

Sirs

Wth favour of the 3rd Instant O^{rs}. I have had the Honour to receive, but could not reply thereto sooner, not having heard any news from Mr Raems, I can give you no other insight in the Differences which have happened at Commedia, than that I have received different Complaints from the Chief of the Dutch Fort at Commedia, against one named Lesly, who took upon himself to carry his Brutalities so far as to find some men upon the territories belonging to the Dutch Nation, and even to suffer one of their Soldiers to be beaten, and ill treated, as well as some of their Slaves on which I Deputed Mr Raems (Instructed in the Antient Customs) to examine into this affair, in order if possible to settle the same, in an amicable manner, being Inform^d (tho' must say till now tis only the Negroes Report) that the said Lesly, has refused to confer with Mr Raems.

Gentlemen I beg your consider that Politicks cannot Subsist, if not reciprocal on each party, and that all Kingdoms cease to be such, as soon as not peaceably Enjoyed, agreeable to our Predecessors not only to take upon himself a Right, but to ill treat with Brutalities, on a territory where priviledges were granted, and that (with respect to it) surges of you Gentlemen (as well as to a worthy man are permitted, but in honour for Nation we are obliged to refuse to an ill bred person, I have the Honour to Remain O^{rs}.

Signed De. Peterson

Ulmira 15th July 1746 N.S.

Sirs

We have the honour of your favour of the 16th, agreeable to which we have sent the contents to Mr Lesly, in order for his Answer, in order to settle on a right foundation the present Differences, and just now we have Rec^d a letter from said Mr Lesly, who Informs us that this day your Subjects at Commedia have burnt all the Canoes belonging to our Factory, and a little soon after which there was a Skirmish between the Inhabitants of both Towns, these things having been transacted with our knowledge, and not been sufficiently acquainted with the whole affair, of our parts we propose a Cessation of Hostilities, in order to adjust in a handsome manner these differences, till which we hope you'll not suffer your Subjects to take any Advantages from the present Condition of our English Fortifications, we have the Honour of being O^{rs}.

Since the above we have Rec^d Advice by a Canoe, that the two Forts have discharged some Shots, which very much surprizes us, but in confidence that you'll give your Chief of Commedia Orders for a Cessation of Hostilities, we have taken the liberty to Enclose ours to Mr Lesly to be deliver'd here at same time with yours.

C. C. C. 6th July O^{rs}.

Sirs

Annexed we send you a Copy of our Orders, which went with yours to Mr Lesly, in order to a Cessation of all Hostilities on both sides, supposing you know of no other Circumstances, but those we received from the Chief of the Dutch Fort, and Mr Raems Report, to this purpose, that the said Lesly was the first Aggressor, for having ill used, and beaten a Soldier, and the Slaves of the Company on the Territories of the Dutch Nation, and in second place for firing the first Cannon, the Dutch Chief having received positive directions, by no means to affront the English Nation, and in case of any Necessity to defend himself with the greatest prudence, against the Brutalities of the said Lesly, which said Lesly (tho' we give ~~you~~ the greatest Credit, to what you do me the Honour of acquainting me of your Ignorance, in Relation to what has happen'd) told Mr Raems that he waited for your Orders, without which he could not act in any thing as to the Canoes and Shots, which you mention to be burnt by the Dutch I will enquire into the fact, because the Dutch Chief as well as his Subjects, are oblig'd to Obedience, not so

you farther than their territories, and in case of any Insultations, to defend themselves agreeable to the Laws of Nature, Gentlemen I have the Honour to acquaint you, that those communicated to the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort at the Mine, the particulars Relating to this Affair, which will now they were Strangers to, and of what hath pass'd pro and con on this Subject, It would be Necessary to Recall the said Lesly, and send an honest man in his Room, In the mean time I might of my self, or from the Council, send some one to enquire, and adjust in an amicable manner the present Affair in Question, tis not only the Publick Voice, but likewise the Opinion of many of your own Nation, that the said Lesly is fitter to follow his Antient function of a Sailor, than to be Commander of a Fort, and Governour of a People - In short Sirs I have the Honour to demonstrate to you, (in spite of the many Offences given to our Nation) that I have for this Years and half entertain'd a good Harmony, with your most Honourable Nation, and it would be my greatest pleasure to lend a hand, and to persuade the Gentlemen of the Council (if thought well) to assist likewise, in Determining the Affair in Question in such a manner, that neither of the Nations might loose any of their Antient Rights, and would rather chuse to give the turn of the Scale, than by any Obstinacy forfeit your Esteem, and in all Occasions Manifest how much I am, and desire to have the Honour of being - Gentlemen O^{rs}.

L^l Mira 18th July 1746 N.S.

P.S. I am inform'd that your Sid some or killed and wounded, and that in their fight a Cause with an English Ensign pass'd by for your Fort at Commedia, of which you make no mention, we have given Mr Raems directions, to go and enquire into the matter, and to act with all possible Prudence.

Gentlemen

I have the Honour of your favour of this 6th Inst. O^{rs}. and directly renewed my Orders to our Comman^t at Commedia, not to commit the least Hostility, but to have a Watchfull Eye on Mr Lesly's conduct, reasons Relating me that there is no Dependence on a peaceable Accommodat^{ion}, until you have Recalled the said Lesly, tis only Aggressor in this whole Affair, which I have before had the Honour to communicate to you, and ear^d this moment prove.

In regard to your Suspicion against the Command^r of the Dutch Fort Mr Raemy, I am likewise prepar'd to prove his putting my Orders directly in Execution, and delivering yours to Mr Lesly the moment he received them, and I flatter my self you'll readily excuse him, when you know the Reasons for his not receiving yours and our Orders sooner, occasion'd by the Impugners being stop'd at Commedia, by some who had retired from Commedia, who terrified him, by a detail of some of the Negroes being killed and wounded on the Dutch side, from the Cannon of the English Fort, so that he did not know what he had best to do, to pursue or Return back to the Mine, but notwithstanding he obey'd my Orders and went ~~back~~ forward, and deliver'd my Letter, which I believ'd your Orders, the later than I could have wish'd, for which I am sorry and beg you'll excuse it, I can't help Gentlemen to add, and to acquaint you that others whose Judgment in this Affair was clearer than mine, made me hesitate sending my Orders to the aforesaid Comman^t of the Dutch Fort, to cease all Hostilities against a Brute, who was the first Aggressor, as any Child might easily see, that there was an ill under a Rock, you having wrote me that you was a Stranger of what had pass'd, yet notwithstanding, that very Night / following the morning I had the Honour of receiving your Letter, you Dispatch'd a Canoe with all manner of Warlike Ammunition, to the Success of said Lesly, and further that you tolerated him to call to his assistance a Negro called Tando, formerly banish'd by your Tribunal with a View to him, that should bring off my Prisoners said Tando dead or alive, all which I am oblig'd ready to make appear, when you may please to require it. In short Gentlemen, however that part of the Request you make, that if I had communic'd sooner said Lesly's bad conduct, things might have been mitigat'd at first, I beg that you will consider that had not been, for in the first place, upon Mr Raems's Report, which I had receiv'd, I made my self easy, and waited for your Representations if there was any Room for further Determinations, relating the beginning of the Affair in Question, as said Lesly told Mr Raems, he had wrote you, and wait'd for your Orders. Secondly, I leave you to judge

If you would not deem a Man rich to blame, that should suffer himself at home twice to be Insulted
without recurring to himself a Remembrance to Justice the Dutch Nation as Occasion may Offer
depriving you Dutch with great Impatience, your taking such just measures, as may put a period
and to this Affair, (which they have to repeat again) in a polite way to make some Allowance rather
than lose your Honour, and to convince you how much it is my Desire not only in this but on all
other Occasions of being -

Gentlemen &c.

Norina 26: July 1746 N.S.

Gentlemen

I daily read your Letter which you honour'd me with of the 10th Inst: O.S. and if
I did not directly answer to that part wherein you advise of Mr Craik's coming by Land to Amoy
I had not three days time was that his Letter made me hope to have the pleasure of seeing him
in the interim in his way, which would have demonstrated that the folly of such a Dutch as Lesley is
are no Reflections on a Brave Gentleman as Mr Craik, which I imagine to be altogether
Ignorance of Lesley's Brutalities, and Offences given to the Dutch Nation, but finding Mr
Craik intends to go by Sea, herein I enclose a Letter to Mr Naumos, which I beg you'll Dispatch
Immediately by Land to be ready at Amoy, that Mr Craik may Land with his Goods and
every thing that may be therein, in our Bay without any molestation, and beg of it to convene
he may arrive there in the day time rather than Night, that the blood of the Subjects
of two Nations may not be mov'd each again the other, in which and their Negro Slaves the said
Lesley fired a Gun last Sunday Night, even on the Dutch Territories, as they were coming to the
Dutch Fort. In regard to what you are pleas'd to mention of your having given the said Lesley
Orders only to defend Defensively, they could signify but little, as you might imagine that an Aggressor
who commences a bad Cause, endeavours to maintain the same, likewise badly, and as it was the Dutch
who was first Offended, let them who say let to defend themselves, and not the said Lesley who has been the Cause
of this fine Affair, and it would have prevented both you and me, a great deal of trouble, if he had been assur'd
up to the things Captain Mr Pasch for a bad Action, which your own Nation Publickly Divulge, (Business)
if you will: which no way relates to me, and I had not have taken the liberty of mentioning, if it
had not been to prove ^{that} the Objects in question is known to be what he really is. As to what I regard
Tando, 'tis very evident from all circumstances that there had been a Consultation between Lesley
and said Tando, who came to his assistance twice, and only retired from Comenda the night before
last, on the Arrival of a Number of Negroes, which I sent from the Mine, Agreeable to Mr Naumos
Desire, to avoid the Blow, and to be ready on occasion might be necessary, to defend himself against Tando, which
was what Mr Naumos to be permitted coming to the Dutch Fort, as an Arbitrator, to determine, or to waive
the Affair in Question, who had for Answer, that if he Offer'd to set foot on any part of the Dutch Territory,
Mr Naumos would fire on, and drive him from thence, Wisely done of Mr Naumos, to avoid the same.
In short Gentlemen I rest here, and leave it to the Decision of any Neutral persons, to determine
which party is in the wrong, and whether said Lesley has not Violated your Orders, appearing you
I can make it appear, when you please, that all the precautions and Measures I have taken
have been purely to avoid the Effusion of the Blood of the Subjects of two Nations, and their
Inferiors who but too often are made the Butt of the Capricious Humours of their Superiors
who but seldom Observe the Roman Proverb, Make haste leisurely.

I congratulate Mr Chalour on his recovery, and return from Accra, and beg you'll be
assur'd, that I have the Honour of being Sincerely

Gentlemen &c.

Norina 22: July 1746 N.S.

Gentlemen

If I did not answer your Court favour of 12th July O.S. was because it
contain'd nothing more than a communication of Mr Craik's Intentions to pay me a Visit, and your
goodness in recusing a Reply, on account of my Indisposition, and if I have not had the
Hon^r to answer your Second Letter of the 28 July O.S. 'twas because I had no body at this
time, that could translate the same, on which I immediately wrote Mr Green to request
to me on that account, and I have the Honour to acquaint you, that I still remain much
in the same State, as when Mr Craik left me, Incapable of giving that due Attendance to business, I could
wish, and must beg you'll allow me some time to get Strength, that I may be the better able to attend the
Council, in regard to the Affair in hand, which I find to be such, as not to be decided by myself only, but
till the matter can be determin'd, I beg you'll please to make use of the Inclosed Privilege. In regard to
what you suppose of being deprived of an Ambiant, I beg you'll observe, the contrary, seeing
to be ~~as~~ appears as the very River separates the two Territories, and distinguishes the Jurisdiction between
the English, and Dutch, as clear as the Sun at Noonday. As to what your Intentions may be to prepare
Right, I can no way help it, if you put the same in Execution, in which case I must be oblig'd to Number
them amongst the rest of the Offences, which from time to time have been given to the Dutch Nation,
without their having desert'd the same.

I have the Hon^r to remain

Gentls &c.

Norina 12th August N.S. 1746

Gentlemen

I have the Honour of rec^d of the 4th Inst: O.S. and can assure you that in regard
to the preparations making at Accra, I'm entirely a Stranger to, and verily believe our Chief there
Mr Cojman, is only preparing himself against what may happen, from what he may have heard
and heard, both been consulted at Comenda, and the preparation making at the English Fort of
Succowee. As to the provisions the Dutch Chief may be about, at Succowee, they are no other than to
put himself in a Condition of Defense, against what may happen, your preparations having been
first set on foot, as several Negroes had observed, and from what your Chief had Inadvertent by his Deceit,
that he had private Instructions, upon the whole, you may be satisfied that no Hostilities will commence
on the Side of the Dutch, without your Forts should give the Offense, by firing the first Gun, and I assure
you, if it should unfortunately happen, or our Side to fire the first Gun on any night for, by
the Chief's Order should occasion the same to be done, shall have no longer the Honour of the Dutch
Flag, for he might be come of as so than what, as your Chief Mr Lesley who by his Deceit
has been the cause of all these Misunderstandings to this letter, I have likewise the Honour
to Inform you, that the Dutch Chief at Succowee, hath propos'd orders, to show all the possible
Civilities to the English Nation in a polite manner, and by no means to make any Hostilities
without your Chief's Order, first being, and was then to make it appear on either, or either of
himself, but all the White people, that may be in the Dutch Fort, that your Chief is the
Aggressor, by firing the first Gun on the Dutch Fort, in which case, and creating it then
appear, he is at liberty to defend himself, in the best manner possible. And being to this
moment a Stranger to what has happen'd at Accra, I shou'd take the Liberty of concluding
a Letter to our Chief there, with the same punctual Orders, as I before gave to our Chief at
Succowee, begging you'll Dispatch the same with your Letters, I have the Honour to remain

Norina 17th August 1746 N.S.

Gentlemen

Upon as I can receive strength and freedom of thinking, shall not only reply to your favour of the 16th Instant. but likewise entertain the Council, with the contents relating to the Affairs in Dispute, and do myself the Honour of acquainting you with their Determination. In this I shall be assisted by my Astonishment at your seeming Ignorance, in regard of the Affairs of the 16th Instant, which I had the Honour to receive, when your Chiefs at Succowda and Accra Declare openly, that by your Orders they have made all the Preparations for an Attack against the Dutch Nation, to which Intent they had loaded their Guns, appointed them on our Forts, Orders / Give me leave to say / which no one living can reconcile themselves to, with any Reason or Equity, especially as there has been no manner of Misunderstanding, between the Subjects of either Nation, at Succowda, or Accra, nor that your Gentlemen, or myself have the Faculty of treating each other as Enemies, or to say further Declare War, the Accident which has happened at Comandoo, properly speaking, can be looked upon only as a Conflict, in point of Jurisdiction, which if not to be settled amongst our selves, must be done at home, by our Masters and Superiors. I have the Honour to be

Amsterdam 31st May 1746 N.S.

Gentlemen

Commd you a Copy of a Letter Recd from the Commandant of Barracow, by which it appears that on the 14th Instant at 9 o'Clock at Night, one of your Subjects, and under your Jurisdiction, named Commatyze, an Inhabitant of Accra, upon the Dutch Territories of Barracow, did Murder in a barbarous manner, his Negro, named Boligan, a Subject of the Dutch at Accra, and after committing the Fact made his Escape, where as it is highly necessary, Examples should be made of such Accidents, I beg you will please to Order all possible Search may be made to bring said Commatyze to Justice, that he may be punished agreeable to the Laws of Nature, or if you Judge it proper, as the fact was committed on the Dutch Territory, to cause him or his being apprehended to be Delivered to me, in order that he may suffer equal to the heinousness of his Crime, satisfaction and the Charges of bringing him to Justice, shall be Reimburs'd to you and I remain with Respect &c.

Amsterdam 20th Sept 1746 N.S.

Gentlemen

I have had the Honour of receiving yr favours of 22nd Sept. N.S. and shall intirely dwell on the Affairs relating to Comandoo, and take thereto sworn proofs, in order to Deliberate thereon, and to have the Honour of communicating to you, the Determination, and in order to come to facts, and not to lose time on Past and present Facts, I beg you will please to consider, firstly the Dutch were the first in possession of the Territories at Comandoo, which to have an equal Right of occupying the Bay in Question, you must contradict, by proving that the English Nation (much respected) have at least enjoyed the third of a Century, when it will be needless to trouble our Superiors, and Masters in Europe, with the Affairs in Question, and I am sure the Council here, upon such proof, will no longer dispute your Right thereto, on which you run intirely, to ground your Pretensions. Secondly, in respect to Lesly he is, and shall remain with the contrary is proved, the only cause of this Affair, because without his first making his Complaint, / Suppose the Dutch Chief had offered him, he caused our Subjects to be treated and ill treated, in open Violence to our Nation, which beyond Doubt, hath been the Cause of all their Troubles. Thirdly, as to what relates to the pityfull Struggle, as you are pleas'd to demand, I beg

I beg

They will consider, what a Mans Actions thro Dead are (Theories) and in point of Law, permit me to say, an entire Evasion to Morality on an Affair, which only requires to prove a Right. Your Objection upon the Conduct of our Chief Mr Baco, which you desire me to have given Directions to take the fish out of the English Canoes, I leave the Honour to advise, that the contrary hath been made plain, and that according to Reports Lesly himself in the presence of Mr Baco hath given, that he did have on the face that came and Reported these falsities, notwithstanding Genl. I am pleas'd, if you prove that the said Mr Baco, hath in any manner given Offence to the English Nation, or that he is the Aggressor of any Difference, the Council will give you all just Satisfaction, just Satisfaction, (to Europe) and condemn him to pay all Charges, Damages with Interests, which he may have been the Occasion of, by his ill management, which I flatter myself, you'll do us the same Justice of time, and place, which we are ready to prove whosoever you please, that Lesly is the first Offender, so much to explain, permit me to tell you that he defers me, he never deny'd the English fish being taken to make use of the Dutch Bay in Comandoo, until it was proved that the aforesaid Lesly had insulted the Dutch Nation, and that he was the Aggressor, and further the said Mr Baco's recollection, and is ready to take his Oath, that since the year 1730, during which he hath been Chief at Comandoo, the English Canoes never made use in common of the Bay in Question, except at same times, when a great deal, and that, immediately on their coming a shore, the proprietors of the Canoes have raised them up, and transported them a Crofs the River, to their proper Stands on the English Territory, upon the whole I flatter myself, after you have maturely considered the premises in Question, you'll no ways tax me with Partiality, and be convinc'd, that without further Authority, I cannot do otherwise than have done in Time of the 12th August, in giving you a Grant, to Load and Unload without any manner of prohibition, in our Bay all manner of Merchandises &c. whatsoever you may desire proper from, and to yr Ships, Dutch Settlement, to the English Fort, I remain &c.

Amsterdam 6 October 1746 N.S.

Gentlemen

I have received your favour of the 6th Inst. N.S. and beg you'll spare your self that if I do not answer, directly what you are pleas'd to please, in yr of the 16th August, to maintain your pretended Right, 'tis for fear of entering too largely on a Subject, which might be foreign to the Affair in Question, for if I had thought it would have been satisfactory, I should have done so, as well as now have believ'd that your Intention, you would not have appropriated the least Right, in the use of the Bay in Question, because the Law expressly says, if I grant any favour to any King, without Obligations, I Reserve to myself the Right of withdrawing the said Grant, and with such Conditions are to be understood without any stipulations. L. s. ff. de Precario, where the Legislature says. *Non est qui commodat sibi, sic Commodat, ut non faciat rem accipientis, sed uti, uti Commodat, permittit, ad id, uti*. If you please without going any farther, that without any Contestation, the Dutch were first in possession of the Territory at Comandoo. Secondly, the Jus Publicum, only gives access to the Neighbouring Nations, to fish in the Public Sea, without giving the much respected English Nation any Right to make use of the Bay in Question, and further in the third place, the Jus Gentium, which you are pleas'd to allude, no ways abrogates the Law of Jurisdiction, which is chiefly introduced to preserve the Public Peace, and is no ways in your favour, relating to the present Affair in Question, any more than what you have been pleas'd to allude, on the Subject in hand, I am likewise oblig'd to say, ever every thing that is in your Nation, or no ways, or of lesser dignity, or indirectly to the Affair in Question, and beg to refer you to my two Letters of 30th Sept. and 6th Oct. which contain the whole grounds of this Affair, and which I leave to the Determination of clearerighted people, why you don't give greater Attention to our Correspondence. In short I have but one more proposition to make, which is to leave this Affair to Arbitration of indifferent parties, or to Captain Swanton when he returns Jointly with Mr Van Voort, to divide and adjust in an Amicable manner this troublesome Affair, both whose Characters are well known to be undeniably, and the latter will be very glad before he takes upon him the Comandoo, to see a happy Issue to the Affair, as well as myself, before I leave this place, that I may give leave with my best Wishes, and fully persuaded of the good will of my fellow Creatures. In this I beg leave to remain &c.

Amsterdam 26th Oct. 1746 N.S.

Gentlemen

I have the Honour of yr of 19th January, and as to what relates to the Portuguese Ship, commanded by Captain Manuel Pinto Lavin, I shall lay before the Council, and do myself the Honour to communicate to you their Sentiments thereon, as I should have done

I have done

I have done - if my Indisposition did not prevent, my giving due attention to Business, to your
Dissatisfaction made to the Council on the 15th Dec^r 1746. In return observing the steps of your
Complaints, to be grounded on that miserable Instrument, which you are pleas'd to Baptize with
the name of Convention made in the year 1708 between Mr Thomas & General Mills, they will
be pleas'd that the Council, nor myself, since I first arriv'd on this Coast, would renew any one
Article, in that pretended Convention, and that the Council Refuses the same today, on no other
Account than as they look upon it, as an Instrument of no Validity, it never having been approv'd
of by our Lords, and Masters, and consequently lays us under no Restraints of Mowing the Law,
and there is undeniable proofs, that appeale to treaties and papers with private Orders
from the Brazil Merchants, all Portuguese Ships frequenting this Coast, are under no
Restraints whatsoever, to Anchor or Breathe Bally, till they arrive at the Capital Castle
of the Mine, by which I permit me to observe, 'tis evident that without disturbing the Publick
Peace, you cannot Interpose, between the Dutch and Portuguese, who are immediately on their
Arrival on this Coast, under the Jurisdiction of no other Nation than the Dutch.
In regard to your Intentions of permitting said affair to Europe, I have the honour to Inform
you, that we will satisfy therewith, as well in a means to settle all Differences between the
said two my Superiors Government the easier to him, and I flatter my self you'll please
to represent, the whole naked truth of the affair in their just Light, to which I beg you will
forget to add, that 'tis not long since your Chief at Discover Mr Roberts Stopt for the space
of 24 hours, a Guard which the Dutch Nation had put on a Portuguese Ship, of which
I made no Complaints to you, observing by Mr Roberts's Original Letter of 18th Dec^r 1746, as
sent me by the Chief of Country, the said Ship was not only with in an Arrogant manner, but
the whole record of you approv'd of his conduct, as I remain with due respects

Gentlemen. &c.

Barina 3rd February 1746/7 N.S.

Gentlemen

I have the honour of yours of 5th Instant, with an Act of Grace in favour of
Tando the Black, which having been made a Publick Affair by your Judgment against
him of 24th Nov^r 1743 O.S. your said Act of Grace in favour of said Tando may be made known in as Publick a manner
as your Lordship was a gainst him, to all under the Jurisdiction of the Dutch Nation.
I have the Honour to tell you, that the latter end of March all the Members of the Council
will assemble together to consider maturely on this, and all other Affairs, that if possible
may be put to them, before my Departure from this Coast, mean while I have this day
sent Orders to Mr Barch, to look upon said Tando as an English Subject, for
institutions that he gives no Offence to any of the Dutch Nation, and no ways directly or indirectly
to give Offence to the nearest of the English Nation, and lies at same time, you'll please
to dispatch of Orders likewise to your Chief at Comorende, to observe likewise, that we may
at least till the affair be settled, lie in peace, and tranquillity with each other

I am &c.

Barina 17th February 1746/7 N.S.

Cape Coast Castle 15th July 1746

Mr John Ledy's Relation of the rise & fall of the Quarrel, between the English and
Dutch Forts at Comorende, and the Transactions on both Sides with regard to the same from Sunday
June 27th to Sunday July 15th 1746

Arriv'd at the Dutch Fort of Comorende, Mr Vantyne and the

the Captain of the Guard at Barina, this day our fishing Canoes came on shore with
four Canoe Shavers, a Dutch white Soldier and Company's Slaves, took a fish by force from one of
the English Fishermen, and in refusing to let them have it, the white Soldier struck him;
this is what the Fisherman, and all the Blacks belonging to the English that were present say;
The fisherman came and complain'd to me, and said, that the Dutch white Soldier & Company's
Slaves

Slaves, had taken his fish from him, and beat him: Immediately sent my boy and a Canoe to the
of the Dutch Fort, as likewise to acquaint the Dutch Chief, that the fisherman lived under the
Protection of the English, and that the Dutch Chief had no right to spangarr his Fish;
Mr Vantyne, and the Captain of the Guard at Barina, both were present when I made the
Demand; The Dutch Chief, sent me back for answer, that the English Fisherman, brought
Shoar fish for the Dutch Fishermen, and he would not return the Fish, notwithstanding all
this a quarter of an hour after, he sent his Boy with half of the Fish, I order'd his Boy to stay till
I sent for the Fisherman to deliver it to him, before the Boy's face, and I order'd the Boy to tell
his Master, that the Fish did not belong to me, but the fisherman, and likewise to tell him not
to spangarr any more Fish out of English Canoes, nor from the English Fishermen, for I would not
allow it, but he returned me back no answer, I sent for the English Fisherman, and told them if
the Dutch Soldiers or Company's Slaves, should come again to spangarr their fish, or offer to beat
them, they were to defend themselves.

Sunday June the 29th 1746.

This day I order'd the Sergeant to send a Mullattoe Soldier to the Water-side,
where the Fishermen came a shoar, to show the Dutch People, that those Fishermen lived
under the Protection of the English; and likewise order'd the Sergeant, that if the English Fishermen
should be attacked by the Dutch Chiefs People, that the said Soldier was to assist them accordingly,
when the Dutch Chiefs people, came to Robb them, or beat them, as they had done two days before,
accordingly when the Canoes came a shoar, the Dutch Company Slaves and a white Soldier, came
to spangarr Fish, which the Fisherman would not allow, and our Soldier told them they were all
English Canoes, but their answer was they would have Fish from all Canoes landing in that day
to the Eastward of the River: This is the English Soldier and Blacks Account; Accordingly a
Small Skirmish happen'd between our Soldier and Fishermen, and the Dutch Chiefs Soldier
and Company Slaves, in a little time afterwards, the Dutch Chief sent his Boy, and order'd that
I would beat the Mullattoe Soldier and Fisherman before the Boy's face, I sent him back for
answer by the Boy, that the Soldier and Fisherman had obey'd my Orders in defending themselves,
when they were attacked by the Dutch Soldier, and Company Slaves, who came there to take away
their Fish, and beat them, as they had done before, a little while afterword the Dutch Chief came
over himself, and behav'd more like a madman, than any thing else, and Demand'd immediate
Satisfaction for his Soldier, and Company Slaves being beat, I did all that lay in my power, to
perswade him to set down, in hopes of moderating his Passion, but it was all in vain, he said that
my Mullattoe Soldier, had struck his white Soldier, without any Reason, I immediately sent for the
Mullattoe Soldier, and asked him what the Dutch Soldier had done, that he struck him first,
the Mullattoe Soldier not understanding English, which I did not know, he could give me no direct
answer, and when I ask'd what they did to him, his answer was he did nothing to him, so I gave
him a small Stroke upon the Check, and told him, if they did nothing, why did he meddle with
them, then the Dutch Chief seem'd to be satisfied for his Dutch Soldier, so he set down quietly, and
we began the matter, he said it was nothing to me, his spangarr'ing Fish, from our Canoes, as
I took none my self, and if I wanted Fish at any time, he would send me some, I asked him how
he would like my sending people to spangarr fish from the Dutch Fishermen, that lived under
his Protection, and landing at the Dutch Landing place: He told me after he had taken what
he thought proper, I might take the rest if I pleas'd, I told him that would be very unreasonable
because the Fishermen could not live, He said damn the Blacks, what are the Blacks told, I
begg'd of him to be quiet, and let the affair be decided by the Gentlemen at Cape Coast, and
the General at Barina, his answer was Je rai point d'affaire avec ces Messieurs la. and
likewise that, if I did not deliver him up two of our Fishermen, to be flogg'd in his Castle, I was
not an Honest man, and I might resent it if I pleas'd, I told him as he was in my power, I

Scared to lose him ill, but had he been in another place, I would have presented it before, so he went away in the same manner he came, Then I called together the Fishermen, and ordered them not to bring any Fish a shoar for the Dutch Fishermen, nor to allow a Dutch Canoe to come a shoar among them, to the Windward of the Shade, nor to take a man that lived in the Dutch Town, in any of their Canoes, under no pretence whatsoever, which they promised to comply with, I also sent to the Dutch Cabocier to desire him, to acquaint the Dutch Fishermen, not to mix themselves with those of the English, nor to come a shoar to the Westward of the English Shade; and that I did not want to have any palavers with the Dutch Chief, I also told the Dutch Chief before, that if he could prove, that any English Fisherman whatsoever had brought on shoar Fish for the Dutch, and the accused Fisherman could not prove to the contrary, I would punish him severely before him in the English Fort; but his answer was, that he should count all for Dutch Fishermen that landed to the Eastward of the River, and that all the sand to the Eastward of the River, belonged to the Dutch, and he would take fish from them to morrow, and I replied he should not.

Monday June the 30th 1746.

I ordered one soldier ^{with} the serjeants to go to the Waterside, when the fishermen were coming a shoar, with only a sword by their side, and a Staff in their hands, & ordered them to protect the Fishermen, that they knew were English, and that landed to the Westward of our Canoe Shade, and with Orders not to walk to the Eastward of it, and I had before given Orders to the Fishermen not to strike first, but if they offered to molest them, they were to defend themselves, likewise gave the same Orders to the serjeants. No Dutch Fisherman went to sea this day, that the Dutch Chief might have no Pretence to say, the Dutch Fishermen put their Fish into the English Canoes, and under that pretence take Fish, from the Fishermen that belong to the English. At Eleven a Clock the Canoes came a shoar, and landed at their usual place, to the Westward of our Shade, when the Dutch Chief see them landing, he came out of his Castle with about forty people, and the Company Slaves with him, halfway to our Shade, but being afraid our People were too powerfull for him he Retired, and our Canoesmen came a shoar unarmed that Day, but when the Dutch Chief got into his Castle, he went upon the Bastions and pointed his Guns whether at the landing place or at the Castle I cannot Tell, and I was informed by his Towns people that he had applied to them, to assist him in taking fish from the English Canoesmen, which they Denied, and said he did wrong, for it was never customary, nor ever preached before by any Dutch Chief, to panyarr fish from English Canoes.

Tuesday July the 1st 1746.

In the morning at six a Clock Mr Ramms the Chief Merchant of Senega, arrived at the Dutch Fort of Comenda, and he sent his Boy to desire I would come and drink Tea with him, I sent my Boy back with my Compliments to him, and to tell him I would wait on him.

Wednesday July the 2^d 1746.

At half an hour after six a Clock in the morning, I sent my Boy with my Compliments to him, and desired to know what time he pleased to have I would wait on him, and he told me that the General sent his Service to me, and was very sorry that any Quarrel should have happened between Mr Bacot and me, and I desired he would allow me the liberty to lay the Case before him, but first I desired to know whether or not the English had not as good a Right to land upon the Town as the Dutch, he told me not, and further added, that all the sand belonged to the Dutch, & that the Dutch Chief had an undoubted Right to panyarr Fish out of all Canoes landing to the Eastward of the River, I told him that the English Canoes had landed there in the time of a bad Sea, when the English Fort was built, as I am very well informed by the oldest

Men in

Men in the Country, and was never protested before even by him (Mr Ramms) when he was Chief of the Dutch Fort Comenda, he told me that there was no such thing, and that they never landed there, they always landed on the other Side the River, and that the English had no Right or Property to have a Canoe shade there, and it was only granted by the Dutch Chief when Land Palavers happened, and that the Chief of the English Fort, always carried his Canoe up the River and was laid to the Westward, I offered Mr Ramms to let that affair be decided by our Town people and Thiers, and I would adhere to their Verdict, the which he denied, and called out the Sand belongs to the Dutch. There being then present the most of their own Towns people, and a great many Dutch Company Slaves, and several Dutch Gentlemen's servants, to whom he Mr Ramms demanded; whom does the Sand belong to, but I showed only the Dutch language Slaves, and the Gentlemen's servants answered, to the Dutch, but none of their own Towns people spoke a word, I still insisted upon the property of the English to the Sand, when the Dutch Chief told me he would strike me, (altho' in his Fort) so was obliged to hold my Tongue, being drowned by the Noise of the Negroes, crying out the Sand belongs to the Dutch. Mr Ramms ordered me to remove my fishing Canoe off the Sand, to the other Side of the River, or else he would send his people to haul them into the Sea, or break them to pieces, and likewise take away the Liberty of our great Canoes either landing, or laying on the said Sand, I told him I would do no such thing, the Fishermen might land where they pleased for me, and if he would allow me Twenty Four Hours, I would give him an Answer, but that I would not pretend to do it, till I heard from Cape Coast, his Answer was, I was very well, so I left him; in about two hours after, when he on the Fishermen coming a shoar, he sent down all the Dutch Company Slaves that were at Comenda, and the People belonging to a small Town, at the back of the Castle, who stood under the Dutch Canoe Shade, ready to attack our Canoesmen, had they come a shoar at the usual landing place, but the Canoesmen seeing so powerfull a force against them, got up the River thro' with much Difficulty, and placed their Canoes on the other Side the River, without being molested by the Dutch, the Sea proving good, and the Canoes came in over the Rocks, or up the River till Sunday.

Friday July the 4th 1746.

Mr Ramms went from this place to Senega, after having made all his Towns people, put their marks to a paper, that they would destroy all English Canoes that landed on the Sand, and fight with English Canoesmen, as I was informed by the Blacks.

Sunday July the 6th 1746.

Four small Canoes came a shoar to the westward of our Shade, and the Fishermen left them there, and in a quarter of an hour afterwards, the Dutch Company Slaves, and a White man came, and put the Canoes into the Sea, the fishermen went down to their Canoes up, and put them on the Sand again, a little while afterwards, the Dutch Company Slaves, and some of their Towns people, came and set fire to our Shade, and the Company's Canoe, both which were burnt to the ground, after all this his Towns people got under Arms, and dispersed themselves to the Eastward of this Fort, about a Musquet shot distance, and he removed his own Canoe out from under his Shade, about one o'Clock, our people went down, and set fire to the Dutch Shade, upon which the Dutch Towns people, and the Chief's Boys (fired) at our People. And the Dutch Fort (fired) a Shot, at which of the English, which went over it, and I fired a Shot over their Town, and the Dutch Castle fired five Shots, at this Castle, and the two Forts kept engaged till night, and the Dutch Towns people came under our walls, and fired at us on the Bastions, and brought a Dutch flint within pistol shot of this Fort, upon which we fired Small Arms at them, from the Castle

Monday July the 7th 1746.

In the morning the Dutch Castle, kept a continual fire at the English Castle.

Castle till three o'clock in the afternoon, and their black people firing at us on the Bastions with small arms.

At six o'clock in the morning a large canoe came up with Messrs. Bassard and Duncombe with a flag in the canoe and a small canoe belonging to this place with three. The Dutch Fort fired several shot at them for the people in the canoe told us as they pass'd the Castle, but none of the shot struck the canoe, tho' they kept a continual fire at them, even when they were overset and in coming along the sand to this Fort, they fired several shot at them tho' they were a good distance to the Westward of this Fort, and we had not fired a shot at them, till nine o'clock, at which time, we gave them about 40 shot, after which they kept a continual fire till three in the afternoon, at which time they sent a letter from the Chief Agents at Cape Coast Castle, Signifying a cessation of Hostilities, at six o'clock at night Mr. Mammis arriv'd at the Dutch Forts.

Wednesday July the 9th 1746.

This evening arriv'd in the Dutch Town, about 300 men from Elmina, and more continued coming in great bodys with Dutch flags till Thursday evening, and they made up the whole a body of more three thousand men.

Friday July the 11th 1746.

Notwithstanding the cessation of Hostilities, the Dutch still continued to trouble us, by suffering the Dutch Blacks, to hoist a Dutch flag at our Landing place, and pulled up the stocks that the Canoes used to stand on, and after this was done, they run all over the sand and called out to the people of this Town, telling them they were come, and the sands all belong'd to the Dutch, and challenge'd our People, they pitched about seven flags on the Beach, and they had more flying in the Town, they have kept a flag at our Landing place ever since, till the arrival of Mr. Craik.

Sunday July the 13th 1746.

This Morning arriv'd a large canoe with News papers for Mr. Craik, and I had received a letter from the Council at Cape Coast, that she was to land at the usual Landing place, I sent a small canoe off to the large canoe to tell them to come in, and no one would molest them, they accordingly came, but the Beach was covered with Dutch Blacks armed with knives, cutlery, and Staffs, who would not allow her to come on shore, and threatened to damage the things and people upon the canoe made shift to get into the River at that time, it being high water, otherwise she must have turned back: There was no Damage done, nor anything meddled with, she landed upon the West side of the River.

Peter Ledley

Witness
Thomas Terry
W^m Hoffman

Answer to a Protest, being made and through the Honourable Members of the Council, Mr. de Graaff and Gerrit Geybosh Burgering, in the Name of the Director General and Council delivered to the much Esteem'd Chief Agents of the Royal African Company of England, and opening against said Protest, that the mentioned much Esteem'd Chief Agents have, and find good, against all grounds in Justice known, and without doubt, ~~being~~ with evidence to procure for the Director General and Council, over the North and South Coast of Africa done denunciations the 15th Decr 1746. Ord.

Before to answer declare the Honourable signed Members of the Council, Jare van Voorsch Established Director General over the North and South Coast of Africa, Mr. August van Ryk, Pieter Bartholomew Verschuur, Balthazar Wijnmans Godofridus de Sandra, and Hendrick van Abkenode, that they have read, and examined the kept Correspondencies between the mentioned much Esteem'd Chief Agents and the Director General Mr. Jacob de Petersen, and the kept Correspondencies of the same Director General with Hendrick Praams, in Station as Committee, also than all the Documents and Proofs, relating to the Affair here in Question now, and that the Honourable signed fully approve Homologues in the ~~the~~ measures of the Director General Mr. Jacob de Petersen, in the forewritten Case, of also of the conduct of Hendrick Praams as Committee, which was as Natural, that he had nothing as defensive acted, and stand'd against the strange Proceedings of some Pieter de Sijpe that time Commander of English Commodore.

Coming now to answer the forewritten Protest, declare the Honourable signed Director General & Council, to gether that they the Foundation of the said Protest, from the English into the Dutch Language have read over and examined, and that it looks that the said Protest contains nothing Spirituall, but the above, also the aforementioned much Esteem'd Chief Agents, not the least Valuable proofs to produce to witness, which after Justice ought to be given least, or given without, He the Director General and Council, in regard of the Case, and principally to carry themselves after the contents of all the Letters of the aforementioned Director General Mr. Jacob de Petersen, to the much Esteem'd Chief Agents aforementioned from time to time written, and chiefly after the contents of the two last letters, of the 6th and the other of the 26th October 1746 No. 1, and after the just proposals done through the aforementioned Director General to the much Esteem'd Chief Agents, which two letters, the Honourable signed, have thought necessary as a Copy in the French Language, in which were wrote to refer here to the end to serve when it belongs, and that to all Neutral Arbiters may shine that on the side of the Director General and the Dutch Nation, nothing has been wanting in the Case of friendship to finish, and to which the Honourable signed are not yet unwilling, according to the contents of the two aforementioned letters, Viz^t Further with the undersigned let Unanswered the late injurious terms, which the much Esteem'd Chief Agents in their so called Protest use, and observe the manner which forward of evidence, no other have known, and about the their Papers to the meanest manners, or themselves to defend, that the Undersigned would be ashamed, to use the much Esteem'd Chief Agents in such a manner, and to use Terms who are in a Publick Instrument, not bound (and out of respect said) give but least Justice to the Authors.

Again with the Honourable signed show the Publick, or whom it may concern a clear Idea of the Innocence of the Dutch Nation, and debate with a few words the principal points of the Accusation, which the much Esteem'd Chief Agents in their

their Protest William Vryly That Warrent at that time the Guarantied the
Series, and happened betwixt the Commanders of the Forts of English and Dutch
Commanders, Peter Lapsly and John Gode Baco, the Dutch Nation should have provided
against the bad condition of the English Fort
and that the Dutch Nation had given Access, and heard in the Castle of Comenda
a certain Negro Sando, who 2th Nov: 1748 was through the Respective English
Nation is declared Wid free, for the benefit of certain price put thereupon
living, or dead, to deliver into the hands of the much esteemed Chief Agents of the
Royal African Company of England.

Which first point of Accusation decays of himself, as you will
observe that which the Commanders signed take upon them at all times to prove
the formentioned Peter Lapsly of the side of the English Nation, has been the
first beginner of the formentioned Quarrel, and that the Dutch could do no
otherwise than be Defensive; The first upon their own ground through
the English Subjects with loaded Musquets attacked and also wounded, and
thrust out, the English Fort the first fired with Shot out the great
Guns, upon which Subject and to show that the English Fort at Comenda,
has never been in such a bad condition, as the Respective Chief Agents pretend,
I shall Shew please to remember that the English Fort was much repaired
the time of full war upon St. Chalmers with a Guard of People did
prepare to Comenda, and did Threaten M^r. Vorscheuren that time Commander
of Dutch Comenda, that he would fire the Dutch Castle to the ground, in case
M^r. Vorscheuren did not deliver presently certain Negros who for Debt was detain'd
in the Dutch Castle, and which Troubled M^r. Chalmer of
Respect said, was not Qualified upon such strange manner to proceed, at that
time, through the after giving of the mentioned M^r. Vorscheuren are delivered
without any consequence.

And about the second Article the Commanders signed with willing by
indignity, that they cannot understand, where the point of Suspense said, thought
have been of the Respective much esteemed Chief Agents, when their Honour betwixt
Several comical Stories out the hearing the Negros as a point of Accusation
in the formentioned Protest have put in, That the Dutch, the mentioned
Negro Sando had permitted and heard, then their Honours themselves declare
that their Intention has been, and as it seems are in you the mentioned Bandit
Name Sando to take again to Grace, and to permit him with his People as
before, and for his Banishment to come and dwell Solus under the English Fort
of Comenda, and that the above the Commanders signed are capable at all times
with sufficient Witnesses to prove, that before the Dutch had given the
formentioned Sando Access, the English not alone have made use of all means
of Complaisance, the said Sando with his people to get to their devotory, and
several times given him hearing in the English Fort, and Presents, Powder and
Ammunition to War has offer'd to take terms against the Subjects of Dutch
Comenda, which all Neutral Judges soon may conclude that the Dutch must
have slept, or have been a heap of foals, if not during the trouble at Comenda,
had used all means to hinder that the Respective English Nation, at that time the
Number of the Enemies of their Subjects of Dutch Comenda did not increase
with a Party of Banditti, of which the mentioned Negro Sando is the Head
and

and when the Dutch Nation out of the Publication of 2th Nov: 1748
O. S. against the said Sando (who Suis declar'd) had the power and leave in you
to pursue to the utmost, and to make him Master of the said Banditti, living or
Dead, Doing out respect said nothing to the Case, brought in the fourth Article of
the so called Convention of the year 1708, and that in the first place Sando
Guo Suis are not to be viewed as a simple Criminal, where in the 4th Article is
spoken of, but as a Banditti, who without full and formal pardon cannot be
through the English nor through the Dutch protected, neither be permitted under
a English or Dutch Fort, to dwell, not without fear that again new Troubles would
arise, and the formentioned Publication thereof at once would be made nothing
And that in the second place yet that mentioned 4th Article was guilty, the
Commanders signed do not at all respect the formentioned so called Convention of the
Year 1708 thereon, and that the said never through their Masters was approved as a
Document that was not flight obtained, and also our Resolution of the Council has
annulled, which the here undersigned could not have done if it was true, as the Respective
Chief Agents, against the pure truth say, that the formentioned Convention of the year
1708, was through the English or Dutch Company was Ratified.

And observe that all the herein mentioned, it clearly appears that the
mentioned Protest against the Director General and Council is without foundation,
and that the pretences against the Director General M^r. Jacob de Petersen, and
Henrich Raems in Station as Committee is Indecent and Unjust, also that
the Commanders signed find themselves indispensably obliged to conclude to repair
the affront done through the formentioned Peter Lapsly to the Dutch Factory,
and that the formentioned much esteemed Chief Agents who the base of the
formentioned Peter Lapsly takes upon them, and their Application made to
the General Geotroopers West India Company of the United Provinces, for
Preparation of the loss shall have to pay a Sum of Mth. 5000, 1000
Gold, which the Dutch Nation to their Defension has been constrained to suffer,
and the Commanders signed shall Demonstrate with reasonable Registering of Day and
Date, that it really is repaid. Protest the Commanders signed about the already
suffered, and in you more to suffer, Expenses, Loss, of Interest, on the same to Repair, so
and there it ought.

Also approved and through the herein written Committee Arg de Groaff,
and Gerrit Gyabech Burgering, delivered to the much esteemed Chief Agents of
the Royal African Company of England David Crietton Tho^s. Chalmer
and James Cratch the 1st April 1749.

Jacob de Petersen
Henrich van Ryk

Arg de Groaff }
Gy Burgering } Committee

Jan Van Voort
J. Raems
P. B. Vorscheuren
B. Coejmans
G. d. Sandra
H. v. Abhoude

Commenda Fort June 25th 1746

Our fishing Canoes came in to the Westward of our Shade, and the Command of the Dutch Fort of Commenda, sent his people who beat one of our English Fishermen, and took his fish from him, the Fisherman came and complained to me, I sent a Boy with a Canoe and the Fisherman to the Dutch Fort, to acquaint the Dutch Chief, that the fish were hind under the protection of the English, and that the Dutch had no right nor Property to take his fish from him, and I desired that he would return him his fish again; he sent me back word, that as the English Fisherman brought a shoar Fish for the Dutch Fishermen, by that means he was deprived of his business, and he would not return the fish, and in half an hour afterwards, he sent back the half of it to this Fort, at which time I told his Boy, that he was not to meddle with or pry any Fish out of the English Canoes, to which he returned owing no answer.

Sunday June 29th 1746

I told the Fisherman to take care and come a shoar to the Westward of the English shade, and if the Dutch Chief should send his people to take their Fish from there, you beat them as they had done before, that they were to depend themselves, otherwise sent them a Soldier, that the Dutch Company Servants might see that they Canoes were hind under the Protection of the English, Notwithstanding which the Dutch Company Slaves and White Man came to take Fish again of the Canoes, the Canoesmen demanded of them what they wanted and they said they were come for fish, both the Mulatee Slaves and Fishermen told them they belong to the English, and that they would give them no Fish, nor let them take any, the Dutch Slaves made answer, that all the Bay belongs to them and they would have Fish, upon which there ensued a small skirmish, about half an hour after the Command of the Dutch Fort, sent his Boy and canoe back to desire that I would punish any people, whom he said had struck his Whittian and Company's Slaves, I sent him word that they had only done it in their Defense, and that I was so far from punishing them, that I would protect them, he came himself a little time after, and demanded two of my Fishermen to be sent into his Fort to be flogg'd and the other two to be punished here, upon which I absolutely denyed him, he said that the Dutch Bay belong to the Dutch, and that he would want all that come ashore at this place for Dutch Canoes, and take fish from them, but I plainly told him, that I would protect those as far as lay in my power, only those that land at the Westward of the Shade, and live under the English Protection, so he went away in a Pique.

Monday June the 30th 1746

Not one Dutch Fisherman went to sea, only to show him, that he might have no Reason to say that the English Fishermen brought Fish ashore for the King, and I sent the Sergeants and one Soldier down with only a Staff in their hands and a sword by their sides, to protect our Fishermen, among a shoar, and being that, and beaten by the Dutch, as they had been two different times before, with Orders to molest nobody, nor to go to the assistance of the English Shade, and to protect the Fishermen if they were assaulted by the Dutch Company Slaves, and altho the Dutch Chief knew that there was not one Canoe at sea belonging to the Dutch, he came out of his Fort about half way to the landing, with about 20 people a few being returned back, went upon his Battlements, and pointed a Gun at them.

Tuesday July the 1st 1746

At 6 o'clock at Night Mr Racine Chief Merchant of Annona arrived at the Dutch Fort, and sent his Boy to me, and desired that I would wait on him the next morning to Drink Tea, with him, I sent my Boy to him again, and told him that I would wait upon him, and in the Morning at half an hour after Six, I sent my Boy to know what time

I should

should come to him, and he sent me word at 8 o'clock, at which time I waited on him, he told me that I was in the wrong, and that the Dutch Chief had an undoubted right to pry any fish out of all Canoes landing on the Eastward of the River, and that the English had no property nor right on the Sea, and told me to remove all the Fishing Canoes off the Land to the other side of the River, I told him I would do no such thing, unless that I had an Order from Cape Coast to that purpose, and that if he would wait 24 hours, I would send to Cape Coast, and give him an answer, which I did the next day, and the answer was, that the Gentlemen had wrote to the General of Annona about it, and altho he had consented to 24 hours, he sent down ^{above} 70 men, who stood under the Dutch Shade ready to attack our Fishermen, should they land on any part of the Bay, which was two hours after he promised to wait 24, so the fishermen seeing that force against them, came in opposite the Fort, or came up the River, and as the weather was good for a few Days they landed there.

Sunday July 6th 1746

Four small Canoes came a Shoar to the Westward of our Shade, and the Fishermen left them there, and in a quarter of an hour after, the Dutch Company Slaves and a White Man came, and put the Canoes down, and put them into the Sea, the Fisherman went down, put their Canoes on the sand, and in a quarter of an hour after, The Dutch Company Slaves and some of their own people came, and set fire to our Shade, and the Company's Canoe, both which were burnt down to the Ground, afterwards all his Town's people got under arms, and dispersed themselves to the Eastward of this Fort, about a Musquet shot distance, and he removed his own Canoe out from under his shade, about one o'clock our people went down, and set fire to the Dutch Shade, upon which the Dutch Town's people and the Chief's Boats fired at our People, and the Dutch Castle fired a shot at this, which went over it, and I fired a Gun over their Town with a shot, and the Dutch Fort fired five shot at this, and the two Forts kept engaged till eight, and the Town's people came up under our Walls, and fired at us on the Plantains, and brought a Dutch Flag within a Pistol shot of this Fort, upon which we fired small arms at them from the Castle.

Monday July 17th 1746

In the morning the Dutch kept a continual fire ^{at} us, till three in the afternoon, and had their Blacks firing at us with small arms, on the Plantains, at six o'clock in the morning a large Canoe came up with Messrs Howard and Duncombe, with a Flag in the Canoe, and a small Canoe belonging to this Place with them, The Dutch fired about 20 shot at them, as they passed, but none of the shot struck the Canoe, though they kept a continual fire at them, even when they were close by, and in coming along the side of this Fort, they fired several shot at them, tho' they were a good distance to the Westward of the Fort, and we had not fired a shot at them till nine o'clock, at which time we gave them about 100 shot, after which they kept a continual fire till three in the afternoon, at which time they sent a Letter from the Chief to agents at Cape Coast Castle, signifying a cessation of Hostilities.

Wednesday July 9th 1746

This evening arrived in the Dutch Town about 300 Men from Annona, and more continued coming in great Bodies with Dutch Flags till Thursday Evening, they made up a Body of above 3000 Men.

Friday July 11th 1746

Notwithstanding the cessation of Hostilities, the Dutch still continued to trouble us, by suffering the Dutch Blacks, to hoist a Dutch Flag at our Landing Place, and pulled up the Males that the Canoes did to stand on, and after this they sent all over the beach, and called out to the people of this Town, telling them they were come, and the Land all belong to the Dutch, and challenged our People, they pitched about seven Flags on the Beach, and they had more flying in the Town, they had kept a flag at our Landing place ever since to the arrival of Mr Board.

Sunday July 13th 1746

This morning arrived a large Canoe, with 100 Whites this

and as I had received a letter from the Council at Cape Beach, that she was to land at the usual landing place, I sent a small canoe of 10 the large ones, to tell them to come in, and no body would be admitted. They accordingly came, but the Beach was covered with Dutch Blacks, armed with their bow and arrow and Quads, who would not allow her to come a shore, and threatened to panyard the things & people upon which the canoe was shipped to get into the River at that time it being high water, otherwise must have turned back, tho' there was no Damage done, nor nothing Meddled with.

The Above is the Truth of what has happened, between me and the Dutch at Commedia, but as I have been constantly hurried, and have not had time to collect my self, I have sundry other matters to relate, in order to vindicate my Conduct in this Behaviour between me and the Dutch.

Peter Leply

Commenda Fort July 16th 1746.

The Petitions of the Fishermen of Commedia Town, being conveyed in the Fort before James Craik Esq. Chief Agent, Thomas Boteler Chief of the Fort, John Duncombe and Cornelius Grimm Workers, were desired to declare the Antient Custom, regarding the Use of the Landing place, of Commedia, to which they made the following reply.

That the Landing place or bay at Commedia has always been free to both English and Dutch Nations, and they declare they never knew any Dispute between the Forts concerning their Use or Rights of the said Bay, but that it was always understood as Common to both, and in regard to the Canoe Sheds they affirm that the Chiefs used to Alter them as they thought fit, sometimes building it in one place, and sometimes in another, they further say that when Mr. Nassau was Chief of the Dutch Fort, and Mr. Besouck Chief of the English Fort, there happened some Dispute between the Natives Fishermen of both Towns, concerning the particular Bounds for Landing of their Canoes, in which Dispute they say that there were two men belonging to the Dutch Town called, but the Decision of the Boundaries being left by the Chiefs of both Forts, to the Fishermen themselves Apama at that time being Head man on the Dutch Side, and Aequaba on the English Side, it was by them agreed that a Stake should be set up, on a particular Spot, somewhere near about the Middle, where the two Canoe Sheds last stood, and that with seven other Stakes, all that part of the Bay, lying to the Eastward of that Stake has retained the Name, of the Dutch Landing place, as that part to the Westward thereof has that of the English Landing place.

They further say that the Reason of the Forts moving their Sheds so close to the Landing place, as they last stood, was by a Secret Agreement of the Chiefs then at the Forts, in order to prevent the Natives from carrying on an illicit Trade, on board of private Ships in the Night time.

As a further convincing proof of a Right of the English Subjects landing in Common with the Dutch, they Unanimously declare, that even the Dutch Fishermen as well as themselves always at their Return from fishing used to pay a Toll, or Tribute to John Cabees the English Cabocet of Commedia, because as they say he had made a purchase of the Ground from the then King of Aequaffoa.

Writing being not in Practice amongst the Natives, we before whom this declaration was made have hereunto set our hands, in testimony that the Above is the true Substance, and meaning of their Declaration.

James Craik
Thomas Boteler
John Duncombe
Cornelius Grimm

Commenda Fort July 16th 1746.

Ludjoe Achironie an English Fisherman belonging to the English Town, saith as follows

One day having been out a fishing, he caught only one Fish called a Cavalty, which before he came on shore he split, and bored as is customary, and on his landing took his Basket with the Fish in it out of the Canoe, and set in on the Beach, and while he with his Companion was carrying the Canoe to its usual Stand, he saw a Dutch Company Slave named Acora take hold on his Basket, which he immediately ran to him, to discharge, and seized hold on, but that while they were struggling who should carry it off, A Dutch Soldier called fish fiscal, came out and forced him to quit his hold of the Basket, by giving him three stripes with his stick, which he and the Slave carried to the Dutch Fort, on this he came to Mr. Leply Chief of the English Fort, under which Protection he lived, and complained to him of the Dutch Soldier and Slave having taken his fish from him, who immediately sent him over with one of his Boys to the Dutch Fort, to acquaint the Chief thereof, and to desire him to return it to the fisherman, to which the Dutch Chief answered he would neither return him the Fish, nor give him any thing for it, on this he returned home, and was sent for presently after by the English Chief, who gave him half a Cavalty, which he told him the Dutch Chief had sent over, and that that was all he had sent.

Writing being not in practice amongst the Natives, We before whom this Declaration was made have hereunto set our hands, in Testimony that the Above is the true Substance, and meaning of his Declaration.

James Craik
Thomas Boteler
John Duncombe
Cornelius Grimm

Commenda Fort July 15th 1746.

Abraham Timberbrich Soldier
Says

That some days before the foregoing began between the two Forts, Mr. Peter Leply ordered him to go down to the water side, to take care that none of the Dutch Soldiers should meddle with any of the English Fishing Canoes, or panyard their Fish, as they had sometime before panyard a Fish from the English Fishermen, accordingly he went down with his sword by his side, and his stick in his hand, having two Companys Slaves with him, at the landing of the first English Canoe that day, there came to the English Landing place, a Dutch white Soldier, usually called the Fish Fiscal, with two of the Slaves, and began to search an English Canoe, upon which he took the Fish Fiscal that he had no business with the English Fishermen, and desired him to go and take up the Dutch Fishermen, but instead of doing this he took his Canoe, and gave him a Blow, which he returned, so they fought for some time, and then the Fiscal returned under the Dutch Shed, and sent one of his Companys Slaves to search another English Canoe, which he opposed him in, so they began a Struggle together, which so soon as the Fiscal observed, he came himself to search the Canoe, and instead of a Basket Six small Fishes usually called Boups, which he Abraham received again by force from the Fiscal, so he again took his Canoe and beat him, but the English Slave offering to assist him, the Fiscal

Several thought proper to Return Home, and no more disturbance happened at the Waterside this Day

Being asked by Mr Craik which of the two Forts fired first? he says that that he was standing on one of the Platforms, and saw the Dutch Fort fire, the first Great Gun

The fishermen at that time employed in the Canoes, above mentioned did on Examination declare the above Relation to be the Truth, and we whose names are hereunto Subscribed do testify this Narration to have been voluntarily made, by the said Abraham Timbertrich, and the Fishermen (on being desired so to do) In the presence of us as Witnesses our hands

James Craik Chief Agent
Thomas Boteler Chief Factor at
Commenda Fort
John Duncombe Writer
Cornelius Gimm Writer

Commenda Fort July 4th 1746

I Henry Faulkner Sergeant being Desired to give in my Evidence of what I know concerning the late Matters between the English and Dutch Forts as also between the Negroes Subjects of the said Nation.

Say as Follows

That sometime about the latter end of June last some Dispute having been concerning the Dutch White Soldiers panyaring Fish out of an English Canoe, Mr Lefly orderd me to goe to the waterside to protect them coming ashore, Accordingly I went down with Abraham Timbertrich, the Company Slaves being all at the Waterside at Work on the Shed, on which the Dutch Chief came out of the Castle with about forty Negroes, and as I supposed with a Design to Spawlt out Fishermen, however he returned to the Fort without attempting anything upon them, and I see him point a great Gun at me, and the Blacks that was with me, but did not fire it at this time, Afterwards the Dutch Chief sent his Linguist to me, to ask me if I was come to meddle with any Fishermen Landing on the further side of the English Canoe Shed, I sent him word that I would not trouble them it being against my Orders, but that I came to protect the English Canoes, so they came ashore that day without any molestation.

Sunday July 6th 1746

First of our Canoes came ashore at the usual Landing place, and put their Canoes up to the Westward of the English Canoe Shed, after which the Dutch Chief sent the Company Slaves to break the Canoes, and throw them into the Sea, upon which the fishermen of this Town went, and put their Canoes up again, and drove the Dutch Slaves away, after having a skirmish with Stones and Sticks, about twelve o'clock the Dutch Slaves burnt our Canoe Shed, by a five brand Canoe, that lay under it, after dinner Mr Lefly orderd our Blacks to goe and set fire to their Shed, which they went to do, and the Dutch Blacks fired at them, but never hit any of our people burnt the Dutch Shed, Then the Dutch fort fired a Shot at this, whereupon by Mr Lefly's Orders, I fired a Shot into the Dutch Town, the Dutch Fort, Fired five shot at this Castle

Castle, and a hot Engagement lasted till Night, at half an hour after eight, the Dutch fired a Shot at this Fort, which was not Returned.

Monday Morning July the 7th 1746

The Dutch kept a continual Fire, and the Fort returned none, till about ten O'clock, then we fired at them, but how many Guns I can't tell.

Since the Above there was a Great Army of Blacks in the Dutch Town, who danced about the Landing place, with a great many Flags Flying, and hoisted one Dutch Flag at our Landing place.

This and the foregoing page, contain nothing but the strict Truth, of which I am well and willing to make oath when Required, in Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand

Henry Faulkner

Commenda July the 14th 1746

The Dymins fishermen of English Commenda, being Comanded before James Craik Esqr Chief Agent, Thomas Boteler Chief of Commenda Fort, and John Duncombe Writers were desired to declare the Cause and Rise of the late dispute between them and the Dutch Fishermen, well as between the two Forts, said as follows.

That on Sunday July the 6th 1746 four of the English fishing

Canoes having been of to view their Nets, at their Return, the fishermen laid them at the usual place to Woodward of the English Canoe Shed, and they came up to their Houses in the Town, after which they saw the Dutch Company Slaves coming down, and throwing their Canoes off into the Sea, so they ran to the Waterside, and rescued their Canoes, and put them up again, after having a battle with Stones and coming home they saw the Dutch Company Slaves, coming down, and set fire to the English Canoe Shed, this happened about eleven O'clock in the forenoon. About one O'clock Mr Lefly, the person at that time in Charge of the English Fort, sent for the fishermen in, gave them Gunpowder, and orderd them to goe down with the Company Slaves, and burn the Dutch Canoe Shed, Accordingly they went, The Dutch people came out to hinder them, and quarrelling, a Dutch Fisherman drew a Hanger, and cut an English Servant Named Yammie, in the Arm, and another Snapt his Gun at him, which did not goe off, upon which Yammie and the Company Slaves, Scrambled on the Canoe Shed and set fire to it, in the mean time, the Dutch Town people fired several Shot at them, and wounded the two Company Slaves, and our People returned their Shot. That while they were engaged, the Dutch Fort fired over the English Fort, then the English Fort fired a Shot, which was at the Fort or Town they can't tell, after which both Town people and Forts kept firing till Night at each other, the English People being Obliged in the midst of the Fight, to come back to the English Fort for more Powder, the Dutch panyard one of those four Canoes.

Writing being not in practice amongst the Natives, We before whom this Declaration was made, have hereunto set our hands in testimony that the Above is the true Substance and meaning of their Declaration

James Craik
Thomas Boteler
John Duncombe

The following is a true Account of what has hapn'd
between the two Forts of Commedia &c by Henry
Howard and John Duncombe. (Viz:)

July the 6th 1746.

By Order of the Council at Cape Coast Castle, We set
out from Cape Coast, at 11 O'clock at Night in a Seventeen hand Canoe, loaded with Stores and Ammunition
for the Use of Commedia Fort, with Orders to proceed thither, and to Deliver the same, to Mr Peter
Lefly, at present having the Care of that Fort. Accordingly at 6 O'clock in the Morning being the
7th Instant, We hoisted a Flag, at which time we was off of the Dutch Fort of Commedia, We having
a Small Canoe with 100 belonging to English Commedia, we orderd her to goe ashore to the Westward of the
English Fort, but the Dutch Fort kept a continual fire at her, so that she could not land in safety,
by which means she pulled up along shore, and would not venture in, we thought it not proper to goe
a shore at the usual Landing place, belonging to the English at Commedia, The Dutch then kept
a continual Firing at us, as we was pulling up along shore the Blacks from the English Town, came
down to the Waterside, some Distance to the Westward of the Fort, and call'd us to come in, stalling
us in night, with soft, whereas our Canoe was overset, broke to pieces and the Cargo lost, and with much
Difficulty saved our Lives, as we was walking to the English Fort, the Shott from the Dutch Fort, Raved
the sands all round us, till such time as we got under cover of the English Fort, then they kept
firing at the Fort as fast as possible they could Discharge and Load their Cannon, We returned
them forty Shott as fast as we could they shott away our Flag Staffs and Disabled our Flag Staff.
At three O'clock in the afternoon the Dutch Bombay brought a Letter Directed to Mr Peter Lefly
from the Council at Cape Coast, Signifying a Resumption of Hostilities, the Dutch having kept firing
all that Day till that time, and this Fort did not fire another Gun since the Receiving of
that Letter.

Commedia Fort Wednesday July 9th 1746.

This evening arrived in the Dutch Town, about 300 Men armed
with Dutch Flags flying, and they continued coming till Thursday evening in great Numbers
and as near as we can guess made up a Body of about 3000 Men, most of them being African Blacks.

Friday 11th July 1746.

This morning about Eight O'clock, the Dutch still continued
to Insult us, by suffering the Blacks to hoist a Dutch Flag on the English Land, properly the
Landing place of this Fort, to one of the Sticks that was left at the Burning of the Shade, and has
kept it up there every Day, after which the Blacks Raved it round all the Sands to the
Westward of the River, with several Flags flying, and daring of the English Blacks to come
to them, and telling them, that all the Sands belong'd to them.

Saturday 12th July 1746.

This morning the Dutch Blacks brought Sticks and Sticks
to Build a Canoe Shade.

Sunday 13th July 1746.

This morning arriv'd a Large Canoe with 100 Men from
from Cape Coast Castle, in coming a shore at the usual Landing place, just at coming in, The
Dutch Blacks came in a great Body, to the Waterside, to the Number as near as can be judged
300, armed with Arrows, Cutlasses, and Guns, so that the Garrison were afraid to come ashore
at the proper Landing, but was forced to come up the River which Endanger'd the Canoe, and
Cargo.

Cargo, the Nothing was traded with.
The foregoing pages contains nothing but the Truth, and which is
ready to confirm by taking our Oaths.

Henry Howard
John Duncombe

Commedia Fort July 23 1746

The Report of the Garrison of Commedia
Viz:

- Henry Faulkner Sergeant.
 - John Williams Gunner
 - Peter Gordon
 - Abraham Timbertrick
 - John Hendrick
 - John Reynolds
- } Soldiers } Mulattoes

On Sunday the 6th Instant, they saw four of the
English fishing Canoes come on shore, which the people laid up on their own Stands, to the
Westward of the English Canoe Shade, that soon after they saw some of the Dutch Company Slaves
and others come down to the said Canoes, and took them and throwed them into the Sea, that on
this Mr Lefly told the English Concernmen to goe down and take care of their Canoes, accordingly they
went, and rescued them from the Dutch Slaves and People, and put them up in their former places.
At the same time they saw the English and Dutch people Engage with Sticks and Stones, and the
English drove the Dutch away, after which the English returned home. Soon after they saw
some of the Dutch Company Slaves come down, with firebrands in their hands, and set fire to
the English Canoe shade, on which the Gunner went to Mr Lefly, and acquainted him
therewith, to whom Mr Lefly answered (as he says) It's no matter, let them burn it, they'll
pay for it, so he returned on the Battlements, where they all stood, and saw the Shade and the
Canoe under it burn quite to the Ground, so they sat still, and Mr Lefly sat his Dinner, after
he Mr Lefly sent his Boy out, to tell the English Fishermen to goe down with the Company Slaves
and assist in setting fire to the Dutch Canoe Shade, (they had ^{before} observed the Dutch people,
pulled their Large Canoes from under their Shade) accordingly one of the Company Slaves, and
some of the fishermen went down, and they saw two of the Company Slaves, and a free Boy put
fire into the Dutch Shade twice, The Dutch people pulled it out as often, at the same time they
saw some Dutch people take the Guns from one of the Company Slaves, and the free Boy, the people
were afterwards so Intimidated, that they can't tell who fired the first Gun, but they saw the
Dutch Shade on fire, and the people fired their Guns at each other, while they were engaged
they saw the Dutch Fort fire a Gun, with a Ball, which they heard, as it pass'd over their
Heads, on which the Sergeant called to Mr Lefly who stood on another Flanker, and told
him the Dutch Fort had fired, and ask'd him if he should fire the Gun he was station'd
at, into the Dutch Town, Mr Lefly said Yes, and so the Gunner fired it, and then
both Forts engage'd till Night, and that the next morning at Sun rise the Dutch Fort
began to fire again upon the English Fort, which they did not answer till about

Ten O'clock in the forenoon.

Henry Faulkner

Whereas all the other persons mentioned in the above Report, cannot sign their Names, not being able to write -

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed do affirm that they all Unanimously agreed in every particular of the above Relation, and that they affirmed it to be the Truth.

James Craik
Thomas Boteler
John Duncombe
Cornelius Trimor

Remains April 7

Translation of General De Petersen's Paragraph

July the 23. 1746

Moreover, if further we desire of Honour that on Receipt of this if before your Return you should have no further occasion for any Conversation, to send two Qualified Christian Servants, to Mr Craik, and to assure his Honour of our Respect to him, and as we see that notwithstanding all the strict Inquiry that was made, Mr Craik could not resolve who was in the Right and who was in the Wrong, because the Blacks Witness was a fairish Black, and more than the Witness of the Irreproachable Christians (contrary to the Law prescribed by all Nations) was neither regarded by the beforementioned Mr Craik, is put by the Director General to the Account of Offence, for which there was never given any Satisfaction, also the said Director General thinks it now Necessary, to make use of Lawfull Proceedings, but in simple and pleasant Terms, in the Name of us to let his Honour Mr Craik know, that so long as he does maintain, the ill Behaviour of his Subjects, and the truth must not appear, he rejects the Confession of Credible Christians, who will take their Oath before him, if he desires it, an Action if it is only simply considered, was deposable to give to the Decision of Justice. Conclude that the beforementioned Mr Craik must suspect that this Treachery looks over the head and more, and intends at last to take no other Measures, but to destroy at once the Friendship and Harmony, between the English and Dutch Nation.

Mr Craik's Letter to General De Petersen, in Answer to his Paragraph Communicated to him by Mr Raems

Honourable Sir

Mr Raems having this Day favoured me (by two Dutch Gentlemen) with the Copy of a Paragraph of a Letter, which the said Gentlemen inform me, he had received from your Honour, with Orders to communicate the same to me, I have endeavoured to understand it, as perfectly as may be with the Distance I have, on which I cannot entirely rely, but by what I am able to gather therefrom, it appears to me, that your Honour seems entirely to exclude the English Nation from their antient Right, of the free Use of the Bay of this place, and from thence concluding the Behaviour of your Servants and Subjects to be Right in the late Disturbance, between the two Forts here, you have (without Vouchsafing to allow the English the Liberty of offering to your Consideration, what they may have to Alleged, as well in defence of their Rights and Privileges at this place, as what further regards their Conduct in all matters relating to the present Dispute) concluded them to be the Aggressors, and my self to have denied the Evidence of the Oath of your White Servants, in regard to their Conduct in the said late Disturbance here at Commenda.

Give me leave therefore Sir to assure your Honour that I never had any such Design, as to Invalidate their Evidence, but only on Mr Raems his offering I observed to him that all the English Garrison, were as ready and willing to take their Oath in Justification of their Conduct in the late Disturbance, as your Servants could be, and from thence observed to him, that the dispute would still remain the same, and that it appeared to me, that the Truth might probably be better discovered, should Mr Raem and Mr Leply be Ordered to appear before your Honour, and one of the Chief Agents of Cape Coast, in some proper place, which may be agreed upon, which Mr Raems at that time seemed not to Disapprove of, and the which I purpose to concert with your Honour upon, in my way to Cape Coast, for which place I should have set out

Day had just been detained by some necessary business, but hope to move to have the honour of seeing you at Umina, as for the Remainder of your Paragraph, I shall at present leave saying any thing thereto, not Doubting but yr Honours Justice will prevent your coming to any decision as well in the present, as all other Disputes you seem to hint at, till an Impartial Inquiry may be made, and the Reasons on both sides fairly discussed, in the near time I trust to conclude that I am with the greatest Esteem

Honourable Sir
yr most Obedient and Humble Servant

Commeada Fort July 23. 1746

Umina April the 1st 1747. S. J.

Much Esteemed Sirs

We have the Honour herewith to send, and in your Honours own hands, to deliver through the Committee, our Answer, or contra Protest, against the Protest, which yr Honours find good upon the 10th Dec: 1746 O.S. to denounce to our Director General and Council, and which contra Protest, before to your Honours, should have been sent, if the Members of the Council, who were most Separated, and through Business had not been hindered, sooner to Republish and look over the contents of the Protest of yr Honours to Deliberate on

We cannot let slip in Silence, that we are not the utmost surpris'd that your Honours in yr Protest, accuse the Dutch Nation, without Appearance of Evidence, offering clandestine Intercourse with the Negro Tando; and now since the mentioned Tando and all his Subjects Publicly has accepted on English Commissions, and for your Honours Subject acknowledged as appears out the Empire of the 5th February O.S. this year, the yr Honours wrote to the Director General M^r Jacob De Petersen, about which standing we will not say, as at large, but to the Judgment of every one, whom it may concern, and all Neutral Arbiters, if yr Honours are Qualified or have the faculty to draw in Criminal Judgment, and hear all add to Annul, and further but for fear of mischief in the sequel Protest, like as we do with this, about all Rapines, Laps, and Intrench, which at any time, should come to spring out, the accepting and acknowledging for yr Honours Subject a party of Wandille, as the aforementioned Tando and his Accomplices, who upon the 1st November 1743 O.S. through yr Honours by Publication, ^{delat} are ^{delat} Bird free, and a fine promised to every one, who the aforementioned Tando living or Dead, came to Deliver into the hands of Justice, and moreover at that time granted to the Dutch Nation, the faculty on the aforementioned Tando, and his Accomplices, to the utmost to pursue and seize if it was possible

We have also, nor would be Absent to Acquaint yr Honours by this Occasion, that we out of Resolution of the Council all agreeing together as an Illusory Document, have annul'd the Convention, which in the year 1708 the 1st July O.S. and 28th June O.S. has begun, through the Decree Dabby Thomas at that time Governour of

The English Africa Company, and the Decree the Director General Peter Nuyts, and Councils North and South Coast of Africa, and that we also have annul'd the Renovation of the said Convention, through the Decree the Director General Robert Norre at that time Absent, agree and Ratified, on Reasons that we flatter our selves, yr Honours as men of Judgement, (Considering the Reasons) should not Contradict, and which to Inform yr Honours are these a Viz^t

First of all that the Decree the Director General Peter Nuyts and his Council, as also the same Successors never were Qualified without the Agreement of their Masters for the Use of the respective English Nation on this Coast, to over give a Right, which pursue after the Tractate granted through their high Esteem'd the States General of the United Provinces, to the Priviledged Dutch West India Company, and the said Dutch Company alone, and no other Competitor

Secondly, that the mentioned Convention of the year 1708, never through their Right Worshipp'd the Administrators of the General Priviledg'd West India Company of the United Provinces was approved

Thirdly that the Seventh Article upon which the respective Chief Agents of the English Africa Company principally call, contains in it self notorious Contradictions, and against all Reason as appears by the Expression, the aforementioned Dabby Thomas departs from a Right which his Master never had, and which his Master would not have been so silly to over give, if he could show that he was qualified and had the Right equal, and in the same manner as a Dutch General, to the Portuguze who Navigat upon this Coast, to give Passports, out of which it also evidently flows that it is ridiculous, and false of it self, that the Dutch Nation in pursuance of the said seventh article, could take no Portuguze Vessel which already was in the Possession of the English Ships, or that there was on Board a servant of the English Africa Company.

Fourthly, that all the rest of the Articles of the aforementioned Convention contains no other than what Nature leaves, and that Allied Nations, and Civiliz'd People, do neither War upon the first Demand, without Agreements in writing to give to Design

To which Reasonable Articles we without the Convention are inclin'd to behave our selves, and have the Honour to assure yr Honours, that we never shall deny such Reasonable Demands as through the respective English Nation from time to time, and in continuance of time, should or may be done, and consequently also the small Craft of the English Africa Company, and all other Particular English Vessels may be Repaired in the River of the Dead Coast at Umina, against which we seriously desire your Honours the herein before mentioned about the Portuguze, who come about these Places to take into Consideration, and that yr Honours as well as we in the sequel, will be pleas'd to carry themselves after the Tractate, and not after the aforementioned Illusory Convention of the year 1708, ~~and~~ through which as being before mentioned our Legitimate Reasons are Annul'd, and in pursuance of which Convention (not respect to it said) with Relation to the Portuguze nothing can be undertaken without prejudice to the Dutch West India Company, and to give Inducements to continual Troubles, which we without the Prejudice of the rights of our Masters, willing would be without, as much as in our Power

We ~~are~~ with ^{after} Assurance of our Respect and Remembrance
Remain
Much Esteem'd Sirs
yr Honours most Obedient and Obed^t Servants

- Jacob De Petersen
- Jan Van Voorst
- Huybt Van Ruyk
- H. Raems
- P. B. Verschueren
- P. Coejmans
- G. De Sandra
- H. V. Abkoude

Cape Coast Castle 15th Decemb^r 1746

The Council for Transacting the Affairs of the Royal Africa Company of England at Cape Coast Castle in Africa, to the Honourable Jacob Di Petersen Esq^r Director General of the Affairs of the Honourable the West India Company of Holland in Africa, Hendrick Raams Esq^r Chief Merchant and Counsellor for the said Honourable Dutch Company, and all the other Members of the Council at St. George's Delmina, who have any Share in what is to be hereafter set forth.

Whereas some time in the latter end of June, and the beginning of July last O.S. there happened a Dispute between M^r Baet Chief of the Dutch Fort of Comenda, and M^r Peter Lefly, then having Charge of the English Fort, concerning the usual and common Landing Place there.

Whereupon you M^r Hendrick Raams was sent from Elmina, to enquire into the Matter, and on the 3^d July last O.S. the Council here by Letter acquainted you Jacob Di Petersen Esq^r that they apprehended the Royal African Company of England had a Right to the common Use of all the Bay of Comenda, as also ^{with} their Surprise at what they heard were M^r Raams's Intentions which he was to carry in Execution, without so much as giving the Council here the Smallest Intimation thereof or requiring Redress for any Injury pretended to have been done. And by a Letter from you Jacob Di Petersen Esq^r bearing Date the 15th of July last O.S. you acknowledge the Receipt of our Letter aforesaid of the 3^d July O.S. but you altogether waded making any Answer, to that part of our Letter, which Regardes the Rights of the Royal African Company of England to the common Use of the Bay aforesaid. And chiefly consisted in Innocencies against M^r Lefly aforesaid, and assuming an exclusive Right to the said Bay, without assigning any Reason for the Same.

And you M^r Hendrick Raams on or about the 2^d Day of July last O.S. in the Dutch Fort at Comenda, without admitting the Subjects of the British Nation to be heard, affirmed in an arbitrary manner, the Bay in Question to belong to the Dutch, exclusive of the British Nation, having any Right to Land there, and in consequence of that Affirmative, ordered in an arbitrary Manner, the aforesaid M^r Peter Lefly to remove all the British Canoes, from the usual Place, otherwise you threatened to throw them into the Sea, or order them to be broke in Pieces.

On or about the 4th of July last O.S. you M^r Hendrick Raams went to Elmina after (as we were informed) having made all the Dutch Black Subjects of Comenda, enter into an Engagement to destroy all the British Canoes, and to fight all the British Fishermen, who should land at the usual Place.

On or about the 5th of July last O.S. four British Canoes landed at the usual Place of the Bay aforesaid. Whereupon in Pursuance of your M^r Hendrick Raams Projected Plan, Hostilities and Violences were begun by M^r Baet aforesaid. Which are not to our Purpose to insist upon, and deliberate at Large here; since those things were transacted Openly, and are by consequence well known, that they need not, to be recapitulated as they will fully appear in a proper manner.

else where.

And Whereas the Subjects of the British Nation without Distinction have been in Practice of Landing and Going off with their Canoes of all sorts in the Bay aforesaid, ever since there was a British Fort at Comenda, without ever having been before Controversied. And their Right thereto, has always till now been deemed so little doubtfull, that it is not so much as mentioned in the several Conventions made between the two Honourable Companies in Europe, and on the Coast. Wherin all doubtfull and disputable Points Subsisting at the time of making such Conventions were formerly Regulated, and Adjusted, nor indeed could any thing of this kind before now properly become a Subject of Dispute, by Reason this is the first Example of any Person pretending to Interrupt the free Intercourse of the Coast by Land or Sea, either to Whites or Blacks, on the pretence of Right, whatever might have been done, by Superior Power in the Case of Quarrels or other pretences. So from these Considerations we cannot help looking upon the present assuming the exclusive Right of the aforesaid Bay, and the Violence that was used in asserting the Same, joined with your Obstinacy in refusing to reestablish the British Nation in their just Rights at a time, when the British Town of Comenda was almost Depopulated, and the Fort in bad Repair, to have been perpetrated, and perpetrated to prevent our Resettling the said Town, And to have it in the Power of your Successors, in Resentment of a private Grudge that may be taken against the treachery of the British Subjects, to interrupt the Intercourse of the British Nation, with their Fort at Comenda, on frivolous public pretences, which is both an Indignity and Detriment to the British Nation. And the more particularly as the Crowns of Great Britain and France are actually at War, which makes the Repairing of the British Fort, and Resettling the Town both Indispensably necessary for the Defence of the British Territory in case of an Attack from the Enemy. And this Conduct on your Parts, we are much at a loss to Reconcile, to the High and Mighty States General of the United Provinces, being in Alliance with His Britannic Majesty.

And the Conduct of you Jacob Di Petersen Esq^r, and you M^r Hendrick Raams, since the Commencement of this Affair confirms us in the Opinion that all your Actions have tended to obstruct our Resettling the British Town of Comenda, which we apprehend will appear to the Disinterested from the following Circumstances, which we must be allowed to dilate a little upon, as they materially concern the Honour and Interest of the British Nation.

In our Letter to you Jacob Di Petersen Esq^r of 31st July 1746 O.S. we mention your not having answered our Letter to you of the 26th July last O.S. and the Inconvenience the Royal Africa Company's Affairs were put under, by forcibly preventing their Subjects, and particularly the Fishermen

of Comenda, from going off and Landing at the usual Place there, as the said Letter of the 31st July last, more fully Bears.

In Return to which Letter you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire, in pursuance of Mr Baems's Sham Conquest, sent us a Summons, dated the 12th of August 1746 N.S. to Land at the Place, where the British Nation have had a Right to Land time immemorial, and we apprehend will be found to have a Right, notwithstanding Mr Baems's Mock Victory over fifty poor Fishermen (for Caravel with the Company's Goods only, without mentioning the Fishermen which we at that time Received, not as acknowledging you to have a Right to Grant such Permission, but to prevent Involving the two Honourable Companies, in further Disputes. Here we must observe the omitting the Fishermen in the aforementioned Permission, plainly points out the Intention of preventing us to Resettle the British Town of Comenda. As the Inhabitants cannot subsist comfortably without having the unobscured freedom of Fishing. The which they cannot be said to enjoy, whilst they are prohibited to go off, and Land at the usual Place, and are liable to be Insulted and Annoyed by the means of the Dutch Subjects.

And as a further Confirmation of what is above-mentioned, we proposed in our Letter bearing Date the 16th of August O.S. to put the Bay in Question, upon the same footing, that it was before the Dispute, and so to Remain till the Affairs should be decided in Europe. To which you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire returned no direct Answer, but said among other things in the end of your Letter of the 6th of October 1746 N.S. That you cannot Grant more than you did the 12th of August aforesaid. In which is as before-mentioned, the Fishermen are, we have Reason to believe with Design omitted, which we apprehend will not appear to be a forced and unnatural Instance, from the subsequent behaviour, of you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire, and you Mr Hendrick Baems, with regard to the British Nation, which we shall in the sequel draw up, and place before you, in one Point of View.

For us much as you Mr Hendrick Baems so soon as you heard of our Intentions, to resettle the British Town of Comenda, and to Annul the Sentence we had pronounced against Tando late Cabocer there for his Revolt from his Dutia, which Sentence you Jacob Di Petersen concurred with a seeming and apparent Friendship, and caused it to be Published at all the Dutch Forts, send your Servant Apokoowee to Tando aforesaid, to persuade him to come to Ampanjies to meet Amboah the Cabocer and Linguist of Vlaminia, which he Apokoowee accordingly Accomplished. And in pursuance of the Apparatus given Tando, He actually came to Ampanjies, on or about the 1st of October 1746 O.S. where Amboah also mentioned took Tattish that he (Tando) should be safe at Vlaminia. Whereupon Tando took Tattish obsequiously himself to go to Vlaminia, on or about the 6th of October 1746 O.S.

App the

In the mean time, as we did not in the least suspect, such underhand Tampering with a British Subject, particularly one, whom you Jacob Di Petersen Esq. had concurred with in a Declaration against, We on the 6th of October aforesaid, sent the Royal African Company Linguist Cudjoe to meet Tando aforesaid, for his own Request, Job Ampanjies. In the mean time we had a Letter prepared to send to you Jacob Di Petersen Esq. the Afternoon of that Day, in Order to acquaint you, that we had Received the aforementioned Tando into Favour, and had a design to Resettle the British Town of Comenda, And in the said Letter we desired you to send some person, on the Part of the Dutch Nation, to be Witness to all the Transaction. But about one O'Clock in the Afternoon of the aforesaid day, when our Letter above-mentioned, was upon the point of being forwarded to you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire, a Messenger arriv'd from our Cabocer Cudjoe aforesaid from Vlaminia, who acquainted us to our great Surprise, that Tando above-mentioned had arriv'd at Vlaminia about 9 O'Clock in the Morning the same Day. And immediately on his Tando's Arrival, and before he had done selecting our Cabocer Cudjoe, two Servants came from you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire, who desired Tando to go into the Castle of Vlaminia, which he complied with. And as we were Informed, Remained shut up with you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire, in your own Bed Chamber a considerable time. In the evening we countermanded our aforesaid Letter to you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire, and ordered our Cabocer Cudjoe, forthwith to return from Vlaminia. As then what evidently appeared, that we could not prevail with our selves, so much as to harbour a Suspicion of having all along, relied in a deceitfull Security on the Honour of you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire.

Before the arrival of our Orders aforesaid to Cudjoe to return from Vlaminia, Tando came out of the Castle, and acquainted him (Cudjoe) that you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire told Tando, that the English wanted to Destroy him, but you Jacob Di Petersen Esquire had Protected him. And further that if he Tando attempted without the consent of you Jacob Di Petersen Esq. to Return to the English Service, you would have War upon him (Tando) and Destroy him, after which Tando remained at Vlaminia, about a Week, where He was as we ^{are} told very much carressed. The which seems has continued ever since, as lately he had a Squabble with some of his Slaves in the Coon. Immediately upon the hearing thereof, as if he had been a Dutch Subject, Mr Baest Dutch Chief at Comenda, sent him (Tando) some Liquor in a present, and desired to know his further wants, and He (Baest) would supply him. And then He (Tando) came lately to the Dutch Town at Comenda, to perform the Funeral Rites of a deceased Friend of his. The aforesaid Mr Baest fired three Guns from the Dutch Fort, to do him (Tando) Honour. At the same time He (Tando) informed Mr Boteler, British Chief at Comenda, that he would have come to the British Fort, but that he was afraid of the Dutch.

And all these mean and underhand Actions, to inveigle the British Subjects, from their Duty, and to induce them to abandon their antient Masters are

carried

carried on, in contempt of, and in contradiction to the fourth Article of a Convention
Bearing Date the 15th Day of June 1708. O.S. made on this Coast, and Ratified by
the two Honourable Companies in Europe, where it is stipulated, That if any Nation or
Natives of the Country, shall run away from either Party, for Debts contracted, or upon
the Account of any Misdemeanour committed after Signing and Sealing their Assent,
Then the other Party shall upon Demand use all Endeavours to Oblige the said Runaway
Native or Natives, or his, or their Relations, to make Satisfaction to the Injured Party.

It is true by way of Subterfuge, you may allege that there was no Demand
made of your Assistance. Nor was you Advertised of our Intentions to reclaim Tando
Tando aforesaid to his Duty. To which it is easy to answer, That you Jacob Di
Peterson, and you M^r Hendrich Raems took special care to prevent us giving you
any Advertisement of our Designs, as is above set forth by your Integers in clandestinely
endeavouring to supplant and undermine us, with the Runaway British Subjects
aforesaid. Whilst we supremely and implicitly confided in your Honour, & believed
in a particular manner, That you Jacob Di Peterson was incapable of such Practices.

But admitting there had been no Intention to give any Advertisement of
our Designs, which was but matter of mere Ceremony, as Assistance was quite unnece-
sary the aforesaid Article taken in the greatest Latitude, can never be
Interpreted to Authorize and Entitle you Jacob Di Peterson Esquire, and you M^r
Hendrich Raems clandestinely to Oppose the Council here, in treating with the
Runaway Subjects of the British Nation which is Notorious, you have done by
endeavouring to Alienate the said Tando, and his Adherents, from their lawful
Superiors, by persuasions, Presents, and Threaten.

On the other hand a Demand to use all
endeavours, to Oblige a Runaway Native to make Satisfaction is only requisite when
Assistance there to is wanting, and never could be intended to give either Party unnecessary
Trouble. So we are humbly of an Opinion, that the aforesaid Article of Convention
will be found to imply That you ought to have been Suspicious, and not to have officiously
Interfered in a matter, where your Assistance was not Demanded, and in no shape concern'd you
unless you find found it Necessary to Debauch the British Subjects from their Allegiance
the better to Support M^r Raems's Violence, and our memorable Victory at Comenda.

That which violence in prohibiting the British Subjects in a Majesterial
manner to Land and go off at the ordinary place, in the Bay of Comenda, is in direct
contempt of the fourth Article of an Agreement, made between the two Honourable Comp^{ts}
in Europe, and Bearing Date the 27th Day of May 1707. O. S. Wherein it is stipulated
That no Merchant, or any Native on the Coast, shall be hindered by any Person or Persons
in the Service of either Company, directly or Indirectly to go or come from any Factory
on the Coast, which we apprehend without forcing, or straining, the meaning of
the words will be found to imply free and Independent, Ingress and Egress to and from
all the

all the Ports belonging to the two Nations on the Coast of Africa, and which is manifestly
Infringed, while you Jacob Di Peterson Esq^r usurp a Right, to detain the Subjects of the
British Nation, from the common use of the Bay of Comenda, so without that
Intention of the aforesaid Article of Agreement Dated 27th Day of May 1707 O.S.
cannot be said to be fulfilled.

Upon the whole by the uniform Tenor of the Conduct
of you Jacob Di Peterson Esq^r and you M^r Hendrich Raems in the Affairs above
set forth, it evidently appears, that you Jacob Di Peterson Esq^r concurred with us in
the Declaration against Tando aforesaid only to remove us and under that
Pretence, and Shelter of that Declaration, to be the more unsuspectedly endeavouring
to Debauch, and Seduce him / Tando / from his Allegiance to the British Nation.
As it is well known the late M^r Smith when he was Chief of Dutch Comnd here
kept a constant Intercourse with Tando aforesaid, and from time to time gave
him / Tando / Presents. The first of which happened not long after you Jacob
Di Peterson Esq^r had given Order to publish the aforesaid Declaration.

So to sum up the Affair in a few Words, There is a
Proved and Defection Subject of the British Nation, Carried by you Jacob
Di Peterson Esq^r notwithstanding of your Joining in Appearance with us in
what you said at that time was a just Sentence upon all Occasions excepting when
it is to Return to his Duty. Then and in that Case, he is threatened with Death & Destruction
by you Jacob Di Peterson Esquire, under the Pretence of our Declaration aforesaid, the
Effect of which without doubt ceases with respect to you, whenever we shall think fit
to Relax the Same, so from all the promises mutually considered it may be deduced as
a very natural consequence, that the Intentions of you Jacob Di Peterson Esq^r and
you M^r Hendrich Raems have been, and are insidiously to subvert and ruin the
British Interest at Comenda.

Therefore We do solemnly and in the best manner
we can in the Name, and on the Behalf of the Royal African Company of England
Protest against you Jacob Di Peterson Esquire, and you M^r Hendrich Raems
for your having taken the Dishonourable Advantage of the weak Condition of these
British Affairs at Comenda, And illegally, Violently, and forcibly having deprived
the British Subjects of the Use of the common Landing place, or a free Intercourse
with the British Foot there, Without acquainting the Council here with your
Intention, or previously demanding Redress for any Injury pretended to have been done
by any British Subject at that place. And That you Jacob Di Peterson
Esq^r and you M^r Hendrich Raems shall be held as liable to make Reparation
for the Insult and Indignity done to the British Nation by the Violence aforesaid
And also That you Jacob Di Peterson Esq^r and you M^r Hendrich Raems shall
be held as liable to Repair all Damages, and to Refund all Expenses that have
been

Received, or may accrue to the Royal Africa Company of England by the said
apportionment, committed at Cominda, in manifest Contravention of the fourth
Articles of an Agreement made between the two Honourable Companies, the
27th of May 1707.

And further in the Manner aforesaid,

We do Protest That our Perceiving of the Permission above mentioned Bearing
Date the 16th of August 1746 N.S. shall not anyway be Deemed as Recognizing
or Acknowledging the exclusive Rights of the Dutch Nation, to the common Landing
place of the Bay of Cominda, as is by you pretended. Or in any way to tend
Invalidate the British Right to the common use of the Landing Place aforesaid.
As the said Permission was only received by us, in the manner of a Paper, at the
time of War, and in some measure, to prevent the Interest of your Colonies
from suffering in the mean time, by your Jacob De Petersen's Insuperable Obstinacy
in pursuing to support Mr Raemo's Invasion & Fortification.

As also We in the manner aforesaid do Protest
against you Jacob De Petersen Esq. and you Mr Hendrick Raemo, for
your having by Insidious, and clandestine Practices above mentioned, prevented
us in settling the British Town of Cominda. And that you Jacob De
Petersen Esquire, and you Mr Hendrick Raemo shall be held as liable
to Repair all the Damages, that have accrued, or may accrue, to the Royal
Africa Company of England by the said Insidious.

And Lastly We in the manner aforesaid
do Protest and Declare that if there be any Defect of Form in
this our Protestation, It shall not be any way to the Prejudice of the
Royal Africa Company of England. And by these Presents
Sealed with the said Company's Seal of Arms, and signed by us. Whom
their Names and on their behalf Reserve to them intire all their
Rights and Claims, and Declare that they are, and shall be
safe, and intire.

Given at Cape Coast Castle the 15th Day of Feb.

By us the Council for Transacting the Affairs of the Royal Africa
Company of England

David Crichton

Thomas Chalmer

James Craik

Articles of Agreement, concluded and approved
by and Betwixt, the West India Company
of Holland, and the Royal African Company
of England, now called Great Britain, to be
Observed by their respective Generals and
Commanders of Ships on the Coast of Guinea
commonly called the Gold Coast, for the
better Improvement of that Trade and the
Joint Interest & Benefit of both Companies.

1st That for the future there shall be an equal friendship and Union between the
Companies, and their Generals, Agents, and Factors upon the Coast, for the promoting
the honour and Interest of both Companies.

2^d That no Soldier or other person sworn, and in the Service of either Company
who shall Desert, shall be entertained or protected, but shall be sent to the Nearest
Forts, This Article to be published on both Sides, that none may pretend Ignorance.

3^d That neither Side shall directly or Indirectly assist or help the Nations on the Coast,
to make Disturbance or War with one another, or any pretensions whatsoever the said
Natives may have amongst themselves, but that both sides shall when any such
difference happens, use their utmost Endeavour, to bring the parties to Reconciliation
for the Interest of both Companies.

4th That no Merchant, or any Native on the Coast, shall be hindered by any person
or persons in service of either Company, directly or Indirectly, to go to or come from any
Factory, or Fort on the Coast.

5th That no Dutch Interloper shall be permitted to Trade at any of the English
Forts or Factories, and if it should happen, that such Interloper should be chased
by a Dutch Company's Ship, and should come under any English Fort, the Dutch
Company's Ship be permitted to do what he pleases with him.

6th That if any Ship or Ships of either Company, shall be forced into any Road
belonging to the other, be she in Company with other Ships, or alone, such Ship or Ships
protected and assisted to the best of the power and ability of such Party
shall not be permitted directly, or Indirectly to trade there, but if they do, such Goods
shall be confiscated.

7th It shall be lawfull for the small Vessels of both Companies, to come into
the Rivers belonging to either Company, to be Carried, or made clean, or to buy
Canoes, Provided the Chiefs of either Company, do first desire it, or make it
known to one another.

8th That such Orders shall be sent by both Companies, to their Generals
that they do at least once in Six Months, meet at a proper place, by themselves
to be appointed, and there to consult the best means, for the Advancing the common
Good of both Companies, and what Resolution they shall come to, shall be
fairly

fairly writ out, and signed by them, and authentic Copies transmitted to their Principals, by the first Opportunity, to be approved by them.

That the foregoing Articles, shall be punctually observed, by each Company's Generals, Chiefs, Factors, & Servants on the Coast of Guinea, and their Successors.

Thus mutually agreed by both Companies, and signed to be sent to their respective Generals, at Cape Coast Castle and D'Nomina, this being signed by the Court of Assistants, of the above named Royal African Company, and dated in London the 27th Day of May Anno Dom. 1707.

Alexander Clive	W ^m Withers Sub Gov ^r
William Mason	Tho ^s Pindar D. G.
Jos. Gory	James Gray
John Morgan	Jonathan Andrews
Urban Hall	John Nicholson
	Tho ^s Lake
	John Cutting
	W ^m Fragarley

Comenda Fort December 22nd 1746

Sir

Pursuant to your Order, Dated Mary Galley *Comenda* December 21st 1746. We have been at Comenda, and taken a strict Survey of the usual Landing place, in the Bay of Comenda, and it is our Opinion, that unless the English have a full and uninterrupted use thereof, it must be impossible for them, to have a free Communication with the Company's Settlements there, as it appears to us, there is not any other place proper for the Landing of Canoes.

As to the passages among the many Rocks, where the fishermen, in their small Canoes, out of the utmost Necessity, do when the Sea will allow them go off, to provide fish for their support, and appears to us impossible for Large Canoes to Land there at any time, nor even those small ones, but at the most favourable Opportunities.

For the River as we saw it dry at low Water, it is absolutely impossible, for any Canoes to land there, but at high water, and then only, when the sea may prove favourable enough, for them to expose their broadside to it, the Mouth being entirely environed with Rocks, and all to the Westward of this, for upwards of two Miles, nothing but Rocks

We are

Y^r Humble Servants
Roger Edwards
William Earnshaw

To Robert Swanton Esq^r
Commander of his Majesty's
Ship Mary Galley

Comenda Fort Dec^r 22nd 1746

To all whom it may concern, these are to certify, that on a Survey of the Shoar of Comenda, it appears plain to us, that there is no possibility of free Communication with the English Fort here, otherwise than by a free and uninterrupted use of and unquestionable Right to the use of the common Bay or Landing place, with the Dutch Settlements there, there being in reality no other.

For as to the intricate passages, between the Rocks, which the English Negro Subjects do, while the Dutch Nation prevents them from the use of the common Bay, make use of to go out to fish, when the Sea permits it's altogether impossible, for large Canoes, such as commonly are made use of for transporting Provisions, and Merchandise, to land there. And for the River the Mouth is constantly dry at low water, nor even a vessel at high Water, excepting at particular Seasons of the year, when the Sea is Calm, and smooth, the British Subjects making use of it, at those times, must be only for the ease of Carriage, as it is much nearer the Fort, than the proper Landing place. And the inconvenience just now attending the Harboring their Craft there is, that on any emergency, they must wait, till three quarters flood before they can get them out, besides, that it often fills up, as it appears just now very likely to do, so upon the whole, the

language This 27th Day of July 1750 in Commenda Fort

Witness
 The Company of Longboats

- Tando his Mast
- Paj Bull his Mast
- Entin his Mast
- Therique his Mast
- Amacoa his Mast
- Quabina his Mast
- Quarins his Mast

June 5. 1750

This is to certify whom it may concern that a Man named Appuna inhabitant of a town near Appinas town during my absence from Commenda did without my leave or knowledge carry a boy of his belonging to Ammoragahan complaining to me of the same. I sent my servant to desire the aforementioned Appuna to come down that I might hear the Professor he answered he used the boy nothing & if the boy had any talant with him he might send his goods to make it there for he would come down. On which I served my people of the Fort & Company slaves with powder & ball & sent a party of Appuna for which I transgressed I made him forget to me that Appuna is no way culpable in this affair what the Towns people may say to the contrary

Witness my hand. Andrew Johnson

State and Condition of Diacove Fort April 30 1751.

At present it is in a tolerable good condition, but cannot continue so long as the Spur is mostly built of this country Brick, instead of Stone which as the Water gets to it becomes soft as clay; if due care is taken of it, it ought to have a boat of Serfaps every three Months at farthest as nothing else will preserve it, The parapets of the new Work are made of Plank & loose stones raised in a hurry at the beginning of this present Whantah Quarrel

Officers and Soldiers belonging to the Fort

- Kapour Senior Chief
- Rick Minors - Surgeant
- Thomas Parkinson
- George Sabathier
- John Macdonald
- Joseph Cummins
- Jacob - Mulatto Soldier
- Quarins - Black Gunner

Canon the Fort mounts	
№	Size
10	6 Pounds
11	4 Pounds
7	1 Pounds
28	

Note 2 of the above Canon. i.e. 6 four Pounds, and 3 one Pounds are so very old it is dangerous to fire them

Natives maintained by the Fort

- 64 Men and Boys that carry Arms
- 143 Women and Girls
- 21 Children

Errors Rectified
 Done
 Kapour Senior

Sir

I understand that the three men who had carried off my Longboat have sheltered themselves under your Fortrefs, that you have had the Goodness to Seize them and to give orders that my Long Boat should be secured. After having returned you my most humble Thanks for this Permit me I. to set before you one of the most sensible Effects of Providence or of that Divinity which rules all things here Below.

About fifteen years ago being in the Road of Whidda one of your Companys Ships lost all her Anchors in a violent Gale of Wind: this happened in the midst of one of the Darkest Nights and she was with in a trifle of Perishing on the Bar. Her Firing of Distress Guns and the prodigious Danger she was in Touch'd me. I went myself and carry'd her an Anchor and Cable, and I stopp'd her at half a Cables Length from the Bar on which she was just ready to Drive and be lost. There were then 4 English, 3 Danes, and 4 French Ships in the Road who were all too fond of their own Safety to think of granting those Succours of which your Ship was then in such urgen Want; I did not stop my Services here, The Captin was without Provisions, his Pilot was Dying the whole Company extremely fatigued and the Bar so bad that it was Impossible to hear from Shore. I furnished him with Fowls, my Surgeon took care of his sick and administer'd his Medicines to them: in short, during three Days that he was with me he found nothing but what was useful and agreeable of all the Anchor he had lost we could save but one Grappail of about 50 Pounds wt. which was not enough for him to return to Windward with: I gave him one of my anchors, notwithstanding the Danger such a Gift exposed me to. My Officers who brought the Acknowledgments of all these Favours from the Captin can confirm all that I have set forth, — Chance Sir now flings it in your way to repay me for some of the Services render'd to your Company, in returning me my Long-Boat and all that belongs to it, together with the three Negroes who carried it off. My Pilot informs me that the Grappail is lost, and that the Cable is saved, he is not yet acquainted with the Villany of Negroes, it being Impossible that one should be lost with out the other, and I flatter myself that you will interpose your Authority, so that it may be Deliver'd to me; or that (by any Effect that I cannot comprehend) the Grappail be really lost, that you would be pleas'd to let me have one of 40 or 50 Pounds wt, on the same Conditions that I gave you my Anchor; my officer will give you a Receipt. — The Knowledge I have of the Virtue and Generosity of the English will not Permit me to fear that you will abandon me to the Discretion of Negroes. The Long Boat is very small and Light and will give no more trouble in Launching than a Canoe I have sent only one anchor of Brandy for to Drink.

- 1 Dutch from Ancobra to Axin
- 5 D^o Fredreksburg or Cape three points
- 8 D^o Aquedah
- 3 English Dixcove
- 3 Dutch-Bultroe
- 3 D^o Tacquerado
- 3 D^o Succonde
- 5 English Succunde
- 4 Dutch Skumah
- 5 English Commenda
- 1 Dutch Commenda
- 4 D^o St George Del Mina
- 5 D^o St Jago
- 3 English Cape Coast Castle
- 1/2 } Phillipes Tower
- 5 } D^o Fort Royal
- 5 } Queen Anns point
- 2 Dutch Mouree
- 2 1/2 English Annishan
- 2 D^o Annamaboe
- 5 D^o Agga
- 2 Dutch Cormantiee
- 7 English Tantomquerry
- 3 Dutch among
- 5 English Winnibah
- 6 Dutch Barracoe
- 4 English Shido
- 6 D^o Accra
- 5 Dutch Accra
- 2 B Accra
- 5 English Alampo
- 15 English Quitak
- 28 D^o Whydah
- 3 D^o Jagum

River Valta Lays between these two forts

Cape Coast Castle 20th of Octob. 1750.

By the President and Council for the Royal African Company of England:

Instructions to be Observed by a Chief Factor at Commenda, To. Mr. John Smalman Governor Chief Factor for the Royal African Company of England at Commenda Fort or to the Chief Factor for the time being

Whereas we the President and Council aforesaid have constituted you to be Chief Factor for the said Company of their Fort Commenda for the Management of their Trade and other Affairs at that Fort & places dependant thereon, and for the Ordering and Disposing all their Serv. White & Black belonging to the said Fort or its Dependances you are therefore for your better Government therein Punctually to peruse and observe the Instructions fo^{ll}.

You are by the first proper Conveyance to Depart from hence to Commenda and take upon you the Charge of that Fort receiving into your Care all the Goods, Stores or other Effects belonging to the Company aforesaid or any other Person or Persons, which shall be found there at the time of your Arrival, and to signe two Inventories of the said Goods and Stores acknowledging the Receipt of them into your Charge and Care specifying to whom the same severally belong and to transmit the said Inventory to us by the first proper Conveyance you are to take in to your care & Charge all the Companys Castle working Slaves, Canoemen and Pawns or thoes the Nuy may belong to any other Person or Persons & on Acc^t by Inventory to be transmitted as aforesaid.

You are in your Station as much as in you lies to promote Increase and preserve the Honour Intrest and Trade of the Royal African Company of England

You are to keep an Exact Day Book & mention therein all your Trade Receipt of Goods and Delivery with the Daily Expences on Cabboceers Traders & as the same shall occur to be Deliverd at a Minutes warning to our Order and at the end of ^{each} every two Months you are to make out a fair Copy of said Day Book, and send it Down here preserving the Original in Case of its being Demanded, and where as the Chief Factor at the Companys out Fort have often been Embarrassed by not being sufficiently Acquainted with the customs of the natives and affairs of the Country ab^t them on which account many of the Companys Privileges have been infringed.

(X) we hereby require and direct that you enter in a Diary or Day book such Transactions as comes under your Cognizances (ie all Palavars which shall be brought before you whether the same be between whites and Natives or among the latter themselves with your Decisions thereon and you are to observe to advise us of any Ship or Vessel that may from time to time Anchor in your Road and give the Best Information you can procure of their Cargoes and to correspond with the Council here and give them the earliest advice off all Occurrances at Commenda Fort which shall be Worthy ^{their} Notice

you are also Directed to keep a regular Copy of your Correspondence with the Council or others regarding the Trade management or Command of your Fort which Day Book or Letter Book aforesaid are to be Deliverd your Successor upon Inventory;

and as you are Charged with all y^e effects w^hsoever belonging to the Royal African Company of England at Commenda Fort or those of

any other person or person being British Subjects Specified in the Inventory, you are to be Diligent and Industrious in promoting Trade and Consulting their Interest and Advantage by using your best Endeavours for the same and particularly to Encourage the Natives who Trade with you and to treat them Civilly and Courteously.

You are to buy none but Marchantable Slaves and then we dont at present for many reasons limit a price you are to Procure them at as easy rates as Possible, at same time not insist upon so low prices as may Discourage the natives from Dealing with you nor to give your Rivals an advantage over you and you are Constantly to observe that the Price paid for Slaves be separate from the Dashes or others arising upon purchasing them (ie) the Price of the Slaves to be specified and the Good paid and Annexed to such Amount the Expences or Dashes particularly Express'd; you are not directly nor Indirectly to make any Trade on y^r bart^r Acc^t: profit or Advantage or what you receive Purchase Sell barter or pay away but to enter all the trade you make in y^r Day Book fairly and regularly as if same was transacted and you are allow^d to pay your self your Salary and Diet money ^{in the} Gold you may raise by the trade.

you are to be very frugal in your Expences on the Co's Acc^t: & to lesen the same as much as Possible with^{out} prejudicing their Power Interest & y^r British Trade.

you are to keep your Ware house neat & clean & often air y^r Goods, and do every thing that may tend to preserve y^r Goods from damage and frequently air the corn you may be ord^d: to receive & Purchase to prevent its Spoiling.

you are as often as Exped^t conveyance shall offer to send here such Slaves Gold or other returns the Produce of Africa as shall be at y^r Fort Except what shall be order^d: by us or allow^d: to stay there and you are to insert in y^r: Lies by same opportunity y^r price Paid for them as also y^r Charges on y^e purchas at the foot of y^r Lies

you shall send here all such Goods as you shall find to have taken Damage that the same may be Recover^d & asertained.

you are to maintain a good Com^d: over all these under you and to Punish all those of ill behaviour adequate to their crimes and they that do their Duty you are to treat with kindness and civility Suitable to their Stations & Employ^s & observe to recommend y^r: in y^r Lies to us;

you are to take care to pay y^r self, Garrison, Co's Slaves & other Depend^{ts} every two months at furthest, & the Blacks to be Paid what they trust Europe^{ans} for Victuals, & y^r none of the Co's Serv^{ts} or other British ^{Subjects} molest or maltreat any of y^e natives what soever.

you are not to contract any Debts on the Co's Acc^t: neither are you to advance any Pay to y^e Garrison, Co's Slaves or Landemen before y^e same becomes due, nor are you to trust the natives or traders with any Goods on y^e Co's Acc^t: in case you do you are to observe you will be accountable for the said advances & Debts yourself with^{out} you first advise us of y^r Intentions;

34 you are allways to be upon your Guard, and by Prudent Cautions to Prevent being abused or insulted by the Natives, and for the better Preservation of ~~the Fort~~ ^{your Fort} ~~your Fort~~ ^{your Fort} 5000 Years of Corn for every Person white or Black under your Com^d: and a Suff^t: Quantity of Wood, and to keep all the Ground within musquet shot of ~~your Fort~~ ⁱⁿ Mansard, that the Enemy may not find Shelter therein, so y^t in case of any attack or blockade you may not be in Danger of being reduced to Surrender upon Dishonourable Terms before we are able to send you Relief, and for the same reason, you are to be Careful of such powder & Warlike Stores as you shall find in the fort or hereafter receive, and to spare no more ^{of those} Commod^s: than will be Absolutely Necessary to enable you to Carry on trade;

15: You are to Endeavour to y^e utmost of your skill and Ability to keep y^e Fort in good repair, and as the same is in a ruinous Condition to Procure Materials from time to time for such purpose, and to inform us what Workmen Stores &c you may want for such purpose;

16 you are to Cultivate y^r Gardⁿ: so that if Possible every thing may be Produced therein according to y^e nature of the Climate, & to lay it out as to front tribute to pleasure & advantage;

17 you are to use all possible Methods to get Acqu^t: with ye Peopell Caboc^{ers} heers & traders, and Natives at and about Commensa, and Strenuously endeavour to gain them over to the Co's Interest by encouraging them to bring you all y^e trade.

18 you are Carefully to Clean and Search all y^r Gold you take, ~~as none~~ as none but the best will be received here & likewise such Corn you shall receive or Purchase by our Orders y^t it be good and ~~sound~~ ^{sound}, you being not to buy or take any on Barter that is damaged or eat by Weevils

19 you are to retⁿ: the Salutes of such Ships or vessels y^r may from time to time Anchor or be Passing y^r: Road with two Guns Less than you receive & to Salute any of his majestys ship of War Anchoring therein with 25 ~~guns~~ ^{guns} & the person or person of y^e Com^d: on Entering & Departing the fort with ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~as~~ ^{as} to observe not to Salute y^e Person or Persons of any Companys Serv^{ts}: or Foreigner Except the members of the Council who you are to Salute on the Entering y^r Fort with 25 Guns as we will not in case of y^r neglecting this our Order hold it a sufficient Excuse y^t you do it at y^r own Expence, as y^e Forts on the Coast have Suffered great Damage by such practice;

20 you are to send^{er}: all Encouragment of Service in y^r power to the masters of British and american Vessels, but not upon a Pretence what ever to make any trade with those of france but to Study to Prevent their having any Commerce with the Europeans and natives und^r: y^e Com^d: or with those you have any Influence, ^{over}

21 you are to observe on y^r: arrival and During y^e continuance of any the Co's Chief Agents at y^r: fort, the sole Com^d: Direction and Care thereof Immediately devolves to such Agent in as full and Ample manner, as if the whole Council were present, unless it shall be other ways Expressly ord^d: by the Council at Cape Coast Castle.

you are frequently to peruse these our Instructions, as well as all such Orders you may hereafter receive from the Council here or their Successors and Carefully to observe y^e Same.

Where ever any thing is omitted in these our present Instructions you are to use to y^e utmost of y^e Power skill and ability, for the Intrest & honor of the Royal African Company of Eng^d with uprightness and Integrity and when you are in any Difficulty or Doubt as to your Proceeding you are to advise us Express and receive our Directions, for you to proceed by in such Cases; and according as you approve y^e self in this Present trust you will &c.

Shipped by the Grace of God in good Order and well conditioned by Mr James Hopkins In and upon the good ship Called the St. Philip of London Where of is Master under God for this Present Voyage Captin John Wade, and now riding at Anchor in Road of Cape Coast, and by Gods Grace bound for Jamaica to say one Box containing three Boxes Said to contain Seventy one Dunces of Seven Aek^t of Guinea Gold Dust and Belecches, one Leather Bulse Said to contain Twenty four ounces ten Aek^t of Gold Dust, and one Green Purse said to contain one hund^d, & fifteen Thirty six Shill^d Portugal pieces, and Twenty two and a half English Guineas & five Shill^d English Coin and thirty two Silver Buttons for a Waistcoat being for the acc^t and risque of the Executors of Mess^{rs}. James Brown and John Dettmer Deceased, being man^d sealed & Numbered as in the Margent, & are to be Delivered in the Like good order, & well conditioned at y^e afore s^d Port of Jamaica the Danger of the Seas only Excepted unto Mr James Hopkins or to his assigns freight for the said good being Paid Twenty five shillings, Ster^d for twenty five Oz of Gold Dust out of the above said Gold, and y^e like out of every 100 ster^d of y^e above said Coin, with Primage & Avarage Accustomed, In witness whereof y^e master or purser of y^e s^d Ship hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading all of the tenor & date y^e one, of one of wick three bills being Accomplished the other two to stand void, And so God send y^e Ship to her Desired Port in safety Amen.
Dated in Cape Coast Castle the 18 of November 1749
John Wade

Messieurs Les Conseillers au Cap Boize

Messieurs Comme j'ai recu des ordres de la Compagnie de partir de l'Annamaboa pour passer en Sudak ce que j'aurai d'ya fait si ce m'entr'ete possible les Statifs du pays n'ayant jamais voulu me le permettre ce qui m'oblige à me en aller et vous p^{er} de me recevoir dans votre Fort pour me permettre profiter des premiers occasions pour me rendre ad dit lieu laquelle voye je m'engage de passer avec tous les officiers qui sont avec moi et descendre dans tout le droit appartenant à la Compagnie Anglaise ni tenter a retourner m'etabler dans aucun lieu sous la Domination Anglaise de la Cote d'Or en Afrique sans l'approbation des deux Compagnies j'ay pendant mon séjour dans la Pais été informé que la Compagnie Royale Anglaise a toujours payé les coutumes d'y passer le Droit de l'Inde et de la terre tant Annamaboa Beza que Annak et je crois que la Compagnie Francoise n'enverra pas des sujets sans l'approbation des deux Compagnies
J'ai l'honneur d'être
Messieurs Vosres tres humble et tres obéissant
serviteur
Delacourt

High Esteemed S^r
We has observed by your Honours Letter of y^e 12th of July of the Disagreement y^e there is between your Chief of Dixcove and ours at Boutry, did there upon order an acc^t thereof to be sent to our said Chief. we advise for him to give us y^e best light into y^e original of that palaver we have his answer, the extract thereof to your honours he will send from w^{ch} your Honours will perceive how that matter stands. We do not in y^e Least doubt such persons has once run away from your Honours, but you will fully perceive y^e y^e Palaver is now apt to be imputed to our Chief, but insist from yaugees belongs to Boutry our Cabboceer, tho he now flown to Dixcove and hath given himself to your Chief under pretence y^e he is a Slave belongs to the Royal African Company of England which, at the same time take into consideration his own Confession that he dos know who was his mother, after he not being able to prove, our Cabboceer by sufficient witnesses can Demonstrate that yaugees y^e run away is really his Slave, We further Learn y^e two of our Companys waby Slaves has been by your Chief of Dixcove panyard upon bosly's acc^t & y^e thereupon he did in y^e like manner panyard two of your fanyers by way of security keeps them in y^e Fort of Boutry in order by y^e means to recover his own. We have immediately on y^e acc^t of our Chief at Boutrys Letter, which y^e inclos^d is an extract, charg^d him to sell at Large and Deliver out

you are not to hoist upon your fort or carry by Land or Water any flag but of St. George with our order or permission for doing other wise

23 you are frequently to peruse these our Instructions, as well as all such orders you may hereafter receive from the Council here or their successors and Carefully to observe y^e same:

24 Where ever any thing is omitted in these our present Instructions you are to ~~use~~ ^{use} to y^e utmost of y^e Power Skill and ability, for the Intrest & hon^r of the Royal African Company of Eng^d with uprightnes and Integrity and when you are in any Difficulty or Doubt as to your Proceedings you are to advise us Express and receive our Directions, for you to proceed by in such Cases; and according as you approve y^e self in this Present trust you will &c.

Shipped by the Grace of God in Good Order and well Conditioned by m^r James Hopkins In and upon the Good ship Called the St. Philip of London: Where of is master under God for this Present Voyage Captin John Wade, and now riding at Anchor in Road of Cape Coast, and by Gods Grace bound for Jamaica to say one Box containing three Boxes said to contain Seventy one Dunces of Seven Ack^t of Guinea Gold Dust and Belecches, one Leather Bulse said to contain Twenty four ounces ten Ack^t of Gold Dust, and one Green Purse said to contain one hund^r & fifteen Thirty six Shill^g Portugal pieces, and Twenty two and a half English Guineas & five Shill^g English Coin and thirty two Silver Buttons for a Waistcoat being for the acc^t and risque of the Executors of Mess^{rs} James Brown and John Deltmer Deceased, being man^d Sealed & Numbered as in the Margent, & are to be Delivered in the Like Good order, & well conditioned at y^e afore s^d Port of Jamaica the Danger of the Seas only Excepted unto m^r James Hopkins or to his assigns freight for the said Good being Paid Twenty five shillings, Ster, for twenty five Oz of Gold Dust out of the above said Gold, and y^e like out of every 100 ster^g of y^e above said Coin, with Primage & Avarage Accustomed, In witness whereof y^e master or purser of y^e s^d Ship hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading all of this tenor & date y^e one, of one of which three bills being Accomplished the other two to stand void, And so God send y^e Ship to her Desired Port in safety AMEN.

Dated in Cape Coast Castle the 18 of November. 1749 Signed John Wade

Au Cape Coast le 22 Juin 1749

Messieurs Les Conseillers au Cap Coast

Messieurs Comme j'ai recu des ordres de la Compagnie de partie de L'Annamaboa pour passer à Judah ce que j'aurai déjà fait si il m'ent été possible les Statifs du pays n'ayant jamais voulu me le permettre ce qui m'oblige à me en aller et vous prie de me recevoir dans votre Fort pour me permettre profiter de ces premiers occasions pour me rendre au dit lieu laquelle voyage je m'engage de passer avec tous les officiers qui sont avec moi et de descendre dans tout endroit appartenant à la Compagnie Anglaise ni tenter à retourner m'établir dans aucun lieu sans la Domination Anglaise de la Côte d'Or en Afrique sans l'approbation des deux Compagnies j'ay pendant mon séjour dans la Pais été informé que la Compagnie Royal Anglaise a toujours payé les coutumes s'y bonvenue le Droit du Pêche et de la tene tant Annamaboa Bezzah que Annishan et je crois que la Compagnie française n'en aura pas des sujets sans l'approbation des deux Compagnies J'ai l'honneur d'être

Messieurs Vos tres humble et tres obéissant serviteur Delacourt

High Esteemed S^r

We has observed by your Honours Letter of y^e 12 of July O: S the Disagreement y^e there is between your Chief of Dixcove and ours at Boutry, did there upon order an acc^t thereof to be sent to our said Chief. w^{ch} advise for him to give us y^e best light into y^e original of that palaver

we have his answer, the extract thereof to your honours is he will send from w^{ch} your Honours will perceive how that matter stands.

We do not in y^e Least doubt such persons has once run away from your Honours, but you will fully perceive y^e y^e Palaver is now apt to be imputed to our Chief, but insist from y^e gaugées belongs to Boutry our Cabboceer, tho he is now flown to Dixcove and hath given himself to your Chief under pretence y^e he is a Slave belongs to the Royal African Company of England which at the same time take into consideration his own Confession that he do know who was his mother, after he not being able to prove, our Cabboceer by sufficient witnesses can Demonstrate that y^e run away is really his Slave,

We further Learn y^e two of our Companys waby Slaves has been by your Chief of Dixcove panyard upon bostij's acc^t & y^e thereupon he did in y^e like manner panyard two of your farwers by way of security keeps them in y^e Fort of Boutry in order by y^e means to recover his own.

We have immediately on y^e acc^t of our Chief at Boutrys Letter, which y^e inclos^d is an extract, charg^d him to sell at Large and Delivered over

your Honours two Lawyers, and in the mean time we are persuaded y^r your Honours will order what is right about y^e matter in question, & so to direct that as well y^e Slave yaugee be deliver'd to y^e right owners as allso that y^e two Groom Negroes of ours be set free;

In expectation of which we have y^e Honour to wish you all y^e same Blessings that you have before desir'd for us and are wth singular respect.

High Esteemed S^r:

Your Hon^r: most Humble. Serv^t:

Martin Francis De Bordes

Elmina Aug^r: 9th: 1730 / N.S.

High Esteemed Gentlemen;

We have the good Fortune to receive the Letter wherewith your Honours have been Pleas'd to Oblige us of the 2^d: Cur^r: O.S. and by the Contents perceive, That your Honours complain of our Chief of ~~Amoy~~ ^{Amoy}. We take the Freedom to Assure your Honours, That we do in nowise approve of his Behaviour, and are Convinced, That his Rashness and Ignorance have occasion'd what hath happen'd we shall not fail to make him sensible of his Blunder and likewise to give him Orders immediately to releas your Honours Subjects who are Panyard.

We hope, That your Honours will not impute this or any other Blunder of our but-Chiefs, that hath or shall happen, to us on the contrary, We always, to prevent any Misunderstanding, encourage a good Harmony and friendship between our officers, and those of your Honours, which We make no Doubt, will be maintain'd upon your Honours Part.

As to the Three Articles in your Letter, We shall not trouble your Honours with any Answer'd particulars, but must say, That the Affair is strain'd to far; however, We shall take notice to your Honours briefly of what is very well known The King of Prussia hath a great many years ago Surrender'd to the Dutch Fredericksburge (now Hollandia) Taverado and Aquadah, with their respective Jurisdictions,

We had also a Long war with the Brandeburgh Cabocers, named John Conny, During which time, the Place was without a Garrison, and a little better than a heap of Rubish, in which Condition it remain'd till the Time of General Valkonier in the year 1724. when John Conny was totally routed, and fled for Refuge to Ashantee; and from Axim the Negroes who formerly possess'd that Place came back and Settled in their ancient Habitations;

These Things mov'd General Pranger in the year 1732. to undertake the Review of the Trade at Aquadah, as being beneficial to our Company, and Accordingly He repair'd the Fort so as to make it Proper for a White man to live and Carry on Trade there,

From whence your Honours will perceive, That the Fort of Aquadah was not built by the Connivance of the English, as your Honours have been wrong inform'd but that it is only repair'd, and brought back to its former State.

The Convention makes a nice Distinction between the building of a new Fort, and the Repairing of an old one; which last is made allowable;

After all we cannot be surpris'd at the singular Expression concerning our Right to Aquadah; for it is not so Long since it was repair'd as our Chief of Succondee was upon the Coast, and was Chief of Aquadah, and oversaw of the Reparation, and saw it complet'd: Neither Doubt we of Mr Settlers being Chief of Dixcove at the same time.

In fine we esteem ourselves very much oblig'd to your Honours for the sincere Testimony you are Pleas'd to make towards cherishing mutual Friendship; and we beseech your Honours firmly to believe, That for our Part We have nothing more at Heart, than to support the Good Friendship between us a thing highly necessary and advantageous to both Companies; and we add that we shall be always willing to make that Tie firmer.

Gods Blessing with Health and Prosperity to your Honours is the hearty Wish of

High esteem'd Sirs

Your Honours most Obedient and Humble Serv^t: Martin Francis De Bordes

P.S.

I humbly beg Excuse for being so long in Answering your Honours Letter, but the Delay was occasion'd by my Indisposition;

Honourable Sir

Cape Coast Castle March 2 1730

We were lately inform'd by our Chief at Dixcove That your Honours Chief at Aquadah has Molest'd some of the Royal African Company's Servants in a Town belonging to Dixcove call'd ^{Achua} Altumah, under pretence, That the said Town is under the Jurisdiction of the Dutch, which Pretence We apprehend your Honour will find ill grounded after considering the following Reasons that We have to alledge to the contrary. (1st) The Dutch can have no Colour of Pretensions to that Town unless it be in Right of the Fort of Aquadah, which must be observ'd was allow'd to be built by a Concession of the English Company, otherwise such building should have been an Infringement of the 10th Article of the Convention between the Two Companies made by Sir Dally Thomas and General Peter Nugt where it is expressly provided, That neither Party shall make any new Settlement on this Coast between Ancobry and Whydah inclusive, but that each may repair and alter any of the present Settlements as they shall think convenient; from which it plainly appears, That the building the said Fort was by the ^{cession} ~~concession~~ at least Connivance of the English; and how improbable it is, That the English in making that Grant to the Dutch would give up a Place just in

their Neighbourhood, and by which they have a great Part of their Wood (2.) Its about Double the Distance from Aquadah, that it is from Dixcove, and all or most Part of the Inhabitants belong to the English (aboceens, Kofu, at Dixcove and all the natives acknowledge, that they have been allways under the Protection of the English. (3.) In the time of your Honours Predecessor General Pranger the same claim was made by the Dutch upon the Town of Atumah which General Pranger gave up to the English for the foregoing Reasons. Andrew Lewis Dettmer was then Chief of Dixcove, to whom General Pranger made a verbal Renunciats on of all Right, that the Dutch could pretend to that Place, and as he, Dettmer is now upon the Coast, can attest the same to your Honour;

As we are of Opinion, that this is a Step taken by your Chief at Aquadah without your Honours Participation, We deemed it our Duty to inform your Honour, before We made any Advances in the affair; As it is our settled Purpose to improve the Friendship and Good Harmony between us, to chuse allways to act in concert with your Honour, so that no Ground of Difference or Dispension may arise between us from any mistake or Blunder in our respective our Chiefs

The Knowledge of your Honours mind and Opinion of the foregoing Affair soon, will be very acceptable to,

Honoured S^r.

Your most Obedient and most Humble Servant

John Cope

Jas^r Hope

W^m Lee

Worthy Sir

Dixcove Nov: 12 1737

I received your several favours of the 8th and 20 Ultimo and Punctually observe the Contents and am sorry for the Death of Mr Sinkes and have herewith sent the Guinea Packet with a full Loading of Limestone Plank & Corn mentioned as at Foot and hope you please excuse my not answering you sooner because I have been very much hurried in getting the Ships Loading as Captain Wright will inform you and had it not have been for a Discovery of a bay of Limestone I found betwixt five and six miles to windward of the port the Ship must have come down without any for here is none to be got at Dixcove and had not hired free People to gather the stones the Ship could not have been Dispatched these six Weeks and have been obliged to hire eight free people every Day since the Ship has been here to carry the Limestone and timber on Board and as I had no Canvas of the Company here I was obliged to make use of a Eleven hand Canoe of Mr Lays which is Damaged it a little and have brok two Small Canoes all to pieces which I was obliged to pay for and is Charged in my Day Book amongst the Other Expences as you plainly see by my Accounts what a Small quantity of Goods I have left in the Warehouse I hope you please be so good as send me a Supply as inclosed for at foot because there is not a bit of Goods that the Whitemen can put off to get them fanky or fish and are all most starving for want of provisions which concludes me with the outmost respect;

Worthy Sir &c

Will^m Wood

Sent 100 half Inch Plank

38 Inch D^o

34 Joists

9 Girders

36 Chests of Corn

Wanting: Sheets

Liverpool and Manchester Cheeks

Printed Long Cloths

Green Long Ells

Red Cherry Lerrys

India Chillos and Chillies

Gun Powder

Green Perpetts

Red Cotton Romalls

Silesias

Worthy Gentlemen,

Dixcove Fort Nov^r 2. 1738.

I received your Favour of the 30th Ult^o and have acquainted the Comodore with what you wrote me, who arrived here this Day, and seems to be very well Pleas^d you were so good as to acquaint him of the Want of Water and Wood at Cape Coast, and believe he will stay here to furnish himself of Both these Necessaries at this Place, and give his humble Respects to you; and says he will wait upon you in a few Days after doing his Business, and shall take Care to assist him in the Best manner I can, and the next Ship that stops here; shall take Care to send most of the timber you wrote for in yours in the 6 Ult^o; but cant get it time enough out of the Bush at this Juncture to send with the man of War,

With Submission, Gentlemen, I must acquaint you, that with out the help of an Eleven-hand Canoes I cant get the Girders Down to the Sea, they being at Achumma, a Place six Miles Distant from hence, which is flat at the water side; and tis impracticable to haul them over the Rocks here; besides they wont swim; therefore beg youll be so kind to send a Canoe the first Opportunity and shall load her with Corn, or what you Desire of what we have at this time at this Fort.

I am with the utmost respect

Worthy Gentlemen

Your most oblig^d most obedient, and most Humble Servant,

William Wood,

Cape Coast Castle Feb^r 14th 1738.

M^r Campbell,

you are hereby orderd upon Receipt of this to send Luther a Woman-Slave, belonging to y^e Company, named Effebah, Sister to Richard Perry, Black Carved at this Place, ~~What~~ are your Affectionate Friends

William Lea

John Cope

Jas Hope

Worthy Gentlemen,

Dixcove Fort Feb^r 12th 1738

Being Favoured with yours of the 9th In^o I acknowledge the receiving of the Good^s therein mentiond. I beg Leave to lay before you an affair to which I am a Stranger of the 3 In^o as one of the Companys Slaves was carrying of Plank Half Way to the Fort from the Bush, where it is cut Down, There were some People belonging to the Dutch Chief of Aquadah in a Town named (Tumia) which has been under the Companys Protection (so far as I can understand, for many years, one of them ask^d the Slave what Busin^{ess} the English had in taking Plank or any thing Else from that Place, giving Her a Blow with the Butt end of a Musket, saying that the Town with all parts Belonging to it were the Dutch Property; and as an Instance of their claiming it a Woman who had unhappily kill^d herself in the Town, the Dutch Chief sent his men to carry her away and hang her to be an Example to other Black; but the Towns People would not allow of it, saying the Town belongd to the English; But to be otherwise reveng^d he panyard Two People belonging to the Town, who are in Irons in their Castle;

I sent a messenger to him and Desired to know his Reasons for such Proceedings, He returned me for answer That he had sent a Letter to the General at Elmina, and should acquaint me, when he received his Answer concerning their Privileges in the above-mentioned Town, Gentlemen, I thought my Duty to acquaint you with these Transactions, as it nearly concerns the Companys Interest, it being the Chief Part where from the most Part of the Timber and Limestone are Procur^d; your Instructions will be my Rule, and so remain,

Your most obedient Humble Serv^t

Dugald Campbell.

Received Feb^r 16th 1738.

The following is part a letter from W^m Shuckforth taken out Duesove Book
Dated Nov. 4th 1729, To John Brathwaite and M^r. Crutchshank

We are in great want of a large canoe to fetch Girders from Auesmer, to be
ready to ship for Cape Coast when opportunity may serve the long boat not being able
to take them in, and the forte canoe is not long enough so we hope gentlemen, you will
please to supply us with one as soon as possible, have not to add wth great respect

The following is ^{part} another letter (taken out the P. book) Dated Jan. 4th 1729/30
by Shuckforth and Kice, Chiefs of Duesove, To Brathwaite, Crutchshank, & Deane

The Tobacco we notice, and have sent our servant to Chusep Eight Holes, and
beg your worshipps, to send it by a large canoe, which we in great want off to fetch
Girders, Joys, & planks; from Etchubmak, two of our Girdersmen being sick, think
your worshipps will not approve of our hiring yours Girdersmen

Worthy Gentlemen.

Duesove Fort Feb. 2. 1729/30

Your favour of the 20th Jan^y we received accompanying the long boat and in
compliance to your worshipps order acquainting Cap^m Dick of your high Displeasure
and that it is your worshipps desire he should go down to Cape Coast, To answer for
his ill proceedings which he seems to be ready to obey your worshipps commands and
made it his choice to take his passage in the long boat altho' we offer him the forte
& hand canoe

We have used all the Diligence we possibly can to find out the greatest transgressor
in this Insults and we have learnt since the 25th Jan^y that Cap^m Dick should send
to Caposser Aboues to assist him, wth Aboues refused and sent Cap^m Dick word that he did
not want to fall out wth the white Men, neither can we find that any ones could their people
to be in Arms but Cap^m Dick and Couffer, wth to the best of our knowledge was about
Fifty Arms and came out off Town, and surrounded the latter, Cap^m Dick seems to be
very Positive that he has done the Company no prejudice in the vile actions by reason
the Staff was returned but there have been other abuses of the like manner, which
goods were never returned neither could we find the Person that did the Fact, &
but this Staff was taken off of the man head by Cap^m Dick's people, and given to some
of Quof's people who made the Complaince

Cap^m Dick reports that the pay he receives from the Company is not on the
Account his being Com^o Caposser, but for the rent of the Castle which he says is his;
After an Insulting manner, and to give the particular reasons, why Cap^m Dick
should usurp his Authority more than any of the rest of the Caposser or Towns people
we cannot; But it has been our utmost care to use them with all the respect
we are masters of for the Company's Interest, and to gain up good will & friendship
of your Worshipps -

This Accompany the long boat wth a loading of Joys, planks, Girders
and twelve ounces of gold as P. Carter says.

W^m Shuckforth
Vincent Kice

In the last Paragraph of a letter from In^o. Jager Chief of Dicoove, to Gen^l. Steven's Gen^l.
(Dated Dec^r. 7th 1733) at Cape East Castle

I will go to morrow morning in the kusho, to order the Indent you have made
and doubt not, but to do every thing to your mind, the Girders will be too long a sawing
then they would be in hewing; and Timber is very scarce and a long way near 13 or 12 Miles
as the present Surveyor can inform you, —

A Copy of a letter from In^o. Jager Chief of Dicoove, to Gen^l. Steven's, M^r. Francis Whalton
and M^r. Wm. Whalton, Rogers; (Dec^r. 7th 1733.) at Cape East Castle

Your favour of 2. Inst^o. I have received & notice the Arrivals of M^r. Fra. Whalton
and M^r. Wm. Whalton Rogers, and shall correspond accordingly. I like wise according to
you orders herewith send two fair Inventories of the Company's Effects under my Charge
in my returne from Succowee I called at Bouthaw where the Chief show me an order
from the Gen^l. to kill any white man, I should send to Bouthaw and also the copy of an
oath, which they say the Bouthaw people took to be true to ~~the~~ the Dutch, but one of
these 3 people that sign'd is an Ispan Man, and the others does not own it, in the main
I take it to be all dutch forgery, for I have examin'd these people, and they deny it,
and am ^{perdy} sure we can carry our point at that place to the utmost of our powers and desires
and only wait for your orders, If Bouthaw is given to the dutch to settle at, I imagine
that Dicoove will be of very small Signification, The Dutch are very stirring
in Bouthaw affair, the sooner I have your order the better,

A Copy of a part of a letter from the 3 above d. Agents at Cape East Castle to M^r. John
Jager at Dicoove Dated Dec^r. 15th 1733 —

We observe your Complaint relating of the Dutch to kill any white man we
should send to Bouthaw, and of the greatest detriment the loss of that place will be to
the trade of Dicoove, we therefore direct that you take all the proper measures to
secure our Pretentions to that place, and not on any account to give up that place
or the least Prerogative belonging to the Royall African Company, (our masters) and should
you meet wth any Obstructions in the Prosecution of your duty herein, we shall not fail
taking the properest measures to do out selves Justice.

A part of another letter to M^r. Jager at Dicoove as above; Dated, Dec^r. 7th 1733
As the Bouthaw Palaver we beg you would send for the people, and a flag publicly
introduced wth their Consent (if possible) If the dutch has got such an Assendant
they wont Comply, advise us, and we will consider of other measures.