qui sont donnés de tout ou du moins ont fort peu de chose.

Mr. Rimont [sic] dans l'attaque a reçu une blessure d'un coup de pierre dont il est mort trois jours après la prise.

When I went this morning to pay my respects to the Governor, I found him upstairs. He was moody and stared at me repeatedly. About nine o'clock, he went into his room, and I went to my office in the flower-garden.

A French letter has been received containing the following news about the fight in Bengal.

Mr. Clive, the commander in Bengal, appeared before the French town of Chandernagore on March 7, 1757, with Europeans, Topasses, Coffrees—1,200 in all—8,000 sepoys and 50,000 Bengal sepoys. On the 8th he captured the camp equipage and surrounded and besieged the town from the 9th to 16th. The siege grew fiercer and fiercer. At last M. Renault de St. Germain, the Directeur-General of our French factory, fought very bravely, but could not hold out, so he concluded peace with the English and surrendered the fort with its goods, treasure &c., in great despair. The Directeur-General, the Second

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1 Actually sunk by the French before the attack in order to block the passage against Watson's advance up the river.
2 The place capitulated March 23.
3 The articles of capitulation are printed in Hill's Bengal, Vol. II, p. 232.
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and the troops, people, merchants and all were taken prisoners of war. Some women with their children and goods had departed before the war to the Dutch factory at Chinsura. M. la Vigne Buisson, the captain of the Europe ship, the Saint-Priest, which lay at anchor off Chandernagore, and M. Champigny, captain of a country ship, resisted the English well, and when unable to hold out any longer, in order to avoid delivering their ships to the English, they unloaded the cargo of the two ships and set them on fire together with 19 boats &c., belonging to the merchants, preferring to sink them all with the boats in the Ganges rather than let them fall into the enemy’s hands. The merchants’ losses are proportionate to their income and the Company’s loss is great. Ever since the establishment of Bengal such a fierce battle has never been fought nor such heavy losses sustained. This misfortune has been brought about by the evil stars of this town. Now that the Europeans are fighting here as fiercely as they do in their own country, and raining fire on the Ganges, the Muhammadans who are now weak will grow stronger and flourish, for the hat-wearers cannot now make a cash by their trade in Bengal, the Tamils will be ruined, and trade will fall. M. Leyrit, the Governor, must have lost about a lakh of rupees,

M. Lenoir about 60,000, and M. Law his whole fortune. Others also must have suffered losses. M. Renault who was wounded by a shot from a great gun died on the third day after the capture of the fort.1

I hear that M. Saubinet who arrived this evening, set out again immediately with 100 soldiers, but his destination is unknown. In this battle in Bengal, M. Champigny, M. Renault, and M. du Bausset’s brother-in-law, and sister-in-law;2 besides captains and officers have been killed.

Tuesday, May 3.3—I hear to-day that M. Saubinet has been daily attacking Udaiyarpalaiyam and the fort there with one or two hundred European and Topass infantry; and that Kaneri Nayakkan who has gone to Udaiyarpalaiyam has been asked by the Udaiyâr to pay two lakhs of rupees. As the English have captured the French town of Chandernagore in Bengal, and there are few troops at Fort St. David, I think the troops who are being sent, may march upon Fort St. David, though they are pretending to march towards Udaiyarpalaiyam.

1 This seems to be an elaborated version of the French passage of the Diary printed above, page 371.
2 I think relatives of du Bausset’s wife, Marie Levidé, born at St. Thomé, whom he married in 1741. For a curious reference in this connection see Lettres et Conventions, p. 288.
3 25th Chitirrai, January.
I hear that yesterday Kandappa Mudali sent for Venkatanarannappa Ayyan, the Mysore vakil, by Gopalakrishna Ayyan and offered to capture the Trichinopoly fort for them in 20 days if the Mysore people promised to pay 20 lakhs of rupees besides the arrears. Venkatanarannappa Ayyan agreed to this, and despatched letters and men to Mysore.

I also hear that Tandavaraya Pillai's younger brother has been despatched to Eravasanallur which will yield a revenue of two lakhs of gold [chakrams].

As Ponnachi and Kanda Pillai are coming here from Chingleput, M. Goupil was asked for gate-passes to admit them. When he had given these, he was further asked for passes for people to go out and welcome them, but these he refused saying that he must have the Governor's orders for it. My man therefore turned to go, but M. Goupil called him back and taking him to the Governor said, 'This man asked for passes for those that are coming, and I have given them; and then he asked for passes for those who are going out to receive them. I declined.'—'You cannot do that,' the Governor replied, 'they are free to go and come.' My man returned therefore and said that passes had been given for those who are going out. On the 13th Kārtīgai, Dhāthu, this Governor ordered the gate-people not to allow people to pass and to-day he has revoked that order. Did I commit any mistake in the month of Kārtīgai to merit such hindrance, and what have I done to-day for him to cancel that order? So what is destined to happen happens at the appointed time.

The news to-day is as follows:—When Chandā Sāhib's son and 'Alī Naqī Sāhib sent word about the receipt of presents from Taqī Sāhib, Madananda Pandit went immediately with the Governor's palanquin and music and put the dress of honour, etc., in the palanquin; and a Muhammadan who is with Chandā Sāhib's son and accompanied the stallion with white face and legs, was carried in the palanquin as though he were a nawāb sent by Taqī Sāhib, and borne into the Fort to the place where the Governor usually gets down. When the Muhammadan went upstairs, the Governor advanced a long distance to receive him and embraced and took him in. A salute of 11 guns was then fired. The presents are:—A stallion with white face and legs, a laced dress of honour, a few rolls of silk, a chain with a pendant, turra and a bazuband. The Muhammadan then said that he had been sent

1 November 24, 1756.
by Taqī Sāhib, and delivered a letter with compliments. When the Governor asked his age, he was told it was about 70. I hear the Governor said that he wished to see him again and that he would take an opportunity to do so.

I hear that, in reply to the Nānā’s letter received yesterday about the chaṭṭh, a reply was written yesterday as follows:—‘About the chaṭṭh you have mentioned, I write to inform you that, when two of our ships which were despatched from Bengal to Mocha touched at Surat, your men and the Nawāb of Surat seized them and plundered about five lakhs of rupees. We are friends and I have been willing to benefit you in many affairs. But after such conduct of your people, how can I continue to be friends with you? Write to them therefore to restore our ships and goods. All the country here has been seized by the English except that portion which is in our possession. You should deal suitably with the English to get money.’ This letter was written by means of Narasinga Rāo’s gumastah and despatched, with this addition that good presents would be given for the return of the ships.

I also hear that, on learning the loss of Elamānasūr, the kiledar of Chētpattu wrote to Muhammad ’Alī Khān and hoisted the white flag in the fort, thus making it appear that it has passed into their possession, with a view to his own protection. Mir Sāhib’s women and others were seized and imprisoned yesterday.

Wednesday, May 4.1—I went to M. Lenoir’s house to-day but hearing that he had gone to the Fort to attend the council, I went there and paid my respects to the Governor upstairs. He thanked me and went to the council-chamber with the councillors and the Second. I went to the office in the flower-garden and thence came home at noon.

At five o’clock a man came and told me that the Second wanted me. I went at six. He returned at seven from his drive, and when I had paid my respects, he said, ‘Troubles are impending between us and the English. Can any money be expected from the country and is there any one able to provide some?’ I said that there was no one. I then went to the office in the flower-garden where I heard that the council had decided to declare war, and sent M. Chevreau as commissary with orders for the Europeans, Topasses and others to march to Srirangam, that the European writers had been enrolled as sentinels, that the councillors and the Second had each been entrusted with definite duties, and that Trichinopoly

1 20th Chittirai, Isvara.
would be attacked. I understand that the Second has been entrusted with the management of the finances.

When I went to Gopālaswāmi’s house, he told me that Gopālanārāyanajīya Ayyan’s son had said to him, ‘The Villupuram country which will yield a revenue of a lakh and ten thousand this year, has been leased for 80,000 and that the remaining 30,000 has been eaten up by expenses. I mention this to you now as it may be useful as a proof on a subsequent occasion.’ I asked Savarirāya Pillai why the country had been rated so low. He replied that he had had nothing to do with it and that Wazārat Rāyar was responsible for the balance. My father told me that he would tell Wazārat Rāyar about it when he met him and publish all the items of expenditure. Please tell the Wazārat Rāyar about it.

Saturday, May 7.—Large sums of money are due from the poligar of Udayārpālaiyam for Bhuvanagiri and other countries under his control, and for the matter of plunder. Moreover large sums are due as peshkash from the poligar of Gingee. Though I sent vākil Ven-kata Rāo many a time to demand this, he has paid nothing, and is behaving rebelliously. When I told the Governor about this, he wrote to M. Maissin at Srirangam to attack the Udayār and collect the money. M. Maissin did so, but made his own account with the Udayār, and after writing suitably to the Governor, returned to Pondicherry. By this, the Company has lost its money. The Governor has now ordered Kōnērī Nāyakkan who came here as the Turaiyār vākil, to proceed to Udayārpālaiyam with M. d’Auteuil’s army which was sent against Eelamānāsūr. Europeans, Topasses, and sepoys, have thus been sent with powder, shot and other munitions of war against the Udayār and his fortress.

There is news that the English have seized a portion of the Masulipatam country and Mr. Clive, who captured our French settlement of Chandernagore in Bengal, means to march to Madras and capture the country in our hands here; the English from Cuddalore are troubling [us] right up to the Bound-hedge. Therefore all the white people have been enlisted, given guns and posted in batches of ten or twenty as guards on the road as far as my Choultry in the north, the Mortāndī water-pandal, Vilīyanallūr and Mutturusa Pillai’s Choultry, with instructions to examine every one passing to and fro.

Moreover under the management of Vināyaka Pillai, things are taking place unheard of since the foundation of the town. Poor
Agamudaiya widows who earn a bare and uncertain living by pounding rice and selling it, and who have scarcely a cloth to wear, are annoyed when they go about the streets with uncovered head by barbers detailed to seize such women in the streets, and pull away the cloth with which they cover their breasts, and tear off three cubits of it. Vināyaka Pillai is causing so much injustice that I cannot bear the people's complaints. When the country was in my possession, I did not cause the least obstruction or beat anybody; but the complaints that were made were unheeded, culprits were not punished and those imprisoned for the debt to the Company were released without my knowledge. I do not know what orders the Governor can have given to Savarirāyan, who beats or punishes amaldārs, headmen and cultivators. If questioned, his replies are unspeakable. I think all this injustice reigns in the town because of the people's sins and the town's destined downfall.

Sunday, May 8.—This is the news of today:—During the attack on the Udayār's fortress, the poligar sallied forth and inflicted some loss. Some were wounded and some killed. I hear a padrē has been sent to give absolution to the dying, according to the letter that has been received about it.

Monday, May 9.—I hear this morning that Vināyaka Pillai and M. d'Auteuil who went to camp, left Pennādam, after setting fire to the fence, and the troops have entered the Udayār's country and burnt two villages.

Subbā Jōsier predicted that this town would decline in prosperity, that those under the influence of Mercury would suffer misfortune, and troubles would arise from the south-west. According to this prediction, troubles arose in Udayārpālaiyam and the fortress there, and there are fears about the town's future. As the Governor and the councillors have imposed a tax on castes and the town is destined to decline, we shall see what Mercury brings.

Twenty-five days ago the Governor in anger with Guntūr Bāli Chetti forbade him to enter the Fort. But to-day Guntūr Bāli Chetti must have done something to please Kandappan, for the latter allowed him to be admitted into the Fort with his accounts for Uppāthu Sāmbayyan's affair. When Bāli Chetti went into the Fort with his accounts, he was told to wait downstairs while his accounts were being examined.

I hear that Kandappan sent for Kadāku-maran, Chandramati Pillai and Ella Pillai and obtained a five-year lease of three cawnies of