

imprisoned because he will not make this sum good. But we shall see what else inquiry brings to light.

To-day there was a feast at Chandâ Sâhib's house for those who are attending the marriage. Haidar 'Alî Khân and others were present. When Hirâsat Khân went and returned, the soldiers and the Mahé sepoy's formed a lane and beat their drums.

At five this evening the Governor drove out. He passed by the bridegroom's lodging. At six, Hirâsat Khân sent wedding presents, with Mahé sepoy's, music, elephants, horses and kettledrums, to Chandâ Sâhib's house. The presents were carried on a hundred and fifty trays. They consisted of fruit, pân supârî, sugar, sugar-candy, cloths and other things. Nawâb Hirâsat Khân watched a nautch at his lodging for an hour and a half. Haidar 'Alî Khân of Perumukkal and his younger brother are attending the marriage. They are lodged in broker Nallatambi Mudali's cloth-godown. Gôvardhana Dâs's gumasta has been lodged in the bricklayers' out-houses.

*Wednesday, December 20.*<sup>1</sup>—When I went to the Governor's to-day he questioned me about the marriage ceremonies. I explained that the Muhamadan custom is for the bridegroom first to carry to the bride's house in procession what is needed to anoint her with, and that day there is a feast at the bride's house; that the next day the bride's

<sup>1</sup> 9th Mârgali, Prabhava.

people do the like with the things for anointing the bridegroom; and they continue thus to exchange visits until the tâli is tied. He then asked on which day he should pay his visit; and I told him the marriage would be celebrated on Friday.

When we had spoken of Fort St. David and the weakness of the English, he asked whether the merchants had sent the money to Madras. I told him that the Mudaliars had paid Tarwâdi 19,200 rupees, had asked for a bill and would send it to-morrow.

I went to my nut-godown and sent for the Company's merchants, and asked them why the money had not already been sent to Madras, as was ordered. They said, 'Who will be responsible should there be an accident by the way?' I assured them that there was no danger, and they departed promising to send the bill to-morrow.

Hirâsat Khân's son, S'aadat-mund Khân and the rest who have come here for the marriage have no magnificence save that which the Governor has bestowed on them. The bridegroom's people all wear tunics, turbans and girdles of red; and that is the only sign by which to recognise them. This, and the deafening sound of their drums and other music by day and night, are the chief signs of the marriage. The bridegroom has sent me also a red tunic, girdle and turban. To-day Khân Bahâdûr Sâhib, 'Alî Naqî Sâhib, and Zain-ul-'aâbidin Khân (Badê Sâhib's son) with other relatives attended a

feast given in Hirâsat Khân's lodging, and left at two o'clock this afternoon. At six presents were sent to Hirâsat Khân from Chandâ Sâhib's house—turmeric, pân supârî, sweetmeats, sugar and sugar-candy. These were all borne on a hundred and fifty plates under a canopy supported by four silver poles and carried by four men, and a curtain enclosing all four sides was carried by women-servants. The soldiers were drawn up in line; drums beat; and the presents were accompanied by ten torches, two of the Governor's white flags, fifty Mahé sepoy and fifty horse, to the sound of trumpets, fiddles, drums and kettledrums. They were thus borne to the bridegroom's lodging in the day-time. As soon as he had examined the list which was given him, he gave pân supârî to Râjô Pandit who had brought the presents, and dismissed him.

*Thursday, December 21.*<sup>1</sup>—A feast was given to-day at Chandâ Sâhib's house, attended by Muhammad Asad-ul-lah Sâhib, Haidar 'Alî Khân, and other relatives. A laced cloth, a nazar of 200 rupees, sugar, sugar-candy and other things were sent by Muhammad Asad-ul-lah Sâhib to Hirâsat Khân, as a present. They were carried on trays and accompanied by music and dancing. In the evening Hirâsat Khân sent to Chandâ Sâhib's house turmeric, nuts, betel and women's cloths in a hundred and fifty trays. The sepoy to-day were given two meals, and this is to be continued daily.

<sup>1</sup> 10th Mârgali, Prabhava. The transcript has '17th' apparently by error

*Friday, December 22.*<sup>1</sup>—To-day Haidar 'Alî Khân visited the Governor; he presented him with five jewels and invited him to the marriage. The Fort saluted him with eleven guns.

At five this evening there were made ready for the Governor's visit 200 pikemen and Mahé sepoy, elephants with flags, horses and kettledrums, and the Governor's palankin. The procession was arranged so as to go round eastwards. A coach and six was sent to fetch Razâ Sâhib and 'Alî Naqî Sâhib to the Governor's to meet and conduct him to the marriage. Two hundred military and two hundred Mahé sepoy formed a lane from Chandâ Sâhib's house to the bridegroom's lodging at Kanakarâya Mudali's.

The Governor set out at five, with the Second, M. Guillard,<sup>2</sup> M. Miran, M. Lemaire, M. deBury, M. Duquesne, M. Paradis and others. There was a guard of Mahé sepoy and fifty European horse with drawn swords. They were also attended with drums, fiddles, pipes and kettledrums, and also with elephants and their standards. They moved eastwards towards the Fort; then turned south along the Church road; and so, reaching Chandâ Sâhib's house, they took their seats in the

<sup>1</sup> 11th Mârgali, Prabhava.

<sup>2</sup> He first served as a writer to Courton when Chief at Masulipatam was admitted to the Company's service by Lenoir, and had been Chief both at Masulipatam and Yânâm. He was at this time fifth Councillor *Procureur Général* and Treasurer. He married a daughter of M. Legou. Dupleix praises his industry and conduct. *Ministère des Colonies*, C<sup>o</sup> 15, and C<sup>o</sup> 33.

tent pitched near it. At once twenty-one guns were fired from near the Īswaran Temple. Madame with some other ladies in six palankins came behind and went into the women's apartments. The Governor and Councillors were given pân supârî and rose-water; and after speaking for a time about the marriage festivities, they went afoot, with 'Alî Naqî Sâhib, Razâ Sâhib and others, through the lane of troops to Nawâb Hirâsat Khân's lodging, where another salute of twenty-one guns was fired. Haidar 'Alî Khân received them at the outer gate and the Nawâb was waiting at the head of the staircase. They sat down in the upper hall and spoke of the marriage; and after the usual ceremony of pân supârî and rose-water, the Nawâb presented a dress of honour with a horse and five jewels to the Governor. The latter then took leave; he returned for a while to the tent near Chandâ Sâhib's house; and on his departure homewards a third salute was fired. The procession passed round the west of the Fort and reached the Governor's house by the Eastern gate. The Councillors went home, and the pikemen with music were sent to escort Madame back. She left at seven, and returned by the road that goes to the west of the Fort and by that which leads to the Council House. One hundred and twenty trays with sugar, sugar-candy, pân supârî, laced cloths and jewels were sent from Chandâ Sâhib's house to Hirâsat Khân. 'Alî Naqî Sâhib and Razâ Sâhib went to supper at the Nawâb's lodging at six o'clock.

*Saturday, December 23.*<sup>1</sup>—To-day S'aadat-mund Khân sent to the Nawâb's house as presents a hundred trays of sugar, sugar-candy and pân supârî and six more trays of laced red cloths. Muhammad Asad-ul-lah, Haidar 'Alî Khân, S'aadat-mund Khân, and other relatives went to a feast at Chandâ Sâhib's house. Their women also went thither at ten o'clock at night.

The Governor also sent presents consisting of a hundred and fifty trays of sugar, sugar-candy, plantains, guavas, pân supârî, cloths and bundles of sugarcane, with music and guarded by two hundred Mahé sepoys and a hundred military. Of the presents, twenty-two silver and fifty wooden trays of sweetmeats were sent to the bridegroom who gave the bearers 15 rupees. The remainder of the silver trays of sweetmeats, with the bundles of sugarcane, the cloths, ten rolls of broad-cloth, three looking-glasses, glass candelabra and other things were sent to Chandâ Sâhib's house, where the bearers were given some rupees.

Hirâsat Khân sent the Governor three shoulder-loads and fifteen dishes of food. The bearers were given 20 rupees.

At seven this evening the bridegroom sent to Chandâ Sâhib's house sixteen trays filled with laced cloths, one tray with jewels and oil in five silver vessels, and a square bathing stool with silver legs,

<sup>1</sup> 12th Mârgali, Prabhava.

two phials of the essence of champak and three of the essence of jessamine; together with a hundred trayfuls of sugar and sugar-candy on four camels, and ten camels loaded with sugarcane. These were escorted by military and Mahé sepoys. Seven guns were fired as they reached the house and fifteen more when they were carried into the women's quarters. There was a nautch-party till about eight at night.

*Sunday, December 24.*<sup>1</sup>—This afternoon there was a feast at Chandâ Sâhib's house, attended by Hirâsat Khân, Khân Bahâdûr, Razâ Sâhib, 'Alî Naqî Sâhib, Badê Sâhib's son, and other relatives.

An elephant with a silver howdah, and a chair with silver-plated legs, six trays with lace and twenty-six jewels, and a hundred trays of sugar, sugar-candy, pân supârî, sweetmeats and other provisions, were sent to Hirâsat Khân from Chandâ Sâhib's house.

Hirâsat Khân's procession took place at two o'clock this night. The bridegroom started from the Valudâvûr Gate, with five hundred torches; besides these, there were ten torches with seven branches, ten with five branches and ten with three; besides these, there were a hundred paper lotus-flowers, with lights within, fixed upon bamboos. Moreover there was a continuous display of fire-works on the posts set up at every twenty feet from

<sup>1</sup> 13th Mârgali, Prabhava.

the Valudâvûr Gate to Chandâ Sâhib's house, with fountains and wheels of fire, and coloured lights. There was also the continuous sound of pipes, drums and kettledrums mounted on elephants. The bridegroom rode on horseback from the Valudâvûr Gate, with a roundel covered with tinsel held over him, and went eastwards along Kanakarâya Mudali's Street; thence turning from the east he reached and alighted at the tent near Chandâ Sâhib's house, and was saluted with twenty-one guns, there being another equal salute when he entered the house. It was then half-past three. At three o'clock Madame arrived to witness the final ceremonies and entered the women's quarters.<sup>1</sup> At five o'clock when all was over, the bridegroom departed with the bride to his lodging, and a third salute of twenty-one guns was fired. Madame also departed at five o'clock.

At eight o'clock before the procession there was a nautch in the upper part of Kanakarâya Mudali's house, at which both I and Madanânda Pandit were present. When we took leave, we were presented with a dress of honour each. We accepted them and went home.

*Monday, December 25.*<sup>2</sup>—The Governor had ordered fire-works to be prepared. The Europeans made Roman candles, paper lanterns and other things, and arranged them on the south side of the

<sup>1</sup> For another account of Muhammadan marriage ceremonies, the reader may be referred to the *Mémoires du Colonel Le Gentil*, Paris, 1822, pp. 65, etc.

<sup>2</sup> 14th Mârgali Prabhava.

Governor's house. When all was ready, he sent word to the bridegroom and his friends to come and see them to-night. They answered that they could not come to-night owing to the ceremony of untying the *Kankanam*,<sup>1</sup> but that they would come to-morrow. The Governor grew angry at this. 'They could easily have said as much yesterday,' he exclaimed; 'everything is ready; the fuses are put in; and the master-gunner says they will be spoilt if it is put off. It shall be done to-night, whether they please to come or not.'

I went to the bridegroom's house to report this; and I had to go without my food till two o'clock, for till that time I could not induce them to come. I then told the Governor they were coming, went home to my food, and afterwards came back. About six o'clock, Nawâb Hirâsat Khân, Muhammad Asad-ul-lah Khân, Haidar 'Alî Khân, S'aadat-mund Khân, Haidar Dil Khân and his brother, Razâ Sâhib, 'Alî Naqî Sâhib, and others arrived. They were received by the Governor near the sentinels posted in front of the house. They alighted there; and the Governor taking the Nawâb's hand led him upstairs; the other principal people followed. When they had taken their seats, the fire-works were lit and the display began. It lasted for about three-quarters of an hour; the visitors gazed at it with

<sup>1</sup> Saffron-coloured threads were tied round the bride's left and the bridegroom's right wrist. They were untied after the completion of the marriage.

wonder and said that nothing finer had ever been seen. After a little conversation, they were dismissed with pân supârî and rose-water. This was about eight o'clock.

*Tuesday, December 26.*<sup>1</sup>—At ten this morning S'aadat-mund Khân sent the Governor a dress of honour. He also gave one to me when I went to his house.

At five o'clock the Governor and Council went with music, kettledrums, roundels, flags, pipes and a guard of pikemen, Mahé sepoy and European horse with drawn swords to Chandâ Sâhib's house to congratulate them on the performance of the marriage. When they alighted at the square tent near the house, their arrival was announced by twenty-one guns; and they watched a nautch in the tent for about three-quarters of an hour. Then the Governor was presented with a string of pearls and a pendant worth [ ], a bracelet set with emeralds worth [ ], and three dresses of honour. Razâ Sâhib then requested the Governor to pardon a soldier who is lying in the Fort prison under sentence of death for stabbing a European. The man was accordingly pardoned. The Governor then left, under a salute of twenty-one guns, and went home. A dress of honour was presented to me and another to Madanânda Pandit.

The Nawâb and his wife went to Chandâ Sâhib's house at ten o'clock to-night with torches, music

<sup>1</sup> 15th Mârgali, Prabhava.

and fire-works, for the ceremony of untying the *Kankanam*. There was a salute of twenty-one guns. It was nearly two o'clock before the bride and bridegroom returned, and then there was another salute.

Madame and her mother went in state, at the invitation of Chandâ Sahib's women, to their house at eight o'clock. There was a salute of twenty-one guns on her arrival. She was presented with a *jamawar*, a tunic and an upper cloth. She stayed nearly two hours, and on her departure another salute was fired.

At eight o'clock three brass vessels of cooked rice and ten trays of fruit were sent to Hirâsat Khân from Chandâ Sâhib's house, with music. There was a salute of fifteen guns.

Nawâb Hirâsat Khân sent me a dress of honour to-day.

*Wednesday, December 27.*<sup>1</sup>—At five o'clock the married pair went to Badê Sâhib's house and were presented with dresses of honour. About nine Hirâsat Khân and his wife went to Chandâ Sâhib's house, where they spent the night. Safdar Husain Khân's daughter with her retinue left to-day for Kalavai.<sup>2</sup>

*Thursday, December 28.*<sup>3</sup>—To-day, Nawâb Hirâsat Khân having sent word that he would like to

<sup>1</sup> 16th Mârgali, Prabhava.

<sup>2</sup> A village in the Tiruvallûr Taluk, Chingleput District.

<sup>3</sup> 17th Mârgali, Prabhava.

visit the Fort, I and M. Vincens<sup>1</sup> were ordered to conduct him. We accordingly went to tell the Nawâb, who presented M. Vincens with three jewels. At four o'clock Hirâsat Khân, S'aadat-mund Khân, Muhammad Asad-ul-lah Khân, Haidar Dil Khân, Haidar 'Alî Khân, and other relatives came to the Fort; we accompanied them and showed them the whole. They were astonished at the powder and shot in the godowns, and the cannon. They then went to the hospital,<sup>2</sup> and thence to the beach. After staying there a while, they went home at six. We took leave of them, and, having made our report to the Governor, also went home.

*Friday, December 29.*<sup>3</sup>—At three o'clock this afternoon the Governor summoned the Mahé sepoys and military, and ordered them to be ranged in order of battle, as though in a fight with the English. Accordingly the Mahé sepoys, the cavalry, and the European horse-guards were drawn up on the east side of the Fort. The Governor sent word to Hirâsat Khân, Razâ Sâhib, 'Alî Naqî Sâhib, and other Muhammadans; and himself went to the Fort at four o'clock. Razâ Sâhib and 'Alî Naqî Sâhib came first and were made to sit near the Governor on the Fort wall. Hirâsat Khân, Muhammad Asad-ul-lah, S'aadat-mund Khân, Haidar 'Alî Khân, and other relatives arrived at five. When

<sup>1</sup> A son of Madame Duplex, but I cannot determine which one.

<sup>2</sup> 'Une masse informe de bâtimens.' Cultru, p. 182.

<sup>3</sup> 18th Mârgali, Prabhava.

they approached the Fort Gate the drums beat and the guard turned out. Hirâsat Khân, Muhammad Asad-ul-lah and S'aadat-mund Khân entered the Fort in their palankins. They were met by M. Miran and M. Paradis who led them to the Governor. As soon as they had taken their seats, the troops which were drawn up, began the sham fight. They fired volleys of blank cartridge. Also the four guns which can fire twenty-one shots a minute<sup>1</sup> were placed one on each side; and five or six great guns were fired from the ramparts. The guests were almost suffocated by the smoke and deafened by the noise; and they wondered at what was done. Finally the two mortars, mounted one on the southern and the other on the northern rampart, were fired. It was then past six o'clock, and all took leave.

At three o'clock this afternoon, all the women who had come with the Nawâb went down to the beach in seven or eight coaches; and having amused themselves there for a while, went home again at half-past four.

At three o'clock Hirâsat Khân went from Chandâ Sâhib's house to view Muhammad Asad-ul-lah's, and remained there for three-quarters of an hour before returning.

*Saturday, December 30.*<sup>2</sup>—To-day Hirâsat Khân sent Madame Dupleix a pendant worth [ ], four laced cloths and a piece of brocade. Muhammad

<sup>1</sup> For a note on these guns which are frequently mentioned in the memoirs of the time, see Nazelle, p. 403.

<sup>2</sup> 19th Mârgali, Prabhava.

Asad-ul-lah sent the Governor five jewels and a cloth.

At three o'clock this afternoon Hirâsat Khân came to take leave of the Governor before setting out for Sâtghar. He was announced by a salute of fifteen guns. The Governor gave:—

to the Nawâb, six pieces of scarlet and two of coloured broad-cloth, [ ] yards of gold-flowered velvet, [ ] knives, [ ] Hungary water, [ ] mirrors; [ ] candle-shades.

to Muhammad Asad-ul-lah, two pieces of broad-cloth; two mirrors; [ ] candelabra;

to S'aadat-mund Khân, two pieces of broad-cloth; two mirrors; [ ] candelabra;

to Haidar 'Ali Khân, two pieces of broad-cloth;

to Krishnâji Pandit, [ ] broad-cloth;

to Lâlâ Munshi, [ ] yards of broad-cloth;

to Venkata Râo, [ ] yards of broad-cloth;

and to the Âchâriyâr, [ ] yards of broad-cloth.

After this, the Nawâb requested the Governor to allow Virâ Nâyakkan's son (who was expelled) to return to the town. This was granted. They then took leave of the Governor, and went to their lodgings, whence they assembled at Chandâ Sâhib's house to dine. I sent word, asking them to visit me. On their way out of the town at five o'clock, they did so. I gave:—

to Nawâb Hirâsat Khân, two pieces of broad-cloth;