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Tagebuch von Christian Wilhelm Gericke.

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Thursday February 21. The French Fleet drops Anchor in Portonovo Road.

Friday February 22. An English prisoner taken in the Hannibal made his Escape, came and gave us an Account of the Engagement of the 17th between the French & English Fleets.

Sunday February 24. I recommended Repentance as the only Means to engage the Providence of God for us, and to remove the Calamity which we feel & fear, from us. Isaia 1. And prayed heartily for our Safety. ~

Thursdth March 7. The French have landed a Number of Troops and Stores at Portonovo. Their Inactivity 'tis said, is owing to a disagreement between them and Hayder Ally. 'Tis a great Mercy, that the Enemy's Horse have not disturbed our Bounds during the Harvest. To day we were surrounded with them. They carried off ^{that have been sheltered here} several 100 head of cattle, and robbed many People, but

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but cut no Body, nor went into any House. We are now in a Situation, by which God teaches us to look up to him for Safety & Deliverance, and to him alone, having no forces left, from whom this Weak Garrison might expect Succour in Case of an Attack. Many wish to get away by Sea, but are prevented by the french frigates cruising about.

Monday. March 11. Began the preparation for the Sacrament with our Malabar Christians. Endeavoured by explaining the 1st Commandment, and comparing their heart and life to it to produce in them a broken heart, Sorrow for Sin, fear of Punishment, and to dispose them to a heart felt Confession of sin. I represented from Scripture the Wrath of God against the Idolatry of such as have joined the Christian Church by the Wrath of an injured Husband.

Wednesday. March 13. Till this day, when Intelligence was brought of H.^r Edw.
N. 4.

Edw.^d Hugh's Fleet having been seen entering the harbour of Trincomaly on the 23 Febr^y. 12 sail, all well & their Masts standing, we have not known what became of our Fleet after the Engagement on the 17th.

Sund^y. March 24. The french fleet left Portonovo Road. 'Tis supposed the French Troops will deposit their Stores in Chelembrom & enter into the Tanjore Country. And so we seem to be once more delivered out of a very great and long continuing danger.

Monday March 25. Joy and gratitude at the Appearance of some Security prompted an English Gentleman to begin a ^{building} Wall around the Church for a decent burying Place, and ^{animated} another, to make a new Pew in the Church for the greater convenience of the Congregation.

Good Friday March 29. Tippusaiib's Detachment ~~has~~ passed Srivady marching towards Hyderally's Camp. We hope to edify

ourselves in these holy days in perfect safety.

Easter Monday April 1. Our Bounds were in the Morning full of the Enemy's horse, divine Service was performed under a constant Alarm of the Town. As Yesterday we had a Communion in English, so to day in Malabar & portuguese. A small Vessel arrived with the Crew of a ship belonging to the Moravians at Trinquetbar, which has been taken by a lawless french privateur on Aut: of having an English Passenger on Board. The Suppl^{ant} ~~largo~~ a Moravian ^{came} a shore sick of a putrid fever. I received him into my house.

Tuesday April 2. Tippu saib's whole Army appeared so near the Walls, before they encamped within our Bounds, that they were fired upon by our Guns the whole day long. We saw now plain, that the Enemy had changed his Plan of Operation, and that his Object was Cuddalore.