

'Abd-ul-wahâb Khân of Cuddapah,¹ I reported this to the Governor who told me to write to them to bring the presents quickly. I wrote to the vakîl accordingly.

*Thursday, June 12.*²—This morning I visited the Bishop of Cochin-China who is staying at the Padré's church opposite to my house. I pointed out that his sleep would be disturbed by the music and dancing, etc., on the interchange of visits with *pân supâri*, fruit, flowers, etc., on the occasion of the marriages of Chiranjîvi Ponnâchi, Nannâchi, Kulandai,³ etc. I therefore prayed him to accept my regrets. He replied with many compliments that I should not doubt he would feel less joy than if his own daughters were being married, and when he gave me leave, he came as far as the gate with me.

I then went to the Fort to pay my respects to M. Leyrit the Governor. I told him that Bhâji Râo's, Murtazâ 'Alî Khân's and his elder brother Razâ 'Alî Khân's presents and letters had arrived. He said that he would see them to-morrow and added, 'About 60 bales of fine brown *Tarnatannes*⁴ that the Kârikâl

¹ *Sic.* Probably 'Abd-ul-hamid Khân.

² *2nd Ani, Yuva.*

³ The first two were Ranga Pillai's daughters, the third his niece.

⁴ This cloth is mentioned in the *Délibérations du Conseil Supérieur, 1724-1735*, page 331. As is often the case the precise kind of cloth is not ascertainable.

merchants make must be supplied the Company; speak to them and arrange to get the cloth; or tell the merchants of this place to get it.' I said I would do so.

When M. Desvoeux was there, the Governor mentioned the honours to be shown in connection with the marriages, the practice of the Councillors' accompanying the Governor, the presentation of dresses of honour to the bridegrooms, and the firing of salutes of 13 guns. He added that he would do everything as I wished. I then took leave and came home.

*Friday, June 13.*¹—In the matter of Bhâji Râo's presents, M. Chevreau, M. Leyrit's private secretary (whose name I do not know) and I, took leave this morning of the Governor and set out with the Governor's palankin, standards, chobdars, etc., music and dancing-girls, the Nayinâr's pikemen, etc. We went by M. Tobin's house, through the Villiyannallûr gate, to visit Narasinga Râo's gumastah (whose name I do not know) who has come from Bhâji Râo and who is lying at the tamarind tope. He came to meet us with great respect and gave us a packet covered with wax cloth containing the dress of honour, and the letter. The packet being placed in the

¹ *3rd Ani, Yuva.*

palankin, was carried to the Fort with music and dancing and placed before the Governor with a nazar of 21 pagodas, when a salute of 15 guns was fired. After mutual embraces and enquiries, the Governor told Bhâji Râo's vakîl to remain at ease in his lodgings till next day when his business should be discussed.

Murtazâ Khân's vakîl then presented a horse and a dress of honour. After embraces, a salute of 11 guns was fired. Muhammad [Tav]akkal then presented a laced dress of honour with a petition about his appointment. After reading it, the Governor said that he would do as he desired and dismissed him. I took leave, went to my office in the flower-garden, and thence came home.

*Sunday, June 15.*¹—This is the news of to-day :—I have already written that Guntûr Bâli Chetti and M. Flacourt have taken a lease of the country between the two rivers at Srîrangam for 4,80,000 rupees, together with a lakh of rupees for the Governor's nazar, etc. I hear that, before the Governor presented Guntûr Bâli Chetti with four yards of broad-cloth, the latter gave him a nazar of 1,000 pagodas, after which he received his presents and accepted the lease of the country.

¹ 5th Âni, Yuva.

*Monday, June 16.*¹—The Governor wanted me this morning, so, as I was setting out to invite him and others to the marriage to-day, a peon met and told me. I therefore went. He said, 'Guntûr Bâli Chetti and M. Flacourt have taken a lease of the country between the two rivers about Srîrangam. Sûrappa Mudali and the rest are now setting out for Srîrangam. If they speak to you about anything, satisfy them and send them on.' I said I would do so.

The Governor then said that a letter must be written to the Râjâ of Cochin-China. I replied that I thought no letters had been written before, but that I would make sure by looking at the Persian list. 'Very good,' he said. Then he gave a French draft of a letter to the Râjâ of Junkceylon to be translated into Persian and sent to the Râjâ. Saying I would do so, I received it, and took leave in order to come home and examine the Persian list to see if any letters had been written to the Râjâ of Cochin-China. Finding that none had been, I sent word immediately about it, and, having called Madanânda Pandit, I gave him the French writing made by the Governor, and told him to put it into Persian. I was then busy about the marriages.

¹ 6th Âni, Yuva.

At eleven o'clock to-day I heard that Guntûr Bâli Chetti, who has obtained a lease of the country between the two rivers about Srîrangam, presented a nazar of 1,000 pagodas to obtain permission to go thither in a palanquin; he got orders accordingly, but when he summoned tom-tom people and pikemen to accompany him in his palanquin, the latter refused to accompany a Kômutti, and Guntûr Bâli Chetti went unaccompanied to the Second's house, and thence home. I think he cannot manage his lease even for two months, and thereafter he will be put to great trouble. Besides Subbâ Jôsier has already predicted that this Guntûr fellow will suffer in 1755-1756; this is a proof of it. It will surely come to pass. In two months this Guntûr man will be in trouble according to the astrologer's predictions.

At five Appâvu and Annâswâmi being dressed, with two elephants, with one silver and one velvet covered howdah, accompanied by pikemen, standards, etc., were sent to invite and escort the Governor to the pandal. M. Leyrit the Governor in the state palanquin, with white cloth spread before him, the peacock fan and other marks of honour, reached the pandal at six o'clock with M. Barthélemy and other councillors and officers. When he sat down, a salute of 48 guns was fired. The

Governor then examined the pandal, etc., and remarked to M. Barthélemy and others that he did not know that the Tamils celebrated their marriages so finely. M. Guillard replied that this was not a hundredth part as fine as my eldest daughter's marriage. 'Really!' the Governor replied with wonder. M. Guillard told me this.

The Governor watched the festivities till ten o'clock, and when they sat down to table, they drank my health. They remained till mid-night. Eight salutes of 48 guns each were fired,—such grandeur as was never seen before. The Governor then said he must go; and before he left, the guests were garlanded and he was given an English diamond ring worth 500 pagodas. I gave M. Barthélemy a ring worth 100 pagodas, and the other councillors a roll of silk according to each man's rank. Then all departed with the same marks of honour as at the time of their coming, I myself accompanying them as far as the tobacco godown, where the Governor said that I need not go further, as I was needed at the festivities. Thus the Governor returned to the Fort with all marks of honour, while I attended to the marriage.

*Tuesday, June 17.*¹—I did not go out to-day by reason of the marriage. M. Guillard and

his wife came to see the pandal. He said, 'To-day I dined with the Governor who looks upon you as nothing less than his minister. He praised you much, saying that no one was as intelligent and broad-minded as you, for which reason both M. Dupleix and M. Godeheu had favoured you, though for a while under Madame Dupleix, it was not so.' I have written this in brief, for fear of seeming to boast.

At seven o'clock this morning (in the *Karkataka lagna*¹) a post was fixed for Appâvu's marriage,² and rosewater and *pân supârî* were distributed to all. When all had gone, I was busy with the marriage. Salutes of 15 guns were fired when the bridegrooms set out for and returned from the feast, and when presents were given them.

*Thursday, June 19.*³—At seven o'clock this morning, the Governor sent for me. When I went to him, a council of war which had resolved to hang a deserter, had broken up. He said that a letter must be written to Nandi Râjâ, adding, 'M. Goupil has written that Nandi Râjâ sent Haidar Nâyakkan and a few troopers to help Varadâ Reddi (his new poligar) against Pâpu Reddi, the old one⁴, who is under

¹ The period in each day under the dominance of Cancer.

² Cf. p. 279, n. 1 *supra*.

³ 9th *Âni*, *Yuva*.

⁴ Poligar of Turaiyûr.

our protection. Tell Nandi Râjâ that in consequence of his letter written before he left Srîrangam, a letter was sent ordering him to be treated kindly, that therefore he should not have sent Haidar Nâyakkan against Pâpu Reddi, the former poligar, to break our friendship, and that he must write ordering Haidar Nâyakkan to obey the commander at Srîrangam.' Thus he gave me a draft of a French letter which I have translated into Telugu and despatched.

*Sunday, June 29.*¹—At eight o'clock this morning, I went to the Fort and paid my respects to M. Leyrit, the Governor, on his return from church with the councillors, captains of the Europe ships, officers, etc. He returned my compliments and told me to fetch Nandi Râjâ's vakîl. When he came, the Governor said a letter should be written to Nandi Râjâ to the following effect:—'Letters have been sent to M. Bussy and Salabat Jang according to his letter, saying that, as the Mysore Râjâ is under the French flag, he must not be attacked or put to trouble, and that only the usual peshkash should be collected. Before the letters arrived, they had given battle and were on the point of capturing the fort. Immediately, they ceased to attack and demanded the

¹ 19th *Âni*, *Yuva*.