

Galvanism



The following journal is intended to  
contain Experiments and Observations  
on Galvanism, and such Electrical  
Phenomena as ~~it~~ may seem to be  
connected with it —



Journal

of

Galvanism. —

8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1801 —

Calcutta



Calcutta - 1801

Dec. 8. This evening made my first Galva-  
nic pile. It consisted of 20 pair of metals  
 $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch square - but paper was used  
for discs. The pile acted strongly  
and my intention is to ~~do~~ <sup>at</sup> it  
but it my lecture on Thursday next  
which ends the present term. The  
Term should end only with the month  
but as the half yearly examinations  
commence next Wednesday the Students  
are exempted from attending Lectures  
during the remainder of the month.  
The greatest shock with me is where  
the conductors are placed on the in-  
ner sides of the lips. The flash of light  
is very distinct and certainly takes  
place before the conductor comes into contact.



1801

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec

This morning found the pile not quite so powerful as last night - Scarcely any difference <sup>from</sup> touching the same or different metals at the extremities of the pile - made Dices of Flannel acted well. The shocks follow each other very irregularly take from the Zinc disagreeable like the dissolving of Salt pile on the tongue. - The workman has made the conductor of Tin mixed with Lead instead of Zinc. There seems to be little difference <sup>in the action</sup> from this change, or even in reversing the conductors, that is applying Silver to Silver, and Zinc to Zinc -



Catania 1805

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec

Entered the pile with the flannel discs soaked in a solution of common salt.

At first it would not act, probably owing to the quantity of water running down the sides. When the water was wiped off, and the pile began to dry externally, the action commenced. It was more powerful than it had yet been.

— Exhibited the pile at this <sup>of the hour</sup> lecture.

Every student tried it, the shocks and flushes were strong and frequent. Students much pleased with this new and singular experiment.



Columbia 1001

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec

This morning the pile is as strong as last night - Look off the upper plate (silver) found the zone below it oxidized over about a fourth of its surface. Replaced the silver and it would not after many trials act. No' it acted well when I made the circuit with the resistor and lower zone. - The oxide was then rubbed off the zone when the pile acted as usual. - Intervals extremely irregular. -



1001

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec

The pile still acts, but feebly, the  
Dices being almost dry.

— Took down the pile found much oxyd  
on the Zinc and some on the Silver  
The latter was <sup>in some places</sup> ~~previously~~ almost quite  
black on the side next the flannel which  
was also in several places turned black.  
The Zinc and ~~Dices~~ had the  
same oxyd, that is of Zinc, the oxyd on  
both sides of the Silver seemed also to be  
that of Zinc, but I shall examine them  
more particularly afterwards.

The flannel dices adhered pretty <sup>by</sup> strongly to  
both metals.



6 Calcutta 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1801

I have now completed a pile of Jaffly  
pains. Intend to make it a mound at  
least. Got a mould for casting the zinc plates

— 9 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1802 —

This evening erected two piles of <sup>25</sup> ~~20~~ Jaffly each  
very powerfull — shock felt through ~~feet~~ as  
high as the shoulders — Diagonally strong in the  
mouth — Flash very vivid from the outside  
of the cheeks — The shock when frequently re-  
peated produced a numbness in the fingers <sup>and wrists</sup> — in-  
distinguishable on any place where the skin is re-  
moved — The Piles were of brown broad cloth  
and soaked in a solution of Muscivore of Ammo-  
nia —

— 10 Jan<sup>y</sup> —

This morning the pile as last night.  
felt a numbness in my arms after a number  
of shocks, which continued for at least an hour.



Calcutta 17<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 1802 7

Erased the Gal. Battery. Two piles nearly pass  
in each Over brown broad cloth, which had  
been soaked for several days in a sol<sup>n</sup> of  
Muriat of Ammonia - Very strong shocks, too  
much for the mouth

- Received from Rob. Armstrong two boxes  
which hold the two piles mounted - Carried  
them to Mr. Fooks, where Galvanic Shock  
was given to a large compound -

10

The pile is as strong as when ~~first~~ created  
yesterday at noon. The same Pains occur as  
formerly, i.e. the pile will not cut on account of  
the upper pile having been moved, but when  
the communication is formed between the two  
piles the action is powerful

- Applied to a paralytic case, the little membrane  
on one side the face. The shocks affected him



as much as the shock of pins jar well charged  
with electricity. —

19<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>ry</sup>

Wet nearly the same as yesterday. Looked  
down at 1<sup>st</sup> P.M. Much oxid. Both sticks so  
fast to the zinc that it is separated with difficulty.  
The oxid on the zinc plate very black on some;  
on others white. The cause of this difference I do not  
see. — Much oxid on the cloth. —

Exp<sup>t</sup>

Put a piece of silver on a plate of zinc  
and put a lock needle on the silver, when  
the moment touching of the silver first touch is the  
zinc it starts back, and cannot be prevented or  
lessen the plates. — ~~The~~ The plates may be con-  
nected with the electrodes of a Galvanic battery. —  
— M. Macarty thought Galvanism as useful to him  
in Dec<sup>r</sup>. — was galvanized again on the face, this  
morning. —



Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1862 9

Shew'd to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Buchanan and  
Mr. W. Hunter the Galvanic Battery consisting  
of two piles of 30 P. each — (see power-  
factory —

— All fluids which do not contain Oxy-  
gen are incapable of transmitting the gal-  
vanic influence E. G. Alcohol Ether, Fat &  
Essential oils — — Mr. Crankshank —

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> —

Exp<sup>t</sup>. To form a circuit between the elec-  
trodes of the Battery, I made use of the Elect<sup>r</sup>  
universal discharger. A <sup>series</sup> circuit was made  
by a gold Moh<sup>r</sup>, between the bottoms of the  
piles, and the wires were connected by the  
wires of the discharger. From these wires being  
two slips of tin foil passing each into a  
column of water, reaching to about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  inch



below the surface. The circulation was then completed by laying a wire over the tumblers from each end of which hung down into the water a piece of tin foil. By this contrivance the distance between the pieces of tin foil in each glass could be regulated at pleasure.

Ham

Put the machine in action. A thick fog now beginning to clear up. — Then, near the apparatus. In three or four minutes a white smoky substance began to issue from the zinc side, and descended in a wavy stream with a slow velocity to the bottom the distance being two inches — At the same time, or a very little after, the other slip of tin foil in the same tumbler and which hung from the end of the cross connecting wire began to issue <sup>in</sup> small bubbles of air which adhered for some time to the surface of the metal, like the experiment of the egg in the air pump, the bubble started off



were now and there, and rose to the surface.

The same phenomena took place in the other  
tumbler, but reversed with respect to the steps of  
limboid. The white matter descended to, and  
part lay ~~and~~ at the bottom. Part united with  
the water which it rendered milky, more in  
the zinc ~~tumbler~~ than in the silver water

<sup>th</sup>  
1 1/2 p.m. One of the tumblers had its water  
milk white, the other not so white, a white  
sediment in both. Took down the battery -  
Propose to examine the acids to morrow -  
The battery when cleared of the apparatus, gave  
Mr. Densly a smart shock.

Sat. 22 Feb. Jan 17

The white matter in the tumblers  
is the oxide of zinc. The limboit in  
both is decomposed -



Thurs 16 Feb. 1802

13

The pile decomposed the water only at the silver wire the oxygen gas is with drawn and the Hydrogen escapes. The oxygen gas circulates through the pile and appears at the zinc wire displacing but not decomposing the water in its neighbourhood — 14

29 March

This evening gave a lecture on Galvanism (continued the term). The Battery consisted of 100 pairs in 4 piles of 25 pairs each. Much powerful Hydrogen gas was evolved from the silver wire. The zinc wire became black in short the phenomena were exactly the same as described by Nicholson in his first experi-



14  
from out on water. A green matter collected  
at the bottom. The points of the zinc were  
became red, that of the silver was black.  
— When the touching rods are moved on the  
connecting ends of the battery, a continued  
uninterrupted discharge takes place, very  
severe on the wrists particularly <sup>on</sup> my  
left hand — The difference on my two ~~is~~  
hands <sup>is</sup> probably owing to the compactness  
of the muscles on the right, by <sup>having</sup> been  
burnt with phosphorus. —

14<sup>th</sup> April

Exhibited a Galvanic Battery of 120 pairs  
to the Mother, the Rev. Doct. Stacey and  
family — acted but ineffectually —



1<sup>st</sup> May — 1802

Facts in Galvanism —

1. Silver end of the pile is always minus, Zinc always plus.
2. The Silver end produces in water, Hydrogen gas, the Zinc end with a Gold or Platinum wire, Oxygen gas — with a Copper wire ~~no~~ gas, but the wire is oxydized —
3. Solution of Muriate of Am<sup>monia</sup> of Am<sup>monia</sup> of Soda better than com<sup>mon</sup> Water for the clothes — Dry Lime water Am<sup>monia</sup> diluted used achesis —
4. The Galvanic Shock most pungent when the skin is broken



and much more so on the minus than on the plus side. - Same with Electricity

5. Galvanism accumulated tho' surrounded by conductors of Elec<sup>n</sup>. Same (Diff: from Elec<sup>n</sup>.)

6. Galvanism is much less forcible through ~~an~~ a number than through one person. Hence it differs from Elec<sup>n</sup>. -

7. Metallic solutions made part of the circuit, instead of water - The silver will <sup>decompose</sup> corrode the metal, and no Hyd. Gas is produced - Arborescence -

8. Alcohol, Ether, the fat and essences oils do not conduct Galvanism -

9. Vegetables do not conduct Galvanism  
Hence Gal<sup>n</sup> is different from Elec<sup>n</sup> -



10 Plus and minus ends of the Pile Doubt-  
full.

11. Wax does not answer for ~~covering~~ <sup>lining</sup> the  
pile box - wax altered by the Galv. Inf -

12. The figure of the wet cloth is impressed  
on the ~~dry~~ <sup>dry</sup> sides of the metals

13. Old people feel the strong shocks  
more severely than young; but weak  
shocks less

14. The pile may be constructed of plumb-  
ago and a metal. -

15. Men and women in the same circuit  
women feel the whole shock, men little.

16. The charging of an Electric jar by the  
pile Doubtfull - (1862) Just both jars  
and batteries can now be charged almost instan-  
taneously -



17 The following composition instead of wet cloths greatly increases the strength of the pile

- 1 Lib of Clay
- 1 ounce of Plumbago in powder
- 1 ounce Black Oxide of Manganese
- 2 Ounces of Common Salt

Made into a paste and applied between the pairs of metals

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18. A case of paralysis which was unaff<sup>ed</sup> by Electricity was much affect<sup>ed</sup> by Galv<sup>an</sup>

19. When one of the conducting rods is made to vibrate on one end of the pile it produces a sensation similar to that called sleeping of a foot or other members. I doubt not sleeping may be a Galvanic effect.



20. From Mr. Nicholson's experiments it seems probable that the velocity with which the Galvanic pile produces Electricity is two hundred times more rapid than what can be produced by the labour of one man with a powerful Electrical machine, while at the same time its intensity is so low, that the shock may be considered as produced much more by the mass, or quantity of Electricity, than by the velocity of its motion.

21. In Galvanic Batteries the metals need not be quite pure.

— Z. B. has the strongest effect on an Animal when one end is connected with a nerve and the other with a muscle of the same kind.

— Plat. less powerful in vacuo, but more so in Oxygen Gas.

— X Two Batteries of the same No of pairs appeared equal in shock, and to the Elec. tho' the Diam. of the wires was as 1:5, but the latter most powerful in melting,



1003 — 5 March

22, Galvanized Cap<sup>n</sup> Thomas for deafness - Battery  
40 pair, half silver, half copper - very strong  
had it also on my own ears - curious rattling  
sound in the ears, difficult to describe - a chain  
round the ears.

23 — 6 —

I find benefit from the Galvanic Battery  
am persuaded that I hear better, some years  
ago

— Took to pieces the battery - clothes or dress  
smell strongly of Volatile alkali. — a  
proof that the muriatic of ammonia, in  
which the dress were soaked, was decomposed.



24. With a solution of Acetate of Lead, the Negative  
wire forms a Lead, owing to the Hydrogen in its  
nascent state rendering the use of the Lead. —

25. Solution of ~~the~~ Sulphate of Copper, no Crystals  
but a solid button adheres firmly to the wire —

26. Silver beautiful metallic Crystals - needle like  
Crystals —

27.



Calcutta 10<sup>th</sup> June 1903

Extract from a tele English paper

"The body of Forester who was executed on Monday last was subjected to the galvanic process by Professor Aldini under the impulsion of Mr. Keale, Mr. Corpus and several other professors at gentlemen. On the first application of Galv<sup>anic</sup> to the ~~neck~~ <sup>face</sup> the jaw began to quiver, and the adjoining muscles were horribly contorted, one eye was actually opened. In the subsequent part of the process the right hand was raised and clenched and the thighs and legs were ~~moved~~ set in motion. The by-standers thought the man would be restored to life. This however could not be effected as his feet had been strongly pulled to put him the sooner out of



Jan 24

by some friends near the Scaffold - There  
is proved the strong action of this new power  
on the human frame. - Drowning - Suffocation  
Apoplexy and other Disorders of the head -  
M. Meri, who is Nephew to Galvani,  
has applied it with success in several cases  
of insanity.



25

Catania 24 June 1803

At the house of M. Muntz J. Aldini  
established some curious experiments on Gal-  
vanism. The head of a Dog was cut off, and  
placed in conjunction with the neck, laid on  
a table rubbed with a solution of am.  
Two wires communicating with the Galvanic  
trough, were then applied, one to the ear the  
other to the anus, when both head and body  
were thrown into the most animated  
muscular motion. The body started up <sup>with</sup> by  
a movement which threw it over the  
table, the head moved, its legs and teeth  
grinding violently. A curiosity was expressed  
to have the experiment tried on a vici-  
ous <sup>and</sup> newly executed English paper  
(This seems to be of a finer date to the former)



Calcutta 10 June 1803 27

Doctor Bischoff has applied Galvanism  
with success to the following diseases

- 1 Dimness of Sight — Man <sup>years of age. 70</sup> 40 — 70  
2 Ditto — — — — — 20 —

arose from a relaxation of the muscles which  
Galvanism cured

— 2 A woman aged 20 years brought to  
bed, had a paralytic affection in her  
right hand, right side, and right leg  
cured by Galvanism.

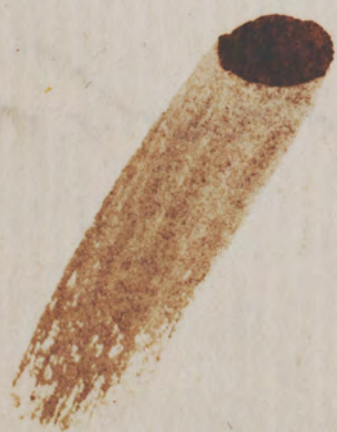
— 3. A man aged 50 — a chronic  
Rheumatism and pain in the shoulder  
cured, and his weak right shoulder

4 Epileptic affection greatly relieved  
Rallying 00 pain —



Doct B. finds that the action of  
 the two poles differs more in quantity of  
 quality - Zinc pole a shock, Copper or Silver  
 an excitation of the nerves - cause of the  
 diff: unknown. Tongue to the zinc pole  
 a sourish taste, to the Silver or Copper more  
 biting - alkaline - Most intense and more  
 lasting at the Zinc pole

Doct B. calls the poles, when the pile is  
 erected in this manner Silver, Zinc, but calls by  
 the underside the Zinc and uppermost the  
 Silver pole, for the extreme plates of the pile  
 he says are not concerned





Doctor Naudin at Paris has found  
 a person perfectly blind may be made to  
 perceive very lively and numerous flashes  
 of light by bringing one extremity of the <sup>Electric</sup> ~~Electric~~  
 pile into communication with the hand on  
 feet, and the other with the face, skin of the  
 head and even the neck. That reiterated applica-  
 tions of Galv<sup>ny</sup> when they comprehend the  
 half inch, produce great exultation, many  
 rivers involuntary tears, increased sensation of  
 the retina, an acid or Alkaline Taste, a great  
 secretion of the urine, and increase of heat  
 and temperature, and of perspiration in the  
 Galvanized parts. That the action of the  
 Galv<sup>ny</sup> fluid may be increased by drawing  
 it off by a sharp point

N<sup>o</sup> May: Feb. 1809



The coagulum of the blood was affected  
by the Gastric Mucosa for about 40  
minutes, or until the blood was cooled to  
nearly the temperature of the Atmosphere

N<sup>o</sup>. May: Feb. 1853

In attempting to restore suspended ani-  
mation by drawing it is recommended to  
apply Esig's gas to the lungs

The Discharge of Cappa is found to be an  
essential pigment, a little brown than  
known

Like in any other substance



# Voltaic Battery

## Facts

1. Two piles of an equal number of plates and of the same metal and order, one of 1 inch, the other of five inches in diam, appeared equal both to the Elect. and by shocks. —
2. A Battery of 200 pairs Copper and Zinc the plates 5 inches square melted 23 inches of fine iron wire, A platinum wire of  $\frac{1}{175}$  inch of an inch ~~was in~~ (diameter was fused into a globule
3. In joining metals the larger the diameter of the metals, the greater is the effect. —
4. Eight pairs of plates of copper and zinc 10 inch square, shales moistened with diluted muriatic gave sparks so weak as to burn iron wire; yet the shocks they produce are hardly sensible and the Chemical changes are undisturbed; when



The wire (similar) of only 2 inches square, which  
occasional shocks and chemical action, more than  
two times as intense, produce no light whatever

5. The Difficulty of decomposing water by common  
Electricity is now removed by (D. Waller's exp.  
A gold wire is fixed in the inside of a capillary  
tube it passes thro' the bottom to which it is fixed  
by softening the glass the fine point is made even  
with the surface of the glass - Strong sparks taken  
thro' this decompose water, the finer the more the  
decomposition.

6. The structure of the organs of the Torpedo. Electric  
Org. resembles the voltaic pile, laminae ar-  
ranged in columns, with moisture, a part as  
fluid between them - M. J. Smith - Phil. T. vol 63, 75

- Another circumstance of resemblance is  
that both give a shock in water.



7. There is no difference in the appearance of the spots whether it be taken at the positive or negative end of the pile —

8. The power of the Battery is in proportion to the rapidity of the oxidation of the metals. —

9.



Wednesday 22 Feb. 1804

Set  
 Out up a new pile of 36 pairs 3 inches  
 in diam<sup>r</sup> also a pile of the same W<sup>o</sup>  
 and  $1\frac{3}{4}$  square. The latter gave more powerful  
 shocks than the former. This I cannot account for  
 both piles ~~was~~ had the same cloth, and same  
 solution of musciv. of Am<sup>r</sup>: — On my return  
 home after dinner at 8 o'clock the action  
 was so weak as to be scarcely perceptible on the  
 lips — The piles had been up but 5 hours.  
 On other occasions I have found the action  
 continue for two days. —

— During the first powerful action of  
 the above piles, on applying my finger to  
 the upper end of the pile and completely  
 the circuit the sensation on the nail  
 which however did not touch the pile, was very  
 strong and painful



4 March

Inches in Dist

Received of Mr. Ware in all 100 pair of metals 3  
Copper and Zinc, which I intend to try against the  
same number of square plates 1.8 inch in the side

19 —

Received from Mr. Ware in all since the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst  
200 pair of 1.8 inch square.

22 —

Put up the 100 pair in three columns

and the 200 pair of 1.8 in 8 colls.

The first acted at first but indifferently, but next  
morning very powerfully — The other did not act

at all — (Discovered one pile in a wrong position

when this was corrected, two of the colls. acted powerfully



I could not however bring the whole into action together, owing, no doubt to some mistake in creating so many plates

+ By strata of filings Zinc and Copper, with wet cloths - Perhaps the filings might be kneaded together with some substance to increase the power. Possibly a greater power may be produced by file dust than by the solid metals



I an Mercurius thinks the muricite of Am<sup>on</sup> preferable to the acids: M. Davy says that diluted Nitric and Muricite acids are best, and that troughs are better than piles — I think piles preferable in many cases —



Calcutta 6<sup>th</sup> April 1862

39

Zinc and Battery

1. 150 plates top: of 3. with 50 Dills Silver and Zinc  
the whole 4 inches square - in four troughs  
- nit and 1 water 100  
M. (Devy K. Inst<sup>n</sup>) -
2. 200 pair of plates 5 inches <sup>Van Munnings</sup> square - Cavallo  
-
3. 22 series 8 inches square - Prof. Simon Martin -  
sol<sup>n</sup> of com. salt -
4. 60 series ~~is~~ 6 inches square in two troughs with  
improved app<sup>r</sup>. by M. Devy - Phil. Mag. No 57.  
- nit. and 1 water 16 -
5. 20 series copper and zinc 13 inches square  
M. Devy Royal Institution  
- nit. and 1 water 60 -
6. 52 series 5 inches square Klaproth - metals burnt
7. 120 series of silver and zinc 2 troughs - 2 1/4 inches  
Ashmun Society - ~~J. F. F. F.~~



## My own Batteries

400 series & 1.8 inch square  
 120 — round 3 inches in diam  
 100 — ~~sq~~ 5 inches square  
 25 — — 10 inches square  
60 = 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  square

} = 695 series

8. 120 pair Silver and Zinc 2 inches square  
 by Wini - St. Thomas's hospital -  
 Phil. M. 56

9. 8 pair 10 inches by 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  - Hatched at Thomas  
 cloth in Manual of Am.

10. 200 pair Silver and Zinc 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  in in (Diam.)  
 Charge great Sect. batteries - Van Marum

11. 110 series 5 inches square - J. Marum  
 12 series by Hatched 43 - 8 by Fowling



The Galvanic Battery No 7 page 39 belongs  
 to the Ashesien Society consist of <sup>120</sup> 60 pair of tubes  
 and zinc  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches square in <sup>two</sup> trough, Cells  
 half an inch wide hold 2 quarts of water in  
 which is dissolved  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz of muri. of Amm.

Sharp? inflamed - Bright spark from steel wire  
 with small skin irritation - in ox. gas it would  
 have inflamed

Phot. Mag No 41 and 42



Calcutta 9<sup>th</sup> April 1804

Mr. Bentley requests that I would galvanize his friend Mrs. S. -<sup>th</sup> I could not go but sent my trough, of 50 pairs, with instructions to Mr. Bentley how to manage it

— 10<sup>th</sup> April

Mr. B. - informs me the Rheumatism in Mrs. S. -<sup>th</sup> leg was completely removed in the course of a few minutes, and that she had no return last night —

20<sup>th</sup> April

Does the quantity of matter in the Conductor of the Battery make any difference in the quantity of Galvanic Electricity? - Probably the larger the better

Try various proportions (It is now say 105) that the part held in the hand should be large



21

M. Davy found in some of his first experiments that a solution of sulphate of iron was preferable to that of common salt for the galvanic pile. ~~Leads longer.~~

3 May

Is there any difference in conducting power between the living and dead subject? Try experiments on an snake, raw beef, mutton &c.

4<sup>th</sup>  
11 May

Galvanized a servant of Mr. Harington for a paralytic affection extending from the elbow to the wrist of the right arm. The force was 120 pairs in two piles. His power was insufficient to produce sensation in the disease.



arm altho' the shocks were very strong, rather  
disagreeably so. — There seem to be but slender  
hopes of recovery —

—  
13 May —

Later. The servant a second time, he feels the  
shock a little on the diseased arm — some  
hopes —

— 16 —

Later, the patient servant a third time — arm  
sensible to the shock, the power was only 75

— 22 —

Applied galvanism to Mr. Gardner's right  
eye the sight of which she lost all at once  
in the act of lifting a vessel of water to the  
glass to the window. As the eye <sup>from</sup> appears perfectly  
sound, the disease is most probably an affection



of the optic nerve - the perceived the gold  
flashes in the blind eye most distinctly -  
Power 50 in two Altitudes -

12 June

This day published a ~~Letter~~ paper on  
the present state of Galvanism, with my  
intention of giving up ~~Practical~~ Galva-  
nism. The increased number of patients  
obliged me to take this step -

10 July

I have constructed a galvanic ap-  
paratus for Medical and Chemical  
purposes, consisting of 100 series in  
two boxes, with glass tubes Gold and  
Silver wires &c for Chemical Expts. 100



and have already sold 5 lbs with many  
orders on hand. —

—20—

It is necessary, during the rainy season  
in this country to pack the Galvanic  
plates with like metals touching each  
other, otherwise contrary metals by the  
intervention of the very moist atmosphere  
will oxidate each other without the wet  
cloths. —

22

Sold four sets of apparatus since  
the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst.

— My plates, ~~are~~ particularly the  
big ones are <sup>length</sup> riveted with <sup>nearly app</sup> brass pins,  
a circular spot round the end of the



July  
pin on the copper side is much oxidized  
whilst the end on the zinc side is  
free from oxid.

— I propose to keep my apparatus  
in tin vessels, to prevent the plates  
from oxidation by the very great amount  
of the atmosphere — Copper tho' cleaned  
over so well, will begin to tarnish in two  
hours. —

24<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

This being my public morning for showing  
the Galvanic Apparatus, several Gent<sup>l</sup> attended  
— Machines in action — Small plates 60 — old  
3 In. (Ditto) 120 in <sup>two</sup> plates — New three inch  
plates 100 in two plates — This acted with double  
the power of the last mentioned — Decomposed  
water, both by the single and bent tubes. Found



gun powder. All the experiments succeeded  
perfectly well. — The plates ought always to  
be very well cleaned. Charcoal and water  
can be very well for cleaning the copper but  
not for the zinc

— This evening put up, with the assistance  
of Mr. Ware and Mr. B. — The 5 inch battery  
— 100 tubes. The shock was not perceptibly  
diff: from that of the three inch battery. It was long  
~~in consequence~~ of using gun powder that than  
the small battery, and certainly acted very  
imperfectly.

25 July

This morning found the large battery much  
weaker, but the small one much stronger.  
The latter burnt iron wire which the former



1006

would not touch - This must be owing, I think to the zinc plates not having been well cleaned. As the action of the machine chiefly depends on the oxidation of the zinc, the plates of this metal should be made quite clean.

20 July

This day received a chis from M. A. Colman Junr, informing me that his Uncle M. A. Colman is completely <sup>by</sup> cured of a violent Rheumatism by galvanism. His arm and Shoulder were attacked and the pain was so great that he could not lift his hand to his head.

31<sup>st</sup> July

In decomposing water, when from the zinc and touched the gold wire of the tube. The water in the tube soon became whitish, and afterwards it became purplish - Green the same.



100h

10<sup>h</sup> August

Francis Nixon Gurnsmithe called to inform  
me that Galvanism had quite cured his  
Rheumatism. This disease was of five months  
standing. It affected the arms thighs and legs  
of the right side. It was at times so violent  
as to prevent him for a fortnight from  
attending his work. He felt a little better  
after the first and was completely cured  
by the sixth application 100 pairs were used  
the machine acted very powerfully. His  
right arm only was galvanised, which  
renders the cure of the whole side more  
remarkable. —



1882

14 August

Yesterday at 6 p.m. put up a Galv.  
machine (200 series). It acted, immediately, very  
powerfully. This morning at 6 p.m. surprised  
to find the power almost gone. The cloths  
were soaked in a saturated solution of com-  
mon salt. Hence when a powerful but short  
action is wanted a saturated solution may  
be used, altho' a weaker solution is,  
the whole preferable —

— upon the power of the machine exercise

Galvanized W. Stanley —

#  
1 1/2 p.m. — The machine nearly as strong  
as usual. — Given the cause —



1004

9<sup>th</sup> Sep

It appears, from Waltham's Elements of  
Galvanism that ~~water~~ in order to produce  
the continued combustion of metals 300 series  
of Copper and Zinc each 4 inches square  
are sufficient -

the  
16<sup>th</sup> Sep -

M. W. uses for his battery 1 oz. Perm. acid  
to a pint of water - He makes use of the same  
mixture or 10 times for medical purposes.

2<sup>d</sup> Oct

Put up 30 series of 2 1/2 In plates cloths  
soaked in diluted Muriatic acid - used power-  
fully -

- Galvanised Mass written for St. Vincent's Dome -



1804

19<sup>th</sup> Oct

Prepared a frog for the first time. Succeeded perfectly - Contractions very violent. Hanging by almost every time struck the hand which held the other - Experiment with two glass also succeeded perfectly - After wards held the frog in contact with the copper end of one of the coils of the 200 pair battery, the contractions were vastly more violent than in the former experiments; but the animal in a short time lost all power of excitability. —

20<sup>th</sup>

Common Electricity has been found very often a perfect cure for worms - Galvanism will in all probability be still more successful. — Enquired Mr D Scott how to prepare a frog for Galvanic Experiments.



<sup>th</sup>  
27 - Oct

1804

Put up three Galvanic Batteries - one  
of 200 five inch plates, one of 200 three  
inch (Della and one of 100 two and a  
half inch plates - The large battery  
did not act so powerfully as I expected  
It burnt small wire, gold leaf, fine

gun powder -

one half of the large battery had sal-  
am: The other common salt - The former  
acted much more powerfully -

Mr John Ansell, with Mr Blaquiere  
visited me, by appointment, at eleven  
o'clock - Exhibited several experiments -  
Water decomposed, in a current - gold leaf  
decomposed - Experiments on a prepared  
frag -

Mr. B. the apparatus put up last night -



1853

28<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>

The two piles with Sal Am.<sup>e</sup> much weaker  
than the two with common salt, owing to  
the more rapid oxidation of the former. Sal  
Am.<sup>e</sup> is therefore preferable when a great  
power is wanted for a short time  
— took down the ~~to~~ Am.<sup>e</sup> two piles to be  
seen —

— 29<sup>th</sup>

The 100 plates with common salt act  
as powerfully as ever — all this day —

30

The same plates continue still to act, tho'  
weaker than

2 Nov<sup>r</sup>

Miss Wellbrock is quite recovered —  
Gale<sup>r</sup> has done for the 1<sup>st</sup> time, in this  
country



500  
country at least, but I triumphed over  
an obstinate case of St. Valerius disease —

— 1 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1805 —

Put up 24 plates 2 inches square in  
one plate with <sup>Delud</sup> ~~more~~ acid, stronger than  
formerly — Act in fact and starts some  
times very strong, at other very weak  
on trying the conductor on the machine.  
Sometimes no shock for three or four seconds  
then a very smart shock, after that a  
few weaker. — This is difficult to account for  
— The shock is not in one blow but is  
a vibratory motion, three or four shocks  
following each other very rapidly. —



1005

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan.

Put up for the <sup>public</sup> Lecture on Galvanism  
This evening 300 series of 5 inches square, in  
which were included 60 of six inches square —  
— also put up 300 series three inches in (Dial)

— The former with ~~set~~ music of Am<sup>a</sup>:

The latter with music acid —

— The latter acted at first powerfully, but  
the large plates began soon to lose power —

— Gun powder was used, Phosph? — wires, metallic  
Lam. Dissolved, ~~all~~ Tho' all the experiments

succeeded, yet the experiment was not so  
powerful as might have been expected —

This perhaps owing to the very great in-  
-fidelity of the Music of Ammonia —



20<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup>

Took down the large battery - found that my  
conjecture is right. The fragments of iron contained  
so much earthy matter, that the mixture was  
soon evaporated, and large dry ~~mass~~<sup>clots</sup> of oxid  
mixed with earth adhered to the plates -

23 Feb<sup>y</sup>

This evening gave the 1<sup>st</sup> of two lectures on  
Galvanism equally to the advertisement -  
two series of 3 fresh plates - acted well -

9 Feb<sup>y</sup>

Prepared the 2<sup>d</sup> lecture on Galvanism on  
acc<sup>t</sup> of the Disputations and Dinner as given  
to the front of the College, which however I  
could not attend, being indisposed -



11<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Attempted to give the 2<sup>d</sup> Lecture on Galv.  
began, but about the middle of the Lect.  
was taken ill and obliged to give it up.  
This is the first time that I have been obliged  
to give up a Lecture since my first appearance  
in that character 20 years ago.

---

10 April

This evening Messrs. Hare, Barley and I put  
up 100 fine iron plates with sol. of sal. am.  
and 100 of the same size with double maxims  
acid. Immediately on put up they acted very  
powerfully, burned <sup>very</sup> were deflagrated <sup>up</sup> from pt.  
after passing along the arms. The battery  
however soon lost its power of ignition  
tho' the shock continued the same.  
In about a quarter of an hour, the power



was partly restored, tho' it was never after  
equal to what it was at first. —

th  
11 April

This morning the two piles put up with  
Sal. Am. were found thrown down on the  
table, occasioned by the servant going to open  
the window. A great quantity of oxen dry and  
hard adhered to the plates. The solution, I  
think, was too strong — The other machine  
acted ~~tho'~~ tho' not so powerfully as when new  
put up. It burnt gold leaf, but would not  
fire lamp. The shock was very powerful.  
Immediately after the application of a few  
turns the machine <sup>did</sup> not ~~and for some time~~ show  
the least spark. — It resumed after some  
time, how long I did not observe. —  
The machine recovers its power in giving



Shocks in a much shorter time than  
in deflagration. — Given the cause? —

14

12. April

This morning the battery of 100 still gave  
strong shocks, ~~but~~ the deflagrating power  
~~was~~ is very weak, will not fire of. Or.  
— Took down to be cleaned —

15 June

I gave some galvanic Exp<sup>s</sup>. at my  
Lecture room to the subscribers <sup>to</sup> of my  
Galvanic Lectures. The (Deflagrating  
Experiments did not succeed. —

4 June

Put up a machine ordered by W. Tho. Beech  
2½ inch plates — acted more powerfully  
than I ever remember. —



Liverpool, Oct. 25, 1858

Among the remains of the philosophical apparatus of Dr. Davy which has come into my possession are -

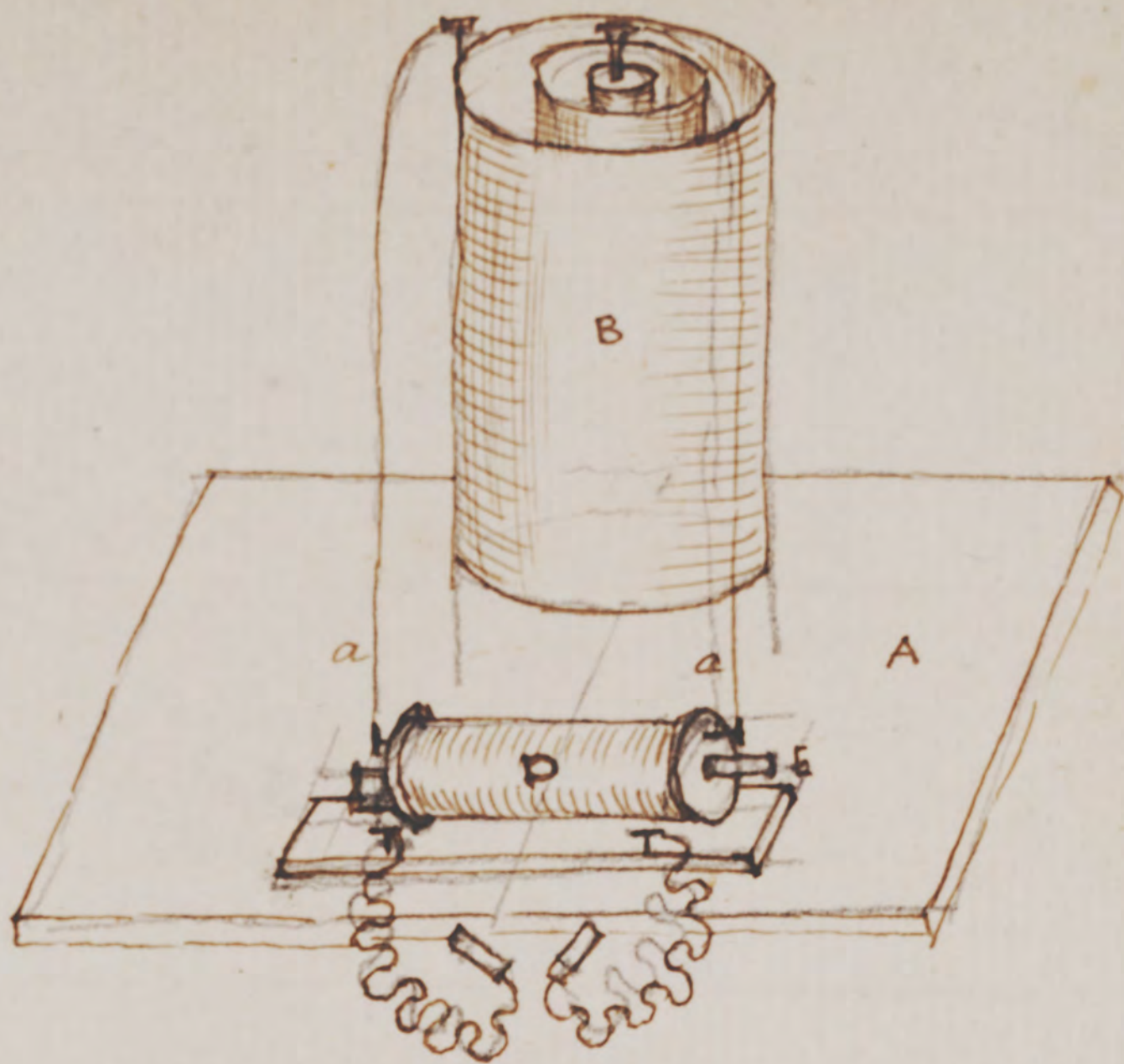
1. a galvanic battery or trough by Cruickshank consisting of 51 double plates, silver and zinc, each plate  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches square
2. A voltaic battery, or pile, consisting of 63 double plates, copper and zinc - 2 in. diam.
3. A similar pile of 12 plates, 2 in. diam.
4. A series of 27 double plates, copper and zinc 2 in. square, the remains of another Cruickshank trough -

With some two or three exceptions, the three first series of plates are sound and good, only greatly oxidized, and very often deeply corroded. The last series seem of little account, but with care and trouble might be made available - As it is my intention to bring these plates into requisition as an occasional amusement, I am now busy smoothing and cleaning them for that purpose; and, to note down any observations that may present themselves, I have laid large to this journal of the Doctr to record them -

William J. Pridmore



Almost every fine evening,  
but particularly on that  
of a Saturday, several Gal-  
vanic machines, or batteries  
are to be met on the streets.  
And very often about the old  
Haymarket - they are each  
accompanied with a gas burner  
and always surrounded by an  
crowd - Any person may feel  
the shock, or get galvanised  
for one half penny - I tried one



to night, and found it very powerful. The machine  
is vastly different from either the pile or the trough -  
as the accompanying sketch will show - A is the table  
on which the apparatus stands. B, a thin copper jar  
inside of which is an earthen-ware jar - Inside the  
earthenware jar is a cylindrical piece of zinc, seemingly  
solid - D is a cylindrical apparatus for collecting the gal-  
vanic fluid by the two copper wires a, a. - The collecting  
apparatus is placed upon a thin wooden pedestal to  
which are attached two flexible wires each furnished  
with a brass handle - E is a sliding rod divided into degrees  
for ascertaining the power of the shock. Both the copper  
and earthenware jars are nearly filled with solution.

The above is a correct representation, and perfectly  
intelligible, excepting the interior of the cylinder D  
of which I have no idea - the ends are wood, and it  
seems to be covered with leather -



Gale Exp<sup>1</sup>

1. Frag — several non cond.
2. Living animal.
3. Fuchs of metals burnt
4. Candle lighted — Phosphor
5. Cotton lighted — resin
6. Benzoin resin burnt
7. Gun powder burnt
8. Oxidant of pot ash
9. Ditto in presence —
10. Oxygen & Nitrogen gas.
11. Charcoal in oxygen gas.



Expt with frogs

1. Laid on a plate
2. Held in the hand
3. Non conductor
3. Some kind of metals
4. Two glasses of water -







1  
Philos. Magazine on Zuluana

1000	Sept	—	no	20	
1001	March	—		34	
—	April	—		35	
—	May	—		36	—
				42	
—	Nov	—		<del>49</del>	
—	Dec.	—		43	—
1002	Jan <sup>r</sup>	—		44	page 310, 326
—	March	—		46	— 105, 161
—	May	—		48	— 374
—	July	—		50	— 209
—	Oct.	—		53	— 00
—	Nov	—		54	— 191
	Dec.	—		55	— 200
1003	Jan <sup>r</sup>	—		56	— 364



7. A spasm in my left side cured by  
the instantaneous application of the  
conducter

8. Two cases of paralytic affection by  
W. Fleming - Chesapeake -

9. A case of St. Vitus's Dance Miss Wicks  
had taken no medicine. G. D. -



Diseases cured by Galvanism  
— India —

1. A paralytic affection of the left half of  
the head — L. Stewart — G.D.
2. Violent Rheumatism. — Leg — completely removed  
by one application of 30 Series — and no  
return — Mrs. Smith — N. B. — G.
3. A violent Rheumatism in the arm and  
shoulder — W. Alex. Colton Sen<sup>r</sup>
4. A paralytic affection of the left ankle &  
foot — John — G.D. —
5. A case of blindness in twilight —  
by — W. David Scott —  
Francis Brown Lewis with —
6. Violent Rheumatism during 5 Months — right  
side prevented work for a fortnight together —  
cure by 6 applications of Galv<sup>y</sup> 100 ser. —  
by G.D. —



Exemp

1. Hydrophobia - Doctus Rufus

2. Lockjaw - M. Withers

3.



Calcutta 7 April 1864

## Galvanic Experiments

- 1<sup>st</sup> Experiments with simple circles - zinc & tin on the limbs of a frog - in the mouth Fe & Zn
2. Voltaic Battery - shock, Laps. Chute's ears &c
3. Water decomposed, various ways with gold, silver &c wires
4. Solutions of Iron, Copper, Silver &c -
5. Infusions of Lemons, red Cabbages, Radishes &c
6. Zinc in contact with silver in water soon oxidated -
7. Iron ~~balls~~ with copper several experiments
8. Nails out of a glass and pewter mug -
9. Iron Nails of Shapes soon covered the copper sheathing -



10. If one end of the Battery be connected with Mercury and a small iron wire, connected with the other end of the Battery, be brought to the surface of the mercury a beautiful deflagration will take place
11. Metals in leaves (Gold, Silver &c.) burnt
12. Silver precipitated from its solution Nit. acid in its metallic state - Arthur Davance
13. Well burnt Charcoal, or one of the condutary wires, is useful in firing gun-powder and other exp<sup>s</sup> -
14. A prepared frog - several exp<sup>s</sup> -
- 15.



En Latin.

" Cet homme célèbre fut en proie à tous  
" les malheurs que peuvent affliger une ame  
" sensible et tendre. Il vit expirer dans ses bras  
" sa chère Lucie; Il perdit toutes ses places, pour  
" avoir refusé constamment de prêter le  
" serment civique exigé par les decrets  
" de la Republique Cisalpine. La mort  
" vint frapper au d' lui revoir, presque  
" soudainement tous ses proches. Enfin,  
" tourmenté lui-même de soucis long temps,  
" par les douleurs cruelles qui avoient  
" leur siège dans l'estomac, et que des  
" gens de l'art soupçonnoient provenir  
" d'une obstruction de Pylor, ce grand  
" homme tomba dans un état de  
" marasme et de langueur dont  
" les soins aufrir valurent que



" exonera des colibres médians Congari  
" et Uttine ou furent arista les progrès.  
" Il eupa de vivre Le 14 Dimanche de l'an  
" 7 age de 60 ans

---

" Après être engeré pendant ~~long~~ près  
de trois (Des Albert) Du l'obser  
d'aimer et d'être aimé —

Histoire de Galvanisme  
par M. Sue — Aîné. —



