

M. Moracin observed, 'M. Lally received from me a list I had prepared of the houses. It is with M. Leyrit. Take it, examine it and come to me to-morrow morning, ready to suggest a certain figure.' I agreed, and taking leave, came home.

At half-past five this evening, I heard the following news:—When M. Lally was lamenting M. Barthélemy's death,<sup>1</sup> he was told that Mr. Pigot, four or five councillors, and 300 soldiers had been captured and brought from Sadras to Potti Pattan's Choultry this side of it. He was overjoyed at this, and went home soon after the corpse had been carried out. When the corpse was passing by the Fort, M. Leyrit heard that M. Lally had received news of the capture of Pigot, four or five councillors, three or four writers, and 300 soldiers, and of their arrival at Potti Pattan's Choultry by Âlambarai, and, rejoicing at this news, followed the corpse, talking cheerfully on the way, till the corpse was buried. When the corpse was on the way, minute guns were fired and the flag was hoisted half-mast at the Fort. On entering the church, three volleys were fired and five guns.

*Wednesday, July 30.*<sup>2</sup>—There was nothing important doing at the Fort when I went there

<sup>1</sup> 'Attending M. Barthélemy's funeral,' seems intended.

<sup>2</sup> 19th *Âdi, Vikrama.*

this morning, so I returned home at eleven. Pigot's arrival at this place and that, had to-day proved false.

*Thursday, July 31.*<sup>1</sup>—No Europeans were at the Fort this morning when I went there nor was there any talk about the tax affair. I came home at half-past eleven, and I have heard no important news since.

Twenty-one guns were fired (I do not know why) this morning at Devanâmpattanam and once at Lakshmana Nâyakkan's Choultry and at Villiyanallûr where the English are encamped. In the last two or three days the beggarly Mysore troops have carried off the 24 pieces of red-wood used for the pandal in front of my Tiruvêngadapuram *agrahâram* choultry and the red-wood pillars, rafters, big reapers, doors etc., of the Brâhmans' houses, and sold them. This charity was founded by my father 50 years ago. I obtained letters from M. Leyrit about it; I appointed amal-dârs; and now the very materials have been carried off. It did not suffer during the English troubles, or Nâsîr Jang's, Anwar-ud-dîn Khân's, Raghôji Bhônsla's, Fatteh Singh's and the Marathas' invasions: but now all places surrounding the town, as far as Kûni-mêdu and Mâtâtûr have been plundered and

<sup>1</sup> 20th *Âdi, Vikrama.*

the houses destroyed. The greatness of this charity was famous from Benares and Delhi to Cape Comorin. The beauty and greatness of the choultry and *agrahâram* have never been surpassed by other charities. I valued nothing else so much except my wife Mangathâyi who is no more ; even her death did not trouble or grieve me so greatly. For five years from *Yuva*,<sup>1</sup> I have suffered many misfortunes and lost up to 20 lakhs of rupees, but all these have not pained me so much as what has now happened to my charity. I cannot therefore describe my sorrow.

Since fuel was lacking for camp use, M. La Grenée was threatened with hanging or imprisonment ; his sword was seized and soldiers were dragging him along when I interceded, spoke kind words, and said that I would supply fuel. Then alone was he released. This is the treatment accorded to a councillor, and the respect shown to M. Leyrit, the Governor, is well-known.

The Nayinâr was ordered to be shut up in the dungeon when it was reported that the *pakkalis* had not supplied water because they had not received their pay, and he has been shut up accordingly.

---

<sup>1</sup> 1755-1756.

M. Leyrit, M. Courtin and M. Dubois sent for me this afternoon. When I went, they asked if, as ordered, I had prepared a list of the house-tax. I said I had, and that I would bring it to-morrow morning. As I was departing, M. Moracin called me back and asked for five corges of coarse blue cloth. I replied I would enquire and inform him, and so came away.