

but for all his words Manôji insisted that he should fight and has encamped against us. Manôji Appâ is a fool thus to disobey the Râjâ. He opposes me in spite of knowing that I have your assistance, because he is destined to evil. By God's grace, I will take the Tanjore fort, and send you word of my rejoicings. You have advanced two months' pay to M. Duquesne and others, and a month's pay to Muzaffar Khân; M. Duquesne and the other Europeans must receive their pay on the 15th of Muharram.¹ Muzaffar Khân's troops must also be paid. If the Europeans and Muzaffar Khân's people are given a month's pay, I will repay M. Duquesne out of the Tanjore money which I expect to receive in 20 days.'

When Madanânda Pandit thus interpreted the letter, the Governor said, 'I have sent 25,000 rupees for the pay of the Europeans; Muzaffar Khân can wait 20 days for the pay of his sepoys.'

He observed, 'M. Duquesne writes that there are many temples in Tanjore and that the streets, roads, topes and general fertility excel those of Europe. Is it so fine a place?'—I replied, 'It is indeed. We say that there is no country like Chôla-mandalam within 1,000 or 2,000 leagues, nay, in the whole world. You may go through Trichinopoly for 48 leagues, and it used to yield a revenue of 50 lakhs or even a crore; but now only 25 or 30 lakhs.

¹ I.e., December 26.

The Tanjore country is but 20 leagues across and used to yield a crore of revenue. There is no country like it. Throughout the land the roads along which the cars are drawn are planted with avenues of coconuts. There are rows of fine houses with temples, mantapams, agrahârams and well-built pandals, such as must be seen to be imagined. Moreover every village has one or two canals always brëast-deep with water from the Cauveri. Not a hundred feet of ground is untilled. The whole country is cultivated. It is level throughout and its water-channels are as the lines on a man's hand.' When I described it thus, M. Friell asked if I had seen it. I replied, 'I have seen that part of it which lies on the way to Kârikâl; but I have always heard that the rest of the country is just the same. So I know what it is like.' The Governor said, 'In that case the revenues of the Villianallûr and other pargannahs granted as a jaghir for Pondichery, and of Tirunallâr and other countries granted for Kârikâl will suffice to maintain the Pondichery and Kârikâl forts, so that the Company need send nothing out.' I replied, 'Pondichery and Kârikâl cost about 60,000 pagodas a year;'

¹ According to the *État Général des dépenses*, dated February 17, 1747 (*Arch. des Cols.*) the sanctioned expenditure at Pondichery was 438,970 livres and at Kârikâl 105,861 livres. Together the expenses of the two settlements would equal a little over 70,000 pagodas. The revenues from the new grants near Pondichery and Kârikâl were in 1753 reckoned at 2,40,000 rupees (*Mémoire* of 1753. P.R.). In 1751-52 they appear to have realized 2 lakhs; but that was the highest figure reached (*Mémoire pour la Compagnie Contre le Marquis de Duplex, pièces justificatives* 14, C and D).

but these will yield more.'—'Will they yield three lakhs of rupees?' he asked. 'A little less,' I replied.

He then said, 'When I was at Mortândi Choultry, the wind gave me an intolerable headache, so I came back; but even now it is unbearable. Just feel my forehead.' I and M. Friell felt it and said, 'True, it is fiery hot.' The Governor then said that Chandâ Sâhib would get 50 lakhs of rupees from Tanjore. I said that he would get more. M. Friell said, 'What about the rain we had recently?' The Governor replied that it would be good for millet, ragi, etc. I said, 'I hear that it rained only on the coast and that it was not so heavy inland.' The Governor said, 'I saw clouds over Gingee and thereabouts, and it poured with rain.'

At the beginning of our conversation, he said, 'The mortgage amounts have not been received. Only one or two thousand rupees have been paid. The Chidambaram man who took a receipt and promised to send 20,000 rupees has sent nothing. Why is that? Can't he be kept from taking food till he pays?' I replied that I had kept him in custody at the Choultry, and scolded him severely for his misconduct, and repeated what I had written about it. I added, 'The money will be paid the day after to-morrow. There has been a dispute as to whether it was to be paid in Pondichery or Arcot rupees. Two thousand rupees have been paid on account of Tirukkôyilûr and Villupuram. But little

money will come in before January. The first crop was carried away by Chandâ Sâhib's people, and for a month and a half from the date of the mortgage no money can be expected. The little that comes in will just suffice for the expenses. I need not say more about it; you know it from the daily news which your writer, Ranga Pillai, sends you about the revenues of the Villiyallûr and Bâhûr pargannahs.' When I spoke thus in detail, he listened but said nothing.

Madame and other Europeans then arrived from Mortândi Choultry. I took leave, went to the nut-godown, and then came home at nine.

Chinna Parasurâman, Muttu Mallâ Reddi's gumastah, Pâpu Reddi and his shroff Abaranji Chetti, paid this evening 20,000 rupees to the Governor's writer, Ranga Pillai and his younger brother, Muttayyan, on account of the 40,000 rupees which Muttu Mallâ Reddi has agreed to pay the Governor. I heard this from the shroff who delivered the amount. I also heard that dhoolies had been engaged to carry his family home on their release to-morrow afternoon.

When I came away after speaking to the Governor at his house this evening, I heard five or six shroffs weighing money in writer Ranga Pillai's godown where the money was counted and kept. Moreover Chinna Parasurâman, Vîrarâghavan and others were gathered there. I write this as the affair has now been settled.