

of Madurantakam. Since October 15, some of their guards and sepoy in Karunguli fort and Madurantakam have been marching out, seizing cattle and creating disturbances. Therefore our amaldârs collected forces in order to take possession of their country of Madurantakam and hoist flags in our own villages. They wrote cadjan letters accordingly to the jemadars.' M. Delarche said, 'That is true. When Pâpayya Pillai in August delivered up to me possession of the places he was managing, we had 70 villages in the Karunguli country. M. Véry, having collected a few German and French soldiers, marched against Merkânâm, Chûnâmpet and other places in the Karunguli country. Consequently the English manigars, peons, etc., in the several places fled.'

## APRIL 1755.

*Wednesday, April 2.*<sup>1</sup>—When I was eating my cold rice this morning, Kulasêkharam Venkatanâranappa Ayyan came and said, 'When I went to Vinâyaka Pillai's house last night, he was holding *kacherî*; he had sent for the Mysore vakîl Venkatanâranappa Ayyan, Krishnappan (Morâri Râo's vakîl), the Pandit Gôvindan (Bhâji Râo's vakîl), Nârôji, the old Nayinâr and his other friends. They all arrived as Râman, M. Barthélemy's dubâsh, was talking. Vinâyaka Pillai told them gladly that he had been appointed chief dubâsh, Pâpayya Pillai manager of the country, and M. Barthélemy entrusted with the general superintendence; and that the Governor would give them presents next day, so that they all should come to visit him. He said he would arrange for the Company's merchants and *mahânâttârs* to visit the Governor to-morrow. He boasted of his cleverness, and told them all to come back at six o'clock, having provided gowns and turbans for those who should give them, and mohurs, rupees, etc., to be given as nazars to the Governor, and appropriate presents if the chief dubâshship should be given,

<sup>1</sup> 23rd Paṅguni, Bhava.

and others if only a cane should be given, and otherwise dresses of honour.' I asked him to find out the truth and inform me. He went accordingly, and reported to me that Vinâyaka Pillai in great joy had taken to the Fort all those who had come to his house. Afterwards I went to the Fort, and, on my way, I saw all assembled at M. Barthélemy's house. The Governor was just going upstairs to receive his guests, after visiting the Capuchins' church, St. Paul's church and last of all the Mission church. I paid my respects and waited there. The Governor was talking to the Europeans—M. Desfresnes, M. [Lenoir], M. Goupil, M. Dubois, M. Bury and others, when M. Barthélemy arrived. I desired him to arrange for the Company's merchants to visit the Governor. I was told that he would speak about it this evening and that the visit might be paid tomorrow. When I was waiting after I had dismissed them, Vinâyaka Pillai, the Mysore vakîl and Morâri Râo's vakîl, etc., arrived. The Governor went into his room with M. Barthélemy who talked to him along with M. Desfresnes and M. Lenoir. I was also present. M. Barthélemy then told him that the vakîls had come to visit him. The Governor turning to me told me to send for them. I sent Srînivâsa Râo for them. But when he went, Vinâyaka Pillai told them not to go. As the

Mysore vakîl, Venkatanâranappa Ayyan is a Tamil, and knows what has been going forward, he disregarded Vinâyaka Pillai's words, and, getting up, came in deeming it improper to stay when sent for. Morâri Râo's and Bhâji Râo's vakîls came with him. Mysore Venkatanâranappa Ayyan and Krishna Râo presented the Governor with a nazar of 11 mohurs each and Bhâji Râo's vakîl with one of 7 mohurs. When the nazars had been accepted, I told the three to be seated. They then spoke with compliments about their affairs. I repeated to the Governor what they said and returned his compliments to them. Meanwhile Vinâyaka Pillai came in with 21 mohurs and 21 rupees on a tray which he presented to the Governor, and then stood aside. When the vakîls had been given rose water and *pân supârî* with their dismissal, Râman brought a dress of honour on a tray, which he gave to M. Barthélemy with some words. M. Barthélemy, receiving it, desired the Governor to touch it and give it to Vinâyaka Pillai. The Governor then went into a room with M. Barthélemy who talked to him. When the latter came out, he met Vinâyaka Pillai at the door and took him in to the Governor to let him speak a few words of respect, after which he went home with the others. I then went in and said, 'You have done a very wise thing. This

man is a thief who has robbed the Company of lakhs of money. Many complaints against him were presented to M. Godeheu ; and some have been made to me since M. Godeheu's departure. Although the man who should rightfully have been appointed to his place in the management of affairs is now at Cuddalore, yet Vinâyaka Pillai won over M. Barthélemy and others with bribes to misrepresent the case ; you therefore gave presents, believing what was said. In these circumstances, how can my management prosper ?' The Governor replied, 'Why did you not tell me all this before ? How else could I know ?' I replied, 'I have not seen you enough to know your nature ; nor did you send for me to question me about all this. How then could I have known your wishes and reported all matters ? I was able to satisfy M. Lenoir, M. Dumas and M. Dupleix because they followed my advice. I never visit the councillors nor do I serve others. I deal direct with the Governor, nor do I visit others with gifts. Many complained to M. Godeheu against M. Dupleix ; among them was this Vinâyakan. On this M. Godeheu summoned and questioned me. But I neither wrote nor complained. When he went away, M. Dupleix complimented me suitably. Thus I have used my whole strength on behalf of him who governed, seeking only his gain,

and satisfying myself with the glory. If now you also will listen to no advice but mine, and act accordingly, I will strive for your profit and win your favour.' In his delight he promised me his protection, calling on God to witness what he said, vowing to do nothing without consulting me. I replied, 'If you only do as I say in all affairs, I will so conduct you as to bring you gain.' I then explained fully to the Governor the character of all here, and the profits they make with proof of everything, as well as affairs at Kârikâl and Masulipatam, Villianallûr and Bâhûr, and about the villages comprised in the four *mâgâns* of Kârikâl. The Governor ordered me to come to him at half-past six to-morrow morning, when he would discuss everything with me and do as should appear best. He then gave me leave and I departed.

Chinnu Mudali presently returned after visiting the Governor. I came home.

I hear that a complaint has been presented to the Governor, in his palankin, against Vinâyakan by Black Muttayyan's younger brother. The Governor read and kept it.

At four o'clock M. Reyne came, and with his help I wrote out in French an account of what took place between M. Godeheu's

departure and M. Leyrit's arrival.<sup>1</sup> Having added a few details, I went to my office in the flower-garden with the petitions given me to be presented to the Governor to-morrow morning. I got them all written by M. Reyne, and then sent him to his house, and myself remained in the office.

While I was still there, M. Desfresnes sent a message that he would settle with the Governor about the presents to be given to me when the *mahânâttârs* paid their visit the day after to-morrow, and that I should say what I desired. I sent the following message with compliments :—' I have already been given all honour, I desire only one thing more. As I am the Governor of all the Tamils, and you and the Governor know what respect should be shown to me, let the Governor order the *tambour* to be beaten at the Fort and town-gates in my honour. If you will be pleased to speak to the Governor about this, I shall never forget your kindness.' Such was my answer.

*Thursday, April 3.*<sup>2</sup>—The following is the message sent this morning by M. Desfresnes

<sup>1</sup> This is probably the document a copy of which I was permitted to see, among other papers, by the courtesy of the owner, M. Gallois-Montbrun, at Pondicherry. I understand that this most interesting collection of papers suffered much damage during the cyclone of 1916. I print the document as an appendix to this volume. It is dated March 29; perhaps Reyne only revised the diarist's draft.

<sup>2</sup> 24th Ponguni, Bhava.

in reply to mine of last night :—' When the Governor, M. Boyelleau and I were talking at table, we said to him that presents were usually given to the courtier when the Company's merchants visited the Governor, and that this should be done when the merchants visited him to-morrow. He asked us what should be given. We said that a *turra*, *sarpêch*, chain and pendant, four pieces of scarlet broad-cloth of the best quality and an 18-yard piece of Europe cloth of gold costing 30 pagodas a yard, should be given, with a salute of 15 guns. "I will do so to-morrow," he said. If we had received your message, we might have discussed it; but as we had not, the other matter could not be mentioned, and we sent word to you last night.'

All things were being got ready at the Fort this morning. I took the Company's merchants, the new Nayinâr, and Bâpu Râo of the tobacco-godown, thither at seven o'clock, and they visited the Governor at eight. The Company's merchants presented him with a cloth worth 100 pagodas and a diamond ring worth 220 pagodas; my Appâvu with 200 on account of his country management; Salatu Venkatâchala Chetti with 50 pagodas and a roll of silk; Bâpu Râo with 50 pagodas; and the Nayinâr with a roll of China silk. When all had offered their nazars, he put round my

neck with his own hands a chain with a pendant, tied the *turra* and *sarpêch*, gave me four pieces of the finest broadcloth and 18 yards of cloth of gold, and ordered a salute of 15 guns. The others were given rosewater and *pân supârî*, and dismissed with orders to obey me. I came home with them and the presents, accompanied by music and other marks of honour, distributed *pân supârî*, and gave them leave.

Just then four chobdars and a head-peon said that the Governor wanted me. Immediately I got into my palankin and visited the Governor at the Fort. He asked me about the contents of a cadjan letter received from Karungulipâlaiyam on October 3 and delivered to the Governor with a French translation which I had mentioned to M. Barthélemy. I replied that writer Rangappa Mudali must know as he was the manager of the country; and the latter said that he would report everything in the evening.

Afterwards the Governor took me aside and questioned me about Villiyannallûr, Bâhûr and Kârikâl. I replied, 'M. Godeheu at M. Boyelleau's request said that these two affairs should be managed by Venkatâchala Chetti. So I settled 20,000 pagodas for Villiyannallûr, and Bâhûr, and 80,000 rupees for the four *mâgâns* of Kârikâl. But M. Porcher wrote

saying that 1,20,000 rupees had been offered by the Kârikâl people for the four *mâgâns*, Tirumalrâyapatnam (which Chinnu Mudali has on lease) and Kîlaveli with the tolls. Venkatâchala Chetti then offered 1,30,000 [rupées]. Then, when M. Godeheu had sailed for Europe, M. Delârche and M. du Bausset told M. Barthélemy that, as M. Duplex' jaghir was being managed by Rangappa Mudali, the taluks of Villiyannallûr and Bâhûr should not be given to any one but Vinâyaka Pillai; and they proposed 23,000 pagodas for the two taluks. M. Barthélemy agreed, and proposed the matter in Council. But M. Guillard, M. Boyelleau and M. Desfresnes objected that before M. Godeheu's departure, he had been managing Villiyannallûr, Bâhûr and Kârikâl affairs by Venkatâchala Chetti's means and that the matter should not be settled till your arrival. After a delay of a few days, M. Barthélemy again opened the subject in Council and proposed that it should be settled at outcry. When matters stood thus, you arrived, and decided that it should be done accordingly. When I thus related M. Godeheu's intentions in order to convince M. de Leyrit, the latter after a pause asked why I had not reported this to him before. I replied, 'Because I did not know your nature. My habit is to take the Governor's pleasure and