

J. M. ...

Madras

Madras

Saturday 13th Feb. 1796

This morning at half
past ten began the first lecture
- Subject Pneumatics - Lady
Robert M^{rs} Wadley and
were the only Ladies
present - L^y G. expressed great
pleasure at the Lecture and
she would willingly sit three
hours to hear the same sub-
ject - asked me to dine with
L^y G. - Experiments all
intended - List of Subscribers
amounts to sixty five -
Two young Americans are

Dined with L. Robert -
General Clarke M^r
Cockburns - Major Dallas
Capt^s Grand and Gordon &c -
- remarks on Prachus -
- Rio Janeiro - Another Embassy
is said to be in contemplation
that the Emperor says he will
not believe the King of En-
gland serious, unless he sends
L^d Macartney back again
to China - J. Gillan denies
that L. M. and Suite were hurried
away from Peking - L^d M.
wishes to show the Congales
Ambassadors some of my
experiments -

- Two M^r Shamier
attended at the Lecture
room to see the Experi-
ments of the first Lecture
- The Edict wishes to have
an apparatus -
- at home - a report
that the Abernethy bill is
lost. -

Sunday 14. Feb. 1796

- at home - nothing
remarkable -

+ The women carry their children
on their breasts the child's belly
next the mother, sometimes on the
shoulder, the child holding the mother's
head on their -

- when the Ambassadors Am-
bassadors visited the Exchange
they, asked who Lord Cornwallis
and General Meadows were,
being told that they were
two great English Generals
that had conquered this country
and had beat Tippoo Sultan
in the late war which they
must have heard of, they were
totally unacquainted with either. ^{Sept}

Monday 15 Feb. 1796

- with Mr. Prodie - King &
Queen - Regulations had cer-
tainly passed the Board of Council
and are now at least the contracts
to be in the hands of both John
and his L. ship -

+ + - or the war in India
so little do these people know
of the world - Thrommed in
on all sides by the Dutch
who possess all the sea
ports they are kept in pro-
found ignorance of the world
- At the end of last month
The Ambassadors thanked
Mr. Caprin for his Towne -
their mode of paying rent.
No money for Sub. in Ceylon -

Thursday 16 Feb^y 1796
- prepared the Experiments for
the 2 Lectures - air - sound -
- Capt. Bannister brought his Piston
to get examined - subjected -
- at home -

Wed^y 17 Feb^y 1796
- at 9 am in the m. 2. 74
in W. 2. - 74
in E. 2. - 00
- at 10¹/₂ gave the 2 Lectures
on air - sound -
Ladies - L^{dy} M^{rs} Addams,
M^{rs} Raebuck - M^{rs} Pradie,
M^{rs} and Miss Wellman -
- when a Candle has
a small wick and
much wax or tallow,
the wick cannot burn
the whole but there is
is formed a variety of
Crystallizations -

Thursday 18 Feb 1796

at 7th a.m. Ther - in E. 2. 00

— in N. 2. 74.

in W. 2. 73

Thurs Day wrote to W. Fairbairn
— with J. Bell — went in the

Evening to St Omeray to visit
Mr. Baker — Mr. B. was

as ambassador to the
King of Ager — curious fact —

said to have gained much
credit by the business —

— wished me to repeat my visit
during observation at first
lecture — walked part of the

way home & dispute on Religion
— Maja Child —

— bottle of ginna —

Friday 19 Feb 1796

— Employed in preparing the
air — Vet. and very pow-
ful — New Lead bed room
with ashre and burst out.

— Mr. Shammie says that
the medium temperature of
Madras is 84° of Fahrenheit

Saturday 20 Feb 96

Gave my third Lecture
subject - Gauss - went off very
well -

Just as I was going to begin
the Lecture Lord St. came
to me at the table and re-
quested me to change the week's
Lecture to Sunday. I announced
this at the conclusion of the
Lecture - but was soon after
informed that the Mayor's
court was held on that day
and that 8 or 10 Sub^s would
not attend - I was requested
to write to Lord St. on the
occasion -

- Story - of the Scotch³ in
heaven - onion -

- D. B. asked why I put
Nitrous Air in the Syllabus,
not knowing the meaning
of his question and he not
being able to explain its
meaning - Dupt -

- D. A. requested the Synonymes
of the Airiform substances -

Sunday 27 Feb. 1796
This morning wrote to L^d
Robert requesting that he would
let the ^{factum} day be Thursday in-
stead of Sunday, to which his
Lordship consents - Gave Mr
Gowan two watches to put eight
and small firepieces to repair
- Com: Thompson says the shops
do not sail before the end of the
week -

+ I do not remember to have
seen any European coun-
tels either at the Gov. General's
or the Gov. of Madras - Gave
it is an established rule for the
Indian Gov. have only Nations
to favour them -

Monday 22 Feb 96
- Sent D. S. the Synonyms
of the Adiform Substances
- Sent Chits to the Sub-
scribers informing them
of the Change of the Lecture
Day -
- at home - employed in
writing Letters to Europe -

Tuesday 23 Feb 1796
Seven at subscribers came
this morning assisting
the lecture -
- with Mr G. Keith Elphinstone - He showed me
a short abstract from the
report of the Dutch Commissi-
oners at Batavia respecting the
situation of the company's
affairs, from which ~~it~~ it
appears that the Company
has been continually losing
from the first year of its e-
stablishment - There was also
a letter from Mr. Titsing
giving an account of ~~the~~ his

journey to and reception
at the court of Peking -
received in the palace walked
over a plate of ice to a part
of the palace where an enter-
tainment was given by the
Emp^r - were permitted to
view the different apartments
of the palace, even the Empe-
ror's private apartment
never granted to any foreigner
before - ~~As~~ attended four
different fetes, were dismissed
politely. - concludes with
recommending ^{but} Van Braam
and after that himself to their

Myh mightly wifes note -
- Dinner on Silver
- Dessert on China and Gold
knife-fork and Spoon -
- J. Gullam said to be in a
bad state of health at the
cape - Lion - Admiral
Elph^h has seen frequently
several young sharks taken
out of a cage one alive -
common in the Mediterranean
The Shark Sir G. says has
the power of turning its teeth
down flat on the jaw -
- The Dutch packet on which
the commissioners arrived

were found attempted to
throw the boxes over board
but included only in one out
of ten full of writings -
- This morning the Admiral
weighed and stood to the
South - came to anchor op-
posite the Nabob's Palace
The ship was immediately
disputed, soon after which a sa-
lute from both men of war
and afterwards from the Fort
- Occasioned by the Govern-
ment to his highness
a picture of the prince's officers
- At 12. another salute for

reduction of Col umba of
which the news arrived this
morning. This event is said to
have taken place without firing
a gun. Articles will probably
be published in this Evening's
courier -

- Specimens of Monis. from the
diamond mine near Elora -
- Observations by Dr. Wayne -

Wednesday 24th Feb. 1796
Lieut Capt. Burrows and Mr.
Burnie, uncertain when the fleet
sails - Fitted up the diving jig
+ with Mr. Wilkinson. Mr. & Mrs.
W. and a Mr. Kelly. This Lieut
is son to the late Col. Kelly who
made during the war with the
so many surveys for the Company
and out of his own pocket be-
tween thirty and forty thousand
Pagodas, for which he never received
any thing from the Company
the son is a ^{private} in the Army
supports his mother and sister
on his pay, and is now going
home to apply to the Court of
Directors for some compensation
for his father's ^{services} -

at an assembly here a
company of Capt. asked Mr
add only to come with him
The Capt was ordered next
day on board and told to
his own business - Lady N.
looks on every woman here as
an adventurer and endeavors
to show her own superiority
by humbling as much as pos-
sible all others - even is not
her lady ship as great an adven-
turer as any other lady here -

Thursday 25th Apr 94
Gave the 4th Lecture Subject
Hydrostatics - well received -
Col: Grant requests my assistance
respecting a conductor for the
Church Steeple -
The Diving images may some-
times be brought from the bottom
to the top by enclosing the jar -
the pressure of the water is thus
diminished and consequently the
figure is rendered lighter -

Friday 26 Feb 98
Employed in writing letters
all day -

- at home -

- Mr. Stuart West is gone home
to Mr. Ambapada from the Nabet
and it is said he is charged with power
to enter business which involves
many complaints against the
Government of Madras -

- Lt. M. attempted to prevent
Mr. Hall from going home - told
him he should not go on board
till he found certain security &c.
Mr. H. told his Lordship he would
go on board - His L. then read a
passage from the Regulation of the Court
of Directors. Mr. H. said he was not a
member of the Company and therefore
he would do as he thought proper.

Saturday 27 Feb.

At 9 a.m. Observed the
Indiamen under way
standing to the South -
Not expecting they
would sail till this eve
I have lost the opportunity
of sending my letters -
My fifth Letter.
Subject five - well -
Will Lord M. become Gov
two or three days notice
used always to be given
respecting the shutting of the
packet - The Merchants and
to be informed of this by the

Scam at the post office
to show it was customary
to give a Pagoda or so once
in the year - On Friday
(yesterday) Lord H. sent
word from the Council at
3 o'clock for the packet to
be slow at four. Many
letters came too late -

Monday 20 Feb 1796
Breakfasted with Dutch Amb.
from whom I received some
curiosities of various sorts from
Owyhee and the N. W. coast
of America by the Chinese
Cap: Moore - Two prows
a war jacket bow and ar-
rows, fish hooks - bread -
- Also for Dr. M. several
fish - has a large collection
proposed to examine an other
collection of his arranged -
From the two I may have
what specimens I choose -
- A native from Owyhee
says he remembers what Cap:

Cooke was killed the man
who gave him the first
blow was not a warrior.
The Chief immediately con-
sidered Cooke as polluted
and no longer a God as he
had formerly thought, and
instantly rushed on him -
Among other papers from
Dr. Anderson is the Journal
- Mr. Piracy 2 copies of the
Phoenix done with me and
stew all night. He informs
me that Mr. T. Bruce goes home
in the Carron, that Thebauld
was fully employed but that
he would certainly come to

Monday 29th Feb. 96
Bengal that he had received
at least one letter from me -
That they have great debts
over the whole province,
to be paid by the ⁱⁿ Mulk
one sixth every year -
- A Duel was kicked up
on Saturday's night at
the Durbar between L.
- M. and the Nabob -
- The Sphinx is gone out
on a Cruise -
- with Mr. Probst -
- Bayon runs the only subject
capable of punishing Judges below
as thro' the solution -

- Dishes of the Coast have least
pay and most work - Tea and
rain powder - Bamberg prints
+ Experiment - send different air
than the Judge solution and
try their quality after papering
this - try this it may be shown
what air is most employed in
purifying the colouring matter
of Indigo.

+ No Cavalry in Bengul!

Friday 30th March 1794

Delivered the list of names to
Mr. Bradie in order to receive pay
of the subscription -

The Island of Ceylon is taken
possession of in name of the King
of Great Britain -

A few subscribers may probably
be had for ^{the young} half a crown -

Mr. Baird is Officer of the Honour
called. He had brought on shore
with him seven coat pieces for
Mr. O'Neary which were detained
at the custom house - He says
that the little boat I have for
T. Anderson are models of those
used on the B. W. coast of Amian
to the Northw. of Northa sound. A
man sits in each of the openings
with a covering of leather over the

from which both keep out rain
and cold. The Thoria is made in
the Lat. of 46° The wind was
very mild. There was little frost
and scarcely any snow. The bear
+ jacket, is also worn on the coast
sometimes two are put on at a time
The head is worn with a kind of
wooden dish by way of helmet. The
bow is also used on the coast. The
are used at the Sandwich Islands
The war jacket is made of the
skin of the marmot deer. Large
flocks of them are seen together
They are caught in pits wound
lightly over a kind of trough or
Loup. Tho' the bears used on the
coast are small, they are strong
and the natives are excellent men
men. A native seldom sleeps a
Yack on the water at 25 or 30 years
of age.

Wed: 2nd March 1796
Employed in preparing the
mechanical apparatus -
A report prevails that
the French frigates the Cyclops
and prudent are on the
Malabar coast -

Thursday 3^d March 1796.
From the Account in Pre-
chanis —

Friday 4th March 96.

The reason why the Madras
Establishment has hitherto
found the expenditure exceed
the receipts, is that the Carnatic
has been the ^{theatre} seat of the principal
war which the English have
been engaged in India. The
Madras Estab^t maintains more
troops than Bengal. The Minor
Prince Tippoo renders this pre-
caution absolutely necessary —

Saturday 5th March
Gave my 7th Lecture
Subject of this - well -
++ This morning a duel
was fought between Mr.
Worley and Mr. Abbot
Subject of the dispute the
Master attendant's office
which Abbot held and for
which he engaged to pay
a certain proportion of the
incumbrance to Mr. Worley.
Mr. Abbot is said to
be shot through the lung.

Sunday 6th March 96
Set out at 7 for the
mount, arrived at 9.
to breakfast - excellent
road - Dined with Mr.
Fitzgerald - I heard some
military officers Mr. Downie
- Capt. Nelson informs me
that by a letter from Cuba
he understands that our
pilot Gutierrez was taken
by the French, consequently
it must have been the
modest which we saw a
head of ~~our~~ the evening
we left the pilot -
The establishment at the

moment is the most pleasurable
revelation of any in
the country, consists of
sent about two thousand
men - The Cavalry practice
every morning

- Read part of O'Meara's
travels through Spain
- round the shores in
river and on shores

do not always receive
their form from attrition

- Lapis Lydus, south stone
mentioned by Theophrastus

- Seven pagodas well worth
seeing, the residence of
Bramin - College -

On my way from the Lanthan
boy let the candle be blown
out he ran to a neighbouring
hut to light it he returned
with the candle shortened by
four inches at least. This is
one of the many methods
which the natives use and
fall on the deceiver -

- During and immediately
after the rain great sickness
prevails - putrid fevers carry off
in a few days - In the very
hot weather up the country
a few frequently come off
in one day, Delirium immediate
ly succeeds the first attack -

Monday 7th March 96
sent 20 tickets for emp
Customs.

- Capⁿ Nelson says he has rec^d
many thanks, but nothing else
from Government for importing
the Cochineal into India and
thinks there is ^{little} reason to believe
if the Court of Directors will
make him any offer which he
will accept of. -

Tuesday 8th March 1796
at 8 a.m. Ther. in 71.2. 70°.

- J. Betty was affronted at
Lord M. being invited to a
rehearsal of a play, by a friend
who was to perform a part
he was refused admittance by
Col^l Richardson and in what
J. B. thought a rough way.
He told the Col^l he should
hear from him to morrow
Information was ^{given} ~~sent~~ to
Lord M. who sent ^{the Lord's} ~~and sent~~
J. B. under arrest at twelve o'
clock at night. This joined to
some other instances of ill treat-
ment from his Lordship, was the
cause of J. B.'s going home -

Wed - 9 Feb. 1796

Had the power of the Elche-
cat machine - better than
I expected -

+ visited by dinner with M. Wil-
kinson - Mr. Daly - Fran-
go - Modes of descent practised
by the nations

- M. Mumpsey's printer who
was ordered home by L. N.
last year, found means to escape
from the queen Capt Craig,
and wonderful to relate. is now
in Madrid -

Thursday 10 March 1796

- My eight Lecture - & this
the solar experiments should
always accompany this lecture
could not have the sun in
the lecture room - presented
pictures on the retina shown
on a sheep's eye. -

- At home -

Friday 11th March.

This morning met Capt
Nelson at the parade
breakf. with the Capt &
other Officers -

- The same expenses bestowed on
India that are laid out on the
west Indies would secure the
Company's possessions for a long
time. 25000 men from Comp
with a proportion of native
troops would be sufficient to re-
sist any attack from the native
powers -

- The Admiral again home
he sails ^{by the Monarch} in a few
days - A misunderstanding
prevails between him and
Robins. - He has never been

consulted on any public
matters, tho' he represents the
king here. A treaty has been
made with the King of Candy
without any communication
with Sir George. The Admiral
should have a seat in the
Council - On this account
probably, Colburn has been
taken possession of in the
name of the King -

Capt. Nelson requests me to
send a number of Bengal
rums (jugs) to Sir Urub
It is circular that Lord M.
should fall out with every
one.

- Went at half past eight to
the Assembly - The room is
decent. - About 20 Ladies and

at least three times as many
gentlemen. Country dances
began about 20 minutes after
nine, suspended at eleven, this
dancing was resumed and continued
till one, some of the Gentl^{ms} did not
leave the rooms till near three.
This Assembly is monthly and
continues thro' the year, even during
the hottest fair winds, a circum-
stance which I think strikes
occasions many female diseases

Saturday 12 March
My 9th Lecture —
Electricity — Air at this
season very unfavourable
for Electric experiments
— Visit for Mess^{rs} Roubin
The younger both much
pleased the present motion
of the Steam Engine —
— Sir J. K. Elphinstone
alleges that the sugar ma-
nufacture in Bengal does
not answer the purpose of the
refiners at home so well as that
from the West Indies —
This seems unproved —

Sunday 13 March

- This morning a Company of Judges attended and performed several tricks. Cups as balls as usual every where - mending the thread - A metal ball played in the air with great dexterity - a castle top, spun with a horizontal motion and received on the hand from which it is conveyed to the end of a stick balanced on the chin -

- A parcel of birds on a stick balanced on the upper lip, a tube put in the mouth, thro' which a small ball or pellet is blown and a bird shot, repeated till all are killed - a stone ball about 5 inches in d. lifted from the ground between the heels and thrown up between and received on the arm played in different directions from the arm to the heels, with much dexterity

— Concluded with a man
strutting in large shirt
about 15 or 20 inches
long down his throat
into his stomach —

— Recd a letter from Mr
Morris London, enclosing one
from Mrs. Nostri —
with Mr. Prodi — here
learned that Lord Roberts's
son died this morning
at one o'clock — The
ship which arrived this
morning is from Colombo
she brings Dutch Prisons

Native born men nu-
merous at Madras than
at Calcutta in proportion
— more Europeans — all
sent to the two Asylums
I have not yet heard of
any landing school here
for young ladies —
— whether inferior is un-
derstanding —

Monday 14 Feb 96

This morning two
squads worked the fan
and carried up a pack
hand rushing him one
of men belonging to the
to the top of the
new wall with the

lute room -

- with W. Golding's
- circular roof of the ob-
servatory not on rollers
but a tenon in a groove
moved by men on the
outside -

In the evening went to
visit W. Croose - saw
his model of a stage
The scenery has a proth-
egus - water fall
(done by a common
chintz ribbon -
- moon - water - palace
- wood - &c &c -

Tuesday 15th March 96

— Give my Lent's Lectures
Engineering —
— taken ill after the
Lecture — continued all
the evening much im-
paired —

Wedrd 16th March 96

This morning my friend
a letter from Mr. Fairbairn

Dated 3 March —

— He has heard no adv^{ce}
of the delivery of the
Letters by the Gabriel.

Thursday 17 March 96

May 11. Lecture - Chemistry
- This Day sent 6 Letters to
Mr. Perry to Dublin to Mr.
Allen 2. Officers of the Barracks
for Evers - The Letters are to
George Anderson Esq.
Mr. William Mallett
Mr. Thos Boyd Quinper
Mr. John Anderson Quinper
Mr. Wm watchmaker -
Mr. Wm Chyrist. -

Given Mr. R a draft on Messrs J. K.
and Co. for forty five pagodas for
returned by Mr. Cress -

Friday 18th March 96

Saturday 19th March
- 96

My 12 Lubin - 1 on

Whomomy - well -
W. Mander seems still in
order to have some of the
apparatus -

With Mr. Baker - 12 v'
Company - Conversation
much about China

- See Broze comes on
all at once - its first
in set is extremely refreshing
Sent for the letter from the
Chemin -

Sunday 20th March -

ⁿ⁻⁹⁶
Monday 21 March

⁹⁶
Tuesday 22 March
This day received from Mr. Webb
Secretary to the Revenue Board
some minutes of Salt Peter
to have tried at the request
of Robert - The minutes are
small -

- This morning exhibited the
Solar microscope - the pris-
matic colours and the Colours
Diagrams in the Store room -

Wed: 23 March 96

W. Shannan sent me his
Electrical machines for my
inspection - I sent him a
list of select instruments with
the price -

with W. McKesson - Mayer
Hall, W. Sutherland -

- Scotch and Irish weavers
- Town of Scotland for a furrier

- In the Evening received
an answer from W. Shannan
desiring me to furnish the
Instruments in acct. of
the price -

- It is alleged that the minister
will never give up the west India

Thursday 24 March

^{to} 13 Lectures - When only

- Dined last night with a
wonderful lot of young men &

company - indulged all the
day & dined with W. Spear

- Purchased of Buffalo Horn

- no small gold chain
to be had

+ This day began packing -

Islands on account the trade
 being the greatest nursery and
 resource for British seamen -
 I am would not judge for them
 the same?
 - The Cloth manufacture ^{on}
 the coast has been greatly in-
 jured by restricting the manu-
 facture to a particular kind
 of cloth, frequently a sort which
 he has not been accustomed to
 make - The manufacture
 prefer dealing with private trade
 vessels & shipping to the Company

Mr. Robinson
 Mr. Johnson
 Mr. Davis
 Mr. Edwards
 Mr. Roberts
 Mr. Green
 Mr. White
 Mr. Black
 Mr. Brown
 Mr. Grey
 Mr. Gold
 Mr. Silver
 Mr. Copper
 Mr. Iron
 Mr. Lead
 Mr. Tin
 Mr. Zinc
 Mr. Nickel
 Mr. Cobalt
 Mr. Arsenic
 Mr. Antimony
 Mr. Bismuth
 Mr. Mercury
 Mr. Platinum
 Mr. Gold
 Mr. Silver
 Mr. Copper
 Mr. Iron
 Mr. Lead
 Mr. Tin
 Mr. Zinc
 Mr. Nickel
 Mr. Cobalt
 Mr. Arsenic
 Mr. Antimony
 Mr. Bismuth
 Mr. Mercury
 Mr. Platinum