

Governor. At ten o'clock this morning, he was presented to the Governor by M. Delarche, and a salute of 15 guns was fired. This Haidar Yâr Khân has been given victuals for these five days. The presents were as follows:—

A gold rosewater sprinkler ;
 a salver for the above ;
 a plate for nuts ;
 a box for betel and nut ;
 a *turra* ;
 a pendant ;

two rich dresses of honour, and four shawls.

Formerly it was agreed that a lakh of rupees should be paid for the help of an army, and half a lakh for darbâr expenses ; but afterwards when peace was made between the English and the killedar of Vellore, the troops were recalled. These presents must be either to secure the despatch of troops to prevent a second attack on Vellore by the English, or to secure the reduction of the lakh of rupees formerly promised. I will write the facts when I have ascertained them. To-day Appâvu went to the Fort, but the only news is what is written above.

MAY 1756.

*Sunday, May 2.*¹—I paid my respects to the Governor this morning, on his return from Church at eight o'clock after hearing Mass. He was upstairs with the councillors, officers, etc. M. Barthélemy, M. Moracin and others were talking with him.

Alagiyamanavâla Chetti brought *pân supârî*, plantain and other fruit, and invited the Governor to the marriages of his son and of his elder brother's son.

The Governor told me that, as the Council would sit to-morrow, the merchants must be told to come to settle the contract. I replied, 'To-morrow is the last day of my wife's funeral ceremonies, so I cannot come ; the merchants too will attend the ceremony as well as other townspeople of all ranks. As many will be going in and out of the gate in palankins, on horses, elephants, &c., I beg that the officers may be ordered not to hinder them. The Governor accordingly spoke to M. d'Auteuil and M. Saubinet, and told me to tell the merchants to come on Tuesday, the day after to-morrow. I repeated this order to Alagiyamanavâla Chetti and the other Company's merchants, and dismissed them.

¹ 24th Chittirai, Dhâthu.

I told the Governor (M. Leyrit) the following news reported by harkaras to Murtazâ 'Alî Khân of Vellore and Muhammad 'Alî Khân of Arcot, and which has been written to me from those places:—After Bâlâji Râo had left his camp, M. Bussy left that of Salabat Jang to confer with Bâlâji Râo. He said that too long had been spent in trying to capture Morâri Râo, 'Abd-ul-majîd Khân, Muzaffar Khân's Pathans and the others who were in Sâvanûr fort; and proposed to take it himself. Therefore he raised batteries and [laid siege?] to it. But when Morâri Râo, Muzaffar Khân and other Pathans sallied forth, being unable to endure longer, there was a great fight in which Morâri Râo, Muzaffar Khân and his Pathans and others lost their lives, and the Pathans kindled their houses with gunpowder in order to slay their wives, and many perished. M. Bussy has been severely wounded, but it is not known whether he is alive or dead. When I reported this, the Governor said M. Delarche had just told him that Chandâ Sâhib's son had received this news from Vellore.¹

The Governor then asked who Paramayan was and why he had been dismissed by M. Dupleix. I replied, 'Sûrappan and Paramayan at first served under M. Petain [?]

¹ The news was apocryphal.

but were afterwards dismissed in anger. As Sûrappan had friends, he was taken back into service; but as Paramayan had none, he was not.' M. Lenoir said that he might be taken back when an opportunity occurred, as he was not a bad man. The Governor said dubiously that he would see about it. As the Governor went into his room, I went to my office in the flower-garden.

I reported to the Governor this evening that the news written above about Bâlâji Râo and M. Bussy was said to be false.

*Monday, May 3.*¹—As to-day was the sixteenth day since the death of Saubhâgyavathi Mangathâyi, I went at sunrise to Perumâl Nâyakkan's Choultry for the sake of the conveniences there, and duly performed all ceremonies with regal grandeur at a cost of 5,000 pagodas. This evening we auspiciously performed the ceremony of re-tying the turban. Then the townspeople and those who had come from Vêdâranyam, Vellore and Arcot in the west and from so far as Nellore in the north, the amaldârs, *nâttârs*, ryots, merchants, jemadars, lessees, etc., and others of all castes came preceded by the naubat, flags, great standards on elephants, and dancers, and offered nazars. I received them according to their rank, and

¹ 25th Chittirai, Dhâthu.

distributed *pân supârî*. I then set out attended by my sons and relations, and men bearing torches and coloured lights. Chiranjîvi Annâswâmi and Ayyâswâmi rode in howdahs; Appâvu mounted on horseback. Kanda Pillai, Chidambaranâtha Pillai, Swâmi, etc., my nephews went in palankins; and the rest in their respective conveyances. Thus we reached the palace, where we were entertained with music and dancing. Then at ten o'clock at night, after having seen that food had been served to all according to their rank, I dismissed them. Thus the ceremonies were accomplished.

*Friday, May 7.*¹—At half-past seven this morning, I visited the Governor at the Fort. While I was there, two Europeans (one an English King's officer) were received by M. Saubinet, and brought into the Fort. The troops were drawn up, the drums beat as for the Governor, and a salute of 21 guns was fired. Hearing this, the Governor asked why a salute was being fired, and sent for the master-gunner. Before he arrived, the English King's officer came. The Governor received him with respect and was still in the great hall when the master-gunner came. When the Governor questioned him, he replied that M. Saubinet had given the order. When

¹ 29th Chittirai, Dhâthu.

M. Saubinet was sent for and questioned, he replied that the Governor had given him orders about it, and that perhaps he had forgotten. He then recollected it and saying that he was right, dismissed him. The Governor then talked with the man who had come and they took coffee in the council room. Afterwards the English gentleman took leave and went to M. d'Auteuil's. I took leave and went to my office in the flower-garden. When all sat down to table, a salute of 21 guns was fired, and as much respect was shown as is shown to the Governor himself.¹ M. Saubinet procured all this because this Englishman treated him with great respect when he visited Cuddalore.

*Saturday, May 8.*²—At half-past seven this morning, I went to the Fort and paid my respects to the Governor. He returned my compliments, and said, 'You told me that M. Bussy and Muzaffar Khân had been killed; but now that is reported to be false.' I said that it was false and that I had also heard so from Vellore.

The Governor then said, 'You know that M. Brenier and M. Véry have been sent to Srîrangam. They have written saying that on

¹ The English Officer was probably Colonel Adlercron, commanding the King's regiment sent out in 1754.

² 30th Chittirai, Dhâthu.