“Borokishanpur lay to two or three miles to the South of Hugli, near the Dutch garden. O' Malley says that it was quite on the northern extremity of modern Chandernagore. We know also from Streynsham Master that there was a very large Dutch Factory still further to the South; he does not expressly say “South”, but since it is a description of his journey when he was coming from Hugli, the spot must naturally lie to the South.”

“This Dutch garden is several times mentioned in Hedges' Diary; it is also called Dutch Factory in some other places. This Garden or Factory is difficult to locate now, since there are no remains extant nor have we any precise indication in any record”.

“I have measured the plot and made a comparative study of its form and area; I have also gone through whatever materials are available among the records of the Hugli Collectorate. From all this I have come to the conclusion that the plot can not but be the old Dutch Garden. It now lies near Dharampur on the eastern side of the G. T. Road and is known as “Saheb Bagan”. There is a large and beautiful edifice in it over the tomb of a Dutch lady, named Madame Yeats.”

“The place has now run wid and Bamboo jungles have wellnigh covered it; the surrounding ditch is full of filthy water. As I stood in the midst of that solitude of forest - growths and gazed at the snow white marble memorial, the certainty that this was the place where the Dutch, skilful artists as they were,
raised their first edifice and planted their first Garden, filled my mind with thoughts too deep for mere words to express. A tablet on one side of the monument, written in Dutch, gives some details about the tomb. From my enquiry at the Hugli Collectorate I learnt that necessary repairs in the building are done by the Government and the cost is met out of the interest of the money deposited by the lady's husband. I searched the jungles but did not come across any remains that could give an indication of the fort-like factory shown in the maps. My belief is that if the place is excavated some signs of it would come to light. At present moment the garden is leased out by the British Government to a certain individual for a paltry sum.”
"Tout Khana"

"It once this question of the Dutch garden is settled, it becomes quite easy to locate the large tract of land or the factory belonging to the French which lay near the garden."

"The plot is now a garden at Taldanga and is still surrounded by a ditch. People call it Tout (or Taubt) Khana garden. This is, in fact, the place first occupied by the French East India Company in Bengal. It was very near the Dutch garden; and indeed subsequently it came into the possession of or was utilised by the Dutch."

"The locality where it is situated is called Boro, formerly Borokishanpur."

"Now the garden I am speaking of has still a gate just near the entrance which called Taldanga gate. At the present day this serves as the entrance to the town, but it is also so close by the entrance to the garden that any passer-by may take it easily to belong to the latter."

"I think no further proofs are necessary to demonstrate that the Taut khana garden at Taldanga was the first property, at least, a portion of the first property acquired by the French Company in Chandernagore and therefore in Bengal. And so far as it is known, the Dutch did not possess at that time or at any subsequent time any other large tract of land in Chandernagore."

"I have not been able to trace a consecutive history of the Taldanga garden. There was a brick-built house in the central portion and another in
the norther most quarter. The former most probably served as the Factory or perhaps was specially constructed for the purpose; subsequently three other buildings were added, with a large tank in the middle and a well - laid garden. It was from this earliest foot - hold of the French captured in March 1757, that Clive is said to have commenced his operations which finally dealt the mortal blow to French aspirations in India. Most probably it was from this place that he moved his army towards Murshidabad (on the 12th June of the same year), won the battle Plassey and consolidated the foundation of the British Empire in India. We also learn that this French Factory was converted into a temporary hospital at the time of the battle of Chandernagore. Then it appears, in 1780, Louis Bounaud, who was the first European to begin indigo cultivation in Bengal took this Taldanga garden on lease and started his business here. Later on, we find that a Dutch, named Berg Andres, also carried on indigo business from this place. But the subsequent history of the garden, how it was being utilised, whether it was all along kept merely as a garden as at present, I have not been able to find out."

"The origin of the of the word Taut khana is now here explained. It may have come from Arabic Tabut, meaning, a corpse and some think the name refers to the place being once used as a hospital. But one can not say for certain that the word has not come from Arabic Taid. But to me it appears that the word is Ta - at khana, meaning, a place for worship; and this sense is in keeping with the fact that there was a Dutch Church here, as I have said already. But it must be noted that in the map of 1851 - 52, the name is written as Tairut Khana. I may point out here that the place when occupied by the French was also called Farashdanga, just as the places by side of the marshes were called by such names as Haridradanga, Taldanga etc."
“Thus, then Taldanga garden was the place where the French established their first factory in Bengal. This was also the place where the British had the first taste of their subsequent greatness. Today it has the appearance of a very common place garden, surrounded by a ditch that looks almost like a gutter, overgrown with mango and coconut trees – lonely and uninviting. All that now remains of its former splendour to gratify the physical eye is a dilapidated and queerly constructed temple. And yet what glorious vistas of days gone by this simple neglected thing would open up to the inner vision of a lover and truth-seeker of the past!” **