

Journal

or

Samuel L. Cook

Journal —

Calcutta

~~7~~ May 5th —

1796

Calcutta 1794

Thursday - 5th May —

Unpacked part of the
apparatus —

— with Mr. Belli

Juvenile Days — idleness.

In the heat of action the
soldier not afraid; at the
a little distance and un-
occupied the care is dif-
ferent.

— Diary — every thing said
in company — improper
Bowell —

Roman Ships - Great
Catanaran - Two fellows
in the water playing at
quarter Staff -

Pupians bring down some
of their Rivers immense floats
carrying several thousand
Tons -

Anibals dissolving the rocks
with vinegar. said to be not
so abundant as commonly sup-
posed - Chinese made of splitt-
ing ^{slabs} rocks for bridges stairs
&c - The same in Ceylon
- quite would vinegar & fire
the water is producing the effect

Modern mode of drawing
Character - two heaps -
The Old Emperors of China
has resigned the Crown to
his second son it is said.

Friday 6th May 1796
B^d with Dr. Dick, had
some business from him
for a violent eruption
over the body —

Dined with the Dr. —
— some opinion not satisfied
with the regulations —

— Dispute with the Nobles
respecting the payment
of his debts — Swore he
would be ~~would~~ be King
of his own country —
— This no very proper time

for the company's inter-
ference with the private
concerns of the Native Prince

Saturday 7th May 96
Unpacked the remainder
of the apparatus - one
Lamp receiver broken -
Visit from the Rev^d Mr.
Brown - advises me to
take care of my self
for William Chamber. by
exposing himself to the
sun with a similar
rupture caught a fever
and died in a few days
- At 11 this evening, received

a Chit from Mr. Brown
inviting me to see a
Hindoo marriage. Could
not go
+ This evening a walk
on the Esplanade -
- Rem my Bull, was
a short kind of grant
goes well, if he seizes
a bunch of Plantains
or other article of food
in the bazar, the people
do not prevent him. He
is considered as sacred

Calcutta

Sunday 8th May 96

This morning went for
Mr. Brown -
- With Mr. Fairlie

+ Several persons have dropped
down dead on the streets, sailors
and soldiers in particular
- query what is the mode of action
of the sun on the animal system
Is any particular combination
formed with terrestrial influ-
ence, or does the effect depend
on the intensity of the heat
as ascribed by the sun's rays
being directed to a focus by the
particular position of some clouds?

Calcutta

Monday 9th May 96

After breakfast worked
on Mr. Babb respecting
the conductors to be put
up on the Company's
wire house in the old
Fort - May - They were
on Mr. B. while I was
there - Just arrived from
the Andamans - Nara-
ly escaped ship wreck
on the sand banks near
Sagar road -

received the ware houses -
received number of raw su-
gar - papers for value of
all costs

- with W. F. M. P. M.
Gov. of the Danish settlement
at Amboyna - Salt petre!! - his
mode of spending the day -

Tuesday 10th May 1796

Morning - on M. Lambert -
voyage to Benares about one
month after the rains set in.

- Zoonomia on Martley's plan

- To try the quadrup of the
atmosphere during the
hot winds, for we are
rainy seasons -

Dined with Sir John Shore
that of Madras compared with
Calcutta - air at the former
place finer - Land winds
very hot -

- Observatory small but useful
instruments on a small

scale — Longitude of places
can be ascertained only by
corresponding observations of
Jupiter's Satellites — Lunar ob-
servations impracticable on
Land — Double altitudes frequen-
tly cannot be had, on account of
the height of one or sometimes
both objects being too great.
Refraktion on Land more irre-
gular than at sea — error in
measuring the distance — neces-
sity of an observatory

The Portuguese *Pedro* who
built the observatory at Benar
had a son who is said to be still
alive —

This day rec'd two letters from

Mr. Ross with an account
of a quantity of Salt-petres
being to be forwarded to me
for trial — also an extract
from J. Heynes Letter —

Wednesday 11th May 96

~~Thursday~~

Went for Mr. Crawford -
view of Bala Academy
- Dined with Mr. Burrows
Thunder storm lightning
Traveling over Land - advan-
tages - disadvantages -

Thursday 12 May 96

A letter from Mr. Spence
with a draft on Mr. Mc
Donald for 40 pag^s -
to be applied to the
use of Miss Jane who
comes round with Capt^l
Guy Hamilton of the
Regiment thus Mr. McDonald
has accepted the Off. -
- with Mr. Belli - three -
- Classic conversation
papers from Horace
and so - There is a great

in point of proficiency
among the Greeks, and Roman
writers, than among the mo-
-ders, when the order is the
same both in writing and
translating -

Friday 13th May 96
This morning ^{I was} informed
by Capt. Ross that his
books will be disposed of
by ^{Mr} Campbell and Radcliffe
with Mr. F. - He about
in the evening took a
walk to see the flag-
staff at the fort which
on Thursday morning at
6 o'clock was struck with
lightning - It is shown the
distinction from top to bottom
and but for the iron hoops
which bound it, it would in

all probably ~~to~~ have
fallen. A ~~fish~~ ^{fast} ~~on~~ ^{up} on the
round top, and scapoy
at the bottom escaped un-
hurt - M. Golding

^{the}
Saturday 14 May 96
Last night lightening -
with Mr Mannington -
~~to~~ The salt pike made
on the coast is said to
be mixed with arsenic

Calcutta -

Sunday 15 May - 96

Read a few papers in
the third vol of the Edin
Transactions -

The mineral of Stron
gives a deep blood red color
to flame - flame of a candle
must be moistened - The
mineral of Limi the same

- Earthquake in Perth
this -

- Water in the Calcutta
Tank. in and full with
the rain - sand at present

breakish - The rain
water is said to be
breakish at this season

The mineral in
nitrate of Stron that
may probably be em-
ployed in fire works
to give a red flame
with W. Colum -

Calcutta

Monday 16 May 96

- B^d with Mr Croose with
8 other Gent^l to see new
model of a theatre -

Try -

- D. F. called - spectacle

+ with Mr. Noun

- Wh. Mr. King who
signed the order for
the purchase of

Glencoe -

- Mr. Bell wished me to
look at the water Engine

Monday 17th May 96

- with Mr. F. - Mr. - has
found his address to several
ladies but refused - Miss
O. was certainly intended
for Mr. O. - D. G. - obser-
vation to Mr. F. -

- Mr. Shakespear's servants
same inconvenience that
dogs - This in the Church

45 -

Wednesday 18th May 96

- Received a ^{fracture} ~~bullet~~ containing

8 fine small particles of salt

from Capt. Ken of the

Kingston - sent by

Mr. Pop of Madras for

examination and com-

parison with Bengal Salt

petre -

- Dr. Dick - Print Machine

- Conductors - Magazine -

Thursday 19th May 96

Went to the long room

Books from the Ken-

ington not unpacked

- sent of Mr. D - Term

entire to Capt. Wilson

Madras -

with Mr. Harrington -

Materialism - soul

matter - arguments - of his

involved image - has nature

any mechanical made of

^{crystals} ~~crystals~~ the image? -

Wednesday 18th May 96

Received a ^{parcel} ~~bundle~~ containing

Three small parcels of salt

taken from Capt. Ken of the

Kennington - sent by

Mr. Pop of Madras for

examination and com-

parison with Bengal Salt

petre -

- Dr. Dick - Print Machine

- Conductors - Magazine -

Thursday 19th May 96

Went to the long room

Books from Mr. Ken-

nington not unpacked

- sent off Mr. D - Term

enrolled to Capt. Wilson

Madras -

- with Mr. Harrington -

- Materialism - soul

matter - arguments - of his

involved image - has nature

any mechanical made of

^{enveloping} the image? -

Friday 20th May 1796 -
Called on Mr. Webb - went to
see the fire Engine - Prognostic
construction - White Bay
to Botany Bay - buds - Cook
Coa

Saturday 21 May 96
This day settled the
account with Messrs
Faulkner and Co^{rs} up
to the 30 April last
when there appears a
balance in my favor
of Dec^r 15,558,13
to which sum
~~add~~ 1000 p^{er} cent
what at 3.5 is 3979
Balance in my 19,537
fav^r.

The Day purchased
Boni Mathematics
Juss' Rowning's Optics
and Ferrer's Algebra
Sent one copy of the
latter to W. Bell
and one copy of them
together with the Essay
on Time to Major
Hall at Madras by
Capt. Robertson of
the Berrington Indian

Dr. Tennant (with
- New mode of bleaching
with the oxygenated
Muriatic Acid - Muriatic
preparation is a better
method - send bath
being Salt Manganese
and Vert. This vapour
is sent over into
a jar inverted into
a basin of Water!! -
Cloth is bleached in
the water and dried in
a room heated with Steam

Sunday 22 May 96
Visit to Mr. Sp - a paper
on Cochineal by Mr. G. J.
Christ - D. F. is remarkable on
this - another paper by
Mr. Bett -

- with Mr. D. - On the Charac-
ter of the Natives - It was
alleged that they are more
honest than the lower class
of people at home -

* Experiments with the Niche
acid and its Temperature -

Monday 23 May 96
This morning took an
inventory of my wearing
apparel - Mr. Mathew
wishes to see the acid as
a medicine - Dr. Scott of Bombay
is a letter to Dr. Anderson
of Madras says the Peruvian
acid may be applied to
our case in which Peruvian
has been formerly applied
see the Bombay Gazette
This evening Dr. Flemming
says that Dr. Scott's
reasoning is fallacious

Friday 24 May 1794
- Coll. Cannon called - reserve
in the fort - Powder Maga-
zines in the country - shape
of the roof - whether a pitched
or flat roof safest in a storm,
or Thunder Storm - whether
the former safer by carrying
off the rain water, i. e. not
allow land to carry off the
lightning - I recommended
a flat roof - Cheaper and equally
safe - I recd. also one or two
conductors to each Magazine -
Zion -

- Received a letter from
Mr. Spence at Madras
requesting that I would send
two telescopes instead of one
to Messrs. Nevins and Cockett.
- Permitted some water for
Chemical experiments -
- with Mr. Lambert - Capt
Pigot Messrs. Harvey, Addison
and Ch: Lambert - Scots
frigate, or Shilly &c -
- Whether the Romans and did
not conquer the Maedona
Thalonia by the common order
of battle - and consequently the
Lycian sister may be true

Greek pikes were too long
easily turned aside -

Dyonisius potroetes -
whether the Roman horse
had stirrups and bridles, not
stirrups - alleged impossible
to manage horse in a charge
without either bridle or
stirrup - Memmians -

+ It is the general opinion
that the modern order of only
two deep is too weak, three better
a single rowd horse may
break thro' two ranks - The
ear ranks should reserve the
fire - It was Lord Cornwallis
opinion ~~to~~ ^{to} after on his return
from the Carnatic that English

regular Cavalry would be of
little use in the Carnatic.

Great expense of feeding - but
number of bullocks - Country
horse much better - where the
man and his horse feed
together -

- a gun of Mr. Anderson -
light field piece - The French
it is said gained the battle
of ^{by means of} guns
of this construction - Professor
Anderson funding his construction
of the gun and carriage slight
by the Duke of Richmond
but it over to the Comander

Conical shot with the
apex towards the muzzle
is said to suffer less deflection
than round shot. The shot
is said to turn ^{half} round after
it leaves the piece and
to pursue its line in front
during the rest of the range!!

Different modes of pronoun-
cials. - Subject - Verb - Preter-
terit - Chiasm - Vind. - Preter-
European - Mercantile - Ceru-
lean - Chamber - Yea -
Yes -

- It has blown very hard
all this day the wind 8"
at half past 6 it began
to rain - became very heavy
lasted an hour much lighter
continued upwards of two
hours - Looks like the
setting in of the rains -
Rain have been known
to commence in April -
- King of Prussia first reduced
the depth of the order of battle
- and to attack obliquely
to contrived it as to bring
- ~~front~~ of his fire on the
front flank and rear at
once

Wed^y 25th May 96
at 2 a.m. Storm of
thunder and high^{ly} with
heavy rain -

This morning sent to Col.
Cameron for and received
in return four bottles
of water from the wells
ⁱⁿ the Ravines at the
four Gates

To examine -

Dined with Mr. Kennedy -
Mr. J. M. Jones, Mr. J. M.
Lockhart, Mr. & Mrs. Mac.

Thurs^{day} 26th May 1796
This day recd. a letter
from Mr. Traut enclosing the
following queries from Dr.
Hunter -

1. May the object Glass
Microscope be used with
either speculum and any
one of the eye Glasses at
pleasure; or to which of them
is it particularly adapted?
2. What alteration is the
focus ^{to multiply the image} or applying the Microscope
to obtain distinct vision -

both Mr. Fairlie -
Esplanade - Figs - Frags - &c -
no communication with the
river

The bill for the company's
advertisement during the
month of April amounted
to eighteen thousand five hundred

Calcutta
Friday 27 May 1796
- This morning sent Mr. Fairlie
for Dr. Hunter the following
description of the Object Glass
Microscope in answer to Mr. N's
query -

"(Dollan's) Object Glass
Microscope is applied both to
reflecting and reflecting
telescopes. It occasions a
small aberration in the
adjustment but none in
the construction of the in-
strument

The convex lens of the Microscope
by Conv. a little the rays
before they enter the telescope,

Show the focal distance
of the object glass in the re-
fractor, and of the great mirror
in the reflector. To produce
distinct vision therefore it is
obvious that the eye tube of the
former must be pushed in
and the little Speculum of the
latter must be moved near
to the great Speculum. This
micrometer may be used
with very magnifying powers
of the same telescope, and
its value may be stated
as follows. Measure the semi-
diameter several different times
take a mean then as

As this mean is to the
D. from the Ephemeris so
is one (written on the scale to
its value.

The Horizontal D. of the
sun should be taken and
when he has at least 20°
of Altitude -

There is commonly a slide
scale on the slider which
carries the small mirror
intended to mark the Diff.
of adjustment occasioned by
the approach of the Board.
It may also be of use in
readily adjusting with the
different magnifying powers.

- with Mr. Sheriff - Mr. Nooke
Sp^r and Mackay - Cochinal
Miss J. - Fencing - Mr.
Templeton -

Saturday 28th May 96
Dribbled some Nihom acid
- with Mr. Fairlie - Evening at
Mr. Duncan's -

+ gave Mr. Peirce one of the
new watches - no price fixed
but this I propose to have return
in Natural and Artificial
crystals -

Sunday 29th May 1796
- visit of Cap. Moor - Drop
of the women in New Albin
- gave some glass Drops -
- with M. Belli - Mathe!
- Play -

Monday 30th May 1796
This morning a letter from
M. Harris Chittagong to G.
Koching, was sent to me by
G. Fleming of which the fol-
lowing is an extract
" Have any of your Astronomers
" discovered the Comet? I saw
" him last night and took
" him for Jupiter, but on looking
" into the Ephemeris, I found Jupiter
" does not pass the meridian
" till 10 o'clock in the morn."
" He has no tail as he is
" opposite to the sun. But the

"Just then night we have
" I will endeavour to determine
" his Lat: and Longitude. His
" Observations must be great
" So I saw him in the S E
" about 10 o'clock and
" think he might have been
" very little better than an
" hour

" Ask Dr. Dawkins what
" observation I can make
" upon him, and I will en-
" deavour to do it"

Yours very truly
Richard H. Harris —

My answer was "The Lat of
Long, or what are more con-
venient, the Declⁿ and Right
Ascension in the last, that
the Drⁿ would be easily deter-
mined by the moon's Altitude
and the right Ascension by
a well regulated clock. The
Declⁿ might also be taken
by a Meridian Star —

On looking at the
position of the planets I
suspect that Mars has been
taken for the comet —
— "His own," and very wonderful

respecting the Comet sight,
Mr. Harris has concluded
never into a Comet -

Tuesday 31st May 1796
Yesterday visited my little
Nephew at Mr. Dunscombs - Ma^r?
is to attend - gave to a^u
of Miss Jane Ferguson fifty
Guinea rufus -

- with Sir Robert Abercrombie
- Cynzular Ambassador
looks - Glass pane -
Takin in the hot winds -
- sent the following par^{ts} to
be inserted in tomorrow's

Printers " we can assure you
by the best authority
readers that the Comet announced
from Chittagong, and which

has been a common sub-
ject of conversation for these
two days past, is whether more
near us than the planet
Mars"

Wedⁿ 1st June 1796

Several applications respecting
the Comet - The par. in
these days mirror will put
an end to them -

- with Mr. Farli -

+ This morning a visit from
Mr. Harrington - sent him
Perki Arithmetic - conversed
respecting the Perkiarithmet
Table -

Thursday 2 June 1796.

Prepared some very fine Nitric acid for the General Hospital - tried it both with

Distrate of Silver and Permutate of Mercury - no precipitations

- with Mr. Harrington - Cook - read - Bentley and Dr. Cui's correspondence -

- Dr. Scott's Discovery with respect to the application of the Nitric acid - opposed by Mr. Morris

This Even. Mr. P. Ewart called & delivered to him the instrument sent and contrived by W. Jardine Surgeon of the Victoria

+ Letters from Thomas Norton & J. Anderson by Mr. Dalzell's packet.

Friday 3 June 1796

Post a Packet of very fine Nitric acid to the Hospital -

- with Mr. Fairlie -

+ Mr. Norton's Letter received yesterday is dated 27th Sept.

- Mr. Morris' 20th Oct^r - the

- Mr. John Anderson's 29 August

- Ann is married to a Gentleman now in ~~the~~ one of the Fencible regiments -

- Mr. Morris' Letter - things sent by the first ship - some Chemical hints -

- Norton's a long Detail on the Evaporation of Gold -

By
Saturday 4 June 1796
at sun rise a Royal sa-
lute from the fort in honour
of his Majesty's birth day -
Recd a letter from Mr. Deane
dated 22 August -

He mentions the kind recep-
tion he met with ^{from} the Genl^l,
I intreated him to
+ with Dr. Dick - Dr. Scott's
proposal respecting the Nitrous
acid is thought to contradict
some of Beddoe's facts ~~and~~
relative to oxygen
+ Yesterday morning the
particulars of the Regent's
were made publick -

of Bengal
+ The Revenue - This last
year was said to have
fallen considerably - The
low price of opium has con-
tributed principally to this

Ed.
The. Dickin Pailton

near Country Warr