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Tagebuch von Johann Ernst Geister und Johann Zacharias Kiernander.

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Cuddalore, 18.01.1741-28.12.1741

10. - 30. Mai 1741

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to the garden of an inhabitant, a short Discourse happened to be about religious Things.

10. A newborn son of a Protestant malabar christian from Tranquebar, who is here in the Company Service, was christened.

The Heat of the Season began to be broke a little by refreshing Showers which strenghtened our bodies, that we could apply ourselves a little more to our business.

15. R. having heard soon after his arrival in these parts, that the Commander in Saffanapattam (a Dutch Settlement on the Island Ceylon) M^r Daniel Agreen was a Countryman of his, took the liberty, to write a letter of compliment to him, acquainting him with some circumstances of the Protestant Mission in Madalore, and of the Pious endeavours for promoting Religion in the Northern parts of Sweden. To day a complimentary letter answer came from the Gentleman, wherein he expresses his joy about the spreading of Religion, & offers his endeavours in any thing, wherein he could be serviceable to the Protestant Mission.

30. We were visited by a great man from the Country, a Mahomedan, a near relation to one of the Moguls Commanders in these parts, & the visit was occasioned by one of the family of the old Mahomedan Priest, mentioned before in our Journal. They expressed their desire, to see the microscope, which was brought, & somethings shewed to them, as likewise the burning Glass. But the Gentleman not understanding the malabarian language, we talked to him only by an interpreter, & it being the noontime of a very hot day, the visit was soon ended with some compliments.

Though we have not yet succeeded so fair, as to bring over some of the natives to christian religion, yet we take it as the effect of Divine goodness & Providence, that even Persons of note & quality in these parts shew a liking to be acquainted & converse with us. And as some external Things, microscope

and

and the like, have given an opportunity to such acquaintance, we have wished sometimes to have more of this kind here, to excite the curiosity of the natives. However considering the charges and cost of these things, we cannot resolve to desire that Globes & astronomical machines should be sent from Europe. Yet, as it happens now & then that after improvements & new inventions upon such instruments, the old ones are thought almost useless, we have been thinking that Gentlemen in England, who are provided with such instruments, as on the aforesaid supposition were almost of no use to them, would perhaps be inclined to part with them, & let them come to India, where they might be employed, though in a remote way, for the benefit of Religion. Globes, Astronomical maps, etc. would serve best for this purpose, because there is yet some knowledge of astronomy amongst these people, and it makes them always attentive, when they find that the Europeans have made a progress in this noble science.

The malabar Sermons this month, have been upon the Second Chapter of the Acts.

In the Portuguese Sermons we began to preach upon the Epistle to the Colossians, and in the Portuguese School after the finishing of the Treatise against Popery, it was thought proper to begin the explanation of the Catechism.

June.

We went on in all the parts of our business as much as the hot and disagreeable season of the Year would permit.

A poor orphan, the Son of an Englishman, who has been Corporal, was upon desire taken in the Portuguese School with the beginning of the month.

17. In the evening G., who for recreation & exercise
went