

He then added, 'You said that Muttu Mallâ Reddi was trying by Sêshâchala Chetti to get his wife released for 45,000 rupees. What has been done about it?' I replied, 'They are still discussing it. It will take ten days to get a large sum. They want a reduction to be made.' He said, 'I will not abate a cash from 45,000 rupees.'

He then said, 'I hear that Sau Bhâji Râo has surrounded Nâsîr Jang and is harassing him. Nâsîr Jang has no way of escape and does not know what to do. I assured Chandâ Sâhib that he need not fear either Sâhu Râjâ or Nâsîr Jang, and that he might attack and slay Anwar-ud-dîn Khân, and seize Arcot. As Nâsîr Jang has abandoned the idea of coming here and leaving Sau Bhâji Râo in peace, Chandâ Sâhib need not fear him now. If the Tanjore affair is settled, and Chandâ Sâhib gets 50 lakhs of rupees, he must give me 28 lakhs on account of the 40 lakhs advanced to Muzaffar Jang<sup>1</sup>; besides this, there is what he has received from Udaiyârpâlaiyam, the 11 lakhs of rupees settled with Mahfuz Khân for Trichinopoly fort and country, and the 10 lakhs of rupees settled for the lease of the Nellore, Sarvê-

<sup>1</sup> I do not understand how this total was reached. The only advances in money till this date made to Muzaffar Jang amounted to 3 lakhs. Besides this, there was the batta paid to the French troops during the Ambâr campaign, etc., and the donation promised (but only part paid) for that battle. Even if advances to Chandâ Sâhib are included, the total would still fall far short of 40 lakhs. According to M. Cultru (*op. cit.*, p. 319) Muzaffar Jang's debt to Duplex and the Company fell short of 7 lakhs at a much later date. Moreover Duplex' accounts of his expenditure from 1749 to 1754 apparently only showed 53½ lakhs.

palle, Elavânasûr and Vâlikondâpuram countries, Then he can pay the balance of 12 lakhs, give the sums due for the keep of horse, etc., finish his business and depart.'—'True,' I said, 'God will bless him by reason of your promise and his good fortune.'

*Thursday, December 11.*<sup>1</sup>—Chandâ Sâhib produced a bond without name or seal, and declared that 9,800 gold mohurs and 20,000 Madras pagodas were due from Imâm Sâhib as money deposited with him by Nawâb 'Alî Dôst Khân for 'Abid Sâhib's marriage, and desired that this sum might be paid out of the lakh of pagodas lent by Imâm Sâhib to the Company. As this bond had neither name nor seal, he was told that no money could be paid on such a bond and that the matter would be referred to Imâm Sâhib's son, Hasan 'Alî Khân. Thereupon Chandâ Sâhib said that he himself would demand the money from Imâm Sâhib's son, and requested that Râghava Pandit might be sent back to him. But we replied that we had written to Imâm Sâhib's son, and that Râghava Pandit should wait four days till he had answered. Imâm Sâhib's son's letter says, 'I have accounts for the settlement of this transaction, and the release deed, besides the deposit account and the original document. For the repayment of the deposit, I send a copy of Safdar 'Alî Khân's release sealed by the Kâzi of Aurangabad; that will prove my statement. My father owed nothing, but

<sup>1</sup> 30th Kârttigai, Sukla.

many owed him money. I have the evidence of accounts and release deeds for what we have paid, and bonds and accounts for what is owing us. Regarding the money lent to the French Company, it is written that my father gave up his right to it in favour of myself and my younger sister. Moreover my father got for your Company the privilege of coining rupees, and settled other matters, hoping thereby to secure your protection for us after his death. So you are bound to protect us; we have no other protector. When Chandâ Sâhib comes, I will agree to pay 20,000 rupees for our jaghirs and killas—10,000 rupees at once and the balance by a limited time. But I hear Chandâ Sâhib, remembering his old grudge against us, speaks of giving our killas and jaghirs to Shaikh 'Abd-ul-rahmân, the captain of the Mahé sepoys, who has been recommended by you and who would be disappointed if they were given to another. As you have favoured 'Abd-ul-rahmân, he will try to secure them by representing his affairs to you. But let a letter be written to Chandâ Sâhib desiring him not to interfere with the killas and jaghirs.' Chokkappa Mudali and his son-in-law Ammayappa Mudali desired me to accompany them with this complimentary letter to the Governor; and Râghava Pandit complained with tears that he had been kept here a long time about Imâm Sâhib's business, that if he had been elsewhere, he could have made 10,000 pagodas, and that he would go whether I gave him leave or not.

To this complaint I answered that I could not go as I had a cold and headache, but that they could go to the Governor at Mortândi Choultry, explain all things to him, and get a reply, and that Madanânda Pandit was there. They went accordingly and visited the Governor with a present of 21 pagodas. He accepted the present, sent for Madanânda Pandit and Appu, and told the latter to interpret the letter to the former's reading. But as Appu could not interpret it, being ignorant of the division of sentences, he told them to bring me to-morrow. They replied that the killa was about to be seized, but that if a flag and four soldiers were sent, nothing could be done and the affair might be settled afterwards. He agreed, and desired the release deed to be read to Râghava Pandit who was there. The latter asked to be permitted to go as they said that they had Safdar 'Alî Khân's receipts for the payment of the money. He was accordingly given leave. He also asked for a letter to take with him. The Governor said, 'Ranga Pillai is coming to-morrow morning, and I will send you away with a letter as soon as he comes.' He added that Chandâ Sâhib still nourished his old grudge against Imâm Sâhib's son, and that they could all come to him to-morrow with me.

Coja [Shawmier?]'s vakil petitioned Chandâ Sâhib complaining that we had seized the jaghir granted him for sending news; so the latter wrote to the Governor and to me, and sent the letters by a

servant. When Madanânda Pandit had interpreted them, he said that he would settle the matter when I came to-morrow and that he might be told to come then. This I have heard from him, Râghava Pandit and Chokkappa Mudali; and I have written accordingly.

Madanânda Pandit writes that a letter has been received from Hidâyat Muhî-ud-dîn Khân requesting 7 or 8 fine guns, and that the Governor has replied that they can be sent only when the ships arrive.

The Choultry talaiyâri told me this afternoon that Kiliyanâr Pâpu Reddi (who was imprisoned along with Muttu Mallâ Reddi's wife) has been released on Munukku Appu Mudali's reporting that the Governor had ordered it. This confirms what I had heard that Chinna Parasurâma Pillai spent all yesterday at Mortândi Choultry settling this affair through Madame Dupleix for a payment of 40,000 rupees to the Governor, 10,000 to her, 2,000 to Appu Mudali, 800 to Madanânda Pandit, and 5,000 to himself for settling the matter and finding sureties. I also hear that 20,000 rupees have been advanced on good security to settle this affair. I know that this has been discussed for the last two months. I have heard about it daily but said nothing, as the Governor would get some ready money and the enemy's power would be lessened, while whatever was done without my interference would relieve me of so much responsibility. Moreover I advised Muttu Reddi to settle Muttu Mallâ Reddi's affair by some

honest means; but I did nothing, though the affair was being managed without me, in spite of my being reuter of the Tindivanam country.

This evening two or three persons told me it had been settled that Muttu Mallâ Reddi's wife and children were to be removed from the choultry to the Nayinâr's house in two or three days, as soon as the Governor had received half the sum promised (20,000 rupees), that, when the other half was paid they were to be released, that Muttu Mallâ Reddi's grain, cattle, sheep, etc., which had been seized were to be restored and that the value of what had been already sold should be made good. They added that, when asked about the country, the Governor replied that that was mine and that he had nothing to do with it.

I heard to-night that Chinna Parasurâma Pillai gave a feast to Pâpu Reddi, as the affair had been settled by his management, sent for dancing girls to sing, gave them presents, and spoke unguardedly before them about his settling the affair. I also hear that Pâpu Reddi is to go to Madras to-morrow to see Muttu Mallâ Reddi, about the payment of the balance, and in company with him will fetch the money from the place where it is kept. We shall see how the matter ends; Muttu Mallâ Reddi's affair will be settled amicably for this sum of money if his days of ill-fortune are over; but otherwise he will perish.

*Friday, December 12.*<sup>1</sup>—Chokkappa Mudali and Râghava Pandit accompanied me to the Governor at Mortândi Choultry. I took them before him and reported the news. He asked what Râghava Pandit had said about the copy of Safdar 'Alî Khân's release deed received yesterday from Imâm Sâhib's son and sealed at Aurangabad, to the effect that the amount deposited by Dôst 'Alî Khân for 'Abid Sâhib's marriage had been paid to the last cash. I replied, 'This affair happened when Chandâ Sâhib was here and Dôst 'Alî Khân was still alive. After Chandâ Sâhib had been carried prisoner to Satâra by the Marathas, and 'Alî Dôst Khân had perished in battle, the latter's son, Safdar 'Alî Khân, settled the transaction and gave the release deed. Chandâ Sâhib has already admitted that the deposit receipt is not binding, because it does not say to whom the money had been paid and because it is neither signed nor sealed. [Râghava Pandit] told me in the presence of Madanânda Pandit that 'Alî Naqî Sâhib had only brought the receipt because Chandâ Sâhib had forced him to.' He replied, 'Send for him and question him.' When Râghava Pandit was questioned before the Governor, he repeated what he had already told me. The Governor asked how a great man like Chandâ Sâhib could cheat any one so, and told me to write to Chandâ Sâhib as follows:—  
'You left Râghava Pandit here with a deposit bill

<sup>1</sup> 1st Mârgashîr, Sukla.

bearing no name, place or seal, for money due from Imâm Sâhib, and you desired that the money should be obtained and sent. I wrote to Imâm Sâhib's son, who replies that Nawâb 'Alî Dôst Khân set apart for 'Abid Sâhib's marriage 9,800 Arcot gold mohurs and 20,000 Madras pagodas, and that Safdar 'Alî Khân received the amount and gave a release deed, a copy of which has been sent with the Aurangabad Kâzi's seal. This has been seen by your man Râghava Pandit, and I send a copy of it by him. As the affair has been settled, nothing more can be said; your bill bore no seal or signature and was only a copy; and those who told you about it did not explain the matter fully, being ignorant of it. Mir Asad alone knew of Safdar 'Alî Khân's affairs, and you two are bitter enemies. That is why you produced a copy, asserting it to be the original. There is a release deed regarding the settlement of the transaction, and Râghava Pandit has a copy of it. You will learn everything therefrom and from Râghava Pandit's words.' I said I would write accordingly and send the letter by Râghava Pandit. 'Do so,' he said. I told Madanânda Pandit to write a Persian letter, get it sealed and bring it.

Then the Governor said, 'Imâm Sâhib's son writes that Chandâ Sâhib has determined to give Tyâgar and its jaghir to Shaikh 'Abd-ul-rahmân and his brother Shaikh Hasan. I took much trouble about that and got nothing for it; so we will write to Chandâ Sâhib to stop it. Tell Imâm Sâhib's

gumastah, Ammayappa Mudali who has come here, and Chokkappa Mudali who has been here a long time.' I replied, 'I will speak to them to-morrow and inform you the day after. I will then write to Chandâ Sâhib and Muzaffar Khân not to meddle with Imâm Sâhib's jaghir and killa.'

He then said, 'So much for that affair. What about Muttu Mallâ Reddi's business which Sêshâchala Chetti is managing? Why has no money yet been paid?' I replied, 'I hear that Chinna Parasurâman settled yesterday through Madame what was to be paid and that Pâpu Reddi was released yesterday afternoon, when Appu told the Nayinâr that such were your orders.' The Governor said, 'Madame told me that Parasurâman was managing this affair, and I said he might serve as a go-between; what did I tell you about it?' I replied, 'Sungurâman demanded 40,000 for you and 5,000 for me and I told you 45,000.'—'45,000 including your 5,000?' he asked—'Yes,' I said.—'Why did you include your 5,000?' he asked. I replied, 'I have always done so, and have been paying you accordingly. I did the same this time.'—'Very well,' he said; 'wait here; I do not know anything about it; I will go and ask Madame and come back.' So saying he went to his wife, though he had headache, and, returning, said, 'She says that Parasurâman has settled the business for 40,000 rupees to be paid in four days. I asked why she had managed the affair instead of leaving it

to you; she said she had done so because you were asking only 20,000 rupees.' I said, 'Pattâbhirâma Ayyar (a Brâhman), the Perumukkal people and Sêshâchala Chetti who were managing the affair, said that they would settle it for 40,000 rupees to be paid to you with something for me. But I did not agree, and asked them to pay you 45,000 and give me the value of the grain, etc., plundered by the English during the troubles. They agreed to do so to the last cash. Sungurâman offered to get me something when he<sup>1</sup> got a lease of the country in my possession. I said that it would not be given to him but to his younger brother if he made a proper offer.'—'His younger brother offered 35,000 rupees', he observed; 'what has happened about it?' I replied, 'I heard that you had settled the affair for 40,000 rupees and agreed to release his cattle, grain, goods, etc.; so I thought that you were going to give up this amount and that you would be satisfied with what you had got; but I had intended after the payment of the 45,000 rupees to collect 35,000 rupees from his younger brother's half-share, and give it to you when Muttu Mallâ Reddi's grain, cattle, etc., were restored, returning the balance to him and making him the head of the country. I formerly told you about this; and it was with this object that his cattle, grain, etc., were ordered to be seized. But you have settled the affair, ignoring these things and without consulting me, so I thought that you had forgiven it to him'.

<sup>1</sup> I.e., Muttu Mallâ Reddi.