

commandant, the amaldâr Chiranjîvi Chidambaranâtha Pillai and others with dancing-people and conducted to the lodging provided for us under a salute of 21 guns. Chidambaranâtha Pillai gave a nazar of 500 pagodas. After the mid-day feast another salute of 21 guns was fired. I went to my lodging where I feasted and took my ease. This night we witnessed the fireworks and slept there.

*Wednesday, April 14.*<sup>1</sup>—As I have been suffering from dysentery since yesterday, I did not go out but told Appâvu to go. He visited the Governor, and paid him his respects. When he returned to me, he told me that the Governor had repeated what he had said yesterday, that paddy and coolies must be procured at once, as he was making ready for war, and ordered that the carpenters, blacksmiths, masons, etc., in the town must work for the Company and for no one else. He also told me that the Governor was hastening the construction of a battery outside the north gate.

I hear M. Bussy has written saying that festivities should be held to celebrate the birth of a son to Salabat Jang. A letter about this has also been received from Salabat Jang.

<sup>1</sup> 6th Chittirai, Dhâthu.

*Sunday, April 18.*<sup>1</sup>—To-day being the 10th of Chittirai, during Chaturthi<sup>2</sup> which lasted until ten at night, the constellation being Kêttai  $51\frac{3}{4}$ , Variyanâmayôga  $15\frac{7}{16}$ , Bâlavâkarana  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , Dhivi after  $9\frac{3}{8}$ , between half-past seven and eight in the evening in the Vrischikalagna, Mahârâja Râjasrî Mangathâyi Ammâl,<sup>3</sup> the equal of Lakshmi, reached Lakshmi's fragrant feet. The position of the planets was as follows:—the Moon in the third quarter of Aswini; Mars in the fourth quarter of Punarvasu; Mercury in the first quarter of Rêvati; Jupiter in the first quarter of Chittirai; Venus in the fourth quarter of Rôhini; Saturn in the second quarter of Tiruvônânam; Râhu in the third quarter of Pûram, and Kêtu in the first quarter of Pûrattâdi.

*Monday, April 19.*<sup>4</sup>—This being the day for burning the corpse, Panchami was  $33\frac{1}{2}$ , constellation Mûlam  $47\frac{3}{4}$ , Parighanâmayôga  $7\frac{3}{4}$ , Kaulavâkarana  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , and Tyâjyam began at eleven o'clock to-night. At half-past eight this morning, the dead-body was carried, in a befitting palankin, accompanied by the naubat and music, guns, crackers with their stands, horns, and torches. The townspeople followed the corpse, and cloths were spread before it

<sup>1</sup> 10th Chittirai, Dhâthu.

<sup>2</sup> See Diwân Bahâdûr Swâmikannu Pillai's *Indian Chronology*, p. 47.

<sup>3</sup> The Diarist's wife.

<sup>4</sup> 11th Chittirai, Dhâthu.

on the ground; turmeric, saffron and other fragrant powders and flowers were sprinkled, and frankincense and other perfumes were burnt. Thus the way was made sweet. When the corpse passed the west gate, Mahârâja Râjasrî the Governor M. Leyrit Avargal who had learnt the news of the death, ordered the drums to be beaten, the guard to turn out and other marks of honour to be shown. About ten o'clock the corpse reached the great garden acquired by Mahârâja Râjasrî Periya Pillai<sup>1</sup> Avargal, and placed on a sandalwood pyre amid the *tulsi* plants south of the foot-path. The pyre was kindled to the sound of musical instruments, at about eleven o'clock. Mahârâja Râjasrî Annâswâmi carried *Dharbha*<sup>2</sup> in his hand, and Mahârâja Râjasrî Appâvu performed every ceremony without omission. All said that the crowd was as large as at the Conjeeveram Garuda<sup>3</sup> festival in the month of Vaigâsi,<sup>4</sup> and that the departed was spoken of as a jewel of chastity, whose good fortune and virtue had obtained glory from the Himâlayas to Râmêsvaram. Thus gloriously she reached the lotus feet of Nârâyana in His heavenly abode.

<sup>1</sup> The Diarist's father.

<sup>2</sup> A sacrificial grass used in Hindu worship.

<sup>3</sup> Garuda is the kite sacred to Vishnu.

<sup>4</sup> Vaigâsi is the month running from mid-May to mid-June.

Thursday, April 22.<sup>1</sup>—Two chobdars, Madanânda Pandit, Vinâyaka Pillai and other officials of the Company came to me at nine o'clock this morning to say that the Governor, M. Leyrit wanted me, Chiranjîvi Annâswâmi, Chiranjîvi Appâvu, etc. So I took them to the Governor who was in the central hall of the *Gouvernement* with the councillors and officers. He received me with the same respect as he shows to gentlemen his equals. Wearing his hat and sword, and with his cane in his hand, he advanced to the door to receive me, brought me in, condoled with me on my wife's death, and said he hoped that my family would continue to live prosperously though God had cast on me the burden of its management. I thanked him. Then he himself sprinkled rosewater, put round my neck a six-stringed necklace with a pendant set with diamonds round a ruby centre, and gave me a richly laced dress of honour. Chiranjîvi Annâswâmi was also given a dress of honour; and Chiranjîvi Appâvu and Ayyâswâmi a laced dress of honour each. In addition to this, Chiranjîvi Annâswâmi was given a fourteen-stringed necklace under a salute of 15 guns. The Governor then called the Nayinâr, and told him to set Chiranjîvi Annâswâmi on an

<sup>1</sup> 14th Chittirai, Dhâthi.

elephant with a silver howdah, accompanied by the naubat and other musical instruments, standards, and other marks of honour, and conduct him to his house. The Nayinâr, having taken leave, came out. Then Annâswâmi riding on an elephant with a silver howdah, and accompanied by music, visited the house of M. Barthélemy the Second, where he received presents, and then returned home and attended the nautch. When all had given nazars to Annâswâmi, they were given *pân supârî* and allowed to depart.

*Friday, April 23.*<sup>1</sup>—At half-past seven this morning, I went to the Fort. As it was the feast of St. George, M. Leyrit the Governor's name-day, the Company's merchants and the mint-people had been told last night to bring nazars. So all came and I took them upstairs. All the soldiers in the Fort were drawn up; and M. Leyrit, the Governor, the Second M. Barthélemy, and the other councillors, M. d'Auteuil the Major-General and the other officers, Madame Barthélemy and other ladies, set out to attend Mass at the Fort church. Salutes were fired thrice—at the beginning, middle and end of the Mass—21 guns being fired by the Fort and a like number by the ships according to custom. When three

<sup>1</sup> 15th Châtirai, Dhâthu.

salutes had been fired, and the Governor left the Church, all the officers saluted him as usual. Afterwards, the Governor went upstairs with the councillors, officers, and ladies, etc., already mentioned. When again all paid their respects to him, I, the Company's merchants and others paid our respects to him with bouquets of jasmine. He returned his compliments. I made Appâvu present him with a nazar of 500 Porto Novo pagodas for the country management. The Company's merchants asked me for some and I gave them 500 Porto Novo pagodas, which they offered as their nazar. The mint-people as usual brought a chain weighing 21 pagodas which they were to exchange for 2,000 rupees. Bâlâji Pandit, the Turaiyûr vakîl gave a nazar of 21 pagodas. Then they sat down to table. Three salutes of 21 guns each were fired when healths were drunk, the ships firing like salutes. Then all were dismissed. I also took leave, when I had sent the merchants and mint-people home.

After I had come away, Chandâ Sâhib's son Razâ Sâhib was presented to the Governor by M. Delarche, bringing a richly embroidered dress of honour, when a salute of 21 guns was fired. I hear that, when he had gone, Zuhûr Khân's son presented a dress of honour, and that afterwards all departed.