

as I have before stated, have received the Payment of their annuity at only two different times (the first time two Payments amounting to £1100) at the time they were last paid I was dangerously ill, and know positively my wife scarcely ever left my bedside for ten minutes at any one time.

The practice of sending over the Indian Goods in a Bateau to the Island of - Beau-Port takes place only in the instance of these Payments, it was adopted with the concurrence of the Commanding Officer with a view of leaving the Indians themselves alone employed to make the distribution among themselves undisturbed. But since it gives so large a scope for invention I shall not for the future acquiesce in it. Presents have always been divided in front of the Commandant at Port.

Their statement of the delay sent by me would have been correct, had they omitted to state that it was in consequence of hearing they were about to proceed to York: I was not even aware of their having been there, until the arrival here, a few days ago, of a Gentleman from below, who having the circumstances reported it to me. The delay ~~was~~ sent them was the reply of the Executive Government to their wish of having their Lines marked out.

The usual Quantity of Provisions (Bread and Beef) issued to Indians visiting this Port for Presents is three days rations each, if they can be sent the day of their arrival, if not they are allowed for four days, but if Sundays, or Vacation or any thing else impede the issue they are allowed five & sometimes six Rations. These people get five days allowance of two Gallons Rum.

I am the Honourable

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

Geo. Sponner

L. J. S.