

Journal

1<sup>st</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup>

1797

Calcutta

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AL 112

Calcutta - 1797

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Visit from Col. McDonald  
and M. Fontana - also  
Henry Maubin -

- M. F. showed me Dr.  
Scol's letter respecting the  
Nitric acid in which is  
the following paragraph  
" Tell D.D. that he is wrong  
" in making the acid so  
" pure for mine was not  
" freed from the ~~nitric~~ marine  
" acid, besides he should  
" that the Nitric acid when  
" pure will not dissolve gold  
" without the assistance of the mercury

"and for aught we know  
"to the contrary the affinities  
"of the Venereal virus may  
"be the same with those of  
"Gold" — The last supposition  
affinity is certainly whimsical  
enough — There is cer-  
tainly a strong connection  
at least between the V. Disease  
and Gold, for unlike every  
other article of trade, the  
proprietor pays not only  
for the purchase but for the  
sale of the commodity —

+ I send proposals for a  
course of lectures to com-  
mence about the first of Oct.

+ with Mr. Fairlie —  
+ Found both the Trade Testes  
and Prangonnes which  
were missing —

— Evening at Mr. Brown's  
Etching a portrait of  
Lord Cornwallis —  
Ground first laid on for  
the <sup>framing</sup> ~~etching~~, then <sup>the</sup> Cornute  
for etching —

1797

Saturday 2<sup>d</sup> Sept

Borrowed a Fly Falcon  
of Mr. Fairbairn - a pair of  
new shoes from Bower  
- got locks on the back  
door -

+ at 6 a.m. Thos go  
at 2 p.m. - 00

Sun. cold and rain  
with sudden gusts at night

+ with Mr. Spalding  
Capt. Bells who comm. the  
the Newcastle from Eng  
Mr. Cream. Mr. Fuller -

Sunday 3<sup>d</sup> Sep 1797

I intended to have set  
out for Chinnor - The  
weather improving -  
defer till the end of the  
week  
with Mr. Taylor -

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Sep 1797

Bought a piece of Izore  
for waist coats -

- sent the skin to be felled  
- Langued -

- Shoyten gave two  
Gold Medals to the Cook  
Taylor to get changed  
into Rufus - Taylor off -  
+ with M<sup>r</sup> Duncan

- Terrain - Miss M<sup>r</sup>  
ordered Down Main for no  
Dishment was nice  
in fact - the too severe -

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Sep 1797

A Chit from M<sup>r</sup> B<sup>r</sup>  
to borrow Moor's Edward  
at present dead -

+ Telegraph Cat, an-  
nouncing the arrival  
at D. House of the  
Union extra ship  
cap. Parsons from Eng.  
left 24<sup>th</sup> May -

+ with M<sup>r</sup> Crose -  
+ The power of music  
in drawing snakes per-  
tains only the Colo. C<sup>o</sup>  
out of their ordinary place

Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 1797  
B<sup>d</sup> at Mr. Fane's  
Albion Saluted the fort  
at 7 o'clock -

- Mr. Fane's letter ar-  
rived at breakfast -

- Report - That the Em-  
peror has made peace  
with France - That a  
General Peace is soon  
expected -

+ Another telegraph ex-  
presses that other propo-  
sals from England had  
again been made to  
France; that the only con-

ditions the Ex: Directory  
would admit, England  
to give up Jamaica  
the Cape and Gibraltar  
and to pay the expenses  
of the war!!

Judges rising - also  
Lyon -

+ sent a sheet of Notices  
sent to Mr. Brown -

+ sent <sup>my view</sup> Manstarrum to  
Mr. Harrington of course

with that at 50..0 vs  
the old one at 40 pence

- wrote to Rob: Astley  
at Madras - Dublet's letter  
enclosed -

+ with Mr. Thibault -  
called on Mr. Foreman  
respecting a boat to Chin-  
church -

- Miss Th. B. and Taylor  
with me in the Evening

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Sep 1797  
Recd a Draft for Mr.  
Harrington of 500 Paper  
for the New Manufactory -  
Paid out for the last week  
of Oct on Miss F. G & Co -  
- took Paul on to Miss  
F. G & Co. 500 S. Paper.

+ with Mr. Foreman  
propose to set off for  
Chinchurch to morrow



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 1797

- Sent to D. D. the plan  
of an intended ode on his  
and Mr. D.'s marriage day  
- Set sail on a Boat  
at 12 o'clock -

Did not arrive at Chissimah  
till past ten at  
night - At this season  
of the year the river is  
very rapid - The passage  
cannot be made in one  
tide -

- Supped & Slept at  
the Inn - good Accomodation

Chissimah -  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 1797

at nine o'clock in the  
Kirk, Gov. of the place,  
who invited me to ~~stay~~  
live with him during  
my stay in the place -

- After breakfast went in  
the Gov. carriage to an  
Indigo work where the  
manufacture was just  
closed for the season -

- went another at work  
here I saw every part of  
the process -  
returned at 4 - Dined at  
6 $\frac{1}{2}$  - 10 in company

— Mr. Corrish and Mrs  
other Gentlemen arrived  
in the Evening — Music  
from 9 to 12 — Excellent  
Mr. B. plays well on  
the Harpsichord — also  
most entertainingly on the  
Lute —

— To bed at 1 1/2 a.m. —

— left D. Bancroft with  
Mr. Birch — The Green  
Indigo account of Trade  
by Mr. Birch —

Cherisemph  
Sunday 10 Sep 1799

Rose at 4 — long walk  
into the country —  
— Breakfast at 9 —

— 11 Music till 5 o'clock  
many of the first women  
positions, and admirably  
performed — Singers Mr. Corrish  
Mr. Nugent Mr. Birch —  
and occasionally Mr. Edman  
then and other two Gent<sup>l</sup> —

— Sat down to Dinner at  
seven — Very white Dinner  
in a small table —

— after Dinner Sir Will<sup>m</sup>  
Purkin and Mrs. Ruben

called - In last named  
Emil? in the press - who  
wrote so much against the  
ministry in the Calcutta  
Post -

- Miss Lett supper

- Association with Mr

R<sup>d</sup> - respecting the demo-  
lition of works of art in  
Paris - he contended it was  
necessary - asked of what  
use they were - said that  
to show their regard for the  
fine arts the triumphal  
arch of Louis the 14<sup>th</sup> was  
left Legate of St. Mark  
- Paris the reform -

This was a great one and  
to by a call for a song  
- several songs -  
- To read at one o'clock -  
+ Nathan's table at the  
bottom of the Hall -  
+ Mr. Shee is nice to  
Mr. Birch, and married  
to Miss Shee -

Chinsurah  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 1797

Rose at 4. Long walk  
round the place -

- Breakfast at 9

- Set out on a Panchua  
at 10<sup>th</sup> and arrived at  
Mr. Forman's at 5 p.m.

sent in time for dinner

- And then made a very  
pleasant excursion -

\* Chinsurah fort is a  
quadrangle with Bastions  
at each angle and surrounded  
by a wet ditch - 3 Emb  
on the farm on the banks of the

Calcutta  
Tuesday 12 Sept

- Packets arrived from  
Madras -

- A letter from Doctor  
Chapman. Dated Liferton  
near Edinburgh 3 Oct  
1796 -

- The Expedition supposed  
against Manila abandoned,  
after the greatest part of  
the expense has been in-  
curred!! -

- Emperor has made peace  
with France -

- A meeting among the  
English sailors -

- Their reasonable demands  
have been complied with

that is an augmentation  
of their wages - full weight  
of meat and several other  
regulations - These have  
been sanctioned by Act of  
Parliament - After which  
the sailors all returned to  
their duty -

+ both Mr Fairlie -

1790  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept  
Friday procured a bill  
of Exchange in David Scott  
Jnr. and Co. London for  
140 £ Sterl. Exchange at 2/6  
per. Sterl. value = 1120 P. S. -

Specimen of the Locking  
for Mr. F. - grain all  
sticking together -

Began a letter to Dr  
Mason to whom I intend  
to name Mr. Hume my  
agent in London to con-  
sult the bill for 140 £  
to pay off two debts in  
Edmb.

+ both Mr Fairlie -

Calcutta  
Thursday 14 Sept.

4 p.m. a very heavy shower  
of rain - thunder - wind

— Thud. at the door - 79  
— in the wall - 80

— Sun: cold —

+ with Mr Lambert —

— Maj: Murray - rope from

Friday 13 Sept.

wrote to Mr. Mum - enclosed  
a bill on David Scott Junr,  
and Co. for 120 £ pay. to  
Dr. George Chapman Librarian  
near Dir.

— Sent N above letter  
to the Zephyr packet  
at one o'clock and received  
a receipt signed by the

Sub: secretary —

+ with Doctor Dick —

+ a sum M. A. as a

— Newton - present, vision

and a sum —

— D. W. M. called at 8 o'clock  
arrived yesterday

Calcutta 1797

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Sep

Sent a letter to the Zepher  
packed directed to Dr George  
Chapman Librarian near  
Edinburgh —

— Visit from M Grant who  
presented me with an African  
sword, and I bring with  
Beaumont's *Manuel of Chem*

+ The letter is returned  
the Sub: Off. being gone  
from the Council house  
but the man was desired  
to bring it back on Mon.  
Day when the packet  
would start —

+ with M. Kauri

Calcutta 1797

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Sep 97

— Visit from M<sup>r</sup> S — and Th —  
+ with M<sup>r</sup> Taylor —  
M<sup>r</sup> Baillie —

Calcutta

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Sep 1797

B. with Mr. Th.

a present of South-sea  
concretion from Capt.

Wattleworth

+ with Mr. Fautin

an Mr. Croose in the Cal.

+ From 12 to 2 o'clock there  
fell a greater quantity of  
rain than I ever remember  
to have seen - previous to

which the sky exhibited

a singular appearance with  
respect to the position and  
color of the clouds

- Read in Leo Kepler's *Veritas*  
value of the Madras trade

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Sep 1797

Sent a letter for Dr. Croose

to the Zephyr -

- with Mr. Croose -

+ Whether any vestige of theo-  
cratic exhibition among the  
Hindos, besides the <sup>Magical</sup> Rites

- Games - Cards probably  
European - Chess differently  
played in India from what it  
is in Europe -

Mr. P. in thinks it pro-  
bable that Chess is a Hi-  
malayan game - see public  
transactions

- The Native Doctors  
patch up but seldom  
cure a confirmed pox  
- The simple mode of life  
of the Hindos is for the cure



— 1797 —

Wednesday 20 Sept

— Party to see Mr. Coopers  
pumpkin — story of the  
winter price

— with Mr. Taylor —

Mr. F. in the Evening  
water pumps best cal-  
culated for the Dock —  
Kendall's best mode  
of working —

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Sept 97

This morning received  
two letters in one from  
Mr. Heir and Mr. Nelson  
with receipts for the amt  
of their two bills — Nelson  
on acct. of form resumption

+ went to see Mr. Foreman's  
Dock — good solid work —  
pumps bad — proposed some  
improvements —

— Dined with Mr. Town

Mr. — just saw of  
the Biscan frigate — how  
Macarty carried on matters  
at the Cape with a high  
hand — Proclamation in  
English — would not have

It transpired - Has or-  
dered that Gram not flower  
shall be brought to Market  
- M. Maxwell and Barrow  
at the Cape -

Calcutta  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep. 1797  
This morning Mr. John  
Wilson 1<sup>st</sup> Officer of the Lord  
Phaulcon called -  
invited him to take a  
couch with me -  
+ with Mr. Belli -  
About 80 or 100 years  
ago it was the fashion  
to act every thing  
sard - Tho' the wide  
expanded space of ten  
revolving years -  
- Cibba - (Different modes  
of reading Rhyme -  
- Two's proud Dan's be

— 1797 —

Saturday 23 Sept

M. W. and I breakfast  
with M. Thob.

Called at the Rev. M. P. B. who  
was there introduced to

the Rev. M. Buchanan  
— afterwards at M. Gladwin  
he not at home —

— with M. Family — only  
four at Table — D. Tenant

— Every article of provisions  
cheaper up the country  
than at Calcutta — 20 paise  
for a Rupee —

— Chemical Journal or Annals  
by Nicholson —

— Very sultry all day

Calcutta — 1797

Sunday 24 Sept

B. at home — with M.  
Wilson — Call from Mrs.  
Taylor and Spalding —

+ with M. Frushard  
at his house on the other  
side of the river —

Large company —

— Cochineal plants (Diffi-  
culty of preserving the  
single leaves might  
be taken of and preserved  
fresh with the insect on  
them for a month or  
perhaps two —

Single mouth worm.  
Mr. F. thinks the best  
worms should be fed  
with young leaves at first  
and older leaves afterwards.  
Some moisture necessary,  
much better best.

All the celebrated silk  
manufactories are in  
Szechwan.

Weather hot - Sky clear  
- Sunny. Sun at 2 p.m. 80°

x x x L ~ - + -

#1797  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Sep

B. at home -

Chemist shops -

+ with Mr. Lambert

+ Groves of Mangon trees  
are planted as Tawks  
are made from various  
materials - The form is

quincunx - Mangon is  
as food by all descriptions  
of inhabitants -

Plasures of a hunting  
party - Every convenience  
in the tent as at home  
- like the wandering Arabs

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept 1791

B<sup>d</sup> at home —

— a singular affair

— W<sup>h</sup> — 9 —

+ Visit from M<sup>r</sup> Hastings  
ton —

+ with M<sup>r</sup> Taylor  
M<sup>r</sup> Water and M<sup>r</sup> —

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept.

This is the first day of the  
annual festival the Nauch

This festival continues three  
days

1. Potukapobaso

2. Moho Oslomee

3. Moho Nouomee

— with M<sup>r</sup> Faniel —

Gaupu Wāhā: Nauch  
in the eve.

Mencing — horsemanship

Dancing — imitation of the  
peacock &c —

— Europe band — Dancing  
Girls —

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept 1797  
Visit from Doctor Plunket and  
Capt. Douglas -  
- News of the Nabob of Oude's  
death arrived -  
+ During the late earthquake  
at Padang the tide ebbed  
and flowed times in one  
day - bed of the river quite  
altered - did much mischief  
on that part of the coast but  
little at Benwelan - Found  
on some times observed to  
shake - natives entertained  
an idea that the island  
with all some future period be  
broken thro' the middle and  
divided into two -  
+ with Mr. Th - 1

At the Asiatic Society  
in the Evening -  
- A paper on the Inhabitation  
of the Island of Cy M.  
Fontana - Dub -  
- Vice President and Com-  
mittee of papers chosen  
Dr. Henning }  
Mr. Narington } V. P.  
Dr. Roxburgh }  
Dr. Pinardie }  
Mr. Maguire } Com. of  
Dr. Hunter } Papers  
Mr. Norrish }  
President the P. V. P. and  
Secretary who were members of

1797  
Friday 29 Sept

with Mr Th -

Mr S - Mr F -

+ a little harmony is a  
dangerous thing this arose  
at great length

1797  
Saturday 30 Sep

with Mr Fairlie -  
Evening at Mr. Duncanson

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 1797

finished the perusal of  
Paine and Watson's answer

I am of opinion that the Society  
had better let Paine alone

- visit for Razak

traverse with his Q. Pennington

- with M. Taylor

Mrs. Plunder, Bick  
and Cross -

+ B. with M. Warington

a lesson on Astronomy  
Manometerium -

- 4 p.m. Dissected Plunder

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct 1797

Early this morning a little  
rain - weather more cool

- with M. Warington

+ whether the Jewish

be really the oldest in

history on record -

remarks on Paine's

age of reason, and Dr.

Watson's answer -



Tuesday 3 Oct 1799

at <sup>H</sup> 7<sup>h</sup> Thut. - 79

rain - cold -

<sup>H</sup> 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Thut. - 01<sup>o</sup>

a new model of the  
rope pump -

+ with Mr. Fairlie -

- French privateer has taken  
the Company's vessel Ship  
the Thomas Capt. W. Hough  
of Ceylon, the Capt. was taken  
at Tranquebar in a Court  
supposed from Druce's Squadron

1799  
Wednesday 4 Oct

B. with Mr. Bartolomey  
perused him with  
some Latin scraps -

- Vest from G. Munk  
brought a Sealant to be  
examined - small error  
in the Vernier towards  
the begin. of the seal -

- with Mr. Spalding -  
Mr. Mackie -

sent an apology to Mr.  
Bunny who had invited  
me to a Dinner this Evening  
- Two Showers - one heavy

- A man that a Jew  
would persuade another  
man that a leg of mutton  
was a goose -

- Man - sings in - against  
the wall - in his mouth -

- Three Clergymen on their  
way here as Missionaries  
to convert the Hindus -

- all Scotsmen - They propose  
to reside at Benares, ~~with~~  
in order to attempt the con-  
version of the Bramins

- They cannot succeed -

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

1797  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct

with Mr. Lewis Taylor  
several ships are said to  
have arrived - not heard  
their names -

- Went from the Rev<sup>d</sup>  
Mr. Brown - invited to dine  
on Sunday next -

- Suggested the idea of exhibi-  
ting experiments to the  
young Nabol -

Calcutta -  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 1799

Sat for my papers  
Came with Mr. T. at 2 o'clock

1799  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Indisposed -

+ with Mr. Mackay -  
M<sup>r</sup>. G. M<sup>r</sup>. L. - Ditto Ed

Fish - rice - Potatoes

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct.

with Mr. Fairlie - he  
absent -

- This evening news of  
the Royal Charlotte's being  
blown up and very soon  
on board having finished

- report of Zimmern that  
having made a peace with  
the Scits, who are by treaty  
to furnish him with  
20,000 men

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Oct.

- Upon breakfast called  
Mr. D. (Dicks) and Mr.

Bobbi - carried Edward to  
Mr. Bell - saw with

Mr. Bell a model of a  
sugar mill - a walking  
wheel is connected with  
the middle roller - rollers  
of wood and size horizontally  
of Sumarind wood - feet

- walking wheel is 14 in  
d. - The wheel is to smelt  
in proportions -

+ with Mr. Theault -

1797

Thursday 10 Oct

3 am with and set to  
Mr Taylor -

+ with the Rev. Mr Brown  
Messrs. More and Bush.

+ inoculation in this country  
has probably not been

derived from Europe - most  
very different - ceremonies

- can preserve the matter  
a twelve months -

- not above one child in  
20 dies before the 5 year,

in Calcutta - whereas one  
dies in London -

+ It is a curious fact  
that the plague was never  
known in this country.

The frequent washings  
both of the body and cloths  
tend greatly to prevent the  
spreading of epidemical  
diseases -

+ Descriptions of the enter-  
tainment called the An-  
droids exhibited lately  
in London -

+ Doubtful whether inocu-  
lation for the small  
pox has tended to increase  
the inhabitants of Europe -  
or other countries where  
it has been introduced

- Dr. Johnson is said to  
have acknowledged that  
music afforded him no  
more pleasure than the  
howling of an ox

- Bengal is a much better  
climate than any part  
of America - In North A.

The range of the Therm.  
is in some places from  
below 0 to above 100 -

Then it seldom exceeds one  
half of the above -

Lair is likely to be of  
great use in Dyers &c

- The Russians were stuffed  
Jackets so thick that the

Bayonets of the Englishs army  
could not pierce them - Im-  
mediately after the battle  
Genl. Macarombie gave  
orders to sharpen all the  
bayonets - The Natives in  
general charge with great  
impetuosity, but if the  
enemy reserve their fire  
the Natives generally stop  
within a few yards - when  
this is the case they are al-  
ways beat - Genl. Abercrombie  
sent to Col. Buntington to  
advance more slowly said  
he would ruin the whole  
plan - he had then left his  
whenever the Genl. could come  
that which was wisest

- Semi young officers who  
were in the action with  
the Prohillas, seem ~~to~~ <sup>conclude</sup> to  
covet much any more glory  
of this kind -

- It is curious to hear of the  
complaining of the Surgeons  
and of their having been  
in the field for 8 or 10 years  
when they have been only  
marching between the different  
stations, receiving double  
batta, and have never seen  
a shot fired ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup>  
or a field day - The  
new regulations have cost  
the company above half a  
million

1797 -  
Wednesday 11 Oct.  
- B with M. F. -  
La Place has published  
a work on Astronomy, in  
which new measures of  
the circle, new divisions  
of time are introduced -  
+ The Royal Charlotte  
was blown up by light-  
ning - It is very extraordinary  
that no accident is mis-  
fortune with some com-  
manders of Ships of the  
necessity of conductors -  
- No instance of a Ship  
furnished with a conductor

having our supper  
by lightning —

— Mr. N. — called  
and informed me that  
he had mentioned  
my apparatus as  
part of the present  
to the Marshal — And  
Sir John says there  
is no objection to  
my going up the  
country —

— as to Mr. Taylor —

+ with Mr. Parli —  
Mr. Foreman is the

Thursday 12 Dec<sup>r</sup> —  
to with Mr. Th — 1

+ The powder barrels on  
board the Royal Charlotte  
were all stowed round the  
foremast (500) the most  
dangerous situation in  
the ship —

+ with Mr. Foreman

what is the powder  
compound of with which  
silver plate is charred?

— Mr. Foreman is the  
wearing —



- 1797 No

Friday 13 Oct  
Sat to and B with W  
Taylor -

The salt / Spain left  
at W. Home and about  
I supposed to lecture to  
W. Fairlie, I paid charge  
to my account on the  
22<sup>d</sup> Dec 1795 - 5

Non morning xxx+

- 1797

Saturday 14 Oct  
Cleaned my table in order  
to my chemical works -  
It will be useful to  
give in my publication  
a Catalogue of results of  
different experiments made  
by eminent Chemists -  
7 also fine works -

- with W. Fairlie  
- Mr. Duncan is the  
evening - Men of  
war

1797

Sunday 15 Oct -  
with D. Park -

1797

Monday 16 Oct -

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct  
D. Numb & I wait  
on Mr. Taylor - D. N.  
has received a letter from  
Cawnpore intimating that  
a man of great  
weight and influence in the  
Nabob's Commission had  
collected an army of 15000  
men on pretence of quelling  
some disturbances which  
nobody has heard of  
- Call upon Mr. Brooke  
much to do with him  
on Thursday next

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Oct  
Set to Mr. Taylor -  
+ with Dillo -

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct  
+ with Lieut. Smith  
Mr. Shells &c -

- A marriage at getting  
green is valid as to pro-  
perty and in every other  
respect in England -

- A marriage in India  
is the same -

+ Advertised my ensuing  
course of lectures in the  
Calcutta Gazette -

+ A reward of 1000 Rupees of-  
fered for discovering the Portu-  
guese Sectors who murder  
the three English Sectors -

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Oct  
Began to prepare for the  
Return -

+ with Mr. Fenli -

Evening with Mr. Owen -

- The Capt. of the Viscount  
has written a sharp letter  
to Government complaining  
of the indolence of the police  
and declaring that if some  
steps are not taken to obtain  
redress, that he will consider  
it as an insult offered  
to his Majesty's flag, and  
that in consequence, he will  
take his own measures, he  
knows his powers.

1799  
Saturday 21 Oct.  
Sat to Mr. Taylor and  
B. with him

~~Sir John Shore~~

In answer to Captain  
Lindsay's public letter,  
Sir John Shore wrote a  
private note - The puniti-  
veness of the Gov. is  
astonishing -

+ with Mr. Spalding  
Messrs. Mackay - Edie  
Southwell, Taylor and Frost

+ The quarrel between the  
revenue of the English Frigate  
and Portuguese privateer is  
said to have originated in

the following manner -  
When the Gram Para passed  
the Oriscan she took no  
notice of her. Upon which  
Capt Lindsay sent his Com<sup>d</sup>  
to the Capt of the Portuguese  
informing him that the  
Oriscan was a King's fri-  
gate, the Portuguese still  
persisted in taking no notice  
either of the Capt. or his frigate  
upon the Frigate latter fired  
a shot over or ahead of  
her. The crew of the Portu-  
guese was so much irritated  
that they instantly <sup>were</sup> they would  
be revenged - Mr. M - c

(2)

Sunday 22 Oct  
B<sup>d</sup> with Mr. Melville  
after breakfast xx called  
for the first time —  
+ with Mr. Frank — none  
of the family at home —  
Capt. Craig dined with us  
+ Two expeditions have been  
fitted out here, both have  
been completed and con-  
sequently all the expense  
of fitting out incurred — At  
the point of the business  
both have been countermanded.  
The first expedition was ordered  
against the Mauritius I do

not know whether that  
had sailed — but the latter  
certainly did sail —  
near five months were  
employed in fitting out this  
wonderful squadron —  
Insurance instead of being  
lowered ~~is~~ as God held  
out, are higher than ever

1797  
Monday 23 Oct -

This morning sent a letter  
to Dr. Dick enclosing a bill  
on Faint & Gilmore and Co  
for fifty Gold Moham for  
his attendance for three years  
in the line of his profess<sup>n</sup>

— Off was immediately returned  
— With Mr. Fairlie Com<sup>r</sup>  
numerous. Capt. G<sup>r</sup> arrived  
from England in the 4th vessel  
Ship Purscut left England the  
6<sup>th</sup> of June — Little news  
no expectation of a peace  
England quiet — Markets  
low — large sums of specie im-  
ported from Hamburgh &c —

— 1797 —  
Tuesday 24 Oct -

Hamburgh & small table  
+ with Dr. Dick — Large  
bowl of punch —  
Spent the Even<sup>g</sup> —

1797 - 12

Wednesday 25 Oct

Introduced Mr. Nelson to  
Mr. Faulstich - called on Mr  
M. Perie who gives 500  
as the price of the best and  
350 on the other 2000

- It is now doubted whether  
the fate of the Royal Charter  
was owing to lightning as  
was first reported -

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Oct - 97

Received from Mr. Clarke the  
municipal clock sent by Mr.  
Gru - set it a going - in  
good order -

- with Mr. Belli - Mr. An  
Mr. Edie - Mr. Russell -  
Mr. J. Edie - Property of the  
Synodical -



Calcutta 11.  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 1797

This morning was told the following story. A native barber died a few days ago he kept on rather had occasion-ally to visit him & <sup>coming</sup> get from the Bazar. His wife unable to survive the death of her friend determined to burn with him, which ~~was~~ <sup>she</sup> actually put in execution yesterday -

Began to regulate the clock and watches -

+ with Mr Fairlie -

Mr W<sup>m</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> called on Mr F in the Evening

+ Purchased a ticket, n<sup>o</sup> 279, in the Lottery -

1797  
Saturday 20 Oct.

+ wrote to Mr Hummel enclosing no 3 bill on David Scott jun<sup>r</sup> and Co for 140 £ endorsed to Mr Hummel and requesting him to get the bill accepted and transmit it to Dr Chap (Deputy) by the Albion -

+ with Mr Fairlie - small company -

- The drawing of the Lottery which was to have taken place this day, is postponed till Wednesday the 15 Nov -

1797  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Oct

After breakfast went on  
Mr. Home - Thades -

- x x x - L ~ 1 -

+ with Mr. Fairlie

Capt. Craig - Mr. D. Vernon

Mr. Bartholmy &c -

- The new Calendar of the  
French is a simple per-  
formance - will never be  
adopted by other countries -  
Gives much confusion -  
Both the old and new  
Calendars must be used both  
of Exchange between France  
and other countries must  
have the old names and  
Dates -

- French language has more

irregularities than the English  
+ when the Capoten Bars  
are secured by a rope carried  
round their catenasties they  
said to be shifted - The same  
term is applied to the spreading  
of tightening the standing  
rigging by ropes stretched across  
This last practice is dangerous  
in a storm - By decreasing  
the angle under the mast and  
stays the power of the latter  
on the mast is diminished  
and consequently its tendency  
to go aboard greatly increased  
- The Stowage of the Hindostan was  
shifted (during the Typhoon on  
the East coast of China

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>

Writing Letters - One  
to Madras to W. Spence -  
Capt. White and Mr. Golding-  
ham all introducing to the  
acquaintance Mr. W. John  
who goes to the settlements to  
survey and make a map of  
Madras -  
+ with Mr. Fairlie -  
purchased Ely and Spudde  
+ Gov<sup>t</sup> has given up charging  
four annas for each letter  
put into the packet at the  
Council house!! -

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1797

Sent to the Albion packet  
a letter for Mr. How Hatch  
Mr. London informing me  
for Mr. Ettrick -  
+ with the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Brown  
- Derivation of the words  
Veranday and Palany -  
- Mr. Kingeltaube a  
German Missionary  
has acquired great knowledge  
and facility of speaking  
the English Language  
tho' he has been studying  
it only nine months -

Lahutta, 1794  
Wednesday 1 Nov

— Troops ordered up the country  
Almas is in open rebellion  
has marched to where  
he has been joined by a large  
body of troops from Kishalund  
— joint forces are said to amount  
to 75 thousand — He has  
been levying troops for three  
two months past — True what  
has our Govern<sup>r</sup> been doing? —  
— Should Zimman Shah  
have joined the Sikhs is has  
been reported, and marched to-  
wards Delhi, the former army  
would undoubtedly join him  
I have always considered the Shah's  
opposition as alarming to the Gov<sup>t</sup>

+ boats across the river with  
Staff: From a letter of Craig  
looked at the Frigate in the  
Dock —

— Capt. of a man of war does  
not permit any of his Officers  
to occupy his Cabin, tho' empty

— ~~See~~ apparatus for  
floating ships out of the  
new Dock may be constructed

I am what is its best form  
— A cask of water is nearly  
of the same specific gravity  
with <sup>sea</sup> water, hence it sometimes  
floats at other times sinks  
I wrote an answer to Capt. Lyell  
respecting his query whether the  
and they might not be kept in the

1797  
Thursday 2 Noon

- Order of Council for raising three native Regiments -
- sent a hand bill to Messrs. and Company to get printed
- + Received part of Mr. Cuffe's Essay on Vision -
- + Mr. Harrington -
- + A note of some consequence told Mr. Kotton was that Zimmerman shew is ten cubits high and thinks in proportion, that he eats three sheep at one meal, which he kills himself, striking off the head with one blow of his

- saber
- It does not appear that the news from the East is quite so bad as was at first reported - The conduct however of Calneff has a suspicious appearance, he is encamped with a considerable force and seems not to have given any satisfactory answer for this conduct -
  - Meeting of the Asiatic Society at Mr. Harringtons
  - Sir John Shore gave in his resignation of the office of President of the Society -
  - + Read a paper on the Coast fishing at Ceylon by Mr.

+ Two minutes the uncut time  
below the surface of the water -  
- When the Diver comes up he  
voids a quantity of Salt water  
sometimes blood - Certain  
Divers from <sup>are so</sup>  
expert at their trade that they  
can keep below seven minutes!!  
- Shark conjurers attend, es-  
pecially and keeps muttering  
a kind of prayer during  
the whole time the Loach  
are out. But for this man's  
assistance it is not believed  
by the fishermen that they would  
soon be all devoured - A Shark  
however this last season bit off  
the leg of a Diver - When  
complains

complains was made to the  
Conjurer, he told the people  
that his prayers had been  
opposed by a witch who at  
last prevailed against him  
But he was determined that  
not a single Diver should  
be hurt during the whole  
of the season -  
- Shells having a smooth  
surface seldom contain  
pearls - Various accounts  
of the formation of pearls -  
~~Shells~~ it considers the pearl  
as a disease -  
- Shells of the Heart Oyster -  
Cape of Madusa be shown -  
- More are ruined than made  
a fortune by the Pearl Fishers

For several days past  
the sky has given some in-  
dications of rain - This day

Friday 3<sup>d</sup> Nov 1799

Given in the manuscript  
of a bill for my lecture to  
be printed

- with Mr. Lawton -

+ Have advertised my  
course for Monday the

20<sup>th</sup> Nov. - Mondays &

Tuesdays

2

~~Received of the Government  
£1000 for the purchase of  
the land at the College  
of St. John's, and not for  
the purchase of the building  
itself as is often said~~