

Queen of Hungary's city has been taken by Prussia, and that 16,000 English and Dutch troops with twenty-three high officers have been made prisoners.¹ The king is going to take the field on the 1st May next.

I gave away sugar to-day, had fireworks, hung the streets with garlands of mango-leaves and set up plantain trees near my nut-godown. Thus we rejoiced with great splendour; and I gave notice by the chief of the peons that to-morrow also there would be rejoicings, and that all the houses should be lit up and decorated. I petitioned the Honourable Governor also that on account of his cross he should reduce the price of betel, and he, sending for Vâsudeva Pandit, ordered him to sell it at nine leaves a cash, to please the people².

The sloop which went aground has been got afloat by the English sailors, who have stopped her leaks and carried her to Fort St. David.

The Governor, hearing that Safdar 'Alî Khân's son³ is being put to school at Wandiwash, has sent the following presents.

¹ This appears to refer to the events of 1745—the Treaty of Dresden (December 25) which ceded Silesia and Glatz to Prussia, and the capture of seven towns by Saxe in the Low Countries (July 1—September 5).

² The sale of betel and tobacco, alike at Pondichery and Madras, was a Government monopoly which was farmed out. At Pondichery it produced about 11,000 pagodas; at Madras, 10,000 pagodas. *Reply, dated October 20, 1742, to the Compagnie's letter of November 25, 1741 (P. R.—No. 6.)* Also List of Fixed Revenues in the *Madras Consultations, 1744*. The price had been already lowered to 9 leaves a cash in honour of the capture of Madras (*ante* ii. 320), but had been put up again (*ante* iii. 282).

³ 'Alî Dôst Khân.

Broad-cloth, scarlet, 4 rolls				
Broad-cloth, green, 4 rolls				
	8 rolls	...	...	160 pagodas.
Cloth of gold, 10 yards at 18 pagodas	...	...	...	180 "
Red velvet, 20 yards	...	...	...	80 "
Gold galloon, 2 marcs	...	...	...	28 "
Silver ditto, 1 marc	...	...	...	12 "
Sugar-candy (instead of Hungary and Imperial waters), 1 pound	...	...	...	2 "
One large mirror	...	...	...	10 "
				Total ... 472 pagodas.

These we sent by Chinnappayyan on horseback with ten peons. He also carried letters to Safdar 'Alî Khân's wife, to Muhammad 'Alî Khân,¹ to Taqî Sâhib² (Safdar 'Alî Khân's brother-in-law) and to 'Alî Naqî Sâhib.³

M. Le Noutre left at five this morning with twenty peons for Porto Novo. He was to go by Ulundûr, Pâlaiyamkôttai and Chidambaram. His route was written down for him.

*Friday, April 7.*⁴—When a decoration is given, one who has already received it should bestow it on him who is to receive it. Some one who already was a Chevalier of Saint Michel should have taken the Governor's cross, made him kneel in the church after service, struck him three times on the shoulder with a drawn sword, and then given him the cross. But there

¹ Killedar of Pôlûr.

² Killedar of Wandiwash; he married a daughter of Dôst 'Alî Khân.

³ Son of Taqî Sâhib. *ante* i., 158.

⁴ 28th Panguni, Akshaya.

was none to do so. Instead, he himself hung it round his neck. He came out at seven this morning and passed through a lane of Mahésepoys up to the East Gate of the Fort. Thence to the church-door was a lane of military with their officers, with swords drawn and flags flying in the Governor's honour. As he entered the Fort, there was a salute of twenty-one guns. When he went into the church, the sepoys fired a volley, and the ships and the Fort twenty-one guns each. As the service began there was another volley from the military and a salute. Before he left the church, there were three volleys and three salutes. As he departed, all saluted and waved their swords and flags. On his coming to the East Gate, they thrice shouted *Vive le roi*, and a salute was fired. There was yet another of twenty-one guns when he reached his house.

Chandâ Sâhib's son then visited the Governor, presenting him with a handsome plume set with rubies, and receiving in return a roll of scarlet and another of green broad-cloth. The jewel looked beautiful in the Governor's hat. Then the chief people of the town came to make their salaams. I will set down their names and what they gave. Tânapa Mudali gave fifteen mohurs rolled up in paper. He prostrated himself before the Honourable Governor like a fallen palmyra tree, and, clasping both his feet, offered his congratulations. The Governor told him twice to rise. At last he did so and stood on one side.

The Company's merchants gave	...	11	mohurs.
Salatu Venkatâchala Chetti	...	3	"
Sêshâchala Chetti	... ..	3	"
The cloth merchants	... ..	5	"
The coral merchants	... ..	1	"
The weavers	... ..	1	"
The men of Muttiyâlpêttai ¹	... ..	1	"
The Foreign weavers ²	... ..	1	"
The potters	... ..	1	"
The blacksmiths, carpenters and artisans	... ..	2	"
The arrack-sellers	... ..	3	"
Guntûr Ravanappa Chetti	... ..	5	"
The people of Ariyânkuppam	... ..	3	"
The Kômutti caste	.. ..	1	"
The Vellâlas...	... ..	3	"
The Mint people	... ..	9	"
The petty bazaar men	... ..	5	"
The Nayinâr...	... ..	3	"
The people of the out-villages	... ..	3	"
The oil sellers	... ..	1	"
The people of Olukarai	... ..	9	"
The toddy-drawers	... ..	3	"
The painters ³	... ..	1	"
The cotton pressers	... ..	1	"
The washermen	... ..	5	"
The tobacco sellers	... ..	5	"
The money changers	... ..	4	"
The head of the Chettis	... ..	1	"
The indigo merchants	... ..	2	"
Total	... ..	96	mohurs.

¹ The cloth-washers' village. ² Speaking Canarese and Telugu.

³ i.e., the painters of chintz.

This morning Arumpâtai Pillai and Vinâyaka Pillai paid their respects to the Governor with a present of 100 pagodas. As this day he has received and put on the cross of St. Michel, men played on vînais and trumpets when he dined at noon. When they finished dinner, when dessert was served, and when they rose from table, salutes of twenty-one guns were fired.

In the evening we also had fireworks, with much hanging of garlands and setting up of plantain trees, and made merry.

At half-past five this morning three volleys and three salutes of twenty-one guns were fired.

When I was speaking with the Governor, he asked, 'Have you not yet sent the letter to Monsieur Delarche at Conjeeveram?' I said I would hasten it.

Meanwhile a priest, Père Hyppolite, of the Capuchins, appeared, and said, looking at me, 'Rangappan has disappointed us.' The Governor asked him, 'How?' He answered that I had given sugar among all the houses of the Hindus, and in the European quarter also, but given none to the Christian converts. The Governor pouted and said, 'Is that all the matter?' The priest, seeing it, said, 'He may of course do as he will with his own; but our people being envious told me this story.'

Monsieur Mathieu, thereon, said I had given sugar throughout the length and breadth of the town; that he had been deafened by the sound of my trumpets, and even his slave-girl, who went to

look, got a handful. On this the company burst out laughing.

*Saturday, April 8.*¹—This is the news of the day:—

A European fiddler of the Governor's,² having double-loaded his gun, shot himself at four this evening. It is said that when Mahfuz Khân came here on the 26th or 27th of February about the peace, this man stole the younger Miran's³ hat and till yesterday kept it hid. But then he got it valued and gave it to a man to sell. But when the man showed it for sale the younger Miran recognised his hat and asked, 'How came you by it?' He pointed out the fiddler, who was called and asked the same question. He said he had got it from a hawker, whereon the case was reported to the Second.⁴ Then the brokers were called together

¹ 29th Panguni, Akshaya.

² For Dupleix' love of music, see Cultru, p. 138. Music at dinner, however, seems long to have been considered essential to a Governor's dignity. Fryer at Bombay mentions the trumpets that 'usher in his courses and soft music at the table.' For an early example of a fiddler in Bengal, see *Hedge's Diary*, ii. 217.

³ Appointed 'Sous-commis' in 1740. His brother, who was of Council and Mint-Master, died in 1748. The younger Miran was often employed in voyages to Achin and the Eastwards, but Dupleix says contemptuously 'du reste assez borné et sans ouverture d'esprit.' *Etat général des employés en 1750 (Ministère des Colonies, C^o 15).*

⁴ Ranga Pillai calls him the *chinna dorai*, the little lord, in contradistinction to the *Doraigal* or Governor. The Pondichery Council consisted of the Governor, the Second, the first, second, etc., councillors, and certain other supernumerary and honorary councillors. The Second always presided in the Choultry Court (see *ante* p. 37). At this time the Second was Alexandre Legou. In the previous volumes *chinna dorai* has been translated 'Deputy Governor.'