

LETTERS OF ANTONIO GIRALDES SJ

An Indian Missionary and Relative of Saints John de Britto
and Peter of Alcantara

by Achilles Meersman OFM

Concerning ANTONIO GIRALDES, who for many years worked in the Madurai and Mysore Missions, very little is known. The only information the *Catalogus* of 1913 supplies is the following:

P. Antonius Giraldes, Lusit. an. 1775 et 1780 adhuc Malayadipatti versabatur; 31 Jan. 1775 scribit ad arch. Cranganor ad agnoscendum se recepisse notitiam suppressae Societatis. † Forsan Malaydipatti post 1780.¹

Now in the archives of the Madras-Mylapore Archdiocese a number of GIRALDES' letters are preserved. They are important as they give us an idea of conditions prevailing in the Madurai Mission during its darkest period² and also introduce us to some of the last missionaries of that famous Mission. It is unfortunate that they all date back to the last years of his long life when his health was shattered and he was troubled by anxieties.

About his person and background he at least supplies us with some information. In two letters both of 1792, he tells us that he is about eighty years old. Hence he must have been born around 1715 (*Docs* 4.5). Further, in his letter to the Bishop of Mylapore, dated Tiruchirapalli, 21 Nov. 1791, he calls St. JOHN DE BRITTO his uncle (*Doc.* 2). This seems impossible. St. JOHN was born at Lisbon on 1st March 1647, the youngest of four children, three boys and one girl who later married and was known as Donna PINHEIRO. His father, who belonged to the aristocracy of contemporary Portugal, died in 1650.³ When calculating the number of years which intervened between the birth of his children and GIRALDES' own birth it is impossible that the latter should have been his grandson and nephew of St. John. Hence he must have been a grand or great-grand nephew. In the family circle St. JOHN must have been referred to as *Uncle* and it is in this sense that Giraldes used it.

Besides referring to St. JOHN DE BRITTO as his uncle, GIRALDES also claims relationship with another Saint, with the Franciscan, St. PETER OF ALCANTARA (1490—1562), a Spaniard (*Doc.* 4). This is quite possible. From 1580 to 1640 Spain and Portugal were united under one crown and communications between the two countries unrestricted. As a matter of

¹ *Catalogus Missionariorum Societatis Jesu, qui in Veteri Madurensi Missione Laboraverunt*. Altera Editio Locupletior et Emendatio. Trichinopoly 1913, 33, No. 121. — I wish to thank E. R. HAMBYE SJ of Delhi, for having supplied me with this information.

² A. JEAN SJ, *Le Maduré*, vol. I. Paris 1894, 231

³ A. SAULIÈRE SJ, *Red Sand*. A Life of St. John de Britto S.J. Madura 1947, 2—5

fact St. JOHN DE BRITTO's mother was Spanish: Donna LUIZA DE GUZMAN, who like St. PETER OF ALCANTARA belonged to Spain's nobility.⁴ It is likely that the two families were somehow connected and that GIRALDES could claim relationship with St. PETER as well. Such connections were cherished in the age of Faith when sainthood constituted a glory.

His first letter in the Madras-Mylapore archives is dated Tiruchirapalli, 25 Feb. 1791. There he writes that when PEDRO MACHADO was dying, he was his assistant. MACHADO died on 25 June 1789 in Tiruchirapalli and interred in Avoor (Aur). In other words GIRALDES was in the Avoor-Tiruchirapalli area, as these two places were considered one residence or Parish. Thus when speaking about MACHADO, BESSE remarks that for a long time he was in charge of both places, living at times in one, at times in the other, something GIRALDES too would do.⁵ That GIRALDES was for sometime in this region before he wrote the first letter we possess, is evident from the Letter CONSTANTINO DE VASCONCELLOS, the Superior of the Madurai Mission⁶, wrote to the Bishop of Mylapore on 17 June 1789. There he tells the Bishop that GIRALDES is in Avoor sick, but working as if there was nothing wrong with him.⁷

To understand the next letter in which VASCONCELLOS refers to GIRALDES, it is necessary to describe at least in outline the jurisdictional setup in the Madurai Mission during the period under review. The Madurai Mission belonged to the Archdiocese of Cranganor, established mainly for the St. Thomas Christians of the Syro-Malabar Rite and entrusted to the Jesuits⁸. During this period, however, there was a shortage of clergy in the Archdiocese, hence the Ordinaries requested the Bishop of Mylapore to take this Mission provisionally under his jurisdiction. But at the same time the Ordinaries of Cranganor when possible would send missionaries, even when not asked to do so by the Bishop of Mylapore. Was it necessary for them to apply for faculties from Mylapore? In general they must have done so.

⁴ FERNANDO FELIX LOPES OFM, A Influência de S. Pedro de Alcantara na espiritualidade portuguesa do seu tempo: *Revista Portuguesa de Historia* 6 (Coimbra 1964) 5ff

⁵ L. BESSE, *La Mission du Maduré*. Trichinopoly 1914, 111: Avoor is twelve miles south of Tiruchirapalli.

⁶ CONSTANTINO DE VASCONCELLOS was one of three Goan Secular Priests who in 1788 were working in the Madura Mission: N. DE FIGUEIREDO, *Pelo Clero de Goa*. Bastora (Goa) 1939, 97. — 5 Sept. 1785 he was appointed by the Bishop of Mylapore, *Superior da Missão de Madura*. He was re-appointed on 27 June 1789: *Registo de Provisões e Termo de Juramentos* ..., de 1784 a 1790. Madras-Mylapore Archdiocesan Archives (= MA)

⁷ »... O P. Giraldes em Aur, está doente mas trabalha como são ...« Letter of CONSTANTINO DE VASCONCELLOS, Marramtra, 17 June 1789 to the Bishop of Mylapore (MA, Bundle 23, 4459)

⁸ *Bullarium Patronatus Portugalliae* I, 260—1

In a letter, dated Thanjavur, 15 Jan. 1790 to the Bishop of Mylapore, VASCONCELLOS writes that two Syrian Priests had left Cranganor for the Madurai Mission. They carried a letter from the Governor, THOMAS PAREAMAKEL, addressed to TIMOTEO XAVIER⁹ telling him they were to place themselves under his direction. The Governor had sent further letters to VASCONCELLOS, to GIRALDES and TIMOTEO. He adds that he had been told that it was TIMOTEO who asked for the Priests and goes on to say that it might be difficult to receive them as he had received a cautiously worded letter from some of the Christians inquiring whether they could expect Latin Priests. At present TIMOTEO was hesitating as to what he should communicate to the Governor of Cranganor and therefore wished to convene a meeting of some Missionaries and Christians. To this VASCONCELLOS had replied to GIRALDES, from whom he had received the information, that they should not call such a meeting as it might lead to disturbances. He himself does not know what to do in the circumstances, whether to accept the two Fathers or not. As it is there is enough unrest among the Christians. He therefore asks the Bishop for advice what he should do in case they arrive in churches which they presumed pertained to Cranganor, but which he holds belong

⁹ TIMOTEO XAVIER's name does not occur on the list of Jesuits, who according to the letter of Archbishop SALVADOR DOS REIS, dated 15 May 1775, had placed themselves under Cranganor: BESSE, l.c. 478. It does in the list of ex-Jesuits of the Mysore Mission, published by D. FERROLI SJ, *I Saniassi Romani*. Padua 1961, 451. — He was appointed Governor of Cranganor in March 1786 by the Archbishop of Goa. He was succeeded as such by THOMAS PAREAMAKEL in Sept. or November of the same year: C. C. DE NAZARETH, *Mitras Lusitanas no Oriente*, II. Lisboa-Nova Goa 1913—1924, 56. — In a letter, dated 8 Sept. 1787, the Bishop of Mylapore writes that TIMOTEO XAVIER and P. MACHADO are *Na Missão deste Bispado*, hence not in Cranganor. He died 21 May 1794 in Pratacuddy. It might be good to give an account of his death taken from VASCONCELLOS' letter to the Bishop of Mylapore, dated Thanjavur, 24 May 1794: não posso agora escrever qto. desejava porq. ainda estou mto. cansado da jornada q. fiz a Partacuri: movido de 2 breves cartas em q. o. Pe. Timo ... me dizia q. estava nas portas de morte, teria hũa grande consolação a receber ..., antes de partir desta vida, recebeo com advertencia e mta. devoção os Sacramentos ... e passou desta vida pa. a eterna com os perparos e disposição da alma ... Eu lhe invejo tanto bem. Faleceo pelas 2 horas e meia depois da meia noite do 20 pa. 21 do presente mes (MA, Bundle 21, 6174). When reading GIRALDES' letters (e. gr. *Doc.* 1) and other documents (e. gr. Letter of FRANCISCO RODRIGUES, 17 August 1793: MA 6178) where references to TIMOTEO occur, it seems that he occupied some position as far as Priests from Cranganor are concerned.

Though the Madurai Mission, territorially belonged to the Archdiocese of Cranganor, it was entrusted to the Ordinaries of the Mylapore Diocese. The Governor of Cranganor during this period, however, did not agree with this and held that they could exercise authority in it, especially in the Tiruchirapalli area. TIMOTEO XAVIER seems to have been deputed by these Governors to exercise whatever rights they claimed.

to Mylapore. Towards the end of his letter he writes that TIMOTEO is ill and wants to come to Avoor and stay with GIRALDES (*Doc.* 9).

That VASCONCELLOS was hesitant in admitting Priests to the Mission is understandable. Not only might the Syrian Priests create confusion, but Latin ones as well. Thus in the first letter of GIRALDES we possess he writes to José da Expectação¹⁰ that a Goan (*Canarim*) Priest had arrived and was disturbing the people. He had not shown any document, neither from the Governor, obviously of Cranganor¹¹, neither from TIMOTEO. Hence he considered him to be an intruder and refused to surrender the Church or the keys of the house without the authorization of TIMOTEO or the Governor. They were saying that when this Father came to Avoor while he was away, he wanted to break down the doors, thus causing scandal among the people. He therefore begs José da Expectação to plead with the Bishop of Mylapore to put an end to the disorders due to this Priest's arrival (*Doc.* 1).

In the meantime GIRALDES is hard at work in Avoor. On 26 May 1791 VASCONCELLOS sent a kind of report to the Bishop of Mylapore. He first explains that each Missionary cares both for the Sudras and the Pariahs. Hence the distinction between those Priests who served the caste-people and the non-caste, had been abolished. He then gives some statistics. GIRALDES had reported that in Avoor he had baptized 2000 infants and some 200 adults. They include those of Tiruchirapalli as well. It is not clear whether these figures pertain to the previous year or not. Likely they refer to all the Baptisms he had performed since his arrival, for VASCONCELLOS himself gives those he administered from 1786 to 1790¹².

He was, however, not at peace. He was being tormented by scruples and was filled with fear of approaching death. This he reveals in a letter he wrote to the Bishop of Mylapore from Tiruchirapalli, dated 2 Nov. 1791. He asks him for permission to retire to a secluded place there to prepare himself for death. It is in this letter that he speaks about his vocation, how he had wanted to imitate his Uncle, the Martyr, and with great difficulty had obtained permission to come to India. Now on account of his many sins, thus he expressed himself, he finds he has not been able to acquire those treasures he had sought. Perhaps he had hoped to gain the crown of martyrdom. Moreover he was overwhelmed with the thought:

¹⁰ Re. José da Expectação OFM A. MEERSMAN, *Annual Reports of the Portuguese Franciscans in India, 1713—1833*. Lisboa 1972, 298. (These Reports were first published in *Studia* (Lisboa) No. 25, 1968, 159ff). On 27 April 1790 he was appointed to the Madurai Mission by the Bishop of Mylapore: *Registo de Provisões*, 1784—1790 (MA). He became Visitor General shortly before 12 March 1793 (*Doc.* 6).

¹¹ At the time both the Sees of Goa and Mylapore were occupied. Cranganor had a Governor.

¹² MA, Bundle 21, 6193

“What does it profit a man” and wanted to withdraw to prepare himself to meet his judge (*Doc. 2*).

Perhaps one of the reasons for his depression was that disagreements with a section of the community had broken out. This should not surprise us. Such disturbances had occurred in the past and would continue to occur. Complaints against him had been forwarded to VASCONCELLOS, the Superior of the Mission. He in turn informed the Bishop in a letter of Tanjore, 15 Dec. 1791. He writes that the Christians of Avoor and Tiruchirapalli no longer want him as their pastor¹³. With the knowledge and consent of TIMOTEO a deputation of Christians from Avoor had gone to Mylapore to explain why they no longer were willing to have GIRALDES as their Pastor. This information the Bishop communicated to VASCONCELLOS. In reply to the Bishop VASCONCELLOS on 28 Feb. 1792 wrote that GIRALDES had arrived in Thanjavur and that they discussed the matter of transfer. GIRALDES, however, was determined not to surrender Tiruchirapalli, unless second orders were issued. Subsequently TIMOTEO sent a letter in which he writes that he had heard that the missionary from Ayampatty, most probably JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO, was being transferred to Avoor, which place like Vadugerpatti had all along pertained to Cranganor. In other words there was some confusion, Mylapore considered this area as having been entrusted to them. Others held the opposite. Hence the Governor of Cranganor, who at the time was THOMAS PAREAMAKEL, could exercise jurisdiction in the area. TIMOTEO seems to have been deputed by him, for the latter had insinuated that he had certain documents. GIRALDES therefore must have based his refusal to obey the Bishop of Mylapore's orders on TIMOTEO's authority (*Doc. 11*).

We now find two letters of VASCONCELLOS in which he reports to the Bishop of Mylapore the steps he has taken to compell GIRALDES to leave Tiruchirapalli. They are dated 9 and 17 April 1792¹⁴. A few days after the dispatch of the last letter, on 20 April, GIRALDES arrived in Thanjavur. Some Christians followed him. Others from Thanjavur itself joined them and protested against GIRALDES' transfer and so in order to avoid further disturbance he allowed GIRALDES to go a place called Marranari, a place between Avoor and Thanjavur. This VASCONCELLOS reported to the Bishop in a letter of 30 April 1792¹⁵.

¹³ De Aur e Trejirapali me escreverão mos. Xpãos = q. queriam outro Misso. e não o P. Giraldes: as rozoens q. propovão não tem apte algua (MA, Bundle 21, 6191)

¹⁴ Conforme a ordem de Va. Exa. avisei o P. Antonio Giraldes pa. logo sahir da rezida. aonde com a sua demora aumentão os escandalos: VASCONCELLOS to Bishop, Thanjavur, 9 April 1792 (MA, Bundle 21, 6186). — Pello portador q. foi buscar os SS Oleos dei nota. de ter avisado o P. Anto. Giraldes pa. sahir de Aur conforme a ordem de V. Exa: Same to same, 17 April 1792 (MA, Bundle 21, 6187)

¹⁵ Aos 17 do prezte. mez ohegou aqui o R. Anto. Giraldes... Aos 20 do mez se

But the Bishop insisted that GIRALDES transfer to Ayampatty and threatened him with penalties. In his letter of 4 July 1792 VASCONCELLOS writes that on 4 June he had written to GIRALDES accordingly. GIRALDES therefore surrendered and embarked on his journey to Ayampatty (*Doc.* 10). In a subsequent letter of 13 August 1792 VASCONCELLOS informed the Bishop that GIRALDES had left Avoor more than a month ago¹⁶.

There exists an undated letter of GIRALDES to an unnamed person in which he informs him that he had left Tiruchirapalli, but that due to severe illness, he was obliged to remain at Vadugerpatti. We must therefore date this letter sometime after June 4, when, as VASCONCELLOS reported to the Bishop in his letter of 4 July 1792, GIRALDES left Avoor for Ayampatty. In the course of this letter GIRALDES describes his illness and also refutes the many calumnies which were circulating about him, for which, so he presumes, he was being transferred (*Doc.* 3).

A similar letter, dated 11 Oct. 1792, he wrote to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO. He says that for three months he has been troubled by asthma and other infirmities. He calls himself half a corpse and refers to his advanced age of almost eighty years. He has consulted several physicians who advised him to go to Varaganery (Tiruchirapalli) where he could obtain European medicines. He wants Fr. JOSÉ to inform the Bishop and obtain from him permission to withdraw to some place to care for his health, where too he could examine the state of his soul. In other words he was still troubled in spirit. He reminisces too and recalls how he has laboured not only in the Residences of the Madurai Mission, but also in those of Mysore¹⁷. In the course of his missionary career he has baptized 36 000 persons of whom 10 000 were adults. He has undergone many privations and sufferings, he has been the object of persecutions and has survived an untold number of dangers. He begs Fr. JOSÉ to come to his aid and refers to the fact that he is a relative of St. PETER OF ALCANTARA to whom Fr. JOSÉ is spiritually related (*Doc.* 4).

levantou hũa perturbação movida pelos Xpãos q. vierão atraz delle da Trigirapalli e algun de Tanjor a qm. corromperão, portenderam corrôper a todos. Por força disto e pa. evitar maior perturbação ... fui obrigado a deixar hir o Pe. pa. hũ pequena Igra. q. ha em Marranari entre Aur e Tanjor conforme pedirão e o P. queria até representaram as suas razoes a V. Exa., pedindome as pprocesses eu them: VASCONCELLOS to Bishop, Thanjavur, 30 April, 1792 (MA, Bundle 21, 6190)

¹⁶ Aos 8 de Julho proxime mandei a Provizão ... da rezida. de Aur q. chegou aos 7 ao P. Fr. José da Expectação q. ja lá estava, dirigida no fim de informar do P. Anto. GiralDES, q. mais de hũ mez antes tinha sahido ...: VASCONCELLOS to Bishop, Thanjavur, 13 Aug. 1792 (MA, Bundle 21, 6185)

¹⁷ It is strange that in his *The Jesuits in Mysore* (Kozhikode 1955) D. FERROLI SJ does not mention GIRALDES. Neither does he mention him on the list of ex-Jesuits of the Mysore Mission, he published in his *I Saniassi Romani*, Padua 1961, 451.

A few days later GIRALDES writes a letter, dated 16 Oct. 1792, to the Bishop of Mylapore in which he repeats what he communicated in the previous letter. However, he dwells more on his spiritual needs and begs him to appoint him as a companion to the Visitor General¹⁸ who will care for him while still alive and will assist him at the hour of his death (*Doc. 5*).

In the meantime JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO had gone to Avoor. He left on 4 July 1792 and may have reached his destination that same day. Thus VASCONCELLOS in his letter of the above date (*Doc. 10*). But he did not remain long at that Residence, for in a letter to the Bishop, dated 25 Jan. 1793, CAETANO ANTONIO VIEGAS writes that JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO had returned to Ayampatty¹⁹. GIRALDES on the other hand was in Avoor. How and by whose authority he had taken up his residence there we are not informed. What we do know is that disorders had once again erupted. In two letters, both addressed to the Bishop, one dated 4 Jan. 1793, the other 23 Jan. 1793, VASCONCELLOS refers to them²⁰. It would be unjust to place all the blame on GIRALDES. Much of it was to be ascribed to the partisan spirit of the community. Moreover, GIRALDES on account of the state of his health, his anxieties and old age was no longer the man to deal with such disturbances.

That indeed GIRALDES had transferred to the area is further corroborated by a letter, dated 12 March 1793, he wrote from Tiruchirapalli. It is addressed to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO in Ayampatti who had recently been appointed *Visitador Geral das Missões de Madurei*. In this letter GIRALDES congratulates him on his appointment and then proceeds to inform him about a Goan Priest whom TIMOTEO XAVIER had dispatched to Avoor, but later ordered to leave within three days. This Father had refused to obey these orders and continued administering the Sacraments. Later, when the Bishop issued certain orders and GIRALDES wanted to fix them to the portals of the church, this Father prevented him from doing

¹⁸ Perhaps JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO in Avoor, in which case he had become Visitor General earlier than one could suspect from the letter GIRALDES wrote on 12 March 1793 and congratulated him on his appointment (*Doc. 6*).

¹⁹ ... agora como ja veio outra vez o do. R. Pe. José (da Expectação) in Aempettai resd. deste Bpdo ...: VIEGAS to Bishop, Pondicherry, 25 Jan. 1793 (MA, 4750)

²⁰ Demorei escrever á V. Exa. por esperar dar pte. do total socego de Aur pa. cujo fim ... os meios q. erão mais justos e julguei conduceveis, ajudou á este espça ver q. o p. Fr. José ... da Xpande. sem ... segundo dizião todos os q. vierão daquellas partes ver tbm. e ouvir q. era mto. do principal cabeça dos ... do P. Gerales ...: VASCONCELLOS to Bishop, 4 Jan. 1793 (MA, Bundle 21, 6181). — Pello tabal dei pte. a Va. Exa. do q. me lembrar devia. Agora só digo q. pa. socego da minha consciencia me não posso metter nẽ intrometter nas cauzas de Aur. O. R. Pe. Fr. José da Expectação me escreve o Ro. Anto. Giraides está na sua rezida. entregue de tudo, q. o largue q. assim o julgava e julga ...: Same to same, 23 Jan. 1793 (MA, Bundle 21, 6184). These letters of VASCONCELLOS, who too was advanced in age, are difficult to decipher.

so and used some words which *a reverentia e modestia não deixão escrever* (Doc. 6).

The next letter of GIRALDES we possess is undated. It was probably composed shortly after he wrote the one of 12 March 1793, for he continues to elaborate on the case of the disobedient Priest, which he had touched upon in that letter. Interesting is the manner in which he speaks of TIMOTEO as if he had certain powers not only in Avoor but in the whole Archdiocese of Cranganor (Doc. 7).

The last letter of GIRALDES we discovered is dated Vadugerpatti, 2 Feb. 1794. It is addressed to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO, the Visitor General of the Madurai Mission. In this letter he conveys nothing about his person or work. It concerns the ex-Jesuits of the Mysore Mission, which Mission was founded and maintained by members of the Goan Province. Ecclesiastically it belonged to Cranganor, but at the time seems to have been entrusted to the Bishop of Mylapore. During these years TIPPU SULTAN launched a persecution of the Church and forced the ex-Jesuits and also other Priests who, due to the decline in the number of Jesuits had taken over a number of Residences²¹. Three Fathers, XAVIER obviously TIMOTEO²², PAVONE²³ and GARAFALO²⁴, at the moment were in Vadugerpatti. They had written a letter to the Governor, obviously of Cranganor, the exact wording of which he does not give. It seems that the Fathers were having scruples regarding the way they were meeting their expenses. Somehow the Provincial of the Goa Province²⁵ was able to transfer a large amount of money to the Fathers in Mysore. But now the two Mysore Missionaries (PAVONE and GARAFALO) were using part of it in the Madurai Mission where they had taken refuge. Was this morally permissible? Shouldn't they return to those areas of the Mysore Mission which had been liberated by the English? GIRALDES himself feels they should return. It was, however, not merely out of a sense of justice that he wanted them to depart. He adds that by their withdrawal from Madurai, they would be rid of certain customs (it is hard to determine what GIRALDES means by a term he uses which looks like *ulapōis*) which the Goan Fathers introduced. Finally GIRALDES gives the reason why he is communicating all this to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO. He wanted him to inform the Bishop of Mylapore (Doc. 8).

²¹ Re. the persecution of TIPPU SULTAN, cfr. FERROLI, *The Jesuits in Mysore*, 204ff; A. MEERSMAN, *The ancient Jesuit Mission of Mysore. From the Suppression-decree of 1759 to the Persecutions of Tippu Sultan: Neue Zeitschrift für Missionswissenschaft* 23 (1967) 185ff

²² Note 9

²³ Re. FRANCIS XAVIER PAVONE, cfr. D. FERROLI SJ, *The Jesuits in Malabar*, Vol. II, Bangalore 1951, 561ff

²⁴ Re. Fr. GAROFALO, cfr. *ibid.* 590

²⁵ Most probably the last Provincial before the suppression-decree of 1759. His name was LUIZ LOPES. FERROLI, l.c., 199 writes that this Provincial sent Rs. 20 000 to Mysore.

Either GIRALDES had a heated discussion with VASCONCELLOS and used harsh words or else he was again troubled by scruples, for in a letter of 16 Aug. 1794, VASCONCELLOS writes to the Bishop of Mylapore that on 12 July GIRALDES forwarded a letter begging pardon for any scandal he may have caused him²⁶, something he had done on a previous occasion (*Doc.* 11).

GIRALDES at the time was still in Avoor or Tiruchirapalli. The state of his health may have caused him alarm or else he was having some urgent work and needed help, for in Sept. 1795 he sent a message to JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM²⁷ in Piharvarandey asking him to come. It would seem that JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM's stay with GIRALDES was to be of some duration. This information is contained in a letter, dated 28 Sept. 1795, JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM wrote to PAULO DA BRAGANÇA²⁸, the Dean of Tranquebar under whom Piharvarandey resorted²⁹.

The last reference to GIRALDES in the documents we discovered occurs in another letter of JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM to PAULO DA BRAGANÇA. It is dated Puchera (Thanjavur), 11 Oct. 1795. Early that same year Bishop CHAMPENOIS of Pondicherry with two priests settled in Tiruchirapalli³⁰. They resorted under *Propaganda*. Now VASCONCELLOS, who still functioned as Superior of the Madurai Mission³¹, made it known that, were the French Priests willing to accept his jurisdiction, he would allow them to remain. Subsequently news arrived that the French Missionaries had occupied the place and expelled the incumbent, obviously GIRALDES. Therefore JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM, a staunch *Padroado* man, sent word to GIRALDES telling him that were he to invite him, he would come to Tiruchirapalli. But the day after the Feast of the Most Holy Rosary

²⁶ ... O.P. Giralde aos 12 de Julho me escreveo lhe perdoesse algũ agravo ou escandalo q. me tiver dado ...: VASCONCELLOS to Bishop, Thanjavur, 16 Aug. 1794 (MA, Bundle 21, 6177)

²⁷ Re. JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM OFM, of the Mother of God Province, cfr. MEERSMAN, *Annual Reports*, 227 (Report 46 of 1784). His Indian name was CARTANADA SWAMI, as is stated in a complaint of some Christians and found in MA, *Registo dos Requerimentos e Despachos*.

²⁸ On 27 May 1785 PAULO DE BRAGANÇA was appointed Vicar and Dean of Tranquebar and its district. On 20 June 1790 he was appointed *Vizitador das Igrejas de Tranquebar e Negapatão e seus districtos* (MA, *Registo de Provisões*, 1784—1790). He was still in Tranquebar in 1796, cfr. Letter of JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM OFM to him, dated Thanjavur, 9 Jan. 1796 (MA, Bundle 25, 6354)

²⁹ Remetto a carta qe. me tem chegado do Geraldde em qe. me chama para o ajudar com toda a brevide., asim espero pela minha egoa pa. encontrar com V.R. e depois asentaramos no que for mais favoravel á esta e aquela Missão; sinto mto. ficar a lugar de Piharvarande sem se scabar ..., mas não hé minha: JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM to PAULO DE BRAGANÇA (MA, Bundle 23, unnumbered, but folded together with 6225).

³⁰ A. LAUNAY, MEP, *Histoire des Missions de l'Inde*, vol. I. Paris 1898, 169

³¹ Note 6

(7 Oct.) GIRALDES turned up in Thanjavur. Hence it would be useless for him to go³².

We now completely lose track of GIRALDES. In 1797 the English ordered the Church of Tiruchirapalli to be returned to the authorities of the *Padroado* Diocese of Mylapore³³. Was GIRALDES on this occasion posted back to Tiruchirapalli? Or was he allowed to withdraw to some secluded place for which he had pleaded so long in vain? Where and when did he die³⁴ and finally possess that peace he had desired so ardently, we do not know.

LETTERS OF ANTONIO GIRALDES

1— 1791, 25 Feb. — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Tiruchirapalli, to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO OFM

GIRALDES reports that a Goan Priest arrived in Tiruchirapalli without any papers neither from the Governor of the Archdiocese of Cranganor nor from TIMOTEO XAVIER. He therefore refused to accept him. The Priest in question thereupon tried to take over the place by force (MA, *Doc.* 4720).

Addressed outside to: Ao mto. R. Fr. P. Jozé da Expectação, Misso. Apo. e genuino Religiozo da Ordem Seraphica, Aonde estiver.

Hontem escrevi pella estafeta e agora determinei mandar... q. vocalmte... para a V. Rma. as desordens e aflicções em q. me acho p. q. V. Rma por amor de Jesus Xpo. faça com Sua Exa. q. ponha todos os meios proporcionados pa. se acabarem as mtas. bulhas e dezordens q. por vinda deste clerigo canarim estão principiadas. O tal clerigo não tem mostrado nem mandado athe agora Carta do Governador³⁵ nem do P. Timotheo Xavier. Donde mostra mais ser

³² Em 2º lugar ao qe. vim in vanum laboravi por qe. cheguei a Tanjaur, encontrando com. o velho (VASCONCELLOS) me dice q. se falava qe. o Tagachoes (?) se os Francezes aceitassem a sua jurisdição os deixar fhear En Trixinopali. E depois me veio hũa olla (letter written on palm-leaf) do seu servidor Ignatio e qe. desia q. os Francezes tinham botado fora ao seu Pe. com meassas de q. se não queria sahir por bem q. sahiria com a força do Coronel. Eu qe. tive esta noticia mandei dizer ao Geraldês qe. mandando elle qe. eu viesse (one word illegible) e q. me esperava En Trixinopoli tinha ehogado á Tanjaur hũ dia depois da festa da Sra. do Rosario, E qe. logo (two words illegible) agora q. me não estava bem Entrar aonde ja mais poderão entrar Portugueses e q. hera vergonha, mas q. se elle ficasse en Trixinopoli, q. tudo havia de conseguir conforme a sua vontade: JOSÉ DE S. JOAQUIM to PAULO DE BRAGANÇA, 11 Oct. 1795 (MA, Bundle 23, 6366)

³³ LAUNAY, 168ff; BESSE, p. IVff

³⁴ He may have died in Tiruchirapalli and buried in Avoor in the old Jesuit cemetery. There is no way of ascertaining as several of the graves there are unmarked: BESSE, 117

³⁵ At the time Dom MANOEL DE JESUS MARIA JOSÉ was the Bishop of Mylapore (1788—1800) and Dom MANOEL DE S. CATARINA Archbishop of Goa (1780—1812). Hence the Archdiocese of Cranganor is here indicated. THOMAS PAREAMAKEL was Governor of Cranganor from 21 Sept. or Nov. 1786 to his death on 10 March 1792: NAZARETH, *Mitras Lusitanas*, II, 56. For the period 1792—1800 NAZARETH does not list any Governors.

fur et latro q. proprio Pastor, Eu sem ordê de S. Exa. não entregarei nem fato nem couza algũa da Igra. E ainda a mesma Xave da caza, não faço tenção de lhe entregar; senão tiver ou carta de R. Timotheo³⁶ ou do Governador do Arcebisado. Dizê q. logo q. chegára á Aur, tendo nota. de eu ter vindo a hũ... e de ter comigo as chaves, quizera arrambar as portas com machados. V. Rma. q. ja tem uzo destas terras, considere o gravisso. escandalo e os meios... se deve uzar pa. se abater a soberba aos demonios q. tanta guerra me fazê. Pa. os tam-bem necessito mto. das santas orações...

2— 1791, 21 Nov. — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Tiruchirapalli, to Dom MANOEL DE JESUS MARIA JOSÉ OSA, Bishop of Mylapore.

GIRALDES requests the Bishop to grant him permission to withdraw to some secluded place there to prepare himself for death. He discloses that it was in imitation of his uncle, St. JOHN DE BRITTO, that he had volunteered for the Indian Missions (MA, *Doc.* 4721).

Chega a buscar os pés e protecção de V. Exca. este decrepito e meio caduco, por meio de hũa petição a qual se V. E. julgar justa terá por especialissimo favor e mde. o bom despacho; e maiores razões pa. ficar mais devoto obrigado; e tãobem mais dezambaraçado pa. rogar a Ds. pella vida e Saude da Illustrissima e Reverendissima Pessoa de V. Exa.

Eu dezejando dar a vida por Xpo. ás mãos destes barbaros, imitar e seguir os passos de meu Tio o Veneravel Martir João de Boritto, alcançei (ainda q. com difficulde.) Liça. dos meus Prelados, pa. missionar nestas terras. Como porem pellos meus gravissimos pecados me fiz indigno de achar os thezouros q. com tanta ancia venha buscar a estes paizes da India: agora q. estou no fim da minha vida, considerando e ruminando mtas e frequentissimas vezes = quid prodest homini = e atendendo a ql. he melhor = relinquer quam relinqui = determinei largar e deixar tudo q. hé mundo, prepararme pa. as contas q. brevemente. tenho de dar ao Supremo Juiz de vivos e mortos e tratar o restante da vida so e purante. com qm. me pode salvar e por quem deixei Patria e tudo q. este tão enganoso mundo pode brindar e offerecer.

Portanto prostrado com toda a sumissão, veneração e humilde. aos pes de V. E. como o lugar tenente de Jesu Xpo., e verdo. interprete da Da. Vonte., peço seja servido assignarme algum lugar, em q. dezambaraçado de todos os negocios do mundo posso quieta e pacificante. entregar o minha alma nas mãos de seu Creador. Espero como da mão de Ds. o despacho e Beneplacito de V. E.

3— No date (probably of June 1792) — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Vadugerpatti, to Rmo. Sr.³⁷

GIRALDES explains to VASCONELLOS why he is delayed in Vadugerpatti and as yet has not arrived in Ayampatty to which place he had been transferred. He sketches the origin of the disorders which erupted in Avoor, which go back to the days when P. MACHADO was dying (1789). Finally he refutes the charges brought against him and the calumnies which were circulating (MA, *Doc.* 4724).

Por Ordem de Sua Exa. intimada pello R. S. de..., deixado a Reza. de Trigirapali, parti logo pa. a Ria, destinada de Ayampatty chegando porem ao

³⁶ Note 9

³⁷ It is difficult to make out to whom this letter was addressed. It cannot be VASCONCELLOS, Superior of the Madurai Mission, as his name occurs in the text as if he were a person distinct from the one to whom it was being directed.

meio do camo. = i = a Varugapatti, querendo descansar alguns dias da trabalhoza jornada e por me parecer impossivel o continuar a viagem, sem me expor a perigo evidente da vida, assim pella ide. decrepita como pellos mtos., graves e habituais achaques, me vi de repente acometido de outro inimigo maior = except. = com hũ accidente de asma, repetido 4 vezes com tanta força q. mais parecião parocismos da morte q. lutar com outro inimigo. Donde pa. não ser notado de algũas faltas de obediencia = quod absit = julguei ser obrigado a dar parte ao Rma. a fazer deste modo sabedor á Sua Exa. da minha pronta obediencia, a minima insinuação das suas veneraveis ordens; porq. = animus quidem promptus est, caro autem infirma. =

Por occzião desta carta julguei ser conveniente pôr aos pés de V. Ra. as cauza das grdes. dezordens de Aur, as quais por outras vias se não poderão discernir (como hé bem). Estando o P. Machado³⁸ = p. m. = em agonia de morte, a q. eu assistia, vierão tãobem pella sua grde. charide. a vizitalhe os R.R. Timotheo Xavier³⁹ e Vascos⁴⁰. Em tal ocazião, hũ catho. por nome Masia Dagem tirando do baxo do traveceiro do agonizante as chaves de Aur, chamou logo outros 2 Cathos com os quais comunicou em segredo o seu deizignio, q. era de mandar as chaves á Muttu Pilay (Guarda da caza) com olla de tirar todo o fato q. achasse pa. ao depois os partirem entre si. Foi tão grata e tão bem aceita a tal olla q. sem demora se poz tudo em execução: confirmando o segredo com juramento ao pés do S. Crucifixo. Passado algũ tempo... o segredo e juramto. o Rva. (estando eu gravamte. enfermo) tendo nota. do furto, mandou chamar alguns Xpãos pa. q. averiguassem o facto. Foi finalmte. descoberto o furto. Constaria já ao Rma. por hũa escritura dos Xpãos averigunadores. Por cuja razão despedio o Rvos. a Masia Dagem (devendo fazer o mo. aos complices) vierão pouco depois varios pertendentes do offo. de q. fora privado Masia Dagem. Prevaleceo porê hũ q. na minha consciencia me parece o mais apto. Começarão logo os invejosos a aguçar as linguas serpentinas, contra. Eleitos e Eleito guardando o fogo infernal da inveja = sub cinere dolo = athe q. com elles fossem muitos queimados ou... Acendeosse mais o fogo com ocazião segte. Diserãome varios Xpãos q. na festa da Paschoa vinhão tantos e qtos. o q. eu nunca vira. Pelloq. o anno proxime passado mandei pôr guardas fieis. Forão estas guardas tão mal aceitas q. (conforme me avizou por olla hũ Xpão, o qual publicamte. testemunhou o mesmo) logo fizerão conciliabulo, para e de q. modo me tirarião a vida. Outra cauza de maior odio e inveja forão as esmolas q. eu dava a huns pobres do Marrava as quais tanto serião bem aceitas no Tribunal Divino qto. forão dezagradaveis aos invidos olhos dos Cathos., os quais julgavão temerariamte. q. eu queria talvez pôr em seu lugar os tais pobres. Tanto roe o abutre os corações dos culpados! Passada a festa da Assumpção parti eu de Aur pa. Trigirapali; no dia segte. fui avizado de terê os Cathos. de Aur escrito p. varias povoações ollas cheias de infamias, de sorte q. bem mostravão ter guiado a mão qm. lhes possuia o coração. Dizião entre outra q. eu hia fugido com todo o fato da Igra. e q. asim me devião embargar em qualquer pte. donde eu me achasse. Levei com paciencia tais desaforos querendo de olgũ modo imitar a paciencia de N.S.J.C. Ultimamte. os Xpãos de Mugeiur (?) me escreverão e mo. com testemunbos jurados provarão serem os Cathos. pro-

³⁸ Re. PEDRO MACHADO cfr. FERROLI, *The Jesuits in Malabar*, II, 567

³⁹ Note 9

⁴⁰ Note 6

metido certa quantia de dinhro. pa. o templo do diabo. Confesso a minha culpa. Não pode então disimular mais, nem conter a minha colera. Mandeí lhes logo ollas porq. os despedia do offo. Despedidos os Cathos. começarão com furias do inferno ou (como fazião condenados) a blasfemar sem temor de Ds. nem... Dizião livremente. q. eu tinha sido infamado em Tentucalu⁴¹ e em Pratacur⁴² de quebrantador do voto de castide. sabendo elles mto. bem q. o primeiro q. disse tal calunnia fora logo convencido pello Catho. e outros mto. Xpãos em a povoação de Pamjampatti e q. confessara ser falso tudo qto. contra mim dissera e q. por eu o ter castigado, instigado do diabo e da sua raiva dissera tais blasfemias: doq. pedio perdão, dando ollas de retractação pa. todas as partes aonde a sua lingua livremente. se soltara. E. q. o 1º se retractara e fizera na mesma Igra. de Pratacuri juranto. publico, diante do Sanctisso. Sacramto., jurando q. nunca vira nem ouvira em tal materia couza algũa contra mim e q. por lucura ou por odio levantara tal falso testemunho. Calumnias são estas, q. aos homens prudentes e cordatos, qdo. sahem, q. (Si licet in parvo, exemplis grandibus uti) são tão inveterados q. se fazê de nenhũ momento. Assim forão calumniados S. Damaso Papa, S. Gregorio Taumaturgo, S. Vitaliano Arcebispo da Capua, S. Narcizo Arcebispo de Jerusalem e outros mto. Donde tenho sempre diante dos olhos o dito de Xpo. Nosso Sr. = Si in viridi ligno faciunt, in arido quid fi... = si os coripheus da S. Igra. padecerão nota. q. mto. he q. eu a padeça.? O q. fizerão... tais Cathos. com os seus sequazes não cabe na minha pena. Por outra terá sido V. Rma. e Sua Exa. informado.

4— 1792, 11 Oct. — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Vadugerpatti, to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO OFM, Visitor General of the Madurai Mission.

In this letter GIRALDES describes his physical condition and suggests he be allowed to withdraw to some place where there is another Father, who would assist him in his last agony. He says he is about eighty years old. He begs Fr. JOSÉ to ask the Bishop of Mylapore to grant his request. It is in this letter that he says his family is related to that of St. PETER OF ALCANTARA (MA, 4726).

Ja mto. antes puz aos pes de Sua Exa. a minha incapacidade. de tratar de Reza., assim pella ide. em q. me acho (aqual basta pa. incapacitar a qualquer uelho a trabalhar) por q. como dizê os nossos... cios = Senectas ista est morbus = se a esta se ajuntão as doenças de pedra, de quebradura, amoyyoides e de agora, como podera huma natureza tão decrepita e debilitada com o trabalho q. pa. hũa Reza. tão comprida se requer? Ha 3 mezes q. a asma me tem afligido de tal modo q. falta de respiração me couza as mesmas ancias da morte. Isto porê, se me faria mais toleravel se tivesse perto algũ Sacerdote, q. em cazo de maior operto me disesse ao menos o: Ego te absolvo. (o q. falta por cauzas dos longes em q. nos achamos). Eu não deixei Europa pa. tratar de almas alheias e perder ao mesmo temps a minha. Dezejo estar com hũ Sacerdote q. frequentemte. me administra o S. sacramento da Confissão (e em cazo de neccsidade.) o Sagrado Viatico e Extrema unção. As doenças supraditas e habituais me sobrevierão agora de novo humas convulsões e contração dos nervos com tantas dores, q. apenas posso levantar cabeça do estrado em q. estou prostrado. Donde por conselho de 3 Medicos (q. me tem asistido nesta doença) sou obrigado a propor á V. Rma. o estado em q. me acho, afirmando todos 3

⁴¹ Dindigul

⁴² Pratacuddy

unanimemente. q. só sendo eu levado a Varaganari⁴³ (aonde V. Rma. se acha ao prezte.) poderia alcançar algũa melhoria com os remedios da Europa. Donde me foi preciso avizar o V. Rma. e por sua voz ao Exmo. Sr. Bispo de S. Thomé, pa. q. me conceda a liça de ir tratar de saude temporal e mto. mais da Espiritual p. q. = ne forte cū aliis praedicaverim, ipse reprobis efficiar. Eu escreveria ao mesmo Sr. se as dores q. padeço e a mto. tremula mão direita, (q. necessita da mão esquerda pa. q. com o tremor não... a perder a exercitara)... algum negar a isso. V. Rma. se digna escrever ao mo. Snr. pa. q. proveja aquella. Reza. em pessoa q. possa dar gosto a Sua Exa., comprindo com as obrigações de Misso. Porq. mandar pa. hũa Reza. hũ homẽ decrepito, hũ homẽ caduco, hũ velho de perto de 80 annos, hũ homẽ tres partes de cadaver e querer ou crer q. este tal homẽ haja de cumprir com as obrigações de Misso.; ao mo. tempo q. pa. este ministerio se necessita de homẽ de boa ide., boa saude e boas forças: ... só da materia pa. rizo, qdo. não possa, pa. murmuração em desdouro de hũ Sr. tão charitativo, sabio, prudente. Eu nunca jamais (emqto. tiver saude e forças) me neguei o trabalho, não atendendo a calmas, frio ou xuvas, nem o clima, agoas e ares diversos. Eu (sem me vangloriar) posso afirmar cõ verde. q. trabalhei mais q. todos os mais com Missionarios, ã (Sagdo. julgo) a vida, o. q. diz o Apposo. = Plus omnibus laboravi = q. corri não só as Rezas. de Madurey, mas tãohem mtos. de Maysur⁴⁴ e dei 36 mil baptismos e destes 10 mil adultos. Agora porẽ me acho sem saude, sem forças e sem animo pa, qualquer empreza. Foi mtas. vezes asaltado de ladrõis. Foi varias vezes buscado pellos gentios e regulos pa. me darẽ o ulti me suplicio, por andar livremente. pregando a fé nas suas terras. E agora não sou mais q. hũ putrido cadaver, q. necessito mto. do amparo de V. Rma. q. como he... e fo. do mais prezado predecessor e parente da minha familia S. Pedro de Alcantara, não duvido, q. estando companheiro haja de alcançar do mesmo Sto. a graça final, q. por sua intercessão incopantemente. peço á Deos.

5— 1792, 16 Oct. — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Vadugerpatti, to Dom MANOEL DE JESUS MARIA JOSÉ OSA, Bishop of Mylapore.

This letter is similar to the previous one of 11 Oct. 1792. He reminds the Bishop about the petition he submitted some months ago to allow him to retire (MA, *Doc.* 4727).

Já ha mezes q. fes hũa petição cheguei a buscar os pés e protecção de V. Exa. pedindo o favar de ficar perto de algũ sacerdote q. ao menos na hora da minha morte (q. conheço estar proxima pellas minhas infirmitades, asim antigas como novas) me haja de dizer = Ego te absolvo = o q. pellas instancias dos lugares em q. se achão os Missos. sera mto. difficil. Eu depois de fazer jornadas athé Verugapati, alem dos doenças habituaes q padecia de Quebradura... da cabeça, de novo se acrescentando asma... com tal contracção dos nervos q. qdo. me levantar, são necessarios duas pessoas q. tomando-me em pezo, me ponhão sobre os meus pés. Pello q. peço a Exa. pello amor de Jesu Xpo, se compadeça deste

⁴³ Varganari or Varaganery, a part of Tirichurapalli, where the ancient Church of the Holy Redeemer is located: BESSE, 53

⁴⁴ The Mysore Mission was founded in 1648 by L. CINNAMÍ SJ. It was staffed by Jesuits of the Goa Province, whereas the Madurai Mission belonged to the Malabar Province. In his letters we do not find anything to indicate how it happened he served in these two Missions.

pobre velho e queira por — me comp. do Rmo. Vizor. Ga. asim em vida e morte me ajudar: porq. fazer outra jornada; asim pella minha decrepita ide. q. está perto de 80 annos como pellos doenças q. padeço não só ha moralmt. impossivel mas ainda phisica. E de po. fazer jornada, estou impossibilitado qto. mais pa. tratar da Rezida. Eu estou meio cego, surdo e tremulo, conheço mto. bem a minha inutilide. e q. nemo tenetur ad impossibile. Donde humildemte. peço á V. Exa. me dê lugar a tratar so para..., da minha alma. Ja trabalhei na vinha do Sr. a qto puder. Dei 36 mil baptismos e destes á adultos 10 mil. Agora estou ja 3 partes de cadaver e a... q. tem na vida algũ spirito de vida, desejo empregalla so em tratar com Ds. o nego. da minha salvação.

6— 1793, 12 March — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Tiruchirapalli, to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO OFM., Ayampatty.

After congratulating JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO on his appointment as Visitor General of the Madurai Mission, he speaks about the troubles caused by a Goan Priest whom TIMOTEO XAVIER had accepted, but later dismissed and ordered to leave within three days. (MA, 4729).

Address on the outside: Ao Rmo. Sr. P. Fr. Jozé da Expectação Religiozo da Ordem Seraphica e Vizitador Geral das Missões de Madurey, Ayampettei.

Em pro. lugar dou a Ds. nosso Sr. as graças pello beneficio de trazer á V. Rma. bem saude. Em 2º, não sei se renda a V. Rma. os parabens da acertadissa. eleição q. Sua Exa. Reverenda. fez da Sua digne. Religioza pa. Pessoa de V. Ra. em Vizor. Geral: se renda os tais parabens, a toda esta Missão e mto. principalmt. a mim q. reconheço o grande bem q. me rezulta da eleição de hũ tão zelozo como prudente e virtuozo ministro do Evo. principalmt. em tempo tão calamitozo.

Ja antes dei parte á V. Rma. de ter chegado a Aur hũ clerigo de Goa a qm. o. P. Timotheo⁴⁵ antes dera carta pa. ficar em Aur e depois sendo informado (não sei por q. vias) das grandes virtudes do dito clerigo; e mandou sahir daquella Reza. dentro de 3 dias, prohibindo de tratar da Xpande. = isto he de confessar e administrar os Sacramtos. de q. não fazendo cazo algũ, foi continuando, dando confissões etc. E agora segdo. a ordem de Sua Exa. Reverendissa.⁴⁶ fazendo-o sabedor das ordens de... e querendo fixallas na porta da Igra, de nenhũ modo quiz consentir dizendo ser tudo falso, as outras palauras, q. a Reverencia e modestia não deixão escrever. Suponho não faltará algũ Xpão q. avize mais particularmt. á V. Rma.

7— After 1793, 12 March — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Tiruchirapalli, to JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO OFM., Ayampatty.

This letter was written shortly after he forwarded the previous one of 12 March 1793, for he continues to speak on the same subject he touched upon in that letter, namely the case of the unruly Priest. It was definitely composed before 21 June 1794, when TIMOTEO XAVIER, whom he mentions in the text, died (MA, 4725).

Outside addressed to: José da Expect. Belig. da Ordem Seraphica, Misso Aposto. Vzor. Geral da Missão de Madurey, Ayampettei

Also on the outside: Em tempo tam nublado o Irmão Timotheo Xavier pede o S. Bene. e auxilio de Va. Rma.

⁴⁵ Note 9

⁴⁶ Dom MANOEL DE J.M.J., Bishop of Mylapore

Pelo. eu julgava q. na carta de V. Rma. acharia eu hũ escudo impenetravel; c... q. ficasse defensido de todos os inimigos, me acho mais dezarmado q. antes, por não fazer este bendito P. Canarim⁴⁷ cazo algum das suspensões assim da parte de V. Rma. como das da pte. do R. Supor. Timotheo Xavier lhe forão impostas. Depois de lida a carta do R. Superior, escreveu q. elle o não reconhecia por tal; e q. faria só o q. V. Rma. lhe ordenasse (julgando talvez q. tudo viesse a sua vontade) como porẽ, tudo veio ao contrario das suas esperanças; quiz partir pa. Ayampettei uzando porem do conselho de seis prudentissimos consultores, rezolveu não fazer cazo nem do q. lhe ordinára o P. Supor. em virtude da S. Obediencia, sob pena de peccado mortal; nem doq. V. Rma. lhe ordenára tendo por melhor e mais segura a opinião dos seus letrados, dos Cathos. expulso e de 3 Matamares⁴⁸ q. as dos Theologos q. ensinão obedecer a seus Superiores, principalnte. qdo. estes obrigão em virtude da S. Obedia. aindaq. lhe não declarem o razão porq. o fazẽ. O Pe. Timotheo deve ter razões justissimas p. o mandar sahir não só da Reza. mas ainda de todo o Arcebisado (como escreveu o Sr. Governador delle). E eu tãobem em virtude de sua... me ter confirmado nesta Reza., o poderia mandar q. fosse com Ds. pa. outra pte. e não quizesse meter a fauca em seara alheia. Em mais havendo suspeitos graves de q. o tal P. hé herege sigilista, como V. Rmo. podera colher de hũa olla q. algũs Xpãos me escreverão, a qual mando aos pés de V. Rma. Eu porem = ut minus sapiens = não tenho sabido, nem com pes, nem com mãos pa. me não imporẽ o nome de... esperando todo o meu bem da da. Providca. e da Religiozissima Pessoa de V. Rma. a qm. Ds. nosso Sr. Conserve a vida, a saude pa. sua maior honra, gloria e bem das suas desgarradas ovelhas. V. Rma., he necessario. por freio a hũ homẽ q. mais parece ter natureza ferina e uzar de providencia mto. particular pa. livrar estas Missões dos gravissimos males q. o do. P. ame... dizendo q. ha de falar em varios tribunais e outras mtas. cauzas q. a sua mto. soberbo e pessimo natural lhes ditão... de varios modos, mas principalnte. na lingua, Dizendo = eu mostrarei ao P. Giraldes que eu sou. Eu com culapões he q. engordo e tenho talentos p. tudo. Ou sera p. pelejar com espingarda ou com espada ou com Zambu etc. Mto. proprios são estas virtudes de hũ Missionario! Os q. mando aos pés de V. Rma. sabem mto. melhor q. eu q. passo em Aur; e assim, V. Rma. poderá ter..., de boa paciencia pa. os ouvir. Fico em tudo pronto pa. obedecer e servir a religioessa. pessoa de V. Rma. cuja B. assim o P. Supor. come eu pedimos.

8— 1794, 2 Feb. — ANTONIO GIRALDES, Vadugerpatti, to JOSÉ DA ESPECTAÇÃO OFM, Ayampatty.

FRS. TIMOTEO XAVIER, PAVONE and GARAFALO were with GIRALDES in Vadugerpatti. All had worked in the Mysore Mission and perhaps with the exception of TIMOTEO who may have left earlier, had been forced to flee on account of the persecutions of TIPPu SULTAN.⁴⁹ They were using money, part of what the last Provincial had dispatched to Mysore before the Suppression. The question

⁴⁷ *Canarim*, literally an inhabitant of Canara, was erroneously applied to the people of Goa, situated on the Konkani Coast, who therefore spoke Konkani: S. R. DALGADO, *Glossario Luso-Asiatico*, vol. I, Coimbra 1919, 197

⁴⁸ Probably Catanares or Cassanares, Priests of the Syro-Malabar Rite

⁴⁹ For a history of the Mysore Mission and the persecutions of TIPPu SULTAN, cfr. D. FERROLI SJ, *The Jesuits in Mysore*, Kozhikode 1955

discussed was whether they could make use of these funds in and for the Madurai Mission and whether they should not return to those parts of Mysore which had been liberated by the English. In that case they would also be rid of certain customs or persons introduced into the Madurai Mission by the Fathers of the Goa Province (MA, 4722).

Address outside: Ao Rmo. Sr. P. Fr. Jozé da Expectação ... da Ordem Seráfica e Missro. Appco., Vor. da Missão de Madurey, Ayampetty.

Escrevi hũa carta pa. o Rmo. Governador daqual remeto o tegundo pa. V. Rma. ler. Nella falo dos P. P. de Maysur e digo q. de justiça são obrigados a hir dar pasto ás ovelhas como proprias, e deixar a qm. pertence p q. he seu de jure. Como V. Rma. hé Religiozo sabe mto. bem os estillos e q. cada hũ como filho da Provincia deve procurar pro. o bem de Sua e depois, havendo neccsidade. pa. vir tratar do alheio. Os 3 P. P. Xavier⁵⁰ Pavone⁵¹ e Garofalo⁵² q. aqui se acham agora juntos, e q. pa. se ajuntarem, escreverão a seu modo ao snr. Governador⁵³; todos pertençon a Prova. de Goa, cujo Proval., ga. a sua subsistencia, deu hũa grde. quantia de rupias, de q. os 2 se veo aproveitando. Tem escrupulo da a fazerem fora da sua Missão, não atendendo q. todo aquelle dinhro. lhes fora dado unica. e puramte pa. tratar das Xpandes. de Maysur. Dirão q. forão lançados fora pello Turco; mas como agora mtas. daquellas terras estão nas mãos dos. Inglezes, quem os impede a satisfazer á sua conciencia.

V. Rma. pode propor isto q. escrevo a sua Exa. Reverendissima o q. será pa. grnde. bem das almas asim dos P. P. como daquellas ovelhas, e ficara pella miza. Ds. livre esta Prova., e a Missão de Madurey dos Ulapôis (?) q. forão introduzidos pellos sobreditos P. P. da Prova. de Goa.

Allied Documents

9— 1790, 15 Jan. — CONSTANTINO DE VASCONCELLOS, Superior of the Madurai Mission, Thanjavur, to Dom MANUEL DE JESUS MARIA JOSÉ OSA, Bishop of Mylapore.

Only the relevent parts of this document are given. GIRALDES communicated to VASCONCELLOS that he had heard that two Syrian Priests, with letters from the Governor of Cranganor, THOMAS PAREAMAKEL, for TIMOTEO and others, were on their way to the Madurai Mission. They had been placed under TIMOTEO's direction. It was also said that TIMOTEO had asked for them. At the same time some people were asking whether they could expect Latin Priests. Some Fathers wanted to call a meeting but VASCONCELLOS in a letter to GIRALDES forbade it, as it might cause disturbances. VASCONCELLOS therefore asks the Bishop what he should do in the matter. Finally he adds that TIMOTEO went from Pratacuddy to Malayadipalli where he was once stationed, on his way to Avoor to stay with GIRALDES (MA, Bundle 23, 4459).

... tive nota. de partirem pa. a Missão ha 3 Mezes, 2 Catenares Jacob Zaraktel e Jacob Ceromal com carta particular do Rmo. Gor. de Crãgor ao P. Timo. a cuja total direcção os entrega; outra carta urbamte. escrita comunica ao do. P. a mim e ao P. Giraldes conducente ao mo. fim. Ouvi q. o P. Timo. os pedira mas parece me tera difficulde. em admittilos porq. daquellas ptes. lhe

⁵⁰ Note 9

⁵¹ Note 23

⁵² Note 24

⁵³ Note 35

veio outra carta q. subtilmente... se podia esperar por sujeitos do rito Latino etc., de facto os 2 Sacerdotes..., as cartas e ficarão em Cotatte e o P. Timo. parece vacilla, no q. ha de responder ao Gor. para o q. lhe ocoreo ser necessario. conclave de alguns Missos. e dos Xpãos. Respondi ao P. Giralde, plo. qual tive a nota. era escuzado o conclave, e q. eu julgava incomodo e perturbativo; porisso pa. elle não podia concorrer; não me expliquei mais, o Certo he q. nem para admittir os 2 sujeitos nem pa. deixar de admittilos ha necessario... ha xpanse. q. os dihariamente. perturba mto.

..., saber o q. he vonte. de Va. Exa. e o q. devo fazer cazo q. elles venhão ou outros pa. algũas das Igras. q. se suppoem de Crangor, e eu julgo q. na realde. são de Mailapor. Tãobem se posso asinar algũa das Igras. a qm. trouxe Provisão de Va. Exa., sem particular determinação de Igra. isto entendo qdo. a necesside. assim o peça e não haja perigo de inquietações na xpanse.

O Pe. Timo. foi ha hum mes de Pratacuri pa. Maliaarapatti, rezida. em. q..., qdo. entrou na Missão; achasse enfermo e de camo. pa. Aur, aonde me occorre quer ficar com o A. Giralde...

10— 1792, 4 July — CONSTANTINO DE VASCONCELLOS, Thanjavur, to Dom MANOEL DE JESUS MARIA JOSÉ OSA, Bishop of Mylapore.

VASCONCELLOS reports that he communicated to GIRALDES what the Bishop had decided. GIRALDES replied that he would immediately leave for Ayampatty whither he was being transferred. However, if there was any delay, they should ascribe it to the state of his health. VASCONCELLOS adds that he has also sent to JOSÉ (DA EXPECTAÇÃO) the order for him to proceed to Avoor to take GIRALDES' place (MA, Bundle 21, 6189).

Aos 4 de Junho escrevi ao R. P. Anto. Giralde a determinação de Va. Exa. e a pena qe. encorria no caso o. desobedecesse.

Respondeo com a devida sujeição e com a possivel promptidão se pos logo a camo. pa. Aiampettai; pedindo q. se houvesse algũa demora a attribuisse á sua indisposição; a esta attribuo, ... fazendo na jornada a cujo termo, tendo boa saude. E mto. tempo podia ter chegado; até agora não passou de Varugapatti.

Logo mandei them. a Carta de Vs. Exa. pa. o. P. Fr. Jozé⁵⁴ hir assistir em Aur; não veio com tanta brvide., como sahio o P. Giralde por q. a enchente dos rios e algũa outra justa cauza o impedio. Hoje partio daqui e talvez hoje mesmo chegará ao termo destinado.

Brevemte. darei pe. á V. Exa. com a mais atenção, q. devo; agora não posso.

11— 1792, 28 Feb. — CONSTANTINO DE VASCONCELLOS, Thanjavur, to Dom MANOEL DE JESUS MARIA JOSÉ OSA, Bishop of Mylapore.

Only the first part of this letter is given. A certain section of the Christians in Avoor were opposed to GIRALDES and did not want him to function as their Parish-priest any longer. The Bishop of Mylapore therefore issued orders for him to transfer to Ayampatty, but he refused to go. In the end he was willing to compromise if the Bishop gave him a new command. TIMOTEO XAVIER was involved in the affair as he had been given certain powers by the Governor of Cranganore in this disputed area.

Recebi a mta. estimavel carta de Vs. Exa. q. trouxerão os Xpãos, q. sciente e consentiente o P. Timo.⁵⁵ forão pedir a Va. Exa. mandasse outro Missio. pa.

⁵⁴ JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO, Note 10

⁵⁵ Timoteo Xavier, Note 9

Aur e propor as rezoens q. tinhão pa. não quererem o P. Giraldes, o qual aqui veio estando eu hũ pouco molestado e ainda não esto perfeitamente sam. Veio perturbado e indisposto aceitar o despacho da petição q. fes a V. Exa. e empenhado a ficar em Trigenapali succeda o q. succeder sem lhe fazer abalo a infamia, nã a boa fama. dei lhe os consos. q. devia sem effo. algũ, imo algũ excesso mostrou depois. desculpio com a decrepita ida., qt. distam da Goa... a qual a fas dizer e desdizer.

Tanto q. teve algũa nota. do q. Vs. Exa. ordenou me mandou o bilhete incluzo, dizendo mais... judicium o q. não ordenasse eu couza algũa sem 2a ordem de Va. Exa. a qual parece tem feito diliga. pa. impedir.

Poucos dias depois mandou o Pe. Timo. hũa carta a qual disse o portador, lira e fechara o P. Giraldes. Dis a carta q. por varias vias ouvira e agora lho confirmara o do. Pe q. Vs. Exa. escrevesse ao Misso⁵⁶. de Aiãpattai pa. hir pa. a rezida. de Aur ab antiquis pertencente ao Arcebispado, assim como Varug. = q. nenhũa ... se pode aumentar ou diminuir ... = isto posto qm. empeça eu a ida de tal Misso., porq. hindo se ... apresentar provizão e patente de qm. governa Arcebispado o declarara por intruzo e uzara dos seus poderes q. são bem amplos pa. não vir maiores tribulaçoens entre Missos. e Missos., Bispado e Arcebispado q. seriam peiores q. ... logo logo escrevasse eu á Aiãpete embaraçado a partida do Misso. sub pena... Alem disto dis que A. Giraldes lhe pedi = va pa. a resida. de Aur athe de outra = o q. posto esta provida aquella rezida., esta a scripta da da. Carta.

Eu vindo isto; o q. o Timo., aindaq. bom homen, tem repentes perigotos q. podem amotinar mto., tendo os amplos poderes q. insinua, vendo them. q. está de diverso animo q. antes; e persuadendome q. so mostrado lhe claros titulos e provas evidentes q. no foro externo prevaleção á posse a qual contra titulum não vale e sem elle tem força em todo o dircito, julguei não convinha botar neste perigoto ponto. Respondi q. Va. Exa. queria succedo da Myssão.

⁵⁶ JOSÉ DA EXPECTAÇÃO