

Journal

of

26 August

1796

Calcutta 1799

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August -

W. Spalding - W. W. -  
Determined not to go up  
the country river.

- Sent a square phial con:  
taining Nitric acid to the Dis:  
pensary -

- With W. Faulkner -  
+ Making dye then cloths,  
blue at the Judges manuf:  
actory -

- A letter from the mana:  
ger of W. Faulkner Judges works  
states that he has been  
able to bring the Dist: to  
bear but not the Marnia

to  
Saturday 27 August 96

- Mr Lambert called -

+ Prop for starch - think  
it might be worth while  
to send it home -

- Rice has been <sup>the year</sup> exported from  
Bengal to England sufficient  
to maintain London & West  
for one month = 12,000  
= 2,000,000 lib -

+ The com<sup>rs</sup> are allowed  
the present King of Oude  
26 Lac of Rupees but has  
proven much more, provided he would  
live at Allahabad that  
King being refused admittance  
by ~~the~~ into the port by

Memorandums -

- Salt petre - refined sub

- Furnace and Ground Salt

- Flourish - a Report -

- Spine - where -

- Letter to the Board of Trade  
on Cochineal -

on Indigo -

Report on conductors -

1 1 2

Mistake of the Sentry  
insisted that the Centinel  
should be hanged. The  
English commander told  
him that he could not even  
be punished, because order  
had been issued to admit  
no more than a certain  
number at a time into  
the fort, on account of the  
great number of Fashen  
who were at that time  
bathing in the river.  
The King swore he would  
never <sup>again</sup> enter the fort, and  
immediately built some tem-  
porary huts on the banks of  
the Jamma, where he resided

for some time, and afterwards returned to Delhi -  
having withdrawn himself from the protection of the  
English, he of course lost great  
part of his revenues and  
has suffered very much  
and indignity from the Moh-  
las - Loss of eight &c -

His present revenues do  
not exceed 13000 Rupees  
per month - The Rohillas  
are a tribe of the Affghans  
- see Hamilton's account  
of them and other tribes -  
- Even at Mr. Duncan's

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August  
B with Mr. Fairlie -  
- Prints of English dresses for  
last year - Morning dress -  
full dress - Court dress -  
- spirit of wine is said to be  
applied to cochineal -  
- inquire for what purpose -  
- On the coast the British  
buy a fine and sparkling  
blue with indigo. In  
Bengal the colour is good  
but fugitive - It is said  
that people from the coast  
have tried but not suc-  
ceeded in rendering the  
colour permanent in Bengal

In attempting to clear  
the English Mercury acid  
a quantity of water was put  
into the receiver, this  
was rendered green, the fumes  
from the retort were extremely  
by red, the acid after being  
boiled for some time became  
almost clear, but on standing  
with the retort 'till somewhat  
cooled it in a short time  
returned to its former red &  
fuming state - Every time  
the tubulure of the Receiver  
was opened the red vapours  
were pushed along the neck  
in the body of the retort -  
This red acid was afterwards  
boiled in the usual Florence

flask, but would not be  
rendered perfectly clear -  
This I apprehend is owing  
to the mercury acid ar-  
riving from the suspension  
of the water made use  
of - The Vit. acid and  
nitric are not easily  
combined, when a phial  
of pure colourless Nitric  
acid has a small quantity  
of clear Vit. acid poured  
into it if the phial  
be inverted the Vit. acid  
descends in a waving  
stream something like  
oil in water -

Mr. F. Banks that the  
English Standard Gold  
is five p Cent better  
than the Bengol when  
compared with the Silver  
+ Demand at Mr. F. & alone  
- At 4 p.m. a coolly brought  
a bundle of Indigo plants  
- At 9 p.m. began the  
trough (see the Indigo Jour-  
nal)

Monday 29 August  
- At 6 a.m. no appearance  
of fermentation - Some air  
bubbles at 9 -  
- Breakfast with Mr. Dun-  
can -  
- ~~Out on~~ apothecary to  
Mr. Mac - ~~I~~ with whom  
I was engaged to dine -

Monday 30 August  
Began beating his m.  
at 4 (see Judge's Journal)  
- sent an apology to  
Mr. M. with whom I  
was engaged to dine -  
Dined with Mr. B. -

1. Report of Standard  
Gold to Silver in England  
as 15.07 to 1.  
+ Remedy for the present  
batta on Silver -  
1. Prevent the exportation  
of it.  
2. Add to the Gold mo-  
nety, or diminish the  
Rupia.

3. Establish a bank  
4. Order, at least part  
payment, to be made  
in Rupia -  
It is said there has  
been sometimes a batta  
on Gold -  
- A new coinage of Silu.  
attended with less in-  
convenience than that  
of Gold -  
- Gov. is now causing  
the various coins of  
the neighbouring coun-  
tries.  
- It is said that Gov. is  
after trying every means  
to prevent the high batta

on Silver resolved to leave  
both metals to their own  
currency —  
— Now the ~~par~~ balance is  
preserved between the gold  
and silver coins in China —  
— Whether sending bullion  
to London would answer  
— No fixed par between gold  
and silver — depends on the  
state of the market and  
partly on the opinions  
of men — ought to be  
influenced by surrounding  
nations —

+ Children in India are  
said to survive more readily  
on grass and seroia

subjects than in Europe  
The natives always con-  
verse with their children  
as if they were grown  
up persons  
+ M. R. — is said to have  
lost six Mors and Gold —  
Mors in July last —  
— What madness!! —

— Calomet often adulterated  
with Cor: sublimata —  
four grains of Calomet  
given to a child — six will  
do no harm if the Cal:  
be good —  
— The Company's medical  
instruments is said to  
be purchased at Apothec-  
aries Hall —

This morning after the  
 Livi Mess<sup>r</sup> Cox, Griffiths  
 and Burrows called -  
 - I report that four or  
 five of the company's  
 ships have arrived at  
 Madras - not much  
 credited

Appraisal  
 an<sup>n</sup> or one G.M/S.M. Ret.  
 17 : 16 : 1 : 15.055

Wednesday 31 August  
 The Indigo vat exhibits  
 nearly the same phenomenon  
 as yesterday  
 - Called on Mr. Harrington  
 not at home -  
 - Mr. S. G. called -

Denomination of Ben-  
 gal coins

5020 = 1 Anna Rupee  
 8 half pie = 1 Anna } n. Copied  
 4 new pie = 1 Anna } n. uge-  
 12 pie = 1 Anna  
 16 an? = 1 S. Rupee  
 16 Rupee = 1 Gold Mohur  
 17 an. since weight of standard  
 gold make one Gold Mohur  
 Proportion of gold to silver  
 as 15.055 to 1

The mode of valuing the  
different coins in Bengal  
complex and unnecessary  
might be rendered much  
more simple by having  
recourse to weight as in  
England where one bit of  
standard gold is  $\frac{1}{2}$  crown  
into 46 14: 6 = 44  $\frac{1}{2}$  g?  
one bit into 62 Shetty  
and one bit of  $\frac{1}{2}$  into 46 half  
penny

+ with M.F. -

no Indigo plant brought

- M.D. in the evening

<sup>st</sup>  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 96.  
This day procured some  
more seed - (see the Indigo  
Journal)  
+ with M. Duncan -  
+ sent Naloy's coins  
+ aquafortis

Friday 2 Sept 1796

This morn<sup>g</sup> at 5 went  
to Indigo vat, found  
very weak & see Journal

The horns in Bengel  
are fed with Greens &  
horse manure, for the work  
signifies any sort of fuel  
They are boiled and  
sometimes washed

Better food than what  
Barley is said to be  
better than oats —

Saturday 3 Sept 96

Busy all day with the  
Indigo (see the Journal)

Mr John Murray sent  
me the report from the  
powder committee at Bombay  
requesting my opinion on  
the mode of purifying  
Salt peter by washing  
and without boiling

He received from Dr  
Munk the name in Ara-  
bic of 5 Ashononnet  
Instruments requested me  
to get a description of  
them from the Doctor —

with D. Oult  
China Ambassade  
seemed to worship  
in the same man-  
ner as the people  
of Pegu -

Mahé names of the J...  
Zat ut kuluk

Zat ut Shobitein

Zat ut Suebetein

suds Fuhkeri

Shambah

Sunday 2 Sept-96  
B. with Mr. Harring-  
ton - of Papers in  
Algebra -

Read the paper upon  
the improvement of the  
manufacture of Gun-  
powder by the Com-  
mittee of Bombay -

New mode of Gun-  
powder by working - and  
of trying salt petre  
by a saturated solu-  
tion of Gun salt petre.

This solution will take  
up the foreign silver  
without dissolving any  
more salt-petre —

— 1<sup>st</sup> washing with 40  
grs. Cent the 2 with  
25 grs. Cent of water

— with N<sup>o</sup> 7 arrange

M. Stewart

+ Silver coin <sup>being</sup> few grs. Cent  
is better than in England  
when compared with Gold

— Two ways of remedying  
this, reduce the silver in  
quantity, or enlarge the

Gold — or diminish the  
current value of the Gold  
by reducing the Gold value  
to 15 Silver Roubles —

— M. M. — proposed to  
lay a duty on the  
importation of Silver —  
Should a Bank be  
established, would not  
the payments at the  
banks be <sup>made</sup> in Gold as long  
as the present value lasted  
Consequently a bank would  
not remedy the inconve-  
nience —

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 96  
Packed up the Camera  
re and put the Lu-  
cinal Microscope in  
order -

- with Dr. Dick - Dr. D.  
with Genl M - Chivers

- Account of the arrival  
of the Cronborg at Madras  
! 2 Dutch Ships of the line  
with a number of frigates  
coming out to India -

- Several Ships said to have  
been captured by the Enemy  
Among which was the

with a very rich cargo

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Sep 1796  
Dr. and the Lucinal  
Microscope -  
- Visit of Mr. Brown -  
with Mr. Belli. Dr. D.  
and Mr. Sp - g -

+ A cake of Sulphur  
of pot-ash lay a few  
Days on some paper  
on my writing Desk  
on examining the paper  
I found a memorandum  
book consisting of 8  
leaves without a cover  
had the writing in every  
part of it totally effaced

Wednesday 7 Sep 9

This morning showed an  
explained the construction  
and use of the Linnæan  
Microscope to Dr. Smith -

Returned Capt. Mansfield

the remainder of his boots  
with Mr. Sheriff - Next

took Lab - of - Mistle -

took most insect is taken  
of the plant with a little

bit of stick having one end  
formed into a wedge -

Labours are paid two  
rupes per month -

But the microscope is  
order - Dr. N. sent an Ap  
log -

Thursday 8 Sept 1796

Morning blowing with  
heavy rain from the N.  
E. -

at 12. Ther. - 80° -

Wind is quiet flames at  
ways double some time

from four sea or more  
reflections - This sudden

gust of wind is not exactly  
accounted for -

Report of the French  
frigate being off Pondi -

cherry and that they  
had taken a vessel

great apprehensions are  
entertained respecting the

part of Indian men who  
sailed from Madras a few  
days before the above news  
arrived —

9<sup>th</sup> p.m. Thu? is 00  
the same all day.

— very heavy rain wind  
N: near N. W<sup>y</sup> —

+ with W. F. — British  
servitude cannot exceed by  
act of parliament seven  
years, a criminal may  
be transported for 14 or  
more years or for life, but  
he cannot be condemned  
longer more than seven.

+ Burke's pamphlet — per  
son sent to amount to 30  
or more

This evening exhibited the  
Linnæus microscope to  
J. Hunter and Mr. Debo-  
rough, the latter sent  
is to take charge of it  
for Col. Palmer — To  
be sent to Barber and  
Palmer to morrow —

Strength of Geometrical  
Heirs — In the Opera house  
one above another —  
This morning sent to  
the printer, the corrected  
proof of the Geographical  
questions —

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of July

This morning to Messrs  
Morton and Palmer the  
Lancaster Manuscripts with  
a spare plane mirror for  
the sun, all packed in  
one box —

with Mr. Burroughs  
& the money (coin) which  
is most prevalent in  
country is generally in-  
duced by the response  
The French say D'Orge  
The number coins in  
papers. It will be im-  
possible perhaps entirely  
to prevent calls for the  
shops will take advan-

of the scarcity of either  
Gold or Silver — There  
would be an increase  
attending making any at-  
tention in the value of  
the current Gold No man  
for example (15 S. P.) it  
would considerably affect  
men who have much  
specie by them —  
best method a new  
coinage of Gold — more at-  
toy —  
You is not the Chinese  
mode the best to let Gold  
and Silver remain out of  
of commerce and bring  
what the can agreeable  
to the state of the market

In a country where labor  
and provisions are cheap  
the lower coins must at  
ways be more valuable  
in proportion than e-  
tra - Some Guineas and  
bank notes in England -  
Silver and Coins in Ben-  
gal -

The principal incumbrance  
attending the taking Gold  
Silver nearly as bullion as  
in China seems to be the  
of adulterations -

Govr: here are economical  
as much as possible, in order  
as much as possible to stop  
for the concessions granted to  
army who certainly bullied  
Govt - so say some -

<sup>th</sup> Saturday 10 - Sep 96

G. A. Letter  
Adm is received from  
Madras that the Cary-  
ford frigate and three In-  
dianons - we arrived in  
the roads - They have  
returned to avoid falling  
in with the French pi-  
gates -

12<sup>th</sup> Nov - 00

Heavy rain all day -  
very now and then -  
with M. Faule -  
Whether Fort St George  
could protect Indianers  
in the road - Spring

on the cable! of what  
we then expect to bring  
the ship into a position  
to be seized by the ene-  
my. It is alleged that  
the ships may get close  
in shore as to bring the  
enemy in the attack within  
the reach of the guns of  
the fort.

- Point Blank of a 32 lb  
is it 10,000 yards?

- It was alleged by Capt  
Roberts that the guns  
from the Fort could hit  
almost every line at any  
distance at which the enemy  
could attack the ships -

- Mr. F is with the crew  
+ To extract oil from  
this country's wax would  
turn out profitable -  
- Mr. F thinks Fort H.G.  
could not protect a large  
fleet of large ships in the  
road -

+ Received 100 S. Profus  
for Murre Mann for  
teaching -

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 96  
2 Lessons to Mr. Hanning  
Multiplication and Division  
of Algebra - New asks  
on the negative sign -  
on the Multiples which  
must always be abstract  
- Lord Robert ordered the  
flat of India was ~~run~~ away  
from the roads without per-  
mitting them to come to another  
and spread a report that they  
were gone to Bengal -  
It is reported that not more  
than 30 Cannon can be  
mounted at Fort St George  
to play on the roads - owing  
to the Decay of the British work

- With Mr. Belli. His  
son - System of war  
carried in every Map of ani-  
mated being  
- Evening at J. Puck  
Took a view of the moon  
and Jupiter with the Telescope  
+ The price of rice in Bengal  
is usually one Rupee per  
Mauud = 1 lb - This will  
sustain one man 6 days -  
- mode of boating -  
+ Rice is considered as very  
high at 1. 12<sup>h</sup> 2<sup>a</sup> of Mauud

Monday 12 Sept  
Recommenced with  
W. B. - 17<sup>th</sup> Lesson -  
Reviewed ~~Arith~~ sub.  
and Multiplication and  
Division of Algebra -  
Set W. B. - Harris  
Elements of Criticisms -

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept -  
Attended the Lecture of  
anatomical wings as a  
case for the effect of Vit.  
and -  
Returned the report on  
Salt petre to Sir John  
Murray - In J. Walker  
to see Salt petre refined  
by the new process -  
with Mr. Brown  
Orthodox - Strong and well  
founded -  
Dulley - This 0.5

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Sep 1796  
M. B. - 10<sup>th</sup> Lesson vulgar  
fraction - Equations & Algebra  
- visit of old Mac - ie -  
+ with J. Dick - Capt<sup>m</sup>  
Lox's farewell dinner -  
M. F. - 2. M. Lead. &c -

Punch -  
- whether Fort M. G. could pro-  
- scribe a fleet of large ships in  
- the road - a point by some  
- deemed by others  
- guns brought down to the  
- beach - Therm. 85°  
+ Sultry Therm. 85°

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Sep 96  
Remained very low from  
three this morning. -  
a clap of thunder at 10<sup>1/2</sup>  
heard none before -  
Esplanade covered with water  
- wind in gusts - N. East -  
- adjutants busy fishing  
on the esplanade -

- Cold Therm. - - - 00  
+ with M. Warrinle  
- Townline - A fighting man  
- Quilist not admitted -  
- Of some poems - Why  
- would not Macpherson  
- show the original - Johnson  
- Letter to Macpherson

No allusion to modern  
Arts and Sciences  
Nor by some considered  
as an argument in favor  
of antiquity, by others the  
contrary - Some of the  
sculptures of Osiris are said  
to be made in Ireland -  
The weather is always  
extremely sultry and does  
before a heavy rain per-  
sistently in <sup>the</sup> present and  
following months. The Phil.  
monstrous insects however  
a difference only of about  
4 or 5 degrees - very dif-  
ferent from our Tomalich

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Sep 1796  
Heavy rain last night  
- cleared up a little this  
forenoon -  
at noon Ther. - - 03  
- with M. F. and  
+ report of the merchants  
of Piramy -  
- Received a letter from  
Capt. Wilson at Thom  
near Madras - inform-  
ing me that his daughter  
is coming soon

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept  
19<sup>th</sup> Sept to Mr. Belle  
- Simple equations -  
- at 11 a.m. attended the  
Committee at St John  
Murray -

- St John will mention  
the plan respecting the  
apparatus in the Society  
- Cochineal mixed with  
the steam of Sulphur -  
- does not it is said turn  
the colour -  
- to give blue from the  
root, or from the best  
Indigo -

- Dr. F. g. says that the  
by washing the with  
Sulphuric acid the fe  
cula, the indigo instead  
of a blue will give a  
green colour - Doubtful

<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday 10 Sept<sup>2</sup> —  
2. Letter to Mr.  
Harrington - Fraction  
and Proportion in  
Algebra —

$$-1 : +1 :: +1 : -1$$

This seeming paradox  
is really none. A nega-  
tive quantity cannot take  
place in proportion

— neither can a negative  
quantity have a root —  
— with Mr. Belli - Mr. Cochran  
Trail, Spalding.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Sep 1796

20<sup>th</sup> Lesson to M. Belli-

Simple equations

- De mortuis &c - meaning

- with M. Ozmean -

spent the evening

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Sep

- Spent this whole day  
in making a proper  
situation of Algebraic Equa-  
tion -

+ with M. Belli - U - v  
M<sup>r</sup>. Colver Jas. and Rome

- It is alledged that warm  
Salt p<sup>r</sup>es with cool water  
better than exposed - This very  
probably the case, from the  
different Salts with which  
the Salt p<sup>r</sup>es is alloyed -

Wednesday 21 Sept<sup>o</sup>

B<sup>o</sup> with Mr. Lambert -

- Steamers voted for the present year = 120,000  
greatest number during the former war 100,000  
This last is said to be the number in the merchant service. Of the 120 voted perhaps not  $\frac{1}{5}$  able bodied seamen

- 6 Frigates taken from the French during the month of April

- Opium - analysis  
essential part seen  
to be <sup>the</sup> only useful ingredient

- at 3 a fine ship  
launched by Fournier  
and Bacon - Menor-  
ca - Byers to move  
the instant the day  
shows were struck  
out -

+ with Mr. Lambert -  
- Mr. Fournier's in the  
evening -

+ Whether any English  
ships of war carry 42 p.  
- upright piece from the  
ends of the cradle said to  
be of no use in launching  
a ship - the cordage be-  
low being sufficient to bind the  
cradle

- for part of the week al-  
ways a little roughed -  
+ Government - terms of borrow-  
The natives will be alarmed  
it is alleged and will not  
lend money even at 12  $\frac{1}{2}$   
Cent - Great hardship on the  
Merchants.

- The indigo plant does not  
at this season, while in bloom  
produce more than one half the  
quantity it produced a month ago  
- The quantity is diminished and the  
quality is <sup>also</sup> said to be inferior -

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept 1796

- J. Smith called - He wished  
to send home to M. Playfair  
a copy of Jay King's Astronomi-  
cal Tables - Borrowed La Lande's  
"M." vol 1<sup>st</sup> and Sid. Cat. 2 Vols.  
- Bill sent to M. Palmer -

- In the Hindoo Algebra there  
are said to be many Diophan-  
tine problems -  
+ With M. Mackay -

- Punishment called *Doosa*  
is considered as the greatest disgrace  
by a Moor man - It is inflicted  
on the bare shoulders by a large  
shoe -

- Words imagine, think, suppose, conceive

- a watch which varied but 7 seconds in one year!!
- Reckoning up a year of the watch in coming out and v.v. in returning to England

Friday 23 Sept 1796

- View of Mr. Wray - Point for the conductors -
- + Some degree of provision is necessary for the sick worn when is not the heat some time too great for the worn in this country?
- Read a letter from Dr. Scott - Peter and applied to medicine with great success - Dr. Scott
- In the same it is said one arrived at Madras
- Mubbery not permitted to

grow taller than three or  
four feet in Bengal -

~~Some European papers say  
for the last years -  
European Indians as daily  
exported in the river -~~

<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>m</sup>  
21<sup>o</sup> Lesson to Mr. Belli -  
Simple Equations -  
- Watched on Mr. Babb -  
he was much pleased  
with the matters of  
Indigo I showed him  
- He wishes to have  
Drawings of the best fur-  
nace for Mills -  
- Manufacture of Sugar  
- Watched on Mr. Campbell  
- Indigo - Several modes of  
Drying it -  
- Mating with both hands  
full lifted the besom with  
her toes, behind so high as

to take hold of it with  
his hand. I remember to  
have seen the Negroes at  
Rio Janeiro do the same  
with great dexterity —  
— without suspecting  
the application of bit:ain  
to Indigo