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Tagebuch von Johann Ernst Geister und Johann Zacharias Kiernander.

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As we have no ground yet for a burying place,
we asked the opinion of a Gentleman at Fort St
David about it, and he advised to ask the Govern-
ment leave for the use of the English burying ground
in Tridalore. Upon an Application to his worship, it
was granted immediately. we had some thoughts of
looking out for a piece of ground, to have our own
burying ground, but we found reasons afterwards to
defer it yet.

25. A boy was taken into the Portuguese School
27. A little child of one our Proselytes lately christe-
ned, dyed, and was buried in the English burying ground.

In the Chaldean congregation the Sermons have been
upon the doctrine of baptism and the Lords Supper. In
the Portuguese Sermons we go on with the first Epistle
to the Corinthians. Gu: found himself capable to preach
three times this month in the Portuguese language
but was obliged to leave off again the season being
very hot & heavy.

May

1. Another of the Catechumens, a grown man was christened

to day, which would have been done last Sunday, if he had not been called to see some of his sick relations without the English limits.

8. The matrimony betwixt two of our profelytes was solemnized after the banas had been published thrice.

9. The Son of the washerman, mentioned on April the 9th was taken into the Malabarian School.

11. A boy and

17. a girl were taken into the Portuguese School.

18. Our Malabarian School has hitherto gone on in such a manner, that the greatest number of the Children, betwixt 30 & 40, are heathen and few of them Christians. It was thought in the beginning, that this School might serve as a means to be acquainted with the Parents of the Children in order to bring them over to christian children or that at least we might succeed with the Schoolmaster who is likewise a heathen. But we find now the contrary by experience, and begin to believe, that not only charges and pains are useless that way, but that this greater number of heathenish Children is an impediment that our christian

Children cannot be so well taken care of. We have there-
fore deliberated some time ago in our Conference, if
it might not be better some time or other to dismiss
the Heathenish Schoolmaster, and to have only a Christian
Malabarian School, with this condition that those inha-
bitants, who had a mind for it might continue to send
their children to learn reading, writing &c according to
the country way. However we have resolved not to
proceed hastily for fear of doing a thing, which after-
wards perhaps we might wish to be undone again.
As we shall want Somebody for this purpose, we had
desired the Missionaries at Tranquebar to recommend us
one that has been brought up with them. Accordingly
to day arrived from Tranquebar one Thomas, the Son of
Pastor Diego, whom we design to prepare for some time
and afterwards employ him as a Christian Schoolmaster.
rr. The Lords Supper was administered to four members
of the Portuguese congregation, of whom two received
it for the first time.
rr. One Mandel, the Father of our catechist Ambros
Dyco, and was buried in the English burying ground.

27. Some time ago the English Church-Catechism had begun to be explained in the portuguese School, and was ended to day.

28. Some people of a neighbouring village offered themselves to turn christians.

29. The forementioned washerman, his wife and two children were baptized.

30. H. went this evening to a neighbouring village called Wandilpaleiam, in order to visit one of our Malabarian Christians who liveth there, and found an opportunity to talk with the other inhabitants of that village, many of whom were at home this evening. After a few questions asked them, what god they served, and in what manner &c. they answered several ways, but at last all agreed that there was but one God, who was Lord and Master of us all. Whereupon I told them, that this was very true, and that all the other Gods were nothing at all: But that the only true God, who has created heaven and Earth and all that is within it, had also created men, and is their Lord and master and Judge. For which reason men are obliged to obey him, and to serve him

him according to his will and not otherwise. As they
all were attentive, I proceeded further and told them in a
short way the history of the creation of Adam & Eve
and their first happiness, as also of their Fall & misery.
To which I added, that the pleasure of ~~the creation of~~
~~Adam & Eve and their first~~ God Almighty was not that
men should die ~~wicked ways~~ and in their sins & misery,
but that every man return from his wicked ways and live.
And that God Almighty therefore has mercifully been plea-
sed to send his only Son Jesus Christ in to the world for
to be our Redeemer, who also sufficiently payed for our
sins, not with Silver or Gold, but with his precious
blood, by suffering & dying for all mankind &c. There-
fore whosoever now desires forgiveness of his sins, to
be saved from the eternal misery, and to inherit life
everlasting, he must not look out for any other means
but learn to know Christ his Saviour and believe in
him. When having enlarged upon this points, I asked
their Opinion of this Doctrine. They all professed it
was very good, and some of them promised to come
to us and enquire further for the same; but others

[they

told that they were very poor people and had no time to enquire for such things, though they were ever so good: because what day I did not work, they had nothing to eat. I answered them, that to labour assiduously was very well done, and that it was the will of God we should do so, who says: Six days shalt thou labour, and do all they work, but the Seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God &c. But when you labour for the maintenance of your body, you must not forgett your Soul which is more than the body. But first of all you must seek God Almighty his mercy, and if you do, He will as a good Father take care of you and give you what is necessary for your maintenance. It being dark already, I gave our Christians an admonition out of Matthew VI, 33 and so I parted.

[home

A Girl which was taken into the Portuguese School about the middle of this month, came only to school and went in the evening to the parents. But we were afterwards desired to take her entirely to our care, and it was said at the same time, that if

we consented to that, more girls would be sent to us: As we have no room and convenience for that, we deliberated, how to find means for the interim, and agreed afterwards with the Sister of our Schoolmaster, who is a widow of a good character, and lives in the neighbourhood, to take care of the Girls in the night-time, and to look likewise that they are kept clean &c. for which we allow one fanam $\frac{1}{2}$ month for each girl, besides mats, oil &c.

The Malabarian Sermons have been upon Acts X and XI and the Portuguese upon the first Ep. to the Corinthians.

June

Though this is the height of the landwind season, the weather begun to be so moderate and favourable by the Seawind, and by many refreshing Showers, as it has not been for 10 years past. This together with the constant exercise on horseback brought Gu: into a fair way of recovery, so that he could not only preach in Portuguese but do now and then some little business which did not require much application of mind.

1. The daughter of a Malabarian Christian was taken