointment. He lay
two Days at Pristam above to fit up his Canoes,
but made no Trade, not chusing to distort his
Cargo, I suppose. The first French Ship t comes
to trade here will get his Cargo at once, f all /
Slaves we h refused wh / Dutch h not but one
all ready to be sent off. So / Negroes will h
a fine Time o it, & so will / French, f they
will not pay so much to / Blacks as they
used to do to / Husbands. This / Business
o those at home to consider how far this
is consistent w / Interest o Britain.

The Deputies o all / Fanteen Naⁿ h
bn here these Ten Ten Days, abt opening /
Paths, what / Result will be I hope to
acquaint y in my next. I told them t
Ludjo Cabbocere undertook / Thing & t
I wd not pay a Farthing. This is / only
Way to get / Business done cheap, f one
Ounce fm Ludjo's Hand will be more shot
o by them than ten fm me. The Dutch Gen^l
is affronted t they h come to me first, & will
not meddle in / Affairs.

I h nothing fur to acquaint y of than that
there is a Satisfaction or Tranquility diffused
thro. this Country wh Ludjo says he never
saw before. They are full o Expectants o some-
thing vry good tho they cannot yet say
what it is to be. I am
Gentlemen

Yr most obedint hum: Serv^t

Thomas Melvil

Cap Coast Aug^r 26 1751

Endorsed

" Cape Coast Castle
Thos Melvil Letter
to Committee
Dated 4th 15 Sept 1751."

Gentlemen My last p. Capt. Anyou is inclosed. I
h^{ave} now examined into / Dracco's Quarrel & find
t^{hat} we h^{ave} b^{een} most unjustly & cruelly used. The
Papers concerning it are so long & so numerous t^{hat}
it was impossible for me to get them copied. I
tried to get them abridged, by one who was
present at all / Conferences w^{ith} / bulch, & did
so, but / Performance was not fit to be sent
home on acct o^f / Pedantry & Redundancy dif-
fused throughout / whole, besides as it was,
giving an acct o^f Messrs Roberts & Van Swerts
Conduct, what Part w^{as} mt^h appeared th^{rough} trial to
me, mt^h in th^{is} Opinion, h^{as} b^{een} v^{ery} material, &
consequently I charged w^{ith} misrepresent^{ing} them
But none o^f these Reasons sh^{ould} h^{ave} presented
my sendg them, if Mr. Roberts was not gag
home himself. He has Affidavits enough to
lay open / Dutch Practices, & in / small Cor-
respondence I h^{ad} w^{ith} him / Gen^l, I h^{ad} discov-
ered an Insincerity wh^{ich} confirms me in
/ Belief o^f what is alledged agst him. I send
y^{ou} a Letter o^f mine & his Answer as a Specimen
o^f his Comedown. My Words admitted o^f no Ambig-
uity, yet y^{ou} see how he splits a Sentence to extort a
Promise o^f Satisfaction thro^{ugh}. I never acknowledged t^{hat}
any Injury was done, wh^{ich} is such an Outrage upon
Language as never ed arise fm Mistake.

If this Man & Jan Credo Bacot be not sent
 home to answer for their Conduct, I cannot guess
 what Money will support these Forts. This
 Bacot swears he will never suffer us to be
 at Rest, bec an Englishman killed or ruined
 his Father. When he was Chief o Cormantin,
 near Annamaboe, he used to hire / Negroes
 to cut / Ropes by wh / English Long Boats rode,
 t they m^t drive on Shore & be lost. When at
 Commenda he took an Advantage o our low
 Condiⁿ, & set up a pretended Right to / Land^g
 Place there, wh we had enjoyed undisturbed for
 30 or 40 Years; when at Boutry he inflamed
 & bribed / Negroes to attack our Fort o Dixcose,
 & if my Informanⁿ be true, had / Insolⁿ to put
 / Head o one o Cap^t Derbyshires Sailors, whom
 / Hamlah killed, upon a Pole, by way o
 Trophy to adorn his Fort. Beg now Chief o
 Channah I hear he is us^g all his Arts to make
 a Quarrel betw his Negroes & ours o Commenda.
 Tho' we h / Dutch Gen^l Order to him to suffer
 what Canoes we want to pass our o Channah
 River, he refuses to obey it (but t I suppose is
 by Com^missⁿ) & insists upon our pay^g him an
 advanced Price in Gold for such Canoes only
 as are not good enough for / Dutch, so t we
 sh^l soon be in v^y gr^t Distress for Canoes.
 Hitherto I h dissembled my Knowledge o
 these Th^{gs}, as I h no Force to rectify them,
 & t quarrel openly wd only be throwing
 away / publick Supplies. The Gen in one o
 his Letters tells / Late Council t God Al^l
 mighty has put a Superior Force into his
 Hands. I feel / Weight o it, & if Cap^t

How has no Orders to make him restore /
Co's Slaves & free Men confined by him in
Elmina Castle we can expect no Respect,
consequently no Security & Propriety
Property here, / Negroes will despise us
fm one End o' Coast to / o'. This may
easily be done by / Man o' War's go^g
up to Elmina Road, & declare t he will
suffer nothg to go out or in till / Prisoners
be restored; & he will not suffer / Petulce
or Folly o' any Man to create any
Umbrage betwⁿ / two States, this / Dutch
cannot take amiss, & if they sh^d God
Almighty certainly has given us Power to justify
/ Measure. The Reputation o' a State ot to be as
degr^d to a Gov^t as Character to a private Mer-
chant; / loss o' it equally affects both; & therefore
I wish satisf^d t whenever our Gov^t comes to
know how we are used, they will demand
proper Satisfacⁿ. Allow me therefore humbly
to represent both to / Board o' Trade & to y^e, t
in / Beguⁿg o' yr Administration y call f
Aid to enable y^e to make such Stipulaⁿs w/
Dutch as will effectually secure us agst /
Practic^s o' the Servants here, & at / same time
secure them fm any Insults fm us, like-
wise to ascertain / Property o' such Places as
are now contested

Dixcove Fort is still blocked up, / Negroes
want to make up all Dif^s but say they dare
not till / Gov^t gives up our Prisoners He has his
Agents continually among them threaten^g t if

they returns to the Duty, / Powder wh Bacot
 took f / Guns & Gunpowder expended
 ag^t ag^t Discover, sh be sold. In / mean
 Time we are obliged to maintain ab^t 180
 People thr, most o whom are Hantahs who
 adhered to us when the Country men made
 War ag^t us, & whom if we now desert we
 sh never again be trusted. I am obliged to
 freight Sloops or Boats as I can get them to
 carry all the Proviso 20 or 25 leagues ag^t
 Wind & Current, wh is a monstrous Expence.
 We sh never to want two Sloops a fifty or
 sixty Tons each, wth Patewaroes to defend
 themselves, upon this Coast, not only to carry
 down f repairs / Forts, but likewise Proviso
 to such o them as may be block'd up a Case
 t may often happen if / Dutch are suffered
 to go on wth Impunity.

Mr Roberts openly bestows / harshest Epi-
 thets upon Messrs Jasper & Baird, Captains
 o / Prince Henry & Surprise Men o War, &
 I hear they were no better pleased wth him.
 By / Journal o / Transactⁿ at Discover wh
 he gave me, I see t / Fort had Orders not to
 Salute / King's Ships when they came down, &
 yet saluted him wth 21 Guns at his Arrival
 thr & as many at his go^g away, both in
 Presce o Captⁿ Beard & / Surprise. The
 Orders wh at first were deemed / effectⁿ
 necessity or Precauⁿ were upon this Con-
 struct^d into a Contemptⁿ o / King's Colours
 wth no small Reason. The Prince Henry,

wh came down after Beard, was used in / some
Manner, this, joined to a drunken Quarrel
between Japers & Roberts at Succondee, at 9
am informed, presented our reapp any Advan-
tage for / Mem o Wars. The Character o Gov-
ernor wh Mr Roberts was cloathed w, made
him take / Pas o Capt Beard [sic] at Succondee,
when / Dutch Gen was present to try & settle
all Differences, & as it was a new Thg upon /
Coast, it was look'd upon as ill timed, in-
somuch t even Cudjo Cabbocers, who was
present took Notice o it to me, as a Thg never
attempted when / Co had Director Gen^s at
Cape Coast. The Effect o all these Thgs was
t private Resentmt & perhaps Fear o offend^d
/ Dutch got / better o way or Consideration
& enabled / Gen (who was frighted out o his
Wits, & ready to do us Justice if / Captains
w^h demanded it) to pick up again, & shew
/ Power o his Masters to / Negroes, as he
pretended t Fear o them intimidated / Eng-
lish Captains, so he was left at liberty to
pursue his Plan o distress^g us, & humil^g
Governor Roberts whom he personally
hated & by whom he is hated upon some
old Quarrel.

By my long Stay in England I cd not
be supposed to be so much a Master o /
Affairs o this Coast as I am at present, Ever
since my Arrival I h^{ve} been consider^g how to
restrain t Licentiousness, wh / low Condi^o

of Africans Co's Affairs of some Years by gone,
 joined to the preposterous Gov^{ts} of this Castle by
 three Governours, introduced into / Towns under
 our Forts. Th^e consulted Cudjo Cabboceer, who
 has as good a Head as any in Africa, &
 asked him what Number of Soldiers in this
 Castle, joined to yr People & / Co's Slaves,
 will be sufficient to put what Laws we sh^d
 agree on to Securing Property in full Force
 in this Town? He answered 100, & t^e fewer
 wd not do. To keep 100 white Soldiers here
 we found was impossible. Experience shewed
 us t^e our Co's Slaves originally fm Gambia
 were as much attached to us as any white Men
 could be; t^e / enlistg, cloathg & payg a
 white Soldier one Years pay, wd say near
 buy a Gambia Man & a Gambia Woman,
 transport them here & pay them for one Year; &
 t^e instead of a Shadow of a Man, we sh^d h^e
 a strong vigorous Fellow, Settled wth his Wife,
 able to do his Duty as a Soldier, & to assist
 us in repairs / Forts wh^{ch} I am affraid will
 never be repaired otherwise. I reckon / An-
 nual Expence of maintaining a Black Sol-
 dier & his Wife here will be abt £6 besides
 Cloaths: These need not cost much, an
 Uniform of an Osnaburgh Jacket &
 Trowsers & a coarse Hat will do well enough,
 Shoes & Stockgs none. Thus may y^e make
 yr Forts ten times Stronger & more respect-
 able, & of less Money than in / present way
 of sendg out white Soldiers.

As soon as we h^{ve} got Force sufficient I propose
t^h new Regulars sh^d be made suited to / nature o/
Plan I am come to execute. F / former Compacts
entered into wth / natives were between them & a
Joint Stock co whose Effects were locked up in the
forts; therefore the Serjants, c^d seize upon any
Man they pleased, put him in Irons ~~all~~ till
Satis facⁿ was given; but now when there is a
gr^{eat} Value in Town belong^g to white Men this
Method cannot be pursued & yet^{er} Something
must be substituted in / Place o^f it, when^{er} we
are in d^e London, it^{is} wise no Justice is to be had
at / Negroes hands & consequently no Trade
carried on by those who live among them. Cudjoe
proposes t^h he himself & w^h Man in Town
sh^d take an Oath to observe what new Regulars
we made, & t^h w^h Stranger who stays here, a
determined Time, sh^d swear to them, or
leave / Town. W^h white Man settled here &
in Trade sh^d sign them, & oblige himself under
a penalty to observe them. If we are fur-
nished wth our Number o^f Gambian Slaves

Soldiers & good Regulars made, Cudjoe assures
me t^h this will be as much Security o^f Property
in this Town as in / most civilised Country in
/ World. But / Difficulty will be to get these
Regulars made as they must be founded on
/ Law^s o^f this Country as well as ~~those~~
upon those o^f England. If my Presence sh^d
be necessary to form them, I may Command
me; if it will be a long time before they can
be finished if w^h Objection is to be answered
by letters. I h^{ve} spent a gr^{eat} deal o^f Time already
abt this African Affairs & sh^d not grudge one

Year more to see effectual *Stipulations* made wth / Dutch; proper *Regulations* f^r / Gov^o / Negroes who live under us & a sufficient number o Negro Soldiers to enforce / Observe o them, The Produce o this Country will yearly increase, t will naturally draw Europeans here to buy it, & shd we commit any g^o Mistake in our Outset, it may be v^y difficult to remedy it afterwards.

Since my Pas^t. Cap^t. ~~last~~ Hort + Cap^t. Boucher o Bristol arriv'd here; I former wanted ab^t 90 Slaves & / o^r ab^t 300. The Traders here h^e contracted to slave them both, & disptch Cap^t. Hort wth his Number directly. We h^e in / Absce o Ships, h^e try^d to lower / Price o Slaves, & h^e brot them down to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 7 oz before Cap^t. Boucher's Arrival, but they h^e raised them agn to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz f^r Men as they know we must buy. My principal View in contractg was to keep / Trade to this Place, wh^o / Families see & wd h^e pass'd a Law agst bringg Slaves here, if John Curran & / o^r old Men h^d not present'd it. Th^o has b^en no more French men here. If any shd come Boucher swears he will drive them away.

Enclosed are Papers as p. am annex'd h^{ere} *
I beseech y^e think o my Proposal ab^t / Gambia Slaves & / *Regulations* t we may get upon a respectable Footg. I do not mean to reflect upon any Person by what I am go^g to say, but / *Prejudice* o all / Property t is or may be, lodged in any Town under our Forts obliges me to make this Request t y^e be v^y careful what Persons y^e send out ab

Factors or Writers; hot passionate Men in Command
at / Forts may by quarrelling & oppressing / Negroes
ruin themselves & w^o Body else, if such come
out I will not employ them w^o express Orders; &
my not employng them, as / back o' w^o Man's Eye
is to himself; may bring on a Charge o' Partiality
agst me & / Resentment o' the Friends at home;
therefore I beg y^e will not, by any Solicitations,
lay me under Difficulties on this Acc^t

At Annamaboe is a Rum Schooner fm
Barbadoes consigned to Messrs Roberts, & Co
& a Rum Snow fm Rhode Is land wh went
the two Days ago, Cap^t Hor^t carries off 2/5
Slaves, is bound to Jamaica. I am

Gentlemen
Y^e most obed^t & obliged hum^l serv^t

Thomas Melvil

Cape Coast Castle, Sept^r 15th 1751.

To / Committee o' Comp^t o' Merchants tradg to Africa

Endorsed "letter fm Thomas
Melvil Esqr to /
Committee dated 5th
November 1751."

Gentlemen

As Mr Roberts does not go home by
this Oppy, I h, as well as I cd, abridged / Discove
Story fm two Volumes in Folio. It is inclosed No 1. •

• Not found in this file o' docs. Was it, or a copy o'
it delivered in to / Board o' Trade, & discoverable
in / CO. Archive →

Presumably it is / book T 10. 1464 wh

Dutch Ships below Elming, trad^g of some Time,
a / French h sent but v^y few Ships this Year.
The Triton o Bristol has got her Complim^t o
Slaves. She carries off 400 o / best Slaves t^e
perhaps w^e went for this Coast. After we h^e
got her Number compleat, / Africa o
Liverpool, Capt. Richardson came down, he
wanted only abt forty Slaves wh are ready f
him when^r he is watered. The Annamaboe
People begin to curse / op^eny Co as it has o late
removed / Seat o Trade here, where if we had
Men o War on / Coast, to drive / French away
we cd keep it. The Dutch likewise curse this
new Regulaⁿ, they say / Desir^e cd not h
contriv^d a worse. I believe they h not yet
felt / Worst o it. They look on / close Connec
betw^e / Men o War & us now as / Effect o /
Forts belong^g to / God, wh, after v^y Th^g is
once settled, will make them affraid o offend^g
f / Future.

The Goods in Demand here are Patna
Chintz, red Bejuta pants, Negamapants,
blue half Says stitched, Gunpowder in
such Cask as y sent out, Cuttanees, flowered
Taffeties, bird^g Guns & true Dutch Guns such
as the Co send here, green long Ells, Black-
brown Checks & Chillows.

Our People keep the Health^s so well t^e
we sh not want any Factors in Haste. The
Council here h appointed Frederick
Aday who was in England a Writer

572.
at Request of his Father Cudjo Cabbe^r wh
we hope y will approve o. He intends this
Boy of his Successor & therefore gives him
to us to qualify f it. We owe v much to
Cudjo who is not greedy, considering him
as a Man born here. He is ~~more~~ a more
Service to me by his Advice than I can
well express

The news here is, t/ Dutch are bringing
down / King o Ashantee to destroy / Coast
Side People; a little Time will discover /
Truth o it. It will make a gr Revolution if
it be so, but will not answer / Expecta^ms
o these Incendiaries, who beg him, f
after he has done his Business, we sh
be as much favoured as they, bec it will be
his Interest, to h both Nations to Trade w
his Subjects. I am

Gentlemen

Y^r most obed^t & obliged Hum. Serv^t

Thomas Melvil

Cape Coast Castle Nov^r 5th 1751

To / Committee o / Co^s Merchants tradg to Africa

P.S. As I h not troubled y this Time w a v^y
long letter I cannot help fillg up some o this
Paper, ab^t A Echuamah

This Place lays abt Two Miles fm Dixons
We h^{ve} in peaceable Possessⁿ o^f it at least 50
Years. For it we h^{ve} had Timber & Limestone to
repair our Windward Forts. In / Year thirty
six / Dutch Chief o^f Boutry endeavored to
exercise Jurisdiction th^{ere}, but upon a Complaint
fm our Agents Mrs De Bordes then Gen^l o^f
Elmina disclaimed it, & owned he had done
wrong, & reprimanded him f^{or} it. But now
Van Doorst findg / Comenda Landg Place
taken fm us, & never a Word fm England
abt it, ~~he~~ triumphs up a Claim to Atchumah
w^h a Design to prevent our gettg our Forts
repaired, & so foreg us to Letic / Court. By
/ Letters inclosed [not here] y^e see he keeps
all / Arguments to himself, he has a Right,
& he will use t^e Right, & t^{is} all we can get
him to say.

At / Meetg at Succondee mentioned in /
Acco^t o^f Dixons Quarrel, / Gen^l told Cudjo
Cabb^t t^hat he wd^l willingly give up all Pre-
tensions to Atchumah, but t^hat Roberts was so
hot & overbearing t^hat he was afraid o^f yieldg
any Thg to him, f^{or} fear o^f makg his Demands
more exorbitant. Capt Howe will tel^l y^e
knows how roguishly he behaved in alterg a
Paper agreed to by his Deputies, & how
impudently in denyg it was altered. Tho^{ugh}
we knew at / same Time t^hat some near
him dissuaded him fm attemptg it, as we
never cd pass over so gross a Cheat. This
is / Man I h^{ve} to deal wth. If I detect
him, y^e I outreason him, I am never /

nearer my Purpose. Pray deliv'r me from him,
 let him be sent for & punished as an Example
 to all Dutchmen for future not to attempt to
 Shew the Parts by Chicannery, nor the Power
 by encroaching upon / undoubted Rights of
 English Men.

Our Correspondence wth Capt. House is mark'd No. 6.
 [not here]

"Copy 6 Novr 1751
 State Endorsed "State or Condiⁿ o^f C^o
 "Cape Coast Castle"
 [Orig copied in Adm^t Notebook
 Adm 1 (2) p 48]

Endorsed "Whydah
 Valuaⁿ o^f C^o's Slaves
 Sept^r 30 1751"
 [n.c.]

Endorsed "Ducove
 Valuaⁿ o^f C^o's
 Slaves Sept^r 1st 1751"
 [Summary]

11 Men. 2 Women Total Value, £195.00
 Pay to men $\frac{1}{2}$ p^m for #1 p^m for #1 Carpenter, 15/- Smith:

" " Women $\frac{10}{16}$ 5/-
 Highest value of man £40 for carpenter aged 40. £32 for Smith age 34.
 lowest " " £8. for laborer aged 50

Return signed by Nathan Serron

Indorsed

" Succondee
Valuam o / Co's Slaves
July 20th 1751"

8 men. 4 women Total value in Gold. 02.29 or £116

Deduct "Worse than nothing" ^{deduct 1/20} 9 36

02.20 £80 "net Value"

Highest value f man - 02.6 - labourer age 35

Worse than nothing 02.9. 40 no value in gold - landman age 30

Highest value f woman 02.4 labourers age 30

Worse than nothing " 02.4 - 40 no value - gold - labourers age 50

Pay p^m men fm 2 ac. to ac. 0-6.

" " women fm 1 ac to ac. 0-6.

(Signed) John Huppisler.

Indorsed

" Valuam o / Co's Slaves
at Commenda
August 31st 1751"

17 men. 6 women 6 children Total Value £646

"Deduct / negative Value" 30

616.

Highest value f man £50. f Hambro & Lawyers aged 37
a Gold taker o 50 valued at 20.

less than nothing £24 a labourer o 24.

Highest value f woman £24 labourers o 28

less than nothing £6 Superannuated labourers o 65

Pay f men p^m 15/- & 10/- ; f women p^m 5/- children 2/6

(Signed) W Tynewille

Oct 13th 1751

4 men, 7 women Total Value of Gold Price £226
 less worse than nothing " " " £152 "net Value"

4 men (carve men) @ 30, 35, 35 Value at £50, 48, 48

Bombay 85, worse than nothing ~~£510~~

3 women Total Value £70 - 4 less than gold Value £56

Pay p^m men 10/- Women 5/-
 Signed) Richard Brew

Indorsed "Winnibal
 Valuan of Co's Slaves
 Oct 30th 1751"

7 men 5 Women Total Value to Co "£155. Value of Slaves for sale £64
 "worse than nothing - £65

Highest Value of man £50 to £50 Milk buyer age 31

lowest " of man £10 Superannuated labourer aged 89.

only one woman £10 Value to Co £10, lowest £25 Amatic sweeper 30.

Pay p^m men 15/- 10/- 7/6 5/- : Woman 5/- p^m
 no sign.

Indorsed "Acera
 Valuan of Co's Slaves
 in 1751."

15 men, 16 Women, 4 children Total Value £448
 less worse than nothing (slaves only) 10
 £438

Highest Value of man £100 of "Cudjoe, 41, linguist of 9th interest
 next £40 of Cook aged 31; in the country"

Highest Value of woman £16. me sickly of no value.

lowest " worse than nothing by age 75.

Pay per month :- Cudjoe £1. food of Blackman 15/-
 one 5/- the rest 10/- : woman 10/- / or 5/- children 2/6
 no sign

[Continued in next note book p. 581]