

disrespectfully without even pân supâri.' On Avây Sâhib's complaining thus, I asked what we could do when the enemy were at our throats, and, explaining that nothing could be expected of us, I pacified him by reminding him of what we had already done. I then gave him a dress of honour worth 65 rupees. I also gave Karîm Sâhib two yards of broadcloth, and Chokkappa Mudali a shawl, and pân supâri, and dismissed them with compliments. I also gave Avây Sâhib the Governor's letter to Imâm Sâhib's son, stating that the business could not be settled as it was a time of war, and that Avây Sâhib would inform him of other matters. I also gave 10 rupees to their servant and sent them away.

News came this afternoon that a barrel on the rampart at Ariyânkuppam, containing 200 small shells called grenades, was set on fire by a shot of the enemy's. It was thrown into the ditch, and, by God's favour, no one was hurt. I do not know how many of the English have been killed.

The Governor then sent for me. I went upstairs to him, and found M. Friell, M. Robert, M. Guillard, M. Solminiac, M. Serre, M. Cotterel, M. Duquesne and M. de Bury. On seeing me, the Governor asked how many of our people had been killed and wounded to-day. I replied, 'I hear that five have been killed and fifteen wounded, and that the enemy have lost about one hundred and fifty. The English have come 6,000 leagues in great anger

because the French captured Madras, and now think that, as they have fought hard and gained nothing, they may withdraw out of danger and yet excuse themselves to their countrymen in Europe; so they will retreat.'—'That is true,' the Governor said; 'but when will they go?'—I replied, 'They will fight for four more days. Then they will leave off fighting by land and will bombard us from the sea for a day. But by then our ships will have arrived, and will sink one or two of their ships, and then they will have an excuse for flight.' The Governor agreed and said that it would surely happen. All the other Europeans thought the same. M. Friell said, 'Ranga Pillai speaks as bravely as a born Frenchman.' The Governor said, 'Ranga Pillai has lived amongst us from boyhood, and he knows our affairs better than any Frenchman.' When he praised me thus, all the other Europeans did the same. I refrain from writing what they said in my praise, thinking it improper to do so.

Then the Governor said, 'How is Madame Ranga Pillai?'—I replied, 'She is at your service.' Then he asked, 'How is your little son?'—I made the same reply. The Governor said, 'In the place where my family is to take shelter, I have ordered a small room to be prepared, with cotton spread over the roof. I have told M. Martin, the priest of the Mission Church, that that room is intended

¹ Ranga Pillai writes these two remarks of Duplex in French.

for your family. He said that he would tell you about it.' I thanked him for having thought of me and arranged this. All the gentlemen there said that the Governor had not done as much for any one else. I replied, 'My trust is in him only, God alone knows how much.' All were talking about this for about a quarter of an hour.

The Governor mentioned Muttu Mallâ Reddi's plundering my village and his seizing and beating my men. He also said that a European gentleman and a Chetti had been plotting to help him remove his property. So saying, he ordered that any one carrying money out should be seized and brought to him, and that his¹ agents who have come here should be arrested. I pointed out that, if the men who had come here were seized, the money would never be found, and that therefore the money should be seized first. The Governor then said I might do as I pleased. Then we spoke about other matters.

Then the Governor said, 'Ranga Pillai, if you pleased, you could prevent the English people from spying on us, and the people outside from taking service under them.' I recollected how he had believed his wife and the low people appointed as spies, and had therefore imprisoned the cattle-drivers and made them carry earth, thus making enemies in all the jaghir villages. But what can

¹ I.e., Muttu Mallâ Reddi.

be done? If I were to say anything, he would answer, 'You are taking the side of the English, and that is why the people outside do not help us whenever we ask them.' But if he treated them with favour, he could succeed in all his attempts. So I said, 'What can I do? As you are fortunate, everything will happen to your desire, and your enemies will be destroyed. From the beginning of next month you will be made glad.' Thereon M. Guillard and M. Friell said, 'As you are the Chief of the Tamils, they should obey you in all matters. So you must settle this by appointing men proper for such troubled times.' The Governor at once turned to me and said, 'Don't be careless in future but watchful, and settle matters prudently.' I think that all would go as he wished if only he kept his wife quiet in a corner of the house without interfering in outside matters. But how can that be if, when I say, 'Here is a fine vessel,' she at once answers, 'It leaks'? Thinking over the matter, I see that I could have answered the Governor so if he had been alone, but as there were many present, I could say nothing. So I merely said that I would do as he wished. As it was then eight o'clock, the Governor went downstairs to the hall, and I went to the nut-godown.

The following are the terms of the cowle, dated August 27, granted by me to Nallâ Chetti, Hazrat-ul-lah Sâhib's gumastah :—' I, Ânanda Ranga Pillai, hereby permit you from to-day to get grain from