

DIARY KEPT BY OPPERHOOFD

GIJSBERT HEMMIJ

1795 - 1796

1795

NOVEMBER

1 18-24 I have been waiting for the shogunal demand.

25 The wind began veering from the west to the north and I immediately dispatched Warehouse-master [Samuel] Bernard to the ship with the Company's papers and the usual deputies. On the return of the latter they assured me that everything on board was well.

26 I finally received the shogunal demand and I immediately sent it on board. I also sent a boat with fresh food. Then *bongioisen* carried out the customary inspection of the houses of the servants who have left and they mustered the servants who are staying here.

2 27 I was happy to see the ship set sail this morning. However, in the afternoon the wind started to blow from the south-west and I saw the ship drop anchor off the *Papenberg*.

28 Wind and weather as yesterday. I received a receipt for the fresh food I sent on board on the 26th.

29 The persistent westerly winds force the ship to remain at anchor. Bernard sent me a letter, dated the 28th, that the ship had been forced to return to harbour because of strong winds from the south and south-west. Captain Smith is waiting for a good opportunity to sail.

30 Changing wind and weather. Nothing else to report.

DECEMBER

3 1 This morning the ship was not to be seen. I received the message that it had weighed anchor at one in the morning. The wind is blowing from the east and north-east and I hope and trust that she will be able to set on course and reach Batavia safely.

2 Fine wind and weather. The interpreters came to congratulate me that the observation posts are no longer able to see her.

3 At three o'clock in the morning the wind started to gather force from the east, increasing to gale-force, accompanied by hail, rain, thunder, and lightning from the south-east and south to west.

4 Clearing skies. The wind north-north-westerly.

5 At four in the morning I heard a cannon-shot. Others heard two. No one has been able to tell me from which quarters they came. Maybe it was heavy thunder.

4 6 Fine weather.

7 The governor [Nakagawa Hida-no-kami] sent to ask me for some confitures, which I sent to him.

8 A few officials of the *Geldkamer* came with an *opperbongiois* to inspect the grey velvet for the court gifts. They are soiled by small yellow spots and they were rejected, although I did my best to persuade them to include them.

9 Last night it rained heavily. A Chinese junk arrived in the morning.

10 The junk has been unloaded.

11-13 Nothing to report. It is very cold.

5 14 A second junk arrived. It got stuck on the bank about 20 *roeden* south-west of our island. Some of its cargo was unloaded and then several boats towed it into deeper water, where it was unloaded completely.

15 Nothing to report.

16 [Senior Interpreter] Sakusaburō told me that the junks are armed and that the governor has allowed this because the Chinese skippers have claimed that there are many pirates off the Chinese coast near an island called Annam waiting to overpower the returning junks.

17 Showery weather with hail.

18-20 Nothing to report.

21 [Opper-rapporteur] Sukezaemon and [Onder-rapporteur] Shōzaemon informed me that the *bongiois* who will be going on the court journey will come with officials of the *Geldkamer* to inspect the gifts. I reminded him that the grey velvet has to be included.

6 22 The gifts have been inspected in the presence of Bookkeeper [Johan Casparum] Laats and Assistant [Jan Pieter] Pogedt. The Japanese raised many objections, because some woollen fabrics have small holes and spots. I went to the warehouse myself and settled the differences. But I failed to have them accept the grey velvet. I have to find another way of getting rid of it without a loss. I ordered the interpreters to include the remaining 300 lbs of cloves among the gifts. They will try to persuade the gov-

ernor to agree.

23-27 Nothing happened.

28 The third junk arrived in the roadstead.

7 29 It has been unloaded. The governor has been asking for a cut of fresh beef and as I had a cow slaughtered today, I offered him a cut.

30 The governor sent to thank me and assured me that he will try to oblige me in return.

31 Nothing happened. Today is New Year's Eve and we thanked the Almighty for the favours we are enjoying in these arduous times.

1796

JANUARY

1 We celebrated New Year. The governor and the *Tolken College* congratulated me and sent me a present of *sake*, duck, and fish. Two junks arrived in the roadstead.

8 2 One has been unloaded. It brought four Japanese who had stranded off the Chinese coast during a storm.

3 The second junk has been unloaded. The weather has been fine for the last three days and we did not need any fire.

4-13 Nothing to report.

14 Senior Interpreter Sukezaemon and Junior Interpreter Shōzaemon came in their ceremonial attire to announce on behalf of the governor that they had been appointed to head the train undertaking the court journey. They asked to have the Doorn opened the day after tomorrow for an inspection of the gifts. They assured me that the cloves will be included.

15-21 Nothing happened. Due to the continuing bad weather the inspection of the gifts has been postponed.

22 The *bongioisen* came and the gifts were taken down.

23 They have been inspected meticulously. The interpreters even wished for the piece-goods to be transported to the *College*, pretending that it was too dark in the Doorn. I was fully aware of their devious designs and indignantly refused this. Their displeasure did not bother me, because I knew what they were up to. They want to subject us to a new humiliation by summoning deputies to the *College* with the gifts whenever they wish and act the great lord over the Company's servants and surround themselves with the Company's goods. A junk has been towed in the roadstead. It brought three Japanese who had stranded off the Chinese coast, as mentioned on the 2nd.

24 The gifts in the Doorn have been inspected again. The junk has been unloaded.

25 Samples of the gifts have been taken to the government and returned. The shogunal intendant asked me for two live sheep, which have been ordered by the Court. Although my supply is small, I have only nine, I deemed it best to oblige him.

11 26 Storm and rain from the east. On behalf of the intendant, the *rapporteur* thanked me for the sheep I presented him with yesterday. He had an additional request of 30 wax candles. Reluctantly I gave him 20 to show my good will, because my supply is small.

27 The gift cloth and red flowered velvet have been torn into lengths and the ends have been sealed with the Company's seal.

28 The gifts have been sorted and stacked. At the request of the governor, I sent him some of my sealing-wax and red earth.

12 29 I went to the Doorn and handed over the Company's gifts to the *opperbongiois*. According to custom I offered him three trays with Dutch cakes for the governor. Two junks which had run aground off Satsuma have been towed in the roadstead.

30-31 Both junks have been unloaded.

FEBRUARY

1-4 Nothing happened.

5 On behalf of the governor, [Junior Interpreter] Kinbei, the interpreter on duty, informed me that the *Dairi's* mother had died. No music or hammering is allowed for three days.

6-8 Nothing to report.

13 9 Today is Japanese New Year, or 1 *Shōgatsu*. I sent the *opperrapporteur* to congratulate the governor.

10 Senior Interpreter Sakusaburō has been appointed as *opperrapporteur* and Junior Interpreter Kinbei as *onderrapporteur*. I reminded them of their duties towards the Company.

11-21 Nothing to report.

14 22 The interpreters who are heading the court journey informed me that an *opperbongiois* will come tomorrow to dispatch the train. I appointed deputies and ordered the necessary things.

23 The train was dispatched. I ordered both interpreters to promote the interests of the Company wherever they could.

24-29 Nothing to report.

MARCH

1-2 Storm and rain and very cold.

3 The governor asked me for a flag chart, which I willingly sent him, because he is favourably inclined towards the Company.

15 4-8 Nothing happened.

9 I sent two wine goblets to the *rapporteur burgemeester* at his request.

10 The governor went to Mount Konpira to offer his devotions in the temple there.

11 The sky is overcast. Variable weather.

12 Weather as yesterday. Five junks have been towed into mid-stream.

13-14 Nothing to report.

15 Fresh south-westerly winds and warm. The repairs for the *otonas* and private buildings have been noted.

16 Nothing to report.

17 Out of gratitude for the safe arrival of their junks this year, notwithstanding the attacks and chase by pirates, and in the hope that they will also return safely, the Chinese made an extravagant offering. Two specially made small junks, with sails and rigging, about 18 feet long, were loaded with a small amount of each commodity they import and export, even including a small chest of copper, and supplied with all necessary provisions, live pigs, goats, poultry, and so forth, everything in miniature. These junks were then put in charge of their skippers and officers dressed in ceremonial attire and, surrounded by hundreds of small vessels with onlookers, accompanied by the roar of Chinese music and a host of Japanese patrol and towing-boats, they were taken to the *Papenberg*, where they were burned at sea. The costs of this offering are estimated to be 6,000 taels.

18-19 Nothing to report.

20 The governor himself examined some interpreters and apprentices about some parts of Dodonaeus*, which they had been set three months ago. He is an amateur of the Dutch language and seems to have been making some progress. This is a source of worry to the interpreters, for they are not sure how much he knows. It is to be hoped that the next governors will follow his example. Then we can seek our redress in writing through some channel or other.

21-31 Nothing to report but fine weather.

APRIL

1 The *rapporteur* told me that the six skippers of the junks which are lying in mid-stream have requested the governor to be allowed to set sail together. They fear pirates. The governor has given his permission. A start has been made with loading the junks.

2-11 Nothing to report. Variable weather and cold.

12 The junks have been loading copper and drugs. In the afternoon a fresh wind started to blow from the east accompanied by rain, followed by warmth.

13 The junks are still loading.

14-21 Nothing happened. Fine weather with some seabreezes.

19 22 Two junks have left for the *Papenberg*. They will wait there for the others.

23-30 Nothing to report.

MAY

1 Hazy skies with fresh easterly breezes.

2-4 Nothing to report.

5 Three junks have left for the *Papenberg*.

6 A Korean vessel has been towed into the bay.

7-11 Nothing happened.

20 12 The last junk has left for the *Papenberg*. The

wind was gathering force from the east, which caused the junks a great many problems.

13-19 I have been reminding the interpreters to be alert to every means of improving the Company's trade. I seriously represented to them that this may be the last year. The High Government's patience is running out. For five years they have been hoping for an improvement. Even though my remonstrations may have little effect on the interpreters, who seem to think that the Dutch are satisfied with the good settlements, I am sure that they will not be kept a secret from the governor.

21 20 In the evening there was a fire in the city, but it was soon put out. Just one house was lost.

21-27 Fine weather. Nothing to report.

28 The governor and his following went to Nomo in pleasure boats.

29 Nothing happened.

30 We celebrated the capture of Jacatra.

31 Quiet.

JUNE

1 *Rapporteur* Yasujirō informed me that the court journey train will return tomorrow.

2 Sukezaemon and Shōzaemon returned today, bringing 50 silk gowns for the Company. They were stored in the Doorn. After I had welcomed them, I asked them how successful they had been in improving the trade. Their reply was very flattering, but so ill-based, that I suspected them of untruths to disguise their lack of status or of making an impression during the court journey.

3-5 Nothing to report.

6 The retainers of the Lord of Chikuzen have asked permission to visit me tomorrow.

7 They came and were entertained.

8-11 Fine weather with northerly winds.

23 12-14 Nothing to report.

15 The *rapporteurs* announced the death of Senior Interpreter Sashichirō. He was an able man, who nevertheless did not apply his abilities to the advantage of the Company.

16 The governor asked me to make a list of the glassware, rarities, silk fabrics, cloth, and other goods at hand. Orders had come from the Court to buy all the Dutch and Chinese goods and rarities.

17-20 Variable weather.

21 Rain and sultry weather.

24 22 Thunderstorms.

23 I handed the *rapporteur* a short list of some nice things I have and offered them to the governor.

24 The governor thanked me for my kindness and asked for some of the items on the list.

25 Rain and sultry weather. I sent the requested glassware and other stuff to the governor. I asked how they were to be employed and I was told that they were for the Korean embassy.

26 The governor asked me to set all goods and silk fabrics aside for him on the ship's arrival, to be

* Rembertus Dodonaeus, *Cruideboek ...*, Antwerpen 1563; *Crujdt-boek. Volgens sijne laetste verbeteringe ... item in't laetste een beschrijvinge van de Indiaensche gewassen, meest getrokken uut de schriften van Carolus Clusius*, Leiden, 1608.

sent to the Court.

27-29 Showery weather with fresh south-westerly breezes, but very warm.

30 The wind veered eastwards and later south-westwards.

JULY

25 1 The wind veered eastwards and developed into a violent storm, raging with torrential rain, thunder, and lightning.

2 It calmed down in the evening.

3-4 Clearing skies.

5 Unsettled weather.

6 Very warm and humid weather with showers.

7 Weather like yesterday. The *rapporteur* informed me that the governor had appointed Junior Interpreter Takichirō as senior interpreter in the place of the deceased Sashichirō. He came in his ceremonial attire and I congratulated him, impressing upon him his duties towards the Company. In the evening the wind started to gather force from the south-west. It was accompanied by heavy downpours, thunder, and lightning.

8-9 The same weather continued.

26 10 It abated in the morning. The pressmaster told me the unpleasant news that the fence surrounding the island had collapsed in several places. The *Geldkamer* is responsible for its repair. But the Doorn and the Lelie have suffered a lot of damage. I immediately ordered the gardener to cover all holes as well as possible to prevent any more damage. The *rapporteur* told me that, like last year, the flood had washed away several houses and bridges, made of wood and stone, and five people had lost their lives. The governor has promoted Vice-Junior Interpreter Katsunojō to provisional junior interpreter.* In his place he has appointed Apprentice-Interpreter Isabro to vice-junior interpreter.

27 11 Last night there was more torrential rain with thunder and lightning. It was terrible.

12-15 It seemed to have reached the height of its fury.

16 The weather is abating.

17 Clearing skies. I was told of several defects to the buildings. I have had the holes covered with boards till the damage can be inspected properly. The *rapporteur* told me of several disasters. Another flood had hit the city and many people and houses had been swept away. The governor has been asking after my well-being and the situation on the island. I had him thanked for his consideration. Apart

28 from the damage to the buildings all is well. The governor has received the news that the wreck of a Chinese junk had washed ashore off Ōmura without a soul on board. Several bales of rice were still in the hold. I ordered the *rapporteur* to ask for *bongioisen* to come tomorrow to open the Doorn. At half past eleven, to my great delight, I saw two signals being raised. However, shortly after they were low-

ered.

18 *Bongioisen* came and the Doorn and the Lelie were inspected. Deputies Laats and Pogedt gave me the following report. [On ff. 28-29.]

30 19 Overcast skies with northerly winds. The *rapporteur* informed me that the governor has not been feeling well for several days and has to keep to his bed. I ordered him to express my regret at this to the governor and to offer him all the medicines and cordials I have at my disposal. I also told the *rappor- teur* to keep me informed of the governor's illness.

20 Fine weather with a south-westerly breeze.

21 Nothing to report.

22 Bad weather in the afternoon. The *rapporteur* came with the *dwarskijker* and handed me a translation of a statement by the governor that, on the arrival of the ship in the roadstead, her bill of lading has to be stated to the commissioner and the *burge- meester* on the very same day and the original has to be given to them, so that it can immediately be taken to Government House and be translated into Jap- anese for the governor. Then it will be returned to me. I was surprised at this innovation and asked for the reason for it. I was told that the governor only wished to prevent the contents of the bill of lading becoming known before his reports reached Edo, for the Court had taken umbrage about this. Fur- thermore, the great merchants of Miyako and Osa- ka were offering bribes to get the news first and tried to monopolize the market to the detriment of the smaller merchants. Even though these argu- ments seemed reasonable to me, the hidden objec- tive of trying to find out the prices of the Compa- ny's commodities was crystal clear. I did not let on, but wrote the following reply.

31 [To Nakagawa Hida-no-kami. Hemmij has been handed a translation of a statement dated 18 *Roku- gatsu*, being today, with the aforementioned con- tents. Hemmij is unable to comply, because 1. as soon as the ship has anchored here and has fired the salutes, the warehousemaster has to be brought ashore by deputies to give Hemmij his report. 2. Then a meeting is held in which the orders of the High Government are read and the European and Indian news are prepared for the Shogun. 3. The meeting breaks to read this news to the interpreters and to explain it, so that they can take it to the gov- ernment. 4. Then the meeting reconvenes to read the other orders of our masters and to consult. This can last well into the night, even till morning. This is caused by interruptions from both the Japanese and from the ship, which require the attention of the *opperhoofd*. Besides, everything cannot be done at the same time. Since former days it has been the time-honoured custom to state the bill of lading the day after the ship has arrived to prevent all confu- sion. Therefore Hemmij is unable to comply with the governor's wish. Hemmij will give the strictest orders that no information be leaked about the cargo or the news. This to satisfy the governor.]

32 23-25 Since the 19th I have been given varying re-

* Version B gives junior interpreter.

ports about the governor's illness. It seems that he can carry out his daily work. Fine weather, the wind south-westerly.

26 At ten in the morning I saw a dispatch boat enter the bay. I received a message from Government House that a ship has been spotted out to sea, but the signals were not being raised at the usual signalling posts to confirm this. The governor sent me a present of some live duck. He asked after my well-being during the oppressive heat we are experiencing: the barometer reads 92 degrees.

27 Weather as yesterday. The barometer gives the same reading.

28 Just as hot.

29 Warmer still. The barometer reads 94 degrees.

30 Overcast skies. The barometer has dropped to 69 degrees.

31 Fine weather with a fresh south-westerly breeze. I hope that the ship will turn up soon.

AUGUST

1-4 Very still and hot. The barometer has risen to 94 degrees. Nothing to report.

5 Variable weather. Torrential rain and gales from the east.

6 I have made a contract with the Japanese carpenter for the repairs to the Doorn and the Lelie for the sum of 190 taels.

7 Overcast, the wind south-easterly.

36 8 At eleven o'clock a dispatch boat entered the bay flying the usual signal. Shortly after I was told that a sail had been spotted at sea. However, in the evening it turned out to be a Japanese barge, which was returning from the Ryūkyū Islands. The wind is easterly.

9 My joy was rekindled by a third dispatch boat, which reported to the government that a sail, seemingly of a ship, had been spotted far out at sea. Confirmation is expected. The wind is north-easterly.

10 To my regret yesterday's tiding has turned into another Japanese barge. Wind and weather as yesterday.

11 Hazy skies with a south-westerly wind.

12 Weather as yesterday.

13-14 Variable winds.

15 Overcast, the wind increasing to gale-force with thunderstorms.

16 Unsettled weather with intermittent rain.

37 17-19 Unsettled weather.

20 The weather started to clear. I have been very worried about the ship during the past few days, especially as the season is lapsing.

21 Fine weather with fresh south-westerly breezes. This raises our hope and that of the Japanese that a ship will arrive.

22-25 South-westerly winds and fine weather.

26 Wind and weather as yesterday. The non-appearance of the ship is causing a great deal of worry to the governor and the people of Nagasaki. However, not all hope has yet been lost because every day

there are rumours of ships having been spotted off the Japanese coasts.

27-28 Nothing happened.

38 29-30 Rather fine weather.

31 Overcast skies with showers from the north.

SEPTEMBER

1 On behalf of the governor, the *rapporteur* worriedly asked me for my opinion about why no ship is coming. I replied that in former years ships had arrived late, even on 8 September. I have not yet given up all hope. On the other hand, circumstances and the declining trade of the Company are sufficient reasons to suppose that no ship has been sent this year.

2 The Japanese have presented the annual *has-saku* to the governor.

39 3 The *rapporteur* offered me the governor's compliments. He offers me anything I need from the city which will comfort me. This extraordinary kindness, for which I thanked him, offers me the opportunity to present the governor with a petition that he employ his capabilities to obtain some improvement in the trade. I asked the *rapporteur* to let me know when the governor is in a good mood, in view of his present failing health.

4 Nothing happened. In the evening the sky started to darken and became fiery red. Soon torrential rain followed with gale-force winds.

5-12 The weather is still foul with a northerly wind.

40 13-16 The weather settled somewhat.

17 A junk has been towed into mid-stream. On behalf of the governor, *Rapporteur* Yasujirō came to ask me for the probable reasons for the non-arrival of the ship. I gave the following written statement. [To Nakagawa Hida-no-kami. Hemmij's reply is that there are two possibilities. Firstly, if the war with France has not yet come to an end, the High Government may have deemed it better not to risk sending a ship and expose her to the perils of sea and war. If the trade with Japan were flourishing like before, this would not be a consideration, for then one would be more willing to take risks and the expenses of having ships-of-war accompany the ship or ships through the Malaka Straits would be amply compensated for. Secondly, if this has not been a consideration of the High Government, then it is possible that the ship has perished or, having run into trouble, has taken refuge somewhere.]

42 18 Unsettled weather with thunder and lightning, which struck a house not far from the island, but not much damage was done. I asked the *rapporteur* when would be an opportune moment to present my petition on improving the trade to the governor. According to the reports I have received, he is enjoying much better health. He replied that he had discussed this with the first secretary, who had assured him of the governor's good intentions towards the Company. He had added that I would be

seeing proof of this in the coming trade season, for now all hope of the arrival of a ship has gone. However, the governor thinks it better to present such a petition on the arrival of the governor-elect, for then he will be better able to present his intentions with the agreement of the other governor at Court.

19 The *rappporteur* came with the *dwarstkijker* and informed me on behalf of the governor that, apart from the customary gifts and the shogunal demand, the Court had demanded 100 pieces of silk fabric and as many rarities as the ship might have carried. Everything would be paid for. I replied that, if the ship had arrived, I would have been more than willing to buy up all the rarities. Concerning the silk fabrics, the governor was well aware that they were only imported as gifts and the High Government has forbidden them to be used for other ends. Therefore, I was not able to comply. The governor may be so considerate to relieve me of the burden of going against my masters' orders, especially since apparently this year no ship will arrive. The *rappporteur* riposted that, although he sympathized with me, he did not think that the governor would change his mind, because there were enough silk fabrics left. A refusal would be taken amiss at Court. I asked him to communicate my reply to the governor and to add his to relieve me of this odious task.

45 20 Unsettled weather with rain.

21 The *rappporteur* came with the *dwarstkijker* to inform me that in spite of all his efforts to make the governor change his mind about the silks, it had been to no avail and the governor has insisted that the Court's demand be met. He said that this favour would work out to our advantage, because the governor would do his best on his arrival in Edo to improve matters immediately for the Company. I could rest assured of this. After many arguments, I was forced to act against my intentions and to concede, hoping that my masters will accept my reasons for doing so.

46 22 The *rappporteur* and the *dwarstkijker* informed me that the governor was very pleased about my decision and he thanked me for it. An *opperbongiois* will come with a few officials of the *Gelâkamer* and *kennislieden* to inspect the remaining fabrics in the Doorn.

47 23 They came and I commissioned Bookkeeper Laats and Assistant Pogedt to hand over the silk fabrics. They gave me the following report. [They have handed over 100 pieces of different kinds of fabrics in all.]

24-30 Nothing to report.

OCTOBER

1 The *rappporteur* informed me that Governor Hiraga Shikibu-no-shōyū is expected in Nagasaki on the 5th. The present incumbent has recovered to the extent that he will go on an outing to the village of Mogi. I had him congratulated on his recovery and sent him my wishes for a pleasant day and con-

tinuing health.

2 The governor has been to Mogi and returned in good health.

3-4 Nothing to report.

5 Governor Hiraga Shikibu-no-shōyū arrived in Nagasaki in the afternoon. I sent the *rappporteurs* to give him my regards. I told them that I intended to present both governors with my petition after the days of ceremony were over. They should prepare the way with the secretary.

49 6 A Japanese deity was escorted on board a barge amidst many ceremonies. It will be transported to Edo to exercise its miracles there. On this occasion the bay was littered with pleasure boats and other vessels. The priests on board did not share out their blessings in vain.

7-8 Nothing happened.

9 First day of the *Matsuri*.

10 Quiet.

11 Second day of the *Matsuri*.

12 I summoned the *rappporteurs* and the *dwarstkijker*. I read and explained to them the following petition and ordered them to translate it verbatim.

[To Nakagawa Hida-no-kami and Hiraga Shikibu-no-shōyū. Hemmij wishes the incoming governor a pleasurable period of office and the outgoing one a pleasant journey and safe arrival at Court. He requests them to reflect on the disadvantages the Company has been suffering in its trade since 1790. Batavia has kept up trade so far in the hope of restoration to its former glory. If the losses are extended, Batavia will be forced to close the factory.

51 The non-arrival of a ship proves that Batavia has been forced not to send a ship hither, because the poor exports from here could not satisfy the markets in Europe and the outer factories, and the suppliers would therefore be unwilling to produce the piece-goods which are made especially for Japan. This might have been the reason that there was not a sufficient cargo for the ship. Or it might very well be that a fully-laden ship had been sent, which has perished, or that the ship which left here last year sank. Without adequate compensation, trade can no longer be conducted in this way. Therefore Hemmij requests the governors to double their efforts at the Court to obtain the restoration of the copper quota to its former level and other improvements. Then the High Government can extend the trade to Japan. And it will keep on obliging the Japanese not only with the annual European and Indian news and rarities for the Court, but also with the most popular commodities.]

The *rappporteurs* promised me to give a clear explanation of everything in Government House.

13 The *rappporteur* informed me that both governors were going to the shogunal guards today to inspect them. When they were passing, I had the flag raised.

54 14 Nothing to report.

15 The *rappporteurs* visited me in my house and told me that my petition had been favourably re-

ceived by both governors. They assured me that they would both do their best. The outgoing governor in particular flattered me with the hope that in the coming year I would already witness some improvement, but I should not expect everything to be improved at the same time. To increase the copper quota was a very cumbersome matter, because the mines are yielding very little. I had both governors thanked.

55 16 The junk which had been lying in mid-stream since 17 September has left for the *Papenberg*.

17 On behalf of both governors, the *rapporteurs* again came to ask me for the probable reasons why no ship has come. I gave them the same reply as on 17 September.

18-21 Nothing to report.

22 Nakagawa Hida-no-kami, the outgoing gov-

ernor, is leaving today. I had the *rapporteur* wish him a propitious journey with the reminder of his promises to improve the trade. This gentleman has excellent abilities and both I and the people of Nagasaki regret his departure.

23 The *rapporteur* returned from the village of Yagami, whence he had followed the governor, and he brought me the governor's compliments in return with the assurance that he will keep his promises to me. He wishes me a pleasant stay, health, and the safe arrival of a ship next year.

24-30 Nothing to report.

31 This disastrous financial year ends today. I had the accounts closed. I end this diary with the hearty wish for peace and that the Company may regain her former glory.*

* The diary ends with lists of the imports and exports of the Chinese junks, 18 November 1795 - 31 October 1796. The folios are not numbered.