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Tagebuch von Johann Ernst Geister und Johann Zacharias Kiernander.

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Cuddalore, 01.01.1740-29.12.1740

November 1740

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urn:nbn:de:obv:ha33-1-187648

October

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again directed us to he did not know himself whom. Though this Representation was made in such a way that it might have raised their attention, yet they seemed not at all moved & we left them offering our Readiness to converse with them, in order to come to a better knowledge.

In the Portuguese Sermons for this Month the Doctrine of Sanctification & holiness was proposed & afterwards the Doctrine of prayer.

November.

2. To the Joy & Encouragem^t of us both, Kiern: preached to day his first Sermon in the Portuguese language, on the first part of the 15 Chapter of S^t. Luke. We thanked God for his assistance & furtherance.

3. Kiern: begun to day to apply himself to the Malabarian language wherein G: assists him

Two Children of a Malabar Christian from Tranquebar, who lives here were taken into the School & half a Pagoda a month, was promised to the Father towards their Maintenance but this only for some months.

9. According to our joynt resolution R: begun this Sunday afternoon to propose & explain to the Children the most eminent Histories, Related in the New Testament.

10. A Gentleman of the Council of this place having desired G: to marry him it was done accordingly this Evening after the Governor had been acquainted with it, & given his Leave. His worship was likewise present at the Marriage.

Some time this monthly: after having ended the Curvory Explanation of the remaining Scripture Sentences, resumed again the literal Exposition of the Acts. It is absolutely necessary to go on in these Exercises that the Children may be more & more acquainted with the holy Scripture, which chiefly afterwards when they have been dismissed will be a great help & furtherance to their Salvation.

The malabar School is increased by this time to above 20 Children though the People have been told that our design is not to bring together a number of Children and that many cannot so well be taken care of as a few yet they have insisted upon their Children

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November

to be received which could not well be denied. Though this is a new Proof of the Peoples liking and confidence yet we have not succeeded in the main design of this School (WIX:) to come into a nearer Conversation with the inhabitants. Some or other gave hopes for it as they came now and then to the School and talked with the Catechist but after some time they left off again. We must leave it to providence, when our endeavours shall be blessed with the Success wished for.

25th - Kium: after having by way of repetition explained the Catechism again begun to day to read with the Children the first Epistle of St. John. The doctrine of Prayer has been continued in the Sermons this Month.

December

With the beginning of this Month, the disturbances in the Country round about, begun to be so great, that all the People fled again to the Sea Side for Shelter in the European Settlements. After several uncertain Rumours at last on the 15th in the morning, a dismal account was brought that yesterday in the afternoon, Porto Novo, which is an unfortified Place about 5 leagues from hence) had been plundered, by a large Body of horsemen, and the people, black as well as white without distinction most barbarously used. This put every body in the place, in a great Consternation and all things were kept ready for an Engagement. Before it was noon, small Parties of Horse came very near our limits and seemed to be Scouts of a larger Body, which probably would have attempted something if they had found some part of the bounds unguarded. But upon their appearance, in a distance, a signal was given with a great Gun from one of the Out Castles which was answered from the Fort and upon this the Enemy did not come nearer. Yet accounts were brought in that numbers of Parties were round our limits, & that in all Probability we would be attacked in the night time. This made every one very uneasy & there was not much sleep that night. We commended ourselves to divine Protection and considered a little —

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