

Journal

4 Nov

1797

Calcutta

Land Log Book -

Catcotta

Saturday 4th Nov 1797

Began to prepare the room
for the Autumn

+ with M^r Fairlie - he about

M^r Fairlie in the Evening

The Carpenters is out of Work.

The Rope belonging to M^r B

Fairlie - arrived at Penang

— 1797 —
Sunday 5th Nov

— Three Ships, sailed, this morn^g
with Mr Taylor

— Almap is said to hate the
English, and there is no doubt
but he will if possible endeavor
to form a junction with Zim-
moun Shaw, to assist in expel-
ling the English from Hindustan

— Mr J. Shaw and Lady Shaw
have subscribed 20 gold pieces
each to the Oratorio —

— When Mr W. Duncker was
applied to for his subscrip^{tion}
he replied he did not un-
derstand Charity —

Monday 6th Nov 1797

- B' with Mr. Fairb -

best mode of preserving
Eggs - perhaps with Gum
Arabi - something that
will preserve easily in cooling
best with (especially in cold
water -

- Key - putting up two
fixed sets in the cabinet -
even

- Subscribed to Mr. Brown's
Kings of pictures -
with Mr. Fairb -

- Fixed up an occultation telescope
pointed to Aldebaran -

Tuesday 7th Nov

Carpenter at work in fitting
up the room

£ 300 bills from Thompson
and Co.

- with Mr. Baillie -

Respoke his views of Cal-
cutta -

+ Observations of Mr. Alcock:

Wednesday 8th Nov-97
D^d with J. Dick. — —

— Carpenter at work.

Distributed a number of
bills —

Mr. Young, called — to know
whether David was to be
admitted gratis —

+ with Mr. John Ferguson —
after dinner with Mr. Th. —

+ Overland packet received at
Bombay — Immense amount of
teamm largely quilled — better the heavy
leads changed — Low Melmor bay gone
to Lisle to negotiate a separate
pass with France —

— absence of Mr. a Davie —

Thursday 179

~~Friday~~ 9th Nov

Carpenter work finished.

Distributed a number of bills

+ with M. Thebauld —

— Evening at M^{rs} Demmon

+ Observations of Star α Tauri —

— a particular kind of haze was
perceptible in the Star, but no
clouds.

Friday 10 Nov 1797

8 a.m. Ther ——— 70

Present - very cold —

Mazy all the morn —

1 1/2 p.m. some drops of rain —

Wind S. Easterly — little —

— with Mr. Faule

— High wind with rain all night

~~at 2 a.m.~~ it blew very hard
wind veering round from S.W. to

N.E. —

Saturday 11th Nov 1797

High wind and rain during
all last night -

at 7^o Ther. - 60^o -

Sensation very cold -

- Put up the wall shades in
the Lecture room -

+ with J. Dick - Birth Day
of Manny -

Sunday 12th Nov 1997

Wind and a little rain
Sky covered with clouds at
different heights -

Visit from Mr. Horington
He says the G. G. means to
subscribe -

- with Mr. Brown -
- have given on Thursdays and
Saturdays for the Autumn -
- + finished preparation in the
lecture-room -

Monday 13th Nov. 1797

Employed about the
apparatus —

— with M. Thibault

Tuesday 14th Nov 1797
Employed in preparing the
apparatus -

They quit dead - warm -
at 4 p.m. a great number
of two Elephants
led the way - played with
their trunks - lifted small
objects from the ground
and gave to the conductor -
- Many flaps - have not
heard as yet the occasion
of it -

+ berth M. Baillie - Mess^r. D. v.
D. v. and Taylor -
- Mage
- Gay Mon: post extraordinary

1799

Wednesday 15 Nov

Recd from Mr. Brown

2 views in water, won, at

his coffee - I am informed
they are worth 120 Ruspas

- making addition of notes
in the lecture room.

Thursday - 1797 -
16th Nov^r

Friday 17th Nov

Finished the carpenter
business - the bottom was
- gave orders for 50 sub^m
tickets and 100 single ticket
dolls - to M^r Upjohn -
- with W. Thibault -

+ Ship Dogs allow themselves
to be hauled on board
by a rope - The Dog puts
his neck and fore feet thro'
the noose of the rope, the mist
that it reaches him in the
water -

16-1797
Saturday 10th Nov

Two men from the Great
Moorings -

797
Sunday 19th Nov^r
Put the Electric appa-
retus on the table —

+ Dined at home —

at a quarter before 5
o'clk. had a visit from
Chapman, informing me
that a woman was to be
burnt at a Gaol about
a mile distant — set out
instantly — arrived at
the place just after the
pile had been lighted
consequently did not see
the victim alive —
- Pile was about 7 feet

1. Length four in breadth
and ~~four~~ five feet high
in form rectangular divided
into three stories - lower
one and upper most filled
with fuel - The woman and
dead body of her husband
occupied the middle space
their heads to the south
& down the river -

A team was employed
in throwing (the melted
butts) in the pile - I was
informed that the other 2
remains of the pile were
thrown into the river and

That now but the lowest
costs would touch any thing
I procured two bits of the
wood burnt to a charcoal
which I intend to carry
home as memento
of this very extraordinary
Sacrifice —
— Lighted up the lecture
room - light not sufficient

Monday 20th Nov

Employed all day in
preparing the Experiments
for the lecture to morrow
evening -

+ with Mr. Thibault -

- lighted up the room
with the addition of two
patent lamps - Sufficient

1727

Friday 21st Nov.

Got the Electrical Machine
in good order for the Exp^t
in the Evening —

+ with W. Thibault —

+ At eight o' clock in the
evening began my work
with Electricity — Every
experiment succeeded — Com-
pany numerous, and general
interest showed —

1797
Wednesday 22 Nov
By ^{order} and sent to Mr. Taylor

- Two more Pilot Schooners
taken, and it is supposed
by the Appollo privateer.
The report of the latter having
been captured off the coast
of Malabar from un-
founded - what a dis-
grace to have our very
ports visited by a petty
privateer, which such a
Warrior Fleet for is
lying idle in harbour!!
What is the reason
for a vessel armed by this
Government expending for the

purpose of protecting our
trade - we own matters
prettily enough -

+ with Mr. Macdonald -
Microscope - Lottery

- Is there any redress in law
for shutting up the view from
a window by building a dead
wall touching or ^{near} ~~very~~ ~~near~~
the window?

Thursday 23 Nov 1797

B. with our Sat to Mr. Taylor
visit of Capt. Douglas

- The report of the Apollo's having
been taken off the Malabar
Coast was no doubt propagated
on purpose, as a blind for
coming into the roads -

- Matters will never be properly
conducted in this country
till there shall be but one
supreme power, either the
King or the Company. But
occasions so many contrary
interests, so much sharing
of power that the public

Service is greatly hurt by it.

— Kings: Ships being unspan-
dant of the Gov. in so Council
may refuse any Service they
are sent on

— with N. O. Chm. —
prepared Experiments in the
evening —

Friday 24th Nov 1797

at 10 a.m. thin clouds

Electrict machine not so
powerful as for some days past
Mag. induces more moisture
than yesterday -

1 p.m. better more favour
Machine strong -

~~both 11th & 12th~~, at home

at half past 12 o'clock
on applying fresh amal-
gam to the machine, the
power instantaneously
became so much diminished
that a spark of half an inch
could not be obtained -

This is the first time since the 11th & 12th that the machine has been so weak.

It was with great difficulty
that the machine would be
brought to act at all. On
examining the Flyer, I
found it indicating seven
degrees of moisture more than
it did on two before -

This owing to a very wet
fog which suddenly came on
- Saw my second Lecturer
was obliged to omit several
experiments on account of
the state of the weather -

- The wind veered about
to the South, about 6 o'clock
I have always found it im-
possible to vent the Cylinder
powerfully when the wind is
westerly -

1797
Saturday 25 Nov
Remd with the experiments
— with Mr. M —

at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m. see Friday the
24th when the transactions of
this day were inserted by mistake
— The Hurricane at Chitta-
gong on the 14th Nov. was
the most violent that
has happened for many
years, no part of the town
could stand it — It
spent its force
down the eastern coast of
the bay, many ships
have been dismasted —

Nov

Sunday 26. April

Unpacked the magnetic
apparatus —

— with Mr. Family

+ If the transaction with Chap-
ling was so heinous as
Mr. Burke represented it
why did not the court of
Director either restore him
to his government or other-
wise provide for him. He has
been allowed to live as a Desert
Jugiter at Scindia's and with
some other rascals —

— What must be the nature
think of our Gov. General for
going up again to Lucknow!

Will they not consider him
in the light of a common man
of business, and thus respect
be consequently diminished?
This is too much the case
already —

+ The Locust tree produces
fruit as sweet as treacle
Some think that this fruit
is to be understood by the
expression that John the
Baptist "did eat Locusts
and wild honey" — But
the Arabians eat not Lo-
custs, John was therefore
only conforming to the custom
of the country —

All the honey sold in
this country, and which is
extremely good, is said to be
from wild bees -

How might the honey be
taken from the bees without
killing them in the country
where they can probably work
all the year round.

How is what is acceptable
to the wild bees in Sweden
usually deposited their honey?

Calcutta # 1797
Monday 27 Nov

No. 010 of which I have a
quarter was on Saturday
drawn & taken

with Sir Wm. P. Smith
Evening at Mr. Th - s:

xxx - Mr. Messrs T and B
+ Capl' Hall of the Express
bought 10 Gun Carriages
about 6 weeks ago. When
he sent to the Govt for them
yesterday he was told they
could not be sent and that
there was no proper wood for
them at present

Tuesday 20th Nov 1797

Employed in preparing the
magnetical experiments
with M. Th. &

+ gave the third lecture -
Subject Magnetism - well -
The Reaction pleased
much - New answers on
the cards -

+ Read a bill of Exchange
from Downis and Millton
for 72 £ Sterling - Stewart
and Vaguerant indorsed
and payable to M. More
Batch W - London

Calcutta 1797
Wednesday 29 Nov
Preparing the Pneumatic
apparatus -

- with M. Taylor -

- The office of Examiner of
Indigo and Opium will be
vacant by D. Flemings
returning to Europe -

— 1797th
Thursday 30th Nov

D^r with Mr. Faulstich —
visited Dr. Dick —

wrote to Mr. Ware
enclosed a list on Vegetables
and Stewart for 72 L —

No 2 sent in

— invited to spend St Andrews
day with Dr. Dick — Did not
— accept of the invitation —
+ with Mr. Taylor — cold dinner —
— obsⁿ of Stobson in the
winning —

Friday 1st Dec^r 1797

Pneumatick Apparatus —

got ready —

— with Mr Taylor —

Mr Harrington —

— a Shony Vegetable
poison in India —

+ Capt Campbell promises
me a model of the
New Quay —

2

Saturday - 2 Dec 1797

11 $\frac{3}{4}$ a.m. A Ship on fire
in the river - high water
near Formari and Baron
+ with Mr. Thibault -

+ I am my fourth Lecture
Subject Pneumatics 1st
well received Capt. ^{at} ~~stayed~~
after the Lecture went to
Mr. Dehn's Concert - Gentl
and pretty numerous company
dinner with Mr. Dehn. -

- The ship which was burnt
is the Company's Lake Ship
the Auspicious Capt. Minnie
- owing to a fire being dropped
before the ship's side some bags
of salt were -

1797
Sunday 3 Dec

- + with Sir Wm. Dunkin
- + might not salt peter be
found in bulk? or in
loose & casks lined with
lead, tinplate & other metal
- Change in Lotteries has
no share with regard to in-
creases - It is only on a
large scale that the doctrine
and calculation respecting Δ
changes can apply - The
whole Lottery - Lives -
Annuities - Lotteries -
- + Manufacture of Salt peter

Whether the Piston could be
driven from the air - What
substances are principally
used by the French? -

- On what principle can the
loss of weight by touching
a bar, be explained? -

What effect has the Pragmatic
fluid - the weight - Does
the rapidity of the motion
produce an effect similar to
that of sliding over a piece
of ice which would not sup-
port the slider if at rest? -

- Roman Aqueducts -

Reason for preferring stone to
lead pipes - Letter rendered the
water roason - also composition

Monday 4th Dec^r 1897
Prepar^d for the 3rd Lecture
+ with W. Taylor -

1797 Over
Tuesday 5 Nov

— with W. Thibault.

— gave the 5th Lecture
Pneumatics — off well —

— Three additional subscribers
full house —

+ An express from Madras
mentions that two French
frigates had cut out of Madras
roads the Company's ship
Prink!! When is all our
mighty power gone? —

+ Breeze all Day

at 11 p.m. began to rain

New

Wednesday 6th Nov 1797

- Cloudy - rained last night
- very uncommon in this
month -

+ with Mr. Fairlie - large compass

Report that the Nancy is
purchased by the company
to be fitted out immediately as
a fighting ship. They has better
to cut a song from in the
fighting way. - All the
India men that have been
taken during the present
war have been taken in
our own ports, by petty pri-
vates

Thursday 7. Decr. 1799
+ wrote to Mr. Spence by
Mr. W. Johnson -

+ with Mr. Taylor -

Evening at the play -

The Lion and Crooked Castle.

Went off better than I expected

Friday 8th Oct 1797
Repairing the Hydro-
static apparatus —

— At home —

— Disbanded in the Evening —

1797
Saturday 9th Dec^r
— My 6th Lesson
Subject Hydrostatics — Laws
of Well —

1794
Sunday 16 Dec
- B. at Hudsonson -
- Mr. H. at Mr. B. -
Spent the Day - Dined -
- Evening Miss Taylor and
Thebanck - Attⁿ -

Monday 11th Dec 1797

B^{attle} and set for the last time
I hope to Taylor —

— The Nancy grab Capt
Carnegy arrived — The Begum
Maw Capt. Camp. ^{Grey} Marmela
lost near Sidney Cove —

Sunday 12 Dec. 1797

Gave my 7 Lectures -
- Mechanism - well -

1797

Wednesday 13 (Dor)

- with Mr. Durb. only
four at table -

+ report from Lucknow
that Zimmern Shaw is
in his own country and
has no intention of visiting
Honduras - That Almas
ally Khan is much opposed
on account the English
troops which are marching
from all quarters to Lucknow

The Calcutta

Thursday 14 - Oct. 1797

- Sale of Gum at Prings
- A Letter from Mr. Marmel
at Canton - Says the quantity
of Cochineal made use of
by the Chinese does not
exceed 700000 lbs. It can
therefore be no object to any
prosecution here
- with Mr Taylor -

+ I wish to see on Shipboard
Capt: may by a man up
and give him a dog
but is not permitted to
shake him - Loughborough
- Whether Kelling a man found
in bed with another man's wife

would be presumed homicide

th Calcutta
Friday 13th Dec. 1797

8th a.m. Criminal court
at the head of Cospitolla St
for murdering a woman
and child. The scene much
composed, probably sleeping
Navy three quarters of an hour.
This is the second European
that has been hung during
the present year. The natives
ought now to be convinced of
the impartiality of the English
Laws —

— with Mr King —
— Capt. of Morda. French
Orwell had the Parliament

Intelligence respecting the
two frigates now under repair
here, the Indiaman &c -
What a shame that God:
does not keep a couple of
armed vessels ^{to cruise} constantly
in the Bay!!

Danish ships carrying
Kiv to Tangier are stopped
and searched at Calcutta
gunn what ~~is~~ right has
God: to stop the ships of
an different and independent
power? -