

them to the old Governor who said that all the bonds were correct, but though he could not question the account of the plunder, he lacked time to inquire into it before returning to Europe, and that his successor must inquire both into that and Zâda Sâhib's<sup>1</sup> business, and give what may be due. He wrote accordingly, signed it and returned it. It was then half-past two, so I came home.<sup>2</sup>

This is what Râmaswâmi Pandit has written.

I heard to-day that an order had been made forbidding any to leave the town after eleven o'clock at night; so the Brâhmans, etc., who had gone out without knowing of this order, were seized and robbed of their money and clothes by the sepoy and soldiers patrolling the streets, and warned that those who did so to-morrow would be shot. It is said a musket was actually fired to terrify them. I did not hear any other news.

*Sunday, October 13.*<sup>3</sup>—M. St. Paul (the old Second), M. Albert [?] with a few officers and others went on board the *Duc d'Orleans* the vessel on which M. Duplex is to sail. His property and Madame's comprised chests of clothes, ready money, the pendants, *turra*, etc.,

<sup>1</sup> Probably Razâ Sâhib is meant.

<sup>2</sup> Apparently there is some omission at this point.

<sup>3</sup> 31st *Purattâsi, Bhava.*

found in Nâsir Jang's treasury, jewels given him and Madame [?] at various times in his long government, jewels which he got in other ways—all these with monkeys, birds, musical instruments, and images out of the temples, were sent on board; but each kept a box with clothes for immediate wear and a box of papers. So they are ready to start at any moment. Thinking they would sail to-night, I asked M. Boyelleau, who said they would. I then went to my office.

*Monday, October 14.*<sup>1</sup>—This afternoon the new Governor visited the old one and told him there was no time to be lost as the ship was ready to sail. But he answered that he would go on board after supper. It was decided that he should sail at three o'clock next morning.

I visited the old Governor at the Fort, and asked him to sign some accounts regarding our transactions. I said, 'You have shown me great kindness for the last thirteen years. Be pleased to remember me and continue your kindness.'—'I will do so,' he answered. He was sauntering up and down.

*Tuesday, October 15.*<sup>2</sup>—A salute of 21 guns was fired at three o'clock this morning, when the old Governor, M. le Marquis Duplex,

<sup>1</sup> 1st *Purattâsi, Bhava.* Sic. The date should be the 1st *Arppisi.*

<sup>2</sup> 2nd *Arppisi, Bhava.*

went on board with his wife, her daughter Chonchon, Madame Aubert (M. Aumont's daughter), M. d'Auteuil's children and their attendants, M. Kerjean, his wife, M. Arnault, four of M. Dupleix' blood-relations who came out this year, the opera-people [?], Demai, Innâsi and other Topass servants. A similar salute was fired when they had got on board. M. Albert [?], M. Boyelleau, M. du Bausset, M. Delarche, etc., went in a chelinga and after accompanying M. Dupleix on board the *Duc d'Orleans*, they returned and reported to M. Godeheu, the new Governor. They then went to their homes. I went down to the Beach at six o'clock, to see the ship. She fired a salute of 21 guns ; and the same number was returned from the shore. The ships' captains then fired, and were answered with 14 guns. She then set sail.

As I watched this, I remembered how he used to say that he hoped to leave his bones here in Pondichery. Yet now he, great as he was, has been dismissed, accused and arrested. Who can trust in wealth ? Nâsir Jang, though Lord of the Six subahs and a half in the Deccan for the Delhi Pâdshâh, yet trembled, for his courtiers and the Pathans, Himmat Bahâdûr Khân of Kandanûr, 'Abd-ul-nabî of Cuddapah, 'Abd-ul-majîd Khân of Sâvanûr and Bankâpuram, his son Karîm Khân and

others, conspired together to kill him ; but the credit of it was ascribed to M. Dupleix, so that the throne of Delhi shook at the terror of his name. His army accompanied Salabat Jang to the Narbadâ, 200 leagues away, and gloriously defeated Sau Bhâji Râo ; yet this great man has been arrested and put with his property on board ship. Such is the fate of the man who seeks his own will without the fear of God ; but he who acts with circumspection, and refrains from molesting the upright, escapes falling into sin. But a man's thoughts depend upon the times and seasons. Who then can be blamed ? Such is the world. He who is destined to happiness will be wise ; and he who is destined to misery will be foolish. Do not the Vedas say so ? What was to be has come to pass.

When a Governor goes home, it is usual to hoist a coloured flag at the main-mast-head. A few wonder why this has not been done, but the reason is that he is going under arrest for some crime with which he has been charged.

The *Saptha Shâstra* truly says that he will reap evil who takes a woman's advice. Madame alone has caused all M. Dupleix' troubles ; but he did not understand this till matters were irretrievable, and then he said as much to some Europeans. He has eaten

the fruit of his actions. I need not write it in detail. Twelve years and nine months ago yesterday on the morning of Sunday, January 14, 1742, he landed here from Bengal to become our Governor. In all this time, he has gained lakhs upon lakhs by my efforts; but has never troubled about me. In all this time, I myself have given him over a lakh of pagodas by sharing profits with him, by making presents, and by the adjustment of accounts. Thus I have become indebted to the Company, besides other small debts. Both he and I have copies of the accounts explaining everything. Moreover when in 1749, I leased from Chandâ Sâhib Tiruviti, Bhuvanagiri, Tirtanagari, Venkatâmpêttai, Tindivanam, and Achcharapâkkam, etc., places, I was put to loss by the troubles at the time of Nâsîr Jang's coming. After his death, Hidâyat Muhî-ud-dîn Khân was slain in battle on his departure from his place, and was succeeded by Salabat Jang. When he had returned to Hyderabad in April, they wished to take the management from me by reason of Chandâ Sâhib's dislike to me. But I complained that the countries had been leased to me for three years, that Nâsîr Jang had held it from January to March; and that therefore it ought to be left to me for the full term. When I and Chandâ Sâhib discussed this in the

Governor's presence, he decided that I should keep the countries for three years according to the lease witnessed by M. Delarche and Madanânda Pandit, on condition of paying three lakhs of rupees, one lakh each year. Nârâyana Sâstri, son of Îswara Ayyan of Villupuram had offered a bond for the payment of one lakh for each current year on Âni 30, and surrender the country. When the accounts had been examined, it was decided that this should be accepted, his bond was taken and the country delivered to him. But when I showed the bond to the Governor and told him of the agreement, he said I must give him the bond as I was indebted to the Company. His anger was boundless; so I gave him the bond. Afterwards I sent my man to the Governor's writer Muttappa Nâyakkan with the money which had been paid by Nârâyana Sâstri, and had a lakh entered in the accounts in my name. But next year Madame Dupleix got the lease for Rangô Pandit; and when I spoke to M. Dupleix, he said, 'What does it matter to whom it is given? I am responsible for your lakh of rupees.' When I went again with Nârâyana Sâstri about the country, he said he would only give what remained after paying my debt to the Company and dismissed us. As he was Governor, I could not even demand the balance. Nor was that all. There

was money owing to me on the contract, and on account of the English plundering—8,000 pagodas altogether. But when I asked for this, he grew angry ; and it was just the same, when I asked for the 50,000 rupees due on balance of the money transactions. I did nothing more till the new Governor, M. Godeheu, came, and I was asked for the accounts. When I produced them, he gave a writing that 46,000 and odd rupees due on my private transactions should be adjusted in the Company's accounts, as well as the Covelong business. He gave me back the bond<sup>1</sup> for three lakhs of rupees and then spoke of other matters, in order to put it out of my mind and told me I could go. 'But,' I said, 'if you do not pay me the three lakhs of rupees, I shall sink under my debt to the Company and my various other debts. From the day when this town became populous and flourishing<sup>2</sup> till now, Europeans have made 40, 50 and 60 lakhs of rupees, have obtained the title of Nawâb, and rule the country, using the Fish and other emblems of power. But I who was the root and support of this prosperity have secured nothing but debt. I can blame nothing but my fortune.' And with my head bowed

<sup>1</sup> Reading *maru tipu* for *marudi*.

<sup>2</sup> Reading *âna janapattanam ârambichathumuthal* for *âna sannd-pattanam pichathumuthal*.

towards my belly, I added, 'If you will but pay this money so that I can pay the Company's and my other debts, I and all mine will, by your favour, be made happy ; and I shall pray for your prosperity. Others for their own benefit have given petitions complaining of the bribes they paid to you ; them you sent for and gave bonds to. You know well what sums I have paid ; and God knows also. Your accounts, my heart and mind all bear witness. Scorning to be as unjust as others, I only ask for what you yourself promised me. Be pleased to stop the wound of my debts.' He said he would see about it and again dismissed me.

Thinking therefore he would be just to me, and that even if he were not, it would be improper to speak of it in another's ear, I waited, and at last gave him two written petitions, which he read and returned, still putting me off with promises ; so that in the end I resolved to present a petition to M. Godeheu, and wrote one. This I showed to him [M. Dupleix] together with a paper signed by him. He told me to wait till the ship sailed. I took the papers therefore and put them in my chest, but still visited him. Last night he said he was leaving at seven or eight o'clock to-day and would then do what I wished, but instead I heard the guns announcing his departure at

three o'clock. So how could I see him? I can only continue my labour. I dwelt in truth and justice under his government; but from first to last he regarded neither justice nor truth. Without God's help no labours can serve to make one rich. My future fortune is to be seen.

*Thursday, October 17.*<sup>1</sup>—At ten o'clock this morning, I visited M. Godeheu with Venkatanâranappa Ayyan, the Mysore vakîl, with Nandi Râjâ's letter that came last night, and the French translation. Having read it, M. Godeheu asked Venkatanâranappa Ayyan whether Nandi Râjâ did not wish M. Maissin to remain with him. The other answered, 'His letter came yesterday, and he has also desired me to speak about it.' M. Godeheu said his letter did not mention it, and told me to get my letter translated. I explained that it was the same as his letter of the day before yesterday. He denied it. But I asked him to read it. He, therefore, looked at the Persian letter, at the head of which was written in French, the name of the writer, with the year, month and day. He said, 'This is the usual way of writing in French, but I have received nothing else in French.' He then questioned his writer who came in to get a letter signed.

<sup>1</sup> *4th Arppisi, Bhava.*

The latter replied, 'You gave me a letter yesterday, and orders have been sent to M. Maissin, the commander, to remain with him.' He agreed, and, turning to Venkatanâranappa Ayyan, said, 'Write to your Râjâ that I constantly desire his welfare, and I will do nothing that is not for his interests, but that he must ever trust me and do as I wish him to.' Venkatanâranappa Ayyan said that the Râjâ had ordered him to say that he regarded the Governor as nothing less than his elder brother. 'Then,' M. Godeheu continued, 'write to him that all shall be done as he wishes; I have written to M. Maissin to remain with him, but he must not attack Muhammad 'Alî Khân or the English, or their countries.' The vakîl replied, 'Madura is in the hands of Alam Khân's people and we are concerned about it: It belongs to neither Muhammad 'Alî Khân nor the English, but was held by 'Alam Khân for Chandâ Sâhib, and has not been troubled for these two years past, but is liable to be attacked from Trichinopoly, when Alam Khân's people are there.'

The Governor then asked if ambassadors had come from the Maravan Tondimân.<sup>1</sup> I replied that they were expected. He then questioned Venkatanâranappa Ayyan if his

<sup>1</sup> Represented now by the Râjâ of Pudukkôttai.