



40  
1797

Calcutta — 1797

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Inspected the model  
of Bolwich Foundry —  
(Dined at home

— Mr. B — 1 in the Evening  
he means to convert the  
large boat into a transport.

Calcutta — 1797

Sunday 5 March

- B' with Mr F.
- arrived the Baron Maltus  
Capt Fleming - English  
papers to the 27 Oct -
- Was with Thom sand to  
be certain -
- Lord Malmesbury receives  
by the post of Paris  
with great demonstrations of  
Joy -
- Admiral Mann is expected  
to be blockaded up in Gibraltar  
and some of his transports  
are said to be taken -
- Success of the Austrian con-  
firmed - likewise in Italy

with Mr Fairbairn

- English Messrs of war have  
left their Station of the Man-  
ritius - There is therefore little  
probability of the Haumburg  
retention -
- Messrs A and W called  
in the Court -
- A circle of chalk is an ef-  
fectual impediment to  
the white ants as well as  
Cotton - The chalk is made  
into a paste with water  
and a circle made with it  
on a bed post - round a  
bird cage &c which effectually  
prevents the ants from en-  
tering

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 97

B<sup>o</sup> with W. Thibault  
called on Capt. Aris ab-  
employed in selecting the  
Anatomical Apparatus for  
M. Colebrook -

+ Fog very many  
till near eight

- with D. Dick -

- Story of Lord Macartney and  
in R.S. Chamber -

- D.D. says the patient seldom  
shows much uneasiness, in  
amputating a limb, except  
on cutting the skin - not even  
in sawing the bone -

Tuesday 7 March

B<sup>o</sup> at Mr. Farber's

at 5 a.m. a Storm of Wind  
and Hail with rain but  
little wind -

Flashes frequent  
the noise distant from what  
it used to be at my former  
house - owing to the distance  
in former Street, Esplanad.

Go - with Mr. Farber -

- Scots and English Education  
convention - whether it would  
be advantageous to give the  
clergy higher living -  
- whether by the law  
in Scotland - How much  
what proportion is the Stated  
Law -

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March -  
B. with Mr. F. - n. Capt. F.  
- grain very plenty in England  
immense store houses filled -  
Capt. J. - and Mr. H. - both  
come out again -

of the number of men  
who have come home within  
these 10 or 12 years many are  
coming out to India again  
+ with Mr. Abbott -  
Mr. Nichol &c -

++ Last evening attended Mr.  
Crozier's exhibition of scenery  
Volcanic indeed as the best  
scene instead of the cascade  
- The composition was Mr.  
mixed - see in papers -

- at 6<sup>h</sup> P.M. - first  
blew hard without lightning -  
afterwards wind abated and  
evened down as usual - light  
glow steps - a little rain  
continued till half past 8.  
+ Mr. B. + employs Sulphur  
red from the condenser, in  
tanning and says it answers  
as well as the strongest  
- This I am persuaded is not  
the best -

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 1799

B with W. Lambert -  
he has ordered a box of chemi-  
cals for W. Colbrook -

- Dined with Pitt -  
- Story of Amangybe and  
the Fakiers - new clothes

- Evening at Mr. Duncan's  
+ To print a small treatise  
on the use of a Chymical  
box -

+ - Nabes was the greatest hero  
of the East had less beauty  
than any other Mohammedan  
- married the daughter of a Raja  
the most ancient family in  
Hindustan -

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 1799

B with W. Foreman -

+ with W. Fant -  
Introduced to a W. Taylor  
miniature painter for  
London - Dr. Hutton

- with Mr. Sheriff miniature  
painter from London to stop  
at Madras -

+ Capt. Price of the Low Moor.  
Voy called - informed me that  
that one of my chests was found  
to emit smoke in the hold  
it was immediately brought  
on Deck and thrown overboard!  
I asked how they got it  
not opened on Deck? - said  
he and his officers were not Chemists!

1797

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March  
Employed in preparing the  
instruments and apparatus for  
Benares -  
Dined at Home -

11<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March-97  
Recd an apology from  
M. Bellin for not being able  
to come in at dinner to day  
agreeable to his invitation -  
+ with M. Faivre -

The animosity subsisting be-  
tween the Mussulmen and Hindus  
will prove the best means  
of the Company's maintaining  
their sovereignty in this country  
- A French privateer is out  
has been very lately cut out  
of Masulapattam - The one  
per cent addition to the cus-  
toms does not perhaps seem  
to have had any effect.

Notwithstanding the mag-  
nitude of our Naval force in  
this country, the French  
privateers continue to insult  
our very harbours — The  
Largest returned bloodless —  
The Marshalls are Andooski  
Moroans, Musketmen — The  
Nabob of Oude is a Musket-  
but a great majority of his  
subjects are Andooski —

+ Accounts received of the arriv-  
al of the Mercury —

A few weeks on his but a  
few days before —

In Gov<sup>r</sup>'s proclamation to the  
public, it was asserted that the  
premium for insurances would  
be so much lowered by the arm-  
y as to be an equivalent to the  
reduction at one per cent — on that acc<sup>t</sup>

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 1797 —

A Chest for Mr. Water-  
house of the Lord-Hawksbury  
acquainting me that my  
packages were to be landed  
this morning at the customs  
house and Desiring me to  
send for them —

Done with M. Foley —  
+ It is said that a N. weather never  
happens when the moon is a-  
bove the horizon — also if  
the storm begins at west or  
to the southward of the west  
it never rises to any height  
Musical instrument will be  
constantly in tune — Acc<sup>t</sup>  
Gong struck on different  
parts produce different tones



The detection of music at  
the Oratorio thought by some  
to be not good -

+ Present of Cakes from the  
beavers - two rusks - Miss  
born my beaver attempted a  
repetition of the presents -

# at 10 this evening a telegram  
announcing the capture of the  
Modeste French privateer by the  
Fox sloop which she was supposed  
to be on having mistaken her  
an Indian man, Chase of the  
The Modeste had taken 9  
prizes -

th  
Friday 14 March 1797

of the morning  
chased up -

Run from the Custom house  
Boxes and 1 French book

Boxes will remain on  
board - ~~the~~ unpacked  
little damage -

at home -

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

— Rained from the custom house  
the two remaining chests -  
unpacked - all safe -  
+ with Mr. Fairlie - Evening at  
M.F. -

# - General Clarke arrived in the  
evening -

+ The incorruptibility of Char-  
coal is well known to the  
Natives of Bengal - When  
determined to find out  
is of much consequence they dig  
trenches and show the bottom of  
cheerful thin they cover with earth  
and imagine it will last for  
ever - Should a despatch arrive  
they dig till the charcoal  
appears -

Bridge -

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

with Mr. Fairlie  
Visit to Mr. Griffiths - he  
wants Pet. and Prasin acids  
offer to send unrosin  
with Mr. Fourn -

A ship is now coming home  
down by one mast - Whether  
the jerk is greater by a small  
pulley or a less - Whether  
the brace block is best fixed  
on the yard arm or to a  
a rope extending to some  
distance from it, The former  
made is now the practice -

Am getting the house a shew  
from the Mercuries some  
broke poor and on it, said to  
be killed by running into a Dutch

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 96

Unit from W. B. over -  
+ One air recommended to be  
produced by burning Nitre and  
blown through the indigo leaves  
- Horizon which - wind with  
cheap - Steam Engine -  
- Judge made by the water  
washed lost 1/4 of its weight  
- Mr. O. has made a small  
Steam Engine to run water  
for the indigo works.

- with Mr. G. - The work  
the work of St. Patrick's  
+ Marched - Mr. G. - - observed  
expecting belief without con-  
viction

- Mr. D. in the evening

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 96

let out for Dum Dum to see  
the military practice, arrived at  
Stammingjee - Practice with field  
guns - some pretty good shot to  
most are placed in a line  
direct to Target - Largest  
behind, gradually decreasing to a  
lockers - Return at half past  
eight -

- B<sup>d</sup> with Dr. Dick - The Dr  
appointed Surgeon to the com-  
mander in Chief -

Wind South W. - Nye - 0  
New Delhi 10 M.

The range of this Nye. by far too  
small for the country -

with M<sup>r</sup> Fairie —  
 + Fine and Coarse Cloth are  
 bleached at the same price  
 at Chittagong and other places  
 in Bengal — The return price  
 for bleaching fine cloths at  
 the same price as worn cloths  
 — They will engage to bleach  
 100 pieces in 6 Days —  
 from this it appears that  
 no improvement can be made  
 on the bleaching of this worn  
 by from Europe — The cloth  
 is steamed to a 5 times on  
 boiling water from the common  
 Andque pots —  
 + In going home the best  
 way is to agree with some of the  
 officers to do a Shawl or other  
 articles for a certain price —

The company have lately  
 imported no cloth for  
 Bengal — it is left to the officers  
 at present the company  
 advances half price for the  
 Indigo —  
 Money is becoming more  
 plenty here — In consequence of the  
 high interest of 12 per cent  
 Cash has been brought round from  
 every part of the country  
 The amount of the Company's  
 revenues for Bengal is 6  
 millions —  
 Was not that Lady  
 Jane Brewster — yes but  
 I have seen them before  
 Indigo has made to the amount  
 of three lacs at M<sup>r</sup> F. G. G. Co

has been  
There so every day for some  
weeks past a brisk breeze about  
12 o'clock, sudden flame -  
+ such is the indolence of the  
nation of this country that  
my boy chums rather to  
accept of 8th. of month with  
permission to remain at home  
two or three hours between  
breakfast and dinner, than  
10 W. with the condition of  
attending me during those hours

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March -  
called on Mr. White  
you instructed respecting  
conductors -  
Thurs - 06 -  
Thurs. new - 2d -  
old - .05 -

High wind - southerly  
much dust -

with, with at Mr. F.  
only Mr. S. - and myself  
There is no such thing as  
Wylkes in Scotland -

As the revolution by them was  
abolished, the Church property  
was sold to favorites familiar  
with the undertakings to pay a

corn soon to the clay  
man, which was valued in  
corn - so many bolts -  
- A certain agreement was  
+ put on every farm, and the  
farm on whole was and is  
always sold with that agree-  
ment Deducted -

- Mr. S. says that the  
Dons are all rogues -

- The Chrom and Tartars  
so resemble the Hindus  
and Mahomedans - The  
one party is more numerous  
but the other have more power

- Mr. S. has been asked in  
the country that a road led  
when it begins at west of  
Dons comes to very head

p. in cloudy with a  
little thunder - Much  
a N. west

It is said that every  
city draws its name from  
a Bishop's see - given  
them the year and  
signify -

at Mankhat cotton  
is spun to so great a  
degree of fineness that  
one pound would extend  
thru to 120 miles -  
The Hindus cannot spin so  
fine as we can thread as the  
above, but the cotton cloth of  
this country is softer to the feet -

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 97

- Yesterday at 5 p.m. overcast  
blue fresh - at 8 Thunder  
frequent flashes - rained a  
little at 9 - This morning  
between 4 and 5 heavy rain  
with thunder - air much  
cooled -

- called on Mr. Bullock -

Mr. B. was attempting to make  
vit. acid - no lead used  
suppon Chaptal's composition  
for wood used - Mr. B. has  
commissioned a Ton of acid -

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 97

3. with Mr. Forman  
employed in arranging the  
books for sale - Found  
the Ex: Mss: of potash fine  
it very good -

with Mr. Forman -  
dispute about the country -  
at 5 appearance of a N.W.  
but it originated to far south  
it consequently did not come  
to any head -

1797  
Wednesday 22 March

- Did not go abroad to breakfast being a little indisposed - Soup at eleven
- Clearing the Boiling Engine
- With Mr. Faint -

Appearances justify the prediction of a N. West, which however went off to the South as yesterday -

Thursday 23 March 97

- Employed through the whole day in taking a Catalogue of my books -

4 p.m. Cloudy like yesterday and Tuesday in the same hour only. The clouds are forming more to the Northward than in the other two cases - Hence it is probable the N. West may rise to the full -

6 o'clock at S. E. began to blow and soon after the whole town was covered by a current of dust

7. Lightning southward -

Thunder frequent, but distant - hail or no rain -



Tuesday 24 March 1797

B. with O. Dick  
— called on Cap. Price - in evening  
— went next

— News of the French Frigate  
— being at Batavia

— with Mr. Lark - History of  
the Elephant imperfect and  
in many instances erroneous

— mode of inoculation among  
the Hindus nearly the same  
as in Europe

<sup>th 1797</sup>  
Saturday 25 March

Mr. S. called - he informed  
me that Government acted  
in a late business in consequence  
of an order from the  
court of Directors -

— mode of preventing pregnancy  
among the Hindus: -

4  
12: clouds - Push to the  
South.

1. Began to thunder -
2. Thunder has continued since  
one o'clock - all to  
the southward - few  
drops of rain -
4. has continued to rain  
since two but not heavily
8. fair - somewhat cloudy

- A packet arrived on the 10th  
contents not yet published  
known - report of death of  
the Empress of Russia  
Lord Malmesbury in Nov  
in December - Arrival  
of Moroccan and Jordan  
totally defeated

- Admiral Perry was in-  
vited to dine with the Genl  
Genl of Batavia - His off  
accompanied him they went  
till dinner was on the table  
then took their hats and  
went off - offended at this  
not having been invited  
- The commanding officer  
of the troops lately arriv-

from Europe were on the  
Deputy Governor soon after  
the Landing - They were kept  
on the out side of the gate  
till two or three messengers  
from the Speke had been  
brought by a servant, who  
at last told them that  
the wicket that they could  
not be admitted -

- A voyage from Bombay  
to Suva has been made in  
fourteen days

- A packet from England over  
land once reached Bombay in 76  
days -

+ The last packet from England  
is also said to contain the  
Spanish declaration of war -  
with all the recs annexed

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 97  
B with Mr. F -

Last night and this morning  
pleasantly cool - wind West.

11<sup>th</sup> Ther - 49° -

Fresh breeze as usual be-  
tween 11 and 12

With Mr. F - Turtle

+ The Darwan detected in his  
secreted some spirits and other  
articles, from chests last brought  
from the custom house -  
I turned him off - He confessed  
the moment ~~of~~ ~~the~~

was charged with the crime,  
and seemed but little af-  
fected by the discovery

~~12<sup>th</sup>~~  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 97

B - and D - with Mr. Foreman

Report says that the Court of  
Directors has now referred  
to the Gov. & their disappro-  
bation of the sums expended &  
the late military arrangements  
and that the money must be  
made up some way or other -  
Various reports respecting  
the Over Land packet -

Done with Mr. Foreman

<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday 20 March 97  
Soft breeze sprung up this  
morning at 9 o'clock —  
warmer than usual —  
— with Doctor Dick

<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday 29 April 97  
Employed all day in  
sending of books to Mr  
Thiswell's shop —  
— (Dined at Home) —

1797

Thursday 30 March

B<sup>d</sup> with Dr. Outh

Intended to have gone to  
the General's levee but was  
too late —

— with Mr. Duncanson —

At  
Friday 31 March '97

B<sup>d</sup> with Th —

— with Mr. Fairlie — he  
absent —

— Next evening to Town<sup>r</sup>  
at 3 P.M. in shade 07 —

My granther from England  
lately useful in determining  
the state of the Atmosphere  
in this country — India  
makes a complete revolution  
in less than 24 hours

— Rain yesterday —

1797  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April  
B. with W. Foley  
Dined with Ditto  
+ The Sea of India is said  
to be different in some  
of its properties from that  
of Europe - It readily pe-  
netrates thro' the thickest  
English coats -

- Should the Cape remain  
in possession of Great B<sup>ty</sup> -  
it would ruin the trade  
of the India Company  
Europe ships must not  
pass the Cape which is

the limits of the Company  
of England's Westward -  
For most country shops  
pass the Cape Westward -  
From shops from the West  
may send their goods at  
Table Bay and thence for  
the Eastward at False  
Bay - The carriage from  
one place to the other is  
trifling - The Cape it is  
alleged would become  
a second Alexandria  
the greatest Depot in  
the world -  
The duties made at

An custom home lately  
amount to 1000 £  
per month —

— Why do not the Justices  
oblige the Mackenzie  
or Carrier to grease the  
wheels to prevent the  
intolerably none? — or  
oblige the owner to put  
a collar on other countries  
to prevent getting the  
Buzafai neck? —

~~Duty~~ Goods imported  
from Europe is at present  
 $3\frac{1}{2}$  % Cent, including the  
addition one % Cent lately  
laid on for protecting the  
trade —

— Mr. J. Thoms, that the  
B. Co. will give up the  
Cape, and on the sole  
account of its clash with  
the interests of the Company  
— you might not find  
be adjusted by the im-  
position of certain Duties  
at the Cape, which  
might operate as a  
prohibition where this was  
intended, and without  
impinging on any par-  
ticular Law now existing  
— Ceylon appears to be  
an acquisition of greater  
importance to the Company  
than the Cape —

Sunday 2 April  
B at Mr. Fairlie -

Done with Pills

- Major Maxwell commd  
he is and de camp to Genl  
D. Lyon - son to Prescott Hall  
Maxwell of Dumfries saw  
my pupil in 1774 -

Monday 3 April 91  
Debated my Ann -  
Mr. D - n called - comment  
about a reading glass -



Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 97

Bo with Mr Th - He  
has repaired the organ

with Mr. Dimech -

walk in the Evening

- This Day has been very  
sultry throughout - wind  
hot - affects the eyes (ears  
very disagreeable - Sun at

4 o'clk p.m. 95<sup>o</sup> -

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 97

- Experiments on the Sun -

Just - very good -

- with Mr. Faint -

Captain's Orders -

+ Fear is the worst Indian  
fatal - Difficulty in settling

the democracy - Comp<sup>l</sup>

has not money to purchase

investments for the ships

has at present - necessity of

Salt - Peche -

- A single frigate sent to  
convey 1000 Indian men  
is ridiculous -

- The object of the troops at  
the Cape is disagreeable

Provisions are extremely  
dear the farmer will not  
bring them off at articles  
two in three hundred miles  
to market, when they find  
that they can get nothing  
they want in return, <sup>Coage</sup> - Cloth  
and some other articles from  
this country, would sell to  
account at the Cape, but  
the prohibition of Retail  
shops and the Supplies be-  
tween the Admiral and the  
General have ruined the trade  
of the place -

1792  
Thursday 6 April  
- Mr. J. and I called at  
Philcault's - began re-  
paired -  
- with Mr. Foubert  
+ gave a letter to Capt  
Flumery on the same  
observations -  
- Mr. D. in the Evening  
+ An expedition is on foot  
some say against the  
Ile of France, others against  
~~the~~ Manilla - Ships  
to rendezvous at Oronoz

<sup>#6</sup>  
Friday 7 April - 97

Saturday 8 April

Sunday 10 April

- Dined with Mr. Croft early  
on purpose to have sufficient  
time to attend the swinging  
at five o'clock to one of  
the swinging places -  
The first swinger made her  
appearance just after our ar-  
rival - Her head was covered  
with a kind of turban of  
thick cloth colour green  
red & white - The machine  
consists of an upright post  
or tree about 20 feet in  
height terminating in a  
pivot or gudgeon which  
passes thro' a hole in a  
kind of beam, this last sup-

put the cross piece com-  
posed of four or five bam-  
boos lashed together, length  
about 14 feet - a rope  
descends from each end  
one suspends the man and  
the other serves to turn the  
machine

The man after walking round  
the tree made a flat salver  
to it, and then sat down on  
his hams to have the  
hooks put in it (I have pro-  
cured a pair). This operation  
he bore without the least  
shrieking. The hooks were  
put in a little below the  
shoulder blade one on each

side of the spine about  
three or four inches asunder  
The skin was raised between  
the finger and the thumb  
and the hook with a diamond  
point nimble paper wire  
and thrust up to the bend.  
The hook is about 1/2  
long. A belt of cloth was  
then tied round so as able  
to be taken in by the hook,  
but this had no share in  
supporting the man, and  
was only intended to prevent  
accidents on the skin giving  
way, which has ~~occurred~~ some-  
times happened. The two  
small ropes attached to the

Two's eye made fast to  
the <sup>only of the</sup> thicker ropes Descending  
from the end of the cross  
This suspends the man, to.  
The other rope is fixed to  
small bar of wood on which  
<sup>sometimes two</sup> one, or an sets, to balance the  
man at the opposite end.  
The extremity of this ~~end~~  
rope is formed into a noose  
through which the upright  
post passes - five or six  
men take hold of this rope  
and running round carry  
the man swinging on the  
opposite side <sup>round</sup> with great  
velocity - Triad - Montain  
birds, &c. thrown by the swinger

from a bag - indecent motion  
and attitudes - Time 4 or  
5 minutes - 4 men and one  
woman swing - The woman  
made a vow that if she  
should have a child she would  
swing every year her husband  
and the incubid, and she has  
now performed her vow three or  
four times - Several swing  
without the bandage

Tuesday 11 April 97

Sent some articles to Mr.

Thibault to dispose of —

Electric machine — air pump  
and Pelamator —

— both <sup>Mr</sup> Belli —

Mr. Martin read Mr. B. —  
account of the Calcutta news  
paper —

Wednesday 12 April  
went to see a Linnæus  
microscope at Mr. Gardner  
advised Mr. G. to send it to  
Mr. Thibault —

+ with Mr. Forme  
Capt. Withers — from New  
Zealand — No rise of the  
tide there — told this is the  
middle of summer — saw  
no inhabitants —

— During the hot winds,  
if the glass windows be  
shut, the room will always  
be found cooler several in a  
difference of feet degrees

<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday 13 April 97

Sent the Regulator to Mr.

Thibault — told Long

Adrian only to Mr. C. Lambert

pre- to J. Phipps —

<sup>th</sup>  
at 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours N. W. 0

at 11  $\frac{1}{2}$  — — — 30

Thus in one hour it has  
moved over half the seal.

<sup>th</sup>  
12 Th. — — — 09 —