

by mutual Interests, mutual Benefits, mutual Affection, and mutual Friendship: From its Progress, we dare even to think that our Sovereign will derive an Increase of Happiness, and an Accession of Dignity; He will reign more triumphantly in the Hearts of a People, easy, unsuspecting, generous, united, warmed by Happiness into Enthusiasm, and elevated into Dignity by Freedom.

Edw. Corry, Senesch.

An Account of the CEREMONY observed in Investing Sir Hector Munro with the Ensigns of the Most Honourable and Military Order of the BATH, at the Durbar near Madras, the 13th of October, 1779.

EARLY in the Morning all the Officers of His Majesty's Ships of War that could be spared from Duty, with Numbers of the Gentlemen of the Settlement, both Civil and Military, assembled at Major-General Sir Hector Munro's House in Fort St. George. About Half past Seven o'Clock Four Khans of the Presence waited on him, to compliment him in his Highness's Name, and to conduct him to the Durbar.

The Governor, the Gentlemen of the Council, and Brigadier-General Stewart, went early in the Morning to Chepauck, to attend on his Highness the Nabob, and wait with him Sir Hector's Arrival; as would also Admiral Sir Edward Vernon, but was prevented by Indisposition.

At Eight o'Clock the Procession began in the following Manner:

His Highness's Secretary in a Palanqueen, with His Majesty's Order and the Ensigns of the Order of the Bath in a rich Gold Brocaded Bag laid on a Crimson Silk Cushion: Sir Hector Munro: The Officers of His Majesty's Navy: And the Gentlemen of the Settlement both Civil and Military; in Palanqueens and other Carriages. Beyond the Gates of the Fort, the Procession was joined by several of the Nabob's State Elephants richly clothed and dressed; some with Houdars and Flags; others with Kettle Drums; besides a Number of Silver Colours carried by Persons belonging to the Durbar. A Detachment of His Highness's Cavalry, and another of his Infantry, attended to assist as a Guard, and to lead the Way. The Whole was attended with Music, according to the Custom of the Country. The Road from the Governor's Garden-house to the Nabob's Palace was lined on both Sides with the Company's Troops, consisting of a Detachment of the Artillery, with four Field Pieces; a Company of European Grenadiers; and two Battalions of Seapoys, who received the Procession with presented Arms, Drums beating, Colours flying, and the Officers saluting Major General Sir Hector Munro as he passed.

At the first Gate leading to the Palace he was met by the young Prince Seyful Mulk, the Nabob's Third Son; and at the Inner Gate he was received by the Two Princes Omdat ul Omrah, and Ameer ul Omrah, the Nabob's Two Eldest Sons, who conducted him to the Palace Gate, where his Highness waited for him; and, embracing him, led him to the Durbar. His Highness's Secretary, placing His Majesty's Order, and the Ensigns of the Order of the Bath, near the Musnud; the Nabob, accompanied by the Two Princes and Sir Thomas Rumbold, led Sir Hector Munro to a private Apartment, where he presented him with a Star made of Diamonds, which was attached to the Left Breast of the Major-General's Uniform; of which he requested his Acceptance, as a most honourable Mark of Respect to His Majesty, and

Friendship to himself. His Highness then left him with the Two Princes; and, returning to the Durbar, resumed the Musnud as His Majesty's Representative: On which His Majesty's Ships the Rippon, Asia, Coventry, and Sartine, saluted the Sovereign with Twenty-one Guns each; as did also the Fort, and the East India Ships in the Road.

His Highness then delivered to his Secretary His Majesty's Order for Investing Sir Hector Munro with the most Honorable Order of the Bath, which was read by him to an immense Number of People: The Officers of His Majesty's Navy, the Governor, Council, and almost all the Gentlemen of the Settlement, both Civil and Military, attending.

Then Sir Hector, supported by the Two young Princes, coming in full View of the Musnud, where the Nabob was seated as His Majesty's Representative; with all his Khans and Officers of State about him; they made a low Reverence to the Sovereign; then, coming to the Middle of the Durbar they made another; and, on advancing to the Musnud, a Third. Sir Hector then presented the Nabob with Twenty-one Gold Mohurs, as a Nazur, according to the Custom of the East. His Highness then rising from the Musnud, directed the Knight Elect to kneel, and taking the Ribbon in his Hand, he put it over Sir Hector's Head; expressing himself at the same Time, in Persian, to the following Effect.

“ His Most Illustrious Majesty the King of Great Britain having, upon many Occasions, honoured me with particular Marks of His Royal Friendship, and having been graciously pleased to appoint me, by special Commission, to represent His Most Sacred Person for the Purpose of investing you with the Honourable and Military Order of the Bath, conferred upon you as a Mark of His Royal Approbation for your Military Service; I am happy in having this publick and distinguished Opportunity of returning you my most particular Thanks for the essential Services which you have rendered me by the Reduction of Pondicherry, and expelling our Enemies from the Carnatic.”

To which Sir Hector returned the following Answer in English, which was translated in Persian to his Highness.

“ Sensible of the high Honour conferred on me by the King my Master, I receive, with a Heart full of Gratitude, this Mark of Royal Favour. And I have the additional Satisfaction of receiving this Honourable and Military Badge from the Hands of your Highness, whose long and steady Attachment to His Majesty, to the British Nation in general, and to the East India Company in particular, is well known. Permit me to assure your Highness, that an exact Account of the particular Attention and Respect, with which you have treated the Royal Commission on this Occasion, shall be faithfully transmitted to Europe for His Majesty's Information.”

The Fort then, by Order of Sir Thomas Rumbold, saluted Sir Hector Munro with Seventeen Guns.

The Ceremony being ended, his Highness conducted Sir Hector Munro back to the Palace Gate; from whence he was attended by the Two Princes Omdat Ul Omrah and Ameer Ul Omrah to the Entrance of the Palace, where they took Leave of him.

Sir Hector afterwards subscribed the following Oath in Presence of the Governor and the Counsellors of Fort St. George: “ I Hector Munro, Knight, do promise to observe the Statutes of

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