

DIARY KEPT BY OPPERHOOFD
JOHAN FREDRIK BARON VAN REEDE
TOT DE PARKELER
1785 - 1786*

1785

NOVEMBER

1 22 This morning two *opperbongioisen* came for the customary inspection and mustering. *Rapporteurs* Eizaemon and Setsunosuke came to inform me that the governor [Matsuura Izumi-no-kami] will come to the island tomorrow, after he has made a trip on his yacht to the shogunal guards and the ship, which is lying below the *Papenberg*. I wrote a letter to [Hendrik Casper] Romberg to inform him of the governor's intention in order that he can welcome him in a fitting manner.

23 In the evening the governor, accompanied by his secretaries and a few *burgemeesters*, came to visit my house and the garden pavilion. I welcomed him at the gate and subsequently entertained him in my room, where I congratulated him on his arrival in Nagasaki, and wished him a happy and pleasant term of office and emphatically commended the affairs of the Company to his powerful favour and protection. I treated him to sweet drinks and confitures, and he left for the city highly pleased.

24 Nothing happened. Fresh food and drinking-water have been sent on board.

25 Private goods have been shipped.

26 One of the governor's secretaries has been to visit my house. Fresh food and drinking-water have been sent on board. In the afternoon the interpreters handed me a document, signed and stamped by all of them, containing a request to present the two commissioners who were appointed in Nagasaki some time ago, with 100 taels more in the *has-saku* in future. In the evening both *rapporteurs*, accompanied by Senior Interpreter Kōsaku, brought me the shogunal demand and the samples of the woollen piece-goods. They also brought me the picul of candles of Japanese treewax which had been ordered, with a short note explaining how to go about making them.**

27 I shipped the candles and I commissioned Dispenser [Hendrik Willem] Dronsberg and Scribe [Coenraad] Jonas to take the papers we received yesterday aboard. On their return they informed me that everything on board was well, but *Opperhoofd* Romberg was suffering from podagra.

28-29 Nothing happened. Fresh food and drinking-water have been sent on board.

30 Around 7.00 a.m. the *Schelde* set sail, firing the salutes. May God Who reigns over wind and currents be her pilot in these dangerous waters and let her arrive safely in the capital of the Indies with all who sail in her. The five junks which were lying below the *Papenberg* left at the same time. I ordered the *rapporteurs* to have the Company's sampans delivered at Magome as soon as possible. They promised to do this tomorrow.

DECEMBER

1 At three o'clock in the afternoon, *Opperrapporteur* Eizaemon came to inform me that tidings had just arrived from Nomo that the ship had sailed out of sight this afternoon. Again I heartily wished that Heaven will grant her a safe and propitious voyage. For the second time I ordered the *rapporteurs* to have the sampans taken to Magome. In the evening four of the junks which had left yesterday returned and dropped anchor below the *Papenberg*.

2 This morning both *rapporteurs* informed me that the sampans had been taken to Magome and that the oars and stretchers had been brought onto the island. At eleven o'clock Kōsaku told me that rumours were doing the rounds in the city that either the Governor of Osaka, or the one of Miyako, would be appointed Governor of Nagasaki. The Japanese servants have stayed in the city according to custom.

3-10 Nothing happened.

11 At nine o'clock Kōsaku came to visit me with *Onderrapporteur* Setsunosuke. I earnestly requested them to do everything in their power to have the order to search the *opperhoofden* revoked, for we

* For an abbreviated version of this diary, see letter n° 41 from Van Reede to Titsingh, dated 30 November 1787 in F. Lequin ed., *The Private Correspondence of Isaac Titsingh*, Vol. I, pp. 65-81, Amsterdam 1990.

** An explanation of the manufacture of such candles can be found at the end of the original report to the Governor-General by the outgoing *Opperhoofd* Romberg of 31 December 1785. (*NFJ* 507).

could insist on this with sufficient reason because of Governor Kuze Tango-no-kami's promises. They promised to do their best with this new governor and to try to make him present our request positively at Court, where he is held in high esteem. The whole morning it stormed from the south-east and in the afternoon there was a downpour. A Japanese carpenter has been on the island to make a note of the repairs to the pigsty, which are necessary, and I commissioned Deputies [Hermanus] Lankhorst, [Laurens] Klad, and Dronsberg Junior to assist him. They gave me the following report. [On ff. 6-9.]

12 The Japanese carpenter came with Junior Interpreter Einoshin to hand me his quote for the repairs, which amounted to 116:2 taels. I considered this much too high and, after much haggling, we finally struck an agreement for 80 taels.

13 This morning strong north-westerly winds, which did not abate the whole day.

10 14 Last night and today again strong north-north-westerly winds.

15 Kōsaku and Junior Interpreter Jūbei came to visit me and we spoke at length about the best means to employ to have the governor make a positive presentation at Court for the abolition of the body searches. Both interpreters advised me to discuss it with Keiemon, the old *dwariskijker*. I replied that I would summon the assembly of interpreters shortly about this subject. However, I had to postpone it for a few days because Keiemon was incapacitated.

16-19 Nothing happened.

11 20 The Japanese servants have returned.

21 Last night it rained heavily and it blew from the north-north-west.

22-23 Nothing happened.

24 This morning Jūbei told me that apparently there are three applicants for the governorship of Nagasaki, viz. one of the Governors of Osaka and one of Miyako, and a relative of the deceased governor, but it is still not certain which one of them will be granted the post.

12 25 This morning I discussed the matter of the searching of the *opperhoofden* with the *Tolken College* and *Dwariskijker* Keiemon. To capture their full attention, I represented to them that as soon as the *opperhoofden* had been absolved of this disgraceful search, they also would have the right to request to be absolved of having to take off their coats and to remove and show their *santoku*, which they are forced to do every time they pass the gate, to their utter shame and regret, this ploy serving to get their ambition going and to spur them on to action in their own interests. After they had conferred for a long while, they promised that a few of them would go to Government House on the 29th to try to accomplish this. Furthermore, I discussed with them the reciprocal present that remains forthcoming for the Persian horses which have been presented to the Shogun. They had little to say about this, only that one had to wait and see. In the afternoon it poured

with rain and the wind blew from the south-west and kept blowing the whole night.

13 26 I commissioned Scribe Jonas and Assistants [Gualterus Petrus Theodorus] Van Rossum and Klad to make a note of the necessary repairs to the *nori-mono* and other luggage for the court journey. They handed me the following report. [On ff. 13-15.] In the evening Assistant Laurens Lankhorst from Campen died.

16 27 The body of Lankhorst was properly buried with all servants in attendance.

28 Nothing happened.

29 At eleven o'clock Keiemon and Kōsaku came to inform me that they were about to go to Government House to discuss the matter of the body searches with the governor. Thus I am awaiting the outcome. Today a junk arrived.

30 The junk which arrived yesterday, has been unloaded. At half past two *Opperrapporteur* Eizae-mon came on behalf of the governor to inform me that this morning mail had arrived from Edo with permission for the court journey. I asked him to thank the governor very kindly for this communication.

17 31 In the evening Keiemon and Kōsaku came to inform me that they had been to Government House yesterday to discuss the matter of the searches of the *opperhoofden* and that they had good hopes that the governor would take this matter to heart and would make a positive presentation at Court. The governor asked me to put my request in writing and he would send it to Edo with a favourable covering letter. I thanked them for their trouble and promised to prepare such a request shortly and to hand it to them for translation and delivery.

1786

JANUARY

1 In the afternoon the *rapporteurs* came to inform me on behalf of the governor that he had appointed *Opperbongiois* Goto Mattasabro as escort on the impending court journey. I had him thanked for this communication. In the evening strong winds started to blow from the north-east, and these continued the whole night with heavy downpours.

18 2 Because there has been a great deal of wind and rain lately, I ordered the *rapporteurs* to request the governor that *bongioisen* come on the island as soon as possible to inspect the Doorn where the gifts are stored, to see if there are any leaks. From evening until morning heavy rains and storm from the south-west.

3 The south-westerly storm continued with hail and rain.

4 Setsunosuke came to tell me that tomorrow an *opperbongiois* will come to inspect the Doorn. I asked for the bill of lading of the junk which arrived on the 29th of last month. He promised to give it to me. In the evening another junk arrived in the road-

stead and I heard that one had run aground off Amakusa.

5 The junk which arrived yesterday, has been unloaded. An *opperbongiois* came to inspect the
19 Doorn, which was found to have no leaks. At twelve o'clock the joint *Tolken College* with their *dwarstkijkers* came storming at me. The reason for their attack was to convince me that I had calculated some articles of the impending court presentation too high. I argued the opposite and proved my point by showing them the booklets with the specified items of some years back. After having argued about this for more than an hour, they had to leave without having accomplished anything. On this occasion I asked them why they had not brought me the bills of lading of the junks.

6 Eizaemon handed me the bills of lading of the junks which arrived on 29 December and 4 January and I gave Kōsaku the petition for the governor to have it translated.

20 [To Matsuura Izumi-no-kami. Van Reede brings to his attention that the Government in Batavia and the *Heeren Seventien* in the Netherlands are deeply disturbed about the lack of respect shown to the *opperhoofden*, who are their representatives in Japan. In all other countries where they have factories and send their ships, their representatives are treated with the highest regard. They find the treatment by the Japanese even stranger and more unnatural, because the Japanese nation is considered to be the most civilized and friendliest of all Asian nations and is praised as such in the Indies as well as in Europe. Therefore the authorities in Batavia and in the Netherlands have ordered the *opperhoofden* time and time again to urge the Japanese authorities to revoke the ignominious searching of their bodies. Titsingh especially has done his best in 1781, 1782, and 1783, to succeed in this. During his period of office, Kuze Tango-no-kami, then Governor of Nagasaki, agreed with the reasonableness of this request and promised Titsingh in writing in 1783 that he would see to it that this was granted when he went to Edo. Titsingh has sent a copy of this written promise to
21 Batavia and to the Netherlands. But in 1784 this order had still not been revoked, the reason given being, that the Company had been granted a general increase in prices in that year and the Japanese were not accustomed to consent to two important matters in one year. The next year other pretexts were given so as not to revoke it. In the meantime, the exasperation of the Government in Batavia, which was relying on the promise of Governor Tango-no-kami, has continued to mount, but at present the Government is of the opinion that the *opperhoofden* are not firm and resolute enough to insist on the fulfilment of this promise. Therefore Van Reede, who is worried that the Government's displeasure will have grave consequences for him and for the Japanese, has turned to Governor Matsuura to request that he accomplish the revoking of the order this
22 year. Matsuura has to take into consideration that

the dishonour of the searches is not so much directed at the *opperhoofden*, but it is an insult to the High Government of the Indies whose representatives they are, and it cannot take this affront lightly. Moreover, the governor has to take into account that the *opperhoofden* have the honour of being received in the presence of the Shogun and of presenting him gifts every year, and should therefore be accorded all due respect, as was always the case in former times. Therefore, it can be seen as a testimony of the decline of the famous and powerful ruler of the invincible Japanese empire, if someone who is admitted to an audience with him has to suffer the ignominy of having his person searched. The intention of this request is not to be freed from the searches in order that the *opperhoofden* will have an opportunity for smuggling. They will not infringe the Japanese laws, on the contrary, as heads of the factory they will uphold them. Their only aim is that the Company in general and the High Government of the Indies in particular be exempted from the ignominy they have to suffer. To assure the Japanese government of their good intentions, they undertake that, if the order is revoked, on the first instance of smuggling by an *opperhoofd*, they accept that the order to search be reinstated.]

7 Last night and today it stormed from the south-west, with hail and rain. In the afternoon the *rapporteurs* brought me the news that *bongioisen* will come to take down the gifts tomorrow.

26 8 They came today and the gifts were taken down and the samples for the governor were set apart.

9 A bottle of Spanish wine and one of tent wine have been given to the governor for sampling, together with two wine goblets with gold rims. I ordered the *rapporteurs* to ask the governor for permission to demolish a very old, dilapidated warehouse, which has not been used for many years.

10 The junk which had run aground in Amakusa arrived in the roadstead, having been towed here by boats of the Lord of Shimabara, under whose domain Amakusa comes. In the evening, Eizaemon came to inform me that the tent wine had turned vinegary and was useless.

27 11 The assembled *Tolken College* came to consult me on this. In their presence I had several bottles opened and let them taste them, but none of the bottles was good. Thus I ordered them to propose to the governor that he accept a bottle of white wine instead. They promised to do this today. The whole day it hailed, snowed and winds blew from the north-west and the junk which arrived yesterday could not be unloaded.

12 It has been unloaded. At one o'clock the *rapporteurs* came to notify me that tomorrow the samples of the piece-goods will be taken to the governor for inspection and that he approved of my proposal to present him with white wine instead of tent wine. Thus I gave them a bottle of it for the governor to sample. Furthermore, they told me that the

governor was willing to grant my request to demolish the old, dilapidated warehouse, but that I had to put it in writing. I promised to do this shortly.

28 13 At nine o'clock the goods earmarked as presents were taken to the governor and they were returned at noon.

14 Some of the pieces of cloth which are to be used as presents have been torn into lengths and the ends have been sealed by my deputies with the Company's seal. A junk arrived in the roadstead. In the evening a third of the moon was eclipsed.

29 15 The junk has been unloaded and the previous one has been taken to its berth. I gave the *rapporteurs* the petition for the demolishing of the ramshackle warehouse. [Van Reede asks permission to demolish a very old and dilapidated warehouse that has not been used for many years, standing next to his vegetable garden. The ground can then be annexed to this. For no one has any use of the warehouse and it has fallen into such disrepair that nothing can be done about it. The few pieces of wood that are still useful can be taken to the city by those who are entitled to them.]

16 Two junks have been taken to their berths. *Bongioisen* have come to stack the gifts which are to be packed in *nagamochi* and canasters tomorrow.

17 This was done today.

30 18 I struck an agreement with the *rapporteurs* to have the *norimono* and the other luggage for the court journey repaired for 57 taels and they were taken to the city. I also asked them for the bills of lading of the junks and reproached them for their tardiness and consistent putting off their delivery. The whole day it hailed, snowed, and strong winds blew from the north-west.

19 Last night it froze a quarter of an inch thick.

20 Nothing happened.

21 A junk has been taken to its berth.

31 22 At one o'clock Senior Interpreter Katsuemon and Jūbei came to inform me that the former had been appointed as *opperrapporteur* and the latter as *onderrapporteur* for the coming trade season. I congratulated them and added an insistent and stern, but friendly, warning to take the Company's affairs more to heart than their predecessors have done, for it is their only livelihood. At two o'clock Kōsaku came to notify me that he had presented the governor with the document about the searching of the *opperhoofden*, and that he had accepted it, read it, and kept it, and he did not doubt a successful outcome.

23 It froze hard, it hailed, snowed, and the wind was blowing.

24 At two o'clock the assembly of interpreters appeared in my house with the same goal as on the 5th, namely to try to fool me that I had calculated the prices of some of the presents too high. I argued with them for one and a half hours and they left disgruntled, without having accomplished anything, like the last time.

25 The *hofreisbark* was loaded and according to

established custom the *opper* and *onderbongioisen*, the interpreters, and other Japanese who will be accompanying us, were entertained in Japanese fashion. The joint *Tolken College* appeared again with the same intention and the same reason as yesterday and earlier, but no better than the other times could they succeed in their sinister objectives. Thus they left after an hour. Because it has been freezing and snowing since the 19th, the ground is covered a foot deep with snow and the ice in the pool is about two inches thick. The Japanese are saying that they have not experienced such bitter cold since time immemorial.

32 26 From three till four in the afternoon the interpreters and I were arguing again about the same subject as yesterday and the day before. Finally, getting fed up to the back teeth with this argument about a case of which the truth and fairness are obviously on my side, I declared that if they wished to continue this argument much longer, I would address the governor and request him to give a decision on the matter, and I would give them until noon tomorrow to consider whether they wanted to let it come to that or settle the matter according to fairness and established custom. I asked again for the bills of lading of the junks.

33 27 At one o'clock the joint interpreters returned to my house and, after having wasted many more words on the same matter, they finally agreed that they had made a mistake and that my calculation was right. Probably my threat to address the governor about the matter has scared them. The Japanese servants have been given permission to stay in the city for six days.

28 In the afternoon I received an unexpected visit from *Burgemeester* and Commissioner of the Foreigners Han'emon, accompanied by Kōsaku, Katsuemon, and [Junior Interpreter] Monjūrō. We talked for about 1½ hours and I did not fail to commend the interests of the Company to his favourable mediation and in particular I requested his help to obtain a positive outcome to the matter of the searching of the *opperhoofden*, which he promised to give.

29 Nothing happened.

30 The sun was almost eclipsed but for one-sixteenth part. Today being Japanese New Year, I ordered the *rapporteurs* to go and congratulate the governor in their ceremonial dress.

34 31 The *hofreisbark* has left. I asked the *rapporteurs* again for the bills of lading of the junks.

FEBRUARY

1 Nothing happened.

2 The Japanese servants have appeared again.

3 This morning Keiemon and Kōsaku came to visit me and they advised me during the impending audience of leave / which in all probability will be set for the day after tomorrow / to solicit strongly for the governor's positive direction at Court that

the order to search the *opperhoofden* be revoked this year, for an oral request by me personally would lend more weight to the written petition and would probably spur the governor towards a more positive and earnest presentation of this request. They also added that because they do not trust Senior Interpreter Eizaemon, who will have to translate my words and compliments on that occasion, because of his scant knowledge of the Dutch language, both of them will also appear in Government House on that day and they will stay close to me in order that, when the usual ceremonial compliments have been translated by Eizaemon, I can signal them to translate my words and request about this subject adequately. Their desire to be exempted from having to remove their coats and their *santoku*, which the most prominent of them have often expressed to me makes their blood boil every time they are subjected to it, but which they dare not mention as long as the *opperhoofden* are searched, seems to have spurred these interpreters on with all diligence and earnestness to promote this matter, for their own interests are the main, if not the sole, basis of all their actions and deeds. I also reminded them of the reciprocal present for the Persian horses. I ordered the new *rapporteurs* to deliver me the bills of lading of the junks, for which I had asked the old *rapporteurs* many times in vain. I also asked them to have the ordinary number of Japanese carpenters come as soon as possible to make a note of the annual repairs for the Company and the *otonas*, all of which they promised to do tomorrow.

4 The audience of leave has been set for tomorrow morning. A start has been made with making notes of the repairs for the Company and *otonas*.
36 Again I asked the *rapporteurs* for the bills of lading of the junks which yesterday they had promised to give me today, but which have again sunk into oblivion.

5 This morning I went with Dronsberg to the audience of leave with the governor. After the customary compliments, I urgently requested him for a positive reflection on my petition about the searching of the *opperhoofden*. He replied that this matter did not depend on him but on the Court, but he would present my petition there and would lend support to it with his advocacy as far as this was in his power. I thanked him heartily, declaring that I did not doubt that this matter would have a successful outcome, if he presented it positively at Court. On taking leave of the secretaries in the adjoining room, I requested them to help remind the governor of his promises. As we had agreed two days ago, I had everything I had to say about this matter translated by Keiemon and Kōsaku, whom I called to my side, in order to be sure that the governor and secretaries would have a good understanding of it. They all gave me a positive answer and thus firm hope for success, but I have to await the outcome.
37

6 The whole day it hailed and snowed, and

strong winds were blowing from the north-west.

7 Keiemon and Kōsaku came to inform me that, after I had left Government House two days ago, they had been summoned again and the governor had ordered them through his secretaries to notify me on his behalf that I could rest completely assured that he would do his very best for the revocation of the order to search the *opperhoofden*. *On-derrapporteur* Jūbei finally came to bring me the bills of lading of the two junks. The carpenters have come again to finish making notes of the repairs. This had been postponed two days ago because of the audience of leave, and yesterday this could not go ahead because of the foul weather. After they had finished, Deputies Van Rossum, Klad, and Dronsberg handed me the following report. [On ff. 38-41].

8 I ordered the *rapporteurs* to deliver me the itemized quote of each carpenter, which they promised to do tomorrow.

9 Nothing happened.

10 Today I received the carpenters' quotes. They were 429 taels on average, which I considered to exceed the bounds of fairness too far, and therefore I returned them to the interpreters and I ordered them to tell the workmen that they would have to lower them substantially, otherwise an agreement would be impossible.
42

11 The luggage for the court journey was inspected by two *opperbongioisen* and a shogunal master of repairs, and the *nagamochi* and canasters in which the gifts are packed have been set on frames. At noon both *rapporteurs* came with Carpenter Campesie to bring me his quote, which had been lowered to 300 taels. I still considered it too high and I offered 225 taels.

12 This morning Carpenter Campesie and I struck an agreement on the Company's repairs for the sum of 230 taels. Because tomorrow has been set for my departure on the court journey, I have handed the command during my absence to Hendrik Willem Dronsberg Junior. I gave him a written memorandum on how to behave during my absence, and all the keys. I ordered all remaining Company's servants to behave themselves and to respect and obey Dronsberg during my absence.
43

COURT JOURNEY

13 The luggage for the court journey has been inspected and everything has been found in order. Around half past nine I left Deshima in the company of Scribe Coenraad Jonas and Senior Surgeon Johan George Falcke. The servants remaining behind accompanied us to the *Mosseltrap*, where we took our leave and set off for Kokura.

18 We arrived here without encountering anything noteworthy. I sent a letter to Deshima to inform them of our arrival here.

19 At ten o'clock we left Kokura. In *norimono* we went to Dairi and after having spent some time there we crossed over to Shimonoseki. We learnt that the

hofreisbark had arrived four days ago. We were forced to wait here for a fair wind.

44 26 We set sail at noon. A fresh westerly wind blew the whole night.

27 In the afternoon we had to drop anchor in Mitarai Harbour because of the calm and the strong countercurrent.

28 At daybreak we left with a faint breeze.

MARCH

2 At 4.00 p.m. we anchored off Hyōgo. We embarked and I had everything prepared to proceed to Nishinomiya this same evening. There we learnt that on the 19th and 23rd of *Shōgatsu*, our 17th and 21st of February, conflagrations had struck Edo, of which the latter had lasted two days, but no firm tidings had come about the extent of the damage. I sent Eizaemon ahead to Osaka to inform both governors of our arrival and to inquire when it would please them to receive the Company's gifts.

3 We left Nishinomiya and we arrived in Osaka in the afternoon, where Eizaemon informed me that the governors requested me to postpone the presentation of the gifts until my return. The reason is that they are occupied by pressing engagements. We also learnt that the conflagrations, which had raged in Edo on the 17th and 21st of last month, had reduced all houses and buildings in an area of two miles wide and three miles long to ashes, and that our inn, where we were wont to stay every year, had also been burned to the ground. In the evening other news arrived from Edo that another fire had raged on 25 February, which had also burned for two days like the one of the 21st. There was also a rumour that part of the Shogun's palace had also been destroyed by the fire, which, however, needs further confirmation. Here in Osaka there was also a fire a few days ago, but not more than two streets had been destroyed.

4 We ordered two copper frames for the Company, each 100 feet long and 12 feet wide, according to the sample we received last year.

5 Our departure has been set for tomorrow and I sent Eizaemon ahead to Miyako to inform the *grootrechter* and the governors of our arrival and to request them to fix a day for the presentation of the Company's gifts and for the receipt of the pass for the Hakone Mountains. In the evening I wrote a letter to Deshima.

6 At 4.30 a.m. we left Osaka and at 8.30 p.m. we arrived in Miyako, where Eizaemon reported that we are to present the gifts and receive the pass at ten o'clock on the day after tomorrow.

7 Nothing happened.

8 At the appointed hour we went to the palaces of the *grootrechter* and the governors. We had the pleasure of being very cordially received by them.

9 Nothing happened.

10 The *opperbongiois* announced that we shall

depart tomorrow morning. I had everything prepared. Tidings came from Edo that a fourth fire had raged, which had lasted two days and had wreaked enormous havoc.

47 11 At nine o'clock we left Miyako.

16 When we arrived in Nissaka, we learnt that the Ōi-gawa River was swollen and it was impossible for us to cross. Because we will not be able to go further than Kanaya as long as the river remains swollen, I decided to stay the night here instead of travelling to our usual inn in Kanaya, which is still a mile and 29 streets away. On our way there, we have to pass through the steep Nissaka Hills and the rainy weather and the bad road do not make for safe travelling.

17 We left Nissaka and, having passed through the hills, we arrived in Kanaya, where we had to wait until the water-level in the river had fallen. Thus we stayed here.

21 We proceeded on our journey.

24 We arrived in Hakone in the afternoon. Here we heard that, for two or three days, they had been experiencing severe earthquakes in the Hakone Mountains, which have caused several large rocks to come tumbling down from the mountains. Indeed, in the evening between six and seven o'clock, when descending the mountains on the road from here to Odawara, we felt two severe shocks and shortly after our arrival in the inn in Odawara, a third one, but not as severe as the two previous ones.

48 We also received tidings that, because of the burning down of our customary inn in Edo, three temples had been cleared for us and our train.

25 We left Odawara and we noticed that the greater part of the suburbs had burned down recently. On my arrival in Fujisawa in the evening, Eizaemon informed me that he had received news from Edo that Superintendent of Temples, Muroga Yamashiro-no-kami, died on 10 January and Tsuge Nagato-no-kami had been appointed in his place. In the evening a fire started at the other end of the village, but only a few houses burned down.

26 In Kanagawa, where we dined, about 1,000 houses had burned down, and we could see the sad remains of this everywhere along our way. When we arrived in Kawasaki, we received the news that the *opperdwarstkijker* of the crown prince's palace, Mizuno Kaname, had been appointed Governor of Nagasaki on 20 *Nigatsu*, or 19 March. In the evening our landlord in Edo welcomed us. He told us that the four terrible conflagrations had laid waste an area more than seven miles long and a little less wide, and thus almost half the city had been reduced to ashes. However, the rumour that the Shogun's palace had been damaged was unfounded and untrue. The arsonists had been caught and three of them had been burned and the others had been beheaded. I sent Eizaemon ahead to give my regards to the newly-appointed Governor of Nagasaki and the commissioners of the foreigners, and to notify them of our arrival.

27 Around 10.00 a.m. we arrived in the shogunal capital Edo and passing through the city we saw part of the devastation wreaked by the fire, which in some places reached as far as we could see. Shortly after, the representatives of the Governor of Nagasaki came to congratulate me on my safe arrival. I thanked them and treated them to sweet drinks. I had them congratulate their master on his appointment as Governor of Nagasaki and commended the Company's interests to his favour and protection.

28 On behalf of their masters, the representatives of the commissioners of the foreigners congratulated me on my safe arrival. I treated them to various sweet drinks and confitures.

50 29 The presents were unpacked in the presence of Jonas and everything tallied with the packing notes. In the afternoon the *opperbongiois* informed me that we could not have audience of the Shogun on 1 *Sangatsu*, which is the customary day for our audience, because the *Dairi's* envoys who arrived here yesterday, will have audience of him on that day. I ordered Eizaemon to press the new governor to favour my request that the *opperhoofden* be exempted from the searches.

30 I pressed again for the aforementioned.

31 Last night there were two fires, but they were soon extinguished. The gifts were placed in order in the presence of Jonas and the ends of the cloth were sealed.

APRIL

1 Junior Interpreter Setsuemon told me that news had arrived from Nagasaki that there had been a fire on the Chinese island on the 5th of last month.

2 Last night there was a fire of little consequence. Eizaemon informed me that nine shogunal astrologers and a few doctors had received permission to visit us to put some questions to us for their instruction.

51 3-5 Nothing to report but small fires every day.

6 The shogunal doctors and astrologers came to visit me and, after I had answered their questions and had treated them to sweet drinks, they took their leave. They spent more than two hours here. In the evening the Lord of Tanba and Hoshū, the personal physician of the Shogun, /who come to visit me secretly every day/, told me that the audience has been set for 15 *Sangatsu*, or 13 April.

7 I tackled Eizaemon again about the searching of the *opperhoofden*. He assured me that he had already spoken to the governor about it and the answer had been that he was not disinclined to cooperate as much as he could. Thus, I have to await the outcome of this matter. I received a letter from Deshima stating that all was well and that in the fire on the Chinese island, of which I had been notified on the 1st, only one house had burned down.

8 In the evening we felt a severe earthquake.

9 The Lord of Tanba and Hoshū were entertained at dinner and they left highly satisfied at one

o'clock in the morning.

52 10 Last night there were two fires, one of which lasted till dawn.

11 This morning the gifts were checked. In the evening I received a secret visit from the Lord of Hiarado.

12 Last night there were several fires, but all were of no consequence. The Spanish and white wine have been poured into flasks in the presence of Jonas. In the evening we were notified by the *opperbongiois* that the audience with the Shogun, crown prince, and councillors will take place tomorrow morning.

13 Around four o'clock I went to the castle. In the hundred-man-watch we were congratulated very graciously by the two commissioners of the foreigners and the new Governor of Nagasaki on our arrival and impending audience. We stayed there till eight o'clock and then we were conducted to the ordinary ante-chamber and were again congratulated by the aforementioned gentlemen. At eleven o'clock I was admitted to the audience and I had the good fortune to see His Majesty the Shogun standing at a distance with the young crown prince beside him. The commissioners and the Governor of Nagasaki congratulated me in the ante-chamber on the audience and from there we went to the palace of the crown prince, where we were guided into the presence of the deputy-councillors. I was congratulated by the commissioners and governor in the same manner as in the shogunal palace. After I had left the palace, I went to present the Company's gifts to the Great Councillor and the senior and junior councillors. Everywhere I was received very graciously and treated in Japanese fashion. At half past eight in the evening we returned to our lodgings and shortly after two representatives of the commissioners of the foreigners came to congratulate me on the audience, bringing four sea bream and two boxes of eggs, which is one of the greatest courtesy gifts among the Japanese.

53 14 Around nine o'clock in the morning I went to present the gifts to the superintendents of temples and the Governors of Edo. There I was also received very graciously and treated according to the custom of the land. At five o'clock in the afternoon I returned to our inn. Yesterday and today we passed many of the places which had been devastated by the tremendous conflagration. Only a small part has been rebuilt so far and a few times we were carried for almost an hour past houses and buildings which had been reduced to ruins. In passing, we also saw one of the lords' palaces or residences burning, but in the evening we learnt that the fire had been put out quickly and had not been of any consequence.

15 According to custom, the gifts for the commissioners of the foreigners and lesser court officials were presented by the interpreters. I wrote a letter to Deshima, which the interpreters pretended could not be done till now. In the evening, on be-

half of the commissioners of the foreigners and the Governor of Nagasaki, the *opperbongiois* came to notify me that the audience of leave will take place tomorrow morning.

16 At daybreak I went to the castle where I waited for well over four hours in the hundred-man-watch and for an hour in the ordinary ante-chamber in the palace. Finally, at twelve o'clock, I was conducted before the councillors. After the usual orders had been read, I was presented with the reciprocal present for the Company, consisting of 30 silk gowns from the Shogun and 20 from the crown prince. I humbly acknowledged my gratitude in Japanese fashion, in which I had been instructed beforehand. From there I proceeded to the palace of the crown prince, where I also paid the compliments of thanks and leave-taking. I returned to our lodgings at three o'clock and shortly after the representatives of the Great Councillor and the senior and junior councillors came to congratulate me on my performance at Court and to wish me a propitious homeward journey. I treated these gentlemen in the best possible way to sweet drinks, pastries, and confitures and had them thank their masters for their gracious attention.

17 The representatives of the superintendents of temples and the Governors of Nagasaki came to congratulate me and wish me a safe journey. The *opperbongiois* told me that the commissioners of the foreigners and the Governor of Nagasaki had set the 21st as the day of my departure from here and I had everything prepared.

18 The Company's silk gowns have been de-wadded.

19 Last night there was a fire in which a woman lost her life, although the fire was extinguished quickly and did not destroy more than a single house. In the evening the Lord of Tanba came to dinner.

20 Nothing to report.

21 After the representatives of the Governor of Nagasaki residing here had come to wish me a safe homeward journey, we left the capital at six o'clock. During my stay here, I received many visits from lords and other nobles during the day and especially at night /many of whom have been mentioned above/ and also from several ladies of distinction, whom I treated to confitures, sweet wines, pastries, and liqueurs.

MAY

4 Without encountering anything noteworthy, we arrived in Miyako.

56 6 The representatives of the *grootrechter* and of both governors came to congratulate me most graciously on my performance at Court and my arrival here.

7 Nothing to report.

8 We left at nine o'clock and after having visited the most remarkable temples, we arrived in

Fushimi in the afternoon. There we embarked at seven in the evening and set off.

9 We arrived in Osaka. I had Eizaemon inquire straightaway when the governors would accept the Company's gifts. On his return he informed me that they had set it for 10.00 a.m. on the 12th. I received a letter from Deshima, stating that everything on the island was well.

10 We visited the temples near Tennō-ji and the theatre.

11 We visited the copper refinery, the drawing of copper wire, and the temples near Sakai.

12 At the appointed hour, we went to the residences of both governors to present them with the gifts on behalf of the Company. They accepted them expressing many words of gratitude and treated us very graciously.

57 13 We made the necessary preparations for our departure tomorrow.

14 We left Osaka and went to Amagasaki by boat and from there in *norimono* to Hyōgo. Because the luggage was lagging behind and the wind was adverse, we had to wait here.

17 We embarked in the *hofreisbark* in the evening.

18 At daybreak we set sail.

22 After a pleasant journey, we arrived in Shimono-seki. There I received a letter from Deshima in which Dronsberg reported that he was ill, but that all else was well.

23 We embarked for the journey to Dairi and from there we went in *norimono* to Kokura. I had everything prepared for our journey along the *korte landweg* and wrote a letter to Deshima to inform them of my arrival.

24 We set off. We did not encounter anything remarkable.

58 29 We arrived on Deshima, where I found everything in good order. Dronsberg Junior handed me all the keys which I had given him, and the following diary, stating that, apart from its contents, nothing which deserved any mention had happened.

DIARY KEPT BY DEPUTY DRONSBURG DURING THE ABSENCE OF VAN REEDE

FEBRUARY

13 *Opperhoofd* Johan Fredrik Van Reede, Jonas, and Falcke departed on the court journey. We saw them off at the *Mosseltrap* and wished them a propitious and pleasant journey. Yesterday Van Reede handed me the command of the Company's servants and effects during his absence and gave me a written memorandum on how to behave, the reports of the repairs for the Company and *otonas* and all the keys. Back on the island I went with all the other servants to Van Reede's house, where the *bongioisen* came to muster us.

14-15 Nothing happened.

16 Jūbei came and I asked him when a start would be made with the repairs for the Company.

He said that no permission had yet been given.

17 Nothing happened.

18 The *caseros* came and I asked him when a start would be made with the repairs for them and the *otonas*. His answer was that no permission had yet been given to the carpenters to come and work.

19-20 Nothing happened.

21 Nothing happened. Kōsaku told me that six crewmen of the junks lying below the *Papenberg* had gone inland and, after having committed some pilfering and other misdemeanours, they had been arrested.

22-24 Nothing noteworthy happened.

25 Jūbei brought me a letter from the *opperhoofd*, stating that he had arrived in Kokura on the 18th and all was well.

60 26-27 Nothing remarkable happened.

28 I wrote a reply to the *opperhoofd*'s letter and sent it.

MARCH

1 Jūbei came to tell me that the officials of the *Geldkamer* will come to inspect the repairs today, but, after I had waited for them, another interpreter came in the evening to tell me that they will come tomorrow. Jūbei also told me that the six Chinese, whom I mentioned on the 21st, had been conducted to their junks below the *Papenberg* and had been banished from the country. A junk has been towed into mid-stream.

2 Another junk has been towed into mid-stream.

3-4 Nothing noteworthy happened.

5 At a quarter to one in the afternoon we discovered a fire on the Chinese island, which lasted until almost four o'clock. We saw many Japanese going there, including the governor, the first *burgemeester*, and many other dignitaries, who distinguished themselves by their banners and fire-gear. Fortunately the wind blew away from us and we did not suffer any damage, but as a precaution in case the wind veered, I had the fire-engine taken to the cowshed, being the spot which was most likely to be in danger. When the fire died down, I had everything stored back in its proper place.

61 6 I had the hose of the fire-engine examined and had the leaks repaired. Jūbei came to tell me that yesterday's fire on the Chinese island had started because a Chinese had let his fire burn and had gone aboard, but only one house had burned down. The officials of the *Geldkamer* came at last to inspect the repairs. We were told that on the 19th and 23rd of *Shōgatsu*, or 17 and 21 February, there had been great fires in Edo, which reduced half of the shogunal capital to ashes. They were not sure if the Dutch inn had also burned down, but it was feared so.

7 The two junks moored in mid-stream are busily loading goods.

8 Nothing happened. Rainy weather with heavy thunder and lightning. Today being the birth-

day of His Serene Highness William V, I had the flag hoisted according to established custom.

9 Misty weather. I felt two to three light quakes, but they did not cause any damage.

10 Both *rapporteurs* came to ask me to show the most remarkable sights on the island to Matsudaira Suō-no-kami, one of the higher-ranking attendants of the first councillor of the Edo Court. At noon he came with a retinue of 50 to 60 people. I treated him to sweet drinks and so forth in the *opperhoofd*'s house. After having spent some time there, I showed him around the island and then took him to the garden, and he left at two o'clock for the city highly satisfied.

11 I tested the fire-engine and found a leak in the tank of the first hose, namely the one which collects the water which is carried by the hose to the second receptacle. The leak was very big and half of the collected water flowed out again, so that not enough water could be supplied to the large or copper nozzle. Unfortunately there are no craftsmen on the island. After the hoses were thoroughly dry, I had everything stored again until the next occasion.

12 Nothing happened. Showers and strong winds.

13 Nothing happened.

14 As before. Today I discovered a petty smuggling affair between the slave of Assistant [Adriaan Theodoor] Vermeulen and a coolie from the *ca-boose*. It concerned the exchange of sugar for sewing-silk. The former was given his just punishment for the theft and the connivance, and the latter was reported to the *Tolken College*, where Kōsaku gave him a thorough dressing-down, threatening him that, if he were caught again, he would be held in custody on only rice and water and would be forbidden to set foot on the island again. This affair had no further consequences.

15-17 Nothing remarkable happened.

63 18 Jūbei came to inform me that permission had been given for the Company's repairs. I asked him for the bills of lading of the two junks which are moored in mid-stream, but because they did not have their full complement of cargo yet, he could not give them to me.

19-20 Nothing happened. Strong winds, hail, snow, and rain.

21 I received a letter from Van Reede sent from Osaka, in which he wrote of his well-being and that he had arrived on 3 March, and would leave on the 6th. Also, that he had heard the news of the fire in Edo, which I mentioned on the 6th as a rumour, and that the Dutch inn had burned down. Jūbei came to tell me that merchants will come tomorrow to inspect the sugar, chips of sappanwood, and sheet-lead in the warehouses, which are due to the *Geldkamer*. I asked for *bongioisen* to examine the warehouses to see if the continuing bad weather has caused any leaks. Last night it froze hard.

22 The *bongioisen* came to inspect the warehouses. Van Rossum and Klad went with them and they

reported that everything in the warehouses was in order. The merchants, whom I mentioned yesterday, came and asked me if the sappanwood chips in warehouse N^o 5 could be moved to the fireproof

64 warehouse the Doorn near to the sheet-lead. I granted them permission on condition that, if any damage was done to the warehouse, they would have to repair it.

23-25 Nothing happened.

26 The *rapporteurs* told me that the carpenters had received permission to come and work.

27 The carpenters came.

28 Nothing happened.

29 I began to dismantle the fire-engine, while the carpenters were there. I had the wooden casing removed as far as was necessary for an examination, and we discovered that the chalk which is used to seal the pipes, which are fitted into each other, had disintegrated completely, and this was causing the leak, and the lashing which was supporting the tubes had also completely perished. The approaching rain prevented us from doing anything about it. 30-31 Nothing happened. Rainy and windy weather.

APRIL

1 As before. I was given the news that Van Reede had arrived in Edo on the 17th, and would have audience on 1 *Nigatsu*, 3 April.

2 Nothing happened. Showers.

65 3 Today the weather was fine. I proceeded with the repair of the fire-engine, in the following manner. We spread a mixture of chalk, eggs, and sugar on the fitted pipes. When this has dried, it is harder than stone and will withstand all moisture. Next we wound new lashing and the old leather around the tubes and I had the wooden casing replaced. We tried it out the same day and found that the leak was sealed and that the water was sucked up and passed through as before. I had all hoses dried and put everything back in its place.

4-7 Nothing remarkable happened.

8-11 Nothing remarkable happened, other than the repairs for the Company which went on smoothly.

12 Jūbei came to tell me that Mizuno Kaname had been appointed Governor of Nagasaki on the 20th of *Nigatsu*, or 19 March. I answered Van Reede's letter, which I received on the 21st of last month.

66 13-14 Nothing noteworthy happened.

15 A junk has been towed into mid-stream.

16 Jūbei brought me the news that letters had arrived from Edo reporting that Van Reede had not yet arrived in Edo on 25 *Nigatsu*, or 24 March, and that they were worried that he would not have an audience on 1 *Sangatsu*, or 30 March.

17 Another junk has been towed into mid-stream.

18 Nothing happened.

19 Jūbei came to tell me that another attendant

of the first councillor in Edo will come tomorrow. I had everything prepared for him.

20 He came on the island and I treated him exactly the same as the other attendant, and after having spent an hour here, in which he visited everything interesting, he left.

21 The sugar, lead, and sappanwood chips which the *Geldkamer* still has lying in the warehouses, were taken away. On this occasion I had the warehouses inspected to see if the rain, which has been falling steadily, has caused any leaks. They found one almost an *ikje* long in the roof of the Doorn. I had it repaired immediately to prevent any more damage.

67 22 Jūbei came to tell me that the two commanders of the *keizers* and the *keizerinnewachten* were very interested in visiting the island and that they would like to come tomorrow.

23 But in the morning the visit was cancelled and in the evening we were told that they will come tomorrow.

24 They came. The one is called Hastorisijmon and the other Vara Kosiuro. I treated them to sweet wines, liqueurs, and confitures. After having visited everything that is interesting, they left for the city after an hour or two.

25-29 Nothing noteworthy happened.

30 I asked for the bills of lading of the junks which were towed to the *Papenberg* yesterday, but they said that they did not have their full cargo yet.

MAY

1-3 Nothing happened.

68 4 Kōsaku came to tell me that the governor had had six *onderbongioisen* arrested for criminal activities and intrigues.

5 Nothing happened.

6 I received a letter from Van Reede sent from Edo, in which he writes of his well-being and that only on 27 March had he arrived in Edo, where he received my letter of 28 February on 7 April, and that he had had an audience with the Shogun on the 13th, and had presented the councillors with the gifts, also that the audience of leave had been set for the 16th and the day for departure for the 20th, if nothing intervened.

7-8 Nothing happened.

9 I answered Van Reede's letter which I had received on the 6th and sent it forthwith.

10-14 Nothing remarkable happened.

69 15 Kōsaku and Jūbei told me that on 24 *Sangatsu*, or 22 April, a *dwarskijker* of Nagasaki, by the name of Sueyoshi Zenzaemon, had been appointed to look after the Shogun's affairs here.

16-19 Nothing happened.

20 The *rappporteur* told me that the *opperhoofd* arrived in Miyako on 7 *Shigatsu*, or 4 May, and in Osaka on the 11th of that Japanese month, or the 8th of the Dutch month.

21-25 Nothing happened.

26 The two junks lying below the *Papenberg*, Nos 4 and 5, have set sail. Their cargoes have been listed at the end of this diary, by order of the High Government of the Indies. Also, one of the junks which were moored in mid-stream has left for the *Papenberg*.

70 27 I received a letter sent from Kokura, in which Van Reede informs me of his arrival there and also of the receipt of my two letters dated 12 April and 9 May, as well as that he had arrived in Hyōgo on the 14th and had embarked on the 17th, and had arrived in Shimonoseki on the 22nd, and he expected to arrive on the island on the 29th. I had Jūbei request the governor for permission to go and welcome him on his arrival some distance from the island.

28 Jūbei came to inform me that the governor had granted permission, and that we were allowed to go as far as the Tenjin Shrine to welcome the *opperhoofd*.

29 With all the servants we went to the Tenjin Shrine to welcome Van Reede. We found him in good health and we preceded him to Deshima to greet him at the city gate, where he arrived at half past eleven and went straight to his house. I handed him the keys and the sealed camphor-wood chest, as well as the reports of the repairs together with this diary, with the statement that apart from its contents, nothing remarkable had happened.

DIARY OF VAN REEDE CONTINUED

71 30 The interpreters congratulated me on my safe return, and Jūbei told me that the six *onderbongioisen* held in custody since the 4th, had been tortured into confessing part of their crimes, and that this case is not expected to have a happy ending for them or for many of their accomplices, who number around 200. They had been taken into custody along with them and had also been interrogated several times. The latter are mainly banished loafers, bums, and tramps without a pass.

31 Kōsaku told me that shortly one *opper*, two *onder* and four *vice-onderdwarskijkers*, who will reside here, are expected from Edo as happened at the time when this governor's father was Governor of Nagasaki.* He also told me that this governor was honoured, feared, loved, and respected by the whole of Nagasaki as an unselfish, just, friendly, and philanthropic man, and that he had a dislike for all sycophants, agitators, and informers, and has barred them from free entry into Government House, which had previously been allowed to everyone. To that end he has posted a sharp guard in front of his gates, and of the Dutch interpreters only Kōsaku has access and is allowed free entry, and of the Chinese interpreters only one senior interpreter is also allowed. Furthermore, he told me that the governor has expressly forbidden the accountants and masters of repairs, who used to meddle now and again in affairs which concerned the government, to interfere in matters which concern only his de-

partment. And finally, that he has all *opper* and *onderbongioisen*, and other officials practice daily with weapons, bow and arrow as well as flintlock, and has them take target practice, and he is paying out of his own pocket for the necessary gunpowder and lead. At 5.00 p.m. the *hofreisbark*, the *Hiyoshimaru*, arrived in the roadstead, having left Shimonoseki on the 27th, or four days after us.

JUNE

1 The Lord of the Gotō Isles, returning from Edo, arrived in the roadstead with two yachts to inquire from the governor after the Shogun's health.

2 Last night the small *hofreisbark* also arrived and the unloading of both was set for tomorrow.

3 The unloading of the barges has been postponed until tomorrow because of the rainy weather. Setsuemon announced that the audience with the governor will be on the day after tomorrow at nine o'clock. In the afternoon the junk moored in mid-stream was towed to the *Papenberg*.

73 4 The *bongioisen* came on the island around eight o'clock and I had a prompt start made with the unloading of the barge. Afterwards I treated the whole company which had been on the court journey in my house.

5 At nine o'clock I went to Government House accompanied by Dronsberg. I was admitted to the audience after half an hour's wait, and the governor congratulated me on the journey I had accomplished and my performance at Court. I thanked him kindly for his attention and for having given me a friendly *opperbongiois*, and I commended the Company's affairs in the impending trading season to his powerful protection. On this occasion I also took the liberty of reminding him of the request I had made before my departure for Edo about exempting the *opperhoofden* from the searches. He replied that he had sent my petition to Court, but up till now he had not received any answer.

6-7 Nothing happened.

8 Jūbei told me that the old and ramshackle *Geldkamer* had been pulled down during my journey to Court and a completely new one had been built.

74 9 Kōsaku told me that Okamoto Shōzō, the accountant who had found much favour with the former governor and who had been hated by the whole of Nagasaki, had arrived from Edo two days ago. To show him from the start that he would not be able to play such a role here this year as he had played under the other governor, and to scare him off any new extortions, the governor had the six arrested *onderbongioisen*, who are all creatures of this accountant, brought to Government House in shackles /although it was not an ordinary day for court or interrogation/ and the governor had them placed in such a position that it was impossible for him not to see them, when he was given audience yesterday, and they would be in full sight of him when

* Governor Matsuura Kawachi-no-kami.

he entered or left.

10 At seven o'clock Motojirō came to inform me that Okamoto Shōzō, the accountant whom I mentioned yesterday, and a shogunal master of repairs, who had arrived from Edo together with him, would like to pay me a visit this morning. I replied that I would be delighted and they appeared at nine o'clock. I treated them to sweet drinks, pastries, and confitures, and after about half an hour they left very pleased. Jūbei came to inform me that the governor gave permission yesterday for the demolishing of the old and dilapidated warehouse, for which I had put in an oral request through the interpreters on 9 January, and a written one on the 15th of that same month, and that he had given the necessary orders. Furthermore, he told me that the governor had had the head of the officials of the *Geldkamer*, whose name is Murakami Seitarō, arrested last night. The reason for this is not yet known. The governor has also given permission for the inspection of the sampans and I commissioned Dronsberg and two clerks to carry this out tomorrow.

11 Jūbei told me this morning that the governor had had one of the most important officials of the *Geldkamer*, a Chinese interpreter, and a head of the merchants arrested last night. The deputies went to Magome to inspect the sampans.

12 On their return they handed me the following report. [Report by Dronsberg, Van Rossum and Alexis on ff. 75-77.] I ordered Jūbei to order the Japanese carpenter to make an itemized quote for the repairs of these sampans as soon as possible, with the admonition not to ignore all fairness and reasonableness.

13 Eizaemon told me that the governor had discovered through a thorough investigation and pertinent inquiries that the aforementioned head of the officials of the *Geldkamer*, Murakami Seitarō, had charged the governor twenty thousand taels for the construction of the new *Geldkamer*, but he had not spent more than 8,000 taels, and this was the reason why the governor had had him put in prison.

14 Nothing happened.

15 Jūbei handed me the quote from the carpenter for the repairs to the sampans amounting to 245 taels for the four sampans. The quote seemed much too high to me, considering the fact that two of them had been newly-built last year. Therefore I returned it to Jūbei with the order that the carpenter make a lower one. Jūbei also told me that the repairs for the Company and the *otonas* had been completed and I sent deputies to check that everything had been done properly according to the report of 7 February.

16 Early in the morning they reported that everything had been well-made except for a few minor things, which they had pointed out to the carpenter and which he had promised to fix shortly. The whole day it rained heavily and winds blew from the south, and no interpreters came.

17 Nothing to report.

18 The carpenter's quote was returned by Jūbei,

who stated that he could not lower it, for he had calculated everything as low as he could. I offered 160 taels and refused to accept the quote and so Jūbei took it with him and promised to talk to the carpenter about it.

19 In the evening, on behalf of the governor, Junior Interpreter Sadanosuke / a son of Kōsaku / came to request two large glass panes, two *waaiers* long and 1½ wide, which I handed him.

20 I asked Jūbei again for the bills of lading of the junks.

21 Nothing to report.

22 At last Jūbei gave me the bills of lading of the junks N^{os} 6 and 7. He also told me that he had not yet received a decision from the carpenter on my bid for the repairs to the sampans. I asked him about the case of the people locked up in prison, and he told me that the six *onderbongioisen* were being tortured on all the usual court days, which are six days per month, but that they had not yet made a full confession; they were all trying to kill themselves, and one of them had tried to deprive himself of the power of speech / and thus render himself incapable of making any statements / by biting his tongue off during the torture, but he had quickly been prevented from doing this and he had only succeeded in biting off a small piece.

23 Nothing happened.

24 The island *otona* and Monjūrō told me that a Chinese junk returning from Canton to Sapho had been dashed onto the Japanese shores by severe storms and had foundered in the domain of Satsuma. Only the crew of 31 men and their sloop had been saved and had reached the shore safely. They are to be transported hither shortly to be sent back to their country with one of the junks which are set for departure. They told me that the governor had summoned all *otonas* of Nagasaki, being 77 in number, and had ordered each of them to announce in his quarter and to all who come under him, especially those who serve or have served as coolies on the Dutch and Chinese islands, that the governor promises a general pardon to all who have colluded with the imprisoned *onderbongioisen* in smuggling or have given them money to turn a blind eye to their smuggling or pilfering, or who are guilty of having collaborated in the counterfeit of Cantonese *sum* / which scheme these *bongioisen* have also carried out / in short, to all who are directly or indirectly accomplices of these rogues, on condition that they themselves voluntarily confess all their crimes to the *otona* under whom they fall, and he has to report these confessions to the governor forthwith. Added to these promises is the threat of heavy and multiple punishments for him who does not avail himself of this amnesty and is found out later when the *bongioisen* confess. Accompanied by Jūbei, a young man called Sisobro came to announce his appointment as apprentice-interpreter.

25 Jūbei informed me that the carpenter could not undertake the repairs to the sampans for the 160

taels that I had offered, because at the moment wood is very scarce and expensive in Nagasaki, on the one hand because a great deal of construction is going on in this city, for instance a new *Geldkamer*, new houses for the expected *dwarstkijkers*, and other such buildings are being constructed, and on the other hand, and principally, because the supply from the domains of Satsuma and Hizen, from where large quantities of wood are imported here annually, has been very low this year, for the merchants find it more profitable to export it to Edo, where it fetches an excessively high price due to the horrendous conflagrations which raged there. But the carpenter was willing to undertake the work for 200 taels. I still considered this too high and I refused, although the reasons he alleges for the high price of wood are not unfounded, at least they are not entirely improbable.

26-27 Nothing happened. Steady rainfall.

28 I urged Jūbei to make a start soon with pulling the old warehouse down for which the governor has granted permission.

29-30 Nothing to report.

JULY

83 1-4 Heavy rainfall and strong winds from the south-west which caused the fence surrounding the island to collapse in several places.

5 The next quote which the carpenter gave me for the repairs to the sampans for the amount of 190 taels was returned to him. I ordered Jūbei to request the governor on my behalf for *bongioisen* to come and inspect the warehouses shortly, to see if the downpours and the strong winds which we have had for the past days have caused any leaks. I had reason to worry about this, for last night several roof-tiles were blown off the Lelie.

6 It continues to rain and the winds keep blowing strongly from the south. The Japanese servants, who had stayed in the city for a while, have again appeared on the island.

7 In the morning I was told that a junk, which ran aground off Kabashima yesterday, was in sight, being towed here by Japanese boats. Late in the evening it arrived in the roadstead.

8 Nothing happened apart from heavy rainfall and a south-easterly storm. Therefore the junk which arrived yesterday could not be unloaded.

84 9 A subsequent quote for the repairs to the sampans for the sum of 180 taels was rejected again. Jūbei informed me that the expected *dwarstkijkers*, who had been delayed on their journey hither by the rising water-level in the rivers, are expected to arrive in Nagasaki tomorrow. He also said that *bongioisen* will come in two days time to inspect the warehouses.

10 Today the junk which arrived some days ago has been unloaded. I also received its bill of lading from Jūbei, from which it appears that it had left Sapho in the company of two other junks on the 27th

of last month, and thus they too can be expected any day. At last I have struck an agreement with the carpenter on the repairs to the sampans for the 175 taels I had offered. In the evening I was told that the *dwarstkijkers* had arrived in the afternoon.

11 A junk which ran aground off Matsushima yesterday was towed in the roadstead. The *bongioisen* came to inspect the warehouses, and I commissioned deputies to go with them. They reported that there were four leaks in the Lelie and one in the Doorn. I promptly gave the necessary orders to have them repaired. The two junks, N^{os} 6 and 7, which have been lying below the *Papenberg* since 26 May and 3 June, were towed back to below the *Tempelhoek* to shelter against the persistent strong winds, to wait there for the north-easterly winds, which can take some months, for the monsoon has passed. The governor has granted the skippers and other higher-ranking Chinese permission to return to their island. At eight o'clock in the evening there was a lunar eclipse, which eclipsed nine-tenths of the moon, according to the Japanese almanac.

12 The junk which arrived yesterday is being unloaded. In the evening three boats of the Lord of Satsuma arrived in the roadstead with the crew of the Chinese junk / of which mention was made on 24 June that it had run aground there / and the salvaged goods, which only consist of some clothing and around 7,000 taels worth of different silver specie.

13 Kōsaku told me that none of the Dutch or Chinese interpreters are allowed access to the *dwarstkijkers*, and that on his appearance in Government House the *opperdwarstjiker* had not spent more than an hour there and had only discussed trifles with the governor. Also that the case of Murakami Seitarō, the head of the officials of the *Geldkamer*, was closed today and everyone thinks that he will be deported, for apart from what was mentioned on 13 June, he has been accused of thirty thousand taels being short in the *Geldkamer*, for which he cannot give a satisfactory account. He claims to have advanced it to some fellows for the purchase of trepangs, *klipzuigers*, and seaweed, but this claim cannot be substantiated and, moreover, he is not authorized to lend out such an amount of money without the governor's permission and foreknowledge. His building of many houses and their enlargements, the laying out of gardens, his brilliant lifestyle and his daily extravagant expenditure are the first and foremost causes of his downfall, because they drew the attention and suspicion of the governor that he was making illicit use of the funds which were entrusted to him, which has been proved on investigation. In the afternoon Jūbei gave me the bill of lading of the last junk.

14 Continuous rain and wind from the south. In the afternoon Kōsaku's son came to present me with two birds on behalf of the governor, which is a token of His Honour's affection. I ordered the interpreter to convey my gratitude in the most gracious

manner.

15 Kōsaku told me that the imprisoned *onderbongioisen* were tortured two days ago in Government House in the presence of five *dwarskijkers*. The governor always has the tortures carried out in the ordinary audience-hall in Government House and in his presence, instead of in prison, as is their custom.

87 And the ones who try to bite off their tongues have their teeth pulled out with a pair of pincers. Thus he is as inexorable and stern towards malefactors as he is merciful, kind, and friendly towards the good citizens.

16 A junk which had run aground off Fukuda, a large village in the domain of the Lord of Ōmura, has been towed into the roadstead by this lord's boats. This is thus the last of the three which had sailed together from Sapho, as has been mentioned on the 10th. According to some Chinese, there are four more junks being loaded for Japan there.

17 The governor sent to ask me for 180 empty bottles, which I handed to the interpreters to give to him.

18 The interpreters told me that last night the patrol boat had caught two Japanese receiving some contraband they had bought on one of the junks lying below the *Tempelhoek*, and they had been taken to the governor and put into prison.

19 The junk which arrived on the 16th is being unloaded, which had not been possible for the past two days due to the continuous rain. Jūbei handed me its bill of lading.

20-21 Nothing happened.

88 22-23 Nothing happened.

24 The whole night it stormed from the southwest with heavy showers. In the afternoon Setsunosuke informed me that the oft-times mentioned head of the *Geldkamer* officials, Murakami Seitarō, had been deported two days ago, but his case has not yet been closed and they fear for graver consequences, for he had not yet been freed from custody. A junk has arrived in the roadstead.

25 One of the junks moored in mid-stream has been towed to its berth.

26 Today two others. The one which arrived the day before yesterday has been unloaded. *Rapporteurs* Katsuemon and Jūbei gave me the bills of lading and they also told me that the governor will come to visit the island on 5 *Shichigatsu*, or the 29th of this month, accompanied by the *opperdwarskijker*.

27 A start has been made with the demolition of the old warehouse. Two junks which had run aground off the small village of Takahama, which falls under the Gotō Isles, have arrived in the roadstead.

89 28 One has been unloaded. In the afternoon Jūbei told me that yesterday evening the *opperdwarskijker* was struck by a violent, contagious fever, which has been raging in the city for some time, and therefore the visit that was announced the day before cannot go ahead and has been postponed until further notice.

29 Last night there was a fire in the city, but of little consequence. *Opperrapporteur* Katsuemon's son, who was dismissed from his post as provisional junior interpreter six years ago and who was called Tatsuji at the time, came to announce his reappointment to the same post and he added that he had been renamed Danshirō. I congratulated him and recommended he take the affairs of the Company to heart and help promote them. Jūbei, who accompanied this same Tatsuji or Danshirō, told me that the official of the *Geldkamer* who is second in rank, of whom mention was made on 11 June and whose name is Takski, was deported yesterday as well, and the officials of the *Geldkamer* are manoeuvring for positions for the filling of the vacant posts.

30 At three o'clock last night Kōsaku woke me, because there was a fire in the city close to our island, which, however, was soon extinguished. And the fear of damage on our island, which was not unfounded because of the strong wind, evaporated and all precautions of setting up the fire-engine and other things were unnecessary. In the evening I was told that the fire had reduced only three houses to ashes.

31 The second of the two junks which arrived on the 27th has been unloaded, which the steady rain and strong wind had prevented before. All interpreters unanimously state that since time immemorial there has not been such a late and prolonged rainy monsoon. This has caused several severe outbreaks of illness in the city and a great many people are dying, especially among the poor.

AUGUST

1 Jūbei handed me the bills of lading of the last two junks. The wind is south-westerly and west-south-westerly.

2 The wind like yesterday. At ten o'clock in the morning I received an unexpected call from one of the shogunal *onderdwarskijkers*, who visited my house and the garden pavilion and partook of some sweet drinks. He left for the city pleased, so it seemed. In the evening Provisional Junior Interpreter Sakusaburō informed me on behalf of Jūbei that *bongioisen* will come tomorrow morning to open the Lelie and the Doorn so that they can be inspected.

3 They appeared at seven o'clock. I commissioned deputies to check everything. They reported that they had found everything in order and had not seen any leaks or termites. Around nine o'clock the second shogunal *onderdwarskijker* and two vice-junior dittos and several *opperbongioisen* came to visit my house and the garden pavilion. Like yesterday, I treated them to sweet drinks and confitures. The wind is south-easterly and east-south-easterly.

4 Kōsaku told me that the *opperdwarskijker* was on the mend. The wind is south-westerly and west-south-westerly, but in the evening easterly.

5 Jūbei told me that two sampans have already been repaired, but the other two would not be finished before the 11th, because the carpenters /according to them/ could not proceed with the repairs because of the extended rainy season. I could not refrain from expressing my displeasure, for I have been urging the *rapporteurs* for 14 days to get on with it. In the meantime, taking into consideration that, if the barges are not available when the ships arrive /which we are expecting every day for the winds are on the whole favourable/, we would be at a loss, I ordered Jūbei to request the governor for permission to send the pressmaster with a few of my slave boys to Magome to tar the two repaired sampans, so that we would not be without any proper landing boats if the ships appear early. The wind was easterly the whole morning, but in the afternoon it veered south-westerly. In the evening the newly-appointed Provisional Junior Interpreter Danshirō came to inform me that the governor had given permission to tar the two sampans.

6 I sent the pressmaster with a few of my slave boys to Magome. The wind is variable, but mostly easterly.

7-8 No interpreters came, for they are celebrating their *Lampjesfeest* or Feast of the Souls. The wind is north-easterly.

9 Two junks have been towed to their berths. In the forenoon the wind was south-westerly, but in the afternoon northerly.

10 *Rapporteur Burgemeester Tokitarō* sent to ask me for five or six quires of large size paper. I sent them straightaway. In the evening the last of the junks lying in mid-stream has been towed to its berth. The wind is northerly, north-north-easterly and north-easterly.

11 Jūbei told me that *bongioisen* will come tomorrow and open the watergate to fetch the remainder of the *Geldkamer's* sapanwood which is still in the warehouses. The wind is north-easterly.

12 The appointed day on which the last two sampans would be ready, according to Jūbei's promises of the 5th, has come, without them being ready, and I ordered Jūbei to press the carpenter most urgently to finish them. The *bongioisen*, whom I mentioned yesterday, came accompanied by two *vice-onderduarskijkers*. The wind is south-easterly and south-south-easterly.

13 This morning I had another visit from some *opperbongioisen*, a *vice-onderduarskijker* and several other Japanese gentlemen, who visited my house and the garden pavilion and partook of some sweet drinks, pastries, and confitures. In the afternoon Dronsberg came to inform me that on cleaning warehouse N^o 6, he had found a beam which was completely rotten and sagging. I had it promptly pointed out to the island *otonas*, who promised to have it repaired immediately and who indeed had a start made with removing the beam. The *Geldkamer* has been busy fetching its sapanwood. In the morning the wind was south-easterly and east-south-easter-

ly, but in the afternoon south-westerly and west-south-westerly.

14 Around ten o'clock I had a friendly visit from the *opperbongiois* of the court journey, a *duarskijker*, and some other gentlemen. I again spoke to the *rapporteurs* about the slow progress with the repairs to the sampans. The *Geldkamer* has taken away more sapanwood and the carpenters of the island *otonas* have replaced the rotten beam in warehouse N^o 6 with a new one. In the early morning the wind was south-easterly, but around nine o'clock it veered south-westerly.

15 Both *rapporteurs* came to inform me that the remaining two sampans were finally ready and I ordered them to ask the governor for permission to tar them tomorrow. In the afternoon Monjūrō informed me that the governor had given permission. The *Geldkamer* has taken away the last of the sapanwood. The wind is south-westerly.

16 The pressmaster and the necessary slave boys were sent to Magome to tar the remaining two sampans. The wind is south-westerly.

17-18 Nothing happened. The wind is south-westerly.

19 Jūbei told me that the Shogun has invested the new governor, Mizuno Kaname, who is still in Edo, with the name and title of Mizuno Wakasa-no-kami. On behalf of the Lord of Hizen, who /he pretended/ had sent one of his secretaries to speak to him about it, Jūbei proposed to me to accept and transport porcelain for the Company as before. I replied that in former times the Company had been forced to stop transporting it because of its high price and poor quality and therefore could not accept it again unless the prices were considerably lower and the quality considerably better. I said that, if he accepted these conditions, I was willing to take some samples with me to Batavia and show them to my masters and await their orders and approval. He thought this fair and promised to hand me some samples on my departure with a note of the lowest prices for which they could be delivered.

96 On this occasion I discussed the decline in trade and the low profits which the Company is making in this factory with him and he told me that last year a rich copper mine had been discovered in the domain of Satsuma and the neighbouring domain of Suga*, from both of which a small quantity has been delivered to the Governor of Nagasaki for the first time as a sample. He added that he did not doubt that as soon as the working of these mines was in full swing and running smoothly, the Company would be granted a considerable increase in the export of that mineral. I reacted to his remarks with silence, because little store can be set on the words of the interpreters and because I could not or dared not go any deeper into this with him. This morning several boats of the Lord of Hizen arrived in the roadstead with some of his attendants to replace the heads of the shogunal guards, who are replaced every one hundred days. The wind was northerly in

* Sic. Probably Hyūga.

the morning and in the afternoon south-westerly and in the evening north-easterly, but mostly it was calm.

20 Kōsaku told me that the shogunal *opperdwarskijker* had regained his full health and went out for the first time yesterday. The wind north-easterly and north-north-easterly.

97 21 Last night strong northerly and north-north-westerly winds, but in the morning the wind had veered south-westerly.

22 This morning at eight o'clock I saw a dispatch boat coming in and shortly after a second one. At nine o'clock I noticed that two ships were in sight, because two flags were raised for confirmation, and shortly after Jūbei confirmed it. He told me that he had just received a note from the overseer of the shogunal guards that two ships were approaching. At one o'clock Jūbei informed me that the ships were still 37 or 38 miles off shore and at four o'clock I received a further report that one of them had approached up to 20 miles and the other up to 25 miles, and according to the reports of both *rappor-teurs* they were still drifting there at sundown.

ARRIVAL OF THE ALBLASSERDAM AND THE AVENHORN

23 Around eight o'clock I received the news that the ships had approached to within a few miles. I commissioned Dronsberg and Jonas to fetch the Company's papers. Around half past four in the afternoon the *Alblasserdam* dropped anchor in the roadstead and at five o'clock the *Avenhorn*. Shortly after, I went with Dronsberg and Jonas to welcome [Hendrik Casper] Romberg, my replacement, and next I sent for Warehousemaster [Petrus Theodorus] Chassé and Bookkeeper [Hendrik Andries] Ulps. I received Captain [Aris van] Valkenburg's account of how he had left Batavia on 26 June in the company of the *Avenhorn* and both ships had accomplished the voyage in 59 days without having encountered any disasters or any other remarkable occurrences. Also, that on each ship there had been seven deaths and on his ship there were still 20 sick people.

24 Nothing happened because of the Japanese *hassaku* or presentation day. The cooper of the *Avenhorn*, Jan Bouwmeester, from Amsterdam, died on the ship.

25 Last night and the whole day strong south-westerly winds, which prevented the unloading, and the ships had to strike their topmasts. Joost de Bruijn from Buijtensluijs, sailor on the *Alblasserdam*, died on the ship. In the evening Jūbei came to inform me that tomorrow nothing will be done as well, because the governor is moving to the other Government House.

98 26 Sailor Jan Willem Pot from Nukerken died on the *Alblasserdam*, and on the *Avenhorn* another sailor, Christiaan Hendrik Sebalthooren from Raders. The whole day strong south-westerly winds.

27 The *Alblasserdam* has been unloading dispensary supplies and private goods, which went on slowly because of the heavy showers and strong winds. In the evening both captains notified me that their ships have been properly moored.

28 This morning Kōsaku told me that on 12 *Shichigatsu*, or 5 August, the Sumida-gawa River had burst its banks in Edo and many bridges and houses had been swept away and many people had drowned. The son of Gohei, a former interpreter, whose name is Tomosabro, came to announce his appointment as apprentice-interpreter. The *Alblasserdam* has been unloading dispensary and private goods.

100 29 Due to the heavy rainfall and strong winds, the unloading of the ships could not proceed. At three o'clock in the afternoon we held a meeting and read the Company's papers. This had been postponed until today because of the illness of Romberg, but it could not be postponed any longer, for the Japanese are coming for the bills of lading this evening. Indeed, Commissioner of the Foreigners Han'emon, two *burgemeesters*, and a few officials of the *Geldkamer* appeared in my house, and I did not fail to insist on a price increase for the sugar, the cloth rash and the perpetuanas of the improved quality. I represented to them what the High Government has written about the rayskins, the *taffachelassen*, and the sappanwood, requesting them to reflect on this favourably, for if there was no redress, the Company could not make any profit on the price increase that [former *Opperhoofd* Isaac] Titsingh had obtained. I added that it should be very clear to the Japanese that the High Government was trying to oblige them as much as possible, for it had sent two ships with a substantial cargo, and it was no more than fair that they for their part meet the Company with a price increase commensurate with the higher purchasing price for most commodities. Especially so, since we are experiencing disastrous times in which the Company is being hit blow after blow by the many losses of its costly and richly-laden ships. A considerable improvement in trade would be the only means to compensate the Company for the losses. This would induce the High Government to keep sending two ships to Japan if possible, for which the Japanese have been pressing for so many years. They promised to propose this to the governor.

30 The whole night rain and south-westerly winds, but in the forenoon the weather turned fine and the *Avenhorn* unloaded dispensary and private goods.

31 The *Alblasserdam* has been unloading private and dispensary goods. I handed the interpreters the following document for them to translate and present to the governor.

102 [Van Reede and Romberg inform Matsuura Izumino-kami that Batavia has ordered them to represent to him that Batavia has sent two ships with a substantial cargo and all the gifts it was able to obtain,

to convince the Japanese that it is willing to oblige them. But in return it is expecting the Japanese to pay seven candareen per catty more for the powdered sugar, because sugar is considerably higher in price and cannot be delivered for 6:6:2 taels per 100 catties. On this depends Batavia's willingness to keep sending two ships, if at all possible. If it turns out that the Japanese are being unreasonable and do not grant the price increase, Batavia reserves the right not to give an assurance that it will send two ships, for the Company is losing too much on this product and it can sell the sugar for a much higher price elsewhere. Therefore they ask that the governor grant this fair and reasonable request. Furthermore, they have to inform him that Batavia has written to Holland for cloth rash and perpetuanas of the improved quality and has given orders for the perpetuanas to be folded in the old way. Batavia has only done this in the firm belief that the Japanese will be persuaded to consider a price increase commensurate with the quality, but if this fails, then the Company will not order any more from Holland, for they are twice as expensive as the former kind and therefore absolutely cannot be sold for the same price. The Siamese sapanwood is also very expensive and barely obtainable, sometimes even not at all, and therefore they are also asking for a price increase for this. If given, they will not spare any trouble to obtain it and thus oblige the Japanese, although this can also be sold for a higher profit in other places. The sapanwood from Bima and Java, of which Batavia is sending a small consignment for a trial, is sold in Holland for 44 taels per 100 catties and the Siamese for much more. On all these points the willingness of Batavia rests to send two ships in future.]

SEPTEMBER

1 The *Avenhorn* has been unloading dispensary and private goods. However, around ten o'clock it had to be halted because of thundery showers.

2 The *Alblasserdam* has been unloading dispensary and private goods.

3 The *Avenhorn* has been unloading. The Company's barrels for provisions and the cabinets have been ordered, but we could not strike an agreement on the dishes because of their enormously high price.

4 The *Alblasserdam* has been mustered and the placards have been published and affixed. Then a prompt start was made with the unloading of the Company's goods. The chests with piece-goods were weighed at the gate in the presence of a lieutenant and two assistants to check that the gross weight tallied with the statement.

5 This morning the *Avenhorn* was mustered and the placards read and affixed. The *Alblasserdam* has been unloading piece-goods and various other commodities.

6 The Senior Surgeon of the *Alblasserdam*, Cornelis Madern from Rotterdam, died last night, and

his body was properly buried in the afternoon. The *Avenhorn* has been unloading piece-goods and some other commodities. Every day I have been having arguments with the interpreters and *bongioisen* about the early stoppages of work. They say that at the time of *Opperhoofd* [Daniel] Armenault the then governor fixed it at four o'clock. Conversely, I kept representing to them that the brevity of this trading season forces us to deviate from this custom or so-called order, for the day of departure for the *Papenberg* has been set for 10 October, which is very early, and the ships have to load their cargo of copper before that time. I decided that the best course of action was to address the *rapporteur burgemeesters* and to request them that work be allowed to go on till the evening and thus I handed the following document to the *rapporteurs* Katsueemon and Jübei for them to translate and deliver.

[To the *rapporteur burgemeesters* Hisamatsu Tokitarō and Takashima Hachirōzaemon. Because of the late arrival of the ships and the steady rainfall during the first few days, which prevented the unloading of the ships, Van Reede fears that the ships will not have finished the unloading of commodities and the loading of copper before the appointed day of departure, which this year is very early. Therefore he requests that work be allowed from six in the morning till six in the evening.]

7 The *Avenhorn* has been unloading sugar, sapanwood, and cloves. 1,500 chests of copper have been delivered onto the island. In the evening the governor has me informed that he and the *opperdwaarskijker* will visit the *Alblasserdam* on the 11th, and after that he will come on our island. He also asked me for the following articles: a table clock, two pocket watches with glass backs, a case with carpenter's tools, two large speaking trumpets, 25 Dutch pipes, some Dutch snuff, five pairs of canaries, four Batavian doves, and several other trifles. I could only oblige him with some of his requests, for we did not have everything at hand. In the evening, the interpreters came to inform me that the *rapporteur burgemeesters* have granted my request of yesterday and had issued the necessary orders.

8 The *Alblasserdam* has been unloading sugar and sapanwood. 1,000 chests of copper have been delivered. A start has been made with unpacking the piece-goods, and because both senior surgeons of the ships have died, I commissioned Notary [Hendrik Jacob] Duurkoop and Senior Surgeon Falcke to oversee proceedings. The governor sent to ask me for three *gantang* of dehusked Batavian rice, three *gantang* of unhusked ditto, and a bundle of paddy. I had them given to him straightaway. In the forenoon, one of the governor's secretaries, a master of repairs, an *opperbongiois*, and an official of the *Geldkamer* paid me a visit and in the afternoon Commissioner of the Foreigners Han'emon and *Rapporteur Burgemeester* Tokitarō did likewise. They are well aware of the grounds for my anxiety, which I expressed in my petition, and they came to consult

me about the necessary arrangements for the speedy unloading of the ships. I arranged everything to our mutual satisfaction, and I also decided that from now on work will start one hour earlier, thus at five instead of six o'clock in the morning.

9 The *Alblasserdam* has been unloading sugar and sapanwood, and 1,000 chests of copper have been delivered. The last of the piece-goods has been unpacked and as can be seen from the copy of the deposition of the deputies among the enclosures, several defects and errors have been found in the unopened chests, the main one being that the chests N^{os} 123, 124, 125, and 126 contain 25 pieces of cloth rash instead of 25 pieces of assorted pieces of cloth which is stated on the bill of lading.

110 10 Both ships have been unloading sugar and sapanwood. The cloth assigned as gift has been measured and inspected, and the ducats have been delivered to the *Geldkamer*.

11 Both ships have been unloading sugar, sapanwood, and other goods. More cloth assigned as gift has been inspected and measured. In the afternoon the governor came with the *opperdwariskijker* and a numerous entourage, having first visited the shogunal guards and the *Alblasserdam*. They spent more than two hours here and partook of various sweet drinks, pastries, and the like and, after having visited my house and the garden pavilion, they left highly satisfied.

12 Both ships have been unloading commodities. A sailor of the *Alblasserdam*, Jan Buijs from Purmerend, died.

13 The *Alblasserdam* has loaded 850 chests of copper and the *Avenhorn* has unloaded commodities. The gifts for the governor and other dignitaries have been handed over and the Company's silk gowns have been sent to the city for alterations. In the afternoon I had another visit from Commissioner Han'emon.

111 14 Last night Assistant Jan Fauvarcq from Den Briel died. His body was properly buried this afternoon. The *Avenhorn* has loaded 1,000 chests of copper and the *Alblasserdam* has unloaded sugar and sapanwood.

15 The *Alblasserdam* has loaded 1,000 chests of copper and the *Avenhorn* has unloaded sugar and sapanwood. The samples of the goods have been inspected by the *kennislieden*.

16 The *Alblasserdam* has unloaded sugar and sapanwood and the *Avenhorn* has unloaded tin and lead, and has loaded 650 chests of copper. 1,500 chests of copper have been delivered and the imported commodities have been inspected by the *kennislieden*. In the afternoon one of the governor's secretaries paid me a visit.

112 17 Both ships have been unloading and by the afternoon the *Avenhorn* was empty. I sent deputies aboard to attend the customary visitation. Around four o'clock the *Alblasserdam* was also empty, but the visitation of this ship has been postponed until tomorrow, for it was too late to do it today. In the

evening the joint interpreters came to inform me that there was not an adequate supply of copper left in Nagasaki for both ships, for the barges and boats with which it is transported hither from Osaka, and which had left Osaka several days ago, had not yet arrived. Therefore they proposed, if the barges were delayed by adverse winds, to have the copper taken to the ships when they were moored below the *Papenberg*. I replied that, if the boats had indeed left Osaka some days ago, as they claimed, then there was no reason to worry about their delay, for they could be expected at any moment, as two had already arrived yesterday. Secondly, that this matter was of too great importance to deal with lightly, and I would have to convene a meeting first and ask the captains how much copper was needed for the ships to sail safely to the *Papenberg*. Furthermore, that if the proposal was accepted, it could only be on the condition that the Japanese would bear the costs and risks of the transport, for it would be unreasonable to have the Company bear the heavy costs of such a long-distance transportation and to subject it to accidents, such as the capsizing of the ships and such. Thus the *rappporteur burgemeesters*, the commissioners of the foreigners, the officials of the *Geldkamer*, and the entire *Tolken College* would have to give us a signed and stamped document of insurance. For otherwise, if they refused this and there was a shortage of copper, the ships could not depart on the appointed days, for although I had promised the board of councillors in Edo that the ships would depart on 20 *Kugatsu*, which this year falls on 10 October, the understanding was naturally that the Japanese would deliver us the permitted quota of copper before that date, and therefore I could not be kept to my promise if the Japanese failed to live up to their part of the bargain. They replied that they would confer with the *rappporteur burgemeesters* and the commissioners on this matter.

113 18 This morning I sent deputies to the *Alblasserdam* to inspect it. Viewing day for the Company's commodities. The *kambang* goods have been sorted and 500 chests of copper have been delivered.

19 1,060 chests of copper have been delivered. *Kambang* goods have been sorted and the tare of the sugar canasters has been assessed at barely 31 lbs, the same as last year.

114 20 1,150 chests of copper have been shipped to the *Alblasserdam*, and *kambang* goods have been sorted.

21 Nothing has been done due to the unremitting strong winds and rain.

22 The *Avenhorn* has loaded 1,000 chests of copper.

23 The *Avenhorn* has loaded 500 chests of copper. Three junks have been towed into mid-stream. 24-27 These days nothing has been done, because the *Geldkamer* has been busy with the merchants setting a price for a batch of Chinese goods.

24 A junk has been towed into mid-stream.

25 Nothing to report.

26 Held a meeting.

27 Nothing happened.

28 Nothing has been done because of the Japanese *Matsuri* or fair. In the evening the interpreters came to request that we deliver tin, which serves as ballast for the Chinese junks, to the *Geldkamer* tomorrow. I replied that I could not acquiesce in this, for the prices for the Company's goods have not yet been stated and therefore no agreement has been reached, unless they gave me a document signed and stamped by the *Geldkamer* and the *Tolken College*, in which they declare that the price will not be lowered this year. They thought this fair and promised to bring it to me in the morning.

115 29 I received the document in the early morning and had the tin delivered.

30 Nothing done for the same reason as two days ago.

OCTOBER

1 Last night a sailor of the *Alblasserdam*, Tobias Oldendiek from Dinklagen, died. Tin has been delivered to the *Geldkamer* and *kambang* goods have been sorted.

2 Nothing done.

3 The time for the ships' departure is approaching and the interpreters have not uttered another word about the loading of copper below the *Papenberg*. In the afternoon I summoned the entire *College* to my house to inquire of them how things stood with the copper. They replied that a load had already arrived and tomorrow and the day after 2,000 chests will be delivered and therefore probably not more than around 3,000 chests will be short when the ships have to depart. They also asked me to write down my thoughts and the conditions on which I would agree to have the copper transported to the *Papenberg* so they could show it to the commissioners of the foreigners and the *rapporteur burgemeesters* and could make up the required document. I wrote it down in their presence and gave it to them. Tin has been delivered to the *Geldkamer*.

4 In the morning the entire *Tolken College* appeared in my house with a written answer from the governor to my petition of 31 August. They read out to me that the governor was unable to grant me a fixed price increase for the future, but, to oblige me, he agreed to the increase requested of three *kasjes* and eight *mookjes* for the powdered sugar for this year only, and he would try to make a good arrangement for next year. I ordered them to translate this document literally and to give it to me signed and stamped. They left and in the evening they came with the translation as follows:*

117 [A written order from the Nagasaki Governor to the Dutch *captain*. No ship arrived in 1782 and only one the year after. The governor acknowledges that the Company is suffering great losses. The *opperhoofd* requested price increases for all commodities. The price for powdered sugar had been increased, but

not enough, and therefore the *opperhoofd* has requested a higher increase. But it was not easy for the governor to grant this, for the last increase had been only three years ago. However, because many ships had foundered and the Company was suffering grave losses, he was willing to help. But there was no time to discuss this matter with each other and therefore he could only grant the increase for this year. Next year he would consider it further and discuss it.]

I thanked the interpreters for their assistance and the diligence and amity they had shown in promoting the Company's interests. I told them that I shall give them a document expressing my gratitude to the governor for them to translate tomorrow.

118 But I also asked them why no mention was made in the governor's reply to the other articles contained in my petition. They replied that the governor could not grant an increase for the cloth rash, *perpetuanas*, and the Siamese sappanwood, for these were articles for which the prices had been fixed with Titsingh for a period of 15 years. To my emphatic ripost that it ran counter to all fairness /as Titsingh had obtained the fixed prices for the old kinds which were of a much poorer quality and could be bought at a much lower price/ that the Japanese were now refusing to pay more for these considerably finer and better kinds, which are specially made in Holland for them in a factory built expressly for that purpose, on their insistence and demand, and in the firm belief that they would pay a higher price commensurate with the higher quality of these kinds, I received the answer that the governor /in consideration of the losses which I had argued the Company was suffering when importing these improved kinds/ would have the *Geldkamer* hand me a document in which it declares that in future it would be content with the old kinds and would pay the ordinary price, as had been demanded by Titsingh and was now paid for the better quality. I riposted that this was all well and good, but that the Company would suffer losses for another three years, for these cloths could only be used in Japan and at no other trading post, and thus the stock in Batavia, as well as the supply which is being made in Holland prior to the receipt of this letter, would have to be sent here, and they would have to pay a higher price for it. I would not or could not desist from requesting a higher price as long as the improved cloth rash and *perpetuanas* were being sent, for this was only fair. And concerning the Siamese sappanwood, for which they kept refusing to pay more than what was in the contract made by Titsingh, although the Company had to pay more than double than it had before to buy it, I would write to my masters about this and would also tell them in person, leaving it to their discretion whether or not to send it for the ordinary price, but I had grave doubts about this. 1,000 chests of copper have been delivered.

5 At dawn, Herman Mouritz Zeebeek from Bee-

* The Dutch wording is confusing in places.

- sebee, sailor on the *Alblasserdam*, died. In the evening we held a meeting and the officials of the *Geldkamer* stated the prices for the Company's commodities in the presence of a commissioner of the foreigners and a *rapporteur burgemeester*. However, for several pieces of cloth and cloth rash as well as for a batch of 600 pieces of Patna chintzes, they offered considerably less than the prices fixed by agreement with *Oppehoofd* Titsingh, under the pretext that the colours of the first-mentioned articles were either too light or too dark, and the *kennislieden* and the merchants considered the chintzes to be too narrow. We could not come to an agreement and after long debates we went our separate ways without having achieved anything. After the meeting had ended, I handed the interpreters the following document for translation.
- [This is a letter of thanks for the governor's grant of a price increase for the powdered sugar for this year and his willingness to do his best for a favourable settlement next year.]
- 121 Another 1,000 chests of copper have been delivered and the junks in mid-stream have been taking on tin.
- 6 On behalf of the governor, the interpreters came to ask me for a written memorandum stating whether I think that rayskins and *taffachelassen* will be imported next year. I promptly handed them the following statement for translation and delivery to the governor.
- 122 [Van Reede's reply to the question is that, although Batavia had sent two ships to Coromandel in 1785, they were unable to supply any rayskins or *taffachelassen* because of the disastrous state to which the wars had reduced that region. However, Batavia had issued new orders for the procurement of these articles to oblige the Japanese. Therefore Van Reede does not doubt that they will be imported again next year, if not in fulfilment of the whole order, then at least part of it.]
- Around ten o'clock I went with Romberg to present the customary gifts on behalf of the Company to the governor, the intendant, commissioners of the foreigners, and *stadsburgemeesters*. We had the pleasure of being entertained very graciously by everyone.
- 123 The commissioners especially asked us to convey their gratitude to our lords and masters for the increase of their *hassaku* by 100 taels, about which they were extremely pleased. I took this opportunity to thank the governor personally for the affection he has shown the Company, and to request him to persist with this and especially to achieve a fixed increase of the price for sugar to seven candareen per catty next year. I also insisted very graciously that I receive an answer before my departure to the petition I had already presented in January about exempting the *opperhoofden* from the body searches, for I was reluctant and worried to appear before my lords and masters if I could not give them a positive answer on this matter, which they were firmly expecting. The secretary of the Lord of Hizen visited the *Alblasserdam* today, and according to established custom we sent two bottles of rosewater and two bottles of tent wine to the Lord of Hirado. 900 chests of copper have been shipped to the *Alblasserdam*. A junk has been towed into mid-stream. In the evening the governor sent someone to ask me to write down the speech which I had delivered that morning in Government House, because he distrusts Katsuemon's translation and doubts its veracity, for he had heard me speaking for a long while and Katsuemon had translated little. I wrote down everything I had said to him.
- 7 In the morning I handed the *rapporteurs* the following petition for them to translate and deliver, in which I request that I be allowed to stay here for 30 days after the ships have departed to the *Papenberg*.
- [Although the Dutch *opperhoofd* has done his best to leave as soon as possible, he is not able to do so for the majority of the trade commodities has not yet been delivered and therefore the clerks could not proceed with the paperwork. And because the outgoing *opperhoofd* has to finish everything before he departs, in order to give a fair account of all affairs to his masters, Van Reede requests that he be allowed to remain until 21 *Jūgatsu*, and with him the warehousemaster, the dispenser, the assistants, and ordinary servants, who are indispensable for the finishing of the work. Furthermore, he requests that if the captains have to return on shore after they have sailed the ships to the *Papenberg*, they will receive permission to do so.]
- The entire morning I was busy with the *Tolken College* discussing the prices for the goods. The chintzes were measured in their presence and that of the *kennislieden*, and we discovered that the 600 pieces which they had said were too narrow, were indeed somewhat narrower than the ones which have been sent previously, of which they had brought one as a sample at my request, but, on the other hand, they were considerably longer, and all the other 2,000 pieces were considerably wider than the sample they had brought from last year. Therefore I represented to them that, if they wanted to lower the price for the 600 pieces because they are a little too narrow, then it would be reasonable to increase the price for the others pro rata, for they are so much wider. But we could not come to an agreement and I composed the following document, which I gave the interpreters to translate, with the order to present it to the governor straightaway.
- 126 [The officials of the *Geldkamer* are offering considerably less for some pieces of cloth and cloth rash than has been agreed with Titsingh, under the pretext that the colour of the one is too light and of the other too dark, and the *kennislieden* pretend that 600 pieces of Patna chintzes are narrower than the ordinary kind. Van Reede and Romberg request the governor that the fixed prices be paid for these cloths, for the difference in colour is slight and the quality much better. Furthermore, in the contract

made with Titsingh only the main colours, blue, brown, green, and so forth are mentioned without any specification of light or dark. Therefore they cannot sell the cloths for a lower price without incurring the displeasure of their masters. The 600 chintzes are indeed somewhat narrower, but on the other hand they are considerably longer, and a large part of the rest is much wider. Thus, on average, there is no difference, and they cannot be sold for less than the ordinary price. Otherwise Van Reede and Romberg will be forced to send all back to Batavia.]

127 At seven in the evening the *Tolken College* brought me the following oral reply, informing me that the governor had summoned the commissioners of the foreigners, the *rapporteur burgemeesters*, and the officials of the *Geldkamer* and, after having discussed the matter with them, had ordered them to accept all goods at the fixed prices, except for five pieces of light red cloth rash, for their colour differed considerably from the scarlet red. However, over and above the eight taels which have already been offered, an increase of six taels a piece should be added. The governor asks if I can accept his proposal and if I am willing to sell the light red cloth rash for 90 taels, five taels less than the scarlet red. Considering that the governor is indeed treating the matter fairly and reasonably, and that these cloth rash really cannot be counted among the scarlet red, and that I was obliged to be reasonable as well, I accepted and the deal was struck. The *Avenhorn* has loaded 596 chests of copper.

128 8 Second viewing day of the Company's goods and some have been delivered to the *Geldkamer*. Copper has been delivered. The junks in mid-stream are loading goods. Having been notified by both *rapporteurs* that the audience of leave with the governor has been set for nine o'clock tomorrow morning, and not having received the required signed and stamped document about the loading of copper below the *Papenberg*, I summoned the entire *College* and remonstrated with them that, if they do not bring me the document before I go to the governor, I shall be forced to notify the governor that the ships cannot leave on the appointed days and inform him of the reason of this. This threat made a great impression on them and they assured me that they will bring me this document this very day. In the evening I was told that on 29 *Hachigatsu*, or 21 September, 280 large and small barges had been hit by a violent storm and some of them had been smashed to bits and others badly damaged.

9 Early in the morning the interpreters came to inform me that, to their regret, they had not been able to hand me the document of insurance last night, as they had promised, the reason being that the *Geldkamer* had been so busy that it had forgotten to stamp it and send it to them. Because there was no possibility of obtaining the document before I went to Government House, they kindly requested me to accept a paper signed and stamped by them, in which they declare that they will hand me this in-

surance document from the *Geldkamer* this evening at the latest, and not to speak to the governor about this matter. I acquiesced in this and, at their request and to avoid their slowness and the obscurity and incomprehensibility which pervades all their writings, I composed the following note and let them sign and stamp it.

[The joint interpreters give the firm undertaking to the *opperhoofden* that the required document from the *Geldkamer*, confirming that the danger and risks at sea when loading copper in the ships below the *Papenberg* as well as the surcharge on the coolies' wages and the barges will be charged to the account of the Japanese, will be handed to the incumbent *opperhoofd* this evening, this document having already been written by the *Geldkamer*, but not yet stamped.]

130 Around nine o'clock I went with Romberg to Government House, where the interpreters requested me not to waste too many words on the compliments, partly from fear that I would speak of not having received the document and that the ships would not sail away, and partly because of *Katsuemon's* incompetence in the language. I gave them my word. After having spent only a few moments in the waiting-room, we were called into the audience, and after the reciprocal compliments had been paid with the customary ceremonies, the governor told me to tell the Governor-General on his behalf that he was well pleased about the fact that two ships had been sent and he requested him to continue doing so. I replied that I did not doubt that my masters would be inclined to oblige the Japanese, if they on their part would bear fairness in mind and would lend a willing ear to the reasonable requests of the *opperhoofden*. The shogunal *opperdwarskijker*, who had been sitting on the governor's left side during the audience and whom we would also have to honour with an audience following the example of olden times, excused us of going through the trouble because his residence was some distance away. We thanked him most graciously for his kindness. 835 chests of copper have been loaded in the *Avenhorn*. At eight o'clock in the evening I received the document from the *Geldkamer*, properly signed and stamped, which I gave to the interpreters to have it translated.

10 In the morning they brought me their translation and finding it satisfactory, I commissioned Warehousemaster Chassé, Dispenser Dronsberg, and Scribe Jonas to muster and send off the *Avenhorn*. Two junks have been towed into mid-stream and 1,000 chests of copper have been loaded into the *Alblasserdam*. The *rapporteurs* told me that the incoming governor [*Mizuno Wakasa-no-kami*] will arrive in Nagasaki the day after tomorrow. I also heard in secret the news that the Shogun had died on 23 *Hachigatsu*, or 15 September.

11 The *Alblasserdam* has been mustered and towed to the *Papenberg*. Sugar and piece-goods have been delivered to the *Geldkamer*.

12 Sugar and piece-goods have been delivered to the *Geldkamer*, and 370 chests of copper have been shipped to the *Alblasserdam*. The new governor has arrived from Edo and I sent both *rapporteurs* in their ceremonial dress to congratulate him on his safe arrival.

13 In the morning we started to deliver commodities, to which the approaching rain soon put a stop. In the afternoon Jūbei came to inform me that both governors will visit the island tomorrow, but in the evening he said that the visit has been postponed, for today mail had arrived from Edo that the Shogun's death had been announced there on 8 *Kugatsu*, or 29 September, and it was to be announced
132 the demise of His Majesty was announced to me on behalf of the governor, with the notice to take care that for 50 days no music be played, no singing or other noise be engaged in, and no hammering is allowed on the island or on the ships.

14 Both governors sent the *rapporteurs* in their ceremonial dress to the ships to announce the death of His Majesty the Shogun and to decree that music and singing is forbidden on the ships. Sugar, pepper, and cloves have been delivered to the *Geldkamer* and the merchants. All Japanese who receive an income from the Shogun have gone into mourning, which only means that they do not shave their beards and hair.

15 Sugar and cloves have been delivered to the merchants. The interpreters told me this evening that the case of the six *onderbongioisen* with their followers /of whom mention has been made several times before/ was finally settled a few days ago. Some of them have been sentenced to death and the others have been declared infamous and banished from the five shogunal cities.

16 Sugar and mother-of-cloves have been delivered to the merchants, but little progress was made due to the rainy weather.

133 17 Nothing has been done, because the outgoing governor has handed over the government to the incoming governor.

18 Nothing done due to the rainy weather. In the evening Jūbei came to inform me that both governors will visit the shogunal guards and the *Alblasserdam* below the *Papenberg* the day after tomorrow and after that they will come on the island. The two junks which have been lying below the *Papenberg* and the *Tempelhoek* since 1 December 1785 have finally left.

19 I sent orders to the ships to display all flags tomorrow according to custom. Copper has been brought onto the island and sugar has been delivered to the *Geldkamer*.

20 The interpreters informed me today that the crown prince has assumed the name of *Ue sama*, which means the Great or High Lord, but that the *Dairi* has not yet bestowed the name of *Shogun sama* with the title and rank of Shogun on him. However, people think that this will soon happen, and

then he will be the Third Minister on the Left, that is the True Third Minister of the *Dairi* or spiritual, hereditary Emperor.

134 The governors visited the shogunal guards, the powder magazine, and the *Alblasserdam*. Returning at dusk, they had me informed at seven that it was too late to come now and they postponed their visit until another time. Thus we wasted the whole afternoon waiting for them and we had prepared everything for a fitting reception. Sugar has been delivered to the *Geldkamer*. I ordered the *rapporteurs* to ask the governor on my behalf what he wished to be done about the gifts which had already been selected and set aside for the crown prince. We consider it best to put them up for sale, for it is unlikely that a crown prince will be appointed in the near future, and therefore the trouble and costs of taking them to Edo would be wasted.

21 Sugar has been delivered to the *Geldkamer*. The Company's silk gowns have been returned. The junks in mid-stream are loading goods.

22 Sugar and *kambang* goods have been delivered to the *Geldkamer* and merchants. Two camphor barrels were brought onto the island as samples. Romberg and I opened them in my house and examined them closely and found them to be very well-made. In the afternoon a sailor of the *Avenhorn*, Jan Simon van der Linden from Amsterdam, died.

23 Nothing done.

24 Copper has been brought onto the island.

25 Copper has been brought onto the island. Sappanwood has been delivered to the *Geldkamer* and *kambang* goods to the merchants.

26 Sappanwood and *kambang* goods have been delivered to the merchants. 400 chests of copper have been shipped to the *Alblasserdam*. In the evening the interpreters came to notify me that the governor's reply to my question about the gifts for the crown prince was, that he deemed it best to sell them here and not to take them to Edo, but that the customary gifts for the lesser attendants of the crown prince had to be presented as usual this year.

136 And because the departing governor is set to leave for Court the day after tomorrow, I had the interpreters translate and present the following document, in order to remind him of his promises for the last time.

[Van Reede is embarrassed to report to Batavia about the exemption of the *opperhoofden* from searching, which has been requested in vain for three years running. Because Batavia is expecting a firm answer this time, he asks if the governor has received a decision on this from Edo, for the governor had promised Van Reede to present his petition. If the answer is positive, he will be highly pleased, for then he can give satisfaction to Batavia. But if no decision has again been given, Van Reede and Romberg beg that the governor do his best that when Romberg appears in Edo next year, a decision will be given. They also ask that the price of sugar will be settled at seven candareen per catty. They

ask for a note to show Batavia. They thank the governor for all favours and good will he has shown the Company in the past year and wish him prosperity and a happy journey to Edo.]

138 27 600 chests of copper have been shipped to the *Alblasserdam*. Sappanwood and *kambang* goods have been delivered to the merchants. Held a meeting.

28 The departing governor is leaving for Edo today, and at dawn I sent both *rapporteurs* in their ceremonial dress to Government House to wish him a propitious journey and continuing prosperity. On their return they informed me that he graciously thanked me for my kind attention and assured me that I can rely on him not to forget his promises. Sappanwood has been delivered to the *Geldkamer*, and the last of the copper for the *Alblasserdam* has been shipped, as well as the sample chests and the two weights of 50 catties each, with which the bar-copper for this ship has been weighed, sewn in gunny and sealed by the captain and the deputies.

139 29 Sappanwood and *kambang* goods have been delivered to the merchants and 400 chests of copper have been shipped to the *Avenhorn*.

30 The last of the copper for the *Avenhorn* has been weighed, but because of the strong wind it could not be shipped but was stored again in a sealed warehouse. The sample chests with the two weights of 50 catties with which the copper for this ship has been weighed, have been wrapped and sealed like the ones of the *Alblasserdam*. Sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants.

31 The copper which was weighed yesterday was shipped to the *Avenhorn* as well as the barrels with the Company's provisions. Camphor has been brought onto the island and sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants.

NOVEMBER

1 The junks lying in mid-stream are loading goods. Camphor has been brought onto the island. The barrels with the Company's provisions for the *Alblasserdam* have been shipped and sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants.

140 2 I commissioned deputies to assess the tare of the camphor in the presence of Romberg. It was assessed at 32:12:5 catties. Sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants.

3 Sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants.

4 Sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants. Camphor has been weighed and 300 barrels have been shipped to the *Alblasserdam*.

5 63 barrels of camphor have been shipped to the *Alblasserdam* and 260 barrels to the *Avenhorn*. Sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants and the copper frames for the Company have been brought onto the island.

6 The junks lying in mid-stream are loading goods. 100 barrels of camphor have been shipped to the *Avenhorn* and sappanwood has been deliv-

ered to the merchants.

7 Nothing has been done because of the work for the Chinese. Four of their junks have been towed to the *Papenberg* and the rest is loading goods.

8 Nothing has been done because of the unsettled weather and storm.

141 9 Claas Munster from Helmhorn, sailor on the *Avenhorn*, died last night. Sappanwood has been delivered to the *Geldkamer* and private goods have been shipped.

10 The Company's *kabaaïen* have been packed, private goods shipped and sappanwood delivered to the merchants. Because tomorrow is the last of the 30 days which I had requested the governor to be allowed to stay after the ships had sailed to the *Papenberg*, I gave the interpreters the following document for them to translate and deliver.

[To Mizuno Wakasa-no-kami. Van Reede asks for a five-day extension because not all the sappanwood has yet been delivered and therefore he has not been able to settle the account with the *Geldkamer* and the paperwork is not yet finished.]

142 11 Private goods have been shipped. Otherwise nothing has been done because it rained the whole night.

12 The Company's *kabaaïen* and copper frames have been shipped, and sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants. The junks lying in mid-stream are loading goods.

13 A junk has been towed to the *Papenberg*. Sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants.

14 Sappanwood has been delivered to the merchants. Two junks lying in mid-stream are loading goods.

15 Today they were towed to the *Papenberg*. In the afternoon Jūbei came to inform me that the body of His Majesty the Shogun was buried on 4 *Jūgatsu*, or 25 October. He also said that the governor will visit the island the day after tomorrow, and thus my departure is delayed again and has been postponed until the 20th.

16 The samples of tailed pepper, long pepper, and Java sappanwood have been delivered to the *Geldkamer*.

143 17 Around half past eight this morning the governor appeared with several *burgemeesters*, secretaries, both commissioners and a numerous retinue. At eleven he returned very pleased to the city after he had visited our house and the garden pavilion and had partaken of some sweet drinks.

18 The Company's cabinets and private goods have been shipped. The Chinese junks which had been lying below the *Papenberg* have set sail.

19 In the presence of both commissioners I settled the account with the *Geldkamer*, and because the Company is short 1639:2 taels or *f* 2,704:16 to pay for the exports, I wrote the following note to request the governor to accept a debenture for this amount.

144 [Request to the governor to accept a debenture for the said amount, which will be paid next year with

articles desired.]

20 Today this request was granted and the debenture was prepared forthwith and stamped with the Company's seal. In the afternoon we held a meeting and the outgoing papers were read. And because I shall embark this evening I handed the

command to my replacement, Romberg, and introduced him to all remaining servants. Herewith I close these notes and wish that it may please Heaven to bless the Company's trade in this factory under Romberg's command.*

* At the end of the diary are lists of the imports and exports of the Chinese junks, 21 November 1785 - 16 November 1786. These are numbered ff. 158-181.