

DIARY KEPT BY OPPERHOOFD

GIJSBERT HEMMIJ

1796 - 1797

1796

NOVEMBER

- 1 1-10 Inclement weather with strong westerly winds.

11 On the occasion of the Honourable [Governor-General Willem Arnold] Alting's 72nd birthday, the other servants and I went on an outing to the city and Magome. Then we had our midday-meal on the far side at Gohei and returned to Deshima. The day ended in merriment.

12-13 Nothing to report.

- 2 14 [Opperrapporteur] Sakusaburō came to my house with the deceased Senior Interpreter Sashichirō's young son and announced that the governor had appointed the boy as provisional apprentice-interpreter.

15-16 Unsettled weather with thunder and lightning.

17-20 Variable weather.

21 A Korean fishing boat with some Koreans on it has been towed into the bay to be repaired.

22-30 Nothing to report. Unsettled weather.

DECEMBER

1-2 Nothing to report. Unsettled weather.

- 3 3-13 Nothing happened. Variable weather with intermittent snowfall.

14 At eleven o'clock in the evening there was a lunar eclipse, which covered three-quarters of the moon. It was followed by a storm from the southwest.

15 Showery weather and cold.

16-27 Nothing to report. I have had several discussions with the interpreters about improving trade and I urged them to raise this matter in the government at opportune occasions.

- 4 28 A Chinese junk has been towed in the roadstead. It had stranded off Amakusa. It brought the news that it had left China with two other junks.

29 The junk has been inspected.

30 It has been unloaded.

31 The end of the year. I hope that we may be blessed next year with the arrival of a ship and an improvement in trade.

1797

JANUARY

1 We celebrated New Year. I received the best wishes from the interpreters and a present of duck, fish, and so forth from the governor [Hiraga Shikibu-no-shōyū]. I reciprocated in an appropriate manner.

2-6 Nothing to report.

- 5 7-11 Nothing happened.

12 A second Chinese junk which had stranded off Satsuma has been towed here by that lord's retainers.

13 It has been unloaded.

14 Showery weather.

15 Another Chinese junk which had stranded off Satsuma has been towed in the roadstead. The two junks belong with the junk which arrived on 28 December.

16-17 Very cold. The barometer has dropped to 10 degrees.

18 Weather as yesterday.

19 Cold. The barometer has risen to 12 degrees.

20 The barometer stands at 16 degrees.

21 One of two small junks which had stranded off the Gotō Isles, being flat-bottomed and of a very different construction than the ordinary junks, has been towed in the roadstead. It had to cut down its main mast.

- 6 22 The governor sent a committee on board the small junk to inspect it. The crew, consisting of 16 hands, has been read some orders.

23 I asked the *rapporteur* what the cargo of the junk was and from where it had come. He told me that it belonged to a minor merchant from Nanking and its cargo consisted of just a few bales of kapok and Chinese bamboo. It has been unloaded.

24 Overcast skies. The thermometer has risen to 20 degrees.

25 Dark skies with rain and thunder.

26-27 Clearing skies and fine weather.

- 7 28 Today is 1 *Shōgatsu*, or Japanese New Year. I sent the *rapporteur* to convey my best wishes to the governor. Several interpreters came to visit me in their ceremonial attire.

29 Senior Interpreter Takichirō and Junior Interpreter Shōzaemon came to inform me that the governor has appointed them as *rapporteurs* for this year.

I reminded them seriously of their duties towards the Company and congratulated them.
30-31 Rainy weather.

FEBRUARY

- 1-8 Unsettled weather, cold and severe frost. The barometer has dropped to 6 degrees.
8 9 On behalf of the governor, the *rapporteurs* came to inform me that Mizuno Dewa-no-kami had been appointed as senior councillor and Aoyama Daizen-no-kami as junior councillor at the shogunal court on 2 *jūnigatsu*, or 30 December of last year.
10-12 Nothing to report.
13 [Onderrapporteur] Kinbei, the interpreter on duty, informed me in the evening that the aunt of the governor's wife had died in Edo. Therefore we are requested not to play any music or do any hammering for three days. I sent my condolences to the governor.
14-15 Nothing happened.
16 Two Chinese junks have been towed into mid-stream.
9 17-19 Nothing to report.
20 Last night a house in the city burned down.
21-24 Nothing happened.
25 At half past seven in the morning there was an earthquake lasting 25 seconds.
26-28 Nothing happened.

MARCH

- 1-2 Nothing happened.
3 Two junks have been loading copper.
4-5 Nothing to report.
6 The repairs to the Company's warehouses and the private houses have been noted by *otonas*. I commissioned Bookkeeper [Johan Casparum] Laats and Assistant [Jan Pieter] Pogedt to submit a report. [On ff. 10-12].
7 Kinbei, the interpreter on duty, asked if a secretary of the Lord of Ōmura could visit me. I received him and let him view everything.
8-14 Nothing to report. Unsettled weather.
15 A Chinese junk has been towed into mid-stream and another has been towed in the roadstead. It got stuck on the bank in front of the island.
16 The junk has been unloaded and another has arrived.
13 17 It has been unloaded.
18-21 Nothing happened.
22 A junk has arrived.
23 It has been unloaded.
24-27 Nothing to report.
28 The *rapporteurs* informed me that the governor will make a trip in his pleasure boat to the far side of the bay, called Inasa. I had the flag raised. A small Chinese vessel has been towed in the roadstead. It had stranded off the Gotō Isles a while ago and it belongs with the vessel which was towed here on 21 January.

- 14 29 The Chinese private vessel which arrived yesterday has been inspected like the other one, but it is not being unloaded, because the *sendō* or skipper is refusing to sell the cargo. He can make a greater profit on the China Coast than here. I asked what the cargo was and I was told that it consists of Siamese sappanwood and pepper. Both articles are transported from Canton to Nanking and petty merchants then trade it on the north-eastern coast of China.
30-31 Nothing to report.

APRIL

- 1 A junk has left for the *Papenberg*.
2-4 Rain and inclement weather with north-westerly winds.
5 The governor had the *rapporteur* inform me that the outgoing governor, Nakagawa Hida-no-kami, has been appointed second superintendent of finance of the Shogun in Edo. I sent him my congratulations. This news raises our hopes that the Company's trade will benefit, because we are assured of this gentleman's favourable inclination towards us. Coupled with the well-known partiality for the Dutch of the first superintendent of finance at the Court, Tango-no-kami, Governor of Nagasaki in 1784, this gives good support to my hopes.
6 A second junk has left for the *Papenberg*.
7-11 Nothing happened.
16 12 The *rapporteur* asked leave for the officers of the shogunal guards to visit me tomorrow.
13 They came and I treated them to cakes, confitures, and liqueurs. Then they went round the island and amused themselves in the garden.
14 Nothing to report. The water is dropping to an extraordinarily low level.
15 Fine weather. At eleven in the evening we experienced a severe earthquake, but there were no consequences.
16-17 Nothing to report. It is still very cold.
18 Last night and today it blew a gale from the east with showers.
19 The weather settled.
20 The wind again started to blow from the east.
21 Last night and today a violent storm from the east.
17 22 Calm weather but very cold.
23-28 Nothing happened.
29 One of the small junks, called *mamefune*, left for the *Papenberg*.
30 On behalf of the governor, the *rapporteur* informed me of the death of the youngest prince of the Shogun on 12 *Sangatsu*, or 8 April. No hammering or music is allowed for several days. He also announced that, two days later, the Court had appointed the Governor of Osaka, Matsudaira Iwami-no-kami, as Governor of Nagasaki. He is being highly praised for his qualities. I sent the governor my condolences for the first announcement and the required congratulations for the second.

MAY

- 18 1 Fresh south-westerly wind.
 2 The second small junk or *mamefune* has left for the *Papenberg*. Fine weather.
 3 Weather like yesterday. Nothing to report.
 4-5 Nothing happened.
 6 The *rapporteur* informed me of the death of Junior Interpreter Den'emon.
 7-8 Unsettled weather. Nothing happened.
 9 Easterly wind with rain.
 10 Last night easterly gales with showers, which continued today. On behalf of the governor, the *rapporteur* informed me that at noon a shogunal *dwaarskijker* and two masters of repairs had unexpectedly arrived from Edo. They would like to visit me tomorrow. I had everything prepared to receive them. I was told to receive them as I would the governor. I asked the reason for his unexpected visit and I was told that he was travelling under the pretence of inspecting the rice crop all over the country, but in reality he was to investigate the behaviour of the governors towards the foreigners and also towards the people of Nagasaki.
 11 Fine weather. Around noon the *dwaarskijker* and his suite came and I treated and entertained them in the best possible manner. I commended the affairs of the Company to his benevolence. He not only responded kindly to this, but also drank a glass of wine with me, and showed his gratitude for the fine reception. Then he went to the Chinese island. Senior Interpreter Sakusaburō told me that the first secretary of the governor had intimated to him that, as a token of friendship, the governor was willing to accept a gift of Dutch cakes and confitures from me and would reciprocate with a similar present. I replied that I should feel honoured to oblige him tomorrow.
 12 I summoned the *rapporteurs* and handed them three kinds of Dutch cakes and three kinds of confitures in newly-made boxes for the governor. They returned in the afternoon and assured me that the governor had been very pleased and he was sending me a reciprocal present of two flasks of medicinal *sake*, a couple of boxes of flour and *laxa*, and a barrel of *miso* fish. He had said that, if I needed anything from the city, I should let him know, and also if I wished to go for an outing to the city or in the countryside in this beautiful weather. I replied with the required respect and gratitude. The *rapporteurs* also asked leave for the retainers of the Lord of Ōshū to visit me tomorrow.
 22 13 They came and were entertained according to their rank. After they had viewed everything, they left for the Chinese island. I felt like accepting the governor's kind offer and the invitation the *rapporteurs* had extended to me several times to treat me to a Japanese meal in a garden outside the city. I have chosen to go tomorrow. In order to test the governor's willingness to grant us more freedom than before, I had the *rapporteurs* inform him of my intentions

tions tomorrow and that I would like to take a breath of sea air the day after by sailing outside the bay to the *Papenberg* and the *Cavallos*, as *Opperhoofd* [Jacob] Van der Waijen had been permitted to pass the shogunal guards during the slack season in 1743. The *rapporteurs* returned in the evening and assured me that the governor had granted permission and had said that he was even more pleased for me because I had not been feeling well during the winter and I was so lonely on Deshima. He wished me a lot of fun. I had him thanked.

14 My company and I went to Mount Konpira and the garden pavilion outside Nagasaki, which I mentioned yesterday. The *rapporteurs* and other interpreters treated us in the best way and I invited the whole company in return tomorrow.

- 15 The Japanese company of yesterday and a few scribes went with me in pleasure-boats to the *Papenberg*. On passing, the shogunal guards showed me the same honours as when a ship arrives. The boats were decked out with more than the usual banners. I returned the compliment with a triple Hurray!!! On my return in the evening I had the governor thanked.
 24 16 I wrote him a letter of thanks. Although the events since the 13th do not merit this much attention, I thought it better to inform my successors of this, so as to find more and more leeway for freedom in this confined existence. If only it were possible to have the gates opened for us every day and that we enter the city without expenses and the thieving fraternity /I am referring to the *onderbongioisen*/. But because everything is done very gradually by the Japanese, a great deal more water will have to pass under the bridge.

- 25 17 On behalf of the governor, Sakusaburō asked me for four *waxdammers* for Edo. Although I would have liked to decline, I had to oblige him.
 18-20 Nothing happened.
 21 The third Chinese junk has left for the *Papenberg*.
 22 The shogunal guards have been replaced by guards from Chikuzen.
 23-24 Nothing to report.
 25 The fourth junk has left.
 26-29 Nothing happened.
 30 We raised the flag to celebrate the conquest of Jacatra.

- 26 31 The governor went on the annual inspection of the shogunal guards and amused himself outside the bay.

JUNE

1-8 Nothing to report. Variable weather with southerly and easterly winds.

9 The wind is northerly. In the evening there was a total lunar eclipse. It started at 8.07 and ended at 10.42 hours. The [Dutch] Indies' astronomers had calculated this eclipse and found it to be correct.

- 10 Fine weather but cold with a northerly wind.
 11-12 Wind and weather as yesterday.
 13-14 The wind easterly with rain.
 15 Misty at sea, the wind south-south-westerly.
 27 16-19 Variable weather.

20 Last night it blew a fierce gale from the west, which continued into the day. It has caused much damage to the buildings and a flood in the city. Several bridges and houses have been blown down.

21 The weather settled. I had the buildings inspected. [Assistent Leendert] Geenemans handed me a report. [On ff. 27-29].

22 On behalf of the governor, the *rapporteur* announced that he intended to send a patrol boat far out into the sea off the Goto Isles to wait for the ship and to offer assistance if need be. I ordered the *rapporteur* to convey my gratitude to the governor for his attention and to ask if I could send a letter with it. Fine weather with easterly winds.

- 30 23 The governor has promoted some apprentice-interpreters, provisional and vice-junior interpreters. They came to announce this in their ceremonial attire.

24 Misty weather at sea, the wind southerly. The first commissioner of the foreigners, Seiemon, asked if he could visit me on the 27th with the commanders of the shogunal guards.

25 The governor had me informed that my letter will be delivered on board, if I prepared it.

26 I handed the *rapporteur* my letter under *cachet volant* to the expected incoming *opperhoofd*. The contents are as follows:

- 31 [Hemmij] is happy to avail himself of this opportunity to welcome the new *opperhoofd*. He is obliged to advise him to give the necessary orders that no information whatsoever may be leaked about the Company's cargo, what it consists of and what quantity, to the Japanese or to the Company's servants who will come aboard. This is to oblige the governor. The governor has given permission that a Dutch flag be raised off the most northern of the *Cavallos* as a clear signal that it is a Company ship.]

- 32 27 Fine weather. The first commissioner of the foreigners, Seiemon, came with the commanders of the shogunal guards. They visited my house and the garden and stayed for the midday-meal. They were very pleased about this.

28 Very hot and still. The barometer has risen to 86 degrees.

29 Gales from the east.

30 The weather calmed somewhat. The wind veered south-westerly. Since May we have been experiencing fresh seawinds almost every day. I received the quote for the repairs for the sum of 671 taels. I beat it down to 305 taels.

JULY

1-4 Fine weather. The heat continues. In the evening lightning at sea.

5 Fresh south-easterly and southerly winds increasing to gale-force.

6 The weather cleared.

7 Fine weather. South-south-westerly winds.

8 Humid and oppressive.

- 34 9 South-easterly winds increasing to gale-force, with down-pours.

10 The weather cleared. Showers with fresh south-westerly to westerly winds. I had a discussion with both *rapporteurs* about improving future trade. They assured me that Commissioner of the Foreigners Sosaijmon was doing his best to improve it.* He intended to come on the island in a few days to discuss it with me. I gladly accepted this opportunity and had him thanked for his willingness.

11 The sky is overcast and the wind westerly.

- 35 12 It has been raining since last night with strong winds. Sultry weather. In the afternoon the wind gathered force from the south and south-east and thunder, lightning, and torrential rain struck us, increasing to gales and hurricanes.

13 It calmed this morning and the sky cleared.

14-20 Nothing to report. Unbroken fine weather with south-westerly winds, which gives rise to the hope that a ship will arrive shortly.

- 36 21 At a quarter to eleven there was a slight earthquake. At seven in the evening I saw to my great delight a dispatch boat come sailing into the bay and shortly after the signals were raised in the usual places. The governor sent me confirmation that a ship has been sighted.

ARRIVAL OF THE ELIZA

- 22 Overcast skies in the morning and quiet. At half past five two signals were raised to confirm that a Dutch ship was approaching. Shortly after the *rapporteur* informed me that she was still 20 Japanese miles and later seven Japanese miles off shore. I sent deputies to fetch the Company's papers. They returned at ten o'clock in the evening and reported that the Japanese had raised many objections about letting the deputies go on board on suspicion that she was not a Company ship. After many assurances they had been let on board. This extraordinary display has caused great embarrassment and concern to the governor, the other regents, and the interpreters. The interpreters kept asking me for the reason for this special case. I replied with as much caution and firmness as I deemed fit to serve our interests and I kept as close to the truth as possible in aiming for my goal. In reply to the question of the interpreters, who came for the news, why such a small and strange ship, manned by an unfamiliar kind of black people and with officers who do not speak Dutch but a strange language, had been sent, nor was she carrying any cloth or other goods which had been demanded, I told them that, because of the present war with England, the High Government had hired several ships belonging to neutral

* In a diary inserted as an appendix to copies of secret outgoing letters received in 1798 this name is written as Soijemon which would refer to Takagi Seiemon. (NFI 581).

38 nations to safeguard its own ships against the perils of war. It had secretly sent this ship out of deference to His Majesty the Shogun and out of consideration for the Company's servants here, and also to inquire to what degree trade conditions had improved since the departure of the *Westcappelle* in 1795. For, in these critical times, the Company could not be expected to conduct trade without any assurances and just in hope of improvement. If a fair reply was given, the High Government would remain willing to keep up relations with Japan. It intended to send a big ship next year, war conditions permitting, with enough commodities, gifts, and rarities to extend trade to the satisfaction of both 39 parties for many years to come. I would prepare a statement about all of this for the governor.

23 The captain went on board to moor the ship. We held a meeting.

24 I had a discussion with the interpreters in order to remove all objections which they raised. I read them the following document which they have to translate and deliver to the governor as soon as possible.

[To Hiraga Shikibu-no-shōyū. Out of deference to the Shogun and to inform him of the European news and the present war with England, the Commissioners-General have rented a small North American ship this year, belonging to a neutral state, and secretly sent it, so that it would not be taken by the 40 enemy. They have ordered Hemmij to inform the governor that, as in 1795, they have been unable to obtain the necessary commodities and rarities on the Shogun's demand. However, in future they will fulfil the demands willingly and expect a new order. Hemmij requests the governor to present these explanations at the Court and to request an improvement in trade conditions, for the Company cannot continue on this footing. The High Government is most eager to learn what, if any, improvements the governor has granted in the trade conditions since 1795. On the return of this ship it will decide how to deal with this factory. For the governor can well understand that the High Government has to be assured of an increase in the copper quota and a price increase for the commodities, which are the basis of the Company's trade, in order to be able to give the necessary orders in the Netherlands and in India, as soon as peace has been negotiated, which is expected to happen soon, to manufacture new stock specifically for Japan, the old ones having been 42 burned and destroyed by the enemy. For this, large sums of money have to be advanced and the Company cannot advance them without any assurance of a flourishing trade. The High Government trusts that the governor will reflect favourably on its arguments and will lend an ear to the requests for an increase of the copper quota, a price increase for the Company's commodities, and the full agio of 6,000 tael. Batavia hopes for a favourable response this 43 year. In that case, Hemmij can assure the governor that Batavia will be willing to send a ship, or ships,

next year, laden with all kinds of commodities and rarities, to Japan.]

The interpreters raised many objections to this and, on the grounds that last year none and this year just a small ship, and a foreign one at that with a small cargo, had been sent, they tried to have me change the document and in particular have me state that if trade improves, the opperhoofd will undertake the court journey every year and all expenses will be 44 restored to their former level. I replied that I was not qualified to make any changes in that and that I would await the governor's reply to take the necessary measures and report them to my masters. With regard to their private concerns, they should be glad that even a small ship, laden with all kinds of goods, had been sent. For the rest they should not meddle in my affairs. I sent them away. In the afternoon I stated the bill of lading to the officials of the *Geldkamer* in the presence of the commissioner and the *burgemeester*.

25 Dispensary supplies have been unloaded.

26 Dispensary supplies and some private goods have been unloaded.

27 The *rapporteurs* were happy to tell me that the governor had graciously accepted my petition. He assured me of his full affection and I should have no doubts about an improvement in trade.

28 Nothing has been done.

29 I had the ship mustered and after that a start was made with the unloading of the Company's cargo.

30 The Japanese have not done any work due to the *Sterrefeest*.

31 Sugar and tin have been unloaded.

AUGUST

1 Sugar and cloves have been unloaded. In the evening two Moors fell overboard, but fortunately were saved.

2 Due to rain nothing has been done.

3 Sugar and cloves have been unloaded.

4 Sugar and sappanwood have been unloaded.

5-7 Nothing has been done due to the *Lampjesfeest*.

8 Copper has been delivered onto the island.

9 After the weights had been balanced with the Japanese tael weight, copper was weighed and 380 piculs were shipped.

10 Sappanwood and sugar have been unloaded.

11 Copper has been weighed and only 200 chests were shipped, because of some differences in the scales caused by the copper weighers' fraudulent manipulations.

12 Copper has been weighed. I complained to the governor about the intrigues of the copper weighers and measures were taken against them. 420 piculs of copper have been shipped.

13 Sugar and tin have been unloaded.

14 After the last of the sappanwood and of the *kambang* goods had been unloaded, the Japanese inspected the ship.

47 15 The rayskins were sorted in the presence of the first secretary of the governor and the intendant. I requested them to be as fair as possible in sorting them, for they are very difficult to obtain. [Assortments.] Next, they came to my house and were entertained. The first secretary was in such good spirits that he and the intendant raised a couple of glasses of Madeira wine with me on the success of the trade. He sent for Captain [William Robbert] Stewart to have him witness his satisfaction.

48 16 The piece-goods were opened in the presence of deputies and the Japanese and everything was found to be in order.

17 The Japanese sorted the piece-goods.

18 Piece-goods have been sorted.

19 After a protracted illness, Bookkeeper Laats died last night. He was buried in the afternoon. 300 chests of copper have been weighed and have been sent on board.

20 300 chests of copper have been sent on board.

21 The piece-goods have been inspected and suitable ones have been chosen for gifts. On behalf of the governor, the *rapporteur* asked if this could be done in a cooler place, because the oppressive heat makes work in the Doorn unbearable. Although I am sure that the governor did not ask this and this new invention did not please me because this may lead to theft of or damage to the goods, I acceded for this once and let them use the empty house of the bookkeeper.

22-23 Gifts have been sorted.

24 Some samples have been sent to Government House and were returned later.

25 The merchants have inspected the goods and some samples were taken to the city. Around five o'clock in the evening a great commotion broke loose among the Moors on board the *Eliza* and shortly after several of them came ashore in the longboat to complain about Captain-Lieutenant Smith. He is drunk all day and never fails to bait and hit the Moors, driving them to this desperate act of coming ashore without permission to seek protection. I immediately ordered both captains to go aboard with the Moors and to investigate the matter and if necessary to take Smith into custody and bring him ashore and hand over the command to Lieutenant [Pieter] Diepenbeek. On their return the captains reported that the complaints of the Moors were justified and they had brought Captain-Lieutenant Smith, who was so drunk that he could not stand upright, with them. I ordered to put him under arrest.

26 The merchants have drawn the lot of warehouse N° 5 to assess the tare of the sugar.

27 The *pancados* came with the merchants to confer with us about the tare of the sugar. A great amount has been packed in bags and this has caused some doubts among the merchants that there are different kinds of sugar and that two tares have to be assessed. I showed them the sugar from the bags and the canasters and they were satisfied. They were willing to assess the tare of the canasters by taking

the average of ten years, and that of the bags by having the Japanese choose two of the largest and us two of the smallest. I thought this fair and because we shall save on the coolie wages and prevent any stealing, I consented. The tare of the canasters was subsequently assessed at 26 catties per canaster and that of the bags at 2²⁷/₃₂ lbs.

28 Nothing has been done.

29 Some *kambang* goods have been inspected by the merchants and samples taken.

30 Commissioner of the Foreigners Seimon visited me. He assured me that shortly I would receive news of an improvement in the Company's trade, which he had done his very best to achieve. As a token of his friendship for me, he would share a meal with me and spend the day here. I entertained him as well as I could and took this opportunity to improve the private trade and tried to gain us more freedom on Deshima. He promised to do his best to present it favourably to the governor.

31 On the repeated assurances of the interpreters, I had deputies inspect the remaining damaged fabrics and the soiled grey velvet. They gave me a report which tallied with the claims of the interpreters. Therefore we decided that the best way to save the Company from great losses was to accept the interpreters' offer and sell it in the *kambang*, because the merchants always pay more than the *Geldkamer*.

SEPTEMBER

1-15 Nothing to report other than that I had the *rapporteurs* keep reminding the commissioner of the foreigners to have the governor improve the trade conditions and to restore the whole agio of 6,000 taels.

16 Rayskins have been delivered. 32 pieces have been rejected by the Japanese and I had them stored in the Doorn for the time being.

17 Overcast and still.

18 Rain and storm.

19 The weather cleared. 400 chests of copper have been shipped. I entertained the secretary of the Lord of Hirado and the *rapporteur burgemeester*.

20 Both captains went on board to moor the ship which had gone adrift. The Japanese *hassaku* and nothing has been done.

21 Cloves, putchcock, cotton yarn, pepper, sugar, and sappanwood have been delivered to the *Geldkamer*.

22 Second viewing day of the *kambang* goods. I was given the unpleasant information that termites had been discovered in the Doorn. I immediately had it investigated and I was given the following report by Geenemans and Scribe Leopold Willem Ras. [On f. 56.] I gave orders to have the affected beams covered with nut oil.

23-27 Nothing happened.

28 My company and I went on an outing to the city and the temples. Of his own accord, the governor ordered the Japanese servants to let us enjoy all

freedom possible.

29 Company commodities have been delivered to the merchants.

30 Cloves and pepper have been delivered.

OCTOBER

1 Sugar has been delivered.

2 Last night and today rain with showers from the north.

58 3 Delivery of powdered sugar.

4 Cloves and sugar have been delivered.

5 Cloves and sugar have been delivered. We held a meeting and we decided to announce the appointment of His Honour Pieter Gerardus van Overstraten tomorrow.

6 At dawn the flags were raised both on shore and on board and by order of the High Government in its letter of 14 September we publicly announced the appointment of Mr Pieter Gerardus van Overstraten as Commissioner and Governor-General of the Dutch Indies with all due ceremony.

7 Powdered sugar, pepper, and tin have been delivered.

8 Sugar has been delivered.

59 9 The last of the sugar has been delivered.

10 The third and last viewing days of the *kambang* goods for the merchants.

11 Nothing has been done due to the rainy weather.

12 Wheat has been brought onto the island. Captains Stewart and [Jacob Jebse] Luijt inspected it and 578 bales were shipped. Out of 10 bales one was chosen to assess the tare.

13 544 bales of wheat have been shipped and we assessed the tare like yesterday. The remaining wheat was rejected and we demanded fresh one. Captains Stewart and Luijt, and Scribe Ras were commissioned by me to go to the *Geldkamer* to note the prices for the *kambang* goods. They gave me the following report concerning the Company's velvet and silk fabrics. [On ff. 60-61. Prices offered for them.]

14-15 Nothing to report.

16 Commissioner of the Foreigners Seimon asked if he and the commanders of the shogunal guards can visit me the day after tomorrow.

17 Nothing to report.

18 Commissioner Seimon came with the commanders of the shogunal guards and partook of the midday-meal in my house. At the commissioner's request, both captains were present and they witnessed his exceptional contentment and familiar intercourse with us.

19-23 The Japanese have not been doing anything, because, as they say, they have to wait for the barge with new wheat.

62 24 Some *kambang* goods have been delivered. I urged the *rappoteurs* to make haste with the delivery of the wheat and to order the *compradoors* to see to it that the quality is good.

25 *Kambang* goods have been delivered. The new

Governor of Nagasaki, Iwami-no-kami, arrived today. I sent the *rappoteurs* to welcome him. He is reputed to be a virtuous and gentle regent.

26 *Kambang* goods have been delivered.

27 We inspected a quantity of wheat which had been delivered. Both captains rejected it again. The *rappoteurs* and the *compradoors* promised to deliver a better quality and we have to wait for that.

28 Nothing has been done due to the Japanese *Matsuri*.

29 Nothing to report.

30 Second day of the *Matsuri*.

31 Both governors went to inspect the shogunal guards and subsequently they went on board the ship. They were entertained to their satisfaction.

NOVEMBER

1 The rest of the wheat has been weighed and shipped with the copper frame. In all, the gross weight of the wheat is 167,698 catties and the net weight 152,274 catties. Both governors informed me that they will visit the island tomorrow.

64 2 At ten o'clock in the morning both governors came. I welcomed them at the landgate and entertained them in my house and in the garden. They were very pleased about their reception.

3 On behalf of my masters, I presented the *has-saku* to the governors and other regents of Nagasaki. On this occasion they expressed their regret that as yet no decision had arrived from Edo about the Company's trade. Meanwhile, they hoped that we would receive good news before 20 *Kugatsu*.

4-5 Nothing has been done. I urged the *rappoteurs* to deliver me the shogunal demand.

65 6 100 piculs of the 500 chests of copper which are in the warehouse have been shipped. Captain Stewart declared that no more could be taken on. Some provisions have also been taken on board. I went to the governors for the audience of leave. I had the pleasure of being read a Court order that the copper quota has been increased. The translation has been inserted among the enclosures.

7 Nothing happened.

8 I had the ship mustered and dispatched to the *Papenberg*. I hope that she may arrive safely in the capital.

9-12 I have been looking forward to the shogunal demand.

13-14 Some private goods and provisions have been shipped.

66 15-18 Nothing to report. I have been pressing the *rappoteurs* for the shogunal demand.

19 The *rappoteurs* assured me that the shogunal demand had arrived and was being prepared.

20 The *rappoteurs* handed me the shogunal demand. I prepared all the papers and held a meeting and sealed them. Tomorrow they will be sent aboard with Captains Stewart and Luijt. Herewith I close this diary with the heartfelt wish that an early peace will determine the Company's trade.