

Journal

<sup>no 7</sup>  
11 Feb<sup>y</sup>

1790

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Calcutta



This Land Log book is  
intended only for connecting in  
a Chronological series the facts  
reported in the journals and Hints  
and other particular registers —

1 — 1



Calcutta 11 Feb 1790

Sunday  
at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  A. M. Ther. 69 $\frac{1}{2}$   
Hyg<sup>r</sup> - 0  
Ditto old - 0

Sensation - cold

Wind N. Westly

4 Ther - 71<sup>o</sup>  
10 Hyg<sup>r</sup> - 20 M  
Ditto old - 7

Air drying very fast.

4 Ther - 72  
11 Hyg<sup>r</sup> - 22 M  
Ditto old - 1.3

4 Ther - 72 $\frac{1}{4}$   
12 Hyg<sup>r</sup> - 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  M  
Ditto old - 2.



1 1/2 p.m. Ther	73 1/2
Hyg	15.11
Dello etc.	3.15
4 3 Ther	75
Hyg	13 m -
Dello etc	4.3
7 to Ther	74°
Hyg	17 m -
ob Dello	5.5 -

+ with W. Fairlie -

+ Near this morning that  
 Mr. F's marriage is fixed for  
 Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup>  
 Evening gun very loud -  
 wind southerly -



Monday 12 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1790

With M. Fankie

Political Catechism in the French  
Language

17<sup>th</sup> Feb

Days

Ditto old

73<sup>rd</sup>

15<sup>th</sup> M

3.9-

+ with M. Taylor -

Mrs. Robertson, and  
Baillie

- Ogilvy - id est, o Quilvie

Ferguson's reply to the  
Methodist - Walker's covan-  
try way -

+ Visit of M. Grant -

Circular instrument of war  
Tyger bow - poisoned Arrow



the  
Tuesday 13 Feb 1798

Rose at 5. Morning clear and  
Cold -

# 8 30 a.m. Ther.	69 $\frac{1}{4}$
Hyg	—
Ditto old	22 Dry
	3.3
# 9 30 Ther.	70
Hyg	29 &
old Ditto	3.3

It is reported that the Late Nabob  
of Oude meeting a beestie coming  
out of the Zimmansah was so  
struck with his figure, that he ordered  
him to go and enjoy one of his  
princes, the result was the young  
man whom he appointed his  
successor to the Government, and who  
is now deposed by the Gov Gen.  
I had from M. A. Scott with  
a game from M. Ware junior respecting  
the watch and Jewellery some time here.



4	Thur	_____	72°
11	Thur	_____	72°
	Nyq	_____	15 M
	Ditto old	_____	4.7
4	Thur	_____	73
12	Thur	_____	73
	Nyq	_____	M. 12
	old Ditto	_____	5.3

— wrote to P. Zornant at Chumma

4	Thur	_____	75
2 p.m.	Thur	_____	75
	Nyq	_____	4 M
	Ditto old	_____	6.9

+ with M. Lantz - he about  
 — The Buggers (inhabitants of  
 the Caldes wear a Dress very  
 like the Nechtander - short  
 petticoat, a pair like the  
 plain tartan, blue and white  
 the same before, a blue hand  
 kerchief wrapped round the head  
 resembles the bonnet, and the



creep the Diab-

- The Malloys poison their  
creeps by rubbing the blades  
with lin juice and exposing  
it to the sun for three or four  
days, after which the rub is  
over with Arsenic. This poison  
does not continue long, the creeps  
are prepared and lie imme-  
diately before they go out to  
battle - The arrows are poisoned  
with a vegetable substance  
brought up with some kind of  
Gum. This takes a long time  
and is made by the Mountain-  
men and is wholly unknown to  
the Malloys - The poison  
and in this way is said to affect  
the nerves only - Some is said  
in the upper Province of Bengal  
but is prepared in Assam -



- Bang is an infusion of a seed  
very much like hemp seed  
- Toddy from the Cocoa Nut tree  
when drunk immediately it tastes  
like Champagne -  
- The snake which I saw at M.  
Lighth was of the Constrictor kind  
It can do little harm to a large  
animal unless it has the op-  
portunity of a tree or post  
round which to coil its tail  
It swallowed a Jay in the Neigh  
borough after its escape it was  
found after this report lying  
all along quite unswayed and  
was killed by the Native -  
- A Tyger swam over to Pak-  
pinang, was soon killed, if I  
remember right by the wild  
boars - The J. Boars on the  
first inhabitants, the Tyger does



not attack them, they can all  
be at a distance, collect in  
numbers on the shore and at-  
tack him in numbers on the  
bank fatigued with swimming  
The largest arrows are killed  
by the poisoned arrow blows  
thro' the tube —

No road on a straight shore  
can ever be fortified — Madras  
is an instance, the fort could  
not prevent the destruction of the  
shipping on the road — The fort  
will in a few years be washed  
away — Tho' of little use to the  
shipping, it is necessary against  
an enemy on land — Depot  
The ditch is said to be filled  
with earth — The landing  
place for goods is between the fort  
and Black Town —



- It is remarkable that all  
the titles of honor among  
the Malays see Sanscrit  
words - Cap<sup>n</sup> Carney, pronoun-  
ces a Sanscrit Malay word -

- Calcutta derived from Calcut  
bold C - + when the Dutch first  
landed here finding the women &c.  
they named the place Calcutta !!

- The vineyard of Bengal is said to  
be the best vineyard in the world -  
+ Capt. Lee paid a matrimonial  
visit to Cap<sup>n</sup> Gilmore -

4 1/2	Pras	74°
9 1/2	Myof	15 M
	Old Dello	0.



Sunday 14 Feb 1790

#	Ther.	69
	Hyg.	198
	old Ditto	3.9

Went from Capt Smiles —  
Set the Regulator to mean time

#	Ther.	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Hyg.	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ m
	Ditto old	3.35

#	Ther.	73 $\frac{1}{2}$
12	Hyg.	19 m
	Ditto old	4.4

#	Ther.	75
2	Hyg.	10 m
	Ditto old	5.05

4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ther.	77 <sup>o</sup>
	Hyg.	3 m
	Ditto old	7.0



with Mr. Macdonald —  
Miss Isaac Jr. —

+ Account of the Markers taken  
every morning — repetitions —

~~49~~  
one of Mr. Probaule's whelps we  
found crushed quite flat, the mo-  
ther after looking at it very attentively  
for some time carried it to one  
corner of the box where they lay  
when scraping away the snow  
she placed it on the pup and con-  
tinued to bury more till it was  
quite covered —



Calcutta  
Thursday 15 Feb. 1790

4 Sh	31
9 Ryd	19 $\frac{1}{2}$ m
(Ditto old)	- 0

a letter from Mr. A. Grant of  
London Street London Dated 26 May  
1795 by a Mr. Weatherly - on  
a Draught for £ 11 of the ba-  
lance of my acct in his favour -  
This I shall pay to Weatherly - This  
letter was brought out <sup>2</sup> <sup>ago</sup> last year  
by the same person, when I was  
at Madras

4 $\frac{1}{2}$ p m Shew	77 <sup>0</sup>
Ryd	5 m
(Ditto old)	6.1

with Mr. Taylor  
W. Capp's medals in the Evening  
- The time was when <sup>English</sup> the  
time would have found any battery  
change since the introduction of red balls



Friday 16 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1790

H  
6 20 a.m. New. 67  
Ditto without — 55  
New of ~~old~~ — 16 Dry  
Ditto ~~old~~ — 3.3

H  
10 New — 70½  
New of — 14 Dry  
Ditto old — 2.9

H  
11 New — 72  
New of — 21 Dry  
Ditto old — 3.05

H  
12 New — 73  
New of — Frost 15½  
Ditto old — 4.4

Paid M. Grant's of £. 11. 7  
Exchange at — of ~~Bank~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~City~~ ~~of~~ ~~London~~

1/10 J. R. — 61 13 0  
H  
4½ New — 76  
New of — 72  
Ditto old — 8.



12  
9 p.m. The \_\_\_\_\_ 75  
Nyg \_\_\_\_\_ 15 M  
Ditto old \_\_\_\_\_ 0.2

+ with Mr. Fairlie - only  
Mr. MacArthur - Mr. F. to  
be married to morrow -

+ In attempting to cut a sheet  
of glass with a file Linderman  
tried to break it after a notch  
had been cut more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch  
all round, it was shivered into  
a thousand pieces, in a curious  
manner. Of the large pieces  
one luminous was convex, the  
other concave - looked as if they had  
- given the cause



Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb - 1790

4	Ther	69°
0 $\frac{1}{4}$ a.m.	Hyg.	27 Dry
	Dotto old	3.6

4	Ther	73 $\frac{1}{2}$
12	Hyg	25 M
	Dotto old	5.

11 $\frac{1}{4}$	Thermometer	77
3 $\frac{1}{4}$	Hyg	Moist 9 <del>dry</del>
	Dotto old	8.

+ with Mr. ~~Richard's~~ Belle  
Company 12 - Messrs. Butler  
Martin, Numb, Canfield  
Spalding, Cantelo &c -

++ This Evening Mr. Fairlie was  
sworn to Miss Mary's Organy  
at Dr. Quirk's in the new  
Church



Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1790

B<sup>d</sup> with Mr. Th - 1 - Mr.

Tobler junior -

H  
0  $\frac{1}{2}$  a.m. Th -

Thyq<sup>r</sup> -

Ditto old

71

29<sup>th</sup>

- 0

+ with Mr. Th - Mr. W. S.  
says the red light has  
both on the Esplanade  
and Southside -

H  
7 Jan -

Thyq<sup>r</sup> -

Ditto old

80.

26<sup>th</sup>

- 0

wind south fresh - The Ocean  
open increased - Mr  
Thyq<sup>r</sup> is a new wherry - Elud.  
machine which is in many  
places but not know see a  
specimen -



- Give why Don the South  
would bring with it as much  
in volume and so instant account  
as in the case of fire would  
to anticipate the power of the  
best abstract made? Calcutta  
is 100 miles from the sea &  
is surrounded by jungle ~~equally~~  
on all sides - I shall observe  
the hour when the dryness should  
it take place. When I am ~~not~~  
~~at~~ at home and not in  
bed -

- Over land packet - Admiral  
Duncan has defeated the Dutch  
fleet - Admiral Winter's ship  
disarmed, struck & burnt other  
had struck - One on fire when  
Admiral D's short letter says  
written - One is from Indian  
arrived at Madras -



+ with Mr. Thebaud - Mr. Hill  
tossing about jackets & bed  
curtains &c -



Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup>. 1798

Recd. a present of a Sikket  
sword from Gatanor -

- Nearly finished cleaning my  
Cannon Mr. G. - sent me to  
buy Madras Gc -

- Both Mr. Hubault -

Mr. G. says that the Nation  
use a vegetable poison called  
which they find both among  
the most vegetables in both

- At 12 Mr. Hub. desired me  
to take his broken Cannon I im-  
mediately did and said that it  
had a very uncommon taste  
acid - I recommended some to be  
given to the Dogs, two fell  
dead. I think there must have  
been poison in the Cannon -



Friday 20 Feb

Evening at Mr. Capt Smith  
his own Capt

- It was alleged that a fort  
drawn up in a half moon  
to could not be cut - To  
which it was objected that in  
this line the ships would not  
be all close hauled consequently  
could not easily preserve their  
proper position - Also that the  
horns would be destroyed before  
the center could support them

- Observation of a Star East &  
West; the fact of no use if to  
correct any thing but the error  
of the instrument! - *quoniam* is  
this fact?

+ Breakfast with Dr. Diet half  
past nine -



A right magnifying power  
within the extent of the telescope no  
improvement — Merz's tables  
a Distance can be taken more  
accurately than an altitude —  
horizon <sup>below the 91<sup>st</sup></sup> never perfectly defined —  
" "



Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>ry</sup>

A heavy Dew last night -  
B<sup>ro</sup> with Mr. Taylor - Recd a  
Chit from Mr. Fantic inviting  
to dinner, and requesting that the  
Lady might not keep you from  
the room - Answered -

+ More ready to consult the  
Judgment than the Interest of  
his acquaintance - Mr. B - h

+ with Mr. Spalding -  
Mr. Alwyer (Dow. and  
Nights -

- The Vegetable Gumju is a  
poison - it is smoked -  
Vegetable poison used in  
Annah - How prepared  
how applied -

Mr. B. & the man guests



for any other <sup>in the</sup> Gov  
M. C. C. C. universally acknow-  
ledged to be a poison He has  
two Radis &c — — —

— Few instances of European  
poisoned by this work —  
— Quon what is the poison?



1790

Wednesday 21 Feb

Rays of the sun much blent  
by a haze, which however did  
not appear thick, Dust flying  
in which - N. Wester probably  
in a Day or two -

#		
11 a.m	Ther -	70 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Wyd -	0
	Ditto Old	-0

Visit from Mr. Birch -

Judigo continues to rise - and  
unless some dreadful conyugation  
of the war should take place  
it must still continue to rise  
- one happy effect of the  
Dumans Victory will be the  
fleets returning to be refitted  
during the stormy season -



+ with Mr. Taylor —  
Messrs. Norris — Robert  
Bailli and Roddy —  
— a flesh colour cannot  
be made without blue  
ultra-marine too expensive  
for printing drapery —  
— Simple colours more  
permanent than compound  
Krusion blue is said to turn  
yellow — Mr. Hodges made  
it is said the last of Krusion  
in India. Mr. Hartings was  
his friend — Hodges not knowing  
that he never finished printing  
in the country, he had not  
time.



Thursday 22 Feb. 1798

Cleaner has finished - Begin to  
take a list of my books -  
+ with D. Clerk -

+ Fog for two days now and very  
particular - Sun a little before setting  
appeared like a plate of half polished  
lead - Fog affected the eyes and throat  
- with Mr. Duncan in the room -  
Improper behavior of W. D.

a J. among the young ladies  
+ Admiral Duncan has taken  
nine ships of the line and six  
frigates - Three Dutch Admirals  
are among the prisoners - Adm.  
De Winter writes from on board  
Admiral Duncan's ship, a very  
curious letter - He subscribes him-  
self your unfortunate Admiral!!



Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1798

Employed in making up the  
Catalogue -

- With Mr. Fairley the first  
time since their marriage -

- At home all the evening  
writing

+ The Chinese can write any  
other Language - Malloys

for example in the Chinese

Character, how can this be

done without an Alphabet? -

It does not appear what interest

the Chinese Gov<sup>t</sup> can have in

wishing to preserve the Difference

of Language thro' the provinces

As they all read the same they

can communicate by writing -

+ The Pilots must in all  
likelihood know them selves



on France and join Holland  
to France, they cannot defend  
themselves against France by  
land nor against England by  
sea —



<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday 24 Feb<sup>n</sup> 1790

Packed the South sea, N. W  
coast, Pelu and N. Guinea  
curiosities - Contents will be  
inserted in the book kept for that  
purpose -

A map of Mount Sinai with  
the famous convent presented to  
me by my Greek friend Sala-  
nos -

+ with Mr. Baillie - Mess<sup>rs</sup>

Dayla and Sheriff -

- Frontispiece to Kirby's perspective  
might be much improved -  
might be employed to satyrise  
bad perspective -

- Col. Green is said to have been  
the Candeler who sent the  
letter to the Secretary of the Dirty  
Club -



M. B. informs me that my old  
College Companion Andrew Brown,  
after having been in America some  
year as Captain to a regiment,  
is now Minister of Falkland in  
Fife shire —



Monday 25 Feb. 1790

B<sup>d</sup> with Mr. F. Sadi's breakfast  
above — Excellent matter for the  
Microscope from a Dutch Churn  
gun what is the reason of some  
Churns producing milk & others  
not? — Which is best cold or  
hot for preserving them? —

— Visited Mr. Taylor who is getting  
better — He is to paint Miss Clarke  
and Mr. Brooke —

— Sun irregular near setting — projected  
its sun to move round the Sun  
Spot very distinct by the 13 Inch  
telescope — Fog rising in se-  
veral places — mixed with dust  
is very offensive — Eyes and throat  
+ with Mr. Fairlie  
Dine with the Ladies —



Calcutta No 7

Monday 26 Feb - 1798

Low fog - Rocks winnowing  
much about the writers build,  
and towards the river side -  
+ with Mr. Taylor -



Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1790

+ with W. Family -

+ B<sup>3</sup> with Capt. Smalls -

History of the Ephemeris -

Ann will say any thing

but prayer -



Wednesday 20 Feby 1790

Visit from Sr. Munda Raja  
Maddanah and Murry Mahem

The latter had a commission from  
a friend in the country to get  
a just and perfect account of  
the spot at present on the sea

+ with Mr. Hannington -

Small Party Six in Point  
Capt. R - per Colombo -

Description of his reception at  
the court of his Congaler Ma-  
jesty - Little was carried in  
a silver salver on the head  
both salver and little delivered  
The King sat so immovable  
that he was taken at first for  
a statue - In passing sword  
under the Embassador was obliged



to alight and walk on foot  
some times up to the mud leg -  
This was also the case at many  
places reputed holy, where there  
were no appearances of temples  
or other buildings - Salau very  
mean, King's Dress very superb -  
The present form is of Gentoo  
extraction from the Ocean -  
Tuckinopoly I think -



Calcutta —  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 1790

A visit from Mr. Morris who  
is now 2<sup>d</sup> Officer of the East Indies  
— He says that every article in the  
Instruments way is raised, living very  
high and the people much dis-  
contented at home —

+ This day settled with my Sire  
Burr from <sup>my</sup> the balance in his  
hands —

Sh. 304 —  
Having no further use for a  
Sine I have dismissed him —

# 3. Cloudy no 1 — In the morning  
a thick and wet fog — wind - little  
- southerly — Roofs winnowing —

# 6 p.m. appearance of the sky seem  
to threaten a N. gale —

+ with Mr. O'Connell Mr. Nash  
Evening Mr. Subbitt —



Capt. Mackay - acquainted  
with the Dutch Admiral de Winter  
that he is not qualified to  
command a fleet  
New Year's journal the Orange  
party - afterwards the Patriots  
Capt. M. Professor De Bondas  
method of calculating a Lunar  
Observation -

Cadix harbor is said to be  
strongly fortified even about two  
miles broad - strong batteries on the  
left called on the right  
the Island and city of Cadix defended  
by many cannon -



Friday 2 March 1790

Recd a letter from D. Turner  
enclosing the subject of a collection  
of letters he has written on the Agree-  
culture manufactures &c of the East part  
of the country where he now resides

- R. with D. Dick -

- Ornaments of the lower order  
carrying <sup>two</sup> cudgers pots suspended  
from each end of bamboo spears.

- offerings in presents - Nobledays  
red powder day -

- one party just passed - two  
men carry now and then in-  
vulnerable each other in front with  
long sticks which they wield like  
the English quarter staff - and  
one or two blowing Coths



+ with Mr. Thobault - Nov. 9 -

- Report of the evening gun very  
loud - Echo several repetitions

- Hot weather now fairly set in

+ Mr. Morris called in the evening

+ The Gov. general arrived - a  
Salute was fired on the occasion,  
this morning at Sun rise.

+ @ I took this morning a num-  
ber of Ladies and Gentl<sup>es</sup> of the  
at the riding school to see a fight  
between a Leopard and other animals  
opposed to him - a figure of a man  
was placed near the animal, he  
struck off its head with one blow  
of his paw - a number of serpents  
and Croaker was thrown at him -  
which terrified him <sup>that</sup> he then  
climbed up the bamboo which enclosed  
the space, and was near jumping into  
the gallery - The company looked out  
on one another - De la Vang shot him



1798 -

Saturday 3 March

M. Casale called gave him  
his Reg. at Atlas and Caricatures  
prints - Territorial Globe -  
Bills present not accepted - May  
look a holiday without permission  
+ with D. Pick - 6 in Comp<sup>y</sup>



Calcutta  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 1799

The roadster and Hawk Indiamen  
were both struck by lightning  
the former at the Cape the latter  
in Madras Roads. The Hawk  
lost her mizzen Mast - Masts  
in the Cuddy were milled -  
neither had conductors - Three  
or four men were killed -

+ with Mr. Taylor - French  
Constitutions - Monarchy will  
probably be reestablished -

+ Application to the Sheriff of  
Calcutta (Mr. Vanzandt) to call  
a meeting of the British inhabitants  
of Calcutta, in order to address the  
Gov. Governor General previous  
to his Embarkation for Europe  
- to meet at 10 o'clock tomorrow -



at 5 o'clock - Sweet Steps  
of Munda - at a Distance -



1790<sup>th</sup>

~~Sunday~~ Monday 5 March  
Sent <sup>to</sup> the Saullis packet a letter  
to Mr. Mum enclosing one to John  
Anderson, Dumfries —  
— Cleared the guest room of the seats  
+ with Mr. Thibault! —  
Ship B-1 and Mackay in  
the evening — trouble from  
women!! —  
— Fine day on Mr. Thibault's table  
the first I have observed since seen



Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 1799  
Sent to Mr. Lascells packet  
a letter to Mr. Herri now to  
Georgia that New Edinburgh  
and left with Mr. Thobault  
two letters one to Mr. A. Grant  
British Warden that London  
the other to my Nephew James  
Dunmore at New London near  
Dunfries enclosed a letter to  
Mr. Herri - to go with Mr. Cantile  
James of the Ship Lascells -  
- First from Mr. Shidbery wishes  
the medal to be sent to the  
Port. I was asked - tho' upon second  
thought I will better not to send  
it -  
+ with Mr. Fautie - Mrs and Mr  
Laidis absent -  
- Saw two fine Deer in the Evening -