CHAPTER – II

THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF MADRASAPATANAM WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO BLACK TOWN – GEORGE TOWN

Madrasapatanam was the third Major city developed by the Britishers in India, and the First city of South India. The Metropoliton city of Chennai, which is remarkable for its splendour, and hadlong historic events. It gained a vital place in the history of Modern India. Right from the days of the Prehistoric times it attracted various races and dynastic people into south, to be more specific to Tamil Country. That is why it has been extolled as the “Gateway of South India”. Thus the city Madarasapattinam was one of the vital place in the history of South India, in modern times.

THE ANTIQUITY OF THE CITY OF CHENNAI – BLACK TOWN

The City of Chennai had a hoary past, pre historic relics have been discovered in the region by the archaeologist like Sir Robert Bruce Foote, Dr. William King and others. The Madras Region along with the Chengleput district as a whole has been described as the classic ground of early Palaeolithic Culture in Southern India and the key site for South Indian Palaeolithic. The region near Madras is rich with quartzite with which Palaeolithic man made implements to protect themselves from wild animals.

Coming to historical times, the modern districts of Chengleput, South Arcot and North Arcot came under two divisions i.e. Aruvanadu and Aruvavalalainadu. These two divisions together came to be called as Tondainadu. During the Sangam Age, Cholaruler Karikala is said to have Captured Tondaimandalam region and established 56 nadas when Karikala was adorning Chola throne, Kanchipuram was ruled by Ilam Tiraiyan. Tondaimandalam was first inhabited by Kurumbar and their ruling region was called as Kurumbabhumi. These people are said to have evolved a sort of administration by constructing 24 forts. Later on these 24 forts were converted as 24 Kottams, by the Pallavas.

St. Thomas is said to have preached Christianity at Mylapore, and he was stabbed to death and is said to have buried at Mylapore. This incident shows that Christianity penetrated into South India even during 1st C.A.D. The Portuguese who had entered into South India, was the first European Country, had their influence at Mylapore, SanThome and St. Thomas Mount.

The Bhakti Movement prevailed in Tamilcountry during the 7th C., A.D. left its imprints in Tondaimandalam region. The important temples were sanctified by Thevaram Trios, Appar, Sambandhar and Sundarar. They said to have composed songs on the deity
at Tiruvottriyur (five miles north of Madras). These sacred hymns attest to the existence of the place during 7th C.A.D.

TIRUVORRIYUR

This place is said to have situated five miles north of Madras, on the sea coast. It has been described in the Thevaram “as being surrounded by the sea,” a big temple dedicated to Siva attest the rule of the Pallavas at this place. An epigraph of Aparajita (879 – 897 A.D.) mentions the name of the temple as “Adipuriswara” and the place as Otrimedur. The epigraph of Adipuriswara Temple attest to the fact that it was incorporated with the PulalKottam.

The Pallavas were defeated by the Imperial Cholas by the year 871 A.D, evident from the epigraphs of Aditya I and Cholas Inscriptions have been noticed in Tiruvorriyur and its neighbouring regions. A record of Rajarajadeva III, mentions about his visit to the temple during 12th C.A.D. Tamil NavalarCharitai describes that Kamban visited Mylapore and Tiruvorriyurand stayed for some time and it shows the influence of the Cholas during 10th C.A.D. However, the Cholas power declined by the year 1279 A.D.

The imperial Pandyas attained the zenith of its power and glory during JatavarmanSundaraPandya and his successor MaravarmanSundarapandya. During this period many feudatories emerged like the Telugu Cholas, the Kadavarays, the yadavarayas and Sambhuvarayas and they parcelled out Tondaimandalam region among themselves, but ruled independently in their own name. The inscription of the feudatories have also been found in this region.

The Pandyan Civil war led to confusion in Tamil kingdom, which resulted in Muslim Invasion in the year 1310 A.D. By this time the Chera ruler cameuptoKanchipuram and Poonamallee. However, the feudatory of the Cholas,Sambuvaraya drove them away and occupied the region till the advent of the Vijayanagar Kings. one of the inscription of SakalalokaChakravartinRajanarayanaSambuvaraya, dated to 7th year of his reign (1344 A.D) mentions the inscriptions of the “Turukkar” i.e. Muhammadans into South India, in the year 1327 A.D. Tondaimandalam was conquered by Kumara Kampana II, the son of the Vijayanagar King Bukka I. The conquest of Tondaimandalam took place in the year 1361 A.D.

VIJAYANAGAR RULE IN MADRAS

KumaraKampana’s two inscriptions have been found at Tiruvorriyur Temple. It mentions about the officer Vittappa of Anegyndi. and his father Bukka I ruled till 1374 A.D. The Vijayanagarrulers from Bakka I till the Venkatas, the Tondaimandalam region was under their control. After the battle of Talaikkotta (1565 A.D) the Vijayanagar rulers lost their importance.
In the meanwhile the Portuguese penetrated into South India through Calicut in the year 1498 A.D. and they had good relationship with Vijayanagar rulers. A graphic account of their relationship is given by Gasper Correa who was in India between 1512 A.D and 1561 A.D. In the year 1507 A.D. Don Francisco de Almeida, the Portuguese Viceroy at Goa heard from the native Christians that a chapel of Apostle Thomas existed on the Coromandel Coast. He sent two men to enquire about it. They sent the report to the king of Portuguese. Ten years later, the emissaries Diego Fernandes and Bastio Fernandes visited San Theme via Pulicat and saw an ancient church, which they believed as a sepulchre of the saint. In 1521 A.D, another party of Portuguese arrived at St. Thome and they made addition to the Chapel in 1523 A.D. money was provided for carrying out repairs and building new chapels. In the 1524 A.D, Padre Penteado became the Vicar and took charge of the relics. Thus, from the end of the first quarter of the 16th C. A.D., San Thome began to develop into a busy settlement of the Portuguese. They grew greatly in the city and maintained friendly relations with the natives. San Thome became a strong hold of the Portuguese. Thus, Mylapore became the Black Town of the Portuguese.

However, the rivalry between the Portuguese and the natives began, in the year 1611 A.D. The Vijayanagar king Venkata sent a long army to besiege the town. The Portuguese was helped by Raghunatha Nayak. Finally, Portuguese agreed to pay Pagodas 4011. Now the Portuguese felt the necessity of fortifying San Theme, and it was executed after the death of Venkata. II.

By the year 1610 the Dutch obtained permission from Venkata and established their settlement at Pulicat in the year 1610 A.D. The Portuguese became jealous and fought against the Dutch in 1612 A.D – 1613 A.D and captured the fort at Pulicat. However, it was recaptured by the Dutch in the year 1614 A.D but the rivalry continued subsequently.

THE BRITISH IN MADARASAPATNAM

Among the European countries the Portuguese and the Dutch had already entered into South India, a new European power entered into India in 1600 A.D. the British Queen Elizabeth I granted a royal charter to a group of merchants to constitute a company called “John Company” on 31st December 1600. A.D. which was called “Queens Charter” it was granted the exclusive right of trading for 15 years extendable for another 15 years. The company had 125 share holders and a capital of £ 75,000.

Administration was vested with Governor and 24 Committees. The name of Committee was subsequently changed to Director under this charter, an agent and council were appointed in each settlement in India to conduct business as well as implement laws to ensure good governance. Twenty Eight charters were promulgated between 1604
A.D, and September 3, 1639 A.D when Andrew Cogan was confirmed as Agent in February 1640. A.D. This development was made by the English East India company.

As far as South India was concerned Venkat II died in 1614 A.D and a Civil War ensued and finally Ramadeva became the ruler, whose reign lasted upto 1630. A.D. The English first set up their trading House or Factory at Suart on the west coast in 1612. On the east coast, their factory was situated at Masulipatanam, the kingdom of Golconda. It did not prove to be a conducive place for trade, because the Muslim governors of the region were trouble some to the English traders. Hence, the English searched for a better place for their factory. The English decided to establish a factory at Pulicat. Trouble erupted between Dutch and the English, because the Dutch had already established their factory in 1612 A.D. The English abandoned Pulicat in 1623. A.D and retired to Masulipattinam. But the English never remained in that place for longer. Again they tried in 1624 A.D and searched the Coromandel Coast and obtained a ground at Armagon, which was located 35 miles north of Pulicat. But Armagon found extremely unsuitable for trade and resources were not sufficient.

Now, the Directors of English East India company passed orders to abandon Armagon in 1639 A.D Thomas Ivie, the chief at Masulipatinam authorised Francis Day, the chief of Armagon, to explore the coastal region and find out “better station” just then, an offer was made by DamaralaVenkatappa, who was an influential chieftain under Venkata III (1630 – 1642 A.D) the Successor of Ramadeva.

Venkata II had an able General called Chenna, and he had three sons DamaralaVenkata, Ayyappa and Anga and they belong to Velugoin family of Kalahasti. During Venkata III’s reign, Venkatappa and Aiyappa were in charge of Wandiwash and Poonamallee. Of the three brothers DamaralaVenkatappa was more influential and he was respersnted as ‘Lord General of Carnatic and “Grand Vazier” He granted 3 miles north south and ¾ miles east to west Which was described a fort and to form a settlement just north of the mouth of the River Cooum and adjoining the east coast. to the English

Venkatappa Nayak had certain motives, in granting the Place to the English and their fort would be of great help to him in times of danger and grow rich easily.

THE GRANT OF MADARASAPATNAM

Francis Day obtained Permission from the Agent at Masulipattinam and reached Madarasapatnam on July 27th 1639 A.D He examined the spot and its products and was greatly satisfied with the same. He found the goods were very excellent and cheaper, 20 percent lesser than those at Armagon. The Place was also well protected by sea on the east and the R.Cooum and another stream on the south and west.
Day concluded his negotiation satisfactory on the 1st of March 1639 – 40 and by his employers obtained the first territorial rights in India.

The grant was secured by Francis Day from DamaralaVenkataNayak on August 22, 1639 A.D. However, he found it difficult to secure necessary funds to move from Armagon. He wanted 2000 Pagodas to clear his debt at Armagon, which is evident from the Dutch Dagh Register, “The Little Village of Madrasapatam consisted of some 15 to 20 fishermen’s huts. It appeared to Day to be a town worth about 2000 Pagodas per annum.”

The price of the grant was a yearly rent about 600 pounds. The agreement was drawn upon a plate of gold, and it dated March 1st 1639 (old style). It was carefully preserved by the company in fort St. George until 1746, when it fell into the hands of the French. During their occupation between 1746 to 1749 the gold plate got disappeared.

The Place also has been described as, “Madarasapatam is seen to lie upon a high plot of ground adjoining sea where a ship of any Burthen might ride at a distance of musket shot close by a river which was capable of a vessel of 50 tons.” The site is the split of land to the north of the mouth of the Cooum River and East of the North River i.e Buckigham Canal, where it joins cooum.

According to the Provisions of the Grant,

a) The English could build a fort and a castle in or about Madarasapatam.
b) The English were to have full power and authority to govern and dispose the fort of Madarasapatinam.
c) The English were to receive a modify of the customs of the port
d) The English were to import or export goods from Madarasapatam for ever customs free.
e) They were to pay customs duties on goods passing through the Nayak’s territories
f) They were given right to free coinage.
g) No duty should be payable on the Provisions that the English might buy for their fort or ships.
h) If any English ship should suffer ship wreck on any part of the coast under the dominion of the Nayak, he would restore to them whatever could be found on the wreck.

Between the two gates, of Fort. St. George,(Fig No 2) today is a walled up portion where once was the main sea Gate and there was only anentrance to the Fort from the east. From there to water’s edge was in those days, all beach. To the west of the gate was the settlement. Day and the Company founded on this site, a mere strip of land was granted just south of tiny Village.
A fortnight after the receipt of the Surat letter, Francis Day arrived at Madarasapatnam on Feb.20th 1640 along with Andrew Cogan. According to the historian S.Muthiah the building of a factory was taken up immediately after their arrival, perhaps from March 1, 1640 A.D.1 But the historian Mr.Rajaram in his book “Chennai Through The Ages” mentions, Cogan and his purse which were mainly responsible for the construction of a grim brick and granite structure and which was named after St. George since its inner part was completed on 23rd April 1640 A.D St. Georges Day.2 It has been surmised that because the day of its completion coincided with St. George’s day, here it was called as Fort St. George. The newly risen town of Madarasapatam with its fort became the seat of the Agency in the place of Madrasapatam from 24th September 1641 A.D. Thus, Madras became the chief of English factories on the east coast.

It should be recorded that when Sriranga Raya ascended the Vijayanagar throne in 1642 A.D he dismissed Damarla Venkatappa and issued a new grant to the British, the first Royal grant, in November 1645 A.D. The grant refers to Madrasa as “SrirangaRajapatinam My Town” the name has survived in the Raya’s Cowle, and Madras or Chennai and versions of them are the only names by which the city has been known.

ETYMOLOGY OF MADARASAPATAM AND CHENNAPATANAM

The Growth and Development of Madras ever since the arrival of the English as well as the origin of the names like Madras and Chennapatanam is elaborated here below:

The settlement founded over three and a half centuries ago was known in its early years by various names as Medraspatnam, Madrapatnam and Madarasapatan (1639 A.D) Madrespatnam (1641A.D) Maddaras (1642) Madras (for the first time, in (1653A.D) Madraspaten (1654 A.D) Madrasapatan (1656A.D) Madrisspatnam (1658A.D) and Madras and Madirass (1673A.D) These names have been collected and quoted by the historian S. Muthiah. As per his statement the name Madras has been quoted only in the year 1653.33

It is said the place name ‘Madarasapatam’ existed, even at the time of the founding of the English settlement there. According to another writer “Madrasan” who was the headman of the Village of fishermen, and day decided to call the settlement after his name as Madarasaapatnam.34

Yet another historian thinks that it was named so after an old Mohammedan college called “Madaras” as the place. Rajaram in his book quotes there was a Muslim settlement in the neighbourhood of Fort St. George i.e. Triplicane and Royapettah, the possibility of a muslim educational institution being established somewhere near the land where Francis Day set his fort is not ruled out. Charles Lockeer in his book, ‘Account of
The Trade in India” Published in 1711, mentions the existence of a college in Fort St. George in 18th C.A.D which was a domed Muslim style of architecture.

Another suggestion is that the church of St. Mary, “Madre de Deus” which was built there prior to A.D 1640 by the Portuguese, might have been the source for the name of Madras, (or) that it might have been called after “Madra” a prominent Portuguese family settled in the old village.\(^{35}\)

A Persian Manuscript of the 18th C. A.D mentions the name Madras came from Maharaskuppam, the orginal name of the village granted to the English.\(^{36}\)

Col. Love attributes its derivation from “Madarazu” called after “MaddaRaju” who might have been some local chief of influence.\(^{37}\) The earliest mention of the name is made only in 1639.

Yet another opinion is that the nomenclature Madras was obtained from a calico cloth of the same name. It is interesting to note that the name “Madras” was applied to handkerchiefs of “silk warp and cotton wool” These large and bright coloured hankies were exported from Madras and much used by the Negroes in the West Indies. However, it was the handkerchiefs that took the name “Madras” but not otherwise. But this view as also not accepted.

**CHENNAAPATTINAM**

The theory that the Damarala brother requested the English to name the town that they had to develop on the newly acquired territory after their father Chennappa is not at all acceptable because there is no official documentary evidence in its favour. None of the founding Fathers of Fort St. George ever made a statement substantiating the speculation.

BundlaRamasamy Naidu who states in his memoir on the Internal Revenue system of the Madras Presidency, Published in 1820, it states that while granting the Firman to Francis day, DamarlaVenkatappaNayak insisted upon erecting the town in his father’s name, ChennappaNayak. This opinion is totally rejected by the historian Raja ram, and he quotes that Chennappatanam was in existence even before Francis Day.

As per the view of Dr. S. KrishnaswamiAiyangar, Aiyappa, brother of Venkatappa built the town, Chennapatnam in the name of his father, “Chennappa” between the Dutch settlement at Pulicat which area was famously known as “Pralayakaveri” and Portuguese establishment at Mylapore in order to present this foreign enclaves from fighting as they were constantly at war. Aiyangar had taken extracts from “Ushaparinayam” a contemporary Telugu work, authored by Ankahupala, the third brother of Venkatappa who dedicated this work to his father.\(^{38}\) This view is confirmed by a Maratha Brahmin who was employed in the Accounts department under ArcotSarkar. It was he who compiled the famous historical account of
the Establishment of the Europeans at “Madras or Chennapatnam” from a Maharatta paper. It was translated in 1802 by CavaliVenkataBoriah. These abstracts reveal that when the English merchants sought the consent and permission of Damarla family “to form their establishment in some convenient part of the coast under their protection” the Polygars gave them four villages. The first was Madrascoopam on the land in which they built a ‘cotee’ (fort). The other three included Chennaikoopam, Arkoopam and Maleput.39

The documentary evidence that Chennapatnam and Madraspatnam were already in existence even before Francis Day arrived on the area of activity cannot be proved wrong. Further this account does not say anything about Venkatappa’s request to the English to name the proposed new town in memory of his father, Chennappa. Therefore, there are so many epistolary evidences to prove that Madraspatnam came into being prior to the landing of the English on the east coast. The cowl that the Nayak offered to Francis Day in 1639 makes specific mention of the “Port of Madrasapattinam”.

FRANCIS DAY (1639 – 40, 43 - 44 A.D)

Sir Francis Day was sent from Masulipattinam40 and he was the first man to land in Madarasapatam, where he met with unexpected success. He was mainly responsible for obtaining the grant for the strip of “Noman’s Land,” which lay between the River Kuvam and Elambore, during the region of his Majesty Charles – I. He was the first project too of the fort St. George. After obtaining the land he went back to England and returned to Madarasapatinam in 1642.41 Sir Andrew Cogan and Francis Day had spent their own money for the Fort St. George. After Cogan Left India in 1643, Day took charge for one more year and stayed up to 1644 A. D. He incepted British Administration in India.

Days own explanation for choosing the site was that this place provided “excellent long cloth and cheaper by 20 % than anywhere else. Yet another reason is also recorded, that Day “was having a mistress at portuguess settlement of San Thome so that their interviews might be more frequr.” The Historian Muthiah has quoted that how far it is true is not known Timmanna was the only intermediary helped Day to negotiate with Ray.

ANDREW COGAN (1640 -43 A.D)

He was the first ‘Agent’ of the British East India Company. Previously he was in charge at Masulipatnam. Then he was sent to Madraspatinam. Cogan started his work by the end of 1639 A.D, who started the construction of the fort by the end of the year 1639 A.D. It was named as Fort St. George on April 23rd, 1640. The British employee’s felt he was spending enormous amount in erecting the fort. He could not bear the comments, so after completing the fort house, he left for England, after he received the summon.
Andrew Cogan resigned his post on 27.08.1643. Francis Day assumed power but continued for one year only, and left India on 27.08.1644.42

**THOMAS IVIE (1644 – 48 A.D)**

Francis Day was succeeded by Thomas Ivie. He stayed in fort St. George for 4 years from 4.08.1644 to 1648.43 Thomas Ivie did not have cordial relationship with the Dutch at Pazhaverkadu and Portuguese at SanThome. He sent Greenhill to Srirangaraya to obtain concession from him. But Rangaraja ordered the Britishers to strengthen the fort. At that time Madras was badly affected by grave famine. He brought grains from Surat and distributed to the affected people. He also maintained friendly relationship with Mirjumla and obtained concession from him.44 The infant settlement at Madras continued to suffer from the badness of trade, the interference of interlopers and appearance of the Mahrattas”.45

He received the confirmation of the grant of Madras from Srirangarayalu, nephew and heir of DamaralaVenkatadriNaik, who had issued their original grant. Afterwards it was confirmed by NawabNekhnam Khan, on behalf of Golconda. Thus, the British obtained the rights to administer and dispense justice in Madarasapatnam. *He was mainly responsible for shifting of the ChennaKesavaPerumal temple from White Town to Black Town.*

**HENRY GREENHILL (1648 – 52 A.D, 1655 – 59 A.D)**

Henry Greenhill served under Thomas Ivie as Factor of the company. Subsequently as Agent twice i.e. from 1648 – 52, and again on 20.01.1655, and continued to hold office till 1659. During his administrative period the famine continued in 1648.

He maintained friendly relationship with the Nawab Mir Jumla. Madras was safe under the hands of the Nawab. The Bijapur sultan also made incursions, robberies and devastations in the country.

In the year 1657, the Muhammadans entered into the settlement one Konericchetty the merchant of the town betrayed the English and joined Raya. Greenhill feared that Konericchetty might have planned to surrender fort St. George in the hands of muhammadans. He was mainly responsible for getting the confirmatory Grant of the land in which Madras was founded.

Henry Greenhill served as member under Thomas Ivie for about a month and became an Agent. Again he became the agent on 20.01.1655 and continued to hold the post till 1659.46 He communicated with the Muggals and Bijapur Sultan.

**THREAT FROM THE MUGHALS**

When the Mughal prince Aurangazeb was the Governor of Deccan, Mir Jumla joined with him and maintained friendly relationship with ShahJahan. Nawab of
Golconda could not take revenge against Mirjumla, because he returned the territory with the help of the Mughals. Nawab of Golconda got jealous on Mirjumla. Taking advantage of the situation Srirangaraya decided to recapture the territories which he lost to Mirjumla, with the help of the Britishers. On hearing this information Mirjumla sent a force to south in the year 1657. The Mughal forces caused trouble to the common people, and merchants. In order to avoid the problem, Greenhill decided to sign an agreement with Mughals in 1658. Accordingly the Britishers agreed to pay ½ of their tax collection i.e 380 Pagodas to the agents of the Mughals.\(^47\)

The Mughal threat taught a lesson to the British and decided to strengthen the fort so, they raised high rampart wall around the fort.

In the meantime, Mirjumla was appointed as Governor of Bengal, so he could not concentrate on the Deccan issue. Taking advantage of the situation, the Nawab of Golconda recaptured some of the territories in the neighbourhood of Madrasapatam, in the year 1658.

He died of dropsy on 4\(^{th}\) January 1659, and was buried in the cemetery of Armenian Church, Madras. The stone was brought from a monument in the burial ground of Black Town. A stone is inscribed to his memory is built into the wall of the external stair case of fort church.

**AARON BAKER (1652 – 55 A.D)**

Greenhill was succeeded by Aaron Baker, in the year 1652\(^48\) and hold position for about three years. During his administration fort St. George was elevated to the position of Presidency and the Agents were promoted and called as President. The following incidents and arrangements were made by him

- a) The merchants associated with British
- b) The dispute between Right and Left hand communities.
- c) Created officials to administer Indian Town viz., the Headman, the Accountant and the Peddanayak.
- d) SeshadriNayak and Konerichetty were notable Dubash and appointed as ambassadors of Indian monarchs.\(^49\)
- e) Chennaiapattinam appeared for the first time in his documents.

The Black Town (or) the settlement of the natives were administered by the officer, Kanakappillai and Peddanayakkkan. SeshadriNayak and Konerichetty were notable *Dubash* served under Baker. Both of them were appointed as ambassadors of Indian monarchs. Aaron’s wife Elizabeth travelled throughout India but on the way she died and was buried in the St. Mary’s Church.

**THOMAS CHAMBERS (1659 –62 A.D)**
He became the next Agent of Madras Presidency. He served for about 3½ years in this Presidency. He was asked to adopt democratic style of governance. He was also asked to implement actions based on majority decisions and in case of stalemate alone he can cast his vote.

During his governance there were heavy rains and storm in the Presidency there was fall of price of all commodities, but it remained high due to drought and presence of rival enemies. The weavers and painters of this locality were much inconvenience by the enhancement of the prices of rice on account of one man who monopolised all its supplies.

In the year 1659, the Golconda forces retired to the headquarters, leaving the territory in Madras, because they thought they have curtailed Srirangaraya. But, Bijapur Sultan captured Cuddalore port, and to protect the place Santhome, the Golconda forces returned under Nekhamkhanand attacked it in 1662. So, the Portuguese merchants fled to the Fort St. George. The commander of Golconda further proceeded to fort St. George. He decided to attack the Golconda forces through sea. He dreampt that Madras would be given to the British as Dowry.

In one of his document dated November 28, 1661, the territories lying in the neighbourhood of Madras was handed over to Thomas Chambers, but he had to pay ½ of the custom duty to the Diwan. However, he was dismissed from the post of Agent on the allegation of private trade.

After Chambers, William Black (1662) and Charles Proby (1662) were nominated as Provisional Agents for about a month each. Nothing remarkable happened during this period.

EDWARD WINTER (1662- 65- 1665- 68 A.D)

He served for two terms from the year 1662 – 1668 He obtained permanent rights for the East India Company. Nawab of Golconda Nekhamkhan demanded the Britishers to pay the arrear of custom duty, if failed he would attack Chennai with 40,000 soldiers and they also demanded a place for construction of customs House and to collect the custom duty. Sir Edward Winter remonstrated with the Naick of Poonamallee on the black mailing on the company’s goods coming into Madras the reply was to the effect.

Tollboys wheeler gives a graphic account of the character of Winter, as he was loyal to his Majesty. He took efforts that English were also equal to the natives, not their slaves.

Thus, he was very much troubled by Nawab of Golconda. Sir Edward Winter himself represented to Naik that goods passing from the upcountry towns to Madras were plundered by his followers and the duties were not at regular scale. The Naick
significantly replied that “when the English horns and teeth grew, then he would free
them from the duties”.

In spite of troubles caused by the Nawab he constructed a fort House, a hospital,
and a Library within the fort. He appointed Indians as Judges in the Choultry Court
during his tenure of office. But Fox craft dismissed the Indians and appointed Europeans
once again in their place.

On hearing his atrocities, the Court of Directors appointed Fox Craft in his place,
but he imprisoned Craft for three years and usurped the power from 1665 – 1668. The
court of Directors of East India Company sent a commission to rescue Fox craft. In 1665
finally he was relieved from power in the year 1668.

GEORGE FOX CRAFT (1665, 1668 -72 A.D)

Fox craft was sent by the company and he arrived at Fort St. George in June 1665
and was received by his predecessor with due respect. Winter allowed him to act as
second in council. Three months later, Winter made an attack on Fox Croft and his son,
both were imprisoned by Winter. A civil war like situation prevailed in the fort. Both of
them represented their version to King Charles. The commissioners sent by the King
from Masulipatnam arrived on Madras and on 22nd August, they took possession of the
fort and released Mr. Fox Craft from his 3 years imprisonment and reinstated in the
Presidency.

He served both as Agent and President. The creation of Governor’s post was an
accidental incident. When Sir Edward Winter was the Agent, a slave girl was murdered in
Black Town in the year 1665. An European lady was charged with murder case. There
arose a situation which court should conduct the case, they wrote a letter to the Home
Government. On this occasion, Fox Craft was made as Governor and enquired the
charges against the European women.

As Governor he was empowered to execute judgement in both civil and criminal
case, even those involving Europeans. Fox Craft was assisted by five council members
and four Treasurers and four Trainees.

He tried to council Nekhnam Khan and Nawab surrounded Fort St. George for
about a month. In the meantime, Sir William Langhorne and six commissioners were
appointed to enquire the whole incident which took place between Sir Edward Winter and
Fox craft. The charges levelled against Fox Craft was, he spent more money on
armaments, and used abusive language. After enquiry, Sir William Langhorne allowed
Fox Craft to rule for one more year. The enquiry ended in the recall of both Winter and
Fox Craft and they returned to England in the year 1670.

SIR WILLIAM LANGHORNE (1672 – 78 A.D)
He was the first European to enjoy real Governorship post. He was a barrister and inherited his father's stock in the East India Company, and was a rich man. He came out to adjudicate in the Winter-Fox craft dispute and while in Madras, in recognition of his administrative skills he was appointed as Governor.  

During his administrative period, the district which the company had obtained first confirmation from the Rajah of Chandragiri and Golconda stretched five miles along the sea, but only one land. On the south it extended along the road to SanThome, some little distance beyond the Triplicaneriver. On the north it extended a similar distance along the road to Trivatore. Inland it was bounded by the river, which still runs parallel with the sea and which in former time used to run right through the part now occupied by the centre of the present fort, but was diverted from the course when the fort was enlarged in the succeeding century. The old fort being thus bounded by the river on the inland side, was only half the size of the modern fort, but still it included the European houses known for many generation after wards as White Town.

During the Governorship of Sir William Langhorne the white town was found to be too much crowded many of the married servants of the company were obliged to take houses in Black Town, receiving an allowance for the expense of boarding and lodging. Based on this reason the Portuguese were to be expelled. However, even with the Portuguese the white town never contained more than 50 houses in addition to the factory and other building of the company.

In the north of White Town was much larger quarter, which was occupied by the Natives, and which for the sake of distinction was called “Black Town”. Here the houses and population had rapidly increased in numbers and the streets bore a different appearance with the collection of bamboo huts.

Such then were the condition of White Town and Black Town of Madrasapattinam in the reign of King Charles. When trade was flourishing drunkenness, duelling, gaming and licentiousness were too common, although the strictest rules were laid down. Sir William Langhorne had issued express orders, that no one person was allowed to drink above half pint of arrack or brandy and one quart of wine at one time, under a penalty of one pagoda, upon the housekeeper who supplied it. Drunkenness was to be punished by a fine and the stocks. All the persons addicted in any way to the social evil were to be imprisoned at the discretion of the governor, and if not reclaimed were to be sent back to England.

Madras was separated from the dominations of Golconda or Hyderabad, a kingdom which had been recently compelled to pay tribute to Sevajee, but which yet apparently extended over Hyderabad and the Carnatic for more than a century. Golconda had been ruled by Kutub shah, but the commander in chief in Carnatic was Nekhnam.
Khan. To this commander in chief, the presidency at Fort St. George gave the title of Nabob and it was from him that they obtained the cowl for the district of Madarasapatinam after the flight of the Rajah of Chandragiri.

In 1672 A.D Neiknam Khan died and his successor Mirza Ibrahim Khan said to have confirmed the firman of his predecessor. He maintained cordial relationship with the British and Naick of Poonamallee.

During his Governorship, the French East India Company was being formed and French expedition would shortly be sent out to compete with the Dutch and English in the Coromandel trade and this was the circumstance which led to the fortification of Fort St. George and to the great increase in garrison. The information provided by the intelligence proved to be correct. In a triangle contest among the three countries the British, the Dutch, and the French, the French possessed SanThome for more than a year and half within the time they had established a camp at Triplicane and fortified the place. Finally on 26th August 1774 A.D, they surrendered to the Dutch, on the condition the garrison should be transported to Europe.

This petition was apparently forwarded about 28th September 1675. It was resolved in council to order the Justices of the Choultry to levy the inhabitants of Black Town and other localities outside the wall of Fort St. George – a sum of one hundred pagodas in return for a payment made by Cassa Verona on behalf of the Agency, for the removal of the sand from the sea side of the fort. It amounted to two fanams per house and yet it was found impossible to raise it. All the inhabitants assembled in the pagoda, (Temple) and at the same time they sent instructions to their castes up country to stop all supplies of provision coming to Madarasapatinam. They were even prepared to leave the place rather than submit to the levy, not it is said because they grudged payment of the money, because under such circumstances the Agency were compelled to abandon the proposed assessment.

In August 1678, a body of 1500 Maratha forces approached Madras from Conjeevaram in order to take the Poonamallee fort. The British started strengthening the fortifications of Madras and increased the military equipment throughout the troubled period of Sivaji’s Southern campaign.

Sir William Langhorne fell a victim to those charges of private trade, in 1676 A.D, the Directors sent out a major public to inquire into existing abuses. He was charged with receiving annually the sum of 20,000 pagodas from Cassa Verona, the chief merchant. In consideration of under advantages said to have afforded to the latter in reference to the company’s trade. The accusation was indignantly denied by both parties at any rate the charge was believed by the Directors and Sir William Langhorne was recalled and Mr. Streynsham Masters was appointed in his place.
It was during his administration he introduced new rules and regulations as well as systematised record keeping in Fort St. George.

**MR.STREYNSHAM MASTER (1677 – 1681 A.D)**

He already had a successful career with the East India Company. He was appointed as Governor of Madras and was holding the post until 1681.64

During his administration, Sivajee and his quarrel with Lingappa65 was an important event, the Agency at Madras alarmed at the tidings which reached it from time to time of the doings of Sevajee. Several stories have been noted in his records.

Accordingly, in one of the consultation, Master received a letter from Sevajee Rajah by a Brahmin and two others of his people, requesting some cordial stones and counter poison. The British resolved to send him some together with a civil letter, by a messenger as a small present together with some such fruit as these gardens afford and to bestow upon his Brahmin 3 yards of broad cloth and some sandalwood but not thought of money for small trifles. Thus the value of the present sent to Sivajee is carefully stated in detail, from which it appears that the cost of the whole was around 60 pagodas.66

A few days afterwards Sivajee sent for more cordials and medicines and again the orders of this dangerous morsel customer were promptly attended to, the bill being agreed a second time, in a fashion which is but rarely followed by the modern mercantile community of this Presidency Sivajee asked for some English Engineers but that application was politely declined. In August 1678, the news reached the Agency from Conjeevaram, 40 miles from Madras, to the effect that some 15000 of Sevajee's horse were at that place under the command of his brother and that the latter intended to advance Sivajee had given orders for plunder of Madrasapatnam and Pulicat. Fortunately, it did not happen, because of Sevajeereturned to his own territories, to deal with Naik of Mysore.67

During his administration, he erected the *High Court of Judicature*68 in the building of St. Mary’s church.69 He also introduced stringent laws respecting the Roman Catholics and the extraordinary disasters which befell the agency in consequence of the continued intrigues of Lingappa.

Master was in favour of French priest, who were Capuchins rather than the Portuguese, who have made themselves very disagreeable

He declined the demand of Lingappa, the Naik of Poonamallee and collected the rents of all the surrounding neighbourhood for his royal master Abou Hassan, King of Golconda. During the present administration, he seems to have chiefly carried on his intrigues through Cassa Verona, the native merchant.70
In August 1678 Lingappa was about to go to Golconda to treat upon some offers he had made to the Diwan for the King’s revenue. Accordingly, he wrote to Cassa Verona, threatening to do the town of Madarasptanam all the mischief at court that he possibly could do. Then he promised to be very kind at court as regarded the affairs of the English Agency to part friendly with him, in other wards to give him a Peshcash.

To all this Verona replied that Mr. Governor Master was very busy at present with the despatch of the Ships to Bengal. So that he had no authority than that of the king Abou Hassan. Upon this Lingappa endeavoured to stop the coinage of pagodas in the mint at Fort St. George, and saying that to bring away immediately all the Shroff and Coined in Madraspatnam together with all the chops and stamps for coining Pagodas. This demand was also declined by Mr. Governor Master. Abou Hassan had settled the command of the Town and Mint upon the English, in the same way that the latter had possessed it in the time of the Hindoo Rajah of Chandragiri, before the country fell under the dominion of the King’s Golconda.

Lingappa Stopped the native goods going to Madrasapatinam He also ordered not to sell anything to the English. Saturday, 9th April 1681 there being a great complaint in the Town for want of rice amongst the poor.71

Lt. Richardson obtained permission from the Governor and went to the neighbouring Villages and asked the people to sell the article as before, otherwise they will take the goods by force, if they further resist, then their houses might be set to fire or pulled down. Lingappa ordered even not to drink water. But he had not sent any safety forces to them. Finally they pulled down the Poligars house, who being conscious of his guilt had fled and hid himself. Finally, the Lt. Richardson returned with his men with small booty.

On Sunday, 10th April 1681 The Governor sent peons to Trivatore, Egmore and SanThome and other Villages and asked them to send the provisions, if they do not they will face the similar consequence as the peoples Cuddalore.72

Indeed the Directors continually urged upon Agency that Fort St. George was only intended for the protection of the goods and the rule safety of the factory depended not upon the strength of their fortifications, but upon the firmans and cowls they might obtain from the princes of the Country. An Exhibition of forces was necessary in all dealings with natives. He could not send the ship as there was blockade, but they blamed Master as he was engaged in Private trade. The Population of the town was increasing and revenue of the town. The amount was counter balanced by the increased expenditure during the troubles.73
PAINTERS MUTINY

On Monday 1st October 1680, the painters and other persons had withdrawn out of Black Town to San Thome, gathered in great numbers and threatened many people. The mutineers took shelter at the pagoda. The natives were threatened to be fined or they might be murdered if they do not come out of the pagoda.

On Monday 8th October 1680 it was resolved and ordered that the wives and children and the merchants catamaran men and coolies and all others that have left the town upon this mutiny of painters, be taken out of their houses and driven into the Pagoda, temple as an expedient to bring the men back again.

The mutiny continued for about a month, at last on 29th November 1680, proclamation was made by beat of drum, that unless the mutineers delivered themselves unto the governor, or to the justices of the choultry, within ten days – all their houses, goods and estate within the jurisdiction of Madrasapatinam would be forfeited to the company. 7th December the head of the mutineers were imprisoned, others surrendered immediately.

The fort was strengthened and partly rebuilt under the direction of the engineer named Edward Fowles. The company had its own brickfields and kilos where it employed native labour and made all bricks needed for building purposes. The mortar used was particularly native chunam, with jaggery or plan sugar mixed with it. It is too difficult break it up. The walls middle or north Gate and the Choultry Gate in the North wall were enlarged. The dimensions the Fort were still on the original lines. The river flanking and protected the west wall or curtain wall. The wall on the sea face had been undermined and damaged by the sea. It was repaired together with the sea gate battery. There was a fourth entrance, called the Fort Gate, which was in the west wall and faced the Fort House on the land side opposite to the sea.

WILLIAM GYFFORD (1681 - 87)

During his administrative period Madrasapattinam was divided into White Town and Black town.

1. He raised house tax – due to opposition it was dropped out.
2. He reformed Police Administration – the place was guarded by PeddaNaik. This place was given as endowment to PeddaNaik. 
3. He constructed Godowns for storing Grains.
4. He also constructed Battery – Bastions in Black Town, to store arms and ammunitions.
SEA EROSION

According to the consultation issued on 11th July, the sea for past ten days encroached the town, and again retreat itself. There were no remedies to keep of it. A speedy action to be taken to protect the town, otherwise it would swallow the town and affect the foundation of the town. Therefore, it was ordered that the drum be beat and invited all coolies, carpenter smiths peons and other workmen. They were provided sufficient materials and ordered that they may work day and night to put an end to this eminent problem.

In the year 1683, there was erosion in the town. It encroached the town for more than ten days. It was feared that unless speedy action is taken, the town would be swallowed up in a day or two, it was therefore ordered to beat drum to call all coolies, carpenter smiths, peons and other workmen, they had to work to stop the danger. This information was sent to England, for which a reply was received on 31st May 1683 in which, it is stated the danger should be stopped and chunam is sufficient to prevent it. The expenditure on repair and fortification should be charged from the inhabitants, who live easier under British government. But the native inhabitants refused to pay the sum for the constricting the strong fort. But the inhabitants raised objection to it. But they were convinced to pay the amount for their security.75

MADRAS BANK

The establishment of the Madras Bank, an institution which was in reality started in the reign of Charles II. It was started on 21st June 1683.76 The information was circulated among Portuguese, Gentoo, Malabar, and Moor and also by beat of drum. A detailed information about the functions of a bank is given in consultation.

He made an attempt to levy tax on the houses to meet the expenditure on the fortification and the garrisons. In one of the communication it is revealed that there were three entrances in the Fort i.e Fort Gate, Sea Gate and back to the Choultry Gate.

In 1684, to levy a tax from every house in Madrasapattinam, Mr. Gyfford was delaying in language the Court of Directors Josiah child became angry for delaying the collection. It was felt that the Indians were flourishing under British protection and every inhabitants is bound to pay for their protection. For raising houses in this town, the tax was levied.

PREVENTION OF SLAVERY

In the 1683, a report was received slaves were exported from Madras, Children’s were stolen away from the persons by the traders. The Agent and council considered the scandal would affect the government. Hence, the following announcement was made by the government on 13th November, 1683. An order was issued to prevent transportation
by sea making slaves in other countries. The order was hung up in four public places of the town. If any one continued to engage in slavery, he had to pay the fine of 50 pagodas in the Choultry of Madrasapattinam, which was shared by the company, the informer and the poor.

In the year 1687, Mr. Fraser purchased 40 young sound slaves for the company and dispose them to the several Mussulas of Boatman. The were provided with dress with company’s marks. Further, in the year 1688, Slaves shall be shipped examined by the Justices of the Choultry and register their name in a book for that purpose, for which 2 fanams collected for each slave. If it is violated, the offenders had to pay 5 pagodas otherwise they had to loose their ears.\footnote{77}

Besides the rulers of Mughuls, Marathas and Golconda Nawab made inroads into Madrasapattinam. Consequently they decided to repair the walls and the gateways and lay in stores of grain and a large quantity of fresh water with in the Fort. Barracks were also erected for the garrison of the fort to the west of the citadel. He was recalled and in his place Mr. Elihu Yale was appointed.

**JOSIAH CHILD**

Mr. Josiah child had been elected chairman to the board,\footnote{78} he was the first man who have made a *conception of the relations between the English and the Natives in this country*. Trade flourished greatly under his regime and most distant Agencies were kept in awe. To put down all private trade on the part of the company’s servants in any of the articles which the company chose to reserve to itself. To put down all interloping and interlopers of any kind whatever. To raise such a revenue from the native inhabitants of the company’s town, as should defray the changes of the fortifications and garrison. Lastly, to establish a strict obedience to all orders, whether trade or private administration might be transmitted from home.

Lingappa decided to exploit the English, he protected the interlopers, who at this time were beginning to swim along the coast. The agency sent 7000 pagodas to Lingappa on the condition that the interlopers should be no longer protected and that a new cowle for district of Madrasapatinam was finally obtained from the King of Golconda, at the previous rate of 1200 pagodas per annum.

During his administration, war broke out between Great Mogul and the kingdoms of Bijapur and Golconda which terminated in the final fall of the two powers. Golconda sought the help of English against the Moghul. But this request was declined and evaded.

**ELIHUYALE (1684 – 85 A.D AND 1687 – 1692A.D)**

He came to Madras as a writer in 1672. The first entry in the marriage register of St. Mary’s church was that of Elihu Yale, who married the widow Catherine Hynmers on
November 4, 1680. He served as provisional Governor for about 6 months during Gyfford’s absence in 1684 – 1685. He was mainly responsible for raising the Union Jack flag in the Fort. In the year 1687, December, 30 with the consent of King James II, the corporation of Madras was established. The first Mayor of Madras was Nathaniel Higginson. He also constructed a Town Hall for conducting the programmes in the city.79

As President and Government, he attempted to curb the slave trade and succeeded in making trade in children as illegal.

Yale continued to stay in Madras for several years after his tenure, answering various charges. Like other employees of the East India Company, he made his money from private trading amassed one of the longest fortunes of the time. He therefore much sought after in England for contribution to various causes.

MONSOON

On 9th October 1687 an extraordinary monsoon started, earlier than the usual time which caused damage to the ships and vessels, thrown on the roads. It started on Tuesday and continued till Saturday. Two ships were damages and broken into pieces the governor ordered the people to be watchful.

ALLOTMENT OF PEONS

On Saturday 29th October 1687, there have been some discourse about settling attendance of Peons to the Council which is agreed and ordered as follows, to the Governor - 20 peons, to the second - 6 peons, Judge - 5 peons and taliars to the warehouse - keeper - 4 peons, to the chief Justice and Customer 3 peons and 2 talliars, the rest of the council 2 peons taliars each, to be constantly at their disposal, except some extraordinary occasion requires them to other services.

SIVAJI’S INVASION

In September 1687, the fort of Golconda was taken by Aurangazeb and the news reached Fort St. George, three council members met the Mughals guards, and declared the occasion of his coming was, that he had received about a lakh of Rupees and 6000 Pagodas for the Mogul’s account.

Sivaji’s flying army was foregoing those parts and robbing and plundering, desired British assistance, and demanded the of 300 horses, 500 soldiers and 500 peons and guard it as for as R Krishna. The request of Sivajee was kept in the Governor’s Council.

On Friday, 13th January, that Sivajee’s forces had Plundered Conjeeveram, killed about 500 men destroying the town and put the inhabitants to flight dispersing themselves about the country, and many of them run hither and thither. The governor had received a news from the Maratha camp, that they had drawn out a party of 2000 horse and 5000
foot under the command of a General, to assault this place, giving them encouragement that the plunder should be their own. Upon which advice the Governor and Council ordered that the Portuguese and Gentoo should be summoned to their arms, one man from each family.

The Portuguese to meet before their church, and Gentoo at the Town Choultry, by 4 o’clock where they shall be commanded and disposed to such guards and watches as shall be judged most necessary. The default of any person to be punished or fined at the pleasure of the governor and council, the council was dated 13th January 1688.

ELIHU YALE’S SONS DEATH

On 26th August 1688, Sir Elihu Yale’s Son died due to some unknown reason. He was buried near the Light House of Esplanade. A memorial stone was erected for him but the stone is not be found today, because of the modern development.80

EASTER WEEK DINNER

On 16th April 1688 Captain Freeman trained Band boys to a General from in the Island, for the Easter celebration. He decided to invite Moores and Gentoo for a dinner with the Governor and Council. He thought it would give great impression among the people.81

HOISTING OF FLAG

Soon after he became the Governor, the union Jack flag of was hoisted upon the fort bastion of which replaced Company’s flag. This occasion was celebrated by a large gathering of the European and the Indian residents of the town, when the poor were fed, several prisoners were released the soldiers enjoyed the occasion. The principal residents dined provided with drink and to arts volleys were fired and 31 guns went off in honour of the King, 21 for the company 19th for the Josiah Child, who instructed Yale to do the same.82

ESTABLISHMENT OF CORPORATION

The most important event during Yale’s Governorship was the establishment of Corporation and Mayor of the city of Madras.83 The originator of the idea was Sir Josiah Child. The idea was taken from the Dutch government in the East Indies. In a letter to Madras dated the 28th September 1687, Child detailed a plan for the formation of a corporation. The Charter was issued by the King of Britain Lord James II, on 30. 12. 1687. The members composed of Indians mixed with Englishman viz., Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses, a Recorder and a Town clerk.
ASSURANCE OFFICE

In August 1688, an Assurance office was established in Madras, accordingly the plan laid down in the following notice. The company have ordered and established an Assurance office for the greater encouragement and security of trade, where all persons may be rightly informed there in both to as to assuring and being assured according to the several voyages and premiums the parties shall treat and agree upon authentic policies drawn and registered, fees collected only one quarter present. To company and 9 fanams to register for each policy.

RELIEF FOR THE POOR

Elihu Yale paid money for relieving poor English and other charitable uses, Governors hospitals, trade and fortify it, defended their trade by treaties or arms yet since there will in all colonies be a necessity to relieve distressed poor. It was suggested by the council members, that two or three of the member and ablest inhabitants, to be appointed for their proper office. He would be asked to receive money on receive all pay days and every lords day or once a month at the church and free contribution for the relief of the poor. He was also called as “Father of the poor” and the Dutch called him “Father” or “Master of the west Houses”.

MAHRATTAS

In the year 1672, Pondicherry was purchased by the French from the King of Bijapore. After the disappearance of Bijapore they depended on the Mahrattas. The British depended on the Moguls and MahrattasRamaRajah, king came to Gingee, the French and Dutch already sent their persons with presents. The British also sent their present, viz., Persian horses with handsome furniture, 3 or 4 pieces of broad cloth, fire arms with some other varieties that may be most pleasing and acceptable to him.

However, on 10th December 1689 A.D, that the Mahrattas had besieged the French at Pondicherry demanding for great sum of money from them. They were pressing the merchants for 1000 or 5000 pagodas from them.

During his administration, the Mughal forces were besieging Gingee, which was occupied by Rama Raja and Mahrattas. At the end of the war Alimerdy khan, the Commander of the Mughal army was imprisoned and many Mughal army officers fled to Madras.84

On 23rd December 1692, Cojee Gregorio, an Armenian merchant, told that he received a letter from Pulicat from the brother in law of Alimerdy khan, which provides information that Mahrattas demanded one lakh pagodas for the release of Alimerdy khan. They sought the help of the Governor of Madras, would receive jewels and money into
his custody and then write to Rama Raja for his release. But the British Governor
resolved not to commit in this affair.

Another effort was made by Cojee Gregorio and CojeeAbanus, Armenian resident in
Madras, for the release of Alimerdikhan. But still the British still followed the policy of
non-intervention.

The Armenian had a correspondence with the Mughul officers, and they tried to
strengthen their relationship with the Mughuls, which would be inconvenience to the
Britishers. However, the Mughal army under Nabob Zulfikhar Khan cameuptoGingee he
engaged for more than two months. In the meantime, the Mughal emperor Aurangazeb
died. Zulfikar Khan was removed to wandiwash. The war remained uncertain.

THE ARMENIANS AND THEIR PREVILEGES (1688 - 90)

The Armenians received certain privileges from the GoevrnorElihu Yale from the
year 1688 – 1690, it is elaborated in chapter IV. The Armenians signed an agreement
with the King of Britain.

WAR WITH FRANCE

English now became an ally of the Dutch and involved in a war with France.
Declaration of war against France also warrant for the hostility in these parts, proclaimed
at the Fort Gate, Choultry and Sea Gate accompanied by Capt. Thomas Gray.

The French sent out a fleet consists of 17 men of war which was very
considerable force and was kept in alertness. The Dutch fleet under Lawrence Pitt,
anchored in the Madras roads on the 1st of August. He decided to come ashore. Thomas
Wavel and Mr. John Cheney were ordered to attend upon him aboard and conduct ashore.

On 16th August 1688, at 10 o’Clock, the French fleet arrived northward, and in
their way at Trivatorethey took old deserted country vessels belongs to Pulicat
inhabitants. In this war the Dutch and the British lost heavily, of which 10 wounded and
11 killed. On the whole the English, the Dutch and the French lost 187 men.

ZULFIKAR KHAN

In the year 1690, the NawabZulfikar Khan was appointed the Mughal general in
charge of the operations in the Carnatic against the Marathas of Gingee. The British
supported the Mughals and obtained firman for five villages, of the five two were related
to Black town.

That Tandore, Pureshawauk and Egmore three small towns near Madras, whose
produce is about 300 pagodas per annum, the British desired it to be rent free villages.85

1. Besides they demanded liberty to mint coin rupees with the King’s stamp at
Madras.
LEARNING PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE

On 22\textsuperscript{nd} January 1692, the Court of Directors sent two ministers, who have applied to the learning the Portuguese languages and have made progress. They would be made ministers for the new Portuguese church to be built by the bounty.

NATHANIEL HIGGINSON (1692 – 1698)

Nathaniel Higginson joined the English East India company in 1683 and was posted to Madrasas second in council, when the Corporation of Madras was inaugurated, he was appointed as First Mayorof Madras Presidency.\textsuperscript{86} But he resigned his post after 6 months. he succeeded Yale in the governorship and again ruled for 6 years from 1692 – 98. He was the first Governor who retired without any stain in his name.

1. During this period he obtained Firmans for EgmorePurasaiwakkam and Tondiarpet in 1692.
2. Fort House was demolished and a new building with Secretariat was constructed.
3. The Cooum and Elambore river were linked by a canal to form the "The Island"
4. Tiruvorriyur was also acquired in 1708 permanent permission was obtained in 1717 from Mughal emperorFarukshiyar.

PAGODAS OF BLACK TOWN

On Thursday 29/12/1692, the Gentoo Pagoda in the Black Town, which was built by Timanna, the former Chief merchant and from that time it was maintained by him, who also received the custom of the Gentoo pagoda. But the Europeans and Armenians, ordered the maintenance to be made by the Brahmins. The Chief merchants who applied for the profit of the adjacent grounds to the maintenance of their Brahmins, amount was raised from pagodas. President Yale took the pagodas out of the hands of the chief merchants and made Rangiachetty, Collavimaistry and Child conacoply the overseer and as Governor of the pagodas. It was declared to the merchants were given the liberty to make use of their pagodas.

RESTRICTION IMPOSED ON THE STREET

On Thursday, 16\textsuperscript{th} January 1693, the Taliars and Peons who were appointed to watch the Black Town, made a complaint that many people both inhabitants and strangers walk up and down in the Streets all night, during that time many disolders thefts and violences committed. Next day, the Choultry Court Justice ordered the Taliars to beat Tom and announce that no one should walk in the Street after eleven ‘oclock, if they do so they would be fined one pagoda which would be collected by the Choultry Justice or corporal punishments which ever was suitable.\textsuperscript{87}
DEATH OF CHOULTRY JUSTICE

On 30th August, 1693, it was brought to Consultation that Mr. Wheeler who was a member of Council, sea customer, and Chief Justice of Choultry Court was very sick and died at 11 o’clock in that morning and in his place appointed Mildmay, and Mr. Vander Anker to take account of the Company’s books which were in Wheeler’s hands.

MURDER OF A CHILD

A peculiar case came for hearing in the Choultry Justice on 3rd August 1696, concerning the murder of a child in Black Town, for robbing of a Godown within the walls, it was ordered the examination would be held on 11th August 1696, on 13th August, the Judge reported from the special court of Admirality. Several criminals were examined on 11th and 12th. It was found that Chinadree and NullaTambee were charged of breaking into Godown and stolen Quick stolen. Hosanna and Pochera for murder of a child in Black Town. Chinandree pleaded guilty for his act, NullaTambi pleaded not guilty. The Judge pronounced the Verdict that Hosana and Pochera were not guilty of murder and discharged. But NullaTombi should cut one of his ears, whipped and twined out of Town, and Chinandree to be executed on 19th August 1696. However, on enquiring Chinandree was acquitted from sentence, but sent to Travancore to work in irons. 88

BEGGARS IN BLACK TOWN

The consultation issued on 2/11/1696 status that it was inconvenience by admitting beggars in side the walls, many were diseased persons and great numbers i.e. 50. Hence, it was ordered that no persons should be allowed to beg with in the walls of the Christian Town. The inhabitants should forbid them and not to give anything and should be turned out if they want to give as charity, it was recommended it should be given every Saturday and on Monday and it can be distributed in the Choultry. Those who beg within the walls and their names to be written into list and called over at the time of distribution. 89

ARMENIAN AGREEMENT

According to consultation issued on Friday 4th 1697, signed an agreement as they will not trade with interlopers, and also encounter with them. They signed in two copies, one in English and the other in Armenian language.

SIR THOMAS PITT (1698 – 1702 – 1709)

Mr. Nathaniel Higginson seems to have been the first Governor of Madras on record, who retired from the Presidency without any stain upon his name. He was violently opposed by one of the members of his council Mr. William Fraser, in
consequence of the abuse which he received from Frazer, he prayed the Directors to permit him to retire from the government. He was relieved on July 1698.

On 7th July 1698, Thomas Pitt Esq, Produced his commission, dated 5th January 1688, appointing him President for the company’s affairs on the coast of Coromandel of Orissa, Gingee and Mahratta countries and Governor of Fort St. George and Fort St. David, General Higginson did resign and handed over the keys of the fort to Thomas Pitt.

He started his life as seafarer, eventually getting himself called “captain”. He was also called “Pirate” Pitt. His illegitimate private trading had the company issuing on more than one occasion for his arrest. But he always escaped. With the considerable wealth he amassed, he left for England where he was arrested, charged with interloping and fined. He settled in England and was elected to British Parliament. He set out on one last trip to India as an interloper. When the company failed once again to nab him. It was decided to employ him and so, Pitt joined East India Company in November 1697. He was named president and Governor of Fort St. George. He held office for 11 long years, during which period Madras trade prospered.

TREATY OF RYSWICK

The war with France had been concluded in 1697 by the Peace of Ryswick in 1698 and the news reached Fort St. George. However, the British decided to strengthen the defence of White Town.

“It is thought necessary that the Garrison and Out Town be put into the best posture of defence it can be” – Subsequently a levy was made upon the inhabitants of Black Town for building a wall and constructing other works for the defence of the town. In June 1700, the levy amounting to 1051 Pagodas was paid by the President into the Company’s cash to be applied to the purpose specified.

THOMAS PITT AND NABOB DAWOOD KHAN

Dawood Khan was appointed as Nobob of the Carnatic and Gingee countries by Aurangzeb, the great Mogul. Dawood Khan was bent upon getting a large, subsidy from the Presidency of Fort St. George. In 1701 he tried threats, intrigues and cajolery of every kind. In 1702 he fairly blockaded the fort and endeavoured to reduce the English to submission by stopping the passage of all goods and provisions.90

The diary which have drawn up from the Madras consultation books supplies entirely new page of history. On the one hand the intrigues, the meanness and the drinking propensities of the Nabob and his Durbar are depicted with a startling truthfulness and the working of the mind of the artful musalman is described in these simple entries. Pitt defied the insulting threats of the grasping Nabob and proved more than a match for the low cunning and courtly dissimulation of the oriental.
In the year 1701 Dawood Khan was sent by the Aurangezeb. He camped at Arcot, he demanded sundry sorts of liquors which have been sent to him and it being the custom of all Europeans to present all Nabobs and Governors when they first come to the government, in order to procure a confirmation of their privilege, and have a great deal of money spread up and down the country. An Armenian sent a letter to consider a present for the Nabob, the Dewan their officers and fitting persons to send with it. The presents to the Nabob Dawoodkhan were valued at 1700 pagodas, Dewan 190 pagodas and the provisional presents at 830 pagodas.

On 16th January 1701 President sent a letter to Nabob stating that he waited for his arrival at Arcot with due presents and arrangements. Secured letter was sent to Nabob with 3000 Rupees. Likewise, letter was also sent to Dewan Mahomed Said.

Two messengers returned with unsuccessful Mission. From the description it is revealed that Nabob felt that the present was not sufficient, because his predecessor had received ten times as much. He has also given an explanation and pacified him, “where it had received cost him a great deal of money for his employment which must and would raise by some means or other, telling that he had an account of our revenues, calculating them at about a hundred thousand pagodas per annum, but we had nothing to do with Black Town, in which he would put a governor and constrain us to keep only to our fort.

Subsequently, when the Britishers were at San Thome, Mr. Ellis and others came away last night. The Nabob at his Durbar said about the revenue derived by the Britishers as 10,000 pagodas, from tobacco and betel. Our building in the Black Town wall and several other things. The Nabob had sent four Subedars and 25 men as a safeguard to prevent any of his army plunder the villages powered by the Britishers, and carried away a great quantity of straw and firewood.

The Governor wrote two letters regarding that guards plundered the town, which is contrary to the trust reposed in Nabob’s word and justice. The Governor thought that he had to put a stop to the unreasonable demands of Nabobs certain resolution was passed. It was also informed that the Nabob is making great preparation to come against the British. The trouble continued and the British sent small complements to the Nabob. The governor decided that 200 Rajputs be taken into service, to guard our Out Towns and the company’s cloth at the washers. Finally, the British decided not to send English or the present.

The receipt of this peremptory message appears to have determined Dawood Khan blockading both the city of Madras and fort St. George. The Nabobs forces began to plunder Egmore, Purasaiwakkam and Triplicane and many of the inhabitants of Madras began to desert this place – Details of this incident is given below.
“Saturday 7th the Nabobs forces plundered our Out Towns of some straw and Paddy and drove away the inhabitants and the poor people that lived in our suburbs and Black Town, being so intimidated by the approach of the Moores army and the preparations we made for our defence, several thousand deserted us and the Farmers of the Tobacco and Betel complaining that they could not collect the governors by reason of these troubles and more particularly betel being stopped, which would in a few days occasion great clamours amongst the inhabitants, so that for the encouragement of all to steal it in, we have ordered that the farmers cease from collecting these revenues till the troubles are over”. 91

The letter correspondence continued between the Governor and Dawood khan.

On Thursday 15th this day the Governor summoned a General council to acquaint from with what message the Moollah had brought from the Nabob at SanThome. “He demanded possession of Out Town and view our Godowns and take an account of our estates and we should put one hundred men of this in possession of the Black Town. He wrote to the king that the British had obeyed his order, and make an attestation on our behalf unto which we must wait for an answer. Otherwise, he would make us surrender by force and cut us all he also told that if we were merchants, what need had we of such a fortification and so many guns, which is an arrangement which has been much used by the New company’s servants since their dropping in to this country and as we have been informed, the same has been urged to the king and great men of the kingdom at the camp”. 92

The encounter between the English, the Portguese and Dawood Khan continued.

Thus, this notable blockade of fort St. George, was brought to a conclusion in the year 1698. A few days afterwards a further present was made to the Nabob of liquors and rarities to the value of one thousand rupees. The Nabob then marched away with disbanded and a treat was given to each company by the Governor.

**CREATION OF ISLAND AND GARDEN HOUSE**

During his term in office, the Island ground was drained, trees planted and a recreational space developed. The Governor’s Garden House was rebuilt and was the venue for public entertainments and formal receptions. This garden was destroyed by French during the war. He acquired the areas of Tiruvottriyur, Kathiwakkam, Nungambakkam, Vyasarpadi and Sathangadu from Dawoodkhan.

**DUBASH**

Already two merchants were closer to the British. SunguRamar was another merchant, close to the British East India Company. He was permitted into the fort to own a House, and store the cloths with in the fort. By the year 1717 BalaChetty,
KalavaiChetty and KalahastiChetty became notable merchants of the Black Town. Later on Sungarama and Padrayyan also availed facilities and concessions. These merchants constructed house within the Pattanam, which also served as Godown. The House of Badraiyan located to the west of Peddanayakanpettah and the other merchants had their houses on the first Beach line. i.e north. Their Houses are marked in the map drawn in the year 1733.

ThambuChetty was a great merchants in pearl, coral and gems and LingiChetty was busy in Tobacco sale. SunguramaChetty, ThambuChetty and LingiChetty are still remembered and the streets in their name are still extant in Black Town region.

Pitt was followed by Glustone Addison, the brother of Joseph Addison. He did not live long and was succeeded by Fraser. He was in charge of the fort for 18 months. Fraser was superseded by Edward Harrison and ruled for about six years. He demolished inner fort of fort St. George. He built new structures in the fort a hospital and the Mint.

By the year 1708 Daud Khan demanded the return of five villages. He was mollified for the time and tactful present. The chief merchants negotiated with the Mughals Surman was sent to Delhi as messenger. Surman obtained the farman. The following previleges were given to them. i.e. exempted from custom in all ports. The Imperial firman was received by Government and was taken in palanquin in procession round the Black Town, the procession consisting of the Peddnaigue, with Talliars and native music, a company of British soldiers and two trumpeter finally the procession ended with the dinner given by the Governor.

JOSEPH COLLET (1717 - 20)

He was Governor for three years from 1717 to 1720. Nawab of Carnatic Sadatullah Khan sent his troops to expel them, Collet had to take action and drive away the Muslim troops after inflicting defeat on them at Tiruvorriyur. The fighting lasted for 6 hours but the casualities on the English side were very few. After some years the Nawab agreed to leave the Village.

The weavers and Dyers were shifted to Colletpet in north Madras – near Tiruvorriyur. This place is identified with the present day Kaladipettah. The Cloths manufactured were exported to London. The dyers and weavers Settled in Washermenpet too because there was plenty of space and fresh water.

The Village was called as Collet Pettahi. i.e., loafer’s quarters. The village contained a complement of 104 houses and 103 and the houses holders were arranged under Right and left hand division. The people were exempted from paying Quit Rent.

Collet was Succeeded by Francis Hastings and Nathaniel Elwick who served as Governors for a short period.
NATHENIAL ELWICK

Elwick had to face the Nawab of the Carnatic sadalullah khan, demanded for the restoration of Tiruvorriyur. An embassy was sent to the Nawab who had come down to San Thome. RayasamPapaiya and Sunka Rama, the English envoys, who to Nawab’s camp, were forcibly detained. Eliwick showed his power. But he had done nothing to the improvement of the fortifications either of the fort or of Black Town. He retired from his post in January 1725.

JAMES MACRAE (1725 – 30 A.D)

Macrae was in office for five years from 1725 to 1730. He proved to be the capable Governor merchant. He began the work of putting fortifications and building of the white town and repaired the ramparts of the Black Town and erected a powder factory in the Island. He was also responsible for the construction and drainage system.

His tenure as Governor of Madras was marked by a number of reforms and a significant increase in the company’s profits. He effectively tackled the rampart corruption and was also responsible for the construction of water and drainage system. The Armenian and jews merchant sent their goods only through the Dutch ship not by British Ships, this attitude was not liked by Macrae.

Like the Armenians, the Jews engaged in coral business. The jews brought gems to Madras port and settled in a place called PagadaluPetta. Now the place is called as Pavalakkara Street, which was incorporated with MuthialPettah in the beginning.

SUNKURAMCHETTY

By the year 1734 A.D. SunkuramChetty, the Dubash lost his business. He had a big garden and big House near Periyamedu, were seized by the British, the place was given to the weavers and established “small looms” i.e. Chinnattari by which the place came to be called “ChinnaTaripettah”.

RICHARD BENYAN (1735 – 44 A.D)

He rose to the position of Governor and retired to the fortune. The Nawab was very liberal and granted five villages to the company. Moreover he granted permission to establish a mint at Chintadripet, and to mint Star Pagodas. Lingi Chetty looked after this mint and they minted star pagodas which was in circulation till 1818.

Banyon had long been in the service of the company and risen. The Maratha General RaghujiBhonsle created problem in country. The English sent presents through the Armenian Peter Uscan and obtained firman both for Madarasapatnam and fort St. David in April 1741.
The Nawab of Safdar Ali resolved that there was no security in his country, for want of security and safety he sent his wife and son to Madras, and they were lodged in the Black Town. The Nawab was assassinated on the way and the army proclaimed his young son to be the new Nawab, a rich ceremony was conducted in the Garden House in December 1712 June young Nawab granted five villages of which Tiruvorriyur was one among them.

**NICHOLAS MORSE (1744 – 46 A.D)**

He was a great grant son of Oliver Cromwell, during his administration the Anglo-French rivalry erupted between the year 1744 – 46. The French fleet appeared before fort St. George De La Bourdannnais landed near Ice House, occupied the company Garden House in Peddanaickenpettah, erected a battery, and opened shell fire on the fort. Firing continued for two days on the third day the firing continued the Governor and garrison was capitulated. The English had already spiked the guns on the wall of the Black Town and the guards for the defence Morse was imprisoned. The French occupied Madras for about three years from 1746 – 1749. They were in occupation for three years i.e. till 1749. After signing the treaty of Aixla Chappelle in 1749, Morse was released. However he died at Madras and buried at St. Mary’s Church.

**THOMAS SAUNDERS (1752 -55 A.D)**

President Saunders in Madras he was responsible for the acquisition of the Chepauk Garden House, which in due course became Government House. Saunders started the renovation work and they started constructing the maintenance on north side and north west side. A map drawn in the year 1755 which shows the Black Town, Esplanade and the Triplicane region.

Count – De – Lally encountered Madarasapattinam for the second time in 1758 to 1759 A.D. During this attack, the French forces attacked Black Town they progressed upto Chepauk and Triplicane and they tried to destroy the Battery in Black Town. By this time the English forces, arrived for the rescue of the people of Black Town. This occupation of the French lasted for 67 days. It was effectively executed by the commander of Madras Army, Lawrence.

During this operation, the Poligar of Madarasapattinam at Black Town died. The British decided to abolish the post and maintain law and order with the help of soldiers. The French destroyed the cemeteries in Black Town region. Some of the Tomb stones were taken to St. Mary’s church and placed them in the garden. Many buildings in the First Beach line were destroyed by the French.

**GEORGE PIGOT (1755 – 63 AND 1775 – 76 A.D)**
He served for two terms from 1755 – 63 and 1775. The French troops advanced and occupied the new Government House, pushed on to Black Town and attacked north front of the fortress. There were only small bodies of troops to guard the approaches to Black Town which was consequently abandoned. The French erected several batteries all around the fort and opened a severe cannonade Lally had erected a powerful battery of 6 guns near the present parry’s corner. But his treasure was very low. The English force was stationed off the coast on 16th February 1759. Immediately the French raised the siege, but retreated to St. Thomas Mount. The siege lasted for 67 days, and they fired for 46 days. The French aimed only at Peddanaickenpettah in the Black Town. The French destroyed and plundered Black Town. They burnt down the Houses and demolished old Black Town.103

As a consequence, the post of PeddaNaigue was abolished and a regular bodies of sepoy guards stationed in Black Town. A new Black Town was created.104

**ROBERT PALK (1763 – 67 A.D)**

Robert palk succeeded pigot. Formed a close friendship with Stringer Lawrence, who was called us “Father of Indian Army” Palk dedicated his time to trade and communications. The first Mysore war was fought during his period.105

**HYDER’S RAID (1767 AND 1769)**

The construction of the Black Town, walls was remarkable event. Now Hyder Ali of Mysore made inroads into Madras. Hyders forces threatened the Garden House and the English narrowly escaped in a small vessel from the river.

Once again he reappeared 1769. His forces attacked St. Thomas Mount. People from other region and they came in large numbers and settled down in Black Town. The wall was strengthened even before the levied tax on the construction of wall. Pigot served as Governor for the second time. He revived the prosperity of the Madras city and the fort to have good and ample water supply.106

**WARREN HASTINGS (1769 - 1782)**

During the Governorship of Warren Hastings, the Madras port was created. He abolished the post of Dubash and in their place appointed clerks to deal with the weavers. At this Juncture, it is to be noted here that, ManaliMuthukrishnaMudali was the last Dubash and he was mainly responsible for the construction of Pattanam Temple i.e., the Chennakesava Temple. The post of Dubash, which was began with BeriTimmappa came to a close with ManaliMuthukrishnaMudali.

**JOSIAHS DU PRE (1770 – 73A.D)**

During his term in Madras, Black Town was fortified and a tax was planned for this purpose it applied only to Black Town residents and the road which bordered the
town came to be known as *Wall Tax Road.* Governor Du Pre had the Arsenal and the General hospital was built.

**ALEXANDER WYNCH (1773 – 75 A.D)**

He was the last Governor of Madras to have other presidencies under his administration.

**SIR THOMAS RUMBOLD (1777 – 78 AND 1780 A.D)**

He acted as Provisional Governor for two periods – first for five months and the second for seven years when he was dismissed. During his tenure of office, Hyder Ali was gathering forces to invade the Carnatic.

Hyder entered Carnatic on the 21st July 1776, and with in Sadlier delivered the following minute charging the select committee with in action and urging the adoption of inadequate measure.

When Hyder approached the King’s Regiment of Europeans and two battalions of sepoy’s at Poonamallee the troops were not ready.

Our treasury was empty, the Nabob declared, that he had no money – the Revenue was in a bad sate. Hyder was at 50 mile. The troops plundered the streets of Conjeevaram, might have penetrated into Black Town of Madras and set it on fire. The life and property was in danger. The Fort was crowded with inhabitants. The Armenians have lodged their women and children in the Fort Godowns. The streets of Black Town are filled with people and many hundreds may facing death and the famine occurred.

The Nabob’s wealth money and Jewels was lodged within the walls of the Black Town instead of Fort. The Nabob was left alone.

The sepoy’s encamped near Egmore for the security of Black Town. It reveals the weakness of our defence.

However Sadlier was suspended. Sadlier’s apprehensions on Madras were confirmed with in a fortnight on 10th August 1780. Hyder’s cavalry raided the suburbs. Hyder’s forces terrified the inhabitants of Black Town and adjacent villages. The Troops were kept ready to march into Black Town new corps was constantly stationed at Black Town.

**GEORGE MACARTINEY (1781 – 85 A.D)**
When he reached Madras, the area was in the grip of famine. The situation was handled by the government assuming control of available grain and regulating supply, a fore runner of modern Public Distribution system.110

Hyder Ali led an expedition against Chennai and he plundered Santhome and burnt some of the neighbouring region he put forth certain demands to the British, which was agreed by them because of lack food and horse in the Fort.

Now the British decided to strengthen the fort to face the invasion of Hyder Ali, a New Black Town was to be created, comprising Muthialpet and Peddanayakanpet. A new rampart wall to be constructed towards the north and west of the George Town.

**CONTRIBUTION OF STEPHAN POPHAM**111

Stephen Popham groomed the Black Town by establishing Police system, drainage system, well aligned streets with Street lights, coined names for the Streets. Besides, he also arranged to register Birth and death of the people. The Police (kotwal) was put in charge of the market place, hence called as Kotwalchavadi.

In order to keep the Black Town area clean, the administrators decided to collect land tax and scavenger Tax. The British passed a resolution in the year 1792, to levy 5% tax on land, house and health.

**ARCHIBALDCAMPBELL (1786 – 1789/ 90 A.D)**

His Governorship was inaugurated a period of peace and tranquillity. The suggestion given by Popham was implemented only during his time. He also appointed a scientist to measure the Latitude and Longitude of the Indian coastal region. Goldingham assisted the scientist. Besides, an Astronomical observatory was established in Madras.

In the year 1787, to supervise the market a kotwal and Conacopillay was appointed. He also initiated Postal service in Madras Presidency.112

**SIR WILLIAM MEADOWS (1790 - 92)**

He was called as Holland Brothers. He succeeded John Holland and Mr. Taylor Meadows was succeeded by Mr.Turning and Mr.Ookley. Incompetence and corruption was exposed. One of the Dubash Avadhanam Paupiah was imprisoned for 3 years and fined large a sum of money.113

**PRESS AND PUBLICATION**

For the benefit of the European orphans, a Shelter was created by Rev. Andrew Bell, he introduced western system of education in Madras Presidency. This male orphan school was started near Andrew church in the north Esplanade region. Besides they also started one printing press within premises of the school, it was named as Lawrence Asylum press, which published calenders.
A special department was established for supervising hospitals. In the beginning it was called as *Physician General* and later on the name was changed as *Director of Hospitals*. Yet another botanical garden was created by Campbell in Black Town.

**LORD ROBERT HOBART (1794 – 1798 A.D)**

He introduced certain changes in Judiciary. There was dispute between Mayor’s court and the East Indian company. The company wanted to establish separate court for the Indians to settle their minor disputes, hence they established Recorder’s Court. In due course of time the Mayor court and Recorder court were merged and the Head of the court was called as Registrar. Later on the Registrar became the Judge of the court, two more judges were also appointed to assist him. Later on the Supreme Court was established in Esplanade region, Now it is called as High Court of Madras.\(^{114}\)

**LORD CORNWALLIS IN MADRAS**

He personally conducted the war with Tipusultan. He proceeded to the field in memory of his great service of Cornwallis a statue was erected by public subscription by the Madras citizens. The statue was executed by Thomas Banks and erected in 1800.

**SIR EDWARD CLIVE (1798 –1803 A.D)**

He was the son of Sir Robert Clive, who was mainly responsible for the establishment of British rule in India. During Edward Clive’s period the entire administration was brought under the British East India Company. When he became the Governor of Madras, under the orders of the Governor General Lord Wellesley, the sovereign power of Nawab of Carnatic was deprived and his territories was given up to the British.

The Supreme Court (Present day High court) was established on a regular basis. It was upgraded by him. Besides, he also excavated a canal from northern river to Ennore. It was executed by Basil Cochrane and was named as Clive’s canal. The Buckingham Carnatic Mill was established in the village of *Nedumparai*. Which was renamed after Clive as “*Clive Pettai*”.

A Banqueting hall was built by Edward Clive, to mark the triumph of Seringapatam. He combined the victories of the battle of Plessey and the victory over Tipusultan, which are indicated by the friezes on the Pediments of the roof.

A Battery was also established on the North line Beach, which was popularly called as “*Clive Battery.*” Even today we have a place called Clive Battery next to Custom House in Beach Road.\(^{115}\)

The Choultry court was abolished and a supreme court of Judicature was set up in 1801 during his Governorship.
LORD WILLIAM BENTICK (1803 - 1807)

He ruled for four years in Madras from 1803 – 1807. Later on he become the Governor General of Madras Presidency.

1. He saw the outbreak of the mutiny of the sepoys at Vellore.
2. There was a dispute between the Government and a Judge.
3. There was a situation of Mutiny in Army.116

GEORGE HILARO BARLOW (1807 - 1813)

He succeeded Sir William Bentick. During his period the White Mutiny which occurred on 1809 – 10. The British Empire was saved from it.

HUGH ELLIOT (1814 – 20 A.D)

Governor Abereromby succeeded George Barlow and was in power for 16 months followed by Hugh Elliot.

He came to Madras as Governor. During his time, the Star pagoda was replaced by the Rupee as standard currency. It composed silver rupees, grater rupees, double annas and annas.

He gave his name to Elliots Beach and Edward Elliots Road connects cathedral Road with Beach.

SIR THOMAS MUNRO: (1814 A.D 1820 – 27 A.D)

In order to introduce certain reforms, in Judiciary, the Judiciary commission was appointed by Sir Thomas Munro. New Regulation was introduced. Accordingly the Power of Mayor court and District Magistrate was vested in the hands of District magistrate and also they appointed, PeddaNayak and Talaiyari. To maintain law and order the Procedures were also changed in the court. The traditional Gram Panchayat and Ur panchayatwere established. The duties that were carried out by the Sepoys were given to the Police.

COINS

During his administrative period the circulation of Star Pagodas was abolished and introduced a new coinage called Rupee. It became a new Coin system in the Madras Presidency. 3 Varahan was equalled to a Rupee. They introduced silver coins with the denomination One Rupee, Kalana, Two ana. Besides the silver coins they introduced signal copper coins.117

NATIVE SCHOOLS / CHURCH IN BROADWAY

He appointed an enquiry committee to inquire about the status of Native schools.118 He also appointed Public Instruction committee, which was later on converted
into a Board which was called as Board of Public Instruction. By the year 1818-1821 A.D the Wesleyan Church was constructed in Broadway region.

Munro died of cholera while on tour in the ceded Districts. While he was alive he was very much concerned with the Indian citizens. Munro wrote to the company, “your rule is alien and it can never be popular. You have much to bring to your subjects, you cannot turn India into England or Scotland. Work through, not in spite of, native systems and native ways, with a prejudice in their favour rather than against them; and when in the fullness of time your subjects can frame and maintain worthy government for themselves, get out and take glory of the achievement and the sense of having done your duty as the chief reward for your creations.”

STEPHEN RUMBOLDLUSHINGTON (1827 – 32 A.D)

As governor of Madras he did a lot to improve education and fostered the teaching of English. A committee of Native Education was set up and four English Elementary schools were started. The Madras club was started during his administrative period. The popular Macaulay’s minutes was passed. Madras Board of Education expanded the Education system in Madras.

LORD ELPHINSTONE (1837 – 42 A.D)

The first ever demand for Higher Education in Madras Presidency was voiced in a Public address to Lord Elphinstone when he was the Governor of Madras and signed by 70,000 “native inhabitants.” Elphinstone, responding, said. “It is expedient that a central collegiate Institution or University should be established at Madras” Government sanctioned his education proposals and the way was payed for higher education in Madras.

During his Administrative period a New Light House was inaugurated in the North Madras in the year 1841. Previously, they used, old Exchange House, located within the premises of Fort St. George. The New Light House was constructed to a height of 120’ft with Parabolic Reflectors. It was more effective than the old Light House. At present, it has been shifted to Marina Beach (south) opposite to All India Radio Station.

The Mint Building was shifted from Chintadripet to North Madras, i.e. Mint Street in the year 1807 A.D.LingiChetty supervised the minting work on the basis of lease. The New building was inaugurated in the year in 1807 A.D. There was no facility to melt the metal and mint the coins effectively. So, it remained close from 1836 to 1841. After which they minted only the silver coin with small denomination, i.e. single ana. The descendants of LingiChetty were called as Kasukarachetty.

Lord Elphinston was succeeded by Margurs Tweeddale (1842 - 48) and sir Henry Pottinger (1848 -54)
GEORGE FRANCIS HARRIS (1854 – 59 A.D)

During his Governorship the Titular Nawabship was abolished in the year 1854 – 55. He was appointed Governor of Madras in the year 1854. On June 28, 1856, he inaugurated the Madras Railway, the first railway service in south India. The Service was provided between Royapuram and Arakkonam. The Royapuram was formed part of Black Town region. The wood’s Despatch the Magna Carta of English Education in India was implemented.

CHARLES EDWARD TREVELYAN (1859 – 60 A.D)

He served as Governor for 15 months. He created the People’s Park, by destroying the west wall of Black Town, in the Esplanade. He also made arrangement for water supply, for which he constructed storage tank near Elephant Gate. This storage was called as Treveleyn Basin. Land Reforms were also introduced by him. The Legislative council of India, in 1860 proposed a plan of taxation. It was opposed by Trevelyan.

WILLIAM AMBROSE MOREHEAD (1860 – 61 A.D)

He served as Governor for two times, in total for 7 ½ months. In 1862 he was appointed as Judge of Madras High Court and also served as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Madras.

WILLIAM THOMAS DENISON (1861 – 63 A.D) (1864 – 66 A.D)

He also served for two terms. The High court of Madras was created during his tenure by merging the Supreme Court and the Saddler courts, in the year 1861 in the northern Esplanade, amidst the people’s park, a new building was constructed and completed in the year 1889. This Judicial Complex comprised of Small Causes court, City Civil court. Besides, they too constructed a Press and Bar council. Many towers were erected on top of the roof of the building.

LORD NAPIER (1866 – 72 A.D)

He became the Governor of Madras in the year 1866. He was a patron of arts. The Napier Bridge was constructed during his administrative Period.

He hold the office for six years from 1866 – 72. During his administrative period Madras was beautified and construction the postal and telegraph office. The Madras Railway was built at Royapuram near Beach station. The Napier Bridge was also constructed during his period. The first census of the Madras any was taken an a regular basis. The population number 3, 97, 552.

ALEXANDER JOHN ARBUTHNOT (1872 A.D)
He served only for four months from February – May 1872. He and his family played leading role in the history of Madras sixteen of him descendants served in the firm at Madras. The motto of the family bears the works “Innocent and Time.” He was the Director of Public Instruction in Madras. A Street is named after him, which is still extant in North Beach line.

VERE HENRY HOBART (1872 – 75)

In the beginning he served in the colonial office and home office before he came out as Governor of Madras. He promoted the Madras Harbour Project and took steps to install the city’s first proper drainage system. In 1874, he initiated the construction of the building for Post and Telegraph office. Hobart died of typhoid while in office and was buried in St. Mary’s Church.

W. R. ROBINSON 1875

During his tenure, large famine occurred 1876 - 78, within the city the Northern and southern canals to form the 420 mile salt water Buckingham canal. It was called as East coast canal. It emanates from PeddaGanjamflowsuptoMarakkanam in the south. The canal excavation work was started in the year 1801. Nearly 30 lakhs of rupee was spent on it.

RICHARD TEMPLE GRENVILLE (BUCKINGHAM) (1875 - 80)

CONSTRUCTION OF BUCKINGHAM CANAL

In the beginning of the 19\textsuperscript{th} century, there were two canals in Madrasapattinam, viz., Cochrane canal and South canal. The Cochrane canal was extended upptoPeddaGanjam. Goods were carried through this water ways wood, fish, straw and other materials were carried to other destinations.

During his administration, in order to provide employment for the people who were affected by famine, a canal was excavated, from the northKuvamuptoAdayar River for about 5 Miles. For the construction of the canal the higher class people were evacuated from this region. During the famine 30 lakh of rupees was spent on the work. A new harbour was erected in 1881.

MOUNTSTUARTELPHINSTONE GRANT DUFF (1881 – 1886 A.D)

He served as Governor from 1881 – 86, on Madras his most significant contribution was the development of the handsome beach promenade, which extends in a straight and broad line from the bridge at the mouth of the R. Cooum on the north to San Thome on the south in 1884 he named it as Marina. He was very much interested in forest, flora and fauna. This path was laid between Kuvam river Basin to San Thome. He was elected as a member of Royal Historical Society.
LORD CONNEMARA (1886 - 90)

He was made a peer, Baron Connemara in 1887. The Indian National congress met at Madras in the year 1857.

In 1889 the new High court building began to be constructed in large space of northern Esplanade. In this building besides High court, the city civil court, the printing press of the courts and the Advocate chambers.

The Light House also have been erected in the middle of the buildings. it is the work of Indian mason, Lord Lansdowne, the Viceroy, Lord Wenlak the Governor, sir Arthur Collins the Chief Justice each laid a foundation stone.

Gradually, the Britishers turned their attention towards the development other region in Madrasapattinam.

LORD WENLOCK AND ARTHUR HAVELICK 1896 - 1901

He became a member of Parliament in 1880. He assumed the power of Governor of Madras Presidency in 1891. He Constructed a new building by the side of High Court, in Black Town. Earlier this place was a graveyard used by the Britishers. This red building was none other but the present Law College.

ARTHUR ELIBANK HAVELOCK (1896 – 1901 A.D)

He succeeded Wenlock. In Madras he supervised the construction of the YMCA buildings in Black Town region. The foundation stone is still found in the basement of the YMCA building, which lies opposite to High Court. The platform is higher than the Tablet. The Young Mens Christian Association, this stone was laid by E. Sir Arthur E. Have Lock, G.C.M.G., G.G.I.E, Governor of Madras 29th January 1896. “It is said that Jesus Christ Himself brought the Chief Corner Stone.”

ARTHUR OLIVER VILLERS (AMPThILL) (1900 – 04 A.D, 1904 – 06 A.D)

He became the Governor of Madras, in the year 1897 at the age of 31.During his tenure of office, Madras Electric Tramways Ltd was inaugurated. The Electric cables were laid under the ground, later on they used Over Head Lines. In the year 1906 yet another amenity was created in Madras i.e. The Madras Electricity corporation. It supplied electricity to tramways, railways, and Government offices. Prior to the introduction of electricity, people used kerosene for burning lamps. It was during his administrative period the Black Town was renamed as George Town in the year 1906, after the name of the King George of England. Gradually the name Black Town disappeared and George Town remained static till today.
After Ampthill Sir Gabriel Stockes Thomas Gibson, Sir Murray Hammick Sir Alexander cardew and Lord Willington served as acting Governors of Madras Presidency.

JOHN SINCLAIR (PENTLAND) (1912 – 19 A.D)

He hold many post before becoming Governor of Madras. He served as Governor for about seven years in Madarasapattanam. He was mainly responsible for launching town planning in Madras city. He invited Patrick Geddess, the eminent town Planning architect to visit Madras to advise the Municipal authorities. In turn he suggested to appoint H.V. Lanchester as Town Planning Adviser. Geddess and Lanchester were mainly responsible for passing the Madras Town Planning Act, 1920.

During his tenure of office, the world war I was fought. He also participated in the 27th Annual congress meeting which was held in Madarasapattinam. During world war I the German ship “Emden” bombed Madras, which fell near Parry’s corner east of High Court. Yet another Bomb was thrown on Royapuram Kerosene Tank, the guard was killed and the Kerosene Tank was burnt down. Many Indians particularly in the war sacrificed their lives. A victory Memorial Building was inaugurated in the year 1936 to the south of Fort St. George.

In the year 1920, Diarchy was introduced in Madras Presidency, according to the Act of 1919, which was passed by the British government. By which, the Justice party came to power in 1920. The Britishers acted as governors and monitored functioning of Government. According to Montague – Chemsford Reforms of 1919, the first General elections were held at the end of November 1920. The Justice Party came to power in the same year and was in power till 1937.

GEORGE FREDERIC STANLEY (1929 – 34 A.D)

He was commissioned into the British army as an artillery officer and served in the great war. During his administrative period, the name Royapuram Medical school was converted into Stanley Medical college in the year 1933.

SIR MOHAMMED USMAN (1934 A.D)

Mohammad Usman was an Executive Councillor and Vice - Chancellor of the University of Madras, and the First Indian to act as Governor of Madras. He served as Governor for three Months in the absence of Governor Stanley.

JOHN FRANCIS ASHLEY ERSKINE (1934 – 40 A.D)

During the administrative period of Erskine, the council Act 1935, was passed, accordingly the election was held in 1937, in which the Congress party won and assumed
power. They were in power only for two years i.e. 1939 A.D. Due to second world war and in opposition to British decision, the congress party resigned from power.

He began the work shortly before the council of India Act 1935, which introduced wider Indian representation and power. He worked well with his premier C. Rajagopalachari. However, the outbreak of world war II brought this happy relationship with the congress to an end and the ministry resigned.

During Second World war, in Madras the food grains, wood, kerosene and cloths were given in ration system. For the safety of the city during night time “Black out” system was introduced. Besides, Air Raid precautions were also announced. Bunkers were also excavated. Despite the precautionary measure, a Japanese force came on a Air force bombed on 1st Beach line, it fell near the Indian Bank it created several pits on the road. The Native People migrated to south and the city witnessed deep silence.131

ARTHUR OSWALD JAMES HOPE (1940 – 46 A.D)

He was a British peer and politician. The Quit India Movement was staged during his administrative period. Subsequently, the cabinet mission arrived in India 1945. The history of Black Town -George Town also synchronised with the General History of India.

ARCHIBALD NYE (1946 -48 A.D)

He was the last Governor of Madras and also the first Governor after Independence in August 15th, 1947. He fulfilled his role so successfully. Nehru asked him to stay on as the UK’s First High Commissioner in India. After Independence, Indians were appointed as Governor of Madras Presidency.

The above discussion reveals the following facts

Prehistoric vestiges have been noticed in and around the region, of our study. During the Sangam Age it was ruled by Karikala, who captured Tondaimandalam from the Kurumbars. The Kurumbas divided the region into Aruva nadu and AruvaVadatalainadu, which was captured by the Pallavas. The imprints of the Cholas, the Pandyas, the Vijayanagar and Nayaks are noticed in this region. The English purchased the place and established their administration. The administration was carried out by the Agents and the Governors. The PeddaNaigue and Kanakkapillai administered the Black Town region. This Black Town witnessed the invasion of Hyder Ali, Tipoo sultan the Mughals, the Marathas, the Nabobs and the French. During the first and second world war this region was bombed and people evacuated the region.