

return and live quietly, but that the houses, goods, etc., of those who disobey, will be seized by the Company.

As eight or ten English ships were sighted this morning sailing northwards through the roads, tom-toms were beaten and the palankin-bearers directed to carry shot to the walls. Supposing that they were French ships, the Europeans and Tamils assembled in surprise at the Beach to see them; but being English ships, they sailed away northwards in a short time.

*Friday, March 28.*¹—I did not hear any important news to-day.

I hear that M. Guillard, the Second, sent for the *mahânâttârs* and told them to give, on account of the sepoy's pay, 10,000 rupees for two months at the rate of 5,000 rupees a month, and that on their agreeing to this, the share of each caste is being written.

*Saturday, March 29.*²—I heard to-day that the villages round Gingee had been plundered by the English. There is no other important news.

*Sunday, March 30.*³—I heard to-day that the English army at Âlambarai had encamped at Sevûr in the Tindivanam country north of Perumukkal on the way to attack Gingee;

¹ 19th Panguni, Pramâdhi.

² 20th Panguni, Pramâdhi.

³ 21st Panguni, Pramâdhi.

but others relate this differently. I have heard no other important news.

The Europeans were busy with their festival to-day.

Fifty sepoy's, 30 Coffrees and 20 Topasses of the English—100 in all—are said to be in the Âlambarai fort and 40 sepoy's at Merkânâm. The Chevalier marched against them to-night with a few Hussars and 40 northern sepoy's from Bunder. What will happen remains to be seen.

I heard to-day that M. Nicolas,² the commandant of Kârikâl, had sent letters hither by catamaran-men who, after delivering the letters to the Governor, reported that four English ships and two sloops had reached the Kârikâl roads the day before yesterday, and that Mr. Cornish the Admiral, landed on Saturday with a small party, plundering and raising batteries in order to be ready for attack.

*Monday, March 31.*³—To-day is the beginning of the fifty-second year of my life according to my horoscope; and according to the mundane figure and the *Simsumâra*

¹ i.e., Easter.

² He was the author of some *mémoires*, on the events of the time, to be read in the Orme MSS. (*Various Nos. 1 and 2*). But d'Hery seems to have been the commandant and was broke for surrendering the place after a siege of four days. (*Lally's Pièces*, No. 69).

³ 22nd Panguni, Pramâdhi.

*Chakra*¹, *Savya Chakra*² begins from to-day. The Sun's passage from Aries to Virgo, comprising 54 years, allowing nine years for each of the six signs, forms the day or *Savya Chakra*, while its passage, which has just been completed, from Libra to Pisces, also comprising 54 years, allowing nine years for each of these six signs, forms the night or *Apasavya Chakra*³. In the first three signs of the *Apasavya Chakra*, prosperity decreased, but was not severely felt; but in the three signs following ending with Pisces, there was a progressively evil influence which exhibited itself in famine throughout the land and a decrease in riches and revenues owing to the troubles among the Rājās. So all the prosperity which was seen here on earth during the *Savya Chakra* gradually declined by Pisces, the last of the signs in *Apasavya Chakra*. From to-day and from the year *Vikrama*⁴, prosperity will daily increase for 54 years in place

¹ Literally the Crocodile Chart. It is an astrological Chart drawn in the shape of a crocodile, showing the gods, planets and stars. The Chart shows the Sun as controlling the affairs of kings, the moon those of nobles, the planets those of the officers of State, and the stars those of private persons. From information kindly communicated by M.R.Ry. Conchi Subrahmanya Sastri, Madras.

² Literally the right-hand sign. Here the phrase is used to indicate the Sun's passage from Aries to Virgo in the dexter direction and consequently with a favourable influence.

³ Literally the left-hand sign; the exact reverse of the right-hand sign.

⁴ 1760-1761.

of the adversity that has been seen till now, according to my horoscope and according to the *Simsumâra Chakra*. From Tuesday the 23rd *Panguni*, commences the [dark half of the lunar] month of *Chittirai* of the year *Vikrama*. According to the mundane figure and according to the solar year calculations of those who prepare almanacs, good and bad are to be seen from Wednesday, the first of *Chittirai*, when the Sun enters Aries.

At about eleven o'clock to-day, the outer tooth of the single teeth on the right of my lower jaw came out. In the month of *Kârttigai* of the year *Dhâthu*¹, the outermost tooth but one of my upper double teeth on the left began to come out and two more came out in the same month of each of the succeeding two years ending with *Bahudânya*². I fell sick in the month of *Âdi*³, growing worse in the month of *Kârttigai*, and then recovering. This year too a similar illness began in the month of *Kârttigai* and at about eleven o'clock to-day, a tooth on the right in my lower jaw came out and then my disease disappeared. Now we shall see the effect of the *Savya Chakra*, commencing from Aries. Up to now during the Sun's position in Pisces, the *Apasavya*

¹ November-December 1756-1757.

² 1758-1759.

³ July-August.

influence prevailed. As the Sun is in the *amsa*¹ of Sagittarius, the influence of the *Savya Chakra* beginning from Aries remains to be seen.

I hear that, as the English troops are reported to have occupied the villages round Kârikâl with a view to attacking it, a council was held to-day to discuss what should be done and how to find money for the business.

¹ The division of a sign of 30 degrees into nine parts.

APRIL 1760.

*Tuesday, April 1.*¹—My peon Krishnâji, who has brought letters from Vellore for Razâ Sâhib, reported the following news to me:—When Salabat Jang and Nizâm 'Alî formerly attacked the Nânâ, the latter was defeated and Shaikh Ibrâhîm and others were killed. But although the Nânâ had been defeated, he collected reinforcements and attacked Salabat Jang and Nizâm 'Alî, who, being then defeated, opened negotiations with the Nânâ, after an exchange of oaths, and agreed to give him the Burhanpur, Daulatabad and Aurangabad forts with those countries and permit him to collect the *charth* in the Carnatic subah and to do what he pleased in the Arcot subah. It was also agreed that the relations between the Nânâ and the Nizâm should be put on their old footing. Thereupon the Nânâ wrote to Murtazâ 'Alî Khân, saying that he should send to Arcot in the month of *Chittirai* 12,000 horse whom he might use to guard the Arcot subah as he thought best, and he also sent a dress of honour, a horse, a *turra* set with precious stones, a *sarpêch*, and a *parwâna*. Murtazâ 'Alî Khân went out with all marks of honour to receive the presents, ordering

¹ 23rd Panguani, Pramâdhi.