

CHAP.
XIII.
—
1746.

still demurs—Governor replies—Arrival of envoy from Fátteh Sing—Refers to a certain letter from Sáhu Rájá to Anwar-ud-dín Khán—Hands Governor letter from former, and communicates a verbal message—This not well received—Envoy refers to debts due by Chandá Sâhib's wife—Governor promises to discuss matters later on—Description of envoy—Dispute between Tánappa Mudali [Chinna Mudali] and Malaiyappa Mudali—They go to the Governor—Diarist sent for—Statements made by the parties—Chinna Mudali abuses his brother's widow—Governor decides that dispute must be settled by appeal to oath—Directs deduction of value of jewellery with widow from allowance—Conversation regarding scandalous language of Chinna Mudali.

Temple
defiled by
persons
unknown.

[Thursday, 17th] March 1746, or 8th Panguni of Kródhana.—The following took place on Thursday: On Wednesday night at 11, two unknown persons entered the Íswaran temple carrying in a vessel liquid filth, which they poured on the heads of the gods around the altar, and into the temple, through the drain of the shrine of Íswaran; and having broken the pot of dirt on the image of the god Nandi, they went away through a part of the building which had been demolished. Early this morning, when the Nambiyân* and the servants of the temple, opening the main gate, entered, and saw the nuisance which had been committed, they at once reported the matter to their superiors, and to the Mahânáttárs; and bringing them to the spot, showed them what had been done. Thereupon the Nambiyân and four Bráhmans went round the Bráhman quarter, and all other streets, and entering each house, said: "There will be no religious

Excitement
on dis-
covery of
outrage.

* An inferior class of Bráhmans who usually officiate as priests in the Vaishnava temples of Southern India.

service to Íswaran. We adjure you, by Íswaran and Dêvi, neither to cook rice, nor to eat." Then at 9, a general meeting was convened in the courtyard of the temple of the god Perumâl, in which people of all castes—from the Bráhman to the Pariah—took part. The Governor having heard of this, sent for the chief of the peons, and took him to task. He deputed Krimâsi Pandit with orders to disperse the gathering. He accordingly went to the place where the people were assembled, struck a Chetti on the cheek, ordered them all to disperse, and was preparing to beat others, when ten of those present stopped him, saying: "Why do you strike us? Cannot people meet, and deliberate when their religion is at stake? Why was a nuisance such as this committed in our temple? We have met together with the view of reporting this to the Governor, and of begging him to inquire into the matter. Why do you come, and beat us? You had better kill us all." So saying, they pushed him out. Thereupon, Krimâsi Pandit returned, and reported all that had transpired to the Governor, who having heard what he had to say, sent for Chinna Mudali and me: the former came. The Governor said to him: "Please bring the Mahânáttárs to me. Chinna Mudali went as directed: after he had gone, I arrived, and the Governor immediately asked me, also, to bring the Mahânáttárs. Thereupon, Chinna Mudali and I collected these men, and brought them to the

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Meeting of
castes.

Governor
takes
chief of
peons to
task for this.

Subordinate
deputed to
disperse
gathering,
resisted.

Reports to
Governor.

Who
summons
Chinna
Mudali and
diarist.

They
produce the
headmen.

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Governor
threatens
these, but
finally lets
them go.Refers
settlement
of matter
to diarist.

Governor at 2. He was very angry with them, and said: "Why did you beat Krimâsi Pandit? I shall order all of you to be shot. Now as to your grievance; relate everything to Ranga Pillai; he will explain it to me, and settle the affair. You need not hold meetings. He will inquire into the matter." So he decided that I should dispose of this question, and with kind words, let them go. No sooner had the Mahânâtârs departed than from 100 to 200 Muhammadans of Mahé appeared before the Governor, for the purpose of shooting them. As prior to the arrival of these, the Mahânâtârs had consented to a settlement, he directed the Muhammadans to guard the four gates, so that they could not go out. They obeyed this order. All this took place before 4 this afternoon. What will occur hereafter is not known.

Governor
sends for
him.

Friday, 18th March 1746, or 9th Panguni of Krôdhana.—This afternoon at 2, a peon from the Governor came to Chinna Mudali and me, and said that he wanted us. The man arrived just as I had finished my bath, and was going to sit down to my food. Without taking it, I put on my robe, and went to the Governor. Prior to my arrival, Chinna Mudali had had an interview with him, and was returning when he met me. I inquired of him why the Governor wanted us. He said: "He asked me how many sick and wounded had come to Madras. I stated that I knew nothing as regards this." I replied: "If he puts such questions to

Meets
Chinna
Mudali on
the way.

me, I shall give him the same answer as you have." I then went to the Governor. As soon as he perceived me, he said: "As a native craft was on its way here, laden with paddy, the people of Fort St. David seized and took it away. A Lubbay was on board it. Send a man of his own class to him, to instruct him to state boldly and precisely, the very things that M. Paradis directed him to assert." He said to me also: "If the man discharges his commission properly: that is if he says what he has been told, give him a pagoda, and enter it in the Company's accounts." Then he said: "Give him two." I replied: "I will do as you have ordered me." I took leave of him, went home, took my meals, and having engaged one Pîr Marakkâyan Tambi, who had come to me on some business connected with a native ship I instructed him what to say, and how to say it; and sent him on his errand. The rumour current in the town, and the reports brought by people who have come from Fort St. David are to the effect that the commander of the English ship had been residing at the Company's garden at Manjakuppam; that he collected soldiers, and some native troops; took with him muskets, powder and ball; and having set out as though about to fight a battle, marched as far as the Ūshû tank, and went on to Fort St. David through the territory of the Nawâb which lies on the outskirts of Pondichery. These statements are regarded as absolutely correct. The Governor of Pondichery, having heard this:

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Governor
intimates to
him
seizure of
a native
craft at
Fort St.
David.
Gives
instructions
to send
messenger
to the man
in charge of
this.A man
accordingly
sent.Rumour of
warlike
prepara-
tions at
Manja-
kuppam.And of
march of
force
through
territories
of Nawab.