

# Handschriften / Autographen

## Tagebuch von Johann Ernst Geister.

**Geister, Johann Ernst**

**Cuddalore, 01.01.1739-17.12.1739; 10.01.1740**

4. - 5. Oktober 1739

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1739.

September.

in the Company's Garden near 4 miles from Cuddalore, the going and coming such a way in the hottest time of the day made me so unfit, that it was impossible, as long as the Landwind held, to teach the Children immediately after it. But the season being now cooler, I begun to day again from 4 till 5 in the afternoon to read the Old Testament with them, commencing with the history of Joseph Gen. 37. and intending to go through the main parts of the history of the Jews, described in the Old Testament. My main design is, that the boys may be better acquainted and capable to understand the scriptures, and as the historical part is very agreeable, I hope, that with Gods blessing this will excite in them a greater desire to read the Bible.

19. I received 200. Pag. being part of the money sent out by the honorable Society and designed for Cuddalore. As I was not in immediate want, and the carrying of the money in natura being hazardous, I resolved to stay for opportunities, to have the money by bills of exchange, and a Gentleman in this place having occasion to send 200 Pag. to Madras, I gave some days ago a bill to be drawn upon Mr. Schultze, who upon my desire paid the said sum to the Gentleman's Correspondent, and I had the money paid here.

October.

4. I finished the grammatical explanation of the Gospel of St. ~~Mark~~ Mark with the boys, and begun that of St. Luke
5. The garden belonging to the first bought ground had been let out to a Malabar man for 7. Pag. a year, which money should be payed in three terms. But according to the way of this nation, who take deceitfulness to be an extraordinary qualification, he refused payment, so that the Gentleman who is Justice at Cuddalore thought proper to imprison him twice for some days, and it was difficult yet to get the money. This was very tedious to me, and as it might have been interpreted to my prejudice by illwilling People, I annulled the contract, and resolved to let the Coconuts grow, and sell them afterwards at once. But one way or other I found after some months



Months, that there was no produce of the ~~the~~ trees, and therefore I offered the ground and garden to sale, after I had taken away all the brickwork and several trees, which I transplanted into the new ground. After some while I came to an agreement with a Malabar man for 30 Pag. which sum was added to the cash.

16. I received 100 Pag. more by bill of exchange, of the money designed for the use of the Cuddalore Mission.

25. Several weeks since I had considered earnestly the circumstances of my business, and it gave me a very deep impression to find that there were so few of the inhabitants, who entertained an acquaintance with me, though I had endeavoured several ways to be known to them, and had invited many. I therefore resolved, that as soon as the rain ceased a little, I would go two or three times a week in the evening through the streets and public places of Cuddalore and the adjacent places within the limits of Fort St. Davids, taking an opportunity to address myself in a proper way to people, whom I should meet, wishing heartily to God, that he would bless my endeavours and designs. Amongst other things I was encouraged to do so, because I found myself advancing more and more in the language, so that I could venture out and talk even to a Company of people. Accordingly I took this afternoon the old man, who instructs me in the language, with me, and as formerly I went to all the schools, I visited now their Pagodes. Coming to one, that was a building now, and enquiring for several things, which they were a doing, I asked them at last, if it was not more reasonable, and more truly charitable to spend money for the benefit of the poor, than for such buildings which were really of no necessity or use. They answered in the usual way; that in this they followed the example and precepts of their ancestors, who had ~~taught~~ taught them, that those things were agreeable to their Gods, and that they, who bestowed money on such purposes would be blessed and rewarded. I expressed calmly and in a few words my disapprobation and left them.

In my Sunday Sermons I have this month I have treated of the doctrine of the Angels.