and Rāmbhadra Čeṭṭi, that the forces of Muḥammad 'All were marching in that direction, and that if soldiers were sent, as before, to surround the fort at Vazhudâvur, his men would be alarmed. He asked me to report all this to the Governor. I did so, and having sent for Venkaṭa-chala Āiyān, of Tondamātattam, told him what the Governor had said to me, and asked him to convey the whole of this to the Killedar of Vazhudâvur and Paĉhâyappa Mudali. Then, the Governor, after walking through the ranks of soldiers drawn up on the eastern side of the fort, went on to the ramparts, and said: "To-morrow, the detachment will start for Mortândi Châvadi; please ask Ā').'Parasurâman to send all the provisions and supplies necessary for it." He then departed, and as soon as I reached my areca-nut godown, I summoned Chîmna Parasurâman, and directed him to despatch the food and other articles needful for the troops that were going to Ariyânkuppam and Mortândi Châvadi. At 8, after he had returned home, the Governor sent for me, and said that he had received a letter from M. Paradis, which he read to me. The contents of it were: "On the night of Thursday, the 26th [8th], I left Madras with fifty soldiers and thirty sepoys, and reached Tiruppôrûr on the following morning, i.e., Friday. I started thence, and had marched for an Indian hour, when the troops of His Highness the Nawâb Šahzâd, consisting of 500 horse and 1,000 infantry, surrounded me. I then distributed the thirty sepoys around the camp, and taking with me my fifty soldiers, I got out of my palanquin, mounted my horse, and when the Muḥammadans fled, pursued them for some distance. I then returned, to rejoin the men who were in the rear. The enemy again appeared, and were dealt with as before. In this way, moving backwards and forwards, I reached Sadrâ during the night." The Governor said: "As M. Paradis is a bold man, and as he is favoured by God, he escaped from his difficulties; had it been otherwise, it is not likely that he would have overcome so large a force as that which attacked him. It was a rash act on his part to be so adventurous as he was, knowing full well, as he did, his own weakness and the numerical superiority of enemies, fired, as they were, with a spirit of hatred and revenge." He then said he would send, on the following day, troops to the assistance of M. Paradis.

The Governor desired that a letter, addressed to Arocot, should be written to Hûsain Šâhîb, in the following words: "Muḥfûz Khân, the son of Nawâb Anwar-ud-dîn Khân, has wrongfully made captive the envoys whom we sent to him for the purpose of making ourselves acquainted with his affairs. Though, with your approval, we took Madras, after a fight with the English, he has unjustly waged war against us. He has been maltreating our subjects, when on their way between Madras and Póndichéry. We have long endured all this misdoing, and there is still no sign of its abating. On
the other hand, the help received at our hands by you and your family; and indeed by all your people, is beyond measure. Seeing that you express yourself with impartiality in this affair, we have long borne with the affronts of Mahfuz Khan, in the hope that an amicable settlement might be arrived at. But they seem to grow worse and worse. War and strife are on the increase, and have not diminished. Anwar-ud-din Khan, and his party, who are now at the head of the Subah, are new-comers, and are consequently but slightly acquainted with the manners of Europeans, with whom, however, you have long had intercourse; and you have reigned in this part of the country so long that you must be quite conversant with the manners and customs of our race, and of those of other European nations. We presumed that your knowledge of them would very much reduce the probabilities of war. But what is actually taking place, and the manner in which you behave, are both opposed to our anticipations. Unless, therefore, you release the three captive Europeans, and withdraw the mounted men infesting this neighbourhood, we will devastate your country, as far as Arcot. We can no longer forbear."

The Governor strictly enjoined that the letter should be couched in strong terms. I said: "So let it be."

He then called me aside, and said as follows: "You told me that Periya Aiyar the son of Veṭṭaṭvalam Pandari, who was captured and converted by the Muhammadans, had escaped from the fort in which they had detained him*. You said, also, that he had since gone southwards, where he collected a band of men, and having returned, seized his father and brother, and placed them in confinement; and that he was pillaging the whole district of Ginjee. You had better send for his people, and instigate them to attack the army of Muhammad Ali Khan, harass it, capture his horses, and destroy his followers. You must take proper steps to bring this about." I promised to do so, and took leave of him.

I have already stated what the Governor said concerning M. Paradis. I will now relate what I have heard from independent sources. A hundred soldiers, forty or fifty Coffres, and thirty Mahé sepoys, were marching, in advance, with Jemadar Shaikh Hasan. The soldiers and the sepoys, as also some of the Coffres, had each powder and ball sufficient for six charges. They had, also, some reserve ammunition. Protected in this way, the gains of many men, in the shape of goods, money, and cloths, acquired in Madras, were being brought to Pondicherry. After it had passed through Tiruppōrū, the convey was surrounded on all sides by Anwar Khan, and his force, which consisted of 1,000 horse, and 2,000 foot. After an engagement in which thirty or forty of the Muhammadan horsemen,

* Torn in the original.
what had previously been acquired? Take the
instance of the ship from Pondicherry. How many
boxes containing some precious stones and cloths of different kinds, the
property of M. Paradis, were being carried by six
soldiers or seven seamen, or by six or seven Malag. sepoys,
in rear of the force of 2000, which were being carried
by some Moghul horsemen. It is
further said that the plundering of the sepoys and
soldiers was not done by the force of 3000 or 4000
soldiers, as is generally stated. The Moghul
horsemen, being 500 in number, were not
able to do any damage to the Frenchmen, who
were under the command of Velluwarvan Kurvil, the
commander of Pondicherry.

8th May, 1746. 

A reply to the letters addressed to Killicks, Bencival's, and to some other Frenchmen, who were in Oregon, was sent by the
Frenchmen. The Frenchmen had
sent letters to the Governor of Pondicherry, to whom the letters was read. Another
letter was also written,

At 8 this morning, a letter was addressed
to the Governor of Pondicherry, by the
Governor of New France, which he
found himself on this occasion, and it
was in this state that M. Paradis
reached Sadas, and encamped at Velluwarvan Kurvil. Those
Frenchmen who came with him told me that he did not regret having
sent his letters to the Governor of Pondicherry, and that he did not
think that the Gover
nor of Pondicherry would have
been satisfied with it.

I have heard that the boxes containing some
precious stones and cloths of different kinds, the
property of M. Paradis, were being carried by six
soldiers or seven seamen, or by six or seven Malag. sepoys,
in rear of the force of 2000, which were being carried
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