

170 1519. [Detached Papers. 1752-53] ¹⁷⁵²

State & Condition of Durrow Fort

[Summary] Feb. 18. 1751/2

In tolerable good repair.

Nassau Senior Chief, 1 Sergt, 1 Gunner.

Soldiers 4 white 4 Mulattoe

Slaves 16 (ow 2 women)

Cannon 27 (6/6. 4/4, 4/1. & 13 unserviceable)

500 lb powder 330 Iron shot,

Canoes 1 y hand

1 2 hand old

State of Succowee Fort March 9. 1752.

Out walls. Batterments & Bastions so out of repair
as to be on brink of tumbling down

Cannon 29. - (3/9. 2/6. 12/4, 3/3, 9/2)

all in bad repair honeycombed &
eye vents . 995 shot.

800 lb powder.

State of Commenda Fort 10 March 1752

~~Out~~ Out wall facing Dutch almost down.
& rest of walls in gr want of repair

30 Guns. 2/12, 2/9, 2/6, 3/4, 12/2, 7/1, mounted

80 lbs Powder

2/2 unmounted

28,000 Gunns Corn

Wm Tymewell Chief, 1 Sergt, 1 Gunner, 1 Bombard

o sawyers, Soldiers 6

Slaves, 16 men, 4 w. y child

Canoes 1 y hand

1 4 "

1 3 "

426.

Slate & Condit^m Tantum quarry Fort April 8 1752

Richard Brew Chief ^{in good repair} 1 Seryt 1 Gunner, 6 soldiers
Slaves 4 m. 4 w

Cannon. 16. [2/9. 4/1 good. 10/374. damaged]
120 Iron shot

isantg repair Winnebah [nd]
Chief, W^m Withers, 1 Seryt, 1 Gunner 3
Soldiers 3 white 3 Malatto
Slaves 7 m, 5 w.

Cannon # 17 (3/6. 5/4 . 4/3 . 2/1) all unservice:

James Fort Acora April 15 1752

Outwalls tolerable good repair, except
platform facing sea partly fallen down ...

Chief Will Dacres. 1 Seryt, 1 Gunner, 1 Bombard
Soldiers 6.

Slaves 11 m, 13 w, 5 child

Cannon 2/13. 2/12. 15/6. 4/4. 4/3. 4/1 ² all unservice

1753

T 70 1521. [Detached papers 1753]

[Docket "VJ much decayed 1753"]

Extracts from Col York to D. Newcastle
Hague 13 March

Mrs Hope Burg's Amsterdam
Pranger & Peterson Gov^{rs} of Elmina

Atchumah & Busba it was impossible to
make / Natives carry on a Trade, / Places
wt Trade not worth contending f, some-
times one & some times another

Claim a prior Right from 1st Settlement

Orders sent to both Gov^{rs} to appoint
Come upon / Spot who shd assemble / Chiefs
of those Villages or Clans & t in / presce
of both, / Chiefs shd be left to chuse wh^r
they wd live under / Protecⁿ of English
or / Dutch, & they wd abide by t Dec^{is}
& be v^y well contented if / Natives shd
chuse / English.

Commenda Bay. Hope surprised at /
Arguments, in face of our common use of it.
No Toll ever collected

Conven^{ts} betwⁿ / two Gov^{ts}. Article agst
contraband Trade

1707 } Copies of Conven^{ts} betwⁿ / two
1728 } Gov^{ts}.

The Fishers pay a Toll at Commenda / desired
to be ~~as~~ co.

The small Toll upon / Fishers who land in /
Bay / West India Co desire may ~~be~~ not be annulled

Points referred to / Committee o / Co o Merchants Trade to Africa by / Bd o Trade relative to / Disputes upon / Coast o Africa w / Dutch

1. To give any add^e Evidence o our right upon both points wh they can furnish partly in answer to what / Dutch h alledged.
2. To give th^r Opinion o Expedients proposed f an accomodamⁿ
3. To lay before / Bd Copys o / Conventⁿs in 1707, 1708 & 1728 if they can be found
4. To lay before / Bd any o^r Informaⁿ relative to these this affair wh they may think proper

CO.

[copy also in 388/45 - Dd 145]

In Obedience to y^r Lordships' Commands / Committee o / Co o Merchants Trade to Africa h inquired into / Disputes subsisting between / English & Dutch in Relation to / common Right o / Bay & Landg Place at Commenda & / separate Right to / Towns o Busha & ~~Acte~~ Atchua in / Territory o Diccove, & humbly submit to y^r Lordships' / following Evidence & Observaⁿs, w^{ch} the Objects to / Expedients proposed by / Dutch f an Accomodamⁿ & Copies o / Treaties o 1707, 1708 & 1728.

Commenda

After considering / Acc^t transmitted fm / Coast in 1746, they examined Messieurs Chalmers & Roberts who confirm /

material Parts o / sd Acct & fully provs, t
the / declin^d State o / late Co's Affairs & / decayed
Eonclim o / English Fort at Commenda, /
Dutch hd never objected to / common use o /
Bay, except in 1736 or 7 when upon the
Complaint t / Landg Fish ont o / English
& Dutch Canoes at one Place was inconven-
ient in / Collecⁿ o / Toll pd by the Fisher-
men & hd bn / Occasⁿ o Quarrels & Dis-
turbs, it was agreed by / two Chiefs to
h a Stake fixed in / middle o / Place on
one Side o / wh / English Canoes were to
land & / Dutch on / o^r; but when after
this Regular / Dutch were dissatis^fied
& alledged t the Fishermen put the
Fish into our Canoes to evade / Paymt o /
Toll; they therefore wanted to subject /
English Fishermen to a Toll, but t beg^d
refused, they burnt / English Canoe
Shade & all / Canoes, & declared they hd
no Right to / Landg Place as / Dutch hd
Possessⁿ o the Fort before / English Fort
was built.

Observans

As / first Regularⁿ related only to /
Fishg Canoes, / Committee think it fully
provs / gen use o / Landg Place to t
Time & admits / common use o it f
all o^r Craft f / Future, & as the only
Argum^t is provs Possessⁿ, / Committee
beg^d Leave to observe t / English
hd a Factory at Commenda as early as
/ Dutch & tho the Fort was first
built, yet as ours was built by / same

Ground landlord we cannot be precluded from Rights he annexed to ours as well as theirs; indeed wth this Right / English Fort must be by v^y defect o Access - or they must be dependant upon / Dutch for ~~any~~ an easy way to it, wh it cannot be supposed / Ground landlord intended as he wd be drove / Dutch out o the Fort for the personal ill treatment o him he wd not / English refused to assist him, objectg to it as a Breach o Peace then subsistg betw / two Nations.

Obje^m

If / Dutch mean to take a Toll at Com-menda from the own Fishermen only / English have no Obje^m; if they mean to collect one from / Fishermen o English Town it can by no means be consented to. f not w^g / Evidence o Mr Starckenborg, Messrs Chalmers & Roberts, confidently assert t / English never demanded any Toll from the own Fishermen nor ever allowed t they sh^d to pay any to / Dutch. In short, as it is a fishing Town, to allow / Dutch a Toll upon Fish wd be to subject / People entirely to them - a Circumstance wh wd render / English so contemptible to / Natives, t / Fort itself wd soon become a Charge wth Profit.

Busha.

The Committee cannot find any Proof o / separate Possessⁿ o this Place either by / English or Dutch, but / Probability o English Right to it is strengthened g^{ly} by its Situation wh is considerably nearer Discove

than any one o/ Dutch Forts, & by / un-
doubted Possession wh / English h o an
adjacent Island o / same Name; how^r
as it appears to them t / Town has gently
bn considered free & neutral they con-
tend only f its continuing so.

Atchua

As this Place is v^y important to / English
Settlements & Ships, for its Production o
Lime Timber & Peruvia, & as / English claim
/ sole Right to / Possession o it, / Committee h bn
v^y part^r in the Enquiry into / Evidence o this
Right, & have gone as far back as / Time
when / Forts were occupied by / Dutch were
in Possession o / Brandenburgiers they find by
/ Evidence o / Natives t given them / English
exercised in / most free & unmolested
Manner those Marks o Sovereignty wh h
always determined Property upon / Coast,
but fm 1728 to 1750 they h a Chain o
Evidence upon Oath fm Men o Character
fully proving the own constant Use o Powers
~~exercised~~ exercised over those Natives
who are always supposed to be / Subjects o
any Natⁿ exercising such Powers - / Acquisition
o / Natives themselves under English Protection
Subjection - Application fm / Dutch f leave
to do certain Thgs in t District - Paym^t
o Toll f what they did do, & finally they
sh^d produce / Evidence o Mynheer Deb
Borckers himself, / then Dutch Gen at
Elmina wh is so precise & clear t w^t any o^r
/ Committee think / English Claim must appear
most manifestly just, / parts o wh are
contained in

- no 1. Examinaⁿ o Quobino, an ancient native upon Oath proovg our Possesⁿ in / Time o / Brandenburgers
- 2. Affidavit o David Lamb Lieut^t o / Guard at Cape Coast Castle proovg Possesⁿ & Jurisdiction fm 1728 to 1742
- 3. Affidavit o Mr William Davies formerly Chief o Dix Cove proovg Possesⁿ, Jurisdiction, Applicatⁿ fm / Dutch f / Leave to pickr some Stone, & fm / Natives f Certificatⁿ o thr beg English Subjects, fm 1742 - 1745
- 4. Affidavit o Mr Nassau Senior, Chief o Dix Cove, proovg Possesⁿ, Jurisdiction, / Right o Trade, & his forbiddg / Use o Canoes at Atchua, wh was submitted to by / Natives fm 1747 to 1750
- 5. The personal Evidce o Thomas Chalmeta Esq^r formerly Chief Agent at Cape Coast Castle.
- 6. Affidavits & personal Evidce o John Roberts Esq^r formerly Chief Agent at Cape Coast Castle
- 7. Copy o a letter fm Mynheer des Bordes Gen^l o Elmina dated 17th March 1739 n.s. in Answer to a letter o / Chief Agents at Cape Coast Castle dd. 2^d March 1738 o.s.

Objec^m.

Clear & precise as / Evid^{ce} o / English Right
to Atchua, thus stands it cannot be won-
dered at t / Committee shd refuse to sub-
mit / Decision o / Property o this Namⁿ to /
Choice o / Natives upon / Coast o Africa in /
manner proposed by / Dutch, who m^t be glad
to submit the Cause to such Judges, since
Mr Roberts proves t^m fm the superior Power
& / bad State o / late Co's Affairs, / headman
or Cabboc^{er} o Atchua was so intimidated by
them t he ~~was~~ durst not acknowledge him-
self in / Interest o / English b^y fear o his
life, tho he hd ever before confessed him-
self an English Subject - an Objec^m wh^{ch}
/ Committee thinks requires no Argum^t to
Support.

The Committee now beg Leave to obse^{rve}
to yr Lordships t the Captain Howe by his
spirited Behaviour upon / Coast brot /
Dutch to Reason, compelled them to deliver
up / free Natives our Subjects whom they
hd unjustly thrown into Prison at Elmina,
& obliged them to agree to a Cess^m o
Hostilities, yet no sooner hd he left / Coast
than / Dutch Gen renewed his old
Practices & as appears by Mr Melvil's
letters to him, w^{ch} Day commits some Act o
subtle Fraud or open Vio^{lence} agst / Native
Subjects o / English, they therefore humbly
submit, wh^{ch} upon full Proof Proof wh^{ch}
Mr Roberts is ready to give, t / Dutch

By unjustly brot a War upon / English in
 order to deprive them o a Part o a Country
 wh hd submitted to them sixteen years
 before / Dutch were in Possessⁿ o those Forts
 upon wh they build the pretensⁿ, & wh put
 / English to vj gr^t inconvenience & Expence,
 it will not be proper (as / Settlem^t o these
 Disputes is referred fm / Coast to / Determinaⁿ
 o / two Cos in Europe) to insist upon /
 following Demands-

1 A Treaty be immediately concluded by
 / two Cos & t orders be sent to / Servants
 o each upon / Coast to forbear evy Act o
 Hostility till / Treaty sd can be carried
 into Executⁿ

1 Each Co sh remain in Possessⁿ o
 those Places wh h^e bin heretofore considered
 upon / Coast as the distinct Property, save /
 Matters at present in Dispute & such o^r
 as sh be claimed by either Party in
 monthy after / Knowledge o this
 Treaty upon / Coast, in wh Case each Party
 sh be directed to send / Evidence o / Grounds
 o, or Objecⁿs to, such Claim, to be dis-
 cussed in Europe.

This is not in / Copy
 in CO. 369/45.

1 / Use o / Bay & landg Place o
 Commedia sh be common to both Parties,
 & t neither sh upon any Pretce collect a
 Toll fm / Inhabitants residg in / Town
 belongg to / o^r.

T Busha sh remain a free or neutral
Town as it hath bin here tofore.

T / Dutch sh acknowledge / Property
o Atchua to be in / English & sh not
pretend to collect any Toll upon Fish or
exercise any Act o Jurisdiction in t District

T / Dutch pay / Sum o £
Consideraⁿ o / Expencies so unjustly
bro^t upon / English by / Invasion o
the known Rights & Property.

T each Party agree t f / Future no
Trade sh be carried on at / Forts o
either Nan w any o Europeans
except / Portuguese & t / Clause in
/ Treaty o 1708 relatg to / English
& Portuguese be confirmed in this.

Endorsed

" Copie
Certificat de Mr van
Starckenborg, ci-devant Chef &
dans la Baye de Commenda en
Afrique
Utrecht le 19 Mars 1753 "

Copie

Traduction

Je, soussigné certifie à la requisition
de la Compagnie generale des Indes Occi-
dentales des Provinces Unies &
1. Que le Soussigné a eut le Commandement
de Fort de la dite Compagnie, nommé
Vreedenburg à Commariny, environ pendant
l'espace d'un an, l'année 1740

2. Que les Rumadoors ou Pecheurs Anglois ~~ne~~ n'ont pas fait usage commun de la Baye Hollandoise, excepté en gros tems, la Baye Hollandoise étant au dessous, ~~ou~~ au Nord Est de la rivière, et la Baye Angloise à l'Ouest, sans que la distance de l'une à l'autre soit pourtant fort grande.

Lorsque la rivière se remplit (ce que arrive tout au plus une fois par an, dans le tems des grosses pluies) la difference est encore plus petite, selon qu'elle se remplit plus ou moins vers le bord de la mer et en quelque occasion que ce soit, l'un côté de la rivière a toujours été reconnu et maintenu pour être le Territoire des Anglois, et l'autre des Hollandois.

3. Le Soussigné ne peut pas declarer avec certitude dans quel tems, ou sous quel gouvernement la loge pour les Canots Anglois a été batic sur le côté Hollandois, puisqu'elle y a été avant son tems; mais il est fort à presumer qu'elle a été accordée dans un tems de bonne intelligence, sans que cela ait jamais porté préjudice au territoire Hollandois dans son tems, mais plutôt parce qu'il étoit bien plus facile aux Chefs Anglois d'y mettre leurs gros canots à terre, que de l'autre côté, le terrain du côté Anglois et vers leur Fort étant trop escarpé pour y mettre les Canots à terre sans grande peine, pendant que de l'autre côté l'abordage et le terrain

sont fort bas, et par conséquent plus aisés

4. Le Soussigné peut déclarer avec certitude que les negres sujets au Company Hollandois sont obligés de payer le Tol de leur leur poisson au Chef Hollandois, à un certain prise fixe; le Soussigné en aiant juri pendant son gouvernement et que ce Tol a été établi long temps aiant lui. Comme cela est aubri usité à la plus part des Forts des deux Nations, excepté quelques peu, où le poisson n'est pas taxé, et où les pecheurs donnent seulement le dixième de ce qu'ils ont pris.

Or il arrive quelque fois que des pecheurs Anglois entrent avec les pecheurs Hollandois qui sont pareillement obligés de payer le Tol pour leur poissons à la même taxe que les Hollandois. Comme de l'autre côté les Pecheurs Hollandois qui entrent avec les Amalois, en font de même cette Coutume étant établie réciproquement pour ôter aux pecheurs l'occasion de frauder le Tol, ce qui causeroit beaucoup de dommage au peuple de toutes les deux Nations qui font du poisson leur principal et moins chere nourriture.

Le Soussigné peut avancer ce que dessus avec d'autant plus d'assurance qu'il a eu l'honneur de commander comme chef dans plusieurs postes pendant plus de dix ans et en dernier lieu en qualité de Conseiller de la Côte, ce qui lui a donné occasion de veiller, non seulement à son poste, mais encore à plusieurs autres, et de prendre connoissance de plusieurs circonstances, dont il a l'honneur de communiquer ce que dessus, selon sa meilleure Science.

(Signé)

J. Van Starckenborg
Utrecht le 19 Mars 1753

Certify

I / Underwritten Certify at ye request of
 o ye Gen^e West India Comp^y o ye United Provinces
 1. T ye underwritten has had ye Command o
 ye Comp^ys Fort named Vrederburg at
 Commenda fm abt ye Year 1740

2. T / Rhinadors or English Fishermen h
 not in common made use o ye Dutch Bay
 except in bad weather, / Dutch Bay beg
 below or at ye North East o ye River &
 ye English Bay at ye West, tho ye
 distce fm one to / o^r is not far.

When ye River is full (wch commonly
 happens abt once a year, in ye time o
 gt rains) / difce or distce is still less,
 bec it swells or fills more or less towards
 ye Sea border & on all occasions, one
 Side o ye River has always bn
 acknowledged & maintained to be ye
 English Territory & ye o^r to be ye Dutch.

3. The Underwritten cannot possibly say
 in what time or under whose Command /
 Lodgem^t of ye English Canoes was built on
 ye Dutch side, bec it was before his time, but
 it is strongly to be presumed t it was
 granted at a time when there was a
 good understanding between them: Tho in
 his time it has never bn allowed to prejudice
 ye Dutch Territory, but rather bec it was
 easier for ye English Chiefs to brng the gt
 Canoes ashore on t side than on ye o^r / Land
 on ye English side & towards the Fort beg too
 sharp for land^g or bring^g ye Boats ashore
 w^t Difficulty & hazard, whilst on ye o^r side /

shore & ye land are vj low & o consequ^{ce}
easier f^r landg.

4. The underwritten can declare wth certainty
t^h ye Negroes Subject to ye Dutch Comp^y are
obliged to pay Toll f^r the Fish to ye Dutch
Chief at a certain fixed price. / Underwriter
has enjoyd it during his Gov^t & t^h this Toll
was establish long before his time, as /
same is also accustomed to be at all ye English
forts, except a vj few, where ye Fish is
not taxed & ye Fishermen only pay a
tenth o what they take.

Now, it Sometimes happens t^h ye
English Fishermen come in wth ye Dutch
when they are equally obliged wth them to
pay ye Toll f^r the Fish at ye same rate
wth ye Dutch. And it sometimes happens on
ye o^r side t^h ye Dutch Fishermen who enter
wth ye English do ye same, This Custom
be^g necessarily established to prevent ye
Fishermen fm defraud^g / Toll, wh^{ch} wd cause
damage to ye people o both nans who make Fish
the chief & principal Food.

The Underwriter can declare what is above sd
wth ye g^{ve} confidence bec he has ye hon^r: to command
as Chief in sev^l ports more than ten years & in ye
last post in ye quality o Counsellor o ye Coast, wh^{ch}
has given him ye Opp^{ty} o observ^g or watch^g not
only to his own post but to many o^{rs} & o tak^g
Cognizance o many Circumstances fm wh^{ch} he has
ye hon^r: to communicate ye above accord^g to ye
best o his knowledge.

J Van Starckenborg.

Utrecht 19 March 1753.

Endorsed "Minutes of a Committee May 18th
1753"

[Note. These rough notes are written in
double column].

Committee May 18 1753.

Affidavit 3 Oher 1751 of Decker Chief of Dixcose
from 1742 ~~to~~ to 45. Sent Slaves to Achimer re
& had / assistance of / natives who looked on themselves
as English Subjects

1/2 Mynd^{er}: Boormaster Chief

asked leave of Decker

to get lime Stones at Achimer.

M^r Nassau Son: now Chief of Dixcose -

Mar 1750 swore before Cap^t Beard.

natives of Achua acknowledg'd / Eng. till 1750
/ beginning of / Dispute w / Dutch, & tradg'd only
w / English. w^h be punisht' of tradg' w^h o^r.

P. sent at / Committee

M^r Chalmers went first on / Gold Coast /
beginning of year 1741 & continued th^r in / Co's
Service till 1749 & was frequently at Dixcose,
& / Dutch in all t^e time never made claims
to The For^o Achua [sic].

^ & / Inhabitants own'd themselves Subjects
of English

& durg t^e time he sent Slaves to pick Lime Stones
& get timb^{er} in / District - durg / time of Slaves
were pickg Stones // ^{Bombay of Slaves} Chief took toll [sic] of Dutch
Canoes t^e came th^r to buy palm wine, & no
Comp^{ts} or remonstrance ever made durg 1741 to 1749
Chalmers & Roberts at / request of Dutch
clear'd / Paths as far as / River Adresso w^h
belong'd to / Eng.

Mr Roberts was Chief o Dix Cove fm
1745 to 1747 abt 18 months.

Roberts Affidav^t 2^d Mar- '50 before
Cap^t. Beard

Acknowledgd to be Subjects o Eng. Pick^t
home Stone & timber.

Com present^d to be sold to / Dutch & obeyd
by / Capuchiers.

David Lamb's Affidav^t Sworn before
Capt. House 3 8ber 1751 (he is now alive but
blind) Seryt. t in / yr. 1728 he sent^d into / Cos
service; t / Eng. cut timber & planks in & abt.
Tyes from, Aitchuma Bush & all / places
thereabout, & cont^d to do so f 14 yrs w^t
Disturbes fm / Dutch Gen or / Dutch.

Debordes / Dutch Gen, letter 14 Mar
1739 n.s. - don't apprise o / Chief o
Accod's behav^r - t its owing to his Ignorance
this letter was in ans^r to / Complaint o /
Council o Cape Coast dd. 2^d March 1738. o.s

The English were in possessⁿ o Aitchua
in / time o / Brandenburgers.

Quomina's Affidav^t

t Aitchua was in possessⁿ o / Eng. & not
claim'd by / Brandenburgers

Mr Chalmers says on Bussa to be a
free & neutral Town to / Eng. & Town,
& always oppos'd / attempts o / Dutch to
ingross it to themselves

Chalmers says t in 1748 / Gov^r o Botrue
ask'd Senior leave to raise a flag on Bussa
Island, wh Senior refused; sayd it belong'd
to / Eng. & he wd fire it down & / Chief o /
Dutch did not hoist / flag at t time.

In 1750 (this was durg. / War betwⁿ / English
& Dutch) / Dutch did hoist / flag & [it] was
taken down by / English

Commenda.

Mr Chalmers & Roberts - no toll to be allowed
to be taken by / Dutch o / natives of fish - a
p. o. arrivg. o / Dutch to brg over / natives
to be th^r Subjects

Mr Chalmers says

Eng. Caboch. was Grd landld^r o Commenda
& round abt. Was a Serv^t o / Dutch who
used him ill. He went over to / Eng.

The land^g place was common to both
Quarrels ensd - then agreed betⁿ / Chiefs
to set up a Post, on one side no Toll to be
taken fm / Eng. Subjects, /^o toll to
be taken o / Dutch Subjects - The Dutch
say t^t at Sea th^r Subjects put th^r fish
on board / Eng. Canoes & so cheated /
Dutch o / toll - on this / Dutch demanded
a toll fm / English & quarrels & fightg
ensued - on this, / Dutch claimd / whole
land^g place wch is a new claim - / Dutch
took advantage o / bad Situaⁿ o / Eng.
fort^r at Commenda

No objecⁿ to / Dutch takg toll o th^r
own Fishermen but not o ours.

[NB. attached to / above paper is /
followg:-]

Heads o/ Dutch African Co's Letter
dated Middelburg / 10th December 1706

They Acknow ledg / Receipt o/ Co's Letters
o/ 21st June & 13th Sept. 1705, also o/ ye
25th July & 12th Novemb. 1706 w all
ye Inclosed Papers in wch are Gt Com-
plaints agst the late Director William
De la Palma.

To wh they Answer t they h often
write to ye Coast to know / Reason why ye
sd Palma shd so behave himself & abuse
ye Co's Servants, but they find it will be
vy difficult to give / Required Answer or
Satisfacⁿ by Reason sd Palma dyed ye
17th October last year; t as sd Palma
did not do what was Pleasg to them, so
was it wholly w^t the Order & agst the
Intenⁿ or Inclinaⁿ, wh is to continue
in perfect Harmony w ye Co^r.

And by reason its now above a
year t they h not had a Generall meet^g
o the Co they Cd not before now send an
answers to / Articles sent them Relate^d
to both Co's wh they hope y will excuse.

Edward Barter was not
Protected by the Generall now buried
under the Fort, but Dyed in /
Jurisdiction o/ King o/ Commaroy &
the was Buried as they h formerly
advised.

They know nothg o Prince Quirico
nor Peyk's beg Entertaind at Elmeria,
they h write to ye Coast Concerning this
matter & when h an Answer will give
you advice.

As to / Griffin wch Sr Dalby Thomas
 Claimed & f wh he has protested agst the
 Generall, & Ship was Given to / Seamen
 of a o the Ship Rachell wch / French took
 upon / Coast o Guinea as Appears by /
 Passports ye French gave ye men o wh they
 send a Cobby, & so belongs to them. They are
 Sorry to, take notice o Sr Dalbys dis-
 turbing the ~~Settled~~ ~~Settled~~ o Bercou
 wh wch in / time o the late Generall
 Nicholas Sweets they were the Settled f
 above 20 Years, & neither Sr Dalbey or
 any o yr Servants can Produce any right
 or title to t place, & f a farther Confirm^{an}
 they h a declaran fm Tuteba Queen o
 Agonna in whose Dominion this Bercou
 lyes (in ye Year 1704 in wh shee Declares
 never was obliged to / English t they only
 shd be permitted to Build Forts & Castles in
 her Dominions, Desiring / Dutch Generall
 De la Palma to send some o / Dutch
 Compa^s Servants w Merchandise to ye
 sd Village o Bercou to trade w her People
 & to Build a small Fort it be^g no way
 det^{rim}mentall to y & hope y will
 give Sr Dalby Orders not to Disturb them.
 they h all ye letters & Protests Sr Dalby
 made relating to this Place but believ^g y
 h / Some doe not Send Coppys.

As to the Generalls Protecty yr
 Servants Scruts t Runaway they knew
 nothg o it, & f / future sh give Strickt
 orders to the Chiefs immediately to Restore

any o yr Servants, as sh Come over to them,
but they believe they h more Complaints o
Yr Servants Protectg ths Runaways, but
f Quietness sake will not insist longer
on itt.

They deny t ths Servants assist & En-
courage ye Natives to Act agst yr Ser-
vants, nor Can yr Servants prove any
Such thg.

They know nothg o ths Servants destroyg
yr domehouse at Taccorary, if y can prove
it they will make y Sattis factm

They are v y Sorry t / Commanders o
ths Ships shd fire upon y, if so it is posi-
tively agst ths Orders & will give Strickt
Orders f / future to prevent it.

In Relan to ye Gold Mines on ye Coast
they look upon it as unpracticable at Present
& Considerg / Gt Charge & / uncertainty o Suc-
ceedg they Cannot as yet resolve to be Concerned.

As to / ~~Loss~~ Loss o / Ship Phoenix Zacharias
Fowles they shd not h known anythg o ye
matter had not y advised them o itt, nor
has ths Generall on / Coast as they believe
any Knowledge o this matter or he wd one
way or ano^r h taken some notice o itt
to them, but they h found out yr mate
o / Ship Christiana (who is foundred
at Sea but yr Master & men Saved
on board another Ship, yr master dyed
a few days after). Inquireg o him Concerng
this matter he gave them a Certificate
Signed by / Officers o / ye Ship Christiana
yr next day after ye Loss happened, dated
ye 20th August 1705 by wh it appears

the loss of the Ship cannot be imputed to them
or the Ship Christina but to the Master of
Phoenix, a Copy of Certificate they send
inclosed.

As to the Articles of agreement between the 2
Companies, they agree to all except the 4th & 12th ych
~~As to the 1st & 4th Article, they are of opinion~~

As to 1st they say they have no power to
hinder the Natives or free traders from Trade
where they please, which should they attempt
would be a great disturbance & detriment to Trade.

And the 12th Article they are of opinion
cannot be always punctually kept on either
Side because Circumstances of times may be in
Regard to the Natives to some they will
require to be done when we have not time
to consult us one another about it, so they are
of opinion those 2 Articles may be wholly
left out.

They send Articles of their own Com-
posed which they desire you to compare with yours
& if you approve of them they are very willing
to joyn with you & send them to the Servants
to be punctually observed.

The rest is their willingness to continue
in Amity & Friendship with the Company,
& their wishes for the prosperity of both Companies
to which they doubt not but the above mentioned
Articles will very much contribute if punctually

observed on both Sides. And they hope t
all former Differences return / Generalls may
be forgotten, & they f / future live
Peaceably & Civilly together &c.

The above doc. is endorsed: -

"Translaⁿ o a letter
fm / Dutch West India
Co to / Royal
African Co o England
inclosg / Articles o a
Treaty proposed to be entered
into by / sd two Cos"

Enclosed

"Minutes o/
Conven^{ns} in/
Year 1708, 1707, 1728"
Convenⁿ 1708

1750 Mr Roberts letter to ye Gen o Elmina as
April 4. Article ye 3^d - Busha free to both, hav^g Factoris
thr.

Atchua P. records o 1695 belongs to ye English
Do natives moreabout were abt 1712 assigned
ye Lat^A under ye English
Command to take Aquida fm ye
natives
Dutch layed no Claim to Atchua till 1738

Do Chief o Aquida seized 3 people in
Atchua town b blood felt for a Woman
stab^g herself = Council Cape Coast to
Deborder, claim^g a right to Atchua

2^d March
1738

reason given yt Acquiada was
given to ye Dutch by ye English
agreement & assistance & taken from
ye natives

17th March ns. 1739 De bordes his Answer Condemns ye
Chief o Acquiada's Behaviour, his
rabbness & Ignorance
Promises to release ye Subjects o ye
Engl who were panyarred = a
material letter.

1691 Dix^s Cove settled p. English as p. Bosman a
Dutch Writer.

David Lamb Affid^t 3rd 8ber 1751 before
Capt. How. 1728 (Soldier at Dix Cove) =
Sawyers &c employed by Engl to gather
at 1st Croon Atchuma a Bush

Quamina 1708 worked by Engl at
Atchuma, visit in Sr D. Thomas' time
who died 1710

1742 to 1745 Dacres Affidavit 3rd 8ber 1751, yt ye
Dutch asked ye favours o pickg Lume
Stone at Atchuma by W^t washing his house
W^m Wilson's Affidavit, Bombay, 2nd March 1750
o Sawyers

a road made by ye Engl in 1733 from
Warsaw &c to Dixcove

Bogows Affidavit 2nd March 1750 before
Capt Beard, shews ye Dutch directed
ye War ag^t Dixcove &c.

[• 1733 = 1733 °]

May 18. 1753.

Nassau Senior Chief o Dixcove, 2^d March 1750
appt^d 1747 people o Aitchua acknowledged
you selves Englishs

Mr Chalmers went to ye Gold Coast 1741 to 1749
& frequently at Dixcove durg wch
time ye Dutch never claimd any
right to Aitchua, & at various times
sent Slaves to pick lime stones, &
durg ye time those Negroes were
pickg Stones, ye Bomboy or Chief o
those Slaves took toll o ye Dutch
Canoes & ye came thro to buy Palm
Wine & no Complaint made in all
y^m 8 y^{rs}

Mr J Roberts Chief at Dixcove 1745 to 1747
his Affid^t 2^d March 1750

Both say ye Dutch frequently sent to ye
English to clear the Road fm Dixcove to
ye River Aduabso wch was always
esteemd ye English Road, & ye Dutch
was to clear ye Road on /^d Side o ye sd
River fm the fort Aquidah

Chalmers Esteems Busha a neutral town, who
never ownid ye Dutch had any part^r
right to yt town, & always oposed
any attempt o this to make it so.
ye Warsaw path Comes to this
town & therefore must(?) not be
quern up.

ye Chief o Busha is a pawn to ye
Dutch under wh Pre [Town - Precte?]
ye Dutch claim ye town.

1748 Governour o Butteras asked Mr Senior ye Chief o Dixcove leave to hoist a flag on Busha Island bec his fort was behind a Hill ye Ships could not see it till they were almost past it to wh Mr Senior replid yr if he hoisted a Flagg it must be at his Peril b if he did he would Fire it down, b yr ye Island was ye Property o ye English.

Gentlemen

Includ y h a paragraph cut of a letter wh I received a few days since fm Capt Geo: Geddes dated July 24th 1753, On board / Snow Alexander In Annamabo: Road to wh refer & am Gentlemen - etc -
James Farmer

January 2 1753 [sic]

To / Committee o / Co Merch^{ts} Tradg To / Coast o Africa [3]

Dated Annamabo Road July 24 1753 [sic].

Copy

I Anchored in Annamabo Road abt two days ago, wh / most dismal Scene I ever saw in Africa appeared to me nine sail o Burn Vessels, Mr Tongues ship Tryton a Dutch Ship a two French Snows, lies on a Gunshot wh has all / Trade, has 90 men o Warre these two months to protect it such is / demand f Slaves, t / common price f vj ord Slaves is Oz. 10 f men, Oz. 8 & 8 1/2 f vj ord y Women, fine men Oz. 11 fine Women Oz. 9. / only Goods in demand are Sestracundia, Alljars, Cotton poves, Portu- guese Tobacco, Patna Chintz, Suit Romals

Endorsed

" Sent Charges ~~Exhibited~~
Exhibited ag^t
Govern^r Melville
in Apr. & May 1753
before / Committee "

At / Committee Room at Hollides 27 April 1753

D. H. - Dav. Hamilton
G. - Capt Graham

Mr W^m Wansley 6 @ 8 oz formerly, now 9. 10 @ 11 oz.
t / present high price is ad^d to
Melville's trad^g
G. Capt Graham gave 10 oz. to Melville. bot o no d^r
Melville re Intercept^t of trade,
t Brew & Young [sic]

D.H. t Brew, partner to Melville at Tantumquery
declared no good Slaves sh^d pass
him. & give them more than $\frac{1}{2}$ an oz.
more than any d^r. this D.H. was witness
G. Key give so high a price was / reason he
gave 10 fm $\frac{1}{2}$

D.H. Sellers on shore h not / advantage o those
in / Forts

G. T / Trade o / Forts presents / Settlements there

W. T Melville Ord^r / natives und^r / Tish
to brg all / Negroes. this Mr Wansley
hd fm Mr J^o Roberts

D.H. Cape Coast, Tantumquery & Winnebar
send the Black Serv^ts into / Country
to Intercept / Trade & brg $\frac{1}{2}$ / Slaves
to them & them only.

• "under Fetish"

- D.H. Brew settled a Black Serv^t at Lagos w goods to present his trade^s - & he denied D.H. Slaves at 10 oz.
- D.H. Brew is Partner w Melville in joint Concern under Contract
D.H. Saw f^r Such negroes as Brew sh purchase
- D.H. [by / Serv^ts of Committee by Monopoliz^g / Trade presents / Ships fm Deal^g w / natives.
- D.H. [Dacres was Superseded (as Dacres told him) by Melville bec he wd not join in Partnership w Melville, & Dacres wd to sell at a reasonable advance.
- G. affirms t / high price o Slaves is owing to / Influence & Conduct o Gov^r & thinks it will continue.
- D.H. The Gov^r o Lagos does not pay / Duty 10ⁿ p. Slave, wch private traders do bec / dinguist^r pd by / Committee does / Duty f / Govern^rs
- D.H. [Melville sent Brazil tobacco, a Com- mand^g article, to Tantomquery, where he purchas'd a gr many Slaves, to buy Slaves & t D.H. cd buy no Slaves till / Tob^{co} was Spent.
- G & D.H. says [at Tantomquery Aera, Winnie- bagh & Prann prann, t Melville is in partnership w them & t he, Mrs Melville, has half / profits.
- G. sail'd 23 Aug^r 1753 fm / Coast, says t he bot as good men Slaves at Anam aboc at he believes to / no. o 30 Slaves
y¹/₂ oz. wh he gave Melville 10 oz. f.

& findg t Mr Brew & d^{rs} at / Forts
rais'd. / price to 8 1/2 oz. I was
oblig'd to rise to 10 oz. as ofore said
at this time there were 4 or 5 sail
there at Anamaboe

t / adv^m price was entirely ~~due~~
owg to / Officers on Shoar.

Mr Wansley says t Cap^t Brown at Ahera t /
natives was overaw'd by / Fort
so t Brown was oblig'd to give
1 1/2 oz adv^{ce} fm / Forts

D. H. at Ahera. he gave 1/2 to / Natives & 9 to /
Govern^r this price o 9 oz. was not at
Concluⁿ o / trade, but durg / whole time
o his tradg. Y^t he was under a necessity
o givg 9 oz. t he cd h bot his whole
Complim^t at 1/2 oz. if / Govern^r hd
not ~~inter~~ Interfer'd.

t / high price o negroes at / Forts
oblig'd him to go down a gr deal t
low^r to trade w / Natives w^t Interrupⁿ.

D. H. t on treatg wa a Black trader & offer'd
him 8 oz. f a Slave wch he refus'd &
went to / Fort Tanterwa quarry & sold
him there.

& G. says t / Dutch will not buy / negroes if
/ Eng. do not. bec / Dutch goods are Diff^t
fm / Eng. so t if / black traders want
Dutch goods, they sell to / Dutch, if Eng.
goods they sell to / English

Jmo Roberts says he was told by Cojoe's head
 t he carried two Country
 traders to / Castle (whom Mr
 Melville trusted w goods) & t
 Mr Melville oblig'd 'em to take /
 Pish [sic] t they wd trade w no
 or person but himself. This Roberts
 Says he will take his oath o.

Do. t Brew o Tantamquerry came ad [after]
 him to degoe & told him t he (Roberts)
 cd buy no negroes at degoe, t he cd
 not buy any negroes thr, f he wd out bid
 him, t Roberts saw / Guns & Gun powder
 belongg to / Co, t he saw / Eleph^t on / Guns,
 & / mark on / Gun powder, t he saw /
 Cos goods to Tantamquerry o much gr^r
 Value than / pay o / Forts wd come to.

Do. t Brew went into / market place & told
 them t what^{er} was offer'd by / private
 trade he wd 40% more.

Do. t Cajoe has £100 p. ann wch is pd by /
 Committee & t Melville has / preference by
 this Salary

Do. Swy private trad^r pays 20' p. head to
 Cajoe f swy Slave
 t when he was Gov^r o Cape Coast he did
 not pay it bec Cojoe was paid by him
 a Salary frn publick money £80 p. ann.
 & t Melville rose it to £100 p. ann.

2^d May 1753 at a Committee

W. Wansley

G. Gardener

D. Cap^t Darbyshire

R. Russel

H. Cap^t Hamilton

W. 17 sail belongs to Bristol t Trade to / W^{estward}
& Gold Coast. 2 / 3^d Gold Coast.
£100,000 Capital

G. Chief o Commenda. Superceeded by Melvil,
he thinks 20 July 1751, & Succeeded by
Tymewell. G. established a Factory, wth Mr
Stokes, in Commenda Town under / pro-
tectⁿ o / Head(?) - lived thro 4 mo^s - sent 5
or 6 Slaves to Cap^t Darbyshire, & took Long
Elb^{er} then, a Command^g Article - had goods suffic^t
to purchase 50 Slaves. t / Black trad^{rs} were
informed t thro was no trade but to / Castle,
t they were interrupted by / Fort to sell
to any but / Officers, & convey'd to / Castle
to trade w / Officers, go thro / Town to /
Castle. The Chief to his knowledge ob-
structed / Trade. t / Chief, Mr Tymewell,
purchas'd 6 or 7 Slaves when / Traders had
none, abt 3 weeks or a month after he
had superceeded. T Tymewell bot a gr^t
q^{ty} o Teeth, t he Exchang'd / national
goods f Slaves & teeth & replac'd them
on o ordin^y goods bot o a Dutch Vessel.
He had bin 6 mo^s & not bot a Slave owing
to / park beg stop^t betwⁿ / Town &
[sic] wch he paid open
at a Gr^t Expence.

m / power o / Chief to harass / Cabuchers,
 t by / Presents he makes he influences / Cabuchers
 left Commenda & went to Cape Coast Town,
 built a house thro' he thinks in Novem^r 1751 - Capt
 Boucher & Hort at Cape Coast agreed wth Roberts
 & c for 400 Slaves. Boucher grew uneasy &
 applied to G. & sent him 10 Slaves o goods, &
 to allow him G. 8 oz p head to G. - G bot 4
 Slaves at 6 oz. & charged abt 5 p. head more
 for Boucher. While Boucher G was out at
 Dinner / Cookies at / Castle & Sheep [sic], by
 order o Mrs Melville. he wrote Melvil on this
 abuse. No reply to it. G applied to husbands,
 & t husbands sd t G obliged Melvil by
 buyg Slaves - next day a message fm /
 King to attend him at / Market too
 where there were 3000 blacks. / charge
 agt G (Cajon sat as Judge) was buyg
~~Slaves~~ negroes wth payg 1/4 Ackas, 20^s p. head,
 an additional tax demanded by / principal
 negroes by whom G was tryed, Cajon at /
 head o them, by order o / Castle. t Cajon
 & abt 12 men laid this charge agt G. & / tax
 never chargd before. The Consequence o / Cajon
 tryal was nothing. Cap^t Heron & Roberts
 interfeard. G offerd of future to pay ~~of~~ / 20^s
 & paid it & gave them Rum. And^r demand
 on G by / blacks was 15/- p. head p. month, wch
 he paid. he never applied to Melvil of protecⁿ
 in any o these Abuses - t / Black Serv^{ts} also
 / Castle Slaves o / Forts are sent up / Paths, &
 to all / Avenues o / Town to Intercept / Trade
 & buy / Trade to / Castle. t Melvil has
 monopolized / Trade at Annamaboe also.
 t Mr Brew o Tantamquery told him

he was in partnership wth Melvil, & was com-
manded by him to give a better assort^{mt} o/
Gov goods chiefly $\frac{1}{2}$ Saws & powder, &
larger price for Negroes

Withers, Chief o Winnebagh, / same
(To Gabone for Wax, to Windward for teeth
in / old Co's time)

t he knew t MacKail went in / Prince
Edward, Capt Douglas, to Annamaboe to
trade in opposim to / Vessels thr.

he heard Mackail say t if Husbands
gives 8 oz, I will give 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ for t / Castle
sh h Slaves.

t before Melvil's arrival Slaves were
at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, & afterwards rose v^y high.

D. The Quarked D. was, if Melvil or Chiefs
oppress him or / trade. He said t he
left / Coast & not returned since, with
was before Melville's goods were opened.

R. T Brew was at Tantam quarry, t he look^d
into / acts betw him & Melville & t he
calculated t Brew's half was £300 in 6
mo^s - t / Gov^t (Brew) o Tantamquerry
offric^t / Chief Cabucheer a seaward (&
sometimes threatenid him) to turn Stokes out
o Town. The, R, heard Melvil say, & sd
it to R, t Brew was a fool to let Stokes
at Lagoe, a town under Tantamquerry.

T Brew sent a Serjant o / Fort wth a
better assort^{mt} o Goods, & better prices
to prevent Stokes trad^g

(this Evidence o Russel is not to be depended
upon, he contradict^d himself & be^g v^y
Impertinent)

H. T. he went ashore at Secondee w
 some Cloths to sell & t he heard
 Hippiisley / Chief threatened to whip
 Capt H - black boy if he bro't any
 more goods to sell - his black boy was
 H - linguist

Bristol Capital £100,000. 17 Ships in / Gold
 Coast or Windward
 $\frac{2}{3}$ Gold Coast Cargoes

Mr Gardner, Chief o Commenda, Wm M
 arrived. Succeeded in 10 Days
 by Tymewell, Commenced Factor thr w ~~Stocks~~
 Stocks but not in Partnership.

objected t m did not inform him o / Regula^{ns}
 admits he hd / Act before Melvil arrived
 continued 4 mo^s bot. no Gold, 5 Slave or 100th
 sold abt 5 or 6 Slaves to Darbyshire f. long
 Ells then a commandg Article, hd likewise
 good India Goods & o^{rs} sufficient to pur-
 chase 40 or 50 Slaves

Spent £100 to make up / Diffe betim /
 Commenda People & Intuffero, before any
 Trade came he was removed

Gt Trade came down, Teeth, Slaves.
 Kgs Son enquired f him, was told he hd
 no Right to / Trade, t must come to / Casite
 not to a Factory, or Traders intercepted in /
 Road by / Co's Servants, br't into / Casite
 by Night, corrupted or intermediated to sell
 the Trade to / Gov^s.

33
Trade must go thro' / Town to / Castle
Tymewell desired him to sell Slaves for him
as his own to Capt Boucher

6 or 7. b^t Teeth (sold long Sells, Knives &
Spirits) to replace wh^{ch} inferior Goods were
bot on a Dutch Ship ^{national Supplies}

The Factors begg stopt he health for six
months wth see^g a Slave, when they were
opened, he was superseded

Gov^r may address Capoi^s gives Presents
Factor giving 8 Crowns is not equal to a
Gov^r giving 4.

bot J. J. built a house at in Cape
Coast Town in Nov^r to trade, in a few
Days Boucher contracted with Robt &
Melvil for 400 Slaves, wh^{ch} not coming fast
& Boucher begg uneasy applied to him for
Slaves offered sent

Slaves, offered him Goods to buy
10 Slaves for him at 8 oz. Sent his Boy
up / Country who brot down 5 Slaves at
6 oz & an Acker. Boucher liked them, too
took them to / Castle to h^{ave} the Irons.

While he was absent / Castle Cook's
panyard two o his Sheep, he wrote to
M who never answered him, he was
summoned to attend at a Trial in /
Town before / Pymins who told him
he must produce. Ancker Brandy telling
him he had bot Slaves wth pay^g 4 Acker's
Duty - they told him they were ordered
by / Castle to begg him to this Trial.
Cudjo & all told him 10^s never heard

knew or heard t any such Tax was exacted before. gave em 2 Anch^{rs} Rum & promised f / future to pay 4 Ckys.

2^d Complaint

The Cabo^{rs} told him (hintg t they were directed by / Castle) t he must pay 3 M^{ts} p. month f / Liberty o tradg, wh he paid never applied to / Gov^r f Protecn, bec Compl^t h bn referred by m. to Young, by him to MacKaile.

The Castle Slaves were always employed in / Avenues o / Town & / Roads to pick up / Trade & carry them to / Castle

Confirms, fm Withers & Brew / Swice o Hamilton agst Brew, f givg a better Assortment & Eger Price o / Gov^r's Goods f negroes in Opposin to Roberts, who fitted out a Sloop to purchase 50 Slaves down / Coast

MacKaile 2 or 3 Times went to Annamaboe on / Prince Edw^d & traded on Opposin to all o^r Traders.

Heard MacKaile say if Husband's gives 8 we will give 8½ f t / Castle sh h Slaves Before Melv^{'s} Arrival Slaves m^t be bot^d at 8 to 4½ oz. after his ~~arrival~~ arrival / Price raised.

Darbyshire

Says Mr Melvil wd h cheated him out o / Slaves but f Mr Roberts - t it was only owing to Mr Roberts t t Palaver was made up.

When he came upon / Coast in Augt 1710 Slaves were at 12 oz. & / French gave 13.

he continued to drive / French off &
lowered / Price to 7. wh by d^r Ships were
raised to 8 Oz.

Prussel.

Went 3 mo^s Tantum quarry f health
Brew's Share of Profits f 6 mo^s was abt
£300. Brew offered a Fleet & threatened
/ Cab^t to induce him to turn out Stocks.

Melvil sd Brew was a Fool f suffering
Stocks to settle at Hague

B. sent a Sargent to trade agst Stokes
& give a better Assortm^t & offer better Prices

Brew gave / Gov^{'s} goods f Slaves partly
Polley robes (?)

Melvil sd Brew was a Fool f supposg he wd
shd be turned out f he m^t u by his not
taking notice o it; t he was safe as long as
he minded the Trade

Hamilton.

Went on Shore at Succodee w some
pus o Cloth to sell & overheard
Hippesley threaten his Goldtakers Boy
to whip him if he brot any more Goods
on Shore to sell.

Capt^t Graham

Mr Melvil trades in Slaves

Bot^t o him himself at 10. ^{oz} wh hath
bn / Price at times wth since / French
Contract

t he gave 8 Oz.

The Slaves were good Men at 10

Women at 8 at Annamaboe begin
wth 80 bundg / officers were givg 8 or 8 1/2
any parance

at 1/2 finished at 10 w 10 or 12 to finish

They can afford to give more than
Ships & they can prove t Mr Brew &

Mr Young offered to give more than Cap^t Hamilton who had Orders to buy at $4\frac{1}{2}$ & sd t no good Slaves shd pass them

They can get better Goods & Prices on Shore. must employ a Broker who may cheat them o an oz. ~~The~~ The Risk o sendg them on board.

Settlers on Shore h not / Advantages t Officers o / Forts h.

Cap^t David Hamilton Piampram & Mera

At Cape Coast Tantum quarry & Winneka they send on^t Black Servants to intercept / Trade & purchase Slaves before they come down to / Coast at / Time / Ships were lieg thr

Mr Brew at Tantum offered $\frac{1}{2}$ or more than anybody

Settled a Black Servant at lagoon to dress them in the Trade

he refused Slaves at 10 oz.

w^t Slaves Brew purchases Melvil is half concerned

Davies was superseded bec he wd not join Mr Melvil in Partnership

4 or 5
May or June Aug Sept Oct

Melvil had most o his Trade at Tantum quarry by means o Brazil Tobacco wh / Ships cant come at wt gt defelty & wh gives / Buyers gt Advantages

Brown at Mera bot Slaves o / Natives at a low Price but / Traders beg insured by / Castles / Cap^t was forced to give

an Advance o an oz to Gov^r Dacres
upon $\frac{1}{3}$ o his Number

Bot 20 o / Gov^r he has^d ingrossed / Trade
wh he bot o / Natives at 7 oz.

Mr Melvil gave Feltish to some Traders
to buy his Trade to him

The Dutch never give above 7 oz
buy o / Dutch 1 oz cheaper

Mr Roberts

f / Feltish

was told by Cudjoe's Heir & principal Trade^r
man t he carried 2 up Country Traders
into / Castle who were entrusted by Mr
Melvil wth Goods & gave both ^{gave} Feltish
to them to buy all the Trade to him
only.

A Separate Traders may give Feltish, but
cannot enforce it

o Was told by Brews t he wd give 9 if
he gave 8 & wd give such Goods as
wd Command / Trade, t he saw /
Traders returning wth ^{Guns} Gunpowder & ^{Brass} o^r Goods
w / Gov^r's mark upon them

Mr Brews went into / Publick market
at Lagos & declared he wd give 8

Acckies more than Stokes or any Body else

Melvil ask'd Huz how he came by Trade, ?
send on^{ly} & look f^r them. If I do I will raise /
Price 8 Acckies upon y.

Q + H. think the Purchase was deare^r & more tedious
but Officers will buy in the Trade

R. Melvil & Roberts contracted f^r ab^t 400 Slaves wth
Bouchers at 6th Women + 8th men in ab^t two months.
Private Traders pay 20 / Slave f^r Terms Duty.
When he was Gov^r. paid no Duty

Endorsed "Letter fm Messrs
Wansley & Harris
Dated 9th May 1753"

Gentlemen

We beg deputed by /
Merchants o Bristol Freeman o / Co
o Merchants tradg to Africa to repre-
sent to y / gr Disadvantage they labour
under fm / Trade t is carried on by /
Governour o Cape Coast Castle & /^r Officers
o Forts t are concerned w him in /
Purchase o Negroes

It laid before y / Reality o this
Grievance & / bad effects it has on /
Trade to / Gold Coast wh we h made
appear fm our own Knowledge & Expe^{ri}ence,
fm / Acts t h bn transmitted fm / Coast &
related to us by many Masters o our own
Ships, & by / personal Evidce o Captains
Graham & Hamilton & Messieurs Roberts,
Gardiner & Russell whom y h examined,
& who h clearly prov'd to y

1st T Mr Melvill / present Governour
w^o Officers at Cape Coast
Castle are engaged in a Partner-
ship wherein a Considerable
Capital is employed to carry on
/ Slave Trade

2^{dly} T in order to extend & engross this
Trade they are jointly concerned
therein w / Chiefs o / Out Forts & t
one Daries at Accra a Man o good
Character, was superseeded bec He wd
not come into the measures.

3^{dly} T they h imported fm England
& Holland sevl Cargoes wth
& by means o / Goods sent out &
Payment o / Salaries & Support o
/ Forts, they h purchased gr
Numbers o Negroes.

4^{thly} T Some o / Servants h bⁿ paid in
/ worst o Goods & / best reserved
to command / Slave Trade

5^{thly} T the Practice is either to send /
Slaves they purchase to America
on their own Accts or sell them to /
Commanders o / trad^g Ships at
advanced Prices

An Instance o this was that o
/ Ship Prince Edward wh carried
/ Governour & Co as Cargoe o
Goods fm England & Holland,
Part o wh was deposited in Cape
Coast Castle, & / Ship sent wth Some
o / Officers o / Castle to Annama-
buro & sev^l or Places to see-
ward wth / Remainers to pur-
chase Slaves, & when a sufficient
Number was collected / sd Ship
was sent off / Coast wth a Cargoe
o / Christⁿ o them to Jamaica on
acct o sd Governour & Co. And to
this same Ship lately arriv^d at
Cape Coast wth another Cargoe fm
London & Holland on / same
Acct.

6^{thly} T / Governour & Chiefs make use o
the Power & / many Advantages
they enjoy beyond any private
Trader, as well as the Influence

wh is v^y gr^t us / Kings Cab-
boasers & Trad^r men, to en-
gage gross as much o/ Slave
Trade as the Capital & / Goods they
h^e under the disposal, will admit.

y^{thly} T this Point directs them in /
Distributⁿ o/ Publick Supplies.

g^{thly} T in order / better to effect this
they h^e publickly declared they
wd give a g^{tr} Price o/ Negroes
than any o/ private Traders, wh^o
has bn confirmed by the Practice.
Captain Graham told Y^e t^h there was an
Agreem^t betwⁿ himself & / o^r Com-
manders o/ Ships at Annamaboo
(as is usual wth them) not to exceed
a certain Price o/ Negroes but t^h
find^g / Officers belong^g to / Castle
hd raised / Price ashore while /
Agreem^t Subsisted He & / o^r Com-
manders were obliged to do / Game,
by wh^o, & many o^r Justices, it
appears evident t^h / Price o/ Slaves
has bn Advanc^d to / present
exorbitant Rates in consequence o/
/ Trade carried on by / Governours
& Co, wh^o Prices its / Gen Opinion
o^f our Masters will be kept up
as long as / Officers at / Forts h^e /
Liberty o/ Trade.

g^{thly} T / Governours & Chiefs h^e in Vari-
ous ways distressed those wh^o h^e bn
encouraged by / late Act o/ Parliam^t
to settle Factorys ashore.

7 / Governour o Cape Coast Castle
did permit / Natives in t Town
to buy Mr Gardiner a free
Trader to a Tryall before /
Cabbocers ~~CA Joe~~ CA Joe (who
has a Salary o \$100 p. annum
fm / Castle) an Assembly o the
Chiefs in order to compel him
to pay a new Tax o Four Akys
or Crowns p. head on evy Slave
bot by Him in / Town & t they
declared they hd the Orders f
so doo fm / Castle.

10^{thly}

T unclue means a Influence h bn made
use o to prevail on / Natives to buy the
Slaves to / Castle in preference to / private
Traders, & seem to expel them fm the
Towns, as was instanced in / Case o
Mr Stokes at Lagos.

7 a Chief o one o / Out Forts threatened
to whip a linguist f bringg Goods
on Shore to Sell f an English Command^r

11^{thly}

These Proceedg^s we apprehend are not
only in compatible wth / well beg o /
Trade in Gen, & tend to raise / Price o
Slaves on / Coast, but is contrary to /
Tenour o / late Act o Parliam^t intit-
uled "an Act f extendg & improvg /
Trade to Africa" wh was calculated f
/ gen Utility o / Trade & f / better
Supply his Majesty's Colonys wth
Negroes at reasonable Rates, wh Act
ordains

15^{thly} T / Forts & Castles & all / Cos' Property
in Africa sh be employed at

all times Only f / Pro-
 tem Encouragement & Defence
 of o sd Trade

2^{dly} T / Goods sent out by / Com-
 mittee f this purpose sh
 be disposed o & applied f
 (Sole Use & Improvement o/
 Forts

3^{dly} T is, sh not be lawful f /
 Committee to carry or cause
 to be carried from Africa
 any Negroes in Return f
 sd Goods

4^{thly} T no Officer or any o^r Person
 employed by / Committee at
 any o / Forts in Africa sh,
 at any time in any manner
 or on any Pretex Obstruct or
 Hinder any o his Majesty's
 Subjects in tradg

And whereas it appears t^h such Conduct &
 Behaviour o / Governour o Cape Coast Castle & /
 o^r Officers under his Command is evidently
 repugnant both to / letter & Spirit o / sd Act & is
 found by Experience to be g^rly prejudicial, & if suf-
 fered to continue, wd be destructive to, / free & open
 Trade

We therefore in / Part o / merchants o Bristol
 tradg to Africa who h appointed us to make
 this Representa^m, do desire & recommend it to Y
 to make use o / Power vested in Y by / sd Act in
 taking effectual Measures to put a Stop to all
 such Proceedg^s. And whereas it is our Opinion
 t no Regulat^s will be sufficient f t purpose
 w^t totally restraining / Governour & all / Officers

4 Servants in on / Gold Coast for all manner
of trade in Slaves, We desire you will prohibit
them from purchasing any more Slaves & to
take proper Steps for security under / strongest
Ties / Observance of such Order.

We also desire you will direct / Governours
by no means to Obstruct or suffer / Servants
under his Command to obstruct / Masters
of British Ships or any Traders ashore, but
on / contrary to give them all / Protection &
Assistance in the Power agreeable to sd Act
as occaⁿ may require

And if it be a Doubt w^h you can
engage proper Persons to undertake / Gov^t &
Care of / Forts & / necessary Services of /
Publick of such Salaries only as can be
afforded out of / Money granted by Par-
liament w^h / Priviledge of Trade in Gold,
Wory & any o^r Commodities besides Negroes
& what o^r Advantages they may lawfully
make by supply^g / trad^g Ships w^h Coast
Water & o^r necessaries

We will undertake to provide unex-
ceptionable Men who sh^d give sufficient
Security of Performance of the Duty beg^d well
assured t^h of such Salary & Priviledges Men
of sufficient Ability & Character may be found
equal to / Trust.

We are - etc -

London 9 May 1753

Wm Wansley

Thos Harris

To / Committee of Co^o Merch^{ts} trad^g to Africa

Endorsed

" Bristol Proposals
by way o Alternative
1753 "

If a total Prohibition o/ Slave
Trade to / Governours, Chiefs, & o^r
Servants o/ Co cannot be obtained
agreeable to / United Sense &
Request o/ Merchants o Bristol &
Liverpool

It is Proposed by way o Alternative

↑ they sh be allowed / Prerogative o
disposg o/ Goods t are sent out by /
Committee (f/ Paym^t o the Salaries
& o^r Uses o / Publick) & no o^r, in /
most advantageous manner they can.

It is also Recommended to / Committee to Order

↑ f/ future ther sh be no Partnership or
joint Trade carried on by / Governours,
Chiefs, or o^r Servants o / Co. at Cape
Coast or any o^r o/ Out Forts, & t /
Governours or o^r Servants o Cape Coast
sh not supply / Out Forts w Goods
more than f / Paym^t o/ Salaries & /
part^l Uses o each Fort

↑ they sh not Export or ship off any
Slaves - or any Persons actg on the
behalf, on any Act whatsoever

↑ / Governours or Chiefs sh not employ
or suffer to be employed any o/ Carvers

of Craft, / Co's Slaves, or any o /
Servants, in his Trade, but keep them
all employed in / Service o / Publick,
& / Care & Reparation o / Forts, or proper
Business o this Star.

↑ / Governour, Chief, or any o^{rs} sh not be
permitted to Lodge any Slaves in either
o / Castles, nor any Goods but / Publick
Supplies, except only in such cases as
/ Act o Parliamt allows.

↑ no Servant o / Co do presume to go him-
self or send out any o^r Servant or
Slave up / Country, or do any thg to
intercept / Trade or prevent it Com^g
freely to / Shippg.

↑ / Chief o wy out Fort as well as / Governour
o Cape Coast be directed not to give
any Obstruction to / free Exercise o / Trade
o Settlers in the neighbouring Towns,
but to Encourage & Protect them as
much as possible

↑ / like Instructions be given them to assist
to / utmost / Commanders & Co's o wy
British Ships in / Prosecu^m o the Trade
& Woodg & Waterg the Ships, & not bid
upon or raise / Price o Slaves on
any free Traders

↑ strict Obedience be paid to these Orders in
the full & true means on Pain o be^g
Superseded

And t^h they be made publick as well as all
o^r Gen Orders & Requisitions, to all /
Servants o all free Traders

Endorsed"Considerations concerning
Officers in at / Gold Coast"

1st In Consideration of the small Salaries they were
permitted / Liberty of Trade in Slaves as well as
of Commodities
The Capital / Committee do not know

2^d They found a Precedent of Partnerships w/
Chiefs of Outposts upon the Arrival & indeed if a
Chief of an Out Post shd unfortunately happen to
want a Capital to trade w/ it will be hardship
upon him to prevent those from assisting him w/ one,
who only h it in the Power

As to Mr Daines, / Fact is not proved. Capt
Hamiltons Evidence amounting only to his having heard
Daines himself suppose it was / Cause.

3^d There is nothing in this Article contrary to /
Liberty first granted, if they be purchased of
Numbers they must be sold of Numbers to /
Ships British Shippg, if this is no Prece of the
sellg any to Foreigners, or exportg more
than 104 upon the own Accts.

4th This Article is v^y far from being supported
by Evidence & / Committee h^g Reason to dis-
believe it from / Garrison ledgers &c.

5th This Article (in / first Part) only relates
/ Manner of the Trade & wh is indeed / only
manner they can trade & dispose of Negroes,
/ latter part shows t they had a Ship tradg upon
/ Coast (wh they had a right to) & t she was
employed in exportg the Slaves

6th This Article is only proved upon Mr Brew
at Tantumquony & in one Instance upon Mr
Hippisley

7th There was no Proof offered of this nor h /
Committee any Reason to believe it

8thly So far as this Article is proved it appears to be a bad Practice & is / only Fault (except as in / 6th Article) wh can be imputed to / Governor & ca but perhaps they may intermate if not contradict it.

9thly The Evidence to support this was v^y lame, thro' given by / Complainant himself, who for his good will to ~~one~~ Gov & Dis like to and^r indulged himself w / use o a certain figure, as may be proved under his own hand

10thly The first Part o this Article unproved, / second Part may be v^y fully explained but to be short w it The Person injured made no Complaint to / Council at Cape Coast. The last Part is admitted in / 6th Article

It is impossible in / Consideraⁿ o this or any o^r Trade of ~~Persons~~ Persons concerned in it to distrust themselves o t Prejudice wth their own Interest^s begets, & it is undoubtedly / Interest o those concerned in Ships to buy the Slaves (whom Slaves are plenty upon / Coast) wth / interseⁿ o Traders on Shore, in this Case indeed / Gent, chuse to see / Inconvenience only in / Trade of Gov^s Servants - perhaps if the Objecⁿ had been gen they m^t h wanted / Evidence o those who were most willg to disgrace the Successors - certainly they wd h wanted / Intervⁿ o Parliam^t to h restrained / Liberty granted to all his Majes^{ty}'s Subjects o settl^g under any o / Forts
Suppose / Gov^s Servants were entirely prohibited from trad^g in Slaves, & only / present house o R. H & B, subsist^g on Shore, if the Capital was equal to / Purchase o all / Slaves bro^u upon / Coast, it wd upon these Principles, be in the Power to engross them all.

In t Case perhaps / Owners o Ships (who wish well to these Gen^l) may say - "them there will be no Competiⁿ, / Slaves will be bot cheap by them, they will be contented w a moderate Profit & wth soon be dispatched". Is not this an Argum^t f a Joint Stock Co. [?]

But suppose / Co's Servants shd prefer / separate Trade to / Co's Service, & instead o one or two there shd be more Houses o Trade on Shore, surely / Competiⁿ among them wd operate as strongly upon / Price o Slaves as / Advantages at present in / hands o / Co's Servants & I must beg leave to suppose among th^g t when there are two Houses on Shore / Gov^t may possibly be a Partiality f one, wh will avail itself o almost all / Advantages t wd attend a Trade carried on by / Governor himself.

The Inconvenience wh / African Trade at present lies under is / want o Slaves to employ / Capital, it has bn asserted t / latter is £100,000 at Bristol only. The Exportⁿ o Slaves fm / Gold Coast at / utmost can be called only ~~£6000~~ 5000 wh at £12 Sterlg first Cost is only £60,000 & / remaining 40,000 is certainly equal to / Charge o Shipping so t it is plain Bristol alone furnishes a Capital equal to / whole Trade o t part o / Coast, & they represent t / Gov^t & Officers are capable fm this considerable Capital o buy^g gt Numbers o Slaves.

[In the margin against / above § is the following -

A Small Capital may turn in profit^m by interfering w a larger. The Small-ness does not prose but they may officiously Raise y^e Price upon a larger

The Complaint is not Singly agst
Sondg off Slaves but being ym
& in order to h ym, Raisg / price
upon yr Shippg]

What Remedy then can be proposed [?]

Not layg Restraints wh y h not Power
to enforce, but by a perpetual change o
Servants wh may produce worse Con-
sequences, none by increasg / number o
Slaves to be brot to Market - wh may
be easily done if / twice o those who h
bn upon / Coast is to be at all relied
upon, who confidently assert 1st £ of £3 o
4000 / Ashantee Paths may be opened a-
ndly t those Paths wd in all Probabilit
furnish 20,000 Slaves annually, a numbr
t cd not be ingressed or monopolised by
/ Co's Servants.

It may naturally be asked why / old Co
did not open these Paths? they had not
money in / first Place & / separate Traders
wd h run away w / Profit o it, in / second
these were / true Reasons tho / specious one
given by them was, t / Dutch were equally
concerned in Interest to do it but wd not
furnish thg Quota (a Thg / Dutch were always
barrows t)

Another proper Quesn is, what will be / annual
expence o keepg these Paths open? The answer to this
fm African Evidce is perhaps £1000 p ann.

Very inconsiderable if compared w / 9th Disadvantg
o supplyg our own Colonies w Slaves at a much
cheaper Rate than we h b many years past,
& o^r Colonies w a much g^r Number

Endorsed "Mr Hollis's Remarks on /
Bristol Memorial & Deposits"

[A draft w altirans]

The Remonstrance o / Bristol Merchants
consists o two Parts, first, / Consequence o
allowing / Servants o / Co to trade in Slaves,
viz an advanced Price, Secondly Charges
o Misconduct agst some o / Servants

Altho / first Part is only laid to / Servants
o / Co, yet (if it be just it extends equally to /
separate Traders on shore) as / Inconvenience can
only arise fm / Number o Buyers & / Scarcity
o Slaves, who undoubtedly at present purchase /
greatest Number o Slaves, nor do / Advantages
attendg / Co's Servants operate at all agst them,
f Mr Roberts proves fm a Conversation betw /
Gov^r & a separate Trader, t / former cd not
purchase a Slave w^t giving an advanced Price
upon / latter.

When / Servants first traded in Slaves
they had no View o exporting them to / West Indies
upon th^r own Acc^t, th^r Sole Object was a Trade
w / Ships, wh they carried on w^y contentedly to
themselves w a moderate Profit, & w^y advan-
tageously to / Ships both in / Price o / Slaves &
/ Determinⁿ o / Ships upon / Coast, till some o / Capts
thot it best to trade themselves & not contract,
then / Servants were forced to turn Merchants
& in two years they h shipped 100 Slaves to
Jamaica. Were they to continue in t Trade it
wd be diffic^l to find out a better Reason f th^r
raisg / Price o Slaves upon / separate Traders
o / Ships than / Ships o / separate Traders
upon them - here it will be sd t they h

many gr^t Advantages over Ships & separate
Traders fm the Power & Influence over /
Chief Natives, but Mr Roberts who is /
Author o this Doctrine f / sake o loadg
Melvil w anor Crime proved fm a Conversa-
sion betw Melvil & a separate Trader t
/ former cd not get Slaves but by advancing
/ Price upon / latter.

The Complaint consists o two Parts, one
respects / Consequence o allowg / Servants o /
Co to trade in Slaves, / o^r relates to / per-
sonal bad Conduct o some part^r Servants.

The / first Complaint is only laid agst
/ Servants o / Co, if it be just it is equally
strong agst / separate Traders settled on
Shore, f / Inconvenience can only arise fm /
Numbers o Buyers & / Scarcity o Slaves, as
to / Advantages partly belongg to / Ser-
vants o / Co they are not considerable en-
ough to operate agst / Interest o / separate
Traders at present, f Mr Roberts proves
fm a Conversaⁿ betw / Gov^r & a separate
Trader t / former cd not get Slaves w^t
giving an advanced Price upon / latter, how^r
/ Committee by the present Instructions h^{ave} par-
ced down those Advantages as low as
they can

when / Servants first began the Trade
they had no View o exportg them to / West
Indies, the sole Object was to trade w /
Ships & those Ships who traded w them
found the Neck in it not only fm / Price
/ wh was more moderate than those

Ships paid who traded for themselves) but
 from Shortness of the Detention upon Coast - /
 greatest Advantage / Servants he is / Purchase of
 Slaves in / Absence of Ships, a small one to be
 sure they he in purchase on shore as they save
 / Intervention of Brokers & / Risk of putting /
 Slaves on Board to / Black Trader: but these
 Advantages they pay for in some Measure by
 serving / Publick of smaller Salaries than
 they wd otherwise expect, for however easy it
 may be represented to procure proper People to
 serve / Publick under a total Restriction & at
 present Terms, / Committee he found great Difficulty
 in providing servants to the mind upon / present
 Salaries & it is not a Question who a man fit
 to be entrusted with a Fort & forced to live in the torrid
 Climate doth deserve at least £60 p Ann.

If / Servants shd be laid under a total
 Restriction & the shd not be any separate Traders
 upon / Coast, / whole Trade wd be lost to /
 English in / Absence of Ships, & / Consequence of
 it wd be / loss of a great Part of Trade when Ships
 come, as it will be natural for / Natives to go
 where they are always sure of Sale

The Servants being deprived of so valuable
 a Trade wd either quit / Service of Committee, or
 which is more likely, by some collusive means
 contrive to avail themselves of Profits, which wd
 in all Probability produce worse Consequences than
 / Liberty of Trading openly.

The African Trade must differ from all o^{rs}
 if / Selling Price doth not Influence / Purchase, if
 it doth not / Price of Slaves must be high upon
 / Coast as long as it continues in / West Indies
 & / distant Buyers (where they consist of Ships

bidg upon Ships, private Traders bidg upon
Ships or / Cos Servants upon both or either)
want more than are brot to Market upon / Coast

The Committee therefore by / Regulation
they propose o restraining / Servants fm
sendg Slaves to / West Indies leave them
entirely in / Power o / Ships, f if it be
true as it is asserted, t it is the Customs
to agree not to exceed a certain Price
or bid upon each o^r / Servants, will not
h it in the Power to outbid them, since
they can h no o^r Purchasers, will not run /
Risk o Slaves livg fm / Departure o
some Ships till / Arrival o o^rs, & if they
interrupt / Trade fm comg down to / Ships
will be turned [?] out - indeed if they
had / liberty o sendg them to / West Indies
it wd be ridiculous not to suppose it
as much to the Interest as / Ships to buy
them at / Lowest Price.

The Second Part beg personal Charges o
Misconduct / Committee can pay no o^r
Regard to them than transmittg them to
/ Coast & requirg a clear Answer after
/ strictest Enquiry, tho they are sd to be
fully proved / Committee are in possessⁿ o
Evidence wh^{ch} the well founded Opinion
of Character o / accused, falsify many o
those Charges.

The Committee wd by no means
condemn / lowest o the Servants unheard,
& if they cannot v^y clearly acquit them-
selves o / Charges brot agst them, they will
most certainly be punished in an

exemplary manner, & at the same time the
 Committee think the Trade of the Servants
 under the present Agreement, & the Trade of those
 who are settled under the Forts make a
 Part of National Trade to Africa & are
 means of sending great Quantities of our Manu-
 factures, yet they are determined never to lose
 Sight of Shipping Trade, but to protect &
 encourage it to the utmost of their Powers con-
 sistently wth gen^l Interest.

In Consideration of Complaints made by
 African Merchants of Bristol & Liverpool & of
 Remedy proposed by them, the Committee first
 referred themselves to the Act of Parliament
 established, in which they find the Trade ex-
 pected to be carried on by Settlers on Shore
 under the Forts attended to as an Object of
 equal Consequence to the Trade carried on by
 Ships, & accordingly laid open to all his
 Majesty's Subjects wth Exception & to the
 Conduct in^m they first sent out the Officers, &
 those Gen^l of the Committee who attended the Debate
 when the Bill was depending in House partly recollect
 that it was urged in Answer to the Arguments used
 by those who preferred a joint Stock Co, that
 by having a Stock of Goods always on Coast it
 wd encourage the Natives to bring down the
 Trade, whereas the Disappointment (tho it not
 seldom happen) wth absence of Ships wd
 occasⁿ not induce them to seek out for
 more constant Purchasers, & the Servants
 of the Co & such other People as shd settle upon

Coast wd perfectly answer t End. The
Committee, therefore in / Appointment o
Officers informed them t / Trade was
entirely free & open & therefore they shd
only give small Salaries, an / Prosecuⁿ
o this Trade / Ships at first found them-
selves benefitted & by contractg w /
Officers & private Traders settled thro,
two o them belongg to Bristol supplied
themselves w upwards o 400 Slaves at a
very reasonable Price & in a shorter Time
than cd h bn expected, wh one o / Com-
plainants thro o Consequence enough to
write a part^r letter to / Gov^r upon.

The Complaint now is t the Trade
raises / Price upon / Ships & t they
publickly & avowedly declare t they will
give more than / Ships, - as to / first, it
will certainly happen when there are not
Slaves enough t / Demand - but it will
happen equally fm / separate Traders -
as to / Coast - I accused o t h an Opp^r
o defendg themselves agst / Charge, wh if
true may be mitigated by Circumstances
t Instance suppose / Thg happened just
at / Conclusion o the Contract w / two
Ships before mentioned, / Forfeiture o wh
was evl Thousand pound, surely /
Blame is lessened.

It may be wized t / Officer's Adv-
antages enable them to give more
than / separate Trader can afford,

but / v^y Evidence who urges & asserts /
 contrary f he expressly says / Gov^{ts} could
 not get a Slave w^o giving $\frac{1}{2}$ an oz more
 than a separate Trader now upon /
 Coast.

If / Trade o Settlers is an Object o na-
 tional Concern & / Compl^{ts} seem to admit
 it is by / Care they recommend / Committee
 to take o them, it may be fairly argued t /
 Officers h / best right to it as they do /
 Business o / Publick & small Salaries, & /
 Ships will find an Advantage in its beg
 w^o the hands as the Salaries will enable them
 to trade w^o a smaller Profit but more
 especially as / Publick must always be
 Servants upon / Coast who will trade to / Ex-
 tent o the Liberty & thereby seem / Continue
 o a Trade upon / Coast wh if left entirely to /
 free Settlers may be sometimes deserted, & ab-
 used more than it can be presumed /
 Servants o / Co wd venture to do.

Upon all these Considerans / Committee doo
 doubt wh^o instead o restraining them from all
 Trade in Slaves they h not gone fur than /
 Act o Parliam^t & / Agreement w^o the Officers
 will Warrant, sure they are t what they h
 done is more likely to answer / End proposed
 than / method desired, as it may be ~~more~~
 executed w^o much less Collusion

Original, w seal o /
Committee 4 in
Co. 38/45. Dec 152

Endorsed

"Letter to / Lords
o Trade 30 May 1753"

Coopers Court 30th May 1753

My Lords

The Committee of Co Merchants
trading to Africa h / Honor to lay before yr
Lordships Copies o letters fm / African
Merchants in Bristol & Liverpool complaining
"o / g^t Disadvantage they labor under fm /
Trade t is carried on by / Governor o Cape
Coast's Castle & / d^r Officers o Forts t are
concerned w him in Purchase o Negroes"
assertg t they h clearly proved ten Articles
o Complaint, & proposg t / Servants o / Co
sh be restrained fm all Manner o
trading in Slaves

Yr Lordships will observe t /
Instruc^{ns} intended to be sent to / Coast do
not contain / whole o what is desired as we
are o Opinion t an absolute Restriction
may be attended w bad Consequences to /
national Trade

As g^t Part o / Complaints are per-
sonal & not fully proved we will not
trouble yr Lordships w any part^r
Remarks upon / Evidence, but if / Remedy
proposed by / Complainants shd appear to
yr Lordships / properest Regulaⁿ we are v^y
ready to offer those Reasons wh in our Opin-
ion render it improper, & sh then submit to
yr Lordships Determinaⁿ - 9c -

Wm Hollis

To / Right Honble / Lords Commissioners o Trade
& Plantations

Endorsed

" Liverpool 24th June 1753
 Messrs Manesty
 Pardoe
 Knight
 o / Committee "

Liverpool 24th June 1753

Gentlemen Mr Dicken's behaviour before / Lords
 o Trade on / 20th instant has made it Evident
 t what He sd was agreeable to yr Sentiments,
 by his own Silence & t our Complaints is not
 worthy yr notice, altho: its made Evident
 to us t if a remedy does not immediately
 appear the Trade to / Gold Coast will be lost
 to every Trader in Ships not consign'd to /
 chief o Cape Coast Castle.

We shd therefore be it unjust to /
 Traders o this place if we were Silent under
 so gr an abuse o / true intent o / Parliam^t when
 / money was order'd f / Support^t o / Trade, &
 as its manifest t numbers o mean people
 send out goods to / Castles by wh they
 must be benefitted, as / Maⁿ pays the
 charges in Trade, We don't think ourselves
 treated Honourably.

The remedy is it plain, & We once
 more insist on't t Orders be immediately
 sent out to / Governours, Chiefs & Servants
 o all our Settlements: T They sh not buy
 a Slave on any pret^{is} nor suffer One to
 be bot or ship^d f them, on Forfeiture.
 o The Gallies & beg dismisst on

Consid^m if this is not complied w we sh
not suppose it y & we act on / same
principles or see equally / dangers. The
Captains o Vessels belongg to this
Town who were at Annamaboe in
Jan^y last informs us, T / price o
Slaves is risen fm 8 to 12 Oz^s a head
the Occasioned by / X^{ty} offers o Mrs
Melville & o^r to get Slaves to ship
onboard Ships consign'd to him &
them, this must Command all His
Atten^m, Employ all our Servants &
Caste Slaves to answer Commercial
purposes. instead o usg them

[blotted / covered by water] Himself in
sewing & establishg what they were sent
out f. We sh not trouble y farther on
what y must know as well as, Gentlemen,
Jr - etc -

Joseph Manesty
James Pardoe

A Ship is preparg & will John Knight
sail fm hence f Annam-
aboe in 14 days. Forward
y^r Orders to us y they
sh be sent by Her.

Verbo
m

To
The Gentlemen o /
Committee f African
Affairs in London

Endorsed"Liverpool 7th August 1753

Francis Gildart Secy

G / Merch^{ts} o / LpoolConcerning / Servants of
Committee Trade at Cape
Coast Castle"Liverpool 7 Aug^r 1753

Gentlemen Having seen / Resol^{ns} of Board
o Trade w regard to / Servants of Committee
tradg on / Coast we desire you'd give orders
accordgly to Mr Melvil a / for chiefs at
/ Forts on / Gold Coast not to trade on
any acct^t more than / value o thr Salarys
in Negros, & we think wou'd be right
to give yr direct^s as near / words o /
Board o Trade as may be, & this will be
a Sanction to y if y h any doubt it
may be construed to be contrary to /
Act o Parliam^t

You'll also enjoin 'em to give all
possible help to any British Ships on /
Coast t they may recip / benefit intended
em by / Act.

y h seen / uneasiness of this Trade o
/ Servants at / Forts has given to / Merchants
concern'd in this Branch, & tis worth while to try
if / Expedient will remedy / Evil & if it does not
something else may be thot on hereafter

We are - etc -

We think they shoud h
four months allow'd
'em to sell off thr
Goods.

The freemen o / African Compa
at Liverpool, by our Secretary
For A D Gildart

Endorsed
~~with~~

Mr Wansley's Letters & Proposals
of Instructions 23 May 1753

[Note too decayed to decipher]

End of Tyo. 1521

Tyo. 1520 [Detached Papers 1753]

[An unsigned undated Memo]

It may be observed that Messrs Roberts, Smallman Gardiner & John Russell are avowed Enemies to Mr Melvil: & Mr Roberts came home wth a full Resolⁿ to do Mr Melvil all / Injury he possibly cd, as appears by a letter to Mr Melvil's on t^e Head: & Gardiner is exasperated & beg^s dismissed / Service & f^r beg^s detected in his Asser^{ts} of Castle Coates piracy^g Two o his Sheep, not wth wh he & his Goods were present^{ly} presently after admitted into / Castle upon a letter to / Governor & Council, tho he had done all he cd to affront / Governor by / aforementioned Trans^{ac}tion, & had h^e added before t^e Mr Roberts's spleen & Resent^{mt} ag^t / Committee & Mr Melvil, arises from his beg^s superseded by Mr Melvil by / Committee's Direc^{ts}, as judg^g Mr Melvil much more able & capable o conduct^g / Affairs o / Coast as Govern^r in Chief, than Mr Roberts. & Mr Russell was enticed to leave / Coast by Mr Roberts upon a Promise o provid^g better f^r him upon his (Roberts's) return upon / Coast wh he tho^t he was sure o do^e

[Written in Sec: Hollier's handwriting, & is fin / same as many o^r memos, in / pp^s].

Bristol Jan^y 6. 1753.

Sir I am ordered by / members o / African Co
 within this City to apply to y of Copy's o all /
 Accts Orders & Regul^{ns} t h passed & bⁿ made
 since / Commencem^t o / Act constitut^g / Co
 & also o / letters & accts recd^d fm Mr Melville,
 & they may h / perusal ther^{of} agreeable to /
 Inten^{ts} & Directions o / sd Act
 I am - etc -
 Sam Worrall

Enclosed " Bristol
 5th April 1753
 The Committee th^r"
 Bristol 5th April 1753

Gentlemen Th^r was lately a gen Meet^g
 o / Members o / African Co at this City,
 at wh^{ch} were we were made Choice o to be a
 Committee o Correspond^{ce}, in Order to Advise
 y fm time to time o all material Occur^{rs} to
 Receive & Inspect / publick Accts, & what^{so^er}
 whatso^er y may h to Communicate to / Co:
 And to Recommend to y such Methods as
 sh appear to be necessary & Expedient f /
 gen Good o / Trade; & / better Answer^g /
 Inten^{ts} o / Leg^{is}lature in / late Acts o
 Parliam^t & Annual grants o Money.

At this Meet^g we were desir'd to
 write y of an Acct^t o / Investiture o / Money
 granted by Parliam^t f / Years 1751 & 1752;
 & pursuant thereto our Secretary Mr Saml
 Worrall has wrote y of / same; to wh^{ch} we h
 yet no Answer but sh be Expect^g it soon.

This is intended to be delivered Y p. Mr.
Willm Wansley whom w Mr Thomas Hare
Harris (who are also o this Committee)
we h desired to Communicate to Your
Sentiments w respect to / present State
o Affairs on / Coast; & to confer w Mr
Hardman (on / Part o / Members o / Co
at Liverpool) in order to fix on such
Measures as ~~may~~ sh be Expedient f
/ purposes before mentioned.

We are - &c -

PS. F / future you'd please to Wm Hare
Receive any Letters t may
be Sign'd ~~f~~ p. our Secretary HJ. Tonge
Mr Samuel Worrall / same Father Larocke
as if were Subscribed by us.

Richd Becher
Wm Reeve Mich^e Miller Dan Cheston
H. Edwards Richd Farrer

verso To The Committee appointed f manag^g
/ Affairs o / Co o Merchants
bindg to Africa
in London

Endorsed "Letter from Liverpool
Committee dated
5th May 1753
Jno Hardman & Co"

Liverpool 5th May 1753.

Gentlemen

Having had frequent complaints
of Trade on / Gold Coast of Africa being gthly
hurt by / Governours & Chiefs trading at / diffr
Forts, whereby / price of Negroes is gthly
raised & Ours Ships purchase the Cargoes
much higher than They would O'ways do—

We therefore desire t' You will give
orders to Mr Melville t' He sh not (nor
any of Chiefs at / or Forts) buy or sell any
Negroes at any rate, either by them selves or any
of the Agents, or Factors, or Servants, but
They may be allowed to deal in Gold,
Ivory, or any of goods; wh is the Salerys We
think [sealover word] is sufficient Encourage m^r
of them, & t' Same may be carry'd on
more to / advantage of Merchants con-
cern'd in sendg Ships th^r.

We also desire t' They conform
to / Law wh forbids any Negroes or
goods being lodg'd in / Forts except such
as belong to / Publick (unless in cases
of Extremity) & t' they give all / assistance
possible to all British Ships, & Traders
on / Coast, both in regard to the Trade

on Shore, & also in Wood & Water. The
Ships, & Traders may in every respect
receive / benefit intended by / late Act,
We are wth g^d Esteem, Gentlemen &
humble Servants (they appoint^d by all
/ Traders to Africa in this Port to trouble
/ wth this)

John Hardman

Joseph Manesty

John Knight

James Partridge Pardee

To Messrs Charles Pole & Co^s /
Committee of African Affairs in
London

Bristol June 14 1753. Sam^l Wornall to
Mr Wm. Hollis Secretary

to / African Comtee. Today

Acknes receipt / of Copies o / African Com-
mittees Accts of 1750 & 1751 & / Instruc^{ns}
to / Governors o CCC. & For St James,
& wh sh be laid before / Committee at
Bristol & &

"Copy"

Memorial

Humbly offered to / Consideration
of / Lords Commiss^{rs} of Trade &
Plantations in / Name & on behalf
of Merchants of Bristol &
Liverpool trading to Africa.

my Lords

When we had / honour lately to appear
before / board, we wd not presume so much
upon yr Lordships' patience as to answer in a
particular manner what was then thrown out by /
Committee of / Co of Merchants trading to Africa
as yr Lordships were pleased to Indulge us
wth a few hearing & wh was appointed for this day,
We beg leave to lay / Substance of what we h^{ave}
to say before yr Lordships in Writing, and
t^{hat} we may be able to State our Case in /
Clearest light we can, we propose to dis-
pose / same in / manner of a Narration
or Historical Acc^t wh. we beg yr Lordships
to accept of as follows

1. It has long bn / Opinion of Majority of /
Merchants & o^{thers} concerned in / African
Trade t^{hat} / sd trade shd be free & open to all
his Majesty's Subjects, & t^{hat} / same was also
/ Sense of / Hon^{our}, See^{ll} Votes of / house of
Commons past at Sundry times shew.
- 2^d. The Traders of Affrica not contented wth
Such Publick Declarations of / National Sense
& fearing t^{hat} / late Royal African Com^{pany} in
some hands become a formidable Monopoly,
petitioned / Parliam^{ent} t^{hat} / sd Co shd be
dissolved & t^{hat} / sd trade shd by law be made
free & open to all His Majesty's Subjects.

3. In / Year 1750 / Parliam^{ts} passed An Act in wh^{ch} amongst o^r othgs it was enacted t^h / sd R. A. Co sh^d be after a certain time to be Specified in a future Act Annihilated & t^h / African Trade sh^d fm ^t time be free & open to all his Majesty's Subjects.

4. / desires o^f / Petitioners m^t be fully & effectually Answered in / sd Act it was enacted t^h / future / Managem^t o^f / late Co's Forts & Settlements in Africa & also / Negotian^o all Affairs thro^u / Publick Utility sh^d be trusted to / Care & managem^t o^f nine Persons to be Elected by such o^f his Majesty's Subjects as sh^d enter themselves Members o^f a New Co by / Name o^f / Co o^f Merchants tradg to Africa, under such Regulars & Restrictns as in / sd Act are Expressed.

5. Accordg to / tenor o^f / aforesaid Act o^f Parliam^t. Numbers o^f His Majesty's Subjects did enter themselves Members o^f / sd New Co & at / time appointed did Elect nine Persons by / Name o^f Committee o^f / Co o^f Merchants tradg. to Africa & / sd nine Persons did take upon them / managem^t o^f affairs o^f / sd Co & o^f / National Concerns in Africa & they or th^{er} Successors do Continue in / Managem^t o^f / sd Concerns at this day.

6th The 3^d Committee has / power o
 nominat^g & appoint^g all / Officers & Servants
 to be employ'd in Africa f^r / Managem^t of
 Affairs of / sd Co & f^r / Maintaining / National
 Rights & Priviledges in Africa & the power
 over such Officers & Servants are v^y Extensive
 almost unlimited they may order them to do
 what they please & to forbear do^g what they
 do not please, in many Cases they can
 punish them f^r / Disobedience or Neglect &
 if they cannot do so in all Cases they can
 at least discharge them fm the Office w^o
 f^r Appeal as w^o Officer & Servant employ'd
 by / Co in Africa holds his Place or
 Office at / Sole Will & Pleasure of sd
 Committee, in short it does not appear to
 us t^h they are under any positive limitaⁿ
 w^o regard to / Orders they are to give /
 Co's Officers & Servants Save only those
 t^h sh^o not be such as tend to / Publick
 Detre^mt, / Limitation of Trade or / Hurt or
 Loss of / free Traders

7th The first Committee did in / Year
 1751 Send Sundry Officers Ser-
 vants to / Coast of Africa & continued
 Sundry o^rs then the & who had served under
 / late Royal African Co & gave them
 such Orders & Instruct^{ns} as they then
 thought proper, at / same time understand^g /
 tenor of / above sd Act of Parliam^t in /
 most Generous & Benevolent Sense they
 gave / sd Officers & Servants leave (or

at least did not prohibit them) to carry
on Trade on their own Accrs wth dimi-
tation either o/ Method or extent save
only t they shd not Trade wth foreigners
Except / Portuguez f Gold & Tobacco &
tho' left them to be th^r own Interpreters
o/ Law & Consequently regulators o/
Market not only f themselves but wth
Traders besides.

And here it may be not be amiss
to take notice t tho' / Law has re-
pressly Appointed t / Committee sh
Annually lay before / Gen Meetg o/ Co
o/ Chamber o London all / resolutions o/
sd Committee & th^r orders & Instructions
to th^r servants in Africa previous to
such Gen Meetg & t Copys o/ sd Reso-
lutions orders & Instructions sh be sent
by them to / Chambers o Bristol &
Liverpool f / use o/ Members o/ sd
Chambers Yet it is Alledged t none o
these matters h hitherto bin Exhibited
to / Members o/ Chamber o London nor
transmitted to / Chambers o Bristol &
Liverpool, th^r We only alledge not
Apprehendg Our selves Obliged to prove
a negative if we shd Chance to be
mistaken, let / Committee make it
appear t they have Complied w/
Law in these matters & We sh freely
confess Our Error & ask th^r pardon,
it is not alledged t / Members o/
Co or / Publick were Ignorant upon

what Terms / Servants were sent out or
 employed by / Committee as aforesaid
 were entertained in / Co's Service, ~~was~~
 neither is it sd to any Body Objected
 or Remonstrated agst / gr Advantages w
 wh they were then Indulged: t gr Injuries
 t mt possibly ~~about~~ insue to / Trade in
 Genll by such an unlimited Indulge
 cd be foreseen ~~by~~ only by a few who hd
 resided in Africa & were thoroughly ac-
 quainted w / Nature of Trade & / manner o
 Conduct of same in Settlements on shore but
 these few havg but a small Share o Interest
 in / Trade & thir Opinions never havg bn
 ask'd abt / matter did not perhaps think
 it eligible to run / Hazard o beg that
 Officers Meddlers hd they offered thir
 Opinions unasked, or perhaps they mt think
 as evy one else Concerned did, t persons
 so highly favoured & so gty Indulged
 wd h made / best use they cd o / gr power
 w wh they were intrusted f / Benefit &
 Advantage o thir Constituents (we mean /
 African Traders in Genll) & wh they mt
 h done w Consistently w thir own private
 Interest, & hd they done so we dare say
 no one wd ever h desired t they shd h
 bn deprived o any part o / gr Powers
 & Priviledges thir granted to them, but
 wd h rejoiced to h seen them flourish &
 get fortun'd in / Honble Station o Servg
 thir Country, neither of this to be looked
 upon as a bare, Summize or Supposin f w
 regard to / Co's Servants Employed at
 Gambia as it does not hitherto appear t they

h made any ill use o the power no Com-
plaint as yet has bn Exhibited agst them w
the Proceedgs

9. The Co's Officers & Servants upon
/ Gold Coast (or at least such o them
as are in Chief power) were so far fm
regardg / Interest o the Constituents t they
h acted in direct Opposin thereto. Scarcely
were they in the new places t they began
to Oppose instead o Assistg / Free Traders.
They erected themselves into a Joint
Stock Co & attempted a Monopoly more
Formidable than any t wd h bn formed
at home as / Principally were the upon /
Spot to direct & transact the own Affairs
& vested w Power to Ingress & Carry all /
trade before them.

10. The Merchants o Bristol (who f
many Years Past h had & now h more
Interest in / Trade to / Gold Coast o Africa than
all His Majesty's o^r Subjects) were early
made Acquainted o these proceedgs by
letters fm severl o / Masters o the Ships
tradg to t Coast, but as they were un-
willing to believe matters were so bad ab
to them represented they partly waited
/ return o the Ships, when to the g^t loss &
detriment they found t / Advice they had
received were ~~not~~ but too true & t by /
Attempt o / Co's Servants to Ingress / whole
trade to themselves / Prices o Slaves was
Raised to such an exorbitant Height
as never was before known upon / Coast,
except in / time o / french Contracts.

/ gtest Opposⁿ was made to & Obstruc^{ns}
 thrown in / way o/ free Traders & / Cos
 Settlements & Servants, were so far fm be^g
 made usefull to / sd free Traders t they were
 even deny'd / Common Civilitys &
 Services t had nev^r bn before deny'd even
 to Strangers & foreigners, such as assist^g
 them wth Canoes & Canvassers f wood^g, Water^g
 & procur^g necessary provins & allow^g /
 Cos Traders men to help them in thr neces-
 sary Repairs even / Antient Hospitality
 o/ Cos Publick Table was in some Inst^s
 deny'd to / Officers o/ trad^g Ships & o^{rs}

The Grievances Complain'd of are too
 Numerous to be recited but are Contain'd
 in a Memorial given in to / Committee by
 / Deputys fm / Merchants o Bristol &
 hereunto Annexed. Under these mortify^g
 Circumstances / Gentlemen aggriev'd Comforted
 themselves hav^g thus much in thr favour
 t it was in / power o / Committee thr
 own Deputys, if they cd not procure them
 Satisfacⁿ f what was past wd at least
 prevent f / future any such Attempts
 tend^g to / loss & Detriment o / Free
 Traders by giv^g such Orders to thr
 Officers & Servants in Affrica, & by
 Enforc^g such Orders in such manner as
 sh^d put it out o / power o thr sd Servants
 any more to act in / manner they had
 done to / Obstrucⁿ o / free Traders & to
 / prejudice o / sd Trade in Gen, &
 Accord^gly (not doubt^g o / Committee's
 immediate Compl^{ce} w thr Just demands)

they sent Deputy's to /sd Committee to
set forth the Causes o Complaint &
desire Redress & at / same time /sd
Deputy's pointed out to them a Plan f
presenting & putting an Effectual Stop to
these & all o^r proceedg's o / like evil
Tendency, but how gr was the Surprise
when they found t not only the Plan was
rejected but the Just Complaints were
treated as Groundless Surmizes &
Unjust Aspersions on / Characters o the
Officers & Servants in Africa, arising
only fm Personal prejudice & party
Interest

12th

The Merchants o Bristol were
far fm Slackening the Endeavours
upon this repulse / matter was a too gr
Concern & / Causes o Complaint had bn too
Severely felt by them to Settle down Tamely
wth a full Redress, they therefore directed
the sd Deputy's agn to wait upon / Com-
mittee to lay / matter more fully before them
& to prove Article by Article wth they had
alleged & as far as the Witnesses were admitted
to Examinaⁿ wth they had advanced was
proved in / fullest & clearest Manner & as
far as / Opinions o persons knowing in /
Trade cd be o Weight / Consequences followg
upon such proofs were plain & evident
& such as o^t to be Convinc'd any Persons
Allog^s Impartial t / Plain they had proposed
was necessary & fit to be Immediately carried
into Execution

13. The Merchants o Liverpool tho' they
had not so Severely felt / ill Effects
o / Grievances Complain'd o were however
Sensible t / Managem^t o Affairs upon /

Gold Coast o Africa wanted much Amend^{mt} but at / same time well knowing / diligence & Assiduity o / Deputys fm Bristol they were in hopes t they wd h bn able to prevail upon / Committee to come into such measures as shd be to / Satisfacⁿ o / free Traders in Gen^l & therefore they did not think it necessary f them to appoint any Deputys to assist those fm Bristol

14. It was by Accident t Mr Chalmer, one o / Committee appointed by / Merchants o Liverpool tradg to Africa to correspond w / Committees o London & Bristol, was at London on his own Business while this Affair was Carried on before / Committee he was soon made acquainted w / Deputys fm Bristol.

[Note This doc is exceedingly long & prolix - & mostly taken up w complaints agst / Committee f not giving them satisfacⁿ - w no details o what the original complaints were. to / Committee:

At / end o § 21 / document continues as follows: -]

It now chiefly remains f us to Answer some ~~of~~ Objec^{ns} thrown out by one o / Gentlemen o / Committee before yr Lordships to / Orders & regulations f wh We h Solicited, f wh purpose principally We apprehend yr Lordships h indulged us w this Audice & these Objec^{ns}, if Our Memory has not failed us are:-

1st t / present Salary & o^r Advantages o / Cos Servants in Africa exclusive o / liberty

o Dealg in Slaves will be insufficient to Induce men properly qualified to serve / Co & t / Moneys granted by Parliam^t will be insufficient to enable / Co to give g^r Salarys

2^d. If present Governour o Cape Coast Castle wd possibly upon such a new Regularⁿ resign & quit his Office

3^d. If all / o^r Officers of Co in Africa wd resign & / Service be deserted

4th. If in case no English Ships shd at any time be upon / Gold Coast / Trade wd wholly fall into / hands o / Dutch or o^r Foreigners

5th. If / Committee be not power by / tenor o / Act o Parliam^t & o^r Establishm^t to prohibit o^r Officers or Servants fm Dealg in Slaves

6th. If considerg / g^r Stock o Goods wh / Gov^r o Cape Coast Castle & o^r / Co's Officers & Servants must now be upon o^r hands it wd be cruel & unjust to deprive them at once o / liberty o disposg o / same to / best Advantage they can

These are all ~~or~~ at least / only Objec^{ns}
 o apparent Imp^{ts} wh We can remember h
 bn thrown out by / Committee to our Pro-
 posals f, immediately restraining or prohibi-
 ting / Cos Servants in Africa fm Dealg in
 Slaves, & to / 1st, 2^d, 3^d & 6th o / sd Ob-
 jec^{ns} We answer t^r is no occⁿ f any
 Increase o / Publick Allowance or Augmentⁿ
 g / Salaries o / Cos Servants in Africa, We
 hav^g already undertaken in our Remonstr^{ce}
 t in case they sh not be contented wth the
 present Pay under / limit^{ns} & Restrict^{ns}
 by us proposed, to provide unexceptionable
 men who sh give Security f / performce o
 the Duty, We hope / Committees Engage-
 ments wth the Servants h not bn so loose
 & unguarded as to put it in / power o the
 sd Servants to desert / Cos Service when^{er}
 they please & wth any previous Notice, but
 if it sh be found so to be & / Committee
 really fear as they pretend we h not /
 leas^t Objecⁿ to the Supply^g the places
 one & all by o^r who will be contented wth
 such condit^{ns} as / Co can afford 'em
 consistent wth the Interest & / well begⁿ o /
 Trade in gen, & wth regard to / grst Stock o
 Goods now in or supposed to be in /
 hands o the sd Servants, no worse can
 befall them in case o / regul^{ns} We
 contend f takg place than t they will
 be reduced to / posit^{ion} London o o^r
 free traders settled upon / Coast, wth
 these additional Advantages in the
 favour, t they h bn sent out & f years

maintained & supported at / Publick
Expence & t by this means they will
be Masters o a lger Stock o Goods
to carry on the Trade than any first
Settlers can be supposed to carry along
w him & they will h / fut^r Advantage
o / friendship they h contracted w /
Influence they h gained over / Natives
by means o t power w wh they h
by so long invested & wh We hope
they h employed to such good purposes.

In answer to / 4th Objeⁿ We
readily allow t / Co's Servants sh h
full Liberty o tradg in Slaves when^r
it sh so happen t th^r is no English
Ship upon / Coast between Cape three
Points & / River Volta.

In answer to / 5th Objeⁿ We
say We are sorry to find t / Committee
are so doubtfull o the^r own ~~Power~~
Power. We h already found t they
h Power enough when^r it is to be
transferred to the^r Servants in Africa
to such an extent as We h plainly
made appear to be hurtfull to /
Co & / free traders, but when We
desire t power to be exerted f Our
encouragem^t & Protecⁿ, & wh We
are persuaded is / Intenⁿ o / Law in
Our favour, then they plead Want
o Power. The Law has expressly
provided in / fifth paragraph o /

Act of Parliam^t before quoted t / Com-
 mittee sh h power to make Orders &
 Regulam^s f / better gov o th^r Officers
 & Servants abroad. And / Act fur allows
 t such Orders & Regulam^s sh be such as
 / sd Committee sh fm time to time

think proper to make, an excepⁿ indeed
 follows in these words. "So as no orders

"or regulam^s to be made by / sd

"Committee sh tend to lay any

"restraint whatso^{ev} on / sd

"trade or traders to or fm Africa

"contrary to / true Intent &

"meaning o / Act"

Now we say t we cannot under-
 stand / Co's Servants to be Traders to or
 fm Africa within / meaning o / Act, but t /
 Committee notwth th^r present Objecⁿ
 understood / law in this sense is v^{ry}
 evident. How came they else in th^r first
 Instrum^t to / Governour o Cape Coast Castle
 to prohibit th^r Servants tradg wth foreigners
 sayg in th^e case (/ law howg made no full
 excepⁿ to / free tradg) & how came they
 now in th^r resoluⁿs lately laid before y^r
 Lordships to pretend to limit or prescribe
 / extent or manner o / trade o th^r sd
 Servants.

23^d. Th^r was and^r affair wh^{ch} was taken
 hold o & strongly insisted upon /
 Gentlemen o / Committee (viz^t) t / Merchants
 o Liverpool did not desire / Co's Servants

To be wholly excluded from trading in Slaves; this Objection was founded on a doubt put by Merchants of Liverpool as to whether it could be practicable or eligible to forbid Cooks Servants to dispose of Goods delivered them for the Pay to / best Advantage they could & consequently of Slaves, if / some should be found most to the advantage. To the Object We Answer. We wd be glad to w^ont opening were not given them, but rather than We will contend for any measures that should seem in / least degree oppressive, We wd will freely give up to / point provided nevertheless that it sh be an Instruction to / sd Servants that when they or any of them have vested the Pay in Slaves, / sd Slaves sh agn be disposed of by Money, Gold, Bills of Exchange or by / sd returns proper to be remitted to England, or that they sh be sent on acct of / sd Servants to / West Indies or America & on no acct sold or disposed of in barter for / Goods as any Ship or Person whatso^{er} & any Liberty further than this we apprehend wd amount to / whole or what we are contending agst.

We earnestly request that in / future Orders of Committee to the Servants upon / Gold Coast, some power may be lodged in / Council & that / business of Publick may not be left to / Sole & Absolute direction of Governor of Cape Coast Castle only.

We further request t^t all future Orders & Instruments sent to / Coast may be made public to all / free traders & t^t a Copy thereof be deposited in / Secretary's Office or some o^r convenient place in Cape Coast Castle f^r perusal o^f / free traders & / Co's Servants at all Seasonable times when they or any o^f them sh^d desire to see or peruse / same, & We most earnestly & humbly entreat Y^r Lordships t^t Ye will interpose Y^r Authority in recommend^g our Remonstrance ofore^d wth these f^r Addres^s to / Committee, t^t / trade may no more be in danger nor / free traders hurt & injured, by such Measures as We h^{av}e been compelled to remonstrate agst, all this We humbly Submit to Y^r Lordships judgm^t & determination & are wth / great diffe^rence & respect - &c -

(signed) Wm Wansley
 ") Thos Chalmerz

London 26th June 1753

[T. Yo. 1520 contd.]

Endorsed "Letter fm
Thomas Melvil Esq^{re}
to / Committee
K^a Dated 7th January
1753"

To / Committee of Co o Merchants tradg to Africa
Gentlemen

A Copy o my last by his Ma^ys Ship
Badger is inclosed. This goes by / Juban o
Bristol, who sails fm hence f Jamaica this
Day w 290 Slaves.

Mr Mackaile went to Annamaboe w /
terrible & unloaded her in a fortnight, but /
d^e Ships cannot expect to be discharged w /
same Expedition as it wd destroy all our Slaves.
Mackaile underwent as much Fatigue as wd be
killed any d^e White Man, & Capt. Cookburn
assisted w as much Affiduity & Zeal as if
/ Fort had bn designed f himself.

Mr Tymewell declines acceptg o Annamaboe.
He has bn so much afflicted w / Gout t he has
not bn able to put a Shoe on these six Months, &
therefore is not fit f a Place o Hurry & Fatigue.

Mr Apperley is gone down in / Earl o
Halifax. I sent Messrs Whittle & Knott along
w him, likewise Peter Falkingreen, Master o /
Sick Room, & George Bannister, t tw may be
People enough to share / Fatigue. How
long these Gentlemen will continue at Annam-
aboe I do not know, / w^{ch} first Day has tired
some o them, & / endless Pretences o John & his
Advisers, to squeeze Squeeze still more
Money out o us, affords a v^y disagreeable
Prospect to us all. Nothing within / Compass.

• Falkingreen

o my Power sh be want^d to forward / Work,
 & I hope y will take Care t we do not want
 of Supplis, t we may not appear to / Negroes
 to repent o our Undertak^g, what Money will
 be necessary f next Year I cannot so much as
 guess at, as I do not know what Bargain
 y h made w / Artificiers, & / People o Anna-
 maboe go fm w^y Agree m^t & raise / Price
 o th^r Labour upon us w^y Day, & are
 abated [abated in / Copy] in th^r Exort^{ns} by
 those who, if they hd any Gratitude f Favours
 received, or at least to remain neuter.

Cap^t. Gorman is arriv^d & sails f Anna-
 maboe this Day. By / Terrible I sh write y
 in a few Days.

We h a near Prospect o gettg / finish^g
 hand put to our Fantee Treaty, but I sh
 promise nothing certainly till ~~it~~ it be
 done. I hope / Lords o Trade will h
 Patience w me till / Glory sails, & then
 my Asser^{ns} will be properly supported.
 Some o them may be o an X^try nature,
 & require good Proof, but Truth will
 prevail sooner or later.

Mr^r Husbands, on hearg t he was to be
 turn^d out o y^r Service, had th^t proper to
 resign.

Annamaboe Road is full o Ships & w^y little
 Trade. They are, now g^og, as I am inform^d,
 9^½ a 10 oz. f single Slaves to / Blacks &
 I am affraid they will be dearer still. I am
 in haste

Gentlemen - &c -

Cape Coast Castle

Thomas Melvil

Janry 7th 1753

Endorsed

" letter from Thomas
Melvil Esq^r to /
Committee re a Dated
25th January 1753
4
26th "

To / Committee o / Co o Merch^ts tradg to
Africa
Gentlemen

My last by / Jubah a
Bristol is inclosed. Since t Time we h bin
bussy landg / Stores at Annamaboe
where we meet w many Rebs. The Canoe-
men raised the Wages upon us, & left
off Work. I sent all those belongg to my-
self & Partners to assist / Co & w these
we h wrought sev^l Days. This has
bro^t / Fantees agn to reason & they now
assist f / old Wages - w^{ch} Day produces
fresh Demands fm / Caboccers who say
now is the Time to eat when we are go^g
to build our Fort. John says he is our
Friend, but he is sick & they do not now
obey him; William says he is but a Boy
& has no Power, I sh^d not trouble y w
any more o this at present. I am removed
fm / Scene o Acn. Messrs Desaynes &
Apperley bear / Burthen, / former o whom I
h appointed Chief o Annamaboe.

Two Days ago a Quarrel happened bet^w
betwⁿ Capt. Carruthers & / Fantees o Cor-
mantine, how it will end I know not.
The Negroes h taken Cap^t. Boats's People

out o his Sloop & cut her a drift. John
Carrantes threatens to make War upon
them but recent Experience has shewn t he
wants Power & they put my Lord lately
in Irons & John cd not help himself.

After / Glory sails, & I h answered /
Charges agst me, perhaps what I sh say
may h more Weight & then I sh give y
my Opinion how these Excesses may be
prevented, but as I stand now it is too
ticklish a Point f me.

Tho' / English h no Competitors ~~now~~ this
~~Year~~ Year yet I am affraid it will prove
a bad one as / Trade is vj bad & / Ships vj
numerous.

I hear / Albania is at Dixcove. No news
o / new Parham. I hope y will not let us
want f Supplies. let / Corn Brandy be put
in better Casks o'wise y will lose much more
than / Dife. I am in haste

Gentlemen - &c -

Thomas Melvil

Cape Coast Castle

Janry 25th 1753.

We h not yet finished our Fantee
Treaty. Most o / Deputies are here waitg f
/ Carrantes who were to set out Yestd.
but we h already bn so often disap-
pointed t we can believe nothing t we
are told. Janry 26th 1753

Since writg / above / Albania is arriv'd

Endorsed

No 1.

Thos Melvil's Letter
to / Committee

Dated ye 24 Feby 1753

acknowledg'd Receipt o
ye Services p. Storeship "

Gentlemen

This serves to acknowledge / receipt
o yrs o Nov 8 1752 by / new Parham
I sh be glad to see / effects o / repre-
sentans o our count to / States o Holland
upon / outrages Committed by the Co's
Servants agst / English on this coast, at
present. / Gen is assist'd by / Squadron o
his Maj: Ships w whose Commanders I am
in perfect Harmony, yet he shews his dis-
position to do w^y thg to disoblige us.

As to Johns practices I sh say nothing
o them at present. Capt Cockburn carries
home my Answers to / Complaints wh^h b'n
made agst me as he was present at most o
my late transactns & I hope will be able to
clear up many thgs to / Lords o Trade.

I sh be cautious how I involve y in
disputes at Annamabol; I never meant
to do more than assist George Bannister
to bribe; by his strict adhere to us he is
at present out o favour w his town.

The books will not shew y anything
o / real expence o / Table, f what's w^{as}
spent above / allowce was not charged: 4
men o war in / wad will give y some an
idea o / expence, & I hope / maⁿ will feel
/ benefit o this beg here.

I sh endeavour to make an estimate
as exactly as I am able o / expence o

1 forts but Annamaboe engrosses me so much
t I h not yet had any time to do it.

I h sent y a copy Copy o / Fantees
recognim o our rights one o / Originals goes w
Cap^t Cockburn [Q.V.]. Time must discover
whr I h b'n well or ill employed since August
last in procuring this paper, what is meant by
it is easily seen. I am no Curliam but I may
venture to say t it gives at least as good a
right as any Bull o any Pope o Rome. I sh
take a more proper Method o sayg may more
upon this Subject when / Glory Sails.

On / 13th Cur^t. 2 French Men o War, de
Penithee [Panthee? - shd it be Panthere?]
o 64 Guns & la Sirene o 34 Guns appeared
off this Castle w^t colours at One in / afternoon
they hoisted the colours & stood in to reconnoitre
the [this in copy] wad. When they had done t
they bore away f Annamaboe. Cap^t Cockburn
had his anchor almost up to accompany them
when we got intelligence o / Assistance, St Albans
& Falcon beg at Axim. We directly made a
Signal fm / Castle & sent off a Canoe; on
whr Cap^t Cockburn wrote to Cap^t Stepany to
hasten down. Next Morn^g / 14th we saw
our Men o War. The Glory got under Sail
& joined them; so they went into Anna-
maboe wad alleg^s.

W regard to / negotians on board, Cap^t
Cockburn will inform / Lords o / Admiralty
more distinctly than I can pretend to do;
as my acct^s are fm him & / o^r Captains

15th. The French Commodore sent one Mr
Dubordien w a deuten ant on Shore
on prett^e o buyg provisions when they agn
repeated / old stale Story o / Englishmen's

say 9 t / Fantens were the Slaves & Cattle /
Sheep, Goats, Fowls & in Fantie were this: on
909 on shore / Frenchmen carried 14 anchors
brandy.

On / 16th they carried on Shore eleven ank.
brandy, 2 bales, a hamper or two & some Gun-
powder.

On / 17th the Annamaboe people declared t
since we had told / French t we had bot
them & t they were our Slaves, they wd,
to prove / contrary, give / French ground
directly to build a fort & wd immediately
hoist the flag. two o / Corsantiers were
here at / time, I told them what I heard.
They laughed at it, sd it was only
drunken talk; & indeed I find t /
gold takers on board / ship at Annamaboe
sd t they wd not hoist / French flag but
shew / French where they wd hoist the
own flag.

On / 20th Mr Dubordieu went off at
12 o'clock at night & has carried off 4
more boys to France & has promised
to return in 6 months w men o war
& Store Ships. The Men o War sailed
t night.

The French brandy made / Anna-
maboe people extremely insolent: it
carried them so far as to throw Stones
at / windows, o our artificers & to break
some o our bricks. As we were Superior
in force it was unanimously agreed
to make no dashes extraordinary till
/ French were gone as wylng given at t
time wd be received w thanks & was
only encourag / negroes to prolong /

Contest betwⁿ / French & us. We can now encourage those who approved themselves our friends & sh^d not fail to do it.

I h^{av} not yet got wthg in this recent trans-actⁿ sifted to / bottom & therefore must forbear enlarg^g upon it; I did not know t^h / Ship wh^{ch} carries this was to sail so soon, as I now find she does, so you must wait f^r all parts by / Glory.

As to / Goods I h^{av} no remarks at present except upon / Half Sails wh^{ch} are v^{ry} indif^t, some little better than percepts, & / whole inferior to Knipes. What to do wth them I know not; if we fall / price we sh^d never be able to raise it, & t^h will insensibly affect / Sale upon / whole Coast. I beg f^r / future t^h more care may be taken, o^f / Half Sails in parts.

The beef we h^{av} hitherto had has not kepted; & therefore everybody is o^f opinion t^h it will be proper to try it one year wth Mr Guy's operatⁿ.

As to / Council I apprehend y^e mean t^h / chiefs o^f Annamaboe & Commenda sh^d be Councillors, as beg^g / two nearest to Cape Coast; f^r this reason I intend to appoint Mr Dewaynes instead o^f Mr Clippisley who lies at a g^ot dist^{ce}, as Mr Tyme will be still chief o^f Commenda.

Trade pretty good at Annamaboe but Slaves dear.

I h^{av} no acct^s o^f y^e Annamaboe Artificers; wh^{ch} they are indent^d, at what wages, wh^{ch} y^e are to victual them & pay them in Africa, wh^{ch} they are subject to Military discipline. They sometimes grow mutinous; Mr Apperley sends them to me to punish them. I do not know t^h I h^{av} power to punish them & may run / risk o^f prosecution by

attempting it.

The Annamaboe People are deft every Day; now they will give us Ground enough for our Fort, tomorrow they will not & must be more Dashed to stand to / Agreement o' Day before. I don't they now do, not obey. How^{er} we rub on by some times bribg; sometimes threatening to leave them; declare War & drive away all Ships & all Mans wh^o our Apperley finds / most effectual method o' bringing them to Reason, & if they sh^old we h^old / Power they durst not use us as they do, but some good People is now informed them t^o only / King can declare War. Apperley tells them / Men o' War can do it as well as / King so they fear to offend too much. I am - &c -

Thomas Melvil

Cape Coast Castle

Febry 24th 1753

"Indorro" . . . p / Forrester
Capt Newsham

Endorsed

" Cape Coast Castle
Thos Melville's letter
to / Committee
no Date p. Glory
his Defence &c

[Note. The copy of this letter, n.d. in / Letter Book
T 40.30. is headed w/ following note:-
"The following letter of to h preceded / Diary".
92. / Letter transmittg / Diary wh is dated 11 Mar
& capital poss]

1. To / Committee of / Co of Merchants tradg to Africa.

Gentlemen

I h carefully read / Observans &
Instructions prepared by / Rt Honble / Lords Com-
missioners of Trade & Plantans, & find t they depend
upon / Truth of certain Facts, wh h bⁿ transmitted
to the L^{ds}, & wh I sh examine as accurately &
as concisely as I am able.

The L^{ds}ship h bⁿ informed,

1. I when some of Chief Caboceros of Fantees
were at Cape Coast at Christmas, complaining,
(among o^r things) t I stopp'd every Merchant Ship at
Cape Coast, not suffering them to come to Annamaboe,
wh was Ruin to / Fantees, I treated them contempt-
uously, dismissing them wth four Gallons of Brandy
only, t I denied them / usual presents, & bid
them go home & plant Cotton, all wh Behav^r
Behav^r so exasperated them t they re-
solved never to go to Cape Coast more.

2. I / Fantees told John Curran, when
/ French were at Annamaboe, t / afore-
said ill treatmt of them at Christmas was
/ Reason of the qu^{er} / French liberty to
build & to trade w them.

3. When Cap^t Buckle was off Cape Coast he had desired t^e I wd inform him what those Ships o^r Wars (if he cd see them) were do^g at Annamaboe: T my Answer was, I cd not tell, t they had bn there eight or ten Days, t I had heard / Fantee People were to go on board / French Commander / next morning to sign a Paper to give / French Liberty f a Piece o^r Ground to build a Fort upon, but I believed / com^g o^r / English Ships wd prevent it: T when Cap^t Buckle asked me if I wd go along wth him to Annamaboe I objected to go myself, & sd if I went they wd expect me to go thro^u upon wth Palaver or Meet^g.

4. When Mr William, upon a View to defeat / Designs o^r French, sent f some Liquor to gain / Affections o^r Fantees & likewise f Powder, I thot proper to send only one Bottle o^r Brandy o^r abt three Gallons, & abt a Quarter Barrel o^r Gun powder, wh^{ch} was not enough to load / Guns; t John Carrantee ordered Mr William to send it back to Cape Coast, & to tell / Governour it was a Shame to use / English So, especially at this Time, when / French were overpower^d / Fantees wth Brandy & t^e Presently in order to alleviate the Affections f^r them; but Mr William did not think it prudent to send it back agn, to avoid Approaches / Fantees wth cast upon / English.

5. T / private Traders cannot slave the Ships at Cape Coast by sev^l Pounds p^r Head so cheap as they formerly done by trad^g wth / natives, & t I th^t raised / Price o^r Slaves at Annamaboe to / Prejudice o^r private Traders, by send^g down a Factor to Annamaboe expressly wth t^e Design.

• not in this file. I see Capt John Hale
of ~~Badger~~ HMS. Badger? If so & there
2 letters bn copied in Admiralty Notebooks.

2. Under these five Heads, I apprehend, are
contained / Charges ag^t me, & therefore I sh^d beg
leave first to reply to them, & then to the Lops
~~at~~ Animadversions upon them.

I may do this wth gr^{at} Brevity, & likewise
carry a gr^{at} Conscience o^f Truth o^f what I sh^d
advance. I h^{av} copied, & sent herewith, / Diary o^f
my Transac^tions wth Fantees fm / Death o^f Mr Tuffers
to / 19th o^f ~~November~~ Nov^r last. To this I sh^d
appeal as I see Occasion, mentioning / Month & / Day.

The Diary ~~itself~~ will shew y^{ou} who were present.

As to / first Article. I deny t^{hat} any one man who
deserves / Name o^f Caboceros came up at Christmas
upon / Strand th^{at} mentioned except Hopping Anima,
& so far has he bn fm not com^{ing} back t^{hat} he was one o^f
those fm whom I hd / Informac^{ion} o^f what I wrote by
Jubber.

In this Article / Word Fantee is put f^{or} Ann-
amaboe. Every Cabocero o^f Annamaboe w^h whom
/ English ever hd any Intercourse has bn ~~here~~ here
since t^{he} Period except John Currantee &
Coffee Xango. Why they h^{av} not bn here see / Diary
Nov^r 14th & Nov^r 19th.

By / Expression usual Presents it seems th^{at}
Lordships h^{av} bn informed t^{hat} / Caboceros o^f Ann-
namaboe usually come here & gr^{at} Presents
at Christmas. The v^{er}y Reverse o^f this is true.
See Diary. Oct^o 23^d Capt Hale's Answer
(no 2) to my letter (no 1) & if th^{at} Lordships
h^{av} any Doubt still remaining, I old Co's Books
w^{ill} remove it.

If / Annamaboe Caboceros h^{av} bn here
since Christmas 1751 & if I did not refuse
them / usual Presents, they w^{ould} beg^{ged} used to
receive any, so much o^f this Article, at least,
is w^{ith} Founda^{tion}.

But I used them contemptuously; bid them
go home & plant Cotton. Cudjo. s^{ic} Officio,
is to interpret what I say to every Negro

who comes here on public Business. He has declared t^e he remembers no such Thing, nor is it at all probable t^e I sh^d turn my favorite Project into Ridicule by recommending to those who had no Slaves to put it in Execution. Indeed he / Fact but as it is represented to the L^ops t^e / Chief Caboceros o^f Fantee he come here, it is a thousand to one but I sh^d be advised them to plant Cotton, & they wd^d be taken / Advice kindly, where they had followed it or no. I speak this by Experience.

The People who came up at Christmas (Arima excepted who has abt twenty or thirty Slaves) were / Goldtakers; a Set o^f Men gently & poor & who get their Livelihood by beg^g Interpreters between / Ships & / Traders, & by cheat^g both. To be bid them go & plant Cotton, or even Corn & Yams, wd^d certainly be in a very high Mistake & my Folly.

It never was my Method to use any Negroe contemptuously, but if ever such a Behaviour was proper, it was so to these Goldtakers, who wanted either to make us the Tributaries, or not to sell to our own Countrymen, / Slaves we had, bot chiefly o^f / Fantees. A small Acquaintance wth this Court will soon shew any Man o^f / least Discernment t^e / Method o^f manag^g / Negroes is not by giving Way to the unreasonable Demands, t^e, instead o^f conciliating the Affections, we only render us / Objects o^f the Contempt. They only regard one and accord^g to the Power o^f dog Mischief. This Principle they carry into the Religion. God, say

they is too good to do us any Harm, & therefore they look on all Worship o him as needless, but pay gr Court to / Devil, who gets Abundance o Dashees.

If the Lops h bn informed t I endeavoured to stop / English Ships at Cape Coast upon a Motive o private Interest, I h bn wronged, & it is more my Interest t Ships lye at Annamaboe than at Cape Coast, & I shd h no Trade in either Case when they are givg gr Prices, & must necessarily be at considerable Expence when they are here. It is possible t a Man who wants his Goods directly may sell me a Slave rather than carry him to Annamabor, where he may h Palavers (Law Suits) but when Ships are in this Road, givg three or four Pounds more than I can afford, I h no Chance. So t hwd wrong I may h bn in attemptg. to stop Ships here. Self Interest cd not be my Motive. Some Ships h bn dispatched fm hence by Roberts, Husbands, & Boteler w whom I h no Concern, & I submit it to the Lops whr it is not somewhat hard to make me intirely innocent / Blame o / whole where, if it be a Fault, I am sometimes intirely innocent, & at o^r Times, only one concerned.

In Answer to / second Article I refer to / Diary o Octob 23^d & Nov^r 16th; to sev^l Gentlemen who received Letters fm Gov^r Roberts (among wh^{ch} Number perhaps are some o the Lops, & some o J. f a French Anchor will contain many Letters, & t I h heard wth his Measure) complaing o John Curranter & / Fantees, as well as his own Collegues, f^r encourag^g French Commerce. The Govern^r whelc^t he was "resident & in Authority" here found t "John was blest w / fewest good Qualities, & cursid w / most bad ones o any negroe he ever knew; "no Endeavour nor Motive cd then engage him to espouse / Interest o / British Traders wth Vigor

of Spirit" The kind Civilities & gentle Treatment of his
Boy in England was then of no Concern to John nor
avail to us. The Factors were then so fond of French
Traffick that I was obliged to purchase a Sloop (of
abt 40 Tons) wh he was to man & arm for / Forty
& when a Frenchman attempted to anchor in Ann-
amaboe Road, himself threatened to take Command
of sd Sloop & oblige sd Frenchman to weigh &
pass / Volta. What Effect this Arrang^{mt} had is
not my present Business to inquire, but it proves
t my use / Cabours of Annamaboe ill, was not
Cause of the Trade w / French, nor of the giving them
leave to build. I dont here appeal to / Capt^s of our
Men of War who cannonaded Annamaboe during /
last War bec John Curranter, wd not give up
Mons^r la Court. Mr Crichton likewise can in-
form the Lordships of he & his Collegues, instead
of cannonading, advised bombard^g, as a more effect-
ual means of making John & his Townsmen give
up the French Commissions.

4. As to / third Article, in my letter of March 14th I
gave of, to / best of my Remembrance, an Acc^t of what
pass'd on board of Cap^t Buckle; I likewise rep-
resented / Condition I was in when he arriv'd,
wh was such, t I dare say none of the Lordships wd
h desired me to go off to any Ships if they had
seen me. Cap^t Buckle was on shore four Hours
next Day; he appeared intirely satisfied w /
Persons I named to accompany him, one of
whom is by y appointed my Successor in Case of
Death, both he & Mr Husband were better
acquainted at Annamaboe than I was.

I cannot conceive why Cap^t Buckle was
so much offended by my not going to Ann-
maboe w him after / Affair was over & yet
part w me here in good Humour w / least
think, fm seven in / Morning, to eleven, the
that my Presce necessary for / Good of Service
he came upon. I least surmise of / Kind this
Kind wd h carried me w him if he had not b'n
satisfied w my Reasons for stay^g behind.

Had I been conscious of any ill Behaviour towards
 Fanters I never wd h sent your Husband. I
 now see t it is dangerous to trust to Innocence
 alone, & confess I heartily repent my not go^g
 w Capt Bueble, unfit as I was f / Journey,
 since it probably wd h saved the Lops & y a
 g^t Deal o Trouble & myself a g^t Deal o Uneasiness.
 Not t. I imagine our Affairs wd h bn one Lot /
 better f my be^g Chr. The Fanters wd not h
 accused me as they h since confessed, but
 they wd h found d^r Arguments f giv^g Ground
 to / French.

When / Curran teers, or Senators, o Fantee were
 here lately to take Fetich, or swear, to / Observe o /
 Law f exclude^g / French, one o them acknowledged
 his hav^g given his Vote f a French Fort, bec they sold
 the long Swords f forty Shill^gs in Trade whereas /
 English charged fifty

I come now to Mr Williams letter to / Earl o
 Halifax. Before / French Men a War came down I
 sent / Quantities o Brandy & Gunpowder mentioned
 in / Books now go^g home to / Towns o Annamaboe,
 Aggah, Annisham, & Annissa. On this William wrote
 me No 3^o wherein he says / Gunpowder was too
 little f all Annamaboe. I asked John's Messengers
 how much wd be enough he sd / same Quantity
 I sent first I gave it & wrote to William. No 4^o
 I received No 5^o fm him after / Arrival o / French
 wherein he expresses no Wants except a Flag & a
 Flag-Staff f his Canoe wh, to / best o my
 Remembrance, he had. In this letter he mentions
 eight Flasks o Rum (abt 4 Gallons) wh he had
 given away, & yet t was after / tumultuous Riot
 must h happened o wh he informs my Lord
 Halifax & wh I never heard o till I was hon-
 ored w the Lops Observans.

5. I h wrote a letter to Cap^t Lokburne upon
 this Subject No 6^o & h his answers No 7^o

what William means by Gunpowder enough to
load / Guns I know not: And of his gratitude &
zeal see Diary Octob 24th

When I sent Brandy & Gunpowder to Annamaboe
or it was not sent to counter-bribe /
French, but to accompany a message accordg to /
Custom o / Country. Scarce a Week pass'd, but
I send single Flasks o Brandy, containing little
more than half a Gallon, to give Men than
John Currantee wot affrontg them; nor am I
affronted by them, when the Messengers brg
half a Doz. o Yams, & two or three Pine
Apples, perhaps not worth Sixpence in / whole.
To Judge truly in all Cases o this Nature a
thorough Knowledge o / Manners o / People here
is necessary. 'Tis only to be got by living among
them, or by more candid Informants than
those wh I am afraid hbn given o late.

But if what John Currantee has fm us, &
himself, & his Heir heir Quassah & of
William Ansah, cannot kind him, nothing
can. How far it has bound him let /
Diary through - out declare.

I cannot help sayg I / makg Use o
William to transmit Falsehoods agst me,
was extremely cruel in Respect to himself,
& oy bold, to give it no / mildest Epithet, in
Respect to his noble Patron, who had given
him such distinguishing Marks o his Favour,
& who expected no o Return than Fidelity
to / English, & Sincerity when he took upon
him to relate Matters o Fact.

I come now to / fifth Article. It sup-
poses a free Intercourse betw / Ships
& / Natives natives here before my Arrival.
I h heard t some Time durg / last War, when
I Co hd no Goods in the Forts, / Ships
were invited fm Annamaboe to make the
Trade in this Road; but this liberty was
only to remain till / Co sent out Supplies.

At t^e Time Slaves were v^y cheap bec^{ca} the were many at Market & but few Buyers. This impository Licence & t^e accidental Cheapness o^f Slaves are here thrown in to heighten / Charge agst me, tho' I h^{ave} no Business w^{ith} either. What h^{ould} I do to raise / Price o^f Slaves? If I entered into contracts w^{ith} French as Messrs Crichton & Chalmer did upon the Arrival; as Messrs Stockwell & Hubbards did upon the Arrival; as Mr Roberts & his Collegues did, after he had wrote almost a Ton o^f letters agst it? Had I followed such Examples I sh^{ould} be deserved the Lordship L^{ords} severest Censure, Bec^{ca} in ev^{ery} such Contract, / French get / good as well as / bad Slaves, & therefore ev^{ery} such Contract, as far as it goes, tends, more or less, to raise / Price o^f Slaves, & to hurt / Trade o^f / British Ships.

But I sent a Factor to Annamaboe to raise Price o^f Slaves. I never sent any Body to Annamaboe before / Arrival o^f Store-Ships except William Ansa. My Reasons f^{or} sendg^{ing} him I wrote to y^e, & received y^er Approban^{tion}. In order to pursue / same Plan wh^{ich} had been begun in England; to bind John Curranter to our Interest by ev^{ery} Act o^f Kindness; to make William a Man o^f some Property w^{ith} being expence to John or to / Public, or even to myself, I trusted him July 24th 1751 w^{ith} Goods to purchase six Men Slaves at 8 oz. each, wh^{ich} was / Price given here on Shore at my Arrival. On / Sixth o^f Sep^r 1751, William paid / last o^f these six Slaves & on / 8th he had 42 Ounces o^f Goods wh^{ich} he was to pay in Men Slaves at / Rate o^f 4oz. & Women at 5oz, but upon his complaining t^{hat} he got nothing by / Bargain, half an Ounce

more on each Slave was allowed him. From
this ~~Point~~ Period to Nov^r 25th 1751. William
had Goods for ab^t six Slaves more at / rate
those he had Sept^r 8th, Nov^r 25th William
owed us two Green Slaves, wh^{ch} neither are,
nor, I am afraid, ever will be paid.

John now takes / Debt upon himself, &
says / Boy Williams Name was only made
Use of in / Transacⁿ. So William gets two
Slaves in Consequ^e of his ~~Letter~~ Letter to Lord
Halifax. & lest he sh^d h^e credit for them in Acc^t,
John takes / ~~the~~ two upon himself, & knows, in our
present Situation, we can take no Method to get
Paym^t.

If I am wrong in guess^s at / Gentleman
who gave the L^ops / Informacⁿ of my send^g a
Factor to raise / Price of Slaves at Annamaboe,
I hope they will forgive me. I know Cap^t. Ellis
(w^h whom I never had any Dealgs in Slaves nor
even so much as Talk ab^t Dealgs) sd^t it^s a
now says t^e by allow^g William 8 oz. of men,
he was oblig^d to advance his Price. But
8 oz. was given here before my Arrival & if
William was allow^d 8 oz. he did not pay so
much to / Trader, so t^e Mr Ellis was under no
necessity of advanc^g his Price on t^e Deck.

I cannot avoid say^g t^e I am sorry Mr
Ellis & I were had any Difference. His openly adv^ors^g
/ Principle of Revenge wh^{ch} actuated him, has I
confess rais^d him in my Esteem. I believe
him as candid now, when he declares to me
/ Satisfacⁿ it gives him t^e all his Endeavour^s to
hurt me, provid^d uneffectual. I do not desire him
am^g my Enemies & I dare say the L^ops will not
be troubled wth any more of his Complaints.

I perceive no Pains h^{av} been spared to persuade
the L^ops & I t^e I am unpopular at Annamaboe.
If these Pains had succeed^d so far as to

consider to place independent of Cape Coast, it wd
 be in a great ease to me, but / Public wd be pd
 dear of it. At present, when / People they make
 exorbitant Demands, Messrs Dewaynes & Apper-
 ley tell them they h no Authority to grant them,
 & the / matter ends. I send down w^y
 they wanted in small Quantities, if I did I wish
 they wd expect Dashes in Proportion. lately I
 sent ten Pieces of Blackburn Checks to purchase
 Necessaries for / People at Work. They were so
 no sooner opened than / Cabocers insisted to I had
 sent them to be given away, & pressed Mr De-
 waynes to provide directly to a Division. From
 this Judge what wd be / Consequence of making
 to place independent of Cape Coast. & sending
 Supplies from England to it.

I make no Merit of having assisted you to
 with stand / exorbitant Demands of Annua-
 riamboe Carnoemen, by joining our own to /
 Co's, & shewing them that we cd do w^t them. If
 I had not taken this Step, I do not know
 when / Stores wd have been landed, nor what
 wd have been / Expence, if they broke w^y Bar-
 gain almost as soon as it was made, & rose /
 y. Price of Labour upon us w^y Day. But no
 sooner did they perceive that they were not
 absolutely necessary, than they came & begg'd
 Employment. I say I do not pretend to make any
 any Merit of this, but think in Justice to myself &
 Partners in / Property of these Carnoemen, that I shd
 not to pass it over in Silence at a Time when
 no Act has been left unpracticed to ruin me
 in / Opinion of the Lords & y.

I sh not say I am v^y popular at Annamaboe & it is scarcely possible I shd wth an abominable Breach o^r Trust. Ev^{ry} Frenchman driven off is placed to my Acc^t, & ev^{ry} thg they ask beyond Reason is refused them in my Name. John Curranter, bad as he is, has b^{een} seduced to appear, if possible, worse. He has b^{een} assured t^{hat} I was to be turned out, & Act of establishing an open Trade to be repealed. It was to h^{im} I do not know what for my Successor. I cd mention many Anecdotes relative to this, but they are below the Lops & 1/2 notice.

When / Terrible Store-Ship came here she had a Jack at her Top Gallant Mast Head. Tis / usual Signal o^f a new Governor. John was told t^{hat} ev^{ry} night t^{hat} I was actually superceded, what he sd on t^{he} Occas^{ion} does me no Dishonour. It is known, & will be told by o^{thers}.

Thus, Gentlemen, h^{ere} I finished what I h^{ad} to reply to / Charges wh^{ich} h^{ave} b^{een} brot ag^{ainst} me. I hope what I h^{ave} advanced is supported by such Proofs as will convince the Lops t^{hat} they h^{ave} b^{een} misinformed, wholly in Rel^{ation} to some matters, & in o^{thers}, Facts h^{ave} b^{een} so misrepresented t^{hat} what was innocent in itself has b^{een} represented as Criminal by / Addin^g o^{ther} Circumstances.

If what I h^{ave} sd is sufficient, the Lops will make th^{eir} own Reflexions. I am - &c -

Thomas Melvill

A Diary or Narrative o^f Transac^{tions} w^{ith} / Fanstees
fm / Death o^f Intuffero King o^f Warsaw
[1752]

As soon as I understood, by a letter fm Mr Tynewell t^{hat} Intuffero was dead I acquainted Cudjo w^{ith} it, he directly sent^{ed} f^{or} some Abrah^{am} Captains who were in Town & imparted it to them. They set out f^{or} th^{eir} own Country t^{he} night, & in three Days returned w^{ith} / follow^{ing} message to me.

T^{he} / Town o^f Abrah^{am} begg'd I wd send Messengers to / Warsaw directly, to desire them not to be discouraged by / h^{is} o^{rders} o^f the King, but to remain in / Place where they were, w^{ith} mak^{ing} any Overtures f^{or} an Accomoda^{tion} w^{ith} / Ashantees till they heard full fm me.

To this I only replied, why do y not send this message
 yr selves? Bec / Warsaw's will not believe us. This
 Confesⁿ was just what I wanted f an Introducⁿ.
 Then I told Abacoon (/ Amer^s: one o the Captains)
 t I was well assured / Warsaw's wd give Credit
 to any message we sent, as long Experi^{ce} had taught
 them t we were the Friends, & t longer Experi^{ce}
 shd h taught / Fantees / some lesson, but within
 these Ten Years, w^t any manner o Provocⁿ, they had
 been on endeavoring to throw us aside, & to connect
 themselves w a People to whom
 the Fathers were utter Strangers, & w whom it
 was impossible f us to unite. I doubtless they
 were v^y sollicitous at present to prevent /
 Ashantees & Warsaw's fm joining, since they
 acknowledged t / certain Consequence wd be, the
 attacking Fantee w united Forces: But if we pre-
 vented this Junctⁿ & brot / Warsaw's into the
 Alliance, how did we know but we were assistg
 those who were on / the o talkg / French into the
 Bottom & thereby becoming our worst Enemies. How^{ev}
 How^{ev} as they came f our Assistance in an affair
 o this Import^{ce}. I hoped they were disposed to
 become our thorough Friends, & as a Testimony
 o t, to agree w us in / most solemn Manners,
 never to suffer any French man to set Foot in
 Fantee, if they did this, we were ready to assist
 them w Arms & Ammunition to fight, & wd pro-
 tect them in Case they were beat.

Abacoon sd, he tho't my Demands were most
 reasonable, & he durst say they wd be complied
 w, but whilst we were talkg / Warsaw's wd
 be comg to a Resolⁿ o givg themselves up to
 / Ashantees, & th^ofore this was no time to be
 lost in sendg / message.

To this we replied, it is v^y natural f y to be
 anxious abt yr own Business, but is it not
 as natural f us to think o ours? We must
 make one Affair o all this, & not suffer

yr Part to go before ours, so beware o attempt^g to
dupe us, as y may thereby destroy yr selves. Fantee
& Warshaw must send Deputies to Cape Coast, &
give Hostages f / due Performance o what^h sh be
stipulated betwixt them. We likewise must h
Security f yr standg to any Agreem^t y sh make
w us. But lest y shd suffer by any Delay o
mine I will directly dispatch Messengers to /
Warsaw Camp to let them know t / English &
Fantees h heard o Intuffer's Death; t I desire
they will not be cast down, nor take any sud-
den Resoluⁿ upon it; t I am, at / Desire o /
Fantees, in Treaty f / mutual Peace & Security o
both People, & t shd I fail o Success they may
be assured o hav^g sufficient Warning to pro-
vide f th^r own Safety, & at / same Time desired
them to send down some Cabocers, properly
authorized, to conclude a Treaty w / Fantees
under our Mediatⁿ.

Now continued I to Abacoon, y see by /
Turn o this Message, t / Success o this whole
matter will depend upon yr selves, so go home,
& take yr Measures accordingly. This pass'd on
Aug^t 14th 1752.

Abacoon desired t / whole Transacⁿ not be
Keep'd Secret, till such Time as th^r was a Party
form'd too strong f t o those Cabocers who
hd sent th^r Sons to France.

Aug^t 15th

Abacoon went away w Brandy & Tobacco
f / Cabocers o Abrah.

Aug^t 20th

Received a Message fm Abrah t all / Cabocers
th^r hd come to a Resoluⁿ to exclude / French fm
ever settl^g in th^r Country; t they hd sent to /
Brafoc to know if he hd given / French any
Encouragem^t to build a Fort at Annamaboe, t
if he hd, he must f / future give over all Thots o
it. f as th^r Fathers knew no o^r white Men but
/ English & Dutch, so Abrah was determin'd

to h no o^r in the Country.

The Braffoe replied: t he had received a cloth, Hat & Came & Somethg besides fm / French, & was promised a gr Deal more when they came back, but t since Abrah had declared agst the settl^g, he wd do so too, & t must send him Oz. 20 o Goodly f open^g his Mouth in our Cause. To this Abrah answered t as I was o the first Regiment he shd h no more than Oz. 10.

Augt. 22^d

Received Intelligence by / Braffoe's favourite Son whom he employs in all matters o Imp^{ce}, t his father had sent to acquaint John Currantee, t he heard a Rumour fm Abrah t / Capocuris the were talk^g o mak^g a Law to prevent / French fm settl^g anywhere in Fantee; & t as he (John) was / first who had ever ~~spoke~~ ~~to~~ spoke to him in favour o / French, he he desired to know his Opinion o such a Law.

John returned this Answer "if / Fantees declare agst / French I cannot help it"

Came down / Currantees w / Braffoe's Son f / Ground Rent o Annamaboe, Aggah & Annisham. The oldest o them told me t when Mons^r Salvert was at Annamaboe, John ~~gave~~ got him privately into his Room, w / Frenchman who was on Shore, & begg'd his Interest am^g his Brethren to procure a Piece o Ground f a French Fort. He did not deny but John's Arguments had the due weight w him how^r he assured me t he wd be directed by Abrah.

The Priests o Bura Bura Weigan (i.e. / Father o Fantee) h sent here to make a Fetiche in / follow^g Manner. To write on a Piece o Paper in / English Language these Words, " / Practices & Designs o / French & John Currantee are bad". Then / Messenger was ordered to carry / Paper to / Water-Side, t^o tear it & throw it into / Water.

I took this for a Joke, but Cudjo (who is a firm Believer in these Matters, tho' he does not chuse to h it that so), assured me t' it was not so meant, & therefore takes Care to h it performed accordg to the Direc^{ns}.

The Braffoe's Son told me t' if John had not proved so g^d a gr a Rogue to / French as to / English. I sh^d h met w almost insurmount-able Obstacles in procuring a Law f / Exclu^{on} o / Formers, but as he neglected Abrah intirely, & distributed / French Presents w a sparing Hand to /^s Towns, t he m^t h / more to himself. Abrah now begins to ask, who is this t' pretends to give away our Country w^o our Consent? Thus, continued he by his free Liness he has in a g^t measure destroyed his Imp^{er} am^g / White Men, & now he must obey what / Fanatics sh think fit to order.

September 23^d

Came into / Castle, Acrophy Public Orator o Abrah attended by / Deputies o / Braffoe & Curranterers, / Priests o Bura Bura Weigan & all / inland Towns o Fantee.

Acrophy told us t' ever since / Fantees left Arcania, under the Braffoe Imorgh, they had bn closely connected w / English who furnished Arms & Ammunition to conquer / Country now called Fantee.

T Abrah had heard o / late Attempts o / French, & had sent him w /^s Deputies to propose making a Law to exclude them fm ever settl^g on / Fantee Coast.

T f this Inst^{ce} o the Affec^{on} to / English they expected Somethg to eat.

Answered, we are v^y glad to find y are come back to yr old Friends, we will give y somethg to eat, how much do y want?

Acrophy then mentioned 1000 Bends

(£8000) & on our seem^g much surpriz'd, he added, or 600 Bendies.

To this I replied by a Recapitulaⁿ o what had pass'd fm Intuffer's Death; desired them to remember t / Fantie's first sol^d our Assistce; t all we wanted ~~from~~ them was the Friendship, f wch they ask'd more, or at least as much as they did fm / French, to whom, they owned, the Factory were utter Strangers; Advis'd them to go to Town & think better o Matter; t we wd give them something when they became more reasonable in the Demands.

We then ask'd if there were any Deputies fm Annamaboe present? Acriphy answer'd no, we do not regard Annamaboe, they must agree to what we do; leave them to us; if they were to oppose us we wd drive them into / Sea, but they cannot open their Mouths agst any Thg we agree to. To this we repli'd t one gr^t Reason o our wantg to unite / Fantie's more closely to us at this Time is, to prevent yr be^g torn to Pieces by English & French Factors am^g f, when yr whole Country is little enough to withstand / Ashanties & if they shd come down, t yr sufferg / French to settle wd produce this Effect is v^y plain fm what I spoke just now. Y may, fm this Instce perceiv^e what Bribery can do, Now I expect something fm us, if People o Annamaboe attempt to oppose y, they are to be destroyed. If / French were once settled, wd not the Presents beget Friends to them, & wd not a War commence directly betwⁿ our Party & thrs, wch mt last till / Country be depopulated? F this Reason we will make no Bargain w any Part o Fantie, / whole must come in or we proceed

• no farther.

I told them t I did not imagine they wd be any Difficulty in bringg John Curran to agree to / laws, bec, when / French were last at Pomamaboc, he sent to acquaint me t b his Attachm^t to / English, / Fantees ~~had~~ threatened to turn him out o his Post, but now when / Fantees professed / same Attachm^t wth his havg any Hand in byass^g them, he ~~must~~ must embrace the Party wth Joy. And as f / Inhabitants o Pomamaboc, they always declared they wanted a Fort to eat, & were ready to follow John.

This they answered by pressg John to be / chief Supporter o / French Interest. I laughed at his message to me & desired us to continue give Our selves no Trouble abt Pomamaboc b they shd agree to / laws.

Septem^r 24th.

Cudjo came to acquaint me t he hd brot Acumphy down to 100 Bendies f all Fantees, & 20 Bendies to / leadg Men o / Country. I told him, I wd give it, as it was only 20 Bendies more than I wished to give: t if I cd brg them lower I did not chuse it, but lest / Cabovers who hd sent the Song to France shd attempt to bribe agst me, wh they m^t do if I gave a small Sum, but t 120 Bendies was more than they wd give f all / white Men in / World.

Septem^r 24th.

Received a Message fm Pomamaboc, Aggah & Annisham to this Effect - John Curran's Man / Speaker, t they hd bn informed t Abrah hd bn here, & Rd agreed never to suffer a French man to settle in / Fantee Country; t what Abrah sd they wd stand to, & wd take Care o our Ground till we thot proper to build our Fort. He added, t John & all his

Family were in / English Pay & t therefore he cd
 not be f / French; t as Fantee now declared
 agst them he must think o some Method o gett^g
 back his Son whom he sent off in the last
 Men o War; t he heard / Fantees had accused
 him o beg in / French Interest, but th^r they
 did him ~~an~~ Injustice as he was a Co's Servant.
 I answered before Quasgah (John's Heir)
 t I wanted to accuse no Body; t th^o I knew
 many Thgs, I wished to forget all; t if /
 Fantees accused John o beg / Frenchmen's Chief
 Friend, I cd not help t. I was so far fm giv^g
 Countence to any such Charges, t I had repeated
 to them / Message he sent me when / French
 Men o War were last at Annamaboe, I then
 thanked Annamaboe, Aggah & Annishan f con-
 gureg w Abrah, & as a Testimony o my Satis-
 factⁿ wd give them Oz. 8 o Goods & two half
 Hog^s o Brandy to wash / Shame fm the
 Faces in beg / last, not / first, in propos^g to
 exclude / French

Septemb^r 28th.

Came in agn / messengers fm Annama-
 boe, Aggah & Annishan, John's man /
 Speaker. He told me t John had b^e informed
 o what had passed yest^y; t he gave his Service
 to me & sd he heard t Abrah had Oz. 20
 f what they had done, & therefore I must send
 as much to Annamaboe, I asked wh^r Abrah
 or Annamaboe made / first Offer o a Law
 to exclude / French. To this no Answer, I
 then asked how much o / 30 oz. I sent last
 Febr^y to John to divide am^g / Fantees, he
 gave to Abrah? To this he answered
 t Money is all eat & forgot, but / Law
 puts an End to ed^y Thg. I replied t I told
 me almost as much last Febr^y; t Yest^y?

offered y abt 02. 16. f wh y were w³ thank full
 but now John, who is ashamed o nothg, wants
 more; t I know him too well ever to imagine
 I can satisfy him; t if they wd take / Goods
 I was ready to deliver them; if not, they were
 wellcome to let them alone. On this they
 took / Goods

The Messengers fm Aggah & Annishans never
 once opened th^r mouths. My Lord was present
 likewise, but sd nothg.

Septem^r 29th

Auriphy & / inland Fantees came to acquaint
 me t / Messengers they hd dispatched to th^r Con-
 stituents were returned wth the Approbanⁿ o what
 they hd agreed on wth us, t therefore he was come in
 to sign an Obligaⁿ to pay^s / Law, to swear, &
 to give Hologes f / due Observance o it, & desired
 me to give him a Note f / Paym^t o / 100 Ben-
 dies when they sh^d h performed th^r Part o /
 engagem^t. To this I agreed.

George Bannons Banishee, who was present,
 proposed t / Limits fm wh / French sh^d be ex-
 cluded, sh^d extend to Accra instead o Tan-
 tumquerry wh is properly / Boundary o /
 Fantee Coast to / Eastward, & his Pleasyn was
 bec he hd often heard / People o Mumford &
 / Saltpond Salt-pond wish f them.

To this Auriphy assented & told us t /
 Fantees, hd conquered all / Countries between
 Q. Annas Point & Accra at one Time or o^r by
 / Help o / English, who therefore hd a Right
 to demand / Exclusion o th^r Enemies or
 Rivals, & if any o / little Countries within /
 afores^d Limits pretended to disobey / Law, they
 wd conquer them eqⁿ. So in Auriphy's
 Obligaⁿ Queens Ann's Point & James Fort
 Accra are / Boundaries.

Octob^r 2^d

By a messenger from Appah at Annamaboe I am informed t^t John Currantee raises g^o Objec^{ns} to / laws of excludg / French, & wants to h^{ave} it deferred till they return. f^r o^{ther}wise, he says, Coffee Yango & he may take the children whom they gave to Mons^r Salvert as hostages.

Adowaka, Co's messenger, lately come from Abrah, where he has bin f^r two Months, says, t^t to his knowledg many private messages were sent to John by his friends in Abrah begg^{ing} him not to oppose / laws o^{ther}wise he run a risk o^f ruining himself & family as / Fantees only wanted a Handle agst him to make him refund / French Presents.

When Acrophy came in on / 29th Ult^o. he sd he was glad to find t^t John had sent to tell me t^t he wd stand in any agreem^t with Abrah made; t^t John & he were so near Relat^{ns} t^t Quassah cd not take Possession o^f John's Estate after his Death, wth his (Acrophy's) Consent; yet it was agreed by / Caboccers o^f Abrah & Murrin t^t if Annamaboe made an Opposⁱⁿ, they were to send f^r John, give him some little Place fit f^r an old worn out man, & never suffer him to return to / Water-Side any more

Octob. 3^d

This Day came in two o^f Curranteers o^f Fantee who were dispatched by the Brethren, then at Court time ab^t some Business, to assure me t^t the Body were ready to do what I desired; t^t / only Th^{is} t^t puzzled them was, how to get back / Sons o^f John Currantee & Coffee Yango.

I told them t^t John Currantee o^u t^t to be punished by them f^r passg his Son t^t he wd give away Ground wh^{ic} did not belong to him. They sd t^t we had ourselves to thank t^t we are, now troubled wth / French; t^t they never stoppd at Annamaboe before / floatg Factory went th^{er}. I knew t^t to be too true.

October 6th.

Arrived a Messenger fm / Cabocur o Annisham
wantg Tobacco to Smoak, wh I gave him.

This Man told me t / People o Annamaboe had
assembled & had drank / Brandy I sent them
contrary to / Advice o Coffee Yango, who begd t
they wd let it alone till / French returned & he
had his Son back; t all / young People declared f
/ French as they sold th^r Goods cheap.

I answered, t if / Annamaboe People did
not like / Law t was nothg to me; t / Fantees
came to seek me first; t / John opened his
Mouth ag^t / English in this Affair, I wd divide
what he has fm us am^g. those who wd put him
to Sil^{ce}; He replied, t ~~it~~ certainly ~~is~~ is in y^r
Power, but John dares not speak openly ag^t /
English.

He then told me t Coffee Yango & / two
Anumats were talkg o com^g up to Cape Coast. I
replied, they are well come, I sh be v^y glad to see
them, but if they come f more Presents they will
be disappointed, as I will not give any^o A Ky,
& if they do not join w / o^r Fantees, I am not
affraid o carryg my Point w^t them. To this
he answered, as all / inland Towns o Fantee
h already declared, they can do nothg.

Cudg acquaints me t Coffee Yango had
sent to him to dissuade me fm givg any more
Presents to / Fantees as, he sd, they meant
noquisly

October 11th.

A Message fm Annamaboe, Aggah & Annisham,
/ two latter only f Formis sake & to please
John, f they acknowledged they had nothg to
say.

Johns Message was t he was an Englishman;
t his Father delivered him into / Englishmens
Hands when he was v^y young; but f those who had
given the Sons to / French cd not come up to Cape
Coast to sign any agreem^t to exclude them, as I
wd send / Paper home & / French wd g^t to /

Knowledge o it & keep the Pawn; t therefore he begged God let whole Affaire be till French returned, & he hd his Son.

He replied, t his Business was in Hands o Fantees; t I was ready to make good my Promise when they hd fulfilled the Part; t I was not accusg John o be g a Frenchman, but if I did, hd I not good Reason? Answer me a few Questions Can any Body go & live in Johns House w^t his leave? No. Can any white man carry Johns Sons fr / Shore w^t his Consent? No. In whose House did / Frenchman lodge last Febr^y? In Johns, who assembled / Town o M^onamabol when / Frenchman wanted to speak w^t them? John who gave his Son a Pawn t / French shd h^e Grand to build a Fort on, was it not John? Yes.

Here Mrs Husbands (whom I hd sent f) came in & asked, did John ever acquaint you Young, or me, who were in his House at / Time, or did he tell Cap^t Buckle who was in / Road, t he hd given / French one o his Sons? No he employs his Tongue to say he is an Englishman, but he makes his Actions declare / Contrary.

We then told / Messengers to let John know t we were not quite / Idols he took us f; t^e tho' we did not accuse him o be g / chief Supporter o / French Interest, yet we were not ignorant o his Practices. We advised him not to send any more such Messages; Hinted t / Money allowed him & his Family wd make 5 or 6 Cabovers our Friends; t if he went on in this manner we shd be obliged to give it to w^t those who wd prevent his doing us any more mischief. - The Poggah & Annishan Messengers laughed v^y heartily at Johns. Cudjo told me he was ashamed to interpret / whole o Johns Message, f one Part o / Errand was f more Dash ces.

Octob. 12th

Johns Messenger (as those o Poggah & Annishan) came from Answer to carry back to his Master.

12. As I really did not know what to reply to such
Insolence & Folly, I told him t^e I tho^t I had given him
Answer enough Yesterday, but as he must be a wise
Man whom John sent on such an Errand, I sh^d
be much obliged to him to tell me what to
say. Sh^d I thank John f^r giving his Son to / French
in Testimony o^f his Gratitude f^r our King's Presents;
& his getting Quass Quassah to assure Messrs
Husbands & Young t^h this Son was only a Slave
he wanted to impose upon / French; & his do^g
his utmost now to prevent / Fantees f^r pass^g
a law to exclude / French? Sh^d I thank him f^r all
these good Services? He answered just as I
please. nay, but continued I, can I think o^f
any more proper Answer? Speak.

The Fellow was not only laughed at by /
Fantees, but laughed himself at / ridiculous
Figure. John obliged him to make, especially
on his telling me t^h John expected a f^r his Father.
I asked him f^r what? If it was f^r his Sincerity
in owning him self a Funtman at last? He
sd he really cd [not] give any Reason f^r
it & so went away.

Octob. 13th.

Informed by Father Fossu (Cudjoe's head Captain)
& John Cwurantee & Coffee Yango t^h sent up Brandy
to / Cwurantees, to buy, but a Stop to / Law.

A message f^r William Ansaah telling me t^h his
Father was an Englishman (/ common Preface) & t^h
he (Ansaah) heid me I wd lend him a man
slave to pay a debt he owed to a Ship, f^r wh^o
I excused my self as he owes us too much &
too long already.

Octob. 14th

Anima, Cabover o Aggah has sent up f^r his Pay.
I asked his Servant how John Cwurantee received
my last message. He told me t^h after John had
heard all t^h pass'd, he only sd, I find / English are
a little angry wth me this Time.

Anna acquaints me t he is ready to come to Cape Coast when I please, but is afraid to come by himself, lest ~~he~~ / Annamaboe People think he was playg / Rogue to them

October 15th

Cudjo Caboccur informs me t he has received a Message fm John Currantee complaining o his not being trusted w / Secret o / Fantees Intenⁿ at first. & assurg him t as soon as he has received his Son back fm / French, he will be done w them

Dispatched a Messenger to / Braffoo's Town to put / Fantees in Mind o my firm Resolⁿ not to pay any Regard to th^r Law, unless Annamaboe joined in it.

October 19th

Apprised one o my Messengers whom I sent to / Braffoo's Town to be present at / passg o / Law. He informs me t it is passd; t / Water-Side Caboccur h given th^r Assent to it; t they sh come to Cape Coast to sign it, take Fetich & give Pawns b / due Observⁿ o it. Sent them more Brandy.

October 23^d

Present Capt Cokburne, Mr Husbands & myself.
Cudjo Linguist.

Received / followg Message fm John Currantee by his Son George Bannishce, & one o his Sons whom he usually sends here, to this Effect. & formerly / Fantees had granted Mon^r La Court a piece o Ground to build a Fort upon; t when / French Men o War were here last Febr^y, they had agn confirmed t Grant; & John Currantee & some o Caboccur had given th^r Children as Ho- tages f / Performance o th^r Promise, & had taken Fetich to keep / whole Transacⁿ a Secret fm / English: Tho' / Sons o many Caboccur were offered, yet / French Commodore had only accepted those o John & Coffee Yango; & by this means these two Caboccur be g bound fast, & / dis free, they had come

To Cape Coast & declared t they wd h no French,
wh was a Roguish Proceedg as they were origi-
nally engaged, as well as John who, if he hd
bn informed in Time, wd h desired t we m^t
h sithen given them no Presents, or t what we did
give m^t h passed thro his Hands; The & his
Family h Pay fm / English; The will send Quassah
& William in order to procure messengers fm one
& Judjo to go to Annamaboe to be Witnesses
t. o his talkg Felich t he is an Englishman. George de-
livered this Message in English.

Answered. Will talkg Felich invalidate / Fact o
Johns sendg his Son to France? If he be such a
Rogue as to forget / Favours he so frankly acknow-
ledges, will not his swearg now be addg Perjuring
to his o^r Crimes? If he be an English man,
why is he / only Man in Fantoe who opposes
this Law? His Behaviour, not his Words, must tell
us what he is; T we are not ignorant how
much his Family will stand in need o our
Assistee after his Death; t by graspg at more,
when thro Age he is incapable o enjoyg what
he has, is only entailg Ruin upon his Heirs by
forfeitg our Confidce.

George told us t he hd delivered / Message as
he was ordered, & t it must stand or fall by
itself, t he did not pretend to justify his Father,
especially after he hd given his Son a Pawn
to / French.

Asked if I or any o / Council since my
Arrival hd used any Man, Woman or Child
in Annamaboe ill? No

Here Mr Husbands owned his advisg me
not to hear / Gold-takers last Christmass when
they came to demand as much Money f Custom
fm evy English Ship t stop'd & staved off
at Cape Coast, as if t Ship hd staved at
Annamaboe, or, if we did not agree to this, t
we shd not stop any Ship tho only to sell
/ Slaves we bot o / Annamaboe People when the

were my Ships in the Road. Mr Husband's Reason of his Advice, he sd, was, $\frac{5}{1}$ Insolence of Annamaboe always rose in Proportion to our Sabines.

Asked if ever they heard of Christmas Presents being given to / Annamaboe Gold-takers or even to / Cabocers of Place? No, They did not remember to ever they came here before, at t Season.

Here Cap^t Cotburne signified his Intenⁿ o go^g to Annamaboe to hoist / Flag & take Possessⁿ o / Fort & it was proposed to send f Quassah & William to come up & go in / Man o War.

Octob. 24th

Arrived Quassah & William, abt noon 2

5. went on board / Glory w Mrs Husband, George Bannisher, Quassah & William Anzah. On our Passage down, in / Cabin, before Cap^t Cotburne, William & Quassah told us t we had exasperated / Annamaboe Cabocers agst us, by keep^g up a Correspondence w Abrah & Murrin. Then William held forth upon / go^g Pastor o John, represent^g him to Cap^t Cotburne as / most powerful Man in Fantee, & Annamaboe as / most powerful Town. We heard all this wth patiently, on this Quassah went on hint^g Threats, on / Part o Annamaboe, as if we shd find Reason to repent what we had done after we were on shore. In this he was seconded by William who notw^g behaved more moderately, f Quassah run abt like a madman curs^g / inland Fantees, f hav^g got our Presents, & Abrah in part^r f deny^g t ever given the Consent to / build^g a French Fort.

George Barnishes sat silent a long Time but at last cd not bear Quassah's Insolence, so run out o' Cabin, sayg he was ashamed to stay any longer. Quassah called after him in vain & cursed him f' givg up / Interest of Family by not supportg him in what he sd, but leavg / whole upon him & William & him.

After Cap^t Cockburne, hd taken William into / Gallery & delivered him a letter fm England we replied to Quassah, t we never intended to make any Agree^{m^t} w / Fantees in wh Mungamaboe was not included: t we wondered how Quassah cd be angry w us, f takg / by some Steps to make / Fantees our Friends, wh / French (by whose Advice we sh^d forbear mentioning) so successfully took to make them thro: t John hd no Reason to be offended at our not admittg him early into our Secrets, when he reflected on his givg his Son to / French just after he hd received our King's Presents; when our Men o' War were in Annamaboe Road, & Messrs Husbands & Young were in his House: And not only so but t he took Fetich to keep / Affairs Secret; & t he (Quassah) & Anbah hd keep'd it concealed fm us, till / negoti^m f bringg abt this law hd forced a Discovery. Nay more, t he (Quassah) shewed Messrs Husbands & Young a Slave Boy wh he sd John intended to pass upon / French as his Son, & by t means did his utmost to deceive us; t do we know all these Thgs, yet we told / Fantees t we were sure John wd rejoice at / passg o' a law to exclude / French, as he hd, when / Men o' War o' t^han were last at Annamaboe, sent to acquaint me t he was threatened by / Fantees w / loss o' his Post, f his adhere to us, so we looked upon it as a friendly Proceedg towards him to beg

over his Countrymen to our Interests in such a way as to prevent this thro' any more Reflexions upon him.

We then asked how John could send a message to me to approve of our Proceeds wth Abrah & to acquaint me t^h Annamaboe wd abide by any Agreement t^h Abrah made wth us. To this William, who had left / Gallery, replied t^h / Abrah People had sent to tell John, t^h they were go^g to Cape Coast to get something to eat under pretice o^f Excludg / French & desired him to hold his Tongue & not discover / Cheat. We answered, Mr William, this is a fresh Proof o^f yr Gratitude & Fidelity to us, not only to deceive us yr selves, but to assist / o^r Fantasies in cheatg us likewise.

As regard to / Threats o^f Annamaboe People, Mr Husbands told Quassah t^h if all Annamaboe shd come to / Waterside Water-Side wth their Guns in their Hands to oppose our Landg, we were determined to go on Shore, hoist our Flag & take Possession o^f our Castle, & t^h if he found John playg off any o^f his under hand Tricks he wd apply to me to strike him & all his Family out o^f / Co^s Books.

This humbled Quassah at once. He sd he was but a Boy & our Servant, & begged we wd not think / worse o^f him t^h speakg his Mind, & represent^g truly how matters stood

He then took me aside & attempted upon me / same Trick wh^{ch} I believe was practis'd wth too much Success agst me when Cap^t. Buckle was at Annamaboe. He sd his Towns People never blamed me f^r treatg wth Abrah, they knew well enough it was Mr Husbands who had given me bad Advice, & agst him the Present mt^g was directed, If I had shewn / least Mark o^f Approbation to this Discourse, Cap^t. Cokburne wd h^{ave} been entertained wth as many Falshoods agst Mr Husbands

14. as / Captains Buckle &c were last Feby ago
me, & these Falshoods wd h bn supported by
such Authority t William must h touched
them all in Letters wh I shd h bn desired to
write (vy little Brandy wd h procured me t
Priviledge) but I hope I sh always despise such
Arts as much as I do those who are capable o
them. I told my lord t I gave him no Thanks
f such Discourse; t I was / first Person who
thot o procuring / Law, & t Mr Husbands hd
never once differed w me in Opinion on t
Subject, when this Attempt proved abortive,
Cudjo Cabreer, who was absent & who was
innocent too, was pitched on & loaded w Johns
& his Lordship's Curses.

Cap^t Cokburne & William hd a good Deal
o Discourse tog^s in / Gallery, wh as I did
not hear, I cannot relate, only I observed
William's Behaviourz g^{tly} altered, his Impce
quite gone, & he vy humble & Silent

October 28th

This Day Cap^t Cokburne, Mr Husbands & I
went on Shore attended by a g^d number o
Gentlemen fm / Glory, & almost all / Masters
o / merchant Ships in / Road. Cap^t Cokburnes
music played before us. At / Water-Side we
were met by / whole Towns People, Man,
Woman & Child who accompanied us to Johns
House, where we distributed Brandy am^g
them. After Dinner John came to pay his
Compliments. He took Mr Husbands by ye
Hand, in his way to Cap^t Cokburne & me, &
then threw it away to hint his Dissatisfacⁿ.
Before he sat down he gave his French Son
a Squeeze to keep him in Heart & to please
/ By-Standers o t Party. We hd vy
little Conversⁿ w him in public. We went w
him into a Room w only George Barnishes &
William Ansal, where we gave him / strongest
Assurances o / Resolⁿ o / English to protect
his Family, & desired t he wd give us all /

Assistance he cd in buildg our Fort; t he wd send
Some People to treat w me abt / Price o Labourz,
& f lodggs & d^r Accomodans f / white Men.

To all this he answered, as to myself, I
may depend upon me, but I can do nothing
wt / Consent o / Braddock & Abrah, William
Angah was John's Interpreter, & was obliged by
t Means to contradict what he hd advanced
on board / Day before.

Octob. 29th

In our Conversⁿ on board / Glory comg fm
Annamaboe, her Husband's acquainted, Cap^t.
Cokburne & me t Mons^r Glandevais / French
Commodore gave no Presents to / Fontees.

When we came on shore here, we found our
Messengers whom we sent to see / Land pass'd.
They acquainted us w / Partis. The Braddock, has^d
/ Gun brot by Cap^t. Buckle in his Hand, spoke
w gt Zeal f / English. The Number o People
assembled were, accordg to the Acc^t, above
20,000.

Desired Cudjo to send privately to Coffee
Yango, & offer him / Cos Pay to come heartily
over to us, in order to h Some-Body to
ballance / Power o John's Currantee in
Annamaboe itself.

30th

Coffee Yango has returned f Answers to
Cudjo t he will be advised by him & t he will
come up when^r I send f him. / John Cur-
rantee obliged him to send his Son to France
f wh he is sorry, & is now only solicitous abt
gettg him back. N. B. Coffee has 4 Times /
Number o Slaves t John has

Informed t Abrah has sent to John Cur-
rantee to know wh^r / Deputies fm Annamaboe,
to confirm / Law & give Security to us, are to

go to Cape Coast by / Sea Side or along wth thro.
He chose / Former. He lately begged o^r Abrah
t / French mt be allow^d to build a Fort at
Mumford Salt-Pond, a Village o^r his own, but
/ Abrah People desired him to give over all
Thots o^r French, & they shd build no where on
this Side / River Volta.

Nov^r 7th

Received a Message fm John Currantee to
acquaint me t / Curranteers were at Annamaboe
to see / Bricks landed. Sent them some Brandy
8th.

Informed by Cudjo t John Currantee has within
these few Days b^u by busy dispatchg Messen-
gers thro all Fantee, Cudjo is to send this
night to Abrah to know what they are ab^t;
& when they intend to come down.

Nov^r 10th

This Day on board / Glory William Ansah
told me t he had sent a Message to John Cur-
rantee to know wh^r or no John was determin^d
to be a thorough Friend to / English: t if he
was not, his Family shd no longer take the
Pay & t he had set him till next Monday to give
a satisfactory Answer. N. B. William durst send
no such Message

11th

Present Cap^t Lokburne W^r. Husbands, & my-
self. Cudjo Linguist.

Examined / Priests o^r Parra Bura Weigan
concerning / Attempt to procure the God's Ap-
proban o^r a French Settlement.

They told us t when / French were last here
they sent one Ank^o Pizandy to / Priests &
offered 50 Bendaes & liberty to build a
Fort; t when my Messengers arrived they
went to the Father (/ God) who ordered them
to go to Cape Coast & get 30 Bendaes &
refus^d / French.

Quest who offered 50 Bundred f / French,
did they go up themselves?

Ans. No John Carrantee sent up & offered
it for them.

13th
last night arrived Acrophy & Abacoon w
Deputies fm some o / inland Towns o Fantee.
This morn'g after they were in / Castle, Cudjo's
Messenger, dispatched last night by him &
George Bannishsee, came fm Annamaboe &
told us t our Fort was our own & we mt
build it when we pleased but t / Annamaboe
People wd not meet / Abroaks at Cape Coast.

William Ansoah, who heard this message
w Approbation when he saw / unfavourable turn
f him t matters were likely to take by our
shewing Marks o our Resentmt, & giving some
Hints o Cashiers, was almost frightened ont
o his Wits. He beg'd t we wd let George Banni-
shee & him go down & try John once more, wh
was agreed to & Wednesday M^o fixed f
the Return.

After this Mr Husbandy informed Captains
Cokburne, Hale, & me t William went to him
in Town & complained t John was a bad Man;
20. t whenever he set him right & hd / strongest
Assurances fm him o his beg in our Interest t
Dispos'n remained no longer than till he was
told ano^r Story; t if he cannot succeed in /
Business he now goes ab^t, he is resolved to
run away to Acroam & live there.

Quashie, alias Samuel Sharpe (f he
was christened in London) Deputy fm /
Salt-Pond, below Formantene, arrived this
Day at 11 o'clock. He told me t when he came
thro' Aggah, they were making ready to come
up here; t / Cabovers o Annamaboe went
this M^o at 4 o'clock to John who acquainted

them t I had sent f Quabzah, Coffee Yango,
Hopping Anuma, Clois & Appeca, who answer-
ed t they were ready to come when^r he pleased.

The Abrah Deputies desired George Bunnishes
& Will^m Anzah to tell John t he was / first
Fantee who had ever sent a Son to France; t the
Fathers always served / English who had fur-
nished them wth Guns & Gunpowder to conquer /
Country they now inhabit, t he had lately sent
another Son to France & had taken an Oath to be
true to / French f wh he was a gr Proge; t if
he did not send up Deputies here directly they
knew what Course to take wth him, f it was a
Shame to see Abrah wh had no Pay fm /
English / most forward Friends they had in /
Fantee Country. Nov^r 15th

Atrophy came in & recapitulated wth th^{is} t
had passed fm / Beginning; t Abrah was
deceived; t they must go home & call / Braffor
& John to Act; & t / first News we sh^d hear
sh^d be John's apply^g to us f Prote^{ct}on, Prevalent
on him to stay

Nov^r 16

Present Capt^s Cockburne & Hale, wth their husbands
& myself.

This Day arrived Deputies fm Annamaboe
who came into / Castle, on wh^{ch} we sent f /
Abrah to be present.

Annamaboe. We had landed all / Bricks; if
any more Bricks or Jests are come out they sh^d
likewise be taken Care o. Send us down a white
Man who can write & y^e sh^d know our Sentiments fm.
Quest. Did not Annamaboe know o / Law before it
was made?

Ans. It ot to be made by all Fantee.

Quest. Did not John Currantel send a Message h^{ere}
t he agreed to / Law?

Answered in / affirmative by my Lord.

Quest. 9^o & 2^o Objec^m to / Law itself, or to / manner
o making it

Ans. 9^o & to h^e b^e made by all Fantees.

Abrah. Acrophy replied t^e / People o Annamaboe
complained o / Irregularity o passg / Law w^t
any Reason; t^e whilst he himself was at Cape
Coast all / waterside Towns sent up th^e Consent to
it & sd they wd abide by what^s Abrah did; t^e they
waited sev^l Days f Annamaboe who was at t^e
time fightg agst Cormantine, & were affraid t^e if
they deferred passg / Law any longer in Form
/ English wd think they were triflg; t^e / Coast
Side People hd Pay fm / English, & it ill became
them to be absent at such a Season; t^e Abrah has
th^e Right Hand o Fantee & / Post o Annamaboe
is only to fill th^e Liquor; t^e Abrah has no Quar-
rel w Annamaboe & will be sorry to, h any, but
if they do not come heartily into this Law it
must produce a civil War; t^e Fantee was con-
quered by / English Aid, & if any Calamity
shd ensue upon / Deaths o Apoko & Intiffero
to whom but to / English cd they apply f Help?
T therefore they wd h no French & wd make
War upon any Town t^e sh attempt to intro-
duce them

Annamaboe. We acknowledge Abrah to be /
Right Hand o Fantee & t^e we fill
them wth Liquor, / French h got no Ground nor
Friends wth us & we do not pretend to say t^e
Abrah has done wrong.

Abrah. Abacoon sd, John Cuzantee has
Sons in / Hands o / English & French,
/ short Quest^m is, - wh^e he will declare him-
self f / Former or / latter. All Fantee has
22. sat English Money upon this Business, &
those who are f / French sat it f Notes, so
now let Annamaboe declare at once wh
Side they will take.

Annamaboe, Appah sd t / Braffoe & Curranter's
had agreed to give / French a Settlement.
t John Curranter & Coffee Yango had given them
Pawns f / Performance o t Agree'mt, & t those
Pawns must return before they cd do any Thg.
Abrah Did not Annamaboe know t they had
given Pawns when they sent here last
month & agreed to / Law, & took Oz. 8. of
Goods besides Brandy? Did not John Cur-
ranter know t he & his Family were in /
English Pay when he gave Pawns to / French?
No Answer to this.

I then asked Quassah (my Lord), George
Bannishee & William Ansaah if ever any o t t's
Family had bn refused any one Thg by me
since I came into / Coast Country?

Answered, quite / Contrary.

I asked agn, if either I or any o / Council since
my Arrival had ever used any Man, Woman or
Child belongg to Annamaboe ill? As t're
were two o / Pymins or Judges o t Town &
sev o / principal People present I desired
they wd speak.

Answered, they never had accused me or any o /
Council.

I asked fur, if they had bn well used by me,
why all this Eagerness b / French?

Here Capt. Cockburn observed t my pushing
these Ques'ns mt divert / main Subject, &
was needless as no Body accused either me
or / Council, on wh I desisted.

Capt. Cockburn I h only one Ques'n to ask & I
will be answered directly w't any more
trifflg. Is John Curranter b / English or b /
French?

Upon this Quassah, George Bannishee, Willi-
am Ansaah w / Pymins & Cabovers o
Annamaboe went out to consult

23. upon an Answer; after they returned, Appah was directed to say. We are but Messengers, we will go to Annamaboe & brg y an Answer

On this we dismissed them, Abrah exulted & / People o Annamaboe seemed quite ashamed
Nov. 14th

This Day George Bannister, by John Curranties Order informed me t Coffee Yango was / Man who spirited up / People o Annamaboe agst / Law o Fear o loss his Son; t John desired him to go to Cape Coast, wh he not only refused, but threatened / o^r Caboceros who h^t consented to go, & Anima in part^l, tellg them t if they went & he lost his Son they shd make good / Damage; t John was sick o^r wise he wd come & clear himself.

Answered. If / Case really is as John says, he has no more to do but give up Coffee's Name to me before Abrah as / Ringleader o / French Party in Annamaboe, & I will soon get him brot to a proper Submisⁿ.

Nov. 18th

Appah o Annamaboe Annamaboe has sent a private Message to Cudjo to acquaint him t / People th^r are o^f givg / French a Settlement & t they h^t persuaded / Curranties o Fantee t two French Ships are on / Way out. Loaded w Presents, & represent^t what a foolish Step they are takg in agreeg w / English before / Arrival o those Ships

A publick Message fm Annamaboe, one o John Curranties Captains / Speaker - ^{mons} /
" All Annamaboe are / English ^{men} /
" Servants, Abrah is not, satisfy /

"People o Abrah & let them go home,
" when^r we get back our Pawns we
" will h done us / French, John got
" back all his Sons fm Europe, & Coffee
" Yango mus^t not lose his."

Quest. Do y agree to / Law / Fantasie h made,
only heritate at signing it before y get
back yr Pawns?

Ans. Yes, we own / Law already made
binds us, but we cannot sign any
Paper as we look on t as sellg our Pawns.

Quest. Will y give us Pawns to oblige yerselves
to sign / Law when John & Coffee get
the Sons?

Ans. Yes, we will brg y Pawns next Monday.

Abrah Acrophys sd, I am no Englishman's
servant, I h no Silver-headed Cane
nor fine Cloth, yet am here waitg f Anna-
maboe.

Ab Abacoon added, t they hd nothing to say
to / Pay wh John & his Family hd fm /
English, but t he hd agreed to this Law
& hd taken a Present o Oz. 8 Goods besides
Brandy f wh they look'd upon themselves
as answerable & t if he wd h / French,
they must see whr Abrah or he wd
strongest.

Nov^r 19th

Sent ano^r private Messengers to Coffee Yango
w ten Gallons o Brandy to try & detach him
fm his French Engagem^t, he answered, t he
thanked me f / liquor, but cd neither come up
nor give Pawns till he got back his Son.

A Message from John Curran that he & all his Family belonged to / English; & he now was sick & was obliged to live in his Tub; & he knew w^{ch} Thg good or bad done by / Annamaboe People was ascribed to him but not to regard any~~thg~~ Thg sd agst him; & Annamaboe shd give Pawns w/^o Towns o Fantee.

As we received only this Message instead o^f Pawns, we answered & we thanked John; & we always took him for a good Englishman & doubted not but he wd h his Pawns ready. Gave him some Tobacco to make him believe & he had duped us.

Endorsed

" Copy
Thos Melvil's letter to
George Cockburn Comdr
of Glory Man o War
Dated Cape Coast Castle
March 1st 1753 "

To Capt. George Cockburn o his Maj: Ship Glory. Copy
Cape Coast Castle
March 1st 1753

Sir
In a paper sent me by / Committee from / R.H. / Lords o trade & planters, I found myself directed not only to return / Committees' thanks to William Ansell for his grateful prudent & indefatigable behaviour & conduct when / French were upon / Coast last year, but likewise to repay him / full value o two men Slaves he sold for 228 gal Rum to distribute am^g / Fantees to quell as much as possible the tumultuous riot occasioned by my sending two little brandy & Gunpowders.
I have already wrote to / Comm^{ee} & some o

Principal Cabovers o Annamaho declared to me t so far fm givg them liquor when / French Men o War, were the Ansbah hd not given them / Sunday's liquor wh I allowed. These Cabovers were Hopping Animah, Appa, Clois, & Appea who must h had a share of any liquor was given.

William writes me February 1st when this supposed rest must h bn at 1 height t he hd given away 8 flabkes or 4 gal. To my lord Halifax he makes his Generosity extend to 228 Gal. when y was at Annamaho w/ Store Ship he wrote me t he hd expended 247 gal. A few days ago he gave me in an acct o / whole amountg to 184 gal. Can such Contradict^{ns} consist w truth?

I am informed by a near relaⁿ o Johns who never yet deceived me t he hd bn at pains to find out / truth o William's acct o his Generosity on this occaⁿ. This man assures me t it is all a mere ficⁿ & t if I pay him we sh only be laughed at

I sh ~~try~~ say nothg o Johns behaviour wh you know as well as I & wh must h prevented William fm takg any step to oppose / French hd he bn ever so well inclined, as / principal person he hd to contend w was John himself, by his own Confesⁿ.

In / paper given me by William he mentions havg given Rum to Hopping Animah & to Animah o Aggah, / former denies / fact, & what was given / latter was, I believe, on Mr Roberts's acct, who hd a palaver w him at t time.

I cd offer many arguments agst this proof o William's gratitude drawn fm / quantity o Rum f wh he says he sold his Slaves. I cd likewise give y a reason why he mentions two Slaves abt is a debt he owes us, & has put us off wv Since he wrote to my lord Halifax & doubtless expected a release as a reward o his falsehood.

debt due I cannot look upon it, beg myself
thoroughly persuaded he never gave away
one drop. This I am clear in if any re-
gard is to be had to / words o' Blacks. I
~~never~~ never mentioned this to y before
not chusing to meddle w what was not my
immediate business, but as y^h asked it. I
h^guerr of my opinions & / reasons f^t opinion
I am - &c -

Endorsed " to^m Ansal's gift
acc^ts o' his Rum
Dated ye 12 or 13 Jan^{ry} 1753
Anniemaboe "

In dorso. To Thomas Melvil Esq^r
at C.C. Castel

Sir I h^h received / honour o' y^r. this comes
to let y know I never heard t^t y employ'd
any body to Raise / price o' Slaves at Anni-
maboe nor to buy any f^f y but my self
wh was w no such designe. y desirg to
know much Rum I give away when /
French men o' Wars were hear. Sir it was
24 y Gallons, my Father send his Compli-
ments this is all at present fm y^r most
humble servant William Ansal

[In anor hand]

Or to h^h b^h dated Janry 12 or 13th 1753

Delivered as follows when / Frenchmen o Wata were on / Coast last Year	
Gave in a Dashet to Beritte	Gallons
to Abango Cousin	5
to Annama o Pigga	4
to Amba o do	8
to Aduam & fishermen	5
to hopping Annama	8
to / Horse Guards	2
to Duguan & his Co	3
Delivered & expended in Drams & flasks to Divers People at Sun- dry times	146
Total Gallons	<u>184</u>

Cape Coast Castle 25th February 1753

W. Ansah Sessaracco

Memorandum. I had 2 Hhd's Rum one o 110
Gallons / o^r 114 one o wh Mrs Roberts had
43 Gallons

W. Ansah Sessaracco

Endorsed "Copy o a letter from Christ"
whyttee to Thomas Melvil
dated Annamaboe 2^d Octo^r 1753"

No. 15.

Copy 1 To Thomas Melvil Esq. Governor in Chief &c
Annamaboe 2^d October 1753.

Sir I received yr Favour in answer to mine
concerning John's want^g Goods on his two Pawn Boys.
Since then, I find it is to assist Ammonce a
Relat^o o John's & a Caboccer in / French interests.

more solemnly than any Thg o/ Kind ever
was in this Country, & Time must shew /
Advantage o/ proving it.

Fm / Recogninⁿ itself y will perceive t^e /
had another Point in View, wh. I thought was worth
/ riskg £1000 Sterly upon (it has cost abt 5
Sum) & t^o way to acquire a Right wherewith
to combat / Pretensions o/ French.

Before / Law was pass'd & ratified we had
nothing to shew in support o/ our Right to
exclude / French. The Broffoe & Curranteers
had a Note, wh sh be altered, whereby we ob-
liged ourselves to pay Ground-Rent f
Annamaboe, Aggah, & Annisham. But by
this Note we were only Tennants at Will, &
tho' we cd h disputed / Right o/ French to
settle at these vj Places, yet what Pretence
had we to exclude them fm settl^g elsewhere on /
Fantee Coast^s? Th^e settl^g any where upon it
wd do us much Hurt nearly, as if they fixed
themselves at Annamaboe. where^r / g^ost
Price is given / Trade will go.

In proving this Recogninⁿ I think th^e is
a possibility o/ persuadg / French by fair Means
to desist fm th^e Entire prizes upon this Coast,
at least till we are ~~fixed~~ fixed, & can talk in
a higher Strain to / People o/ Annamaboe
at a less Expence than we are at now.

To oblige / French to give up such an
Attempt by superior Force alone, is w^ound^g
them in / tenderest Part. If it can be
shewn them t they h no Right to settle here,
they may possibly be glad o/ Discovery,
as it may serve to brg them out o/ a Scrape,
& be a Salvo f / Honour o the Prince. 9

mention this as it was one o my Motives in
takg so much Pains as I h done to get /
Recognⁿ. To enlarge upon it wd be in-
decem^t, when I know into whose Hands this
letter is to go.

I told y before t Time must discover /
efficacy o this Law w Respect to / Fantees
themselves. They are a faith less & a
rapacious People. A Conscience o this
appeared when they drank Felick, no sooner
did / Braffoe's Son & / Curanteers see /
Felick Water than thir Countenances altered:
a sudden Tremor seized them & such a
Languor t they hd scarcely Spiritz to pro-
nounce / Words o / Oath, & put thir Hands
to / Paper. Next M^r they told me they
found I wd be at thir Hearts, I hd got
at thir Hearts, now it was over, & they were
glad o it.

One o / Parsons given f / Observe o /
Law has a desire to see England & goes
home w Capt Cokburne. As he is to be
one o / chief Priests o Fantee, a little money
paid on^t upon his Educam will not be
thrown away. If he is taught to read &
write it may render him more useful to
us, & may enable us / better to keep up
our Commissions w / inland Fantees. Besides
his Father who is a Man o gr personal
Authority, expects t his Son sh be taught, & in
my Opinion he ot to be qualified, as he has bin
one o / Principal Actors in procuring / Law, I know thir
are objects to teach / Negroes to read & write, but I
believe they wd not hold good in / present Case.

Cape Coast Castle

March 11th 1753

I am - &c -

Thomas Melvil