

Left Portsmouth Aug. 14th 1829 after a stay there of about a week finishing our preparations for the long voyage before us. Made a great many good resolutions and promises to keep a regular journal; and provided myself with every thing necessary for that purpose. Kept it for a few days, after which I am sorry to say I neglected it until I reached Swan River; the few observations I have made on Madeira, Bahia, Cape of Good Hope, and Robarton are from memory.

Madeira.

Arrived Sept. 1st, experienced some heavy weather crossing the Bay, suffered severely all the time. The appearance of the Island of Madeira is truly beautiful, and we were all anxious to land the moment we beheld it; some delay however occurred in consequence of our not having a Bill of Health, the officer on duty desired that everybody should appear at the side of the vessel and he was all astonishment at our numbers. (108) A pretty lively young girl (Miss L.) who was remarkably stout insisted upon putting herself at the front of the Cabin Passengers because she said she was the best specimen on board and which indeed she was, for she was the picture of health and good humour. Altho' we had been so short a time at Sea we were delighted at the prospect of procuring Vegetables and Fruits both of which we fortunately found in profusion.

The finest Grapes such as are considered at home "Hot house" were only 4d. the pound, common kind 1¹/₂d. We bought baskets

made by the natives, but could procure no natural curiosities.

Ordinary wine of course is cheap and I was much amused with the manner the Mountaineers bring it into town namely in Pigs Skins dried in their original shapes. Staid at Mr. Keirs. Went to see Mr. Findlay an old friend of my husbands, he was very anxious for us to stay with him. Spent the day rambling about the town visiting the different Catholic Churches, went to see the English Church which is nearly finished and is an elegant building; it is most delightfully situated in the centre of a beautiful garden.

The shrubs and plants of this gifted Island are most exquisite and grow in luxuriant profusion, filling the air with the most delightful perfume. Geraniums, and our choicest Hot House plants growing wild. The roads are good but very steep, it requires Horses accustomed to them to mount them; they are mostly paved and the rains washing down give them almost a polished appearance. It is customary when you ride, to have a boy running behind you with a long stick with a prong in it to incite the Poney on; if he goes too fast, the boy to your terror pulls him back by the tail; they gallop up the steepest hills.

Thursday. Rose early and rode to see the Lady of the Mount. Returned to breakfast; after breakfast went to Cavalla's Gardens he is at present absent on account of his political opinions; it is painful to see such a beautiful and extensive place running to ruin. The Fuscia here grows in the wildest profusion, whole hedges are formed of this exquisite flower. In the evening went

to a Concert at Mr. Findlays. Was so tired could scarcely keep my eyes open. Matthew had upwards of three hundred applications from Portuguese desirous of going to the new settlement.

Friday. Walked in the morning but was so excessively tired was obliged to return to the Ship. Sailed Sept. 5th.

I have discovered that good Madeira Wine is not to be met with at the tables of the Merchants, the best being always reserved for the London Market. Public Feeling is very generally in favour of the Constitutionals. A Military Officer whom we met on being asked for a toast after dinner publicly gave Donna Maria in Gloria. The Peasantry are a fine and noble race but sadly depressed by the withering influence of Priest Craft. Ecclesiastics are seen in every part of the town lounging about, maintaining the most despotic power over them. To them alone Don Miguel is indebted for his Island. They are indeed the only enemies liberty has to fear. It is remarkable that during the various political commotions no Europeans was ever interrupted by either party. Their houses were invariably considered sacred though known to contain refugees. These refugees would frequently very imprudently go to the windows and abuse the Public Officers and Soldiers when passing which at length induced the Governor to inform the English that he could not answer for the consequences of irritating the feelings of the triumphant Party if they continued the same line of conduct. A few English taken in Arms were banished the Island.

Mary Ann Friend

to her Sister

Maria Cosgreaves.

Bahia.

Arrived Oct. 15th after having had a most delightful voyage-- fine weather nearly all the time. The first appearance of this place is very beautiful, the scenery magnificent. The lower town stands at the foot of a high hill, upon the top of which the second or higher town is erected. The lower town is where most of the mercantile transactions are carried on and is a miserably dirty place. The upper town is of more modern date and has some excellent houses, but is also very dirty. Every body is carried up the hill leading to the upper town in a kind of Sedan Chair with open sides and with Curtains which you can draw at your pleasure. They are generally either scarlet blue or green and gold. These chairs are called in Portuguese Caderes. 5d. was the charge for merely mounting the Hill but it was customary to engage them by the day and give them 6 Patacs, equal to 6 shillings. No respectable person walks. Unacquainted with the custom we went out for the purpose of shopping a l'Angleterre but presently had a great crowd after us--cheering and apparently admiring us. We were obliged to take refuge in a Shop and were not sorry when we found ourselves in Caderes on our way home. Even at the Hotel at which we were staying we used to be much annoyed by the numbers of strangers constantly coming in to look at us. We were quite subjects of curiosity, so many English ladies having never been seen in Bahia before. We could not get private sitting-rooms and were obliged ultimately to shut ourselves up in

our bedrooms.

Sunday 18th. Rose early and went dressed to the Italian Church. It was the jour de fête of the Patron Saint St. Rosalie. We were obliged to have seats taken for us and, although we were there in good time, had great difficulty in getting to them. I never saw such a mass of people. They were mostly seated on the ground and so thick we could scarcely put our feet to the floor without treading upon them. The Portuguese Ladies were in full dress and altogether presented a brilliant scene. They wore lively colours such as pink and blue and some of their dresses were handsomely worked in Gold. Their dresses were low to the bust with short sleeves. Their hair which is generally black was dressed according to our custom and at the back of their heads, they wore either black or white veils hanging in graceful folds. They appeared to me peculiarly interesting with their large dark eyes sometimes cast on the ground apparently in deep devotion, at other times looking at us, as we entered, with such a languishingly indolent expression as if the very exertion was too much fatigue. The Church was adorned with a profusion of flowers and was more pretty than magnificent. At different parts of the Service where they wished to be impressive Sky Rockets and fire works were let off to carry the prayers to Heaven and in the middle of the service quantities of real flowers were thrown over the congregation by slaves placed in the galleries; the delicious perfume from them was most refreshing.

There are here a great number of Churches considering the size of the place. I was told 72, by a Gentleman who was writing an account of Bahia. We visited a great many and in general the style of them was heavy having such a profusion of Gilding. In one Church we went to the monks although at prayers stared and smiled at us in such a manner we were obliged to leave, in another an old woman was very rude and insisted upon my taking off my bonnet but suffered a young Lady who was with me to wear hers with impunity. We went to the Convent so celebrated for its "feather" flowers and found them very pretty; we made large purchases but consider them dear. They are made by the nuns for their own private profit. The colours were very beautiful.

The Slave population is very great. Two slave ships were laying in the Harbour whilst we were here and others were daily expected. They were bringing as many as they could the time having nearly arrived when by their treaty with England they must put an end to the trade. They average at present nearly six blacks to one white--insurrections are daily taking place, some are put down with difficulty. Slaves were laying about in all the streets for sale and I understand from the gentlemen who visited the Slave Market that it was crowded to excess. Some of the women were remarkably fine figures and wore their shawls in a most graceful manner.

Sunday 25th. Went into the country and dined with Mrs. an English Lady, enjoyed myself so much, my dear. Husband was

with me, the only time he went out with me in Bahia. He found a curious creeper plant, the seed the most beautiful thing I ever beheld. It was unknown to him. I regret to say that at this Port my Maid Servant behaved so ill I was obliged to dismiss her from my service and put her in the Steerage. I had done all in my power to save her but in vain. The temptations to which Servants are exposed on board ship are incredible, I only wonder how any escape. Went in a large Party up the river shelling. The river is very wide and navigable a great distance up. We went on shore at one of the sugar houses and whilst there a Brazilian female passed on horseback, she rode like a man and was dressed in white and had a man's hat trimmed with a large plume of black feathers, to European eyes she presented a singular appearance. Found a great many shells on the beach but mostly dead ones. Dined in the boat and returned home much delighted with our excursion.

Tuesday. Went to the Opera. The Theatre was a miserable building and the performance wretched with the exception of a comic dancer who was excellent.

Spent a few hours this morning delightfully in visiting the American ship "The Hudson", Commodore Crichton. Even my husband (who is an old Lieutenant in the Navy) acknowledged she was in beautiful order. Captain Friend afterwards received great kindness from the Commodore. He was in great want of water for his ship and could not get any and was very anxious to get away at this time he understood that Government were about to supply

the American ship with water. He immediately went to the Commodore and explained how he was situated. He immediately told him he would do all he could to serve him. Next morning when Government sent the water to his ship he received it, and then ordered his boats with an officer to tow it to the Wanstead, assist in putting it on board and getting her under weigh. As we passed he manned his yards and his band played God save the King. Of course he was loudly cheered from the Wanstead. Sailed Oct. 30th.

During our stay I often heard Mrs. Grahams work canvassed by the Portuguese Gentlemen and found her description of their manners and customs had given great offence. English Articles were much cheaper than in England, occasioned by a glut in the Market. It is a most magnificent Harbour for shipping and apparently a place of considerable trade. The inhabitants appear well disposed. An English Sailor came up to Captain Friend requesting to be taken on board his Ship. Capt. F. naturally asked him why he left the last vessel he was on and received for answer that he had served on board a Portuguese Ship and had left in consequence of killing the Captain whom he had thrown overboard, but added he was not so deep in the mire as some of the others. Query, was this a recommendation.

A man went on with us who was one of the Irish Brigade; from him we learnt that he was one of a large party who came from Ireland with the promises of grants of land and other advantages. The Emperor however instead of fullfilling his promises compelled

them to carry Arms. Ultimately little to his advantage for being backward in his payments and provisions the body rose en masse and actually took possession of the Fort at Rhio Jamison. They held it three days which so much alarmed the Emperor that he was very glad to take up the first Ship and send them away at any expense.

Cape of Good Hope.

Dec'r 7th. Anchored at the Cape. The first appearance of this town is pleasing, the houses appearing so remarkably clean. Resided at Mrs. Rusch's and were tolerably comfortable. Received great attention from Capt. and Mrs. Barnes to whom we brought letters of introduction. I should not like to reside at the Cape on account of the South Easterly wind which at times blows with great fury carrying clouds of sand along with it and which penetrates almost everything--all the windows and doors are obliged to be shut, but in vain. It took such an effect on me that I was quite unwell and obliged to go to bed. The spirits of our party were here much damped by reports respecting Swan River. A ship had returned from that place bringing bad tidings, almost all the shipping had been on shore and great disappointment prevailed with regard to the soil. Some of the passengers did not believe the reports--others did. On the whole it threw a gloom over our happy party and great anxiety prevailed until we reached our destined Port the Swan.

One Gentleman left us, a Mr. Tho^s with about 20 Saxony Sheep and well he did so, for at the Cape they were estimated at £70 each and at Swan River they were of little value. Went with Capt. Barnes to see Dr. Smith's collection, was much pleased. Heard from him that about a month before a ship had touched at the Cape which had four Ornithoryneti on board for the French

Naturalists.

Miss Roberts a young lady on board was here obliged to put herself under my protection, her brother suffering under a relapse of brain Fever. She accompanied me on my long voyage home. Her brother left at this place under strong delusion. Capt. Friend met with his Majesty's Ship the Chanticleer, Capt. Foster, with whom he compared some observations much to his satisfaction, and also visited the Observatory and received much kindness from Mr. and Mrs. Fallows; he was extremely pleased with the Instruments which he stated to be of the finest description.

The Cape appears quite a land of plenty but the spectacle that most astonished me was the large tails of the sheeps which in some instances weight equal to their whole bodies and are principally composed of fat. The goats are also of an immense size and the finest I ever beheld, furnishing a great deal of milk; one that I had on board supplied me daily with two quarts. They are much better at sea than cows being so much more hardy.

There is no English Church; the Service is performed in the Dutch Church alternately with that Communion.

The Streets are hilly but wide and built with much regularity, but you suffer much from the Clouds of Dust which the South Easters blow through them.

1830

Swan River.

Saturday JanY 30th. Arrived in sight of Kottenness Island about 3 o'clock and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past six anchored in Gages Roads about a mile and half from shore. The weather was so rough the Pilot could not come off. I was much disappointed with the appearance of Swan River, the entrance is so extremely narrow, the country low and sandy. We found several ships here. S.M.Ship, The Sulphur and the Nancy at Cockburn Sound. The Minstrel Pangelia and Marquis of Anglesey at Gages Roads. The latter was just where she had drifted the night she came on shore and was not above five yards from dry land. She was purchased by Mr. Leake a Merchant for £300 and he has since let her to Government for £100 the year. She has been converted into the Governor's residence (when at Freemantle), the Harbour Master's Office, the Post Office and a Prison ship for refractory servants. The chief town Perth is situated 16 miles up the river and there is already a passage-boat plying from it to the mouth of the river. You can likewise hire boats but the charges are enormous--for one trip to a ship and back with luggage they charge 4:4:0.

Fish is very plentiful. The Snapper is the most common and is very good, indeed, the best I tasted on the coast.

We find that in consequence of Mr. Peel having arrived behind the time named by Government, Capt. Stirling had given away the grant reserved for him, and he had been obliged to take another about nine miles to the South of the Swan opposite Garden Island.

Sunday 31st. Early this morning all the Stock went on shore. Capt. Friend also went, rowed by four of the gentlemen who call themselves his "boys", all the crew stood up and cheered him as he passed. About noon went on shore with my husband, was very much disappointed with the appearance of the road which is very narrow at the entrance--I should imagine not a quarter of a mile wide. It is very true that the country is "beautifully undulating and thinly wooded" but alas the soil is nothing but sand. The town of Freemantle strongly resembles a Country Fair and has a pretty appearance, the pretty white tents looking much like booths --at present there are not above five or six houses. It is situated at the entrance of the Swan. The bar has never more than four feet water over it, and at times is impassable; every morning there is a strong land breeze and at evening a sea breeze, at which times it is impossible to go in opposite directions. Went to see Mr. and Mrs. Wells, Coll Lanton's agent here, was extremely pleased with Mrs. Wells, find her a charming unaffected young woman. While I was sitting at the door talking with her, up came the Ship's Carpenter in a state of consternation with his tools in his hands, he had been doing something to the outside of the Ship when the boat broke loose with him and two men in it and in spite of every exertion they had been carried by the current over the bar and had drifted on shore. To judge how navigable the river is, I stood by the side of the river and saw Mrs. Daly the surgeon's widow of the 63rd. come down in a boat. She was towed by men

at times walking nearly to their chins in water, she had started at daybreak and did not reach Freemantle until past seven at night, being a distance of only 16 miles. Sometimes days elapse without being able to have communication between the two settlements (Towns). The river also is in parts so extremely shallow as to prevent good sized boats from being used on it; they have made some flat-bottomed boats something like half of a packing case for general use. Took my first walk out with Matthew, found the soil extremely sandy but covered with verdure. The Trees were quite bleached and leaning in one direction, giving evident proof of constant heavy winds from one quarter, I understood from those who had first arrived at the commencement of winter that the winds were truly dreadful, coming in sudden squalls with violent bursts of rain. Tents were sometimes entirely blown away, leaving the unfortunate inhabitants who had been beneath them exposed to a deluge of rain. We did not find one garden in the place, all had failed. We saw one potato patch which appeared tolerably flourishing, it was made soil and about 6 feet by 2. From what I could learn they appeared to have erred in the measures first adopted on landing--it was quite distressing to hear their sufferings, they landed in "Garden Island" in a most tempestuous time of the year, many ill provided. The Governor himself had no tent and was obliged to have a sail fixed, scarcely anything was a protection. Gentlemen and ladies were obliged to share the same tent each night exposed to a deluge of rain, after

staying there some time they removed to the entrance of Swan River where they again staid and from thence were again removed from Freemantle to Perth. This town which is the seat of government is sixteen miles up the river but the good land does not commence until five miles afterwards and then but in comparatively small quantities. I must say there appears a great want of energy on the part of the settlers; it is true they are waiting for the season to sow their seeds, but I do not see why the intermediate time should be spent in doing nothing, which is the case with many--they might at all events be erecting their houses and preparing for the winter. Melancholy appears to pervade all classes and great dread is felt lest there should be a scarcity of provisions. Captain F. started this evening with the sea breeze for Perth as no goods may be landed until the ship is reported to the Governor. The wind being contrary for me I could not return to the Ship. Mrs. Wells kindly offered me such accommodation as she had, which I thankfully accepted. Mr. and Mrs. W. are at the head of the first establishment here, but have scarcely a comfort about them. One of our barns would be a mansion beside their house. They have half a small thatched house which makes one room in which they sit, eat and sleep. They have about 96 Men, Women and Children under them but with this establishment they can get nothing done. They have but one attendant and that is a dirty little boy about ten years of age. They can even scarcely get their clothes washed, while at the same time th

women are washing for strangers, who are obliged to pay 6 shilling the doz. The servants are in fact receiving wages and food and doing nothing for it. I had a wretched night at Mrs. W. She was so kind as to make me up a bed at the foot of hers and put up a curtain to divide the beds; scarcely was the candle out when out rushed Rats. Two trotted over my head, a third, more bold, came over my face, which so frightened me I was obliged to awake Mr. and Mrs. Wells. A candle was procured but alas there was no chance of sleep for the place was full of the largest fleas I ever saw.

Monday Feb. 1st. My dear Husband returned without having been able to reach Perth. The boat had grounded, he was obliged to remain in her all the night and return this morning quite tired. Returned to the Ship. Matthew again left me to try and reach Perth.

Tuesday 2nd. Mr. Sands the first Mate went on shore with the "Horse House"; it fell out of the boat crossing the bar with two of the men inside of it. The House drifted five miles above the town, every time the men who were inside tried to reach the door it turned over, they were like squirrels in a cage. It was at length overtaken by the boat. It has been taken on shore for the purpose of making a Cottage Ornée for me. Mr. Sands likewise took all the men save the Cook and the Steward. We determined to have a joke with the Gentlemen on shore for leaving us Ladies alone on board ship. Got Richard to hoist the Blue Peter as a

signal we were going to sea, half an hour afterwards hoisted the Union Jack tied in knots to show we wanted a boat, at four o'clock began to get rather frightened that no boat came off, so drew down the Blue Peter to show we were in earnest. At eight the boat came off with the Rev^d Mr. Davis and Capt. Leard. Quite rejoiced to see them.

Wednesday 3rd. Had a restless night quite uneasy about my husband, wish he would return. Several gentlemen came off to see us. Understood great dissatisfaction prevails against Government. They appear to think its expenditure too small to assist an infant settlement not more than 300 per month. Complain likewise at the great Government reserves of land. The whole of one side of the river is kept; the whole of the frontage from Freemantle to Peel's Town besides a large quantity of the choicest land near Perth. The Governor has likewise given good grants to the officers of the different Men of War that have been at the Port. They are gone away for three years and in the mean time the land lies idle, and numerous Settlers are waiting on the beach for their grants. No person as yet has had their full grant; settlers that perhaps expected 60,000 Acres have 500 and so in proportion. The exploring Party to the South on which so much depended the fate of the Colony returned this day and without going on shore came off to see my husband. Two of the Gentlemen were known to me before, but they were in such a state I did not at first recognise them, they had been absent a fortnight during which time they had neither shaved

or changed their dress--imagine the state they were in. They give a tolerable good report of the land at the River Leischnault; say it is much better than at the Swan and that the river is navigable a considerable distance up and has a pretty good harbour. They saw an immense number of Swans. The natives were numerous and at one place showed signs of hostility. One powerful man followed them to the beach threatening. The Gentlemen gave me a black swan, the only one I saw at Swan River.

Thursday 4th. Matthew returned--delighted to see him, had the Swan for dinner and found it very good eating; it was dressed the same as a goose; the flesh is dark but tender and well flavoured. Came on shore with Matthew and actually slept in my new house, had an excellent night's rest, quite enjoyed the change. Went in the evening to see the Net drawn, caught a great many fish.

Thursday 4th. Rose early to arrange my house, it will make a tolerable residence, but find it too much exposed to the sun and the wind. Teased to death by the flies. Had many visitors in the evening, had trunks of trees placed on each side of the house on which we sit and in the evening have a large fire in the front. Had a tent pitched for the Servants by the side of the house and two tents at a distance from the rest of the party. Cooked under a neighbouring tree.

Friday 5th. Walked into the country, find nothing but sand. The scenery very pretty and a profusion of shrubs, likewise a great many Grass Trees. We are here at a bad season for Botany,

all the flowers being past and winter commencing to put on his sober hue. From the first comers I hear that the place was literally a sheet of flowers. As to birds, scarcely one remains, every body carries a gun and they have completely succeeded either in shooting or driving away all the feathered race. Moved my house under the shade of a tree.

Sunday 7th. Am just roasted!!! Thermometer 92 in the shade. The Natives had numerous fires round us which made the heat intense. Expected every minute to see them come down on us. Had Kangaroo tart for dinner, a present from Mr. Henty, resembles Ox-tail; had likewise Paroquet and Quails for dinner--quite colonial.

Monday 8th. Heat excessive. Thermometer 98 in the shade; suffered much from the warmth and the flies are so troublesome. We are always thirsty--always drinking and never satisfied, I imagine the water must be brackish, as our well is on the beach. I have scarcely moved all the day.

Tuesday 9th. Rose early, not very well, think the water does not agree with me. Went to Perth with Matthew; did not arrive until very late in the evening. The banks of the river are truly beautiful and Melville Water a fine sheet of water. When we arrived at the settlement (Perth) had to make our way through the bush to reach the town guided by the fires. Was not expected before to-morrow, did not find the tent ready so was obliged to wall up and down the town whilst they emptied the tent which was full

of people carousing. Never slept in such a miserable place; everything so dirty, sheets etc. Such quantities of Mosquitoes and fleas, the last gentry the largest I ever saw. Matthew sat up all the night driving the insects off me. The noise from the neighbouring tents so annoying and the Soldiers sitting up late singing and drinking.

Wednesday 10th. Rose at daybreak. Capt. Irwin of the 63^d came down and took me to his house; he is very comfortable. Breakfasted with him and tasted the comforts of an English house, had excellent white bread, butter and milk. Took a long walk after breakfast, did not find the sand so annoying as at Freemantle but it penetrates just as much, here it is black; at Freemantle it is quite white, and distresses the sight very much. The situation of the Town is extremely picturesque but its great distance from the entrance of the river and the numerous shoals must certainly prevent its being the seat of Government. The town is situated on an eminence and has a beautiful bay in front. They have already raised a kind of jetty for the convenience of landing. Many of the Soldiers have reed houses, others have tents. There is an excellent house nearly finished which will be opened as an Hotel and called the Stirling Arms, the keepers of the Coffee tents are making a great deal of money--the lower orders having plenty of money. The flies and fleas are beyond description annoying. The Church is composed of reeds and wood and considering the short time in which it was erected does them great credit.

They were only eight days from the commencement being anxious to open it on Christmas day. It is large and spacious and has a vestry at the end. Called on the Governor and Mrs. Stirling and was most kindly received. Capt. Stirling is desirous of persuading Matthew to stay and has offered him the situation of Surveyor General of the Southern district at the River Leischnault. Matthew has applied for a grant of 5000 Acres. The Governor has promised to give it him and should we not be back before the end of 1830 will reserve it for him. Dined with Dr. Milligan. Capt. Irwin was so kind as to insist upon giving up his house to us at night. Slept there surrounded by every comfort. What a contrast to last night. Walked back in the bush but saw nothing worthy of notice; many parts were burnt by the Natives. Saw one of the Lakes--there are three of them, but rather marshes than lakes.

Thursday 11th. Had a delightful sail back to Freemanble but was terribly burnt by the sun. A great part of the way the men were obliged to walk in the water and push the boat along. Saw an amazing number of Fish but few birds and those chiefly ducks. Matthew got some good mineralogical specimens. Got home about four o'clock, dreadfully tired, wanted to go to bed but had so many visitors I could not. Quite weary--suffering from the effects of the Sun. We have noticed on the beach a large brown misshapen Moss something like jelly, they have called it here the Sea Slug; since upon more minute enquiry I have little doubt it is La bêche la mer, so much in demand when dried in India. The Chinese are

particularly fond of it. Had a small Kangaroo made me a present, the only one I saw at the Swan.

Sunday 14th. Much disappointed, was to have gone to Peels Town with my Cara but the weather proved unfavourable; he went without me.

Monday 15th. Matthew returned; gives a sad account of the place. Nothing has been done, no houses erected, he has about 362 Settlers. Much dissatisfaction prevails.

Tuesday 16th. Thermometer 61 in the morning, 87 at noon.

Wednesday 17th. Were terribly frightened this morning: a part of Natives, 7 in number, came down to our tents. Fortunately Matthew was at home. He shut all the females and children up in my Horse House. I understand the Natives are quite naked with straight hair; they are black--but paint their bodies red. They pulled our breakfast about, tasted everything but particularly liked the sugar. Afterwards Webb, one of Mr. Ridley's men, asked them to come to his tent, when there he would not let them come in. They endeavoured to force an entrance. Matthew caught up his gun and ran across, seized the most violent by the throat, who drew a kind of knife and attempted to strike him. The other savages levelled their Spears and I thought all was over with my dear Husband. I was paralysed with fear. Fortunately at this moment other Gentlemen came up, armed, and no mischief ensued. The Thames from V.D. Land put in in great distress having sprung a leak and expecting every hour to sink. She had 1200 Sheep on board for the

Mauritius. It is expected they will be landed and sold. Mr. Walcott returned from Peels Town; the accounts are very bad. The natives had made a large fire to drive the kangaroos. It spread rapidly owing to the dry state of the grass and reached the encampment of Mr. Watson which was entirely burnt. He lost everything I believe except his Stock. A Mr. Smith had his tent also burnt. The fire reached to within a few yards of Mr. Peel's stores where his Gunpowder was kept.

Friday 19th. Walked to the Mineral spring. Saw a fine Cow lying dead on the beach: such a sight is common. Took tea with Mrs. Morley, a Lady from India.

Sunday 21st. Went on the water to Preston Point, beautiful weather. Dined on the grass; after dinner took a walk with Miss Roberts in the wood; we much frightened my good Husband who thought the Natives had carried us off; he came after us in full pursuit, occasionally firing his gun, never saw him so agitated. He appears to have such a horror of the Natives. Did not get home before one in the morning, the wind and tide were both against us, we were fearful we should have been out all the night. Matthew went on shore at one place to try and make a fire; he imprudently shook his powder flask over the flame, when it went off with a loud explosion; it was a mercy he did not lose his hand.

Tuesday 23^d. Walked into town with my Cara; was sorry to hear the ship Hooghly had hurt herself by striking on the rocks in coming in. An Indian fire on the other side of the water had

a beautiful effect this evening.

Sunday 28th. Mr. Dutton at Preston Point lost his child, a fine little boy about four years of age. It was supposed the Natives had carried him off, a party having been seen near the house. Many persons went in pursuit of them. One Gentleman about 12 at night came up with a large party encamped; they all ran away with the exception of one who took refuge in a tree. He asked him for the Picaninny; the man pointed to the Mountains. The Gentleman then fired his gun upon which he fell from the tree as dead but immediately got up and ran away. He found about a bushel of fish, each fish was cleaned and carefully wrapped up in a piece of the bark of a tree and tightly bandaged. I tasted it but did not like it at all, it had imbibed a great degree of acidity from the bark; disagreeable to the taste but I daresay useful in preserving it. Many of our party however liked it much.

Tuesday 2nd. Understood some of the men in pursuit of the child have fallen in with a party of Natives and fired upon them; two of them dangerously wounded.

Friday 5th. A poor Black Man who keeps a Coffee Tent had it destroyed by fire; it was a most distressing sight. I happened to be passing at the time and witnessed it; his agony of mind was so great. At first they were at a loss how to quench the flames no water being at hand. Till Matthew caught up a quantity of sand and threw upon the tent at the same time tearing it down; fortunately his little bag of money was found and we raised a

subscription on the spot for him. The man was so grateful and during our stay when he had fresh provisions or a nice pudding, he would send me a piece with his humble duty. Such dainties as these are always acceptable at Swan River, indeed I must say there is a great deal of what is vulgarly called "cupboard love" going on here.

Sunday 7th. Went to church, the service was performed at Tranby House which was lent for the occasion; had a delightful walk in the evening with my dear Cara, went to the mineral spring, ascended the mount at the back of it, had a most beautiful view. Heard that the Cumberland, a fine ship 600 tons, had run upon a reef of rocks off Cape Leamen and was a total wreck. Some of the people came up in a boat. The Cumberland had stock for Swan River.

Monday 8th. Broke up our encampment at the trees and moved to the beach where we have had a tent erected. Left the place with regret having spent so many happy days there, the whole of the time we did not have one shower of rain and took all our meals in the open air. Rode with the things on the cart and thought it quite delightful. Staid on the beach nearly ten days after we moved. Had for dinner one day a large Bustard; it was coarse but every thing fresh is considered good at Swan River. Much interested in the account I heard of an Englishman in the bush, who was in a state of great destitution and had been fed for some days by Miss Wittmoond. Walked with Capt, Irwin to see him; think him to be to a certain extent an impostor. He was laying

under a bush, with his head tied up in a sack; he would not suffer it to be taken off, for us to see his face; said his name was -----, that he was brought up an Architect and was the son of the Provost of Dundee; would not take the sack off because he had not been shaved for some time. Capt. Irwin promised to send for him and give him employment, also to send him some clothes. On enquiry we found that the chief part of his story was true but that he had reduced himself to the state we found him in by his excessive dissipation, that he and two other young men shut themselves up in a hut, until they had consumed everything they had. They stiled themselves the Glories of Freemantle. One died in a drunken broil the other was still living but in great distress. The day after I saw this man, went in the evening to see Mrs. Wells. A violent shower came on. We (Cara and self) were obliged to run across the heath in such a torrent of rain as we never see at home. We were completely drenched and ran in constant fear of the numerous holes that had been dug for the purpose of making wells. Lost our way, it being dark, came up to a reed-built house, saw a man standing outside the clos'd door, asked him the way and was much startled by having a response in the same voice we had heard in the bag. Got home very wet, the tent completely drenched.

The day before we left had an application from the friends of a young Lady to take charge of her home to England; objected to it myself, but was overpersuaded by Matthew. She came on board

the day we left.

Sailed for Hobarton March 19th, quite sorry to leave Swan River and the many kind friends, particularly one Family that had come out with us. About passengers came on with us from Swan River. A Newspaper had been established some time before we left but it was a stupid concern. The stock out of the Thames was sold by public auction; the sheep did not average more than fifteen shillings each. Whilst we were here a runaway match in the town made a great sensation. After the young Lady had run away, the Clergyman disappointed them and did not come from Perth as promised. To my great surprise at night the Gentleman brought the fair one to my tent and begged me to take charge of her. I had no room but she staid with Miss W. and in the morning was married from Mr. Gillibrand's tent. Went to give her joy, had Cake and Wine. Afterwards the happy pair proceeded to a neighbouring tent (the most miserable place I ever saw) for the Honey Moon. Swan River is considered on the whole healthy. Dysentery prevails but seldom proves fatal. The only vegetable found is Samphire, which is either eaten with Vinegar or boiled. I was much amused with the account I heard from Miss E. of Mr. Peel's arrangements. Mr. P. pays his people weekly with his own Notes on Messrs. Cooper & Lucy, which notes he receives again for payment of things purchased at his own Stores and for which he charges an exorbitant price. At one time his charges were so out of character his people came and applied to the Governor and he was made to reduce

them. Nobody takes his Notes but himself and his people. Gentlemen's sons who had come out with high expectations were obliged to stand behind Counters selling Tea, Sugar, etc.

The night before we left a great deal of anxiety prevailed owing to the natives having attempted to carry off a Female from Preston Point, which is about three miles from Fremantle. A Gentleman coming down the river was alarmed by the violent screams of a Female, he pushed his boat ashore and found the Natives endeavouring to carry off a female Servant. He fired and they fled. The families residing at Preston Point used occasionally to see the Natives on the opposite side of the water; they used at night to kindle huge fires and dance round it in the most fantastic manner, more like Demons than anything else.

A Literary Society is established at Perth to which Ladies are admitted as members. I put my name down, was ballotted for and elected. I was the third Lady on the books, being preceded by Mrs. Stirling, the Governor's Lady, and Mrs. Roe, the Surveyor General's Lady. The subscription was 2 guineas. They have already funds in hand and intend immediately to commence building the rooms.

The Plant having the most singular appearance is the Grass Tree, called by the residents "The black boys" from their resemblance to a Negro and which their appearance fully justifies. A sketch of them is annexed. This singular tree first shoots up from the earth like a tuft of Grass which is followed by its

large black stem studded with a scale like a fish. The bark is about an inch and a half thick and is strongly impregnated with a resin like substance which when burnt emits a strong aromatic smell something like Frankincense and which exudes from the tree in large tears. Masses of it may be sometimes collected at the foot of the tree. When it attains its full growth a spear from four to six feet shoots up which bears the seed. I have preserved one of these. Sometimes the tree branches forming two heads. The bark leaves a black mark as if covered with Charcoal, but which may be occasioned by the numerous fires made by the Natives burning the surrounding grass.

On the way to Perth at Preston Point there is a natural shelf of rocks on the beach of the river which my husband states to be Limestone. It abounds with Caves made by the Water, one of which we entered in our boat and found it full of Fish which had taken shelter from the Sun. Two sharks created great amusement in vain endeavours to catch them with the boat-hook. We collected several Stalactites near this place. I was doomed to undergo a peculiar kind of Martyrdom. Upon one of the Shoals in the middle of the River the boat grounded and all hands were soon in the water to carry her off. Tempted by the numerous Crabs which were distinctly seen through the beautifully clear water and which offered a meal too tempting to be resisted, I was soon left to myself in the middle of the river alone in the boat under a burning noon-day Sun, everyone being in pursuit of the Crabs. I thought

this would soon terminate and was tolerably resigned, when suddenly a cry of "the Cows!", "the Cows!" from one of the Party caused an immediate rush to the shore. (These cows were two belonging to the Ship which had been missing for some time.) The falling tide soon left me on a little sandy Island, without any prospect of escape or any protection from the heat of the Sun.

Hobarton.

Arrived Sunday April 11th. Never saw such riff-raff in my life as came off to the Ship. The town is situated a considerable distance up the river and has a pretty appearance, but had more the resemblance of a Country Village than I expected. Endeavoured but without success to get Lodgings. The town was so crowded on account of Archdeacon Broughton being here, he came from Sydney in his Majesty's Ship the Crocodile, Capt. Montague. Received a great deal of attention from Col and Mrs. Arthur although we brought no letters of introduction. Went to a ball at Government House on the 23^d April, the celebration of the King's birthday. My dear husband went to Launceston on business. Suffered severely with my eyes during his absence, the effect of Swan River. While he was away Miss Leard, one of the young Ladies who came out with me, came off to the ship and asked me to allow her to be married from under my care; did not like to refuse her as both she, and the intended Bridegroom, were great favourites of mine. They were married on the 29th April. Went on shore with her in the morning with her two Brides Maids and returned to breakfast and spend the day. I never was at a wedding that pained me so much. I am afraid great trouble awaits the young folks in a pecuniary point of view.

I do not like Hobarton at all. Nature has done her utmost for it, but her inhabitants mar the spot. The soil is of the

richest kind and everything grows to the greatest perfection; the winter is extremely mild and in its depth the fairest flowers may be found. The inhabitants are carrying on a war of extermination with the natives who are destroyed without mercy wherever they are met. The bush rangers are entirely put down. Matthew likes the place much but as for myself I would rather be at Swan River with its sand than at Hobarton with all its advantages. Matthew has taken his town grant of ten acres and has commenced his farm, leaving an agent behind to conduct it in his absence. Received a great deal of kindness from Capt. and Mrs. Bell, dined several times at their beautiful place at New Town. Met here at Government House a family of the name of Clarke, old friends of my husband's; particularly pleased with Miss C., think her a charming unaffected girl. Dined at Mr. Frankland's, the Surveyor General. Visited Mrs. Pidder, the Judge's Lady, much pleased with her. Miss Elmslie, the young lady I brought from Swan River, had several offers. She formed an attachment with one of the first Merchants and was married from under our care. My husband took care to secure good settlements and she had three hundred a year settled upon her. Went to New Norfolk for change of air, not being quite well, the ride did me much good. The scenery along the banks of the River is truly beautiful, I have no doubt it will be the Richmond of V.D. Land. There is a good sized town a Church, Government House and excellent Inn. We were to have returned home to London direct from Hobarton but in consequence

of several Ships coming in and reporting that freights were up in India my husband determined to proceed there. Left Hobarton June 28th.

We remained when at Hobarton at the Marquarrie Hotel when we could get apartments and were very comfortable. We gave at the Hotel a Wedding Dinner to the young folks. Walked to see my Husband's town grant accompanied by Miss Roberts and was much delighted with the view from it which is most splendid and embraces almost every kind of scenery: the greatest part of the River, the whole of the town and the distant hills are all in view from this eminence, as also a highly cultivated plain abounding in Hop Grounds, Meadows etc. We were much gratified by the expression of pleasure it gave our neighbours that we have located there. A Whale came up the River and was killed about three miles from our Ship. One of our boats joined in the pursuit and assisted in killing the huge Monster. Capt. F. visited the different Public Establishments and found them in the highest order, particularly the Prison and the Factory for Female Convicts when their conduct was not good enough to entitle them to a ticket of leave. The place is wonderfully advanced altogether considering the short time it has been settled. Manufactories of almost every kind being in operation, some with steam etc. The Bread is the best and sweetest I ever ate, I presume from the excellence of the Wheat; the Mutton is delicious and plentiful. I did not think the beef so good as at home. Poultry is generally good

and cheap. Butter, Eggs and Cheese very dear. A Caravan runs every day to New Norfolk and it is in contemplation to run a Stage Coach! The roads are excellent being chiefly macadamized. The Country Gentlemen are extremely hospitable and kind notwithstanding the numerous calls made upon them in a Country where Inns are scarce and visits made solely for refreshment and shelter. The Oysters are very fine and cheap fish plentiful. English fruits the same as in England and many tropical Luxuries are occasionally found here. The houses vary much in their style of Architecture but are principally English. The discovery of Lime Stone has added much to the convenience of Persons building Houses. Bricks are much used, are good and cheap, though they have large quantities of stones. The appearance of the country in the interior varies much but almost universally beautiful hills, dales, mountains covered with trees and plains with verdure are the general prospects that meet the eye at every turn. The plains are partially studded with trees and exactly resemble a Gentleman's Park in England. The Mountains are occasionally precipitous and craggy, forming deep ravines between them, frequently with a rill of water flowing into a river at the base. Gentlemen's houses are of the villa kind and present a remarkably fine relief in the natural beauties around them, nor are the cultivated spots interspersed with less interest. Oxen are chiefly used in Agriculture. Horses are kept for the Saddle and for Carriages; they have been very dear but the price is now rapidly falling. A Pair of Draft Bullocks

well trained are worth £20, a large sum considering the vast quantity of Cattle in the Country. Large droves may be met in the woods in almost a wild state and not unfrequently will make a furious attack upon the passing traveller who has no resource but to climb a tree. Nature appears to have denied nothing to this high favoured spot. An industrious labourer is not only certain of good wages and employment sufficient for the necessities of life but can enjoy luxuries entirely out of the reach of persons in England many grades above them in life. The principal exports are Bark, Oil, and Whalebone and Wool. The Bark is procured from the Black Wattle Tree, a beautiful shrub on the Mimosa kind, the Oil the product of the numerous Whale Fisheries. They have also several vessels belonging to the Port who collect the Sperm Oil. These are sent to Europe and have also great gains from supplying the neighbouring Colony with Wheat etc. Sydney occasionally suffers so much from drought in particular seasons, blighting the hopes of the year. A great advantage is also derived from China traders, also Country vessels from India.

Torres Straits.

Thursday 22nd. Saw the breakers at 8 a.m. and entered the great barrier about three o'clock. It was very nervous, but fortunately we had a very fine day. The passage could not be more than a quarter of a mile wide, on either side we saw the sand bank, and breakers in every direction. Anchored inside the barrier reef with Murrays Island. To the right bearing, it was so dark we could merely see the outlines of the Island. Was awake about two in the morning by the intelligence that the Ship was drifting fast on the reef, was much alarmed. The Captain was obliged to slip the Chain Cable to save us and bore up for the Island until morning. The first sight of the land was enchanting the bright green of the trees, the vivid yellow of the Sand and the lovely blue of the sea formed one of the sweetest scenes I ever beheld. I could fancy all that Poets have sung of enchanted Islands, etc. etc. We perceived the Island was thickly inhabited and saw a fleet of Canoes at least 20 in number. Some of the natives ran into the water and waved boughs to us as we passed. Saw several Islands in the course of the day, all with the same beautiful appearance. Anchored about four o'clock opposite Half Way Island. As we anchored saw several Natives enter a large Proa and put off. Capt. F. sent a boat on shore; found some rude Huts formed of branches of trees, also some large shell and a kind of potato. Here Capt. F. sowed a quantity of potato barley and other seeds in different situations on the Island.

Saturday 24th. The men were so tired having had a great deal of heavy work that Capt. F. determined to stay until to-morrow. Saw the Natives at a distance in the surf, they appeared afraid of us. Went on shore with my Cara, much pleased with my excursion. The Island is about 1 mile long and $\frac{3}{4}$ miles wide, covered with trees and shrubs; the soil chiefly sand with occasional patches of good vegetable soil. A spit of sand extends on one point some distance into the sea. Found some Mats, twin Spears etc.; left the hanging on the boughs before their houses some beads etc. Great quantities of birds. My husband shot two, one a species of Quail. Found a few of the Pearl Oyster Fish. At night saw the Natives return to the Island and light their fires.

Sunday 25th. Sailed at daybreak. Anchored at York Bay near Possession Island; in the evening saw the mainland of New South Wales. To our amazement saw a Ship come round one of the Islands then another and another until we counted seven large ships. Such a sight was surely never seen before in these seas. They came and anchored near us. This fleet proved to be the Crocodile, Capt. Montague (whom we had known at Hobarton) from Sydney conveying 6 Merchant Ships up the inner passage. They were quite surprised to find we had come through the Straits by ourselves. They were very glad to see us and we joined company and sailed next morning, keeping company till we passed the Booby Island when those Ships that sailed best parted company and proceeded on their destination. On passing this Island we perceived a Flag Staff had been erected

by some Ship which had recently gone thro' the passage. We should have followed our route alone but from the friendship of Capt. Montague who kept company with us. My husband's opinion is that the passage through Torres Straits may certainly be considered dangerous and should not be attempted on a single Ship if it could be avoided. A good look out from the Mast head and the lead kept constantly going are essential precautions. The shoals are very perceptible and may be easily avoided if taken in time. Several little Islands are occasionally met with, all with the same appearance as Half Way Island. On many of them we saw Natives but judge they are of a wandering description who live almost as much in their boats or proas. It is to be regretted there is not a British Settlement in the Straits to which shipwrecked Seamen might repair in case of accident.

Coupang

Isle of Timor.

Anchored in Coupang Bay on the 4th August and left on the 6th late in the evening. The Crocodile and one of the Merchant Ships arrived within a few hours of ourselves. The appearance of the town is poor. Some of the Houses are in the Dutch style, built with red tiles, others Chinese and Malay. This settlement is under the Dutch; they export Sandal wood, wax and Honey, and are very noted for their Ponies. There is a very poor fort to the right as you enter.

Capt. Montague of the Crocodile came and invited us to dine with him, but was obliged to decline, our stay being so short. Matthew went on shore with him to call on the Governor. They were afterwards informed that the Governor imagined they had come to take the Island, and that they were spies sent on shore to reconnoitre--it being a very unusual thing for three Ships to be laying in the Harbour. Went on shore the next day; was rather nervous at first, the Natives, wild looking Malays, followed us in crowds; they were nearly naked, and extremely dirty, they were all much frightened at the appearance of a large Newfoundland dog we had with us. Made some purchases, Country baskets etc. and walked about the town. Went into the Church which is a tolerable edifice; was much struck with the appearance of the Pastor whom we found in the act of expounding the Scriptures to a few converts. He was Dutch Missionary of the name of "Terlingen". He was middle-size fair-haired, thin and pale. I was much pleased with his manners

He appeared so truly pious and devoted to his cause. My Husband was even more delighted with him than I was, he brought him off to see me. He told me that he had married a Native Girl whom he had first converted and that she was indefatigable in her exertions to aid him in his religious pursuits. I regret to say from his appearance I should imagine he would not be long-lived.

A few days after we left Timor, we fell in with a Whaler, Albion, Capt. North, in great distress. the Captain having broken his Chronometer. Matthew let him have one of his. The Capt. made me a present of a great many shells, and was most grateful for the Chronometer.

We came through the Straits of Lombock and I never beheld such a current as that opposed to us. The wind was fair and we ought to have been going eight knots the hour, instead of which the current was so strong, the Ship did not move a step in advance, but was tossed about in a most extraordinary manner, and the sea was covered with froth.

Whilst at Coupang a Ship came in from South America; heard from her that the Mania for Swan River had even extended there.

As we passed up the Straits of Lombock we perceived the Islands on either side were thinly inhabited and in a state of cultivation. Nothing can be more beautiful than the passage through these Islands at this season of the year. The Sky is serene, the water smooth and the verdure of the brightest hue. It caused us to regret having passed them.

Singapore.

Arrived on the 21st August, was rather disappointed with the first view of the place, which I do not think at all pretty. Went on shore (Monday) in a Sampan boat, was surprised to see such a busy scene. The river completely covered with boats, in most of which Natives reside, in the evening when they had their lights it had a singular appearance. Passed close to a Chinese Junk, the first I had seen. It appeared to me a huge misshapen mass and I am surprised how they can live at Sea. It is wonderful the Chinese do not improve in their ship Building having such fine ships constantly before them. The town is not at all striking and the houses have an ancient appearance although only erected 12 years. as at that time the Island of Singapore was only bush. It was purchased from the Rajah by the E.I. Company. The inhabitants are chiefly Malays and Chinese. The Island being so small, nothing of consequence is raised upon it, but it is the general depot for goods from almost every part of the world. British goods can be purchased cheaper than at home. I mean retail; everything is done by way of barter. Received a great deal of kindness and hospitality from some families here. Mr. Conolly drove me and Miss R. out in his Barouche through the Malay town and round the environs. There are an immense number of Chinese; their appearance strikes me as very singular. The Palanquins they use resemble The Brighton Flys drawn by a Pony. Heard a great deal respecti

the Pirates; during our stay a great many piracies have been committed by the Rajah of Borneo. H.M.Ship The Zebra is sent in pursuit of them.

I admire the appearance of the Oriental Servants very much and think they give an elegant appearance to an establishment far before our Servants at home. Their dress generally consists of a scarlet turban and white flowing robes, with perhaps golden rings upon their fingers and toes. The Punkahs are new to me, and give a delightful freshness. Sailed on the 28th August.

Wherever we go we have such constant enquiries about The Swan, quite tired of talking about the place. Whilst here some of the Vessels that had run away from us in Torres Straits, thinking we should detain them, now arrived, proving the fastest Sailer does not always first reach the end of the journey.

This Island promises to be a place of great importance and many Store-houses and Wharfs are erecting which has created great jealousy between them and the rival settlement "Pulo Penang".

Prince of Wales Island.

or Pulo Penang.

So called by the Natives, Pulo signifying Island; Penang, Bete nut. Arrived Sept. 6th after an unpleasant passage up the Straits of Malacca; calms and tremendous squalls accompanied by Thunder, Lightning and Rain. Anchored every day on account of the tides; did not expect to find the Island so small. The appearance of it is extremely beautiful; the more I see of India the more I am pleased with it; so much hospitality appears to prevail.

The Admiral, Sir Edw. Owen and his Lady are here. Went to see them, Sir Edw. being an old friend of my husband's. The first day I was on shore I spent at Mr. Anderson's. Went before breakfast in a Palanquin to see the Waterfall. It was so wet and damp, I could not go very near. Towards noon went shopping. Chinese and India goods more expensive here than at home. Went to the Public Library and Chinese Church; drove all about the town. I am much surprised to hear with how little expense establishments are kept up. A Gentleman we know here, one of the first merchants, assures me that he kept his house, 7 Servants, 5 Horses. Buggy and Palanquin for five hundred a year. Such an establishment at home would at least cost £1500. Had the pleasure of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Dyer, old friends of my husband's; they are out here as missionaries. Mrs. D. I was much pleased with. She studied Chinese for five years previous to her coming out and is devoted to the cause in which she is embarked. I found her a clever, intelligent and unaffected young woman. I regretted to hear from her that

although she had been three years indefatigably employed, she considered as yet that little good had been done. On their first arrival they had found but little trace of the former Minister's labours. Mrs. Dyer immediately set about forming a Chinese Female School, but found the obstacles to it insurmountable--the Chinese in the first place estimating their women on so low a scale as not to think it worth while educating them at all, and so idle that no inducement would make them send them. Mrs. Dyer gave the Mothers a rupee a month for every child they sent; still they came so indifferently, that she hired an old Woman at so much a week to go round and collect the Children. By these means she had 26 who attended, and all went well for some time, until one morning the old woman came and said she had made money enough and would not continue her occupation any longer. Mrs. Dyer tried in vain to supply her place. The school gradually declined and at this time, in spite of every exertion, was totally at an end. Mr. Dyer has been more successful with the Chinese boys, he has a small school and one boy he has hopes of. They--Mr. and Mrs. D.--are excellent people and have adopted four children whom they are bringing up. The Malays are under the care of another Missionary who is obliged to go round to the different Compounds and teach them, I did not hear with what success.

Penang at present is in a very unsettled state, the E.I. Company making great changes in their Government and reducing all the situations. Dined at Mr. Tanner's; met Mr. and Mrs. Carnegy; they l

Penang to-morrow for dear England. Staid with Mr. and Mrs. Dawson one day and two nights; received great kindness from them, Matthew made me a present of a beautiful Chinese Gold Chain. The Native Jewellers are the greatest rogues I ever saw; a great many come off to us every day with great variety of Jewellery. They would generally take a quarter the sum they asked, would sell mock stones for real ones and brass for gold. We leave this place for Nicobar where we are to take in a Cargo of Cocoa Nuts and proceed to Rangoon where the Cocoa Nuts will be disposed of and wood taken in for Calcutta. Washing is very cheap, 100 pieces for 3 dollars. Constant enquiries about Swan River.

Sailed September 17th. The greatest pleasure we felt here was in a visit to the Governor's Garden where we saw the spices in full vigour. The Nutmeg was in full luxuriance, bearing the fruit in all its stages. It resembles a Bay Tree or Laurel and the fruit may be mistaken for a Peach. This opened, when ripe, exposes the Nut inside covered with a beautiful vermilion cuticle which when taken off forms the Mace used in England. You next crack the Shell of the Nut and inside is the Nutmeg. The Aromatic flavour of the Nutmeg and Mace pervade the tree, leaves and fruit in all its parts and stages. The outside pulp or peach-like part of it forms with Sugar a most delicious sweetmeat.

The Cinnamon and Clove were also in great abundance and gave good notice by their fragrance what trees they were. This Island may be considered as one of the finest in the world; its climate

excellent and healthy, the Harbour secure and easy of access, and in a military point of view is quite the key to the Straits of Malacca. Provisions are reasonable and it is a place of considerable trade notwithstanding its powerful rival the new Settlement at Singapore. Geraniums and most of our exotic plants grow wild the Pine Apple in particular abundance and fine flavour. At an American Gentleman's house there was a quantity of China Vases or Flower Pots ranged in the Verandah which on inspection proved to be the common English Cabbages preserved with great care as curiosities.

Pedir.

Coast of Sumatra.

Contrary winds and bad weather; anchored here for a change to stop tide. Matthew went early on shore; the day appeared long and tedious until he returned, which he did towards four o'clock; brought off some small square Mats such as the Natives sit upon. The Poultry is remarkably cheap, 16 for 1 Dollar. Ducks nine for the same sum. The butter is quite sour, much like curds, but has a smoky taste. Matthew was much pleased with his visit on shore he had an interview with the Rajah who he invited to pay us a visit; he willingly accepted the invite and proffered to bring his Lady had she been well enough. The hut he saw him in was a most miserable place, and was part of the Custom House. He was seated on the ground but immediately arose and had some chairs which were suspended to the roof lowered for his use and took one himself. Matthew enquiring about precious stones, he sent one of his attendants to bring some of his jewels. He had some valuable diamond one ring alone was worth £4000, it was larger than a hazel nut and had been presented to him by the Rajah of Achen. Some of his rings appeared very ancient. He was much amused at Matthew's Ivory tablets, said "he never saw anything like the English people even made paper of an Elephant's tooth." He was astonished at his gloves, said they were the first pair he had ever seen, begged to examine them and then expressed a great wish for a pair. He sent a Chinese man off to the Ship to examine some things, and by his Capt. F. sent a few presents.

Sept. 28th. Made preparations to receive the Rajah. He came off one with Capt. F. in his Whale boat escorted by two other boats. As soon as he was on board five guns were fired as a salute. He was armed, wore a Sword and a Crease, and all his attendants wore Creases. His Serene Majesty was dressed for the occasion as follows. A pair of common English Shoes--no stockings, thin black legs. A shawl round his waist and a dark Cloth Jacket something resembling a Fireman's Jacket with two broad rows of silver round it, and a scarlet turban on his head. His slaves carried over him a Pink Silk Parasol of French make. He was pleasing in his face and manners, had an enormous dignity about him and the air of a man evidently born to command. He was evidently much pleased with the Ship and when he came into the Cuddy where the tiffin was laid out he appeared quite astonished and could not keep his eyes off Miss R. and myself, I suppose being the first English Ladies he had seen. He was very anxious to purchase our Silver Spoons and Forks and we were informed by the Interpreter that he had an immense number of English things laid up in chests. He has about 5000 Armed Men. He appears to be a good Merchant, brought off some handsome Silk made at Pedir for sale, but asked an enormous price. His Majesty had a parcel carried after him, tied in a handkerchief, which much excited my curiosity. After tiffin he called for it and I found it contained every thing necessary for eating Betel Nut. The boxes were of massy silver. He prepares it himself, he offered me a dose, and

not liking to refuse took a small piece, but made such a face that the Rajah was convulsed with laughter. When he left, three guns were fired. He brought off some handsome presents such as Goats, Poultry, Fruits, etc. etc. After he left he sent a Messenger to wish us a good voyage and to say that of all the Captains he had ever seen he liked none so well as Capt. F. and of all the Ladies he liked Madame the most. So much for his gallantry.

Whilst we were here the Cook brought us a fowl he had just plucked; the plumage had been the same as other Poultry, but when picked the fowl was perfectly black. A Native Servant told us they were quite common in India and considered a delicacy. When cut at dinner, the meat was white but the bones were like ebony.

The Rajah afterwards sent us another Message begging us to stay until the next day, wishing to purchase all our Silver Spoons and Forks, and was much disappointed when he saw us get under weigh. The town of Pedir is small, the streets regular but open, with considerable trade which they carry on in barter for Betel Nut, with which article they supply great part of the East. This Nut, so universally used, grows in large clusters on a high tree much resembling a Cocoa Nut tree and is of the size of a small Apple. It has a yellow stringy covering; this is cut off and the Nut (much like a Nutmeg but round) is the luxury so highly prized. It has bitter taste and is chewed with Lime and the green leaf of a plant it makes the teeth of a reddish black colour and is most disgusting to European eyes.

The annexed sketch is a distant view of the Golden Mountain of Achen seen from Pedir. It contains gold but is not suffered to be worked by the Rajah of Achen. Our friend the Rajah of Pedir is quite despotic but bears the character of being very just. He is summary in his punishments. A short time before we arrived, a man was brought before him charged with some crime; he enquired into the matter, pronounced him guilty and sentenced him to death, and instantly drawing his Crease plunged it into his breast.

Chowra.

Nicobar Island

Oct. 4th. The anniversary of my wedding day. Last evening two Proas came off to the Ship. Miss R. and myself were shut up in the Cabin and all the windows closed in consequence of the Natives not wearing any clothing. I heard a great deal respecting them from my Husband; he describes them as a powerful well-built race. Good humoured, confiding and exceedingly honest. He bought 55000 Cocoa Nuts of them and found them strictly correct even to a Cocoa Nut; he was extremely pleased with them. At first they were only "hungry for Tobacco" and would perhaps give 20 Cocoa Nuts for Tobacco that had not cost 1½d. Afterwards they became "hungry for Cloth", Knives, etc. They had quantities of fruit, Poultry, Pigs etc. Some of the Pigs were bought for the value of two pence or threepence. Their Canoes have a singular appearance. The Natives are quite unarmed and appear active and industrious; some of them were dressed and brought in to us. Two women were also brought, to whom we made presents. They were much astonished at the looking Glass but when they found it was their own faces they saw in the glass they would not look again. The Island is the most lovely place I ever beheld. I could indeed fancy happiness to dwell in such a place; it appears like a luxuriant garden and is small, not above 1½ mile in extent. The Native huts are the best I have seen and are remarkably well made, they are raised from the ground about twelve feet and you ascend to it by a kind of ladder. The only light they have is from the

crevices of the floor. The Island I should imagine is very thickly populated.

Oct. 5th. Matthew shot several birds. The Natives were much astonished at the Gun, some of the Children had never seen one before. The Pigeons are the finest birds of the kind I ever beheld I should think each bird weighed at least two pounds. We found them excellent eating. He likewise procured a dark bronze green bird between the pigeon and the hen. It is mentioned by Sir Stamford Raffles. The plumage is excessively beautiful. I had also a splendid yellow and black bird something of the Miner kind. I was much vexed we could obtain but little insight into their manners and customs--not speaking their language, and the Interpreter we had, alas, had no soul beyond Cocoa Nuts; it was quite in vain we asked him to put questions to them. We found out that they place their dead in their Canoes, put their fishing utensils and paddles in with them and then raise the Canoes about four feet from the Ground on poles, and hang Cocoa Nuts round them, which Cocoa Nuts they at times replenish.

Friday 8th. My husband this day went into the interior of the Island and found a fine plain of the richest soil, he should imagine 20,000 Acres, bearing a fine Grass about the height of wheat. With respect to their religion all we could discover was that they believed in a God. When we asked them where their good people went to, they pointed to the Heavens and said God, and where their bad people went to, they shook their heads and said no bad people.

at Chowra, all good. I procured a pretty model of one of their Canoes.

The women on shore I find are all dressed; they wear a handkerchief tied over their busts and another round their waist which almost reaches to their feet. The Men, unlike other savage Nations, appear very kind to them.

A boat came from Terrassan a neighbouring island to barter and to induce Capt. F. to take the ship there. I did not at all like the appearance of these Natives and the Natives of Chowra appeared quite dismayed at their coming, as if they were afraid of them. They had daubed their cheeks with a thick red paint which gave them an unpleasant appearance, wild and savage.

At Chowra first saw the birds' nests so celebrated in India. They resemble small parcels of Isinglass and are worth their weight in silver; about two will weigh a dollar.

Left Chowra Oct. 10th. A remarkable proof of the known honesty of these innocent Natives you may have in the custom of Ships calling here who are acquainted with their character; they come on board in their different Canoes and purchase the Cloths, Knives, etc. and take them away with them upon promise of having a certain number of Cocoa Nuts ready by a given time, which promise they never fail to keep. Should a mistake arise in their calculations, they would immediately on discovery acquaint you with it, however they might lose by their candour. They are remarkably faithful to each other and domestic. Their houses are quite open. Whole

villages are occasionally left without inhabitants, who go out to gather Cocoa Nuts; yet I could hear of no theft ever having been committed. Some of the houses in the interior are surrounded by a Bamboo fence forming a yard for their Poultry, Pigs, etc. For these last they are famous, producing the finest Pork in the world, being entirely fed on Cocoa Nuts which is indeed also the principal food of the Natives. We left them for Car Nicobar with regret. Annexed is a view of the Islands and some of their Villages.

Car Nicobar.

Arrived on the 11th. The Island very beautiful but do not like the Natives so well as at Chowra. They have evidently mixed much with Europeans and, I regret to say, it does not appear to have improved their character. They suffer their dark hair to grow long and some of them have a most fantastic appearance. Some of them you see with nothing on but a pair of boots, others with only a hat or perhaps a Coat or a pair of Pantaloon; some wear nothing but a shirt, others go without even that covering. The women were mostly dressed, wearing a huge handkerchief over the bust with a large blue wrapper or petticoat. Tasted here for the first time the highly prized Butter or Oil Cocoa Nut; it is delicious but extremely rich. When we arrived we found the Natives in great distress on account of one of them having died the preceding day from the bite of the Cobra di Capello (or hooded snake). For four nights about ten o'clock we heard the most dismal howlings and wailings from the shore, and saw the Natives run up and down waving lighted branches as a sign of their grief. We heard from some of them that on such occasions all the inhabitants from the neighbouring Villages meet where the dead man lived and join in the sorrow; they break all their plates and different things. They bury the dead close to their houses and erect a kind of monument over them in the form of a cone, about three feet high made of wood (many of them are of a cylindrical shape) which they cover

with shreds of blue, white and red cloth interwoven tastefully like a Mat giving it the appearance of a Scotch plaid. This they carefully protect from the weather by covering with a case of Palm leaves on the approach of rain; these give a very pretty appearance to the Village having little streamers, resembling pennants, from most of them, and are placed close to the huts. These remain for one year after the death of the individual. when they are broken up, the bodies exhumated and the bones placed in a Canoe at the back of the Village distant about a stone's throw. Of their religious sentiments we could gain but little information from not sufficiently understanding their language. When questioned as to where the dead went they pointed to Heaven and said to God; to our question as to bad men, they answered, as at Chowra, all were good--that there were no bad men. Of their marriages we elicited the following trifling particulars: When a man wishes to be married, he goes to one of the Captains' or Chiefs' houses and sits down and waits days and days until the Chief is quite tired of seeing him, he then asks him why he always sits in his house and what he wants--upon which the Suitor replies that he wishes to be married when the Chief gives him one of the young women in his village and he takes her away without further ceremony. We got heartily tired of this place long before we left, the people are so encroaching, wanting every thing they saw; they would bring a Yam or Fowl and expect things a hundred times the value in return. Their constant cry was You give me present, me give you present, me good Man, yo

good Man. All brothers, same Father, same Mother. As to Gowns and Petticoats the demand was so great they would have deprived me of all I had; they were likewise very anxious after Silver Spoons and Forks. One day when Matthew was on shore, all at once a small whirlwind came on; it carried his hat some distance; the Natives were much terrified and ran screaming away. The whirlwind was quite local.

Nephew Charles Friend taken very ill with Hepatitis and gave us great uneasiness, for several days we despaired of him. Had no medical gentleman on board; his Uncle was obliged to attend on him.

Oct. 22nd, Friday. The natives I find do not make their best Canoes but purchase them at Chowra. It appears the Islands of No Cowra and T do not produce Cocoa Nuts; their inhabitants are very ingenious and make the Canoes which they take to Chowra, where the Natives from the different Islands meet them and barter with Cocoa Nuts, Cloth, etc. The Natives of Car Nicobar and Chowra are very partial to each other but do not like the inhabitants of the other islands, say they are bad Men and kill each other. I quite regret I have not been on shore having had such interesting accounts of the Natives from my Husband. Their Huts I understand are beautifully made, the insides are fitted with great exactness and neatness; the roof is formed of split Bamboo laid closely together. The huts are raised from the ground as at Chowra but above the first room they have a small second one wher

they keep their valuable property. The greatest unanimity appears to prevail among them and they never interfered with each other's bargains. It is the custom when they first come on board to trust them with whatever goods they may fancy, perhaps to the extent of 30,000 pair of Cocoa Nuts; they were found extremely punctual in their payments. Many of them speak tolerable English and there must be considerable traffic, as during the short time we were here three Ships came in for Cocoa Nuts. In 1688 Dampier was left on one of the Islands with two other persons; they were treated with great kindness by the Natives and purchased a Canoe of them for an axe, went towards Achen and landed near the Golden Mountain. Their language is partly Native, partly Portuguese; the modulations are soft and agreeable. My dear Husband made some little progress in their language and has given me the following as their numbers: Kay hóot, one; A ghat, two; Lu-áy, three; Fearn, four; Tan eè, five; Tal foöl, six; That-ar-sab, seven; Háy o wary, eight; (Nac qù atary, nine); Som, ten; Hung, one hundred. I observed that almost all the natives had severe cough indeed we all took cold. At Chowra many of the Natives suffered from an enlargement of their legs and arms, a disease, I believe, called the Elephantiasis. Here they had no such complaint, indeed when they used to ask after one of their Chowra friends, Capt. Malbrook, they used to laugh and say "Man with the big leg". I understand a European of the name of Worthington resided two years among them at Non Chowra and was made their Chief. He has written

an account of the Natives. The inhabitants resemble the Portuguese from whom they are doubtless descended; they have an idea that they came over the mainland near them

Rangoon.

Saturday Oct. 30th. Arrived at daybreak in sight of the Pegu Coast and entered the River; we were particularly fortunate in having a quiet run from Nicobar, having been only a week out and now having a fair wind and the tide with us we were but a few hours reaching Rangoon. The entrance of the River and the appearance of the land on either side is pretty, the country is low and the villages are built quite on the banks of the river--almost indeed in it. My expectations were raised to the highest pitch by the distant appearance of Rangoon and anticipated a splendid City. The Pagodas have a noble appearance and are generally entirely gilt and were glittering in the sun; the one near Rangoon called The Dagon, forcibly reminded me of St. Paul's and is, I understand, nearly as high, only wanting 17 feet. Fancy my disappointment on reaching Rangoon in finding the city more like a large Malay town than anything else. Nothing but Bamboo huts covered with thatch, with two or three wooden houses. The only good buildings are the Pagodas, which are magnificent--they are of a stupendous size, and are solidly built with bricks covered with chunan, and afterwards gilded. A wooden wall extends round part of the town which is called the "Stockade".

Capt. Friend, when on shore this day, saw the Rajah go in procession to the Pagoda. It was nearly three quarters of an hour passing the house where he was staying. The Soldiers he described as a powerful race of men, tolerably armed with muskets, etc. et

The chief Burmese had different things carried before them, indicative of their rank. Some had a kind of Coronet carried before, placed on a cushion with golden Umbrellas. They all had numerous servants following, some carrying Chairs, Carpets, Fans and Boxes. Two were mounted on Elephants, but appeared of inferior rank. The Rajah or Woongyi was in an English Buggy and I must confess it appeared sadly out of place. In the evening all the town was illuminated and had a very pretty appearance. Numerous Rockets were let off and the best I ever saw. I never witnessed a more beautiful night than this: I never saw the moon in more splendid Majesty; the river was perfectly calm and the scene so silent--only disturbed by the distant hum of voices and the occasional noise of the Rockets. The water is quite fresh although only 25 miles from the entrance of the river; it is rather muddy but the taste is extremely good. We find a great many Mosquitoes and the heat oppressive. Thermometer at 85.

Sunday 31st. An immense number of crows paid the Ship a visit this morning, and kept up an incessant cawing; they were so bold as actually to enter the Caboose, and endeavoured to take the things out of the saucepans. I could not help laughing to see the Cook in a rage flourishing his Poker, and vainly endeavouring to drive the intruders away. Soon afterwards some Brahmina Kites joined them and they continued with us during our stay here. The Steward brought us off a sad account of the place; it appears we are here at a bad season and he can scarcely procure anything.

Milk and Eggs are plentiful and cheap. Butter scarce and bad, and fresh meat but once a week. Went on shore to see a procession. The rejoicings are in consequence of the termination of the rainy season. The cavalcade was not so grand as on the preceding day. The first thing we saw on landing was a figure of an Elephant with three men on it. The procession was just commencing as we landed; we went to Mr. Manook's house where we had an excellent view. I was much gratified; it was the first Eastern Spectacle I had ever witnessed. Some of the Men of Rank had something like a coronet carried before them, as before mentioned, according to their rank they were followed by a great many Servants carrying different things belonging to their Masters--one carrying a common Wooden English Chair, another a Golden Cup; one a Carpet another a Mat, another his Jewels, etc. etc. It was a most singular sight. There were three Elephants in the procession. I could not but gaze at the immense animals and wonder how they could move with so much ease. We walked to the Tsuliah Pagoda which is in the town, it is surrounded by houses with Gaudmas in it, and there is a house with a Colossal figure of Gaudma, which I have drawn, fronting the Pagoda. The chief street is well paved with a kind of brick resembling our Bath brick placed on their edges. On each side are ranged the houses which are detached and appear clean and badly arranged; they are built of Bamboo and generally placed on marshy ground with green stagnant water under them, which kind of situation they generally prefer.

The houses are open in front and have a light bamboo fence before them; these fences on account of the festival were ornamented with flowers and green boughs. I was much surprised to find the Pagoda was a solid building; it had been gilt but was rather the worse for wear. Some of the colossal figures of Gaudma were covered with gold, others partly so, and some were much mutilated, not having been repaired since they were so roughly treated by the English, who imagined they might have had treasure concealed with them. They had a great many offerings deposited about, consisting of flowers stuck on a stick, lights placed in small earthen saucers, wax tapers, and (some who were very devout) brought leaves of Gold Leaf and pasted them on the figures or Pagodas. They had a great many fireworks prepared for the evening. Many of the children had two or three small gold necklaces on, with silver anklets and bracelets. We found the people extremely civil and well-behaved, and we were not in the least molested although much stared at and followed. The evenings are most delicious. The Burmese are a fine race of men and some of the women are extremely pretty; they have an arch expression of face.

2nd. November. The illuminations were very pretty this evening the floating lights on the river had a beautiful effect; they appear to be small pieces of wood placed crossways, on which the lighted candle is placed and then set floating, a short distance from each other, to the extent of some thousands. Was taken very ill--suppose it is owing to the continued rains.

Friday 5th. Much amused this morning by a visit from the Captain of the Cochin China Ship; it appears she is a man of war. He was attended by his Interpreter who appeared to be an intelligent man, but I was told afterwards he bore a most indifferent character. He happened to see one of my drawings, and asked to see my collection; my husband made me bring them out, this led to a discussion on Swan River, on which he asked a great many questions. Wanted to know why the English had taken possession of it? and what it produced? if Gold, Silver, Precious Stones, Paddy or Corn. On hearing none of these things, he again asked why the English went there? We looked rather foolish, not wanting to enter into all the why's and wherefores of Swan River. We informed him that the Bêche-de-mer so celebrated in China was to be found in great quantities on the beach and that as yet it was unknown to the inhabitants. He made many particular questions about it, the harbour at Swan River, etc, and said he should immediately on his return endeavour to persuade the King of his Country to send some persons to collect them. He described the process of preserving them as extremely simple. The animal is open the inside taken out, and rubbed with Chunam and is then left on the beach to dry. The Cochin China Captain mentioned having a horn to dispose of which possessed wonderful medicinal properties the question naturally arose as to what animal the horn had belonged, when he asserted it was an Unicorn, which occasioned much discussion, Capt. Friend not believing that such an animal exists

The C.C. Captain sent for a native artist they had on board his ship, and he, under his inspection, sketched the Animal, also another, which had a horn on his forehead. The first was rather longer than a Cow and had a horn upon its nose, with feet like an Elephant, and was playful, mild and tractable; this was evidently the Rhinoceros. His account of the other was almost fabulous: he said it was twice the size of an Elephant, that it had scales like a fish but that each scale resembled a tortoiseshell. Its feet were like a horse's and it had a horn which projected from its forehead. He described it as wonderfully strong and that it required a net of Iron to catch it. He told us that he had often seen them, but that once in particular he was out shooting when he saw one advancing followed by a young one. He immediately in fear and trembling took refuge in a tree and watched its movements. As the huge Monster advanced, a tree impeded its progress: he bent his head and with his horn raised it from the ground and throwing it over his head, quietly continued his route. They have never succeeded in taming them, but they continue perfectly furious in confinement. My husband closely cross-questioned him but could elicit no contradiction of any moment, but still remains incredulous, solely from the outer description of the Animal which according to the laws of Natural History is a complete anomaly. I forgot to mention he said he had teeth in both jaws. The general description would class the animal with the Equus tribe, but with many discrepancies.

Nov. 5th. We have this day made a great sensation among the Burmese. The Sailors had amused themselves by making a Guy Fawke which they suspended from the yard Arm. The people on shore were quite amazed and crowds were all day looking at the Ship and boats passing and repassing, and every person that left the vessel was immediately surrounded by anxious enquirers. What had the white man done that he was hanged? Even Mr. Manook, the Armenian Merchant to whom the Ship was consigned, sent a messenger to a neighbouring Ship to enquire why Capt. Friend had hanged one of his men. Have had several works on Ava sent to me: Col. Symes' Embassy to Ava in 1795. Havelock and Mrs. Judson's Memoirs.

Nov. 7th. Rose at five and went with Capt. Rawlinson to the celebrated Golden Pagoda of Dagon. Was carried in a Tonjohn, which is a conveyance something like the head of a Buggy, borne by four men. I was much gratified at the sight of the Pagoda. It is an immense building and is 360 feet above the level of the sea. It must have been extremely beautiful when first gilt. It is situated in the centre of a circle, and is surrounded by many Pagodas; some of them are quite new and glittering with gold, others in a state of decay. The large Pagoda is much frequented by votaries, and numberless offerings were placed before the gigantic figure of Gaudma. These offerings are of the most simple nature: a single flower, a plate of rice, a Cup, a Fan, etc. and small wax light the food generally serves as a repast for the Crows, and the oth

things are taken by the Priests. We also saw the great Bell. On the ground about it was a great many Deer's horns which are used for the purpose of striking the Bell. Returned and breakfasted with Capt. Rawlinson; purchased some Rangoon Silks which are handsome but dear.

Nov. 9th. Finished reading Mrs. Judson's Memoirs and have been much gratified; her sufferings during her husband's Captivity must have been dreadful.

Nov. 14th. Called to see Dr. Judson, the American Baptist Missionary; was extremely pleased with him; viewed him with feeling of peculiar interest from having just perused his wife's (Mrs. Judson's) Memoirs. He has indeed drunk deeply of the Cup of Affliction. His sufferings during his captivity at Ava were great and he would have died, had it not been for the exertions of his excellent Wife, and a short time after his liberation, she died, leaving a little girl who shortly followed her Mother. Since this affliction he has entirely forsaken the world and devoted himself entirely to the service of Him who can alone give comfort to the depressed. He has made great progress in the translation of the Bible into the Burmese Language, and dedicates much time to the instruction of the Burmese. He has also written many tracts comparing the two religions. He told us he rose early every morning and took a walk, returning by daybreak time, and that he distributed tracts during his excursions. On his return he sits in his chamber and receives those who wish for religious instruction.

and that he has a great many visitors. He will scarcely suffer himself to have any wants and lives on the smallest means possible. His house to European eyes is a most miserable place. For himself he is a perfect gentleman in appearance and manners. He is extremely thin and pale but with a clear intelligent cheerful countenance and a slight satirical expression; he has a peculiar air of dignity from the manner in which his head is placed on his Shoulders.

I felt quite pained as I conversed with him and tears started in my eyes as I viewed the desolate state in which he was placed. (He does not at all mix with the Europeans at Rangoon)--he was evidently much pleased at our calling on him and I was much astonished at his saying in a cheerful manner that he much regretted Mrs. Judson was not here to receive me.

Every time I go on shore to sketch numbers of persons follow us. They crowd round me so much, I can scarcely draw. I observe the persons are chiefly priests, they appear quite astonished at what I am doing, and I find myself occasionally obliged to show them what progress I have made. They always point to the Pagoda and want me to sketch it and sometimes they ask why Capt. Friend does not draw.

Wednesday 17th. Heard the Rajah's chief wife was unexpectedly coming to town. Two splendid gilt boats went up to meet her; each boat was rowed by 24 men and the chief men had gilt umbrellas, a mark of nobility, held over their heads. Went to Capt. Rawlin-

son's to see the procession, but was much disappointed as but few persons went to meet her. She would not ride in the Buggy sent by her husband but was carried in a gilt Palanquin; she had the curtains closely drawn. We understand that she was in a great rage at not having more attention paid to her. Altho' she was the Rajah's chief wife, it appears she was not his favourite one; she had been residing for the last two years at Ava, and had now most unexpectedly (and to her husband's great discomfort) taken it into her head to pay him a visit. He, poor Man, on the news being brought him of her arrival, went to bed sick and no persuasions could induce him to rise.

Monday 22nd. Went on shore this evening to sketch. The instant I appeared at the Pagoda, the priests came flocking about me and wanted to see my drawings. I shewed them a Butterfly I happened to have with me, when they really uttered screams of delight. I heard a most interesting account this day of the manner of their hunting the Deer. It appears they go at night into the bush, one person then places on his head a Bason filled with combustibles and as he advances he moves his head from side to side to give the light a waving or flickering appearance. He and all the party carry sticks to which small bells are suspended, The Deer, being passionately fond of Music, are attracted by the sound of the tinkling of the bells and advance towards the light. The man who carries the light, having it on his head, is not seen by them, and the sportsmen who are near at hand know what animal

approaches by its eyes; if it is a tiger the danger is great, but if, as they expect, it proves to be a Deer, they immediately strike at it with their swords and soon destroy the unsuspecting animal. The Deer are very plentiful and is to be purchased every day in the Market at about $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. the lb. The tigers of this country are a great size, sufficiently large to kill a Buffalo.

Went on an excursion up the river and much enjoyed the trip. The river has a very great sameness, nothing but Bush on either side. I was much pleased with seeing the Monkeys playing about; there were numbers of them. Went on shore at Konundim and walked about the village; went into the Chief Man's house and saw his wife. The house, being entirely formed of Bamboos, appeared to me of so fragile a nature that I was afraid lest each step I took should cause it to fall about me. The Chief's Wife gave me a Mat to sit upon, which I made signs was not my fashion of sitting; upon which a small box was brought me as a seat. We then sat and looked at each other and laughed. I had some Betel Nut presented to me, which I was obliged to decline and took my leave.

Nov. 30th. Came on shore to pay a visit at Capt. Rawlinson's. My dear Husband not very well. The Natives are all very busy taking off the thatch of their houses, and laying on Mats, being obliged to do so, lest the thatch getting dry in the summer they might catch fire. The mornings and evenings are delightfully cool, the heat in the middle of the day intense. I have observe

that in all the boats I have seen they have a live Cock tied by the leg in the centre of the boat. Query. Why this custom?

Decbr 2nd. This morning early the Woongyi and his Wife passed on their road to the great Pagoda, numerously attended. They rode in an English Buggy which had a singular appearance among the splendid procession. Yesterday the Woondouk's or Judge's daughter (who is one of the King of Ava's Wives) came down to pay her Father a visit. She had a handsome procession and was beautifully dressed. Her dress was splendidly worked with gold; she had massy gold bracelets and ornaments. Her hair was twisted on one side of her head just above the ear and through her ear, where there should have been a Ear-ring, she had a large bunch of real flowers to finish, or rather to mar, her appearance. She had a Segar in her mouth.

Went this day to finish some sketches at the Pagoda; my friend the Priests as usual came out of their houses to meet me. One of them appeared very anxious for us to go into his house, making us understand by signs. I did not like to go at first being rather fearful, but my husband and Miss Roberts being with me, we all consented to enter. The house being as usual entirely built of Bamboo shook very much at each step we took. I noticed it was erected (as by the by the generality of Burmese houses are) in a green stagnant pool--the birth-place I should imagine of some thousand Mosquitoes, and that the bamboos which formed the floor were placed at some distance from each other for the purpose of

spitting through. As soon as we had entered they placed Mats for us and immediately brought me two pictures which they wanted me to copy; they were both different representations of Gaudma. They much resembled rough Chinese Drawings with no attention to perspective. He then showed us several figures of Gaudma and different images which were set out on a kind of sideboard or altar. There was one figure which shook its head, at which he evidently expected us to laugh a great deal. The priest did all he could to be polite and amuse us. On our return home and mentioning to Capt. Rawlinson and Dr. Judson the visit we had paid they were much surprised and said it was the first instance they had ever known of the Priests suffering Ladies to enter their houses, as it is expressly contrary to their religion.

Decbr 3rd. Dr. Judson dined with us. Am more pleased with this gentleman every time I see him. Asked him among numerous other questions what figure the Burmese meant to represent by the colossal image at the entrance of the Pagoda. He told me it was meant for a Lion, being the ancient idea of one. A short time before the English attacked Rangoon, the King of Ava had a very fine Lion made him a present, but he was much dissatisfied at it not being like his representations of that animal. Soon after the British entered the Burmese dominions, the news spread that the Lion was the English Emblem, and the impression became general that whenever the Lion roared (which the King of Ava possessed) it brought success to the British troops. This at length created

great dismay and ultimately the Burmese could no longer bear the sight of the animal. When they were hard pressed by the English, they sent their prisoners and the Lion into the interior for safety. On their arrival the Burmese resolved to starve the Lion to death hoping it would have an effect on the fate of the War. The poor animal died a miserable death, his cries were truly dreadful. His whiskers and teeth were converted into charms and Dr. Judson, who was confined in the next room, was but too happy to have his cell after the body was removed. I showed him the sketch I had taken of the standing figure with the two Gaudmas. He told me he had met with an account of it in one of the oldest Burmese Manuscripts. The standing figure with his finger pointed down was meant to represent the first God in the world and that his name was Dee Più gè āh, and that he had foretold the divinity of Gaudma 26 Boodh before it happened. The story related is as follows. Gaudma it appears was a very pious Man and had acquired such very great sanctity that he could fly. He one day resolved to try his powers and rose from the earth. He flew a great distance and at length perceived under his feet a very large city, the inhabitants of which appeared busily employed. He descended upon the earth and asked them what they were doing? and was informed they were repairing the road for that Dee Più gè āh, their great God, was going to pass that way. Not wishing to be behind hand in good works, Gaudma earnestly requested to have a portion of the road assigned to him. He worked very hard but still had not finish

his task when he heard the God advancing. He was terribly perplexed as to what he should do, not having completed his part, but at last resolved to throw himself on his face in the unfinished part and let the God pass over him. When Dee Più gè ãh saw him laying in the road, he stopped and asked who it was and, on being informed, he, in the position in which he is represented with his finger pointing to Gaudma, foretold that in a future life he would succeed him and be worshipped as a Deity, and then with his procession he went round him and continued his route. Gaudma returned to his wilderness and in process of time was Deified.

Dec^{br} 3rd. Rose at four o'clock and accompanied by Miss R. and Capt. Rawlinson went to the great Dagon Pagoda situated about three miles from the town, and from thence to the Tank where the Rajah has a Country house. He was so polite as to lend it to us for the day, and had had it prepared with Mats etc. etc. for our reception. How different our excursions in this country are to those we have in dear England. Here we were obliged to go in Palanquins and Ten Johns with such a posse of servants. I should think we had at least thirty in attendance. So much ceremony takes away that delightful freedom we have at home. Oh, how I longed for a bound over the grass!

The Great Pagoda is situated, the same as the other Pagoda (Tsooliah) in the centre of a space surrounded by numerous other Pagodas. At the entrance to it, and at some distance before you approach it, there are numberless figures of Gaudmas, Monsters

and small Temples, some hundreds I should imagine. The first sketch I took was one of the great Bell, which is of immense size and weight; it has an inscription round it, and report says it has small wedges of gold in it. It is much out of shape or perhaps was ill formed in the first instance. I picked up one of the Deers' horns and struck it and was much pleased with its full tone. The religious strike it for the purpose of letting Gaudma know they are coming to pray to him. This is the celebrated Bell which caused so much discussion at the taking of Rangoon. The Burmese now say it would not leave the Country. It appears that the British did intend to take it away, and had taken it as far as the beach where it got fast in the Mud from which Mud they had not sufficient power to move it or, perhaps, did not much care about having it and so left it behind. The Burmese were much rejoiced at having it but pretended the Bell would not leave the Country and the next day sent some of their women with a rope to remove it, that they might say "that what the English with all their strength could not do the Female Burmese had accomplished. They were ultimately obliged to send men who succeeded in restoring to its old place.

After sketching for about three hours, we proceeded to the Tank where the Rajah's boat was waiting for us; we found it very awkward being obliged to sit upon the ground. We soon arrived at the house where (thanks to the kind care of Capt. R.) we found a delicious breakfast awaiting us and to my great joy my dear

Husband joined us soon afterwards. I was so fatigued I was obliged to lay down after breakfast. Dined at three o'clock. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past four re-embarked and returned to the great Pagoda where we staid for some time and then returned home quite fatigued with my day's amusement.

Sunday Dec^r 6th. Am ashamed to say that this day I was so fortunate as to see a Burmese Play. Our next door Neighbour had a large Party. Early in the evening his house was hung with Lamps and we could see he had handsome Mats spread in the gallery. In the middle of the street was placed a large bough of a tree and three pieces of trunk of a tree were placed about it; they something resembled tripods; on the top of these they had large fires which gave light to the surrounding scene. These fires appeared to be made of some kind of earth which they occasionally threw in and the Petroleum or earth Oil. Boys were kept constantly employed stirring and feeding the flames, which gave a most brilliant light. Mats were spread round the bough which formed the stage, and on which no person was suffered to come. Two Men with white wands walked up and down and kept order, keeping the crowd off and not being at all delicate in giving good blows to any person that might inadvertently enter the circle. The company saw the spectacle from the house, but there was an immense crowd in the street, as even passers-by joined the groups at last for a short time, but I must say they were all well behaved and quiet. At one end the Musicians were placed; they h

a great number of Instruments all of which, I regret to say, I am unacquainted with. There was a circular wooden railing inside of which was placed a circle of small drums of various sizes, which appeared extremely troublesome to tune. They had also a kind of Violin upon which they gave sons etouffés when the performers were singing. They had also another instrument which in sound something resembles our Musical glasses, besides several wind Instruments. When they were all playing the surrounding persons kept time by clapping their hands. They are excellent timists and appeared to have a tolerable idea of Music, although but little variation in their melody. The entertainment commenced with an Overture much in the style of some we are favoured with at home. First a burst of Music as loud as possible, almost deafening. It then gradually softened into slow, melancholy soft Music at which time the sons etouffés of the Violin and the Bells were occasionally heard (this was extremely pleasing.). The measure then became accelerated, more hurried, and at length extremely rapid; then came the crash and Noise--and so ended the Overture. The chief Female dancer now appeared. She was dressed Burmese fashion, had on a handsome scarlet and yellow silk, a scarf and clear muslin jacket. Her Dress was at least half a yard too long trailing on the ground, but this I was told was the Court fashion. She had a profusion of white flowers in her dark hair, and massy gold anklets, bracelets, necklace and Ear-rings. She looked remarkably fair in the face, and I was informed that the Burmese Ladies are very anxious to be white, and put a kind of Paste on

their faces which they suffer to dry and then rub off, which answers two purposes, cooling the skin and gives a degree of whiteness to the complexion. A box of flowers was placed before her, out of which she selected two small green boughs, one of which she had in either hand and she then began to favour us with the Devil Dance. She was first possessed with the Burmese or Jungle Devil which was a very slow dance scarcely moving from one spot. The dance consisted of a series of bending the Ankles, knees, wrists and elbows, with occasional bendings of the body and waving of the branches. To European eyes it was a painful, laborious exertion. She then went on her knees as if at prayer and we were told the devil had left her. She was then possessed with the Tallien Devil; this dance was much more animated than the last, and reminded one of the dances of the Banhartes. She was accompanied by Music, and the time kept as usual by clapping of hands. After she had retired the Play commenced. They had Music occasionally during the performance; for instance, when on a voyage; or when the King came in; and when they were singing. I must here observe that all I know of the Play is through the medium of an interpreter. The Play commenced by six Men (dressed in different costumes) coming on the Mats, they had a long conversation and at length agreed to pay the King of the neighbouring Country a visit which they did; accompanied by a beautiful Lady (the Prima Donna) and her fine attendants. They represented the journey by following each other several times round the circle formed by the branches in the centre in a kind of shambling pace. A common English cha

was placed for the King , who entered with something like a bow in his hand as an emblem of his authority. He was handsomely dressed in Green Velvet. The Visitors squatted down on the ground as a mark of respect and a long conversation ensued in which the King enquired into the state of their country, if they had any robbers in it, etc. and told them he was very flourishing in his affairs. After replying to these questions, they told him that they had a very beautiful Lady with them and upon his expressing a wish to see her, she came in, fell on her knees and bowed three times before him. He asked her to sing. The Orchestra gave a flourish and she began a kind of recitative in a little thin screaming voice, executing many cadences. When she had finished the King said she was the most beautiful creature he had ever seen and, in order to immortalize her beauty, a Pagoda must be built which should cost exactly her weight in gold. The King now withdrew and the men set off on a journey to fetch the gold. They soon return with it tied in a handkerchief and borne by two men on a stick; a long stick is then brought in, on one end of which they hang the gold and, placing the other end on the Lady's head, they pronounce them of equal weight. Some of the men then draw their swords and run up and down waving them to and fro, whilst others sweep the ground with branches, this indicates they are cutting down the trees and clearing the Jungle for the erection of the Pagoda. They afterwards proceed to build it by

forming a large circle round the branch and throwing the gold in the handkerchief from one to another. This is meant to represent the passing of the bricks. At first they throw it low, gradually ascend, until they throw it as high as they can and then the Pagoda is finished. This building the Pagoda caused great amusement as they occasionally hit each other and knocked off each other's turbans, which raised peals of laughter from everybody. A Model of a Pagoda is brought in and placed with much ceremony on the stage. The Men then went in procession to it, and afterwards the beautiful Lady gese accompanied by her Maids bearing offerings, she herself carrying a lighted taper. When she arrives in front of the Pagoda she falls on her knees, sings, and places the taper on the top of the Pagoda and then sits down on the Chair placed for her. It happens, when she advances to the Pagoda, that a Prince (attended by two Servants) sees her. They are all perfectly astonished at her great beauty and all three fall in love with her. The two attendants are the fools and make all manner of faces and grimaces. After the Lady is seated, her Maidens advance towards the Pagoda with the offerings, during which time there was a great deal of play which appeared to give the Burmese much amusement. One of the Maids took some of the Sweetmeats and offered to one of the fools, and when he opened his mouth to receive it, she popped it into the Mouth of the other fool. A great deal of this went on until the beautiful Lady said she was quite tired of it. To amuse her, two men came on and passing a scarf round

their necks formed a swing into which she got as if she were a fractious child, and they gently swing her for some time; her slaves then asked her if she liked it, when she said Yes! and getting out of the swing reseated herself. After a short time she rose to return home, and on the road she meets with another King's Son, who is struck with her beauty and pulls a flower off the branch and offers it to her, that she may stay and talk with him. His attendants also offer flowers to her Maids, but they will not take them and strike the men. The next scene a Physician enters, dressed like a Turk. He talks a great deal and boasts he can cure all manner of diseases, says he is just come from the Jungle where he has a wonderful tree which bears a fruit, on opening of which you will find an inanimate Man, who will be restored to life only by the Lady he is to marry. He has another tree on which grows a golden Lemon which will instantly deprive of life anyone who attempts to pick it besides himself. The next scene the King is supposed to be seated on his throne when the first Prince enters and demands the hand of the beautiful Lady whom he had seen at the Pagoda. The King says she is too young to marry being only 13 years of age, and advises him to wait. This the Prince will not consent to do and then the King says the fact is he does not know where she is. Upon this the Prince is in a great rage and runs up and down looking everywhere for her, and asking everybody if they have seen her. He beats his attendant and appears in despair. At length he finds her concealed among

her women and immediately asks her to have him. She refuses and sings a long song in which she tells him that he has behaved very ill to her as altho' he paid her so much attention at the Pagoda he has never been near her since and she will not have him on account of his neglect. He defends himself in a song and then she says he is too old, and ugly, and that his hair is grey. Up which all her attendants burst out laughing and echo "he is too old". He then offers to give her all manner of precious stones and beautiful dresses if she will go into his country with him. She still refuses, but is obliged to accompany him. Here commences a regular tragedy scene. She bursts into tears; her Maidens crowd around her to console and support her. She slowly follows his train, singing a most lamentable ditty. The Prince every instant turns back to look at her. At length he touches her and takes the scarf off her shoulders and places it round her neck, upon which her enraged Maidens rush from behind her and strike him; at which he only laughs. They at length arrive in his own Country when he endeavours to take her hand, when she strikes him herself, and turns her back upon him. They then sing a Duet together, in which at first she says she will have him for seven years, then in seven months, and at last in seven days. They then go off together. And now enters the other Prince who gave her the flower on her return from the Pagoda; he is quite despair and orders his Elephant that he may go and get some present for her that will induce her to leave his rival. A Man co

on the stage dressed to represent an Elephant, he has a brown cloth thrown over his back, he is on all fours with a handkerchief over his head and one twisted suspended from his Mouth to give the appearance of an Elephant's Proboscis. The Prince mounts him, and the Attendant gets on a horse to follow him, which horse is nothir more than a stick upon which he rides the same manner as children do. The horse is very restive and pretends to be frightened at th Elephant; this caused great fun. The horse kicked and plunged and threw his rider several times, which caused much laughter from th Audience. After going several rounds he dismounts, and the Prince continues his journey on foot. At length he comes to the tree on which the golden Lemon grows. He immediately endeavours to get u the tree (which is the branch in the centre) where a concealed Lance penetrates his body and he falls to the ground with it stri ing in his side. His attendants pick him up and place him on a Mat, where (selon règle) he sits up, dresses his hair, and sings song complaining that he shall never again see the beautiful Lady His attendants raise him and he goes several rounds with the Lanc in his body and singing!!! Here I was so unwell I was obliged t leave the balcony and retire to rest. We had been sitting from 1 o'clock to $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 and the amusement was not near over. We hear their Music and Noise until daybreak. They had a Masque afterwards which I regretted I did not see. Before we left we saw her of Deer, Horses and Men ranged in a row ready to put on; they w doubtly made of a preparation of Chunam. The Actors really per

formed very tolerably; they had no exuberance of action, nothing but what was quite natural, and their comic characters were admirably supported. The kindness and politeness of the Burmese was very evident; this evening, before they commenced, Capt. Rawlinson sent to them to beg them to move a little further that we might see them, which they immediately did. During one of the most interesting parts of the performance a Mate of a Schooner, half intoxicated, came into the middle of the stage and stood with his hat on and arms akimbo (all the Burmese were uncovered and seated), after a short time one of the performers, either by accident or on purpose, ran against him and tripped him up; he immediately arose and resumed his offensive position. They carried a chair across the stage and placed it for the King to sit in, which the Mate immediately went and took possession of; this put an end to the play. The Burmese laughed heartily and did not offer to molest him, but Capt. Rawlinson, fearful of the consequences sent for his Captain to remove him, who went through the midst of them and brought him off. An English Mob would not have put up with such conduct for an instant. The singularity of the scene we have witnessed this evening has forcibly impressed it on my memory.

We heard a great deal respecting the sufferings of Mrs. Judson during the war she was so reduced as to be obliged to wear a Burmese Dress and begged from door to door, for subsistence for her husband and the other prisoners. She used to be called by the

Burmese the little beggar woman. When the Burmese capitulated Sir. A. Campbell demanded the prisoners; Dr. and Mrs. Judson were among the number and were treated with the greatest kindness by Sir A. and his Lady. The Burmese could not at all understand the respect which the Ladies received from the English. Sir A.C gave a large Dinner Party to which several Woongees and the great men of Burmah were invited. When dinner was announced, the General entered the dining-room leading in a well-dressed Lady, whom the Burmese fancied they had seen before and at length recognised as Mrs. Judson, the little beggar woman.

When the General first landed Manifestoes were published calling upon the Burmese to lay down their Arms and claim the protection of the British. The person who wrote, being no great Burmese scholar, instead of saying their goods and property should be respected, used a word that implied they should be all confiscated. Dr. Judson has one of these in his possession.

We used to hear the Burmese daily practising their Arms and we understood they were making great preparations for war, purchasing warlike stores, etc. Indeed, during our short stay, we saw a great change; they had taken down great part of the Stockade, and were commencing a new one which was to be double, the middle part to be filled up with Mud.

The Priesthood is mendicant; every morning we used to see the Priests go round carrying jars and collecting the contributions of the benevolent, which is all they have to subsist on. They

generally have boiled rice given them; after they have used what they want the residue is given to the poor. The priests are always dressed in yellow, and whilst the boys are with them (for the purpose of education) they are likewise dressed in yellow. Almost all the Burmese read and write.

The most inferior officers under government never go out without having at least 6 or 8 men in attendance, carrying his Tea, Betel Nut, Water, Mat, Chair, etc. Innumerable Pariah Dogs infest the streets, running out and barking at everybody. I used to be much amused at an English Spaniel we had with us; who used to set them at defiance. As soon as we went out, he rushed down the Street and soon cleared it; he would then return to my side and walk gravely along, turning his head from one side to the other, and the instant he saw the nose of a Pariah Dog peeping out to see if he had passed, he used to fly with fury at the peeper, and seldom failed to make him rue his temerity. The Burmese used to be delighted with and almost cheered him as he passed.

Left Rangoon Decbr 11th, were two days getting down the river Monday, struck on the ground. Tuesday, struck again owing to the carelessness of the Pilot; were much alarmed this time, the ship laid down so much, we were on the ground about an hour, when the rising tide floated us off.

A great many vessels are to be found in the river at all seasons; they bring Cocoa Nuts, Indian Cloths, European goods and take in return Teak timber which is their staple commodity for

the supply of Calcutta and they generally contrive to smuggle away quantities of Gold and Silver (the exportation of it being forbidden). They have no coin: all their transactions are carried on in barter or for bullion, which is cast in circular pieces of various sizes and of different degrees of purity. There are a few English Merchants residing there who must be making immense fortunes. They own to averaging 50 per cent profits, but I should imagine their emoluments must far exceed that average. I judge from one incident that happened to myself. Capt. F. was in a Warehouse whilst they were unpacking some goods recently arrived. Among them were some Cuffs which the Merchant strongly recommended Capt. F. to buy for me. He took one pair and brought one for approval. They were long narrow slips of sufficient size to place at the bottom of sleeves to fall over the hand, were made of common English net tamboured; in fact, was a kind of thing only worn by the lowest classes in England and the price of them might vary from 1/- to 1/6, but here, to my amazement, they were modestly priced at £2:0:0.

(Dec. 1830.)

Calcutta.

Had a beautiful view of the Bay of Bengal; arrived in soundin on Wednesday 22nd; beat about for two days looking for the Pilot Boy; on the 25th found three of them at anchor at the light buoy received a Pilot on board, and had the news confirmed of the death of the King and the Revolution in France.

26th. Spoke the Princess Charlotte, McKean, from Liverpool; received some Newspapers which were particularly welcome.

27th. Still working up the river with the wind directly contrary, anchoring every tide. Land began to appear this day. My husband much irritated by the Pilot who was a most consequential person and appeared to imagine he was the only gentleman on board.

28th. Arrived at Kedgerree; received a handsome present from Capt. McKean, consisting of some English potatoes, ham, Cakes, Fruit etc.

29th. Were taken in tow by a Steam-boat for which 500 Rupees was given, equal to £50. The wind being adverse it was suppose to have saved us four or five days. At Kedgerree purchased some excellent Mats, remarkably cheap, and good. I was much struck with the dress or rather undress of the Natives; they are enveloped in Cotton, and in cold weather they put these Cloths about th in a peculiar way, covering every part save the eyes. They had most Ghostlike appearance. We found it extremely cold going up the river and were obliged to wrap up in Flannels. Thermometer at 66. At Diamond Harbour received a letter from a Mr. Cluse,

inviting us to dine and tiffin at his house; we regretted we could not accept his invite. The country on each side of the river is flat but presents a beautiful appearance.

Thursday 28th. Anchored off the town of Calcutta; the town magnificent; the houses really palaces. They are large and perfectly white, the view of Garden beach is really beautiful.

29th. Endeavoured in vain to get lodgings having unfortunately brought no letters of recommendation; had no immediate friends to apply to.

30th. Went on Shore, quite delighted at the prospect of residing once more on land. Went to a boarding-house until we could procure a house. We were not at all comfortable in our new situation; the house being so crowded we were obliged to content ourselves with one room between the three for bed and dining room. Went about the town for some time endeavouring to meet with a suitable residence, went over a great many houses, but met with none that would suit.

31st. Fixed upon a house for which we gave 100 rupees the Month; it was newly painted and matted and in excellent order, consisted of six rooms, two galleries, cook and out houses, two Porter's lodges, a Stable and Coach House with a good sized yard. We found it rather out of the busy town, but not so much so as to be of any consequence.

Jan'y, 1st, 1831. Very busy getting into our house and forming our establishment, in which I was assisted by a kind friend. Wal

much surprised at the number of servants I was obliged to keep, even on the most economical plan we could not do without the following number: a Koussomer or Steward, Kidmagar or Table Servant Butler, Cook, Durwan or Door-keeper, Bheesty, Matrane and Ayah, besides which I had my own European Female Servant and Capt. F. his private Man Servant. These were without the Servants in the Stables. The wages of these Native Servants in the house amount to about 60 rupees the Month and they find themselves. With all this Establishment, we should have been better served at home by two good Servants; they were so extravagant and troublesome as annoy me considerably. I had always the feeling that I was cheated on all sides. These servants never stay in the house at night and leave you in the middle of the day for their dinners.

2nd. Was delighted this day by seeing Dr. Achison, an old and most esteemed friend, added to which he was just from London and had seen all my Family the day he left. Dined at Mr. Sepping's; met a large Party and received much kind attention.

3rd. Much annoyed this day by my Servant Mary; she asked permission to go out and deliver some letters; she was absent about two hours and on her return to my great surprise she told me she had engaged another situation and would leave me in the morning. Remonstrated with her on her breach of engagement with me.

4th. Busy all the day calling upon the Revd Mr. Ovendon and Mrs. Mercer, the persons who had procured my servant the situation. They were much astonished at her conduct and expressed little

doubt but that "Mrs. Matthews", the lady who had engaged her, would immediately upon the circumstances being stated refuse to have anything more to do with her.

5th. Received a letter from Mrs. Mercer saying that Mrs. Matthew would not give up Mary. Had Mary in and remonstrated with her on her conduct. She cried and said if I would forgive her she would stay. This was agreed to. My husband thought I had better call on Mrs. Matthews and explain circumstances. Went with him and was perfectly astonished at the reception I met with. I found Mrs. M. a Ladylike woman but most unjustly firm in not giving up Mary. Said I was going to stay and had plenty of time to procure another that she had three children and I had none; that as to money she would outbid me and dared me to retain her. I pleaded her engagement to me, my recent arrival in the country and the hardship of losing my servant at 12 hours' notice. Left Mrs. M. with very uncomfortable feelings. On my return found that Mary had run away, taking her things. Was quite unwell with the worry I had experienced.

6th. Matthew called upon Mr. Matthews respecting Mary and me with a great deal of abuse; was told he was no gentleman. I was so much agitated by this event that my husband persuaded me to write a polite note to Mrs. M. and drop the matter altogether.

7th. Went to the Cathedral, was much pleased with it. The building is light and elegant, and the service well performed. Had but an indifferent sermon.

10th. Went with the Revd Mr. Hill to the anniversary meeting of the Bible Society. Matthew was unexpectedly requested to move one of the resolutions and had to make a speech. It was the first public speech I ever heard him make, and I felt in great trepidation as to how he would acquit himself. Was much gratified and pleased as to my judgment : he spoke very well.

11th. Went to the "seven Tanks", which is the residence of one of the Rajahs. The house is good and the pleasure grounds extensive, but laid out with great stiffness in the Dutch style and had the above number of Tanks in it, in which they kept fish. In one of these tanks they were so tame as to come, when called, to the surface of the water. We afterwards went to another Rajah's where we saw a fine collection of Animals; they were comparatively few in number but in excellent order and condition. There was a very fine Rhinoceros, and an ostrich which had killed a man the preceding year; also a Magpie exactly like my poor pet "Jones".

Tuesday 18th. Our friend, Dr. Acheson, left us for London.

Thursday 20th. Called on Capt. and Mrs. Lewis of the Buffs at the Barracks. They are old friends of my husband's. Have been so much engaged I have found it impossible to keep a regular journal

Monday 31st. Went to a fancy dress ball at Government house, by Sir Charles Metcalfe. The house is large, and also the apartments, but there was not near so much style as I expected. Some of the characters were admirably dressed. Supped at two.

I was particularly struck with the appearance of the Adjutants

which are in great numbers about the Streets. Sir Charles Metcalf was so kind as to give my husband permission to catch a pair to take home. One strayed into the next Compound to ours, and I sent two European boys to try and catch it. The huge creature, on finding it was pursued, turned and, opening its large beak and spreading its wings, prepared for an attack, but the foremost boy, nothing daunted, immediately ran in on the bird, and grasping its long thin neck in his arms, and holding his head in its breast, succeeded in retaining it until the other boy came up--which was feat of no small undertaking. We were never so fortunate as to be able to procure another. This extraordinary bird is about the height of a man and from one extremity of the wing to the other measures from ten to fifteen feet, its legs are two thirds of its height and are long and slender like those of a stork, its body small, covered on the back and wings with dark brown feathers, its breast imperfectly covered with white, the neck and head bare of feathers, exposing a skin of a disgusting pale red colour with a few hairs thinly scattered on its forehead; the neck is long and thin and generally in a curved position; its whole appearance resembling a Crane. Its habits are of the most voracious kind, devouring everything it meets with in the shape of animal matter. I have seen it swallow immense bones of such a size you could scarcely imagine they could pass down its throat. They have the good fortune to be protected by the Government and roam where they like as they are considered the Scavengers of the City of Palace

indeed anyone who molests them is liable to fines and imprisonment. They generally roost on the highest point they can attain, where they manage, notwithstanding their fragile appearance, to dare the storm by bending the first joint of their legs and sitting on it, which gives them the appearance of a person kneeling with his knees inverted. The bill is an immense large horny protuberance resembling the Pelican, and of an enormous size, having the same proportion to the size of its head, as that of the Toucan.

Had a great many arguments with our Baboo (who was one of the highest class) on religious subjects. He was a very clever intelligent Man. His prejudices appeared to have been very much weakened by his intercourse with Europeans but it had rendered his mind a sad chaos on the subject and I used to listen to him with a painful interest. On some points he was bigotted to excess, on others more reasonable and you could perceive occasionally, whilst warmest with his subject, that he was half bewildered; his judgment being at variance with the prejudices of his youth. He told us there was a tradition extant among the Hindoos that at some future period they would be all converted to Christianity, but that it would not be under the Sway of the Europeans. I asked him if the system of education pursued with the native youths had had much beneficial effect; he said among those whom he knew it certainly had produced much good but regretted the effect it had had on the minds of many of the boys, who no longer paid that respect to the difference of Casts, and that some of them even

laughed at him for his veneration of his gods, and called him superstitious. From motives of curiosity he took us one evening to a temple at the outskirts of the town, to see the God he worshipped, and which he said was the most splendid in Bengal, and I confess I was never more disappointed. The entrance to the Temple was down a narrow dirty lane, with Beggars and little Gods on either side, at the entrance of the Temple he wanted us to take off our Shoes, but this we refused to do, but consented to give some money to the high Priest. We first entered a Hall supported by Pillars, at one end of which a ditch separated us from another Hall, where the devotees were assembled and which was considered as sacred as they would on no account suffer us to enter without taking off our shoes. This on account of the damp I was fearful of doing, but Mr. Friend did and went quite near the monstrous figure. We had however an excellent view where we stood. In what words can I speak or describe this god so horrid to the sight; I looked at it with amazement, and felt bewildered with astonishment that any person could worship such a production. It was a bust figure of Colossal dimension, with hideous features; the eyes were a bright scarlet, cheeks and forehead black, the nose piece of gold extending from the forehead over the mouth. Scarf turban and drapery. The place was lighted up with small lamps: each person gave their offerings. Wreaths of Marygolds were suspended about, and distributed among the crowd, and the devotees kept uttering loud cries and making prostrations, whilst the

Priest oiled the head and adorned the god. The filth and dirt of the place is beyond description, and accompanied by the most offensive smells. I was truly glad to get away.

We went one day to see the Natives carry their Gods in procession, and drove up and down the chief streets; the crowd was so dense, that we were sometimes detained half an hour at one spot. I never saw such a numerous assemblage and could not but wonder how such an immense populace was kept in subjection; it was an interesting sight. They were so gaily dressed, and such joy presented in their countenances. We understood they were celebrating the expiration of the rainy season and the commencement of spring. The figures were of all size and were generally represented in the attitude in which we draw Mercury, on tiptoe. They were made of Straw covered with Chunam and painted. They were dressed in the most gaudy manner, with Feathers and gold and carried on kind of Cars far above the heads of the people. They were paraded up and down the chief Streets and then taken to the river side, placed in boats, and carried to the centre of the sacred stream, where they were stripped of their finery and thrown overboard. These were the gods for the last year as every year they have fresh figures made, and who, in turn, share the same fate.

We became acquainted during our stay with the Revd Mr. Hill, a Independant Minister, and each day increased our admiration of him. He possessed talents of the first order and comes nearer to idea of perfection than any Preacher I ever heard. These were

not only my own sentiments but those of Mr. Friend. He was deeply read, and some of his Sermons were the best orations I ever heard. He was totally free from that whirl or rant so often met with in Dissenters; he was mild, yet energetic; his action elegant; his appearance Gentlemanly. You felt anxious for him to commence, interested in each sentence and, when he finished, regretted it was over. I know for myself that I did not lose the impressions that his Sermons made on my mind for some time after; I was at least a better creature while they lasted. The Cathedral is a light and elegant building, and the service well performed, but the Preacher was most indifferent.

We went with Mr. and Mrs. Sepping to see the Botanical Garden, which is some distance down the River. We went by water and had a most delightful excursion. The weather very mild. The gardens are in excellent order, and are very extensive. We saw the celebrated Banana tree which is such an immense size, and the numerous collections of Plants. Any person upon application may have a box of seeds free of expense. The head Botanist and Superintendent, Dr. Wollich, was in England. The River is truly beautiful; on either side of its banks as you approach the town, most delightful Villas are seen. Garden Reach is truly beautiful and the first view of the City is grand, and strikes you with admiration, giving you splendid ideas of its wealth and luxury, but this impression soon wore off with me and I must admit I did anything but admire this City of Palaces. The houses are certainly very fine--you

must always grant that--but they are all much alike and you become tired of the sameness, and besides, among some of the most splendid Houses you find some of the most wretched Native Huts. The state likewise in which the Coolies are suffered to go about the Streets is little credit to a civilized city, being as near naked as possible. I met with some kind friends at Calcutta of whose hospitality and liberality of sentiment I cannot too highly speak, but I must confess in candour that I was not pleased on the whole with the Calcutta Society--such a demoralizing tone generally pervading it. Scandal was more prevalent than I ever met before, and among the Gentlemen, such a tone of levity prevailed respecting the Ladies that was truly painful to my feelings. I was considered as a newcomer and heard much from every side. The Gentlemen appeared to think that all unmarried girls had no other thought or occupation than of drawing them into Matrimony, that all Spinsters were endeavouring to take them in, and that their only safety was in avoiding them as much as possible and devoting all their attentions to the Married Ladies. This of course brought on a most unnatural state of things--a fine elegant girl almost unnoticed, a Married Woman surrounded by Attendants. The evil consequences of this may be easily foreseen as there were but few Married Ladies whose names were not in scandal coupled with some gentleman or another. I must candidly say I never met with such an assemblage of beautiful Women as at Calcutta; it appeared as if our native land had been culled of all its fairest flowers and transported to this sunny land. An un-

married girl was indeed to be pitied, as she must have attraction of the very first order to ensure at least common attention.

India is little truly known at home; were it, I am sure no Parent or Friend would suffer a young female to visit it, putting delicacy and feeling out of the question and with the prejudices now existing, they would have fifty times the chance of getting settled at home.

India is much altered from what it was; immense fortunes are easily met with; everybody lives beyond or fully up to their income and many are consequently so much involved that they have little prospect of revisiting their Native country. Hundreds, with splendid incomes and establishments, sigh vainly after the Land in which they were born.

Another thing which I particularly noticed was an inflated air (if I may so express it) which ran through their manners, conversation and customs. Each person, from the Merchant in his Counting house down to his lowest Clerk, appearing in his own opinion the greatest Man in the world--all with such an air of Pomposity that I could often scarcely help smiling. You would almost fancy they were each playing a part in a Drama where each endeavoured to make himself the greatest man in the piece--so different from the simplicity and ease which distinguishes the highest grades of society at home. Mrs. Maria Graham (whose work I regret I have not yet read) has strongly excited the ire of the good folks at Calcutta by her censures. I have often heard her work freely

canvassed. We generally used to go to the course every evening, and there was certainly a very fine display of Carriages, Horses, etc. What most struck me was the appearance of the Natives, many of whom were in the habit of attending this strange mixture between European and Asiatic costumes. You would see a Horse and Buggy that in style and fashion would not disgrace some of our most fashionable resorts, but the driver would be some dashing Native in full Eastern costume, wearing perhaps a turban or splendid gold and silver cap, flowing white Muslin Draperies and superb Cashmere Shawl, and then again you would see a booted European stretching his "listless length" in the luxuriant ease of a Palanquin and strangely assuming the conveniences of the other.

We received an invitation from Conny Loll Tagore, one of the first Baboos, to attend the Nautches in celebration of his Brother's Marriage and on the 28th January we accordingly went full dress. About a quarter of a mile before we arrived at the house the road on either side had painted canvass suspended before the front of the houses, made to represent drapery, with a profusion of lamps; near the entrance was a triumphal Arch under which we passed; numerous peons or policemen were placed on each side to keep order, and direct the carriages which way to go. I think such a fairy scene I never witnessed before, it somewhat reminded me of Vauxhall, though far, far beyond it; but more strongly it seemed to embody your ideas of those splendid scenes so vividly

pourtrayed in the Arabian Nights. After passing under the Arch we entered a large square, in the centre of which was erected what may be denominated a large hall or temple, purposely erected for the reception of the guests. Different small fancy halls were put up in different parts of the square in which were the dancing girls and the performance of different Indian sports. Although we were early, the place was quite crowded and on alighting from our Palanquins we could scarcely make our way through the crowd; the company was of the first consideration in Calcutta, all splendidly dressed and certainly the coup d'oeil was truly magnificent. The Apartment was of considerable size and square; the roof was supported by numerous pillars which the fresh Air passing freely through prevented the heat from being too great; they were painted pink and gold. The ceiling was profusely ornamented, and a splendid Persian Carpet covered the floor, while numerous Chandeliers added their brilliancy to the splendour of the Scene. At one end was erected a Canopy, under which was a throne--the destined seat of the bridegroom who had not yet arrived; it was raised a considerable height from the ground so as to overlook the company; round the room were placed benches, with chairs in the front; in the centre of the room was placed a very small sumptuous table, on which were massy silver and gold ornaments containing Attar of roses and other perfumes. Round this table stood different Baboos, simply dressed in white, with turbans and superb Cashmere Shawls thrown over their figures;

splendid rings also covered their fingers. As soon as we were seated we had favours brought us, which were roses fancifully tied with silver and perfumed with Attar, and during the evening we had frequently fresh Attar brought and poured over them, the band of the Regiment occasionally playing. After a short time distant Music was heard and soon afterwards we saw the bridegroom advance. He was seated in an exalted Car carried by Men, and preceded and followed by an immense number of persons carrying torches. The procession stopped. He was received by the Baboos with great ceremony and conducted to the throne prepared for him. After a short time we went near him; he appeared about 15 years of age and rather a fine boy, but he appeared as if he had just come from the hand of the Sculptor--every feature being firmly fixed and settled down for the occasion. Had it not been for a faint movement of the chest in his aspirations and sometimes a slight movement of the eye, he would certainly have been taken for a statue. With respect to his dress, there is no doubt but it was handsome but he was literally so covered with jewels you could scarcely see what he had on, string upon string of the finest Oriental Pearls, Emeralds, Diamonds and Rubies, each string increasing in length as it hung upon his figure. The smallest, alas, would have been a fortune to me. On his Arms he had Bangles of every description and his hands, which were each placed upon one of his knees, were loaded with rings. One large Emerald, which particularly struck my eye, one of the Baboos took off his hand for me to see and

when I placed it on my finger it reached to the first joint of my finger--it was truly splendid. He wore a pink turban also covered with jewels, and on one side of it was suspended a large Pearl valued at £20,000.

The Bride according to the Native custom was not seen, but we understood she was about twelve years of age. Supper was prepared in a house near at hand, but no Europeans went to it. When we drove away, the gates were on the point of being opened to admit all the poor, who were permitted to enter to eat the remainder of the feast. This entertainment was repeated three nights and was for the express amusement of the Europeans. The natives had their amusements the following nights. I forgot to mention that the celebrated Dancing girls were there and that I was much disappointed in their performance. They have scarcely any movement in the dance and it appeared to me nothing but a continued taking off and putting on of a veil, accompanied by the tinkling of the bells on their Anklets. I was also much disappointed in a "celebrated singer" who was there, but this is a matter of taste. There was a beautiful exhibition of skill in the use of the sword which was fearful but pleasing. They were, I believe, Cashmeri Men who performed and consisted of a series of evolutions, placing the point of the sword in their mouths and then flying round with the greatest rapidity. They had a wild appearance, having profusion of long black hair hanging about them, with fierce black eyes and beautiful sets of white teeth. All these people

we understood, had upwards of £50 per night each person, and the whole expense of the wedding from three to four lac of rupees, which is divided between the two families. One Baboo, Kissmohmechunder, told me that all they cared to get money for was to spend in Nautches and that none of them wished to die rich.

During our stay in Calcutta we went to Barrackphoor. Sir Charles Metcalfe kindly gave my husband permission to select any Animal in the Park he might wish for provided he did not fix upon any of the Governor's Pets, for the purpose of taking home. We were much delighted with this excursion. The Park is truly romantic, resembling our English Parks at home; as we rambled about it I could almost fancy myself in dear England once more. We were much disappointed with the Animals which were very few in number and of a common description; the only one worth wishing for was a fine Rhinoceros of enormous size and apparently very savage, the we understood was a great favourite of the Governor. This beautiful place which has been formed at an enormous expense (being made on ground) is in a state of great decay and, I believe, is not intended to be kept up any longer, economy being the order of the day. We dined in our boat and left the place with feelings of regret. As we passed the banks of the river on our return home we perceived a large fire on the beach and were informed that the Natives were busy in burning the body of a Hindoo. My husband being desirous of seeing the ceremony landed, and from the boat

perceived the corpse was brought on the bedstead on which he had died and was then laid on the pile of wood, which was set fire to by his friends. They appeared to view the ceremony with the greatest indifference, busily employing themselves in throwing fresh wood on the fire. Close to us, I perceived apparently some dead Animal upon which two hungry savage dogs were feeding, but upon nearer inspection it proved to be a human body, thrown on the beach to decay or be washed away by the tide. I was inexpressibly shocked and my husband went and asked the Natives to burn the remains with those of the other person, but they would not hear of it and quite laughed at him, saying he was not one of their caste.

About a week before we left Calcutta, we broke up housekeeping and went to Spence's Hotel, and on the 26th. Feb, we at length set off with a fair wind for dear England.

Madras.

Arrived at Madras on the 6th of February. A great many Natives came off to the ship with their goods for sale. Went on shore with Miss Roberts; the landing truly terrific, the breakers of such an enormous size, I was more terrified by this than almost anything since I had left home.

We staid at Grant's Hotel of which place I cannot speak very highly. Hired a Carriage and drove to the Mount and on the course to hear the band. The drives are very excellent, far surpassing those at Calcutta, tho' altogether the place had more the appearance of a Country town after the busy gaiety of Calcutta. My husband dined at Government House and received much kind attention from Mr. Lushington, the Governor. Met Serg^t Rough, an old friend.

St. Helena.

Anchored late in the evening, June 1st. The first appearance of the Island is very desolate and its barren appearance filled us with melancholy feelings, for who can see this spot without bringing to mind the great Warrior who has found a tomb there. The Island consists of a succession of barren hills of immense height and of ravines apparently equally barren. Jamestown is prettily situated in one of these ravines and the few green trees that adorn it are a pleasing relief to the eye after it has wandered over its brown and sterile Mountains. The Island appears to be very strongly fortified and I should suppose impregnable.

Early on Thursday Morning my husband took myself and Miss Roberts on shore; we staid at a Boarding House kept by Mrs. Fyfe where we were extremely comfortable and the expense moderate.

Rose on Friday at 6 in the morning and went in a Chaise with my husband to see Buonaparte's tomb. I think I never enjoyed myself more than I did this day. The ascent was very steep being by a winding road cut out on the side of the Mountain; the prevailing feature of the country through which we passed was a sterile barren desert with an occasional green patch. We first visited the tomb which is situated in a ravine. An old Sergeant has a Sentry box placed near the entrance in which he keeps a book for visitors to place their names. I do not think the general sketches of this tomb faithful. The tomb is enclosed in a square iron railing and is a large plain stone without any

inscription, the whole is again enclosed in another railing at some distance from the other; the intervening space is planted with willow trees. The original willows from which the Coffin was lowered into the Vault are in a state of great decay, partly I should presume from the vicissitudes of the season and partly from the numerous visitors that visit the tomb carrying away pieces of them as mementos; they are almost bent to the ground. The tomb is prettily situated in a narrow ravine on either side of which are tremendous mountains. I was persuaded by the Sergt to take a near cut and, instead of returning to our Chaise, to mount the opposite mountain, but soon bitterly repented, as the ascent was so steep I could scarcely mount it.

We next proceeded to Longwood and every step we went the country became more dreary and barren, and at length, upon the extreme point of one of the mountains, unprotected by trees and almost destitute of verdure, we beheld the house that had been the residence of Napoleon Buonaparte. The house has been converted into a Farm House and in the room in which he died there is a large Mill erected; the bedrooms are converted into stabling and altogether it has a desolate neglected appearance. I am surprised the present occupier does not keep it in better order as he must make a considerable sum by shewing persons visiting the island without making a pilgrimage to it. By way of refreshment you may obtain Milk and Beer. We did not go to the new house which is erected in a valley close by and is prettily situated,

but went to Mr.Scoles' to inspect his Museum. Mr.S, is, I believe a gentleman of private property and most liberally permits strangers to have access to his collection of curiosities which we were surprised to find so large and so well arranged. His daughter, charming little girl about ten years of age shewed it to us and displayed an intelligence far beyond her years. As we descended we saw one large Party winding up the hill and it had a most picturesque effect, the Ladies in a Carriage and the Cavaliers on Horseback.

I was extremely tired when I arrived at Mrs.Eyre's and the sight of breakfast was most welcome.

Saturday. Rose at six and set off with my husband and Capt. Vander to ascend the Chain Ladder and visit the Observatory. My good Man did all he could to persuade me from the attempt, feeling certain I had not sufficient strength, but womanlike I was obstinate and we commenced the ascent, but when I was about quarter of the way I felt myself so exhausted I did not know what to do, and I must confess I was quite unnerved when I turned my head and saw the awful precipice beneath me, At this moment, a bare-footed little Urchin came singing and skipping up; I asked him if I was half-way up. "Bless you, no, Ma'am, not a quarter. There was a man killed last week going up." This was quite enough for me and I was glad enough to yield to my dear Husband's entreaties and return. We then went the Carriage road up and soon reached the Observatory.

Mr. Friend was much gratified by his visit to the Observatory and pleased with Mr. Iberson the Astronomer residing there, who appeared very indefatigable in his observations and spoke highly of the state in which the instruments were kept and of their excellent adjustments. He made several observations himself and went again in the evening by appointment.

Sunday. Went to Church in the morning. After tiffin went on board the Ship, sailed on Monday evening, June 6th.

Ascension.

Six hours at Ascension. June 12th. Made the Island early in the morning and was pleased with its appearance. Matthew intended to lay off and over and send on shore to see if he could procure some Turtle. As we passed to the N.W. of the Island we perceived a Barque at Anchor and to our great amazement a pretty little tow soon raised its head. We had heard that a small party of Marine were stationed there but expected to find them in the rudest state. A Boat soon came alongside to know if we wished for a supply of Turtle and we were informed that they were Government Property and sold at 2:10;0 a head round averaging from 2 to 8 cwt. They did not wish to receive money but would rather take things in exchange. I was very anxious to go on shore and after some solicitation my husband consented to take me. I was soon equipped and lowered into the Turtle boat as no time was to be lost and soon safely reached the Shore. Here to my great astonishment I perceived an excellent Pier with a Crane on it and an excellent accommodation Chair all ready for my reception, and I was soon placed upon terra firma. I was almost disposed to rub my eyes to ask if I was awake so much surprised was I to see the numerous exertions made on this spot. So little being known of the Settlement, I was quite unprepared for it. On my landing, an Officer in the Marines who had superintended my ascent came to my husband and claimed acquaintance with him having repeatedly met him at

Barron Garrows. A joyful recognition took place and we immediately went to his house to see Mrs. Evans (his Wife) who was the only Lady in the Island. On the road I was introduced to the Commandante, Capt. Bates, a most Gentlemanly Man. He was so kind as invite us to dine at the Mess but my husband declined, being anxious to return to the Ship. I found Mrs. Evans a most pleasing female; she was very glad to see me, it being a rare occurrence for her to have a female visitor. She had a sweet little girl whom I was much taken with; the child was not above five years of age and having only been eight months on the Island her recollections of England were very vivid; her little spirit cherished its remembrance as the brightest spot in the world. We were soon on talking terms and I felt almost a feeling of pain at hearing her innocent prattle and regrets. She asked me if I was from England? and then quickly added; "Dear Mrs. Friend, of all the parts of the world I have ever been in I like England best." "But where have you ever been, my sweet child?" I replied. "Nowhere but here and England, but I like England best. Did you ever taste its cherries and strawberries?" and she gave a loud smack with her little rosy lips. I promised to send her some pears I had on board and was again asked if they were English, real English pears, sweet pears?" to which I was sorry to give a negative, having brought them from St. Helena.

After taking some tiffin, we proceeded to take a walk and see the wonders of the place, of which they said there were but few.

But not expecting to see anything, everything appeared interesting to me. We first went to the Tank which is almost finished and consists of three chambers which hold an immense quantity of water, believe 600 tons. It has been formed out of the solid rock and must have been a great undertaking. At present they are on an allowance of water, half a gallon a day, the water being brought from the mountain, a distance of about seven miles, in carts. They had made two tanks in the mountain to receive the water as it dropped from the spring but during the heavy rains they were washed away and they were much alarmed lest they should lose the water altogether. Since then they have bored and have been successful, the shaft having four feet and half water. The whole strength of the Island is now employed in laying down Iron Pipes from the mountain to the tank which is now in the town; then they expect to have an ample supply not only for their own use but also be able to supply shipping. We found that they can supply shipping with almost everything they may want at Government prices, not even excepting Vegetables and Fresh Stock. They have 200 Acres in the mountain in cultivation with about 2000 head of Cattle. A Captain and 100 Men are stationed there. I need not say there are no shops in the town, everything is station. Whatever stores you take are paid for in London. We called in to see the Mess room which is extremely comfortable, and were introduced to several of the Officers, there are eight stationed on the Island. One of them, a Mr. Mc Arthur shewed me some sketches he had

taken of different parts of the Island; they were exquisitely done. We then proceeded to the Turtle Ponds of which there are two, and saw I should think some hundreds of Turtle of enormous size. They take them on the Moonlight nights on the sandy beaches when they come on the beach to deposit their Eggs; they then bring them to the Ponds where they keep them ready for the Shipping. The average sent off the Island varies from 200 to 800 the year. They mentioned as a singular thing that when they first see the turtle they are very small, not near so large as the palm of the hand, and that they then disappear, and they never find them in any intermediate size, only returning when they have attained their full growth, which it is supposed they do very rapidly in five or seven years. Capt. Bates gave me a small pair of them. he also sent on board a fine large one as a present for the King.

We went to the place where the Soldiers are stationed and entered one of their cottages which was a perfect picture of cleanliness and comfort. Altogether there are about 360 Souls in the Island. Two slave ships had been taken by his Majesty's Cruisers and the slaves had been set at liberty on the Island, but they could not get them to work or do anything for their support, but took to stealing and robbing the houses, so that they have been obliged to send part of them back to Africa, and the rest will follow by the first opportunity. We visited the different workshops, the Farriery, the Cooperage, etc., etc., not forgetting the Chokey or Prison. Capt. Bates told us he never inflicted any other

punishment but solitary confinement and found the system answered extremely well.

We had a great many Geological specimens given us, one of them closely resembled the Scotch Granite and is found in that part of the Island where they imagine no Volcanic fire has ever been. He also some good specimens of Lava.

The greatest credit appears to be due to Capt. Bates for his exertions; everything that has been done has been accomplished during his residence of three years. It is a great pity they have not succeeded in having a garden near the town. Capt. Bates has also commenced building new Barracks, a Fort, and various other improvements. We visited the Stables where they had a few good horses.

Matthew examined the small turtles and noticed as a peculiarity the immense size of their heads which is about one third the size of their bodies and of their fins which are full two thirds the length of their shells; their fore fins it appears to be their general position to lay on their backs. The top of the shell assumes a Coronate appearance which is not the case with the full grown Animal. The shell is imbricate yellow and very distinctly notched.

The Barque which was at anchor, on enquiry, we found to be the William Brown of Scarborough, Capt. Read. She went on the Rocks to the Windward of the Island and had sustained considerable damage, making six feet water when brought to the bay, they were

116.

obliged to take all her Cargo out and thoroughly repair her.

