

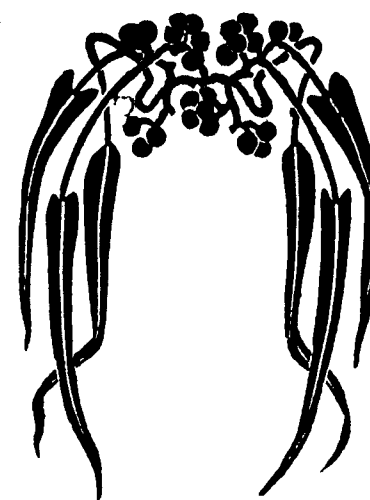
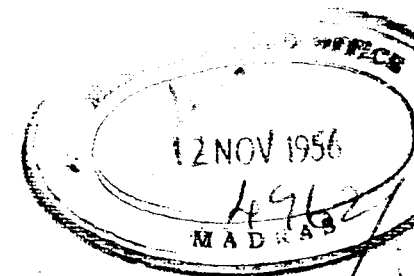
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No. 8.

P. 415

THE ESTATE BUYER

THE ADVERTISERS' MONTHLY
OF SOUTH INDIA



6

OCTOBER
1956

Price 8 Annas

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NOTICE

We heartily thank those of our Readers who, in spite of receiving complimentary copies of "THE ESTATE BUYER" are supporting us by subscribing to this periodical.

The publication of Ananda Rangapillai's Diary, together with other reading matter, involves a substantial increase in the size of this magazine, and, consequently, in the cost of printing and in the postage.

We therefore need as many subscriptions as possible and rely on our Readers to help us in carrying on with this enhanced publication of "THE ESTATE BUYER".

With our hearty thanks in anticipation.

THE EDITOR

P. 415

ANNOUNCEMENT

I. —“THE ESTATE BUYER” is now more than six months old.... It is still very young.... However, it has somewhat grown and this means that its needs and expenses have simultaneously increased.

Our rates for advertisement have been maintained as long as possible at the very low level at which we had purposely fixed them at the start.

To our regret, we are now compelled to revise these rates, and the Reader will find our new price schedule, together with the terms and conditions, on page 4 of this issue.

Contracts booked previously to the aforesaid increase will of course be carried out at the old rates.

II. —The one thousand copies of “THE ESTATE BUYER” being published at present now barely cover requirements.

In these circumstances, we are unfortunately obliged to reduce the number of complimentary copies sent out each month.

Those amongst the Readers who wish to receive copies of our future issues are requested to fill up and send us, at their earliest convenience, the attached “Subscription” Form.

We thank them heartily in advance for their kind patronage.

THE EDITOR
A. GALLOIS-MONTBRUN

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THE ESTATE BUYER

CONTENTS

I. ADVERTISEMENTS:-

	Page
Rates & conditions for Advertisements	4
General Advertisements	5
Advertisements for Estates Lands & Built Properties	15

II. READING MATTER:-

Recreation in the Garden	11
"The Private Diary of Ananda Ranga Pillai, Dubash to Dupleix"	19

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General

Advertisements



*Department of Information
Chief Commissioner's Office*

NOTICE

1. It is hereby notified, for the information of such of the ex-servicemen of the 'Pioneer Corps', Nainital (U. P.) as are residing in the Pondicherry State, that according to the latest rules prescribed by the Army Headquarters Adjutant General's Branch, New Delhi, the medals/stars of non-effective personnel will now be despatched direct to the individual awardees concerned or to their eligible heirs, as the case may be, and not through the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board as hitherto.

2. Those who are entitled to the commemoration medals/stars of World War II are therefore advised to write to the officer-in-charge Pioneer Corps Depot and Records, Nainital (U. P.) giving their present addresses.

Pondicherry,
8th October 1956.
47/56/LB/JA.

(K. S. SESHAN)
Deputy Secretary.

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RECREATION IN THE GARDEN

(Reprinted with permission from the Journal of the Agri-Horticultural Society,
Madras Vol. 1. N. 3.)

It is a primary rule that a garden is a place for recreation. But what does the term recreation include? It will vary according to the age and temperament of the family, and will call for such things as a sand pit for baby, games for the young people, rest and quiet for the elderly and meals outdoors for all.

Let us begin with the smallest member of the family. Baby needs a place where his pram can stand in sunny or showery weather; where he can pass happily from waking to sleeping as he watches the play of sunlight on leaves. In other words, a spot where there is a tree or some shrubs, some shade and some shelter.

As soon as he begins to walk, he will enjoy a sand pit, which can be made quite easily in a convenient corner.

Making a Sand Pit:

The sand pit can be either a rectangular hole lined with brick or stone about 15 ins. deep, or it can be a simple saucer-like depression, lined with concrete. The brick-lined, sunken type is best, as the toddler can be set down in this and left to his own devices while mother sits by in a deck chair or garden seat and does mending or knitting. If the pit is merely a saucer-like depression, a youngster will be in and out of it all the time, bringing with him much of the loose sand.

The pit can be made with concrete lining, and a slight slope to one end where an outlet is provided for surplus water (Fig. 1). This will allow the sand to dry out rapidly after showers.

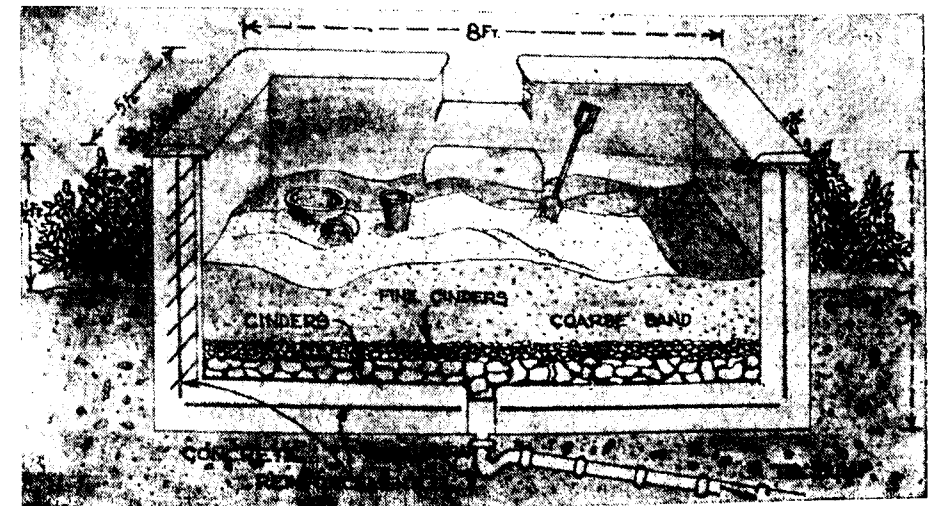


Fig. 1. A splendid sand pit where the youngsters can be left safely for hours to amuse themselves. Constructed of reinforced concrete it is adequately drained by means of a basic layer of brick cinders or cinders as well as by drainage pipes leading to a sump beneath ground level. Suitable dimensions are suggested.

In the child's latter years, when sand pits have lost their appeal, a very little effort will transform this feature into a charming water garden, with lilies and other aquatics taking the place of the sand pits.

Half a ton of sharp, river sand is enough for a small pit. River sand is clean and dries quickly after rain.

It is important that there should be no sharp edges. Coping stones should be rounded, or, if the pit is made in an informal manner, concrete edges should be smoothed off before the concrete sets. Toddlers are apt to fall frequently, and sharp stone or brick edges will be the cause of many unnecessary cuts and bruises.

This care about sharp edges is one of the golden rules in all parts of the children's garden, and a great many accidents will be avoided if every feature is considered from this angle before it is incorporated.

Furnish the sand pit with a few empty flower pots or wooden bowls, a small wooden spade, and one or two pieces of planned wood (not of the kind that will splinter easily). These satisfy any toddler and are reasonably safe.

If the pit is small it may be worthwhile to provide a waterproof cover. This will keep the sand dry in showery weather.

The creation of a sand pit in the garden, is a subject which leads to the larger question of the children's garden.

Children's Garden :

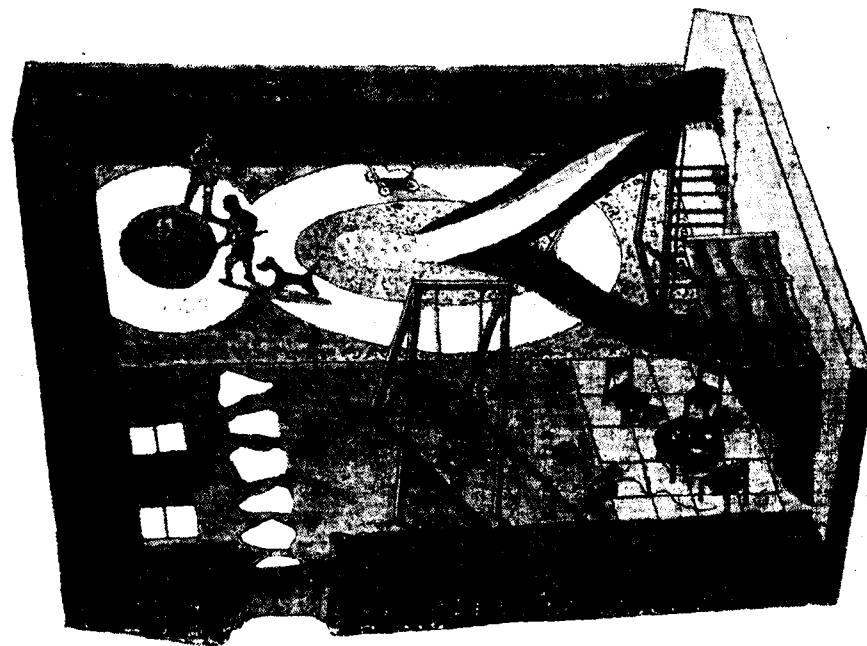
All children like, and need, their special place

in the scheme of things, and where there are several youngsters in the family it is wise to set aside a part of the garden for their special use. Obviously in a small suburban garden there is not much room to spare for such games as cricket and football, yet every growing boy will want some facilities for sport in the garden unless his energies are elsewhere diverted. The best plan, therefore, is to recognise from the beginning that some kind of game is wanted, and so to plan the whole garden area that every member of the family finds some diversion in it.

The plan of the children's garden given in Fig. 2 suggests a number of features, and others will be described, so that the garden owner can select from the range just what he feels most suitable.

It will be seen that there are opportunities for playing games, for swings, see-saws, as well as opportunities to learn the love of gardening. Small flower beds are provided which can, after initial preparation, be handed over entirely to the various children, who will gradually discover for themselves the fascination of garden making.

Children who are allowed to use small tools which can be handled without undue strain, who are



2. Such a garden as this is ideal for youngsters, both for playing and for outdoor meals. It includes a chute, pool and sand pit, swing, flower beds and paved area, while a high wall gives protection from the prevailing wind. All these can be included in an area of about 30 ft. square.

given suitable bulbs and seeds or seedlings, and are allowed the right to pick and use the flowers as they wish, become interested in gardens in just the way that many adults find their interest awakened by possessing a new house and garden.

Children's Plots :

An interest in growing plants will do much to help children to respect the main flower beds and borders. Children should be encouraged to become gardeners themselves and in this matter the following suggestions are worth consideration :—

(1) Children's plots should be no wider than 2 ft, so that the whole of the plot can easily be reached from the edge of the path.

(2) Children's plots should be well dug and manured before the children take over. Nothing makes a child dislike gardening more than failure to produce even a single flower.

(3) Bulbs of small size, seedlings just coming into flower, and seeds of quick growth, should be provided.

(4) Stakes and string, labels, and other similar items should be given when needed with instructions on their use. Every child likes to know how, and little children learn very quickly, so that a child taught by this practical method will soon be a guardian of the main flower garden, as well as of his own plot.

Garden Swing:

A space 6 ft. wide and 20 ft. long is needed for a swing. There must be ample room to pass all round the swing when it is in motion, or there may be accidents. It is seldom wise to use the branch of a tree for the swing. Moreover, a rope thrown over a branch will in time damage the tree.

Details of a good swing which could be erected by the gardener are given in Fig. 3. It is not sufficient merely to drop in stout posts. Inevitably these will sag one way or the other if they are not supported below the soil level as shown. Two posts of 5 x 3 ½ in. timber, with similar timber for the top bar, make a sound structure which is safe for all the family to use. Iron rings take the wear; if the ropes of the swing are themselves rubbed continually, they wear through in time and may even cause a serious accident.

A see-saw is an entertainment for the children and for their friends. As a rule it is an item that is purchased, and the amount of space needed for it will depend on its size. It need only take 10 ft., but it is wise to allow plenty of room round the see-saw, so that onlookers may stand around in safety.

Children's Garden Seats:

For the children, simple deck chairs of small size or stone or wooden stools may suffice, but

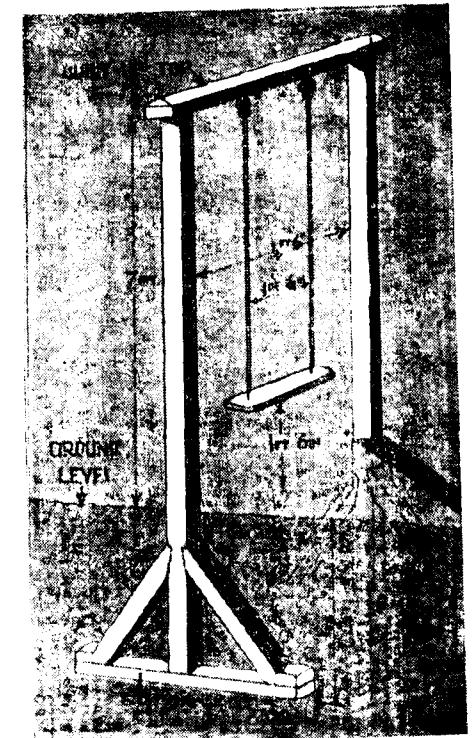


Fig. 3. The average swing receives rough treatment at times and it is therefore important that it should be of sound construction. This picture shows one method of supporting the uprights firmly and gives dimensions for a home-made swing.

there should be some seats of the kind suitable for outdoor meals, as shown in Fig. 2. A small table is also desirable; and, naturally, a little wooden house or garden shelter of their own is ideal, if space permits. Since these seats and tables will be more or less permanently set in the same place, special attention can be given to the ground space around them. Not only should a dry footrest be provided, but the paving can, with delightful effect, be laid in decorative patterns. These create a quickly-drying floor, and also give an artistic touch which is never ruined by the careless treatment which is bound to be given, at some time, to features in the children's corner.

Brick or stone paving, however, should not monopolize the whole of the ground space of the children's corner. Grass is desirable for many reasons, and, where a fair-sized plot of grass can be included, many games can be allowed for in the scheme. Even where a separate children's corner is out of the question, some games can still be provided for.

For Restful Recreation:

Let us now turn to the recreation of older people and of invalids, whose needs are quiet, beauty and comfort. True, every garden is a place of natural beauty but there are various types of garden that appeal more to the elderly and infirm than to the young and active. Even where the family consists only of young children and not-so-elderly parents, there may still be occasions when a convalescent needs real rest and relaxation in the open air, and there should be a rest corner from which all distracting features are excluded.

Perhaps, in the small garden, there is nothing more likely to give a feeling of repose than the use of grass, shrubs and trees, to the exclusion of gravel paths, flower borders and formal beds. Rest can only be complete if nothing in the picture disturbs, and flowers that demand staking, dead heads that ask to be cut off, weeds that flourish in defiance, can all detract from the pleasure of an hour in a garden chair.

Seats and shelters may well form part of the rest corner in any garden. Strangely enough, seats in the garden are not always as restful as they might be. Obtrusive colours rob them of their welcome. Stone seats, ideal as a part of the picture, can be anything but comfortable in use.

Seats and Shelters:

Every seat intended for the rest section of the garden should be comfortable, firmly placed, and have a dry footrest. If a seat stands on a grass patch, the use of a few pieces of paving where the feet are likely to wear the lawn surface is to be recommended.

An idea for a suitable garden seat and its inclusion in a rest corner is illustrated in Fig. 4.

Neither shelters nor ornaments should be of a spectacular or disturbing kind. A simple rustic shelter, a bird bath or feeding table, a sundial—these are the kinds of feature which fit well in the rest corner. But even these should be used sparingly, for a definite fault in creating a rest corner is to overcrowd it with such decorations.

Double-purpose Structures:

In the small garden, particularly, the aim should be always to use double-purpose structures—a bird bath which is decorative and well modelled is well as an attraction to the birds, a garden seat which is comfortable as well as decorative, and so on.



Fig. 4. Teak is a good material to use for a garden seat because it is practically everlasting and can be left out of doors the whole year round. The wood is left in its natural state and even after years of weathering still retains its beauty and colouring. This distinctive tree seat is only one of many appropriate designs.

Fragrance:

Shade, privacy, quiet and to these let us add fragrance. It is easily possible to have fragrance in the garden on every day of the year when elderly or invalid visitors are likely to use the rest corner. Shrubs grouped round the garden house or climbers used to cover screens should be those that will scent the air freely—honeysuckles, buddleias, and so on. For shrubs use Jasmine, Tabernaemontana, etc.

Conclusion:

We have now seen what the essentials are for recreation in the garden—a place for baby, the sand pit, the children's garden with flowers for the children to grow and appreciate, the garden swing and the see-saw, rest-corners for the elderly and the invalid, garden furniture and fragrant plants. All these can be added to the garden over a period of months or years so that the relaxation that you and your children get from these additions, will justify the expenditure incurred.

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PUBLIC (GENERAL-B) DEPARTMENT

G. O. Ms. N^o. 2798 dated 22nd August 1956

THE PRIVATE DIARY

OF

ANANDA RANGA PILLAI,

DUBASH TO

JOSEPH FRANÇOIS DUPLEIX,
Knight of the Order of St. Michael,

AND

GOVERNOR OF PONDICHERRY

**A RECORD OF MATTERS POLITICAL, HISTORICAL, SOCIAL,
AND PERSONAL, FROM 1736 TO 1761.**

TRANSLATED FROM THE TAMIL BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
AND EDITED BY

SIR J. FREDERICK PRICE, K. C. S. I.,
Late of the Indian Civil Service.

ASSISTED BY

K. RANGACHARI, B. A.,
Superintendent of Records, Government Secretariat, Fort St. George.

Volume 1.

ANANDA RANGA PILLAI'S DIARY

Chapter I

FROM SEPTEMBER 6th, 1736 TO JUNE 17th, 1737

Preamble—M. Dulaurens appointed to Council—M. Dumeslier dissatisfied with arrangements—Remonstrates with Governor—Resigns—Arrival and state reception of charter authorizing coining of money—Cost of obtaining this—Contracts for supply of piece-goods to Company—Merchants of old Company receive portion of these—Illness and death of Mâdavarâya Pillai—Arrangements for working mint—Potti Pattan pays bribe for employment—Kanakarâya Mudali illicitly shares in profits—Remarks of diarist touching this—Appointment of a merchant for the mint—Shares allotted to him and others—Rates fixed for coining—Division of profits—Working expenses, present and past—Results of working—Bribe paid to Governor—Coining done for merchants—Diarist proceeds to Porto Novo—Sailing of "Maure"—M. Signard speaks to diarist as to succeeding Kanakarâya Mudali—He visits Governor and members of Council—Conversation with M. Delorme—Arrangements as to cargo of "Sankarapârik"—She sails—Allegations against diarist of short lading—Defends himself—Governor finally satisfied—Arrival of "Phénix"—Her cargo—Treatment of French in China—Letters to friends from M. Lenoir—Departure of brother to Madras—Arrival of "Phelippeaux"—Meeting of Council to read despatches—MM. Dulaurens and de Choisy appointed by Governor members of Council—Arrival of "Duc de Bourbon"—Cargo landed by her and "Phelippeaux"—Contents of letter from M. Lenoir—Decision of Company regarding M. Dumeslier—Conversation with him—He states how M. Dumas obtained appointment as Governor—Bribe paid for this.

I proceed to chronicle what I hear with my ears; what I see with my eyes; the arrivals and departures of ships; and whatsoever wonderful or novel takes place.

Thursday, 6th September 1736, or 25th Âvani of Nala—At a meeting of the Council held at 8 this morning, M. Dulaurens was appointed a member of Council. At 4 in the afternoon, M. Dumeslier waited on the Governor, M. Dumas, and informed him that he would continue to be a member only on the condition that he was to be given precedence over M. Dulaurens in the matter of signing; but that if this was not conceded he did not care to retain his appointment. The Governor replied that he was bound to carry out the orders of the Company, and could not with propriety contravene them. M. Dumeslier then rejoined: "Was I not required, in a despatch which came last year by the ship in which you arrived, to affix my signature beneath those of MM. Dulaurens and Signard? In connection with this your predecessor, M. Lenoir, convened a meeting of the Council. He asserted that the Company had passed its order in ignorance of the actual circumstances of the case, and he promised to address the Directors on my behalf, and to cause a revised one to be issued. He assured you that in the event of the Company charging you with disobedience of its instructions, he would take the responsibility on himself, and he begged you to allow me to sign as fourth member, immediately after M. Legou; as had been the practice during his tenure of office. You thereupon undertook that until receipt of further communication from him, you would continue to me the precedence which I had hitherto been accorded. He then sent for me, and told me in your presence to retain my appointment only so long as I was in the enjoyment of my present honours, and to throw it up whenever I was required to sign after the persons to whom I have alluded. On this, you gave your word that you would respect what he had said, and you have done so for a year. If you will grant me the same privileges for another twelvemonth, I will remain in my present place; if not, I shall be obliged to resign it". To this the Governor replied: "Your functions will continue undisturbed, and your salary will still be the same. The only change required is in the posi-

tion of your signature, which you will have to affix after those of the gentlemen already mentioned." M. Dumeslier then made answer: "My means are not so insufficient as to compel me to submit to such an indignity. I regard honour as of greater value. I will therefore give up my post." The Governor exclaimed: "That is left to you", and M. Dumeslier thereupon took his departure.

Monday, 10th September 1736, or 29th Âvani of Nala—The Charter authorizing the coining of rupees which, together with a dress of honour, was sent by Nawâb Dôst' Ali Khân¹ from Alambarai, arrived at 8 this morning. Kanakarâya Mudali² came with it. A procession started to receive it, and as soon as it was carried into the fort, a salute of twenty-one guns was discharged from the ramparts, which was replied to by the three ships lying in the roads, each of them firing a like number of cannon. On the afternoon of the same day, the document, placed in a palanquin, was borne in procession through the town with drums beating, and music playing. To obtain it, the following sums were expended: A nazr³ of Rs. 80,000 to Nawâb Dôst' Ali Khân; presents to the darbar⁴ Rs. 25,000; to Imâm Sâhib Rs. 15,000: total Rs. 1,20,000, or nearly 40,000 pagodas.⁵ In addition to this, 8,000 pagodas were absorbed by gifts and other expenses when MM. Elias and Miran went to treat for the charter. Further sums were expended during the course of the negotiations; but as I do not know the actual outlay, I refrain from giving merely approximate figures. If M. Lenoir had been Governor now, he would not have spent so much money.

Wednesday, 3rd October, 1736, or 21st Purattasi of Nala—The bales of piece-goods for the supply of which Sunguvâr Sêshâchala Chetti entered, at 10 this morning, into a contract with the Company, were 1,471 in number, the value of which, calculated at the third-class rate, amounted approximately to 1,20,491½ pagodas. When the contract was executed, eleven guns were fired. The bond was signed by Sunguvâr and his younger brother, Laksmipati Chetti, and they were each given a present of six yards of red broad-cloth. In accordance with custom, a gift was made to Kanakarâya Mudali, Muttaiya Pillai⁶ and me, on our arrival at the warehouse.

Thursday, 4th October 1736 or 22nd Purattasi of Nala—The merchants of the old Company were also offered a portion of the contract. The number of bales which they undertook to supply was 1,262. The expenditure on this account was 1,14,785⁷ pagodas 10 fanams. A deed, with the necessary stipulations, was signed by Chidambara Chetti, Adi Varâha Chetti, and others of the old Company's merchants, and they received presents similar to those given to Sunguvâr. This occasion, also, was honoured by a salute of eleven guns.

Sunday, (21st October 1736, or) 9th Arppisi of Nala—Mâdavarâya Pillai, the son-in-law of Sêshâdri Pillai⁸ who went from the Chingleput pâlaiyam to Vâlikondâpuram in company with Srinivâsa Pandit, to serve there as an accountant, contracted venereal disease, which

¹ Nawâb of Arcot

² The predecessor of Ranga Pillai in the office of the Company's chief dubâsh and courtier at Pondicherry. DUBASH means literally "a man of two languages", i.e., an interpreter. This was the original significance of the word, but at the time that the diary was written it was applied also to a native agent, or broker, who negotiated the purchase of merchandise. Hence the title COURTIER (broker) conferred by the French authorities on their chief dubâsh.

³ A ceremonial douceur from an inferior to a superior.

⁴ The executive government of a Native State. In this particular instance the presents were, no doubt, bribes paid to officials.

⁵ The value of the Pondicherry pagoda was Rs. 3.

⁶ The chief of the peons, i.e., the head of police.

⁷ In Pondicherry 60 cash = 1 fanam; 24 fanams = 1 pagoda.

⁸ The father-in-law of Ananda Ranga Pillai. He appears to have owned the pâlaiyam of Chingleput. A "pâlaiyam" was a subordinate feudal estate, the tenure of which was one of military service. The holder of this was termed a Pâlaiyagar—more commonly a Poligar. The tenure has ceased to exist, and the Poligar of the present day is merely the holder of an estate paying a favourable rent to Government. Except in name there is no real difference between him and the ordinary zemindar.

was complicated by an attack of diarrhoea. Sêshâdri Pillai, who had heard the report that his son-in-law was in a state of utter prostration at Vâlikondâpuram, repaired thither, and on the evening of 18th Avani (30th August 1736) brought his daughter Kanakammâl and his son-in-law to Pondicherry. The patient, in spite of the best medical advice available, succumbed to the attack this afternoon, at about 2; since he was destined to live only so long. His death is a source of immeasurable grief to Sêshâdri Pillai. However, being a man of some fortitude, he does not betray his feelings.

Saturday, (27th October 1736, or) 15th Arppisi of Nala—Sêshâdri Pillai, accompanied by the young children of the deceased, who had recently arrived, departed for Chingleput.

(Wednesday, 5th) December 1736, or 24th Kartigai of Nala—The Governor held a meeting of the Council. Half of the goldsmith's work in the mint was allotted to Potti Pattan,¹ who came from Alambarai, and the other half to Vêlâyuda Paranjoti and others, who were already employed there. At 5 in the evening, both parties were given presents of broad-cloth at the residence of the Governor, M. Dumas. Similar gifts were also made to Mêlugiri Pandit and his son; and to Râmôji, the goldsmith.

Potti Pattan of Alambarai spent 1,000 pagodas to gain employment at the mint. Had he not done so, he would not have obtained it. Kanakarâya Mudali represented to the Governor that the mint at Pondicherry should be conducted on the same lines as that at Alambarai; viz., through a merchant; and that Sungu Sêshâchala Chetti should be given the post. The Governor and Council agreed to appoint him as the merchant for the Pondicherry mint. Kanakarâya Mudali and Sungu Sêshâchala Chetti divide the business; the share of the former being one part, and that of the latter two. Sungu Sêshâchala Chetti is ostensibly the proprietor, but the man behind the scenes is Kanakarâya Mudali. This individual thinks that his participation in the transaction is known only to himself, but every one in the place is well aware what share he has. I may remark that if M. Lenoir had been Governor at the present time, Sungu Sêshâchala Chetti would not have got the appointment of merchant for the mint. Neither would Kanakarâya Mudali have shared in the business, as he now does, without fear. As M. Dumas, the present Governor, is not a clever man, every one does as he pleases.

Wednesday, 26th December 1736, or 16th Mârgazhi of Nala—A Council was held this morning at 10, and Sungu Sêshâchala Chetti was appointed merchant for the mint. Three shares were allotted to him, and two to Sâlaru Venkatâchala Chetti, who is the agent of Tiruviti Bâlu Chetti; and it was decided that the silver sent by the Company should be coined into rupees. Kanakarâya Mudali gets a one-third share. This is probably known to the Governor, and to none else. In the town, every one is cognizant of it. The fact may perhaps have reached the ears of one or two members of Council. It was not decided how many rupees should be coined out of every seer² of silver. I have said before that two shares were given to Tiruviti Bâlu Chetti's agent. It was however determined in Council to give one to Bâlu Chetti, the younger brother of Gunthûri Venkanna Chetti, and the other to Venkatâchala Chetti, the agent of Tiruviti Bâlu Chetti. The order will be signed in January after the holidays.

December 1736, or Mârgazhi of Nala—*The Mint Accounts.*—As soon as the die for minting was received, the authorities sent for Mêlugiri Pandit, and asked him to coin into rupees

¹ Pattan is the caste appellation of the goldsmiths.

² In Pondicherry a seer was equivalent to 4,293 grains troy.

some silver which they gave him. He did so at the following rate. Dollars¹ and other silver coins weighing 2,100 seers were recoined, without allowing for expenses, into Rs. 49,173 2/5. Hence, 100 seers gave Rs. 2,341 9/16. In the case of pure dollar-silver, however, the number of rupees coined for every 100 seers was Rs. 2,343 1/4. From this a deduction was made at the rate of Rs. 16 in a thousand, to meet expenses, and this allowance was given to the mint-master, the remainder being taken by Government.

Although this was the rule, the Governor, M. Dumas, has fixed the rates for Sungu Sêshâchala Chetti, Kanakarâya Mudali, Tiruviti Bâlu Chetti, and Gunthûri Venkanna Chetti, in the following manner. Every 100 seers of dollar-silver is calculated to produce Rs. 2,335. From this, the Company's merchants deduct, for coining expenses, Rs. 16 per thousand. All silver bullion which is brought into the fort for the purpose of coinage is dealt with thus. The subjoined statement shows, in detail, how the allowances derived from coining money in the fort, both for the Company, and for private merchants, are to be appropriated for three years :—

	Shares.
Sungu Sêshâchala Chetti obtains	3
Kanakarâya Mudali obtains	1
Tiruviti Bâlu Chetti obtains	1/2
Gunthûri Venkanna Chetti obtains	1/2

Details of Working Expenses.—The following explains how the allowance of Rs. 16 for every thousand coined is apportioned :—

	Rs.
The goldsmiths receive	13 5/32
The stamper receives	27/32
The mint-master receives	1 1/4
The chief dubâsh, Kanakarâya Mudali receives	1/2
The chief of the peons receives	1/8
For charity	1/8

I now show in what points the present expenses fall short of previous outlay, and in what they exceed. Mêlugiri Pandit formerly granted the mint-master Rs. 2 1/2, but the Governor disallowed Rs. 1 1/2 of this sum, and struck out Re. 1/4 in the case of the stamper. The decrease in expenditure is therefore now Rs. 1 1/2. The increase under this head is, on the other hand, Re. 3/4, made up thus :—

	Re.
To Kanakarâya Mudali	1/2
To the chief of the peons	1/8
For charity	1/8

When the rupee die arrived, Mêlugiri Pandit, as previously stated, was directed by MM. Legou and Dumas to coin 100 seers of dollar-silver into rupees, and to submit a detailed

¹ "Patacas" in original: meaning indifferently dollars, or pieces of eight. The former rendering has been adopted.

account of the results obtained by him. The following is the statement furnished by him to M. Legou. Dollar-silver weighing 100 seers is equivalent to Rs. 2,343 $\frac{1}{4}$. The alloy of lead which should be added will yield for each seer Re. $\frac{3}{32}$, or Rs. $\frac{9}{8}$ per 100 seers. Thus the total number of rupees turned out from 100 seers of silver is 2,352 $\frac{1}{4}$. Out of this, a deduction of Rs. 16 a thousand will have to be made for minting expenses. In the face of the results arrived at by Mēlugiri Pandit, who had personally coined money to the extent of nearly Rs. 50,000, it is not easy to comprehend how M. Dumas and the members of his Council have decided to coin only Rs. 2,335 for every 100 seers of silver tendered by the merchants. The difference, as is evident, amounts to Rs. $17\frac{1}{2}$ for every 100 seers of silver. For the favour thus shown them, those doing the goldsmith's work of the mint bribed M. Dumas with 2,000 pagodas, at the rate of 400 pagodas for each of their five shares.

(Friday), 4th January 1737, or 25th Mārgazhi of Nala—I give a statement of the number of rupees coined for the Company's merchants from the silver received from them for that purpose. Dollar-silver weighing 224 seers and 65 pagodas-weight¹ was coined into Rs. 5,249 $\frac{1}{6}$, being at the rate of Rs. 2,335 per 100 seers. Coins stamped with a double head, and weighing 100 seers, were recoined into Rs. 2,318. Thus, for the total weight of 324 seers and a fraction, the value of coins struck was Rs. 7,567 $\frac{1}{16}$. The expenses of coining amounted to Rs. 121 $\frac{1}{16}$, or Rs. 16 on every 1,000 rupees. The remainder, viz., Rs. 7,446, was paid to M. Legou.

(Tuesday, 15th January 1737, or) 6th Tai of Nala.—I started for Porto Novo in view to making up into bales, and despatching, the goods required for embarkation on board the ship "Maure", which belongs partly to the Governor, M. Dumas, and partly to Imâm Sâhib, who is about to start for Mocha. There were also stuffs ordered for the "Heureux Marchand", and for certain tradesmen, which had to be baled at Porto Novo by me.

Wednesday, 30th January 1737, or 21st Tai of Nala.—The requisite cargo was placed on board the "Maure", which is bound for Mocha. M. Gabriel Dumas and M. Lefranquerie, embarking in a boat at Porto Novo, reached the vessel at about 5. Owing to failure of wind, she remained in sight until 10 to-day, and then disappeared from view.

(Thursday) 28th February 1737, or 21st Mâsi of Nala—At 9 this night, I returned to Pondicherry from Porto Novo.

(Friday,) 1st March 1737, or 22nd Mâsi of Nala—M. Signard, whom I went to see, observed, in a tone of slight disappointment, that I had not paid him a visit for about a month after the departure of the ship. He then said to me: "Kanakarâya Mudali has been ill of diabetes for a month past, and is entirely bed-ridden. His recovery is problematical, and you stand a good chance of being appointed in his stead. I make no doubt of this; it is only a matter of days." He advised me to assume, in my intercourse with the Governor, a deportment which would evoke feelings of regard, and so to word my language as to make an impression on him; and he favoured me also with other like kind counsels. Thereupon, I paid a visit to the Governor, M. Dumas, offered my respects to the other members of Council, revisited the Governor, and finally waited on M. Dumeslier.

(Friday,) 15th March 1737, or 6th Panguni of Nala—M. Delorme sent for me and said: "Rangappa, how is Pedro? How goes it with his complaint?" I replied: "The nature of the malady is such that one cannot be assured that a perfect cure will be effected. For four

¹ Standard weight of Pondicherry pagoda, dwt. 1 g. 16 mi. 6.
This was the Christian name of Kanakaraya Mudali.

days at a time there are symptoms of recovery, and then a relapse follows. This seems to be the present condition of his health." He then said: "You will be his successor. You may be almost certain of this. The Governor and I have considered the matter and have selected you for the post. God will favour you, and it must come about." Upon this I thanked him, took leave, and came away.

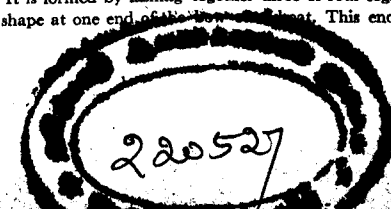
(Saturday,) 16th March 1737, or 7th Panguni of Nala—A quantity of blue piece-goods was received to-day from Porto Novo. This was made up for M. Dumas into twenty-six bales.

(Wednesday,) 20th March 1737, or 11th Panguni of Nala—The "Sankarapârik", which will sail for Manilla after she has completed taking in cargo for that place, goes to Madras, and there ships, in order to complete her lading, some fine chintzes. M. Dirois, M. Rousselière Dubois, M. Mahé de la Villebague, captain of the ship, native captain Louis Prakâsam, and supercargo Jaganivâsa Mudali, who is the brother-in-law of Kanakarâya Mudali, have embarked on board the "Sankarapârik", which is to proceed to the roadstead at Mylapore.

(Wednesday,) 27th March 1737, or 18th Panguni of Nala—The "Sankarapârik", having anchored off Mylapore, embarked the consignments awaiting shipment there, and set sail for Manilla to-day.

M. Dumas, on receipt of a letter from M. Dubois, written from the Mylapore roads, sent word through Naniyappan, the dubâsh of Cuddalore, instructing me to wait upon him. I accordingly did so; on which he said: "M. Dubois writes to me, from the anchorage at Mylapore, that you obtained a bill-of-lading for four bales, alleged to have been embarked at Cuddalore, but that these were not to be found amongst the cargo. Nor does it appear that the acknowledgement of receipt was shown to him. Did you put them on board the ship?" I replied: "How is he justified in making an assertion such as this? I will state every circumstance as it took place. Do me the favour of listening to me." Premising thus, I recounted to him the arrival of the bales from Cuddalore in a native craft; the communication of the news to me by the owner of a catamaran;¹ the despatch by me of Sâmaiyan to M. de la Villebague to obtain a letter to the officers of the ship, authorizing them to admit the articles; the receipt by him of this; the delivery by me of the same to the catamaran man with instructions to escort the boat containing the bales to the ship, in view to assisting in putting them on board and procuring a voucher in token of shipment; the fulfilment by him of my instructions; his handing to me an acknowledgement signed by an officer named Gossard; his departure after receiving the hire which I had agreed to pay him; and the return of the boat to Cuddalore. I also informed him how, on the following day, M. Rousselière Dubois, to whom I gave the voucher, caused a list of the bales to be prepared; and how he and M. de la Villebague attested the bill-of-lading with their signatures, and made it over to me. I further pointed out that the entries of bale-marks in the bill-of-lading were based on those noted in the voucher received from the ship. Thereupon, M. Dumas told me that so long as I was in possession of the paper signed by the persons named, I need not bestow any further thought on the matter. I next communicated to MM. Dumeslier, Signard, and Dulaurens what had occurred, and showed them a letter addressed to me by M. Dubois, from the roadstead at Mylapore. They observed that in the face of the facts stated, there was nothing for me to be anxious about.

¹ A raft very much used along the Coromandel coast, particularly by fishermen. It is formed by lashing together three or four logs of very buoyant wood, which are so shaped that the whole structure has roughly the shape at one end of the letter 'A'. This end is slightly raised by the use of specially shaped pieces of wood.



The next day, the Governor summoned the Brāhmans employed as accountants at the sea-customs office, and asked if they had any record of the cargo put on board the Manilla ship. They produced certain entries showing particulars of bales embarked from the ports of Porto Novo, Cuddalore, and Pondicherry. The Governor found, to his satisfaction, that the item of supply by me of four bales was included in the account of shipments from Cuddalore.

The "Phénix", which sailed for China on the 15th March 1737, returned to the roads. The supercargoes, MM. St. Sauveur and Brignon, and the captain of the ship, M. Desjardins, landed at 5.

According to the information furnished to me by M. St. Sauveur, the goods brought by this vessel for transshipment on board the "Heureux Marchand" and the estimated quantities of them are as follows:—

White sugar, 500 peculs, equal to 125 candies.¹
 White sugar candy, 1,000 peculs, equal to 250 candies.
 Tin, 4,100 peculs, equal to 1,025 candies.
 Camphor... 2 peculs, equal to...² candies.
 Mercury, 3½ peculs, equal to...² candies.
 Rolls of different kinds of silk.
 Porcelain crockery of various descriptions.
 Boxes of tea.

It is also said—though I cannot vouch for the correctness of the statement—that cargo other than that specified above, and to the value of 10,000 pagodas, belonging to the captain, deputy captain, and other officers of the ship, is on board.

The following account of the treatment accorded to the French in China is given by those who have returned by this ship.

M. Morlais, the captain of a French vessel which had touched there, went out hunting, taking with him a loaded pistol. The son of the chief of the province, who was standing on the flat roof of his house...²

Monday, 13th May 1737, or 4th Vaigasi of Pingala—This morning, letters were received from M. Lenoir, the ex-Governor of Pondicherry, who has returned to France. They were brought by a ship from Europe, bound for Madras. One of them was addressed to the Deputy Governor, M. Delorme, in which it was intimated that the writer had reached Paris, and that he had been appointed a Director. Another was to M. Lenoir's cousin, M. Dumeslier, the contents of which were as follow:—

"I reached Lorient on the 9th May 1736. After I had visited the Directors there, I proceeded to Paris, where I arrived on the 2nd of June following. I then visited the Directors of the Company. On the 9th of the same month, they unanimously agreed to admit me as a shareholder, and appointed me to the directorate. My brothers, wife and children, are well. This year the Company will send four ships to Pondichery, and three to Chandernagore, making in all seven sail. Two of them will leave at the end of October, and the remainder before the beginning of January next. If you so elect, you may continue in your present

¹ A candy is equal to 500 lb. avoirdupois.
² A denier is the original.

appointment; if you do not desire to do this, you can retire. In case that you have a mind to return, please, before you leave, appoint M. Dumas as the manager of your affairs."

On the arrival of this letter, Vāsudēva Aiyar and I visited M. Dumeslier, who placed it in my hands for perusal.

This evening, Tiruvēngadam, my younger brother, started on his way to Madras. To record what induced him to do this would occupy a number of pages. It does not behove me to do so now, or even to call the circumstances to mind. I shall, later on, take some other opportunity of remarking upon it.

(Saturday,) 15th June 1737, or 5th Āni of Pingala—The ship "Phelippeaux" arrived here from Europe, at 2 this afternoon. She is bound for Chandernagore. The captain, M. Lazar, landed from her silver packed in ninety-four boxes, which he left at the mint with instructions to coin it. When this, which weighs 30,000 mares,¹ is converted into rupees, she will leave for her destination. At 5, a Council was held at the residence of M. Dumas, the Governor, to read the despatches for the Government of Pondichery which had arrived by this ship. As in these the names of all the Councillors with the exception of two, viz., MM. Dulaurens and de Choisy, were mentioned, those gentlemen, at the request of the Governor, withdrew from the Council. The despatches were then read by him and the other Councillors. When the meeting had separated, the Governor opened the despatch addressed to him personally, and learned from it that if it was agreeable to him, he might appoint MM. Dulaurens and de Choisy to his Council. M. Dumeslier had already resigned his seat, and he and M. Delorme, the Deputy Governor, were about to embark for Europe; so that the Governor, finding that he could not appoint better men than they, and wishing to do them a good turn, appointed MM. Dulaurens and de Choisy to be members of his Council. As these facts have not been made public, people may say whatever they like; but what I have stated above is the exact truth. I have derived my information from the Councillors with whom I am acquainted. As M. Lenoir had left Europe to effect the sale of goods belonging to the Company, this year's despatch has not been signed by him. Another ship, which sailed for these shores on the same date as the previously mentioned, has been delayed on the way. The crew of that which has just reached this say that she will be sighted in two or three days hence. The vessel which has arrived brought no communications from M. Lenoir to any one here.

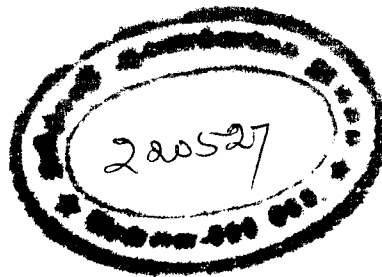
Monday, 17th June 1737, or 7th Āni of Pingala—At 2 in the afternoon, the "Duc de Bourbon", captain, M. Marquesac, arrived. M. Dirois, a Councillor, came by her to Pondicherry. When he and the captain disembarked, a salute of fifteen guns was fired from the battery at the fort. They then went to the Governor's house, and delivered to him the communications which they had brought from the Company. M. Dirois took up his residence in the house of M. Cordier. He was ill when he landed here. The despatches from the Company which were sent by this ship are in purport mainly the same as those which were previously received by the "Phelippeaux". It has forwarded to this Government in order intimating that if the Directorship, either of Chandernagore, or of Mahé, should fall vacant during the time that M. Dirois continues as Councillor, he may be appointed to the vacancy. The silver sent by the Company to Pondicherry in this vessel amounts to 30,000 mares. The present market price of a seer of silver varies from 7 pagodas 5 fanams, to 7 pagodas 6 fanams. Both the "Phelippeaux" and the "Duc de Bourbon" landed at Pondicherry, thirty-four

¹ marc=8 ounces, 1 ounce=8 gros, 1 gros=3 deniers, 1 denier=24 grains.

chests of coral; besides various kinds of broad-cloth, gold and silver lace, spirits, and miscellaneous European merchandise.

The "Duc de Bourbon" brought letters from M. Lenoir to his friends out here, and amongst others, to the Governor M. Dumas, M. Delorme the Deputy Governor, and M. Dumeslier. She also conveyed letters to M. Dumeslier from his father, brother, and other relatives. That received by him from his father lamented the separation from his son. The letter from M. Lenoir stated that after he had returned to Europe, the Director-Generalship of all India was conferred on him, but that he had not as yet taken over charge; that the Company had consequently written the despatches according to the usual form; that he had no concern in the orders issued by the Directors; that MM. Delorme and Dumeslier had permission to return; that the Company entertained a high opinion of M. Dumeslier; that if he wished to stay in India he might do so, and that in that case, he could sign his name after M. Legou in the despatches. There were other matters mentioned in the letter, but M. Dumeslier saw fit to communicate only the above-mentioned particulars to me. Vāsudēva Pandit was with me at the time. We both asked M. Dumeslier whether he meant to stay in India, or return to Europe. He replied that he did not see what advantage he could gain when he was separated and far away from his parents, brothers, sisters, and kindred. Alluding to his earnings in this country, he asked us whether we did not think that he could obtain the same in his own. He said that it was better to earn 10 pagodas in one's own land, than 100 in a foreign one; as in the former case a man need not give up friends and relatives. He told us many things concerning the administration of his country, and the customs obtaining there. His descriptions tallied with what we had heard before from other European gentlemen, and from Chevalier Guruva Pillai. M. Dumeslier told us how M. Dumas came to be appointed Governor of Pondichery. He said that a servant of the French Minister induced his master to use his influence with the Company of behalf of M. Dumas, and that the Directors finding that M. Lenoir was about to return to France, and not daring to refuse the Minister's request, sent out M. Dumas, with a warrant of appointment. In return for the services rendered by the Minister's servant, M. Dumas agreed to pay him 10,000 dollars immediately on his appointment, and a further sum of 2,000 dollars a year during the time that he retained the Governorship. He further spoke of the weak administration of M. Dumas, and the factions existing in the town. He gave us to understand that he and M. Delorme were sure to return to France by the first ship in September.

(To be continued)



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