

Dagregister of Opperhoofd Johannes Boucheljon

23 October 1655–1 November 1656

1655

October

In the Nagasaki factory
on Tsukishima

Departure of the *Anjelier*

- 1 23 Fine weather, the wind northerly. Around mid-day, Leonard Winnincx departed for Tayouan on the yacht the *Anjelier*. Before he left, on the orders of the Governor-General and the Councillors of the Indies, he transported the Company's effects, worth 44,878 guilders according to the trade books. He is taking with him *schuitzilver*, copper, grains and other goods worth 349,829 guilders. May the Almighty guide him safely to his destination.

In the evening, both secretaries of Governors Yohyōe and Kiemon came to congratulate me on my new charge and to commend us to take care of fire and light, so that no accidents would happen. After they had received the muster-roll of the remaining residents – altogether 14 Dutchmen and six black servants – from Bada Kurōzaemon, the *otona* or supervisor of the island, they left without having dared eat or drink anything.

24 Fine weather, westerly wind. On behalf of *Burgemeester* Sakuemon, Interpreter Sukezaemon came to request the imperial paper which had arrived from Batavia this year for Councillor Sanukino-kami. The *burgemeester* had received orders to send it to Edo at the earliest opportunity.

- 2 Therefore, I handed him two reams or 40 books of the purest and largest size, according to His Honour's order of last year. The governors had also ordered the interpreter to ask if they could also have some of this paper. Because we have an ample supply, I gave him five books for each of the governors.

25 In the morning, the interpreters told me that the governors have issued orders to all citizens of Nagasaki and merchants from outside the city

who are still here, that each of them should write down his status, wealth and means and give the governors the particulars of their purchases both from the Chinese and the Dutch this year, how much money each had spent and how much they had left. The interpreters did not know the purpose of all this.

26 The *otona* and the interpreters came on the island and told us that they had heard that the governors had received orders from Edo that the 1316 piculs of white raw Chinese silk which had been accepted on the Shogun's account on 27 May after the abolition of the *pancado* – half of which was kept here on Tsukishima and the other half in Osaka Castle – should be sold off for the same price to the merchants of Miyako, Osaka, Sakai and the greater part should be distributed to the merchants of Nagasaki. That was the reason why the merchants and the citizens had been asked to state their status and what they could afford. They said that the silk would be fetched from our warehouses shortly, as soon as the governors had decided on the division. Payment will be made in three months. All those who have a share, will enjoy great profits. At today's market price, a pack of 50 catties, without payment of money and just handing it over, makes 40 taels. If people had known of this apportionment before the sale of the Company's Bengal silk, we would have sold it for a much lower price and the Company would have suffered.

- 3 According to the interpreters, the governors had been informed of the order to share it out some days before. They had waited till after the departure of the ships to avoid harming the Company.

27 On behalf of Governor Kiemon, Sukezaemon came to pay for some plush, spectacles, spyglasses and reading glasses, which had been fetched during the term of office of Winnincx. But he paid just 20 taels or 57 guilders for the plush which cost 220 guilders in the Netherlands. This is the same price for

which he received it in the past. The cost price was paid for the other items. Today the island and the warehouses have been cleaned.

28 The four Company sampans – which are used to unload and load the ships – have been breamed to protect them against worms. At springtide they will be beached. Interpreters Hachizaemon, Magobei and Shichibei told us that the envoys from Korea – numbering with their retinue a total of 600 people – had set off for Edo five weeks ago to congratulate the Shogun for the first time on his accession. They are bearing gifts consisting of gold cloth, ginseng, wax, honey and some other native products. They travelled from Korea via Tsushima – called the *Quelpaert* on our maps – where the lord welcomed them lavishly and supplied them with suitable vessels to travel by sea to Osaka. They also said that the roads between Miyako and Edo had been cleaned. These envoys are treated regally everywhere on the Shogun's account and great honours are bestowed upon them.

29 Today is the first day of the 10th Japanese month. The *otona* and the interpreters came to visit us on their holiday. They announced that the governors had shared out the aforesaid white silk. Each Nagasaki citizen who had just 500 taels of silver had been given a pack, the heads or supervisors of the streets had each been given two packs. All the merchants who are from out of town but who are still here had each been given his share. But they and the Chinese interpreters had missed out on it.

- 4 Yesterday Interpreter Hachizaemon asked me for the paper which had come this year for the Lord of Arima. When he was on his way to bring him some of the large size, he held it up to the light and discovered that it was marked with a French lily and a cross in popish fashion. He dared not take it. Now that we were all together, we decided to show the governors a sheet of each kind. They did and returned within the hour with the governors' orders to hand over all such marked paper to Kurōzaemon, the supervisor of this island, because they did not want any to be distributed here. I handed Kurōzaemon, who was also present, two reams of various sizes bound together and sealed by

the interpreters. Kurōzaemon went to report this to the governors.

30 In the morning, Sakuemon and three other Nagasaki *burgemeesters* came with some merchants from Miyako, Osaka and some citizens here and a large crowd of servants and workmen. They opened the warehouses where the white silk is kept. Each was given his share according to the governors' division. The *burgemeesters* were occupied with this till the afternoon. In the meantime, I went to greet them and invited them to my lodgings for some refreshments. They were grateful, but had to excuse themselves because they were too busy. Governor Kiemon, to whom they have to report this, will set off for Edo tomorrow. Thus I sent them some *sakana* and tent wine. They consumed a fair amount. After they were finished, they left in the evening together. All the silk has been taken from the warehouses. This suits us very well and will be of convenience to us in the coming trading season. Because the governor will depart for Edo tomorrow, I sent the interpreters to ask if we could say farewell personally. On their return they reported that he had not been at home, but they had given the message to his secretary.

- 5 31 Fine weather. The governor left at dawn. The four sampans were beached on the west side of the bay. They have been covered with *toma* to protect them against rain and sun. In the evening, the interpreters told me that Kiemon had appreciated my request to visit him, but he had been too busy and was expecting me shortly in Edo. He would do his best to assist me there. The governor had also commended them that we should take a fair amount of tent wine to Edo, because several gentlemen had been requesting this. I have been discussing the camphor with Magobei. He said that he had spoken to the supplier several times, but that the latter insisted on 9.5 taels per picul. He claims that the camphor is costing him 9 taels in Satsuma, to which the further expenses and the short weight have to be added. Thus his profits on 300 piculs at 9.5 taels would not exceed 50 or 60 taels at the most. He also said that every day there was work in abundance in the gold mines in Satsuma and most workers

and camphor burners have gone there looking for employment, because there has been little demand for camphor for some years now. I agreed to offer him 92 mas. He would bring the decision tomorrow.

November

1 In the morning, I was told that the camphor would cost me no less than 95 mas. I commended the interpreters to bring the supplier to me so that I could settle with him on the delivery of 300 piculs.

3 I learnt that on the 30th of last month the governor had made the following division of the silk: [listed number of packs of 50 catties each, assorted] for the first *burgemeester* Sakuemon, nineteen; the three *burgemeesters* Shirōbei, Hikoemon and Shōzaemon, thirteen each; Mattaseijmon and Jossoseijmon, supervisors of the outskirts of this city, seven each; the supervisors or heads of the main streets, two each; the supervisors of the lower streets, one-and-a-half each;

6 the experts on calambac, rayskins and other rarities, one each; the merchants who are estimated to be worth 10,000–30,000 taels, three each; those who are worth 5–9 chests, two each; and those worth 500–4500 taels, one each. Each pack will cost them with expenses $201\frac{3}{5}$ taels.

4 The *otona* came with the interpreters Sukezaemon and Nihyōe to ask for 3000 taels of silver for *Burgemeester* Sakuemon. It had been promised him as a loan before Winnincx' departure for a short period until I arrive in Osaka. Because we do not lose and we can oblige him, I handed them three chests or 3000 taels of the Company's money in return for a debenture promising that the sum will be repaid either in gold or in silver, whichever I prefer, when I arrive in Osaka.

5 I have contracted for 300 piculs of Japanese camphor for 95 mas per picul on condition that payment would be made as soon as 100 piculs were ready and we had approved the quality. It is true that the price is half a tael per picul higher than two years ago, but one has to take into account the probable reasons for the high price and also that this year not a single catty had been bought nor sent, because the camphor had been kept at 15 taels. In order that the

burning of camphor will not be stopped completely, we have decided to accept this price, the more so because it is not in excess of its value and previously 12 taels or more have been paid per picul. I was also told that the citizens of Nagasaki have already sold their white silk for 240 taels per pack of 50 catties. This means that they made a profit of 38.5 taels on each pack, which is substantial, the more so because it is done without the expenditure of money. In the evening, two junks left for China. We could not find out precisely what their cargoes consist of, because they are made up of various small stuff and many factors are involved.

7 8 Two small junks returned to Anhai.

10 Magobei told me that on 21 October a huge and devastating fire had struck Edo. Within twenty-four hours, eighty streets – of sixty houses each – had been burnt to ashes. The lodgings of the Dutch are supposed to have fallen victim to it too. We shall be given confirmation shortly.

11 Two more junks left for Anhai. Magobei told me that the delivery of the camphor which we had contracted for on the 5th was in doubt. News had come that most of the workmen are being employed in the mines. He said that the contractor had left for Satsuma yesterday to see if the workmen could be induced to take up the burning process again. If this was possible, he would deliver us 200 piculs within four months. If there was a shortage of workmen, this would be impossible and his promises would be empty.

12 Three junks departed for China. The *otona* visited me and told me that confirmation had come that our lodgings in Edo had burnt to the ground. This will be an inconvenience, for we are to travel there shortly. He also said that Tosack, the Japanese doctor, had died at the house of Chikugo-no-kami.

14–15 Five junks left for Anhai and Fuzhou.

16 Fine weather. On behalf of the governors, the interpreter came with the *otona* to ask us for the date on which we intend to undertake the court journey. I told them that I was almost ready and could depart when His Honour was pleased to order me so. We could set off around 10 or 15 December – as had been done now for some years. They also

discussed the Japanese servants who would be needed. They said four of the governors' secretaries had been recommended and, according to annual custom, two of the *onderbongioisen*. There should also be a *sakana* preparer, a clerk, a cook, a washerman and a caretaker, in all 11 men.

8 I told them that eight persons would be sufficient and we could even do with fewer. The others would only add to the expenses and be of no service to us. Thus I commended they discuss this and propose it to the secretaries. Because we have to notify the governors here of anything we wish to suggest or request in Edo, I proposed to them that it was necessary to request the Court that the ship's hatches be left unsealed, like those of the warehouses. Also, that the date for the departure of the ships be set on the last day of the 9th Japanese month instead of on the 20th, thus an extension of ten days. Every year we experience that we run short of time, because one cannot predict sea journeys, and although the ships are dispatched early most of the time, they appear here tardily and late. This was the case this year and in particular with regard to the yacht the *Anjelier*. They replied that these petitions were fair but they thought it better to consult *Burgemeester* Sakuemon first, who, as far as we can ascertain, is favourably disposed towards the Company. I also told them that before we go to Edo, I should like to test the iron rockets, which arrived last year for Chikugo-no-kami, but had been shipped away on the *Kalf* by mistake and which the *Arnemuiden* had now brought back from Tayouan, to see if they were still all right and if they could handle them properly. They promised to request this.

9 They returned in the afternoon to say that they had notified *Burgemeester* Sakuemon of the aforesaid and he had replied that it would be unwise to request an extension of the departure of the ships, because this had been ordered by the Court once and for all and we had already requested this earlier. Moreover, next year it would be Governor Yohyōe's turn to undertake the journey and he would be unwilling to listen to such proposals. With regard to leaving the ship's hatches unsealed, it would be best to leave it as it was, because it would be better if

it happened without asking, which it undoubtedly would, as it happened this year with regard to the warehouses. In his opinion it would be best to be patient, it was not possible to achieve everything in one year, but it would happen gradually, as it did this year. They had also taken our reply concerning the court journey to the governor. He had decided on the 15th of the 12th month – which is 10 December on our calendar¹ – and he has also granted permission to test the iron rockets.

18 Two junks returned to Fuzhou. The interpreters came with three *bongioisen*. The governor has sent them to witness the testing of the rockets. The *bongioisen* removed eight of the rockets from the sealed powder magazine and we all went to the end of the bay to Kibachi, where we fired the rockets. The largest ones were very good and set off powerfully, but the smallest ones fell to the earth and into the water before they were halfway through and kept on burning for a while – probably because of the weight of the iron and not being filled with enough material. They thought that we should take just some of the largest ones to Edo and to leave the smallest here.

10 They said that many such rockets are being made here, but without the iron casings, and the Chinese also bring them. If they were found acceptable, we could send for the remainder. It seems that they have been imagining some different and more operations for these. On our return the interpreters went to report to the governor and to thank him for his permission.

19 On behalf of *Burgemeester* Sakuemon, Sukezaemon asked me for the white plush bed-tick and two globes which had arrived on the order of Inaba Mino-no-kami, Lord of Odawara. Sakuemon had been given orders to send them to the lord as soon as possible. I handed the objects to Sukezaemon with the cost price in the Netherlands. In the afternoon, three junks set off for Anhai and Zhoushan.

22 In the evening, a Nanking junk, which left two days ago, returned to the roadstead because of a contrary westerly wind.

1 Sic. 11 January 1656.

24 Yohyōe sent Magobei for another prepared swanskin, which I gave to him. He also wanted to see the pistols which have arrived. They are in the custody of the *otona* and they were taken to the governor. In the afternoon, four junks returned to China.

26 The interpreters, who had been treated to dinner by Governor Yohyōe – which happens once a year – came to inform me that included with the letters to the councillors, the governor had sent a letter to our landlord Gen'emō and had urged him to rebuild his burnt-down house and be quick about it. If it could not be done in time, he should look out for suitable accommodations for us while we are in Edo. We shall receive a reply before our departure or perhaps on the way.

- 11 They also asked for the price of the pistols that were fetched yesterday, because the governors wished to keep one of the smallest, a puffer. I told them 10 taels, which is about the cost price.

27 Rainy weather. Today is the last day of the 10th Japanese month and Coxinga's junk, which arrived lately, returned to China. In the evening, another large junk sailed to Quinam loaded with cash [coins], copper, iron, cotton and earthenware. The governor returned the pistols, except for the puffer.

29 Hachizaemon came to ask for 2 *gantang* of butter for the Lord of Hirado, which were given to him.

December

1 The governor sent for 5 taels' weight of mumia, and, if possible, for some of the *bilili*, which has arrived. I obliged him. Sukezaemon will accompany us to Edo. I handed him the money for the rent of the barges, the remuneration for the interpreter and the *bongiois* and also the pay for the servants – to whose number two servants of the governor's household have been added. Old interpreter Kichibyōe came and explained to his colleagues the potency and virtues of the *bilili*. They wrote it down and took it to the governor.

3 On behalf of the governor, Sukezaemon came to thank me for the *bilili*, with which the governor had been very pleased.

4 The governor has appointed young interpreter Nihyōe to accompany us to Edo with Sukezaemon to gain experience in the Company's affairs at the Court. The entry of 25 July in last year's *dagre-gister* mentioning this interpreter's appointment, also mentions that this will happen every year, but in turn.

8 Sukezaemon came with three of the governor's *bongioisen* to fetch some tent wine and wine for the Lords of Hizen and Higo. I had it handed to them.

- 12 12 The *otona*, the interpreters and their sons, and all other Japanese who earn a living on Tsukishima were invited to dinner. In the evening, they said goodbye cheerily.

13 My guests of yesterday came to thank me for the hospitality. I handed Nihyōe 10 *schuiten* of silver at 43 mas each to cover his expenses on the court journey. He was also given some black baize for a travel coat. The other interpreters always receive 50 *schuiten* of silver, thus this is not too much and will suffice for the time being. Sukezaemon told us that the governor's secretary had told him that we shall not be able to leave before the 20th or the 24th. The *bongiois* who has been appointed to escort us is also one of Yohyōe's secretaries and he will not be ready before that date. This will not be an inconvenience, even if we were to travel later.

14 The *otona* told me that the envoys from Korea have already left Edo. On their journey up and down their expenses have been defrayed by the lords and in Edo return gifts have been bestowed liberally upon them. According to him, they have made a large sum of money out of this salutation. When we are in Edo, we shall have confirmation of this. The barge on which we shall travel to Osaka has been brought in front of the island.

15 The interpreters told me that they had informed Yohyōe of the 10 *schuiten* of silver which Nihyōe received on the 12th for the court journey. Magobei came to fetch a *gantang* of tent wine for the governor.

21 Everything is ready for the court journey. After having received permission, I went with Merchant Johan Oetgens and Junior Merchant Messteecker to say goodbye to Yohyōe.

- 13 I asked for a favourable recommendation. He appeared affable. He promised to give me letters for Kiemon and Chikugo-no-kami. He did not doubt that we would be given an early dispatch and he wished us a propitious journey. He would look after the remaining residents on Tsukishima. I thanked him and was given my leave. We returned to the lodge. Two *bongioisen* came shortly after and opened the water-gate. The goods and the provisions have been loaded on the barge and we prepared for our departure tomorrow.

Court journey

22 Fine weather. After I had commended the factory members who are staying behind both orally and in writing to carry out their duties properly, I embarked together with Merchant Johan Oetgens, a surgeon and two assistants, the *bongioisen*, the interpreters and the Japanese servants. The *otona*, the interpreters, their sons and a crowd of other Japanese came with their *sakana* and after we had spent a while together, they were given a gift of silver according to custom. They said goodbye in the evening and returned to the shore. We rowed out of the bay and anchored off Kibachi.

In the barge

- 23–25 We had to stay because of the steady north-westerly wind.
- 26 We set sail with an easterly wind. In the evening, we passed the Seto Strait and around midnight we anchored in the Bay of Kawachi.
- 27 In the morning, at high tide, we rowed away. Around eight o'clock we arrived at Hirado. We had to remain there because of the tempestuous weather, although the wind was westerly.
- 28 Before dawn we weighed anchor, but when we were outside, the wind shot in from the east and we had to stay in the Bay of Tasuke.
- 14 We set sail with a south-easterly wind and a multitude of barges. In the afternoon, we reached the Bay of Yobuko. Then the wind started to shift to the north-east, which is adverse.

1656

January

- 7 We had to remain here for nine days and nights because of the contrary wind. In the afternoon, the sky overcast, we set sail with a fresh westerly wind. But when we were outside, the sea was so turbulent that these barges were in danger. But we had to go on and in the evening, having withstood some great perils, we arrived safely in the Bay of Ainoshiba.
- 8 In the morning the surrounding mountains were covered with snow. We had to remain here because of the hard wind.
- 9 We set sail with a westerly wind. We passed Kajime-no-Ōshima and reached the roadstead of Shimonoseki in the evening.
- 10 Two hours before dawn we left, but by sunrise the wind shot around from the east and because there was no place to anchor here, we had to return to Shimonoseki. The Korean embassy is expected here any day and we could not purchase any food, which is otherwise plentifully available. Orders from higher-up have been given to collect everything and keep it for the arrival of the Koreans.
- 15 We have spent five days and nights here because of adverse winds. We left in the morning with a south-westerly wind. In the evening, we sailed through the Strait of Kaminoseki. At midnight we anchored off Tsuwa.
- 16 We left before dawn. The wind was westerly and we reached Bingo-no-Tomo in the evening. We waited there for high tide and then set sail again.
- 17 We passed Hibi and in the afternoon Ushimado. In the evening, we arrived with a northerly wind off Muro.
- 15 We intended to anchor here, but when we turned around the corner of the bay, we saw many unusually wide *hayafune*, lavishly decorated with *schanskleden*, and also some Korean vessels – which look like Chinese *coyas* – lying there. We were told that the Korean envoys and their entourage had been carried on them from Osaka. They had waited in the bay for eighteen days for a favourable wind. Apparently they are not in a hurry. The principal

men had been splendidly entertained on shore and had great honours bestowed on them. This is a clear indication of how highly this empire regards the subservience of these people and the salutation they give to the Shogun. We remained anchored outside the bay.

18 After midnight we left again, but after having sailed for two hours, the hard headwinds forced us to return to our former anchoring place. The Koreans left at dawn in six vessels. It is said that they number three hundred men, including the sailors. They were accompanied by twenty-five to thirty *hayafune* and a crowd of people. It seemed as if a whole army was breaking camp, there was such a noise when they were preparing to leave. They were also blowing horns and shawms, like on the Nanking junks. I have been told for a fact that the sojourn of these people here during the voyage up and at present, which is a total of twenty-one days, is costing the lord of this domain around 100 chests of silver or 100,000 taels, which is an enormous amount.

In the afternoon, it began to snow. Because we have to stay here and we have spent quite some time in the barge, at the request of our *bongiois*, we went ashore together and went to a bath-house to clean ourselves. In the evening, we returned to the barge and when the moon rose we set sail with a westerly breeze.

19 The snow lay thickly on the mountains we were passing. We passed Akashi and dropped anchor off Hyōgo. We sent a servant ahead to Osaka to announce our arrival to the landlord.

In Osaka

16 20 Three hours before dawn we proceeded on our journey. Shortly after noon we reached the river of Osaka, where Ebiya Shirōemon met us on his vessel. We boarded it and around three o'clock we arrived in Osaka at our usual inn. We have spent thirty days on the journey by sea, which is exceptionally long. Our *bongiois* San'emon immediately went with our landlord to announce our arrival to the governors. They requested permission for me to visit the officials personally tomorrow. In the evening, they

returned and told me that these gentlemen were pleased with our safe arrival and their secretaries had said that tomorrow would be convenient. All our luggage has been brought from the barge in good order and we prepared the gifts for the governors and had presentations trays made.

21 Fine weather. Around ten o'clock we went to greet the governors, Soga Tanba-no-kami and Matsudaira Hayato-sama, according to custom with the gifts mentioned below. They were both at home and after a short wait they received us. They treated us affably and wished us a propitious journey. After a few unimportant questions we were given our leave and we returned to our lodgings. The gifts for each governor consists of one piece of *rasset*, one piece of camlet and three pieces of Bengal *gingham*. The secretaries of the governors each received two pieces of *taffachelas gingham*. We have been busy preparing for the land journey and hiring horses and bearers. We want to leave as soon as possible.

17 In the evening, our landlord in Miyako came to welcome us. At the request of old Soijin, Shirōemon's father, we went together to the *furo* or bath in his house.

22 Heavy rain all day. We have been preparing for the journey, hiring horses and bearers and contracting with Shirōemon for the timber and other goods that Batavia has ordered and also for some necessities for the factory. We also received 300 gold *koban* from him in partial payment of the 3000 taels which we lent to Sakuemon in Nagasaki on 4 November. We do not need the rest of the money in Edo and he will keep it till we return. On behalf of the governor and Sakuemon, the *bongiois* and the interpreters have brought some goods for Chikugo-no-kami and other lords in Edo. We had been informed of this before. We shall have to take them to Edo on the Company's account, as we have to do every year. Itamij Mattaijmon, the landlord of the Nagasaki Governors here, requested that we take a teapot for Kiemon. Because it is a small thing and for courtesy's sake, we shall do so. In the evening, we were ready and if the weather is fine and dry tomorrow, we shall set off.

On the highway

Arrival in Miyako

23 After midnight the rain stopped and the sky cleared. Thus I sent for Sukezaemon and urged him to depart. When he saw the clear sky, he promptly gave orders to get the horses and summoned all the bearers and other people. Everything was ready by eight o'clock and we left Osaka. The road was very muddy. We lunched at Hirakata and passed Fushimi and arrived in Miyako at the house of Kōzuke Saburōemon, our lodgings, in the evening. I thought it necessary to send Sukezaemon to Makino Sado-no-kami (the son of the late councillor Makino Takumi-no-kami),

18 who used to be the regent of the present Shogun in Edo and who has taken up the office of *Grootrechter* and Governor of Miyako a short while ago and whom for many years we used to visit in Edo and present with gifts on the Company's behalf, to request that I be allowed to greet His Honour personally and also request a pass for the land journey.

24 Early in the morning, Sukezaemon went there and on his return he told me that he had conveyed my request and the message to the secretary. He had waited for a short while and then Sado-no-kami, who still knew him very well, had asked him to come in and after some small talk had told him that every year the Dutch captains had requested a visit to his predecessor Suō-no-kami when they passed through, but that it had always been refused – which is true. Nonetheless, as a token of the good feelings which he had always fostered for the Company, he would permit it this time. The interpreter happily announced it as a great honour and a sign of the Company's good standing. Therefore, with all due speed we went to his house with such goods, or those of equal value, as we used to present to him in Edo. There we were led to a costly hall and after we had sat for a while, the secretary informed us that shortly before we arrived, his master had been summoned to the palace of the *Dairi*. But he had his secretary prepare the pass for us and had him tell us that on our return from Edo we should visit

him again, because he would like to speak to us. We thanked him and left the hall. Outside we presented the secretary as usual with a small gift.

19 But he apologized, saying that his lord had ordered him not to accept anything from anyone, however small the gift. However, he was grateful for the offer and he would inform his master when he came home. We said goodbye and returned to the inn. The gifts to His Honour consist of: one piece of red *stamet*, one piece of *rasset*, one piece of English damask, five Bengal *chela* and five ditto *sestienes*. We left in the afternoon, had some refreshments in Ōtsu and in the evening we arrived in Kusatsu, where we spent the night.

25 Before dawn we proceeded on our journey, we lunched in Minakuchi and arrived in Sekinojizō in the evening.

26 We left early, lunched in Ishiyakushi and in the evening with rain and snow, we arrived in Kuwana. We had to spend the night here because of the rain and also because it is the final day of the year.

27 *Shōgatsu*, the first day of the Japanese New Year, called *Saru*.² In the morning our luggage was loaded on the barge. I paid the landlord a little more than ordinary because he had entertained us on this holiday and gave him three inferior quality *allegias* for his children. We sailed to Miya on a westerly wind and arrived there at noon and had lunch. We travelled on to Chiryū, where we spent the night.

28 We proceeded on our way, stopped for refreshments in Okazaki, because the *bongiois* had to attend to some business in the castle for the governor, and we spent the night in Akasaka.

29 We left before dawn, arrived in Yoshida at sunrise. There we had to leave the case with pistols behind in the custody of the *otona*, because the shogunal guards will not let it pass without orders from Edo.

20 We took the rockets to Arai. We had a meal there and obtained permission from the guard to take them with us. In the evening, we arrived in Hamamatsu.

² The Year of the Monkey.

30 We went on our way and lunched in Fukuroi. We spent the night in Kanaya.

31 We left at daybreak. We crossed the Ōi-gawa, the water-level was low, had lunch in Okabe and spent the night in Ejiri.

February

1 We left before dawn. We lunched in Yoshiwara and spent the night in Mishima.

2 We crossed the Hakone Mountains. Midway we met the second son of Mito Chūnagon, called Matsudaira Ukyō. He is travelling to Miyako on behalf of the Shogun to greet the *Dairi* in his newly-built palace. He is accompanied by a large entourage of nobles, musketeers and attendants, all in order. When they approached, we stepped beside the road and greeted His Honour in this country's fashion. We proceeded on our way and in the evening we arrived in Odawara at the foot of the mountains. We spent the night there.

3 We left at daybreak. Today we met three envoys of the Shogun's great-uncles, namely Kinokuni, Owari and Mito. They are travelling together to Miyako for the same purpose of greeting the *Dairi*. All are accompanied by a large and stately entourage. We lunched in Ōiso and spent the night in Totsuka.

Arrival in Edo

4 Cold weather. Before dawn we set off. Around ten o'clock we had a meal in Kawasaki and in the afternoon we arrived safely in the shogunal city of Edo. As has been stated before several times, the house of our landlord and our lodgings burnt to ashes last October,

21 but we found that it had been rebuilt very well and comfortably to accommodate us. The room is larger by half. The work had been done with great speed at the urgent commendations of Kiemon and Chikugo-no-kami, as was clear from the surrounding empty places. I had Sukezaemon immediately inform Commissioner Chikugo-no-kami and the Nagasaki Governor Kiemon of our arrival and the long journey by sea. He should also request their assistance to achieve an early dispatch. On his return in the evening, he told me that he had

not seen Kiemon, but he had spoken to Chikugo-no-kami. He was pleased with our safe arrival. He would send for us shortly. He was hopeful that we would be given audience with the Shogun soon. Therefore, he commended us to prepare the gifts in time. He wished to see the list with the goods and rarities that we had brought and also what we had brought for him. I notified the interpreter the same night and he wrote it down in Japanese.

5 Last night there was heavy snowfall and in the morning the snow lay one foot thick on the roofs. Very early I sent Sukezaemon with the list to Chikugo-no-kami. He should also thank him on my behalf for the good hope he had given me of an early audience. He returned in the afternoon and reported that he had spoken to His Honour in person and had conveyed him my message. He brought a memorandum of some rarities which His Honour was eager to see. I had them collected promptly. In the meantime Governor Kiemon sent for the interpreter and told him that he was pleased about our safe arrival. He had heard from Chikugo-no-kami that we would be given an early dispatch and he had no doubts about this.

22 His mother died thirty-five days ago. According to this nation's mourning customs, he cannot go out for fifty days, nor go to the castle. Therefore we should address ourselves to Chikugo-no-kami. He would do what he could to assist us. He was grateful for the things we had brought for him from Nagasaki and Osaka. In the afternoon, I sent Sukezaemon to the house of Chikugo-no-kami with the things that were asked for today. They are 4 strings of amber beads, one box with various ornamental flowers and bouquets, three glass bottles containing some wooden craftwork, the iron arms and legs, one piece of white deep-pile Italian plush, two surgeon's dressing-cases and twenty rayskins. He should ask Chikugo-no-kami if there were any rarities among them which would be suitable to present to the Shogun. He returned in the evening and reported that Chikugo-no-kami thought that the amber beads, the ornamental *cloosterwerck*, and the bottles with craftwork were something new and would be suitable to include with the Shogun's

gifts. The white plush was unsuitable, but we might oblige the councillors, they being elderly men, with it. His Honour had repeated that it was likely that we would appear with our gifts in the castle on the 10th of this month, which is 15 *Shōgatsu*. He urged us to be ready. Today we unpacked all the goods we have brought and found them to be in good order. In the evening, we divided the gifts for His Majesty, the councillors and other gentlemen, for the greater part the same as we had presented them last year.

6 Early in the morning, I gave the interpreter and the landlord the list with the division of the gifts to have it translated into Japanese and take it to Chikugo-no-kami. But while we were busy doing so, Inoue Uneme-dono, who is married to the daughter of Chikugo-no-kami's son,

- 23 came to visit us. We entertained him and he asked about the things we had brought this time. Although I wanted to postpone giving him anything till after the presentation of the gifts, because then we would know for certain what would be left over, I had to do so now. He also asked for red coral beads and because we have brought a string – which is too inferior to be presented to the Shogun, but which, however, is the best string of all those that were brought this year – at the express repeated request of Mito Chūnagon, the Shogun's great-uncle – to whom Uneme-dono is attached as one of his courtiers – I handed it to him to show to his master. He could select those that he liked or keep the whole string. Shortly after, Genzō, the son of Chikugo-no-kami's son, came to view the rarities and other goods we had brought. I also treated him to tent wine and *sakana*. After about an hour he left full of gratitude. In the evening, while I was still busy with the interpreter and the landlord writing down the list of gifts in Japanese, a messenger came from Chikugo-no-kami with a note that the day of our audience had been set on 15 *Shōgatsu*, which is four days from now. I had the messenger thank His Honour on my behalf for this good news.

When we had finished writing down the gifts, I sent Sukezaemon with the memorandum to Chikugo-no-kami and had him thank His Honour for the good news. I would appreciate His Honour's advice

and approval of the items on the list. I should also like to know if some pistols, spyglasses, reading glasses, mirrors and such could be included in the gifts for the councillors. These are new things and I have brought an ample supply.

- 24 In the meantime, the presentation trays were ordered, the goods were selected and packed together.

Around ten o'clock the interpreter returned with Chikugo-no-kami's reply that the gifts we had selected met with his approval. He only replaced the pistols for the councillors with two fine, large pairs of spectacles for each – which His Honour had previously ordered for himself and which have now been brought. He also thought it advisable to present Kutsuki Minbu-no-shō with one of the pieces of plush and Sanuki-no-kami with some fabric such as linen like [we do] every year instead of European goods.

7 Rain. At the request of the secretary, Oeffioje, Sukezaemon took the memorandum of the goods we had remaining and a decoratively embroidered, small jewellery coffer to the house of Chikugo-no-kami. He thought the small coffer was also rare and suitable to be presented to the Shogun, because there are few rarities included in his gifts.

In the afternoon, on behalf of his master, Fatsiroseijmon, secretary of Governor Kiemon, came to congratulate me on the audience I shall shortly be given. I reciprocated his compliments and entertained him. He left in the evening.

But downstairs he had words with the interpreter about the speedy construction of our accommodation. This had been done on his master's orders. This had increased the costs of the landlord compared to those if it had been rebuilt at leisure and we should take this into account, as if he wanted to say that we should compensate him for it. Others have implied this even more clearly to the interpreter. We packed the gifts for the Shogun and each councillor in separate papers. The whole day it poured with rain.

- 25 8 In the morning, on the orders of his master, Interpreter Sinnemon came to note down the preparation of some medicines. He wished to know the cure for kidney stones or gravel, which

is increasingly bothering Chikugo-no-kami. The surgeon gave him some instruction and told him that there were several medicines among the ones we had brought this time, which were very useful against gravel, if they were prepared beforehand and mixed with various ingredients. He also compared some plasters and salves, which had been noted down beforehand to be prepared and when he was finished and everything had been written in Japanese by our clerk, he took the memorandum with him to report to his master. Uneme-dono paid me another visit with one of his companions. I entertained him properly and after he had sat for a long time and had inspected everything thoroughly, he left, taking with him some small things. He said that he would send us a swan shortly as a gift.

9 Steady rain. In the morning, I sent Sukezaemon to Chikugo-no-kami to request permission to visit him in person, mainly to greet him and thank him properly for his efforts in obtaining an early audience. On his return he told me that Chikugo-no-kami had intended to send for me, but he was very busy this month, being *Shōgatsu*. Moreover, we needed time to prepare ourselves. He would expect us at his house after we had paid homage to His Majesty. His Honour had had a long conversation with the interpreter. We should be ready early tomorrow.

- 26 There were some other gentlemen who needed white plush and we should oblige them as much as we could in the best interests of the Company. To accommodate each one, the plush which was intended for the councillors should be decreased by a third – which is the length of a Japanese gown – and His Honour would keep the remainder till further notice. Notwithstanding the heavy rain, on my behalf, Sukezaemon went to thank Governor Kiemon for his assistance. He was pleased and repeated that the death of his mother prevented him from appearing at the Court tomorrow, but Chikugo-no-kami would deputize for him. I should feel at ease. Genzō-dono paid me another visit and also inquired after some of the goods remaining. I told him that not all the gifts had been divided and I was not certain which goods would be left over, the more so because his grandfather, Chikugo-no-kami,

has had Senoosje inform us today that we should not give anything to anyone, whomsoever it might be, without his orders. But I promised to oblige him when the gifts had been presented with whatever we could spare. In the evening, we went to the house of our landlord's father-in-law for a bath in his *furo*, to cleanse ourselves for tomorrow, as is the custom of this country. In the meantime, Chikugo-no-kami sent me a note that we would appear at Court with our gifts even if it rained. I sent Sukezaemon to thank him. We prepared everything for tomorrow. The Japanese memoranda, which are placed on top of the gifts, were written out. Horses and bearers were ordered.

- 27 Nothing is left wanting for our procession to the Court.

Audience

10 Today is 15 *Shōgatsu*, an ordinary day of audience. Fine weather. Around nine o'clock in the morning, after Chikugo-no-kami had sent a messenger that we should send the gifts on ahead, we went to the castle. On arrival, we were shown into the ordinary waiting hall. While we were sitting there, we were looked at by a crowd of great nobles, who were passing. We also saw Mito Chūnagon, the Lord of Satsuma, several priests and other courtiers of the *Dairi*, dressed in various fashions, pass. They had come to greet the Shogun. In the meantime, Chikugo-no-kami came to congratulate us on this happy day and tell us that we should wait a while longer. When he left, His Honour called Sukezaemon and showed him the place where and how we should pay reverence. Shortly after several lords had left, I was called by Chikugo-no-kami. I stood up and together with the interpreter followed His Honour along the gallery. We turned two or three corners and went through halls filled with gentlemen sitting in double rows till we reached the hall where the gifts were set out in order. I knelt down and Chikugo-no-kami gave me a signal to come a little closer. When I looked up – but just with a turn – I saw the Japanese Shogun, standing on a raised platform dressed in black. At once Councillor Sakai Uta-no-kami, who was sitting on a

lower platform opposite His Majesty with his head bent, called out in a clear voice ‘Oranda Kapitan’, which means ‘He is paying homage to Your Majesty’. I lay down with my head bowed and stood up. Then I returned with the interpreter along the same path to the first waiting place.

- 28 After a short wait we were given orders to leave and shortly after midday we returned to our lodgings. At three o’clock we went to the house of Chikugo-no-kami to thank him for his fatherly care in promoting our affairs. When we appeared before him, he treated us very affably. He was very pleased about this happy day for us. Because he was tired and had to go to the castle again today, we just stayed for a short while. Then we went to the house of Kiemon, whom we also met in person. He wished us much happiness and treated us to *sake* and *sakana*. He would be sending mail to Nagasaki tomorrow and if we so wished, we could also send a letter. I thanked him for his beneficent assistance and returned home. On behalf of his master, Sinnemon came to tell us that a certain Foerino Oenemi-dono, a *tono* in the domain of Bungo, was very ill and would request some cure for his illness tomorrow. Thus the surgeon should be at home. Late in the evening, a servant of Owari-no-kami came to ask if we had brought anything rare for his master’s son, who was still young and very curious. I showed him what we had left, he selected a branch of red coral, some crystal glasses, spectacles, reading glasses, mirrors and spyglasses. After we had entertained him, he also took a bottle of English spirits. It was late and tomorrow he would come for the thrum blanket which his master had ordered last year and which we had now brought.

11 Fine weather. In the morning, we went to greet the Councillors Matsudaira Izu-no-kami, Abe Bungo-no-kami, Sakai Sanuki-no-kami,

- 29 Sakai Uta-no-kami and other high officials such as Andō Ukyō-sama, Matsudaira Izumo-no-kami, Kutsuki Minbu-no-shō, Ishigaya Shōgen and Kan’o Bizen-no-kami, with gifts in the old manner. Apart from Andō Ukyō-sama, who was ill, as usual we found none of them at home. Their secretaries or major-domos politely accepted the gifts.

They promised to inform their masters when they returned from the palace. Afterwards we returned home. A short while later, one of the secretaries of Mito Chūnagon came to congratulate us on our success at Court. I entertained him as best as I could and asked him about the string of red coral beads which we had given Uneme-dono for his master a few days ago. He replied that his master had not seen it yet, but that he was very eager for large and unblemished beads, irregardless of the costs. We told him that this was the best string of the ones that had come this year and that it was very difficult to obtain such fine beads without any blemish, not one among a thousand. This was the reason that we had not been able to oblige His Honour with his long-standing order, but we would continue our unstinting efforts. The secretary understood this and he promised to notify his master at the next opportunity. I treated him to some spirits. He asked if he could take a bottle with him. I obliged him and told him that if his master liked it, we could supply him in future. The aforesaid Foerino Oenemi-dono was carried to our lodgings in a *norimono*. Our surgeon examined and questioned him.

- 30 He did have some remedy to ease the pain but nothing to cure him completely. The patient’s age was too advanced and the illness, which was mainly cramped and weakened nerves, had already persisted for twenty years. But he promised to prepare some medicines and to do his utmost to cure him as best as possible. The poor man was grateful and was placed back in the *norimono* and carried home. I also prepared a letter for Nagasaki which will be sent with Kiemon’s mail tomorrow morning. Sukezaemon also took some goods to Chikugo-no-kami which had been ordered today. Around midnight he returned and reported that Chikugo-no-kami had selected some items from the goods, but returned most of them – although they had been ordered expressly by him – mainly so that we could oblige several powerful lords who do not accept any gifts. Sukezaemon had spoken at length with His Honour. He said that the only reason for this – which I believe to be true – is to become acquainted with these gentlemen and encourage

their favourable disposition towards the Company. That is why His Honour had also given instructions about to whom the plush should be presented and which gentlemen should be obliged with tent wine and other things we had brought. To this end he gave us the following names: Inaba Mino-no-kami, Matsudaira Dewa-no-kami, Naitō Hida-no-kami, Inagaki Wakasa-no-kami, Arao Heihachirō-sama, Hōjō Dewa-no-kami, Mizuno Kenmotsu-sama, Ishigaya Goemon-sama, Kan'o Kozaemon-sama, Kagatsume Uemon-sama, Tsuzuki Yahyōe-sama, Koide Ise-no-kami, Mizuno Bingo-no-kami, Misenoja Saccaja-sama,³ Matsudaira Tosa-no-kami, Tsuda Heizaemon-sama, Matsudaira Iga-no-kami, Matsudaira Bizen-no-kami,

31 Ogasawara Iki-no-kami, Tominaga Magozaemon-sama, Ōta Settsu-no-kami, Matsudaira Aki-no-kami, Tōdō Daigaku-sama, Andō Tsushima-no-kami, Ikeda Tatewaki-sama. Everyone is eager for some of the remaining goods. There is such a great demand such as I have never before experienced during my stay here. On the other hand, this of all times, we have brought very little in excess of the gifts and it will be difficult enough to remember the landlords as we are used to. The reason for this is that in the past some of them spoke very disparagingly of the Company, that the Dutch do not come to Edo only to greet the Shogun, but also to trade, although there are some who know better, because the goods are not sold here for higher prices than in Nagasaki and moreover, the costs of carrying them here should be added. I shall try to find out what will be the best way for us to deal with this in future.

12 Fine weather. Early in the morning, there were many visitors and requests. We obliged everyone as best as we could. At nine o'clock we went to present the gifts to Ōta Bitchū-no-kami, who is in his domain in Hamamatsu. His secretary accepted them on his behalf. Then we went to the house of Governor Yohyōe to thank his son for his father's recommendation. He treated us to *sakana*. In the afternoon, we returned to our inn where a servant

of Matsudaira Dewa-no-kami, who is related to the Shogun,

32 was waiting for us. He requested some spectacles and tent wine. I obliged him. I also handed the lengths of white plush to the designated gentlemen's servants who came to fetch them. Till late in the evening people came for tent wine, butter and such.

13 Very early, servants of various gentlemen came for some goods or other things. I obliged them as much as I could. Uneme-dono came for the red thrum blanket, which Mito-sama ordered last year, and some other goods. In the afternoon, Sinnemon, Chikugo-no-kami's interpreter, came to inform me that we should be given our dispatch and the reciprocal gift from the Court in two or three days. Because we shall leave shortly thereafter, he commended us to oblige the specified gentlemen today and tomorrow with all that we could. We should keep 8 to 10 *gantang* of good tent wine for Mito-sama. I had His Honour thanked for this news and told that I would comply with his orders. Around four o'clock I went to the house of the former Nagasaki Governor Baba Saburōzaemon to greet him and to thank him for all he had done for the Company when he was governor and for the present occasion that we had been allowed in the presence of the Shogun so quickly and to request his continuing favour. But he was not at home. I told his major-domo the reason for my visit. He treated us to *cha* and promised to inform his master when he returned in the evening. When we were back home, the interpreter was summoned hastily to the house of Chikugo-no-kami. On his return an hour later he told me that His Honour had given instructions that we should go to the Court together tomorrow.

33 The councillors would issue us the Shogun's orders and charges. In previous years, if the captain did not receive the reciprocal gifts himself, this was done at the house of His Honour. But, according to this country's custom, this was a greater honour. Furthermore, we would be given our leave by the Court to travel back to Nagasaki in three or four days. In the evening, Councillor Izu-no-kami sent to ask if we had any mirrors left of the kind of which

3 This may be a join-up of Mizuno and Sakai.

two had been included in the gifts we took to his house two days ago. Because the interpreter was out and four of them had been fetched for Chikugo-no-kami, we could not give a definite answer. When the interpreter returned, he hastened to Chikugo-no-kami to notify him of this. He was happy about this and ordered him to take all to the councillor. On his return, the interpreter said that the secretary had told him that three children of his son had been there who had taken a liking to the mirrors. There was one short and His Honour had asked for a third to please the children. This trivial thing is now a novelty and more appreciated than something large or costly.

14 Around ten o'clock we went to the Shogun's palace. We had to wait for an hour in the ordinary waiting hall. Then Chikugo-no-kami came to us and said that the councillors would only read out the Shogun's order and charges today. Then he left again. A short while later, he called me and I went with Sukezaemon to the hall where the councillors were gathered. Chikugo-no-kami showed me where I had to sit opposite the officials, near the mats where he was sitting. After I had lain there for a short while, on behalf of Councillors Matsudaira Izu-no-kami, Abe Bungo-no-kami and Sakai Sanuki-no-kami,

34 who were sitting next to each other more to the inside, a distance of about three mats away, against gilded sliding doors, Chikugo-no-kami announced the following to me:

That the Dutch – meaning the General Company – had been permitted to trade here for many years during the lives of four Shoguns. So far, they had been found to be loyal and sincere. They should see to it that they continued to comply strictly with the Shogun's orders given every year, nor should they bring any Portuguese or papists, who have been declared enemies of this empire, here on their ships nor should they conclude an alliance with them to the detriment of Japan. If it so happened that the Dutch and the Portuguese united, they should then declare this here in all sincerity and give the reasons for this. For if it was disclosed sooner by the Chinese or any other nation, it would be taken as a serious crime. Therefore the Dutch should take

great care and then they would continue to enjoy the trade with this country in peace. Furthermore, if we were to learn in Batavia or elsewhere – even if they were just rumours – that the Portuguese or any other nation had any hostile intentions against this empire, we should inform the governors in Nagasaki of this truthfully when the ships arrive. This will be of great service to the Shogun and this empire. I replied briefly and politely that the Governor-General and the Council of the Indies in Batavia take the Shogun's orders, which the captains copy perfectly every year, much to heart.

35 They issued strict orders everywhere that [these orders] should be complied with. We would continue our loyalty and sincerity. If we learnt anything concerning the Portuguese or any other nation that was to the detriment of this empire, we would notify the Nagasaki Governors on the arrival of the ships. After translation, Chikugo-no-kami conveyed my reply to the councillors. They seemed pleased, for shortly after, without Chikugo-no-kami's foreknowledge, on behalf of the Shogun, the councillors gave us leave to return to Nagasaki. The gowns, which are a reciprocal gift and a token that the Shogun is pleased with the gifts, would follow two days later. His Honour informed me of this and I showed my humble gratitude with head bowed. I returned to the previous waiting hall. After a short while, several other gentlemen came to us and repeated the dispatch we had been given and congratulated us on it. Then we stood up and returned to the lodge. In the afternoon, I went to Chikugo-no-kami's house. After a short wait we were called before him. I thanked him as best as I could for his fatherly care and for all his efforts in promoting our affairs, for we have been given leave ten days after our arrival here. He congratulated us and was very happy. In particular because we had been so fortunate in the timing of our meeting with the councillors. We should consider ourselves fortunate. Then His Honour asked if we were at peace again with the English and what the reason had been to begin the war in the first place.

36 He also inquired about the size of England and if it was the same as Holland. With regard to the war

I gave him last year's information and with regard to the size of England I told him the truth. He also asked if I had heard that an ambassador on behalf of the crown of Portugal would be sent to the Shogun of Japan. I told him that I had heard nothing of the kind. Finally he said that this year he had received several goods which he had ordered and he was pleased with them and grateful. I returned the compliments and was given my leave. He said that he would send for me within two or three days. Secretary Oeffioje led us to another hall and asked how to prepare the material in the iron rockets. I told him that I had brought a written memorandum and I could tell him whenever it was convenient for him. He commended I send some fine artist's paints for his master next year. I promised to see to it. Then I went to the house of Governor Kiemon to thank him. After a short wait, His Honour sent for the other Dutchmen who had remained at home. After they had arrived, we appeared before His Honour, who was in the company of some Japanese priests. He congratulated us on our good success, because it was a matter of importance that we had been given such a speedy *oitoma* or farewell by the councillors. He commended us further to comply with the Shogun's orders, in particular those regarding the Portuguese and their confederates. I replied with the requisite gratitude. Then he asked the surgeon about Foerino Oenemi-dono's condition and if he could be cured. The surgeon replied truthfully. Then we were given our leave and we returned home.

- 37 I felt uneasy about Chikugo-no-kami's mention of a Portuguese ambassador and I asked the interpreter for his opinion. He said that he supposed that His Honour had asked this because the Portuguese had appeared here in 1647 with two ships pretending that their purpose was to announce their separation from Spain and that they were now ruled by their own lawful king. This might lead His Honour to consider that they might reappear under the pretext of coming to greet the new Shogun. Saburōzaemon sent to thank me for yesterday's visit. He was sorry that he had not been at home to meet me personally. He was very pleased with one pair of the best spectacles which I had the interpreter take to him a

few days before. It was useful to him in his old age. He had never before been able to obtain such sharp spectacles. He also asked for 3 catties of butter, which I gave to his servant. In the evening, the secretary of Councillor Uta-no-kami came to congratulate me on behalf of his master. He brought me ten silk gowns as a reciprocal gift. I accepted them with gratitude. When it was getting dark – they did not have time during the day – the interpreter and the landlord took the gifts to the secretaries of Sanuki-no-kami and Uta-no-kami. On their return they reported that they had accepted them gratefully.

15 In the morning, on behalf of several officials, their secretaries brought me some gifts: ten silk gowns from Councillor Izu-no-kami, five from Councillor Andō Ukyō-sama and two each from the city magistrates Bizen-no-kami and Shōgen-sama. I accepted them gratefully after having entertained them and requested their masters' continuing favour towards the Company.

- 38 Mito-sama also returned the beads. He, or rather his son, kept four of the largest. Chikugo-no-kami sent me a note that I should send the surgeon to the house of Matsudaira Tosa-no-kami, Lord of Tosa, situated on Shikoku. He went there with the interpreter. On his return he told me that this lord is a 65-year-old gentleman, who suffered a stroke four years ago, which has deprived parts of his body of nourishment and some of his nerves are tensed up. No complete recovery is possible. But he had promised to prepare something tomorrow to apply on the tensed up nerves. This lord, called the Prince of Tosa, has an income of around 24 tons of gold annually. Genba-dono, Chikugo-no-kami's former secretary then called Uma-no-jō, came to visit me. I entertained him as best as I could and after having spent an hour with some small talk and looking at some goods, he left satisfied, so it seemed. In the evening, a servant of Chikugo-no-kami came to notify me that I should send Merchant Oetgens, the surgeon, and Assistant Abraham Weijns to his house tomorrow.

16 The men went there. Around nine o'clock, Uneme-dono came under the pretext of fetching some tent wine for Mito-sama. The interpreter was not at home and he stayed with me all the time. He

brought his companions inside one after the other and in order not to give offence, I entertained them all. He was very impertinent and searched through everything in the room. I let him do as he liked. After he had gone through everything, he expressed his gratitude and left, saying that he would come for the tent wine tomorrow.

- 39 In the afternoon, the secretaries of Abe Bungo-no-kami, Matsudaira Izumo-no-kami, Kutsuki Minbu-no-shō and Ōta Bitchū-no-kami, came with some gowns and Councillor Sanuki-no-kami sent 30 *schuitten* of silver as a reciprocal gift. I accepted the gifts gratefully and treated them to tent wine and *sakana*. Oetgens returned from Chikugo-no-kami with the surgeon and Assistant Weijns. He reported that they had been treated hospitably and had mainly been busy translating, writing down and explaining the medicines used as a remedy against kidney stones or gravel. He had also partly explained the use of the iron arms and legs, but even though they cost 500 guilders in the Netherlands, they were not interested. It seems that they had something else in mind. He had also instructed a Japanese doctor from the *Anatomie Vesali*.⁴ His Honour and his secretary had treated them all to food and drink. Before they left, His Honour had told the interpreter to go to the castle tomorrow morning with our landlord Gen'emon for the Shogun's gift gowns. His Honour thanked me for having sent the men to his house today. In the afternoon, on the orders of Chikugo-no-kami, the surgeon went to the house of Tosa-no-kami to apply a plaster and to rub some essential oils he had prepared on the tensed up nerves. On his return in the evening, he said that he had been liberally entertained by the regents.

4 Andreas Vesalius (Andries van Wesel, 1514–1564), Renaissance Flemish physician, who revolutionized the practice of medicine by his careful description of the anatomy of the human body. He challenged the doctrine of Galen and wrote the first comprehensive textbook of anatomy, *De humanis corporis fabrica libri septem* [The Seven Books on the Structure of the Human Body], printed in Basel, Switzerland in 1543, with illustrations by Jan Steven van Kalker.

17 Around nine o'clock Sukezaemon went to the castle with the landlord. In the afternoon, they returned with thirty silk gowns, which Chikugo-no-kami had handed them on behalf of the Shogun.

- 40 Secretary Fatsiroseijmon came in the afternoon with two of Governor Kiemon's *bongioisen*. He wished to know the use of the weather-glasses and also the distance between several places, such as how far apart were Tayouan, Siam, Quinam, Cambodia, Tonkin, Canton, Fuzhou, Malacca, Surat, Persia, Bengal and Coromandel from Batavia. He also wanted to know with which other regions of the Indies the Company traded and what commodities each country produced. I had a map with me and told them all I knew. They had it written down in Japanese. I also showed them the difference between the Japanese and the Dutch sea miles. Everything was written down meticulously. After having spent four hours, they left. I sent Sukezaemon to the house of Chikugo-no-kami to thank him on my behalf for the reciprocal gift which I received today from the Court and for his efforts to have us receive it so quickly. He reported that His Honour was pleased and was returning us one of the finest spyglasses so that we could oblige Inaba Mino-no-kami with it. He also returned all the mumia with the order to share it out to various people according to the note he sent me. This clearly proves that the things that His Honour orders every year are not for himself but more to oblige other gentlemen.

18 Early in the morning Sinnemon came on the orders of his master to note down how to prepare the material with which to fill the iron rockets and also how to use them. He said that his master would send for us tomorrow. The surgeon was summoned again to Matsudaira Tosa-no-kami. Sukezaemon is troubled by sore eyes and could not go out, thus Oetgens and Sinnemon accompanied him.

- 41 Today I also presented the customary gifts to *Bongiois* San'emon and the two *onderbongioisen*, which they accepted gratefully. But San'emon wished to notify his master Yohyōe first and would keep it until then. In the evening, a messenger came with a note from Chikugo-no-kami in which His

Honour informed me that we should all go to his garden tomorrow.

19 Rainy weather. Chikugo-no-kami sent a vessel to carry us to his garden in spite of the rain. When we arrived, we found it to be a beautiful house and delightful place for repose, with streams. We were led to a large hall adjacent to the garden. Shortly after, His Honour came to welcome us and told us that he had only sent for us so that we could enjoy ourselves today in this spacious and pleasant place. He was sorry that it rained this very day. We thanked him for the great honour which he was bestowing on the Company through our persons. After some small talk he returned inside. In the meantime, a Japanese doctor came with two horns – apparently brought by the Portuguese or the Chinese some time ago. He asked if we knew what they were. We thought that one was a large rhinoceros horn but the other one, which was longer by half as much and bent, was unknown to us. The doctor then inquired after the potency, efficacy and preparation of various medicines. The surgeon explained it all to him. He wrote everything down. In the meantime, Chikugo-no-kami had the interpreter ask us why the telescopes which had been ordered four years ago, had not yet arrived. Could they be made? The telescope which Captain Coyett had given him in 1648 was fine, but too small to see the moon in its entirety when it was full moon. I replied that we had written to the Netherlands about it.

42 But so far we had not received a reply whether it could be made. His Honour also inquired after the potency and efficacy of the *bilili*. I told him that our surgeons knew little about it and we had just brought what had been ordered and we had experienced great difficulty in obtaining it. The interpreter had brought a memorandum on its use, a Portuguese explanation of it, from Nagasaki. Then food was served in the Japanese way. His Honour ordered his secretary Oeffioje to entertain us, which was done in splendid fashion. After we had eaten, Sinnemon came to tell us that His Honour had just received a letter from Inaba Mino-no-kami, Lord of Odawara, in which he requested to be provided next year with three pieces of Italian plush, a fine telescope, ten sable furs and also some medicines. His

master had sent a reply to the lord that he should have his own secretary request this from us, for he thought that a better way, but he would ask us and see to it that he was obliged. This message was conveyed to us on behalf of Chikugo-no-kami and at the same time he asked what would be our best reply. If we were hesitant to do so, he would advise us, for he knew that we were bothered enough every year by him with requests for various rarities and novelties, without others adding theirs. Sometimes he had waited for five or six years, which he did not think strange, for he knew the cause. But when the other gentlemen, who did not know the situation and the great distance between our countries, were to ask for something this year and did not receive it next year, they might easily turn against the Company, making out its servants for liars.

43 This would not bear any good, but only hate and envy. Therefore, he advised us to think it over carefully and to let him know. We mulled it over and considered the consequences. We then had Sinnemon inform His Honour that he should let Mino-no-kami know that with regard to his requests, we would use our influence to have our superiors oblige him. But he should also ask His Honour to consider the distance between our countries and the hazards of the sea which often caused a delay in the delivery of the goods, or even an inability to do so. Therefore, at the best it would take two years to supply them and sometimes four or five years. In those cases it should not be attributed to the unwillingness or the neglect of the Dutch, who have always been willing to serve Japan and especially the high officials as best as they could. Sinnemon conveyed our reply to Chikugo-no-kami, who was very pleased with it. We should not forget to respond in the same manner when Mino-no-kami's people came to the lodge to request the aforesaid goods. We promised to do so. After we had spent the day here and had again been treated to food and drink, we took our leave thanking His Honour for the exceptional honour and favour shown to us. The same vessel carried us back to our lodging.

20 Fine weather. In the morning, I sent the interpreter to Chikugo-no-kami to thank him for yesterday's hospitality. On his return he told me that His

Honour had not been at home and he had given his secretary Oeffioje my message.

44 The interpreter could not go out, thus I sent the landlord to the house of Kinokuni-sama with the three ivory compasses which he had requested three years ago. But his secretary Awasia-dono, who had ordered them, had left for Miyako to greet the *Dairi* and no one else dared accept them. Thus he brought them back. If we meet Awasia-dono on our way back, we shall hand them to him. We have been busy setting the prices for the goods at Chikugo-no-kami's house. According to custom they cannot be regarded as saleable commodities, but are considered gifts. The goods which His Honour has accepted and kept are few, unlike previous years, but the white plush and the thrum blankets make the loss made on the rarities large, but we trust that it will not be ill-spent for the reasons mentioned before. Guinemon told me that the pistols could not serve as gifts for other gentlemen, because last year suchlike pistols had been included in the gifts for the Shogun. His master Chikugo-no-kami would keep a pair for the ones that had been borrowed last year and the remaining seven, including a puffer, he would keep in custody till next year. The iron arms and legs were not to their liking and useless, thus they would be returned. We shall have to take them back together with a thrum blanket. In the afternoon, we presented the customary gift to our landlord and his family. After a long discussion, on the advice of the interpreter, I also handed him 50 *schuitten* of silver at 43 mas each, on account of the fact that his house had burnt down, that he had it rebuilt on the urgent commendations of Chikugo-no-kami and Kiemon and that he had paid heed to the complaints of the *opperhoofden* every year and had it made larger and more comfortable for us.

45 Through their secretaries, Chikugo-no-kami and Kiemon had also urged me many times to give him some compensation for his losses – this being a Japanese custom. Another reason is that our stay here is unusually short and he will lose on his ordinary yearly profits, which is about the same sum. I had first intended to increase his gift of goods, but then I considered that this might set a bad precedent and, moreover, this separate gift will be made

known to the said gentlemen and others and will be regarded more highly than if it consisted of goods. The landlord was very grateful and promised to assist the Company and the captains every year as best as he could and to be loyal to them. In the evening, Oetgens accompanied the surgeon to the house of Tosa-no-kami and on this return he said that His Honour was already feeling better because of the treatment with oils and that they had been liberally offered food and drink. I sent Sukezaemon to the house of Chikugo-no-kami with an Arabian snakestone and a colourfully painted Dutch jug to see if he would like them. He returned around ten o'clock and told me that Chikugo-no-kami had been exceptionally pleased with the stone, being a medicine and also with the jug, because it was a novelty, but he had said that if other gentlemen happened to see it, he would not be able to keep it. Therefore he commended us to supply him with another three or four of such jugs, if possible. Chikugo-no-kami had had a long discussion with Sukezaemon about the Company's business in this country. He had said that great honours had been bestowed on the captain this year, in particular that he had been given his dispatch by the councillors in a hall deeper or higher than the envoy Frisius.

46 This is an exceptional honour and a sure sign of the Company's good standing and the approval of the government, because no one is admitted to such a display of favour but those who are found to be sincere and loyal. The Dutch have been trading in Nagasaki for sixteen years now and His Honour had been appointed their supervisor from that time. He had found that so far they had complied with the Shogun's order and he was pleased about that. He was as happy as a father with his obedient children. If we continued to do well, the Company would never be found wanting the Shogun's and the government's favour and it would even increase. Yesterday His Honour had asked when we would be ready to leave and I had ordered the interpreter to tell him that we would be ready in three days. If, however, His Honour needed the services of the surgeon or of us, we were prepared to stay on. He had appreciated the gesture, but if we were ready, we should travel. He would like to send for us

one more time. I had commended the interpreter that when he was at Chikugo-no-kami's house and found an opportunity to do so, he should ask Secretary Oeffioje for his opinion on the following: Firstly, what would be the best course of action with regard to the large *alcatief*? It had been ordered for the Shogun and when it arrived here it was found to have sustained some minor damage. It had now been repaired and was in Nagasaki. Should we bring it next year or could we take it back if it was useless here, because the Shogun received a similar *alcatief* two years ago.

- 47 Secondly, when did he consider it the best time to set off on the court journey from Nagasaki: shortly after the departure of the ships – as had been the custom before – or like this year? We would appreciate his advice. Thirdly, how should we proceed next year with regard to the goods we bring to Edo in excess of the gifts? It is difficult to estimate in Nagasaki how much to bring. When we bring too much, as we have done in the past, it reflects badly on the Company's reputation. This time we brought few surplus goods and there was an extraordinary eager demand for them. Lastly, would he like us to send the iron rockets which were still in Nagasaki or should we take them back? The interpreter had given Oeffioje these questions in writing. He promised to show them to his master tomorrow when they were alone and then he would let us know his reply.

21 In the morning Tosa-no-kami's secretary came to tell the interpreter that his master's leg, which the surgeon has rubbed with ointment to dispel the itch, was very swollen and also very painful. He wanted to wait a while and not use any medicine for a few days. It seems that these great lords imagine that we can heal such old wounds by rubbing it once and they can be cured without any pain.

I sent Sukezaemon to Governor Kiemon to remind him of raising money at interest and if this was possible in future in Nagasaki if the Company needed to do so.

His Honour had told us to remind him of this Edo.

- 48 He did not find the governor at home and left the message with Secretary Fatsiroseijmon. He had told

the interpreter that his lord had not been able to speak to the councillors about this matter, owing to the death of his mother. The secretary would remind him when he came home and we would hear his reply tomorrow.

Sinnemon, Chikugo-no-kami's interpreter, came to make notes about the preparation of some medicines. On behalf of his master, he asked why the fire hose, which had been ordered long ago, had not yet arrived. I told him that it was in Batavia when I left, but the only person who could fix it, was ill at the time and the ships could not be kept back or they might not make the journey. I was certain that it would be sent next year.

In the afternoon, we all went to Chikugo-no-kami's house. After a short wait, we were called into the inner hall. We expressed our gratitude for his hospitality and for his fatherly help in promoting the Company's affairs. He said that I had been very lucky for having seen the Shogun's countenance and that I had been given my dispatch by the councillors themselves in the highest hall. This was unusual and I should rejoice in it. Good luck had more to do with it than his assistance, for this was not left to his discretion but to that of the councillors. They had been content and had therefore been pleased to do so.

- 49 His Honour also thanked Merchant Oetgens for the assistance he had given every year and this time for explaining the medicines. He then said that he was giving us many problems every year to look after his orders. We replied in the required manner. His Honour then returned inside and he ordered his secretary Oeffioje to entertain us. Promptly Japanese food was set before us, but also butter and freshly baked bread. We enjoyed rich servings of it. After the food and the drink had been removed, our old patron reappeared. After some small talk and having enjoyed a cup of *cha*, he wished us a safe journey. We humbly expressed our gratitude for all favours received and said farewell. In the evening, we went to the house of Governor Kiemon. We were taken before him and he congratulated us on our performance and added that Chikugo-no-kami had greatly assisted us. His Honour had even spoken

in favour of the Company to Councillors Sanuki-no-kami and Izu-no-kami. He had told them that we greatly appreciated the early audience. In the meantime, *sake* and *sakana* were brought in and His Honour entertained us. Then he wished us a safe journey and we were given our leave. Before we left I asked his secretary about raising money at interest. He said that he had not forgotten, but the governor would bring the decision on this matter himself.

23 Fine weather. Last night we fixed the prices for the goods that had been sent for by various people. We sent them notices for payment.

50 The clerk Niemon went to Chikugo-no-kami's house to settle his account with his secretary Oeffioje. Kiemon's secretary came to pay for some goods which his master had sent for. I treated him and the *bongiois* Marta Boffioje for the last time to tent wine. Sukezaemon went to the house of Saburōzaemon and Yohyōe to express my gratitude. Yohyōe's men are constructing a new building and therefore I could not go personally.

In the afternoon, Chikugo-no-kami sent his interpreter Sinnemon with four Japanese silk gowns for me and two for the surgeon for services rendered. We accepted them gratefully and had Sinnemon thank His Honour most politely for them. Secretary Oeffioje also sent me the following advice to the questions I put to him two days ago. Concerning the large *alcatief*, if it was suitable, it could be brought here next year and be presented to the Shogun. In future, we could contrive to be in Edo within the 12th Japanese month and before the *Shōgatsu*, on condition that the governor had left Nagasaki earlier. Every year we could bring more goods than were strictly necessary for the gifts to oblige some of the nobles, but we should not bring too many.

51 In the afternoon, Matsudaira Tosa-no-kami sent two silk gowns for the surgeon for services rendered in rubbing ointments and applying plasters on His Honour. In the evening, Chikugo-no-kami sent us a case with freshly baked bread to consume on our homeward journey.

We have been busy packing the luggage and preparing for our departure. In the evening, I sent

Sukezaemon for the last time to Chikugo-no-kami to thank him for the gowns and the bread. He stayed there till midnight, when His Honour, who had been a guest at Mino-no-kami's, returned home. He announced the reason for his visit and thanked him on our behalf. Chikugo-no-kami was pleased and told the interpreter that he had only sent it out of affection for us. He also ordered Sukezaemon to notify the landlords with whom we would lodge on the way on his behalf – for he is also the regent of the highway – to keep a close guard that no accident would befall us. They would test the iron rock-ets shortly. When they met with approval, he would send for the ones remaining in Nagasaki. Finally, His Honour had commended him that next year no red coral or mumia need be brought here. The main reason was that every year he was having great difficulty in apportioning it, as we have also experienced. He wished us a safe and propitious journey.

Departure from Edo

52 24 In the morning we received payment for some goods, but Uneme-dono, who has been mentioned several times before, instead of money sent us a note in which he confessed to owing 58 taels. This impudent fellow also stated that he would give the money to *Burgemeester* Takagi Hikoemon, when he returned to Nagasaki. We thought this strange, but because it is a small sum, we could not do anything about it. We shall see what happens when Hikoemon arrives. Chikugo-no-kami, to whom Uneme-dono is related by marriage, has no knowledge of this. Genba-dono also did not pay for a piece of black *laken* which he had shared out to several people and of which the account had not yet been made up. We can expect payment with Hikoemon. We also heard that Andō Ukyō-sama was dying. Thus we did not send a bill to his house nor to Kutsuki Minbuno-shō, who is married to his daughter, for some tent wine, butter, spectacles and such. Sinnemon, Chikugo-no-kami's interpreter, who still owes the Company 100 taels, promised to pay half when he comes to Nagasaki this year. We cannot rely on his promise. We can sooner expect not to be paid ever because he does not have the funds. We hired and

paid for the pack-horses and the other necessities for our journey. I also settled with the landlord. He was grateful and promised to continue serving the Company. There were still some outstanding debts and Niemon stayed behind to collect them.

53 In the meantime, everything was ready and about one o'clock in the afternoon we left Edo. Around five o'clock we reached Kawasaki, where, according to custom, the Edo landlord and the men from whom the horses were hired said farewell to us with their *jūbako*. We travelled on and spent the night in Kanagawa.

25 We left early, lunched in Ōiso and in the evening we reached Odawara. In Edo we had been shown a memorandum concerning the illness of Inaba Mino-no-kami, the lord of this place. There had been no time there and the surgeon explained it now. He also pointed out the cause of the illness and which food was good for His Honour and which food was detrimental to his health. It was written down and the note was given to his major-domo to be sent to Edo.

26 We travelled up the Hakone Mountains but met with heavy rain, strong wind and fierce and large hail and added to the dense fog, this made the road very hazardous. In the afternoon, thank the Lord, we safely reached the village on top and after the weather had calmed, we travelled down to Mishima, where the surgeon found a kind of herb as a cure for the gravel from which Chikugo-no-kami is suffering. He is asking after all possible remedies. This same evening we sent the herb with an explanatory note in Japanese and an expression of gratitude for the bread, which stood us in good stead in these conditions, to Edo to his secretary Oeffioje.

March

1 We lunched in Arai. In the evening, we met Matsudaira Ukyō again. He had been to Miyako to greet the *Dairi* on the Shogun's behalf. In passing, we greeted His Honour the same way as we had done on the outward journey. He also greeted us. This envoy is treated everywhere with great respect.

54 We also saw that the road he was travelling on had been cleaned everywhere and had been sprayed with water. In the evening, we arrived in Akasaka.

2 We left before daybreak, stopped for refreshments in Chiryū and in the evening we arrived in Miya. We intended to cross over to Kuwana, but rain and the dark sky prevented this. We were forced to spend the night here.

3 The rain continued. Around eight o'clock we embarked and in the afternoon we reached Kuwana, where we had to spend the night because it was late.

4 Rain mingled with snow, but we left and reached Sekinojizō in the evening.

5 Last night it froze hard. In the afternoon, we travelled across the mountains of Suzukasaka, which were covered with snow, as was the entire road to Minakuchi. In the evening, we reached Kusatsu.

In Miyako

6 In the afternoon, we reached Miyako. Sukezaemon went to announce our arrival to the *Grootrechter*, Makino Sado-no-kami. On our outward journey, he had not been at home and he had left orders that we should visit him on our way back. On his return Sukezaemon said that he had spoken to His Honour in person. He was pleased with our early dispatch from the Court and if we wished to visit him, we could do so tomorrow.

7 Early in the morning, I went with Oetgens. After a short wait we were led into the inner hall in front of him. He congratulated us on our performance at Court and thanked us for the gifts which we had left at his house on our outward journey. We thanked him for the favours he had shown the Company during his term of office in Edo and also for accepting the small gifts. When we were leaving, he called Sukezaemon, whom he knew very well from the time in Hirado.

55 He asked him this and that, also about Mr Caron's well-being. His Honour had said that some years ago, during the time of his predecessor Suō-no-kami, it had not been the custom in Miyako to accept any gifts from the Dutch. Nonetheless, to show that he still felt favourably disposed towards the Company as before and that we should not fear any ill-will or envy on his part, he had accepted the gifts this time and had asked us to appear before him. We returned to the inn. I contracted with the lacquerers for the objects demanded for Surat and

prepared for our departure. Around eleven o'clock, one of the secretaries of Sado-no-kami brought me 10 *schuiten* of silver and five silk gowns. His Honour sent them as reciprocal gifts. I accepted them with gratitude. I entertained the secretary as best as I could. This visit and that His Honour let us appear before him are considered by these people as a sign of the increasing stature of the Company. The more so because this gentleman is very powerful at the Court. He is an exceptionally wise man and therefore has been appointed to this high and important office. In the evening, after we had settled with the landlord, Saburōemon, we set off. The landlord accompanied us first to several leisure spots and temples. Then he took us to a *cha* house in Maruyama, where he treated us to food and drink till the early evening. Then we left and we arrived at Fushimi at seven o'clock. There we had our luggage loaded on the barge, because the moon shone and the weather was fine. We waited a while for our *bongiois*, who had to see the governor⁵ – who is the brother of Yohyōe – on some business. Then we sailed down the river.

In Osaka

56 8 At sunrise we arrived in Osaka. I gave orders to purchase all that we needed for the journey to Nagasaki.

9 Some goods have been loaded on the barge. The remaining provisions have been purchased. At the invitation of old Soijin we visited the *furo*.

10 I settled with the landlord, Ebiya Shirōemon, for the goods that he purchased for the Company. The rest of the luggage was loaded on the barge.

11 I settled with the landlord for accommodation and food. According to custom, I presented him and his father, Soijin, with gifts. At his invitation we visited the temples of Tennōji. Then we went to the barge, which was waiting at the end of the river. In the evening, we said goodbye to Shirōemon on the barge and he returned to Osaka.

12 High tide and an easterly wind helped us out of the river. With better speed than in the outward journey,

Arrival in Nagasaki

23 we arrived safely in the bay of Nagasaki and dropped anchor in front of our residence. Shortly after, we went ashore, where we found everyone well. We have been away for three months. I was told that Governor Yohyōe had left a few days ago to visit Ōmura and the surrounding places. I had the interpreters convey our gratitude to his secretary for His Honour's letter of recommendation to the Court. Junior Merchant Messteecker has kept notes during my absence. I found that little of importance happened during that time.

57 The main news was that several junks have left for China and other regions, but none for Tonkin. Since 1 February six junks have arrived from Anhui and Zhoushan. They brought the following goods. [List.] This is meagre compared to the previous year. The junks had brought tidings that for some time the Tartars and Coxinga had been warring against each other with great armies but neither side had gained the upper hand. The Tartars had been the first to break camp and Coxinga had then retired to the coastal regions. The governor, Sakuemon and others had requested some trifles and he had obliged them as best as he could. Several landlords had been busy repairing and rebuilding their houses and some were still doing so. The governor had given permission for all of them to go into the city and up the mountains under the pretext of searching for medicinal herbs.

24 Fine weather, southerly wind. Our goods, the luggage and the *sugi* boards have been brought ashore.

58 The landlords of Tsukishima and others came to congratulate us on our safe return.

25 Governor Yohyōe returned.

26 This is the 1st day of the 3rd Japanese month. In the morning, I sent the interpreters to greet the governor, to inform him of our success in Edo and ask him when it would suit him that I come to thank him in person. His reply was that he would be busy today and tomorrow with sending letters to the

5 Mizuno Iwami-no-kami Tadasada (adopted by Mizuno Iwami-no-kami Nagakatsu).

councillors, but thereafter I could visit him at his home.

28 Fine weather. *Sangatsu sannichi*, a Japanese holiday. In the morning, Merchant Oetgens and I went to greet Governor Yohyōe. We thanked him for his letter of recommendation to Edo, also for the hospitality his son showed us at his house. Furthermore, that he had given us such a fine and affable *bon-giois* as escort, who had been most helpful and had shown us fine friendship during the journey. His Honour treated us affably and congratulated us on the speedy dispatch. He said he would visit us on the island shortly. We said goodbye and returned home.

31 A junk arrived from Anhai flying Coxinga's flags. It brought the following: [List]. It seems that it has become known in China that, because last year no ships arrived from Siam nor junks from Quinam, the sappanwood is very expensive here nowadays and is being sold for 12–13 taels a picul.

59 All the junks are bringing sappanwood, apparently bought in Tayouan, to sell here. They have never before done so from those regions.

April

1 Cold weather with a northerly wind. A small Chinese junk left for Fuzhou.

4 Rainy weather. We received the rest of the *sugi* boards. The newly-ordered barge arrived from Osaka. It is large enough, but constructed of wood that is too light and thin. Every year the things we order from there are always faulty.

7 Today Sukezaemon handed over the list of orders which Chikugo-no-kami, Mino-no-kami, Izumo-no-kami and Izu-no-kami placed in Edo for next year. Compared to previous years, it is small.

8 I handed Sukezaemon two rhinoceros horns and two bottles of lime syrup which, when we left Edo, I had promised Chikugo-no-kami I would send him. He should send them to His Honour at the earliest opportunity with our gratitude.

9 The *otona* told us that *Burgemeester* Sakuemon had told him that Yohyōe intended to visit Tsukishima today. Therefore the street should

be cleaned and some *sakana* prepared. When everything was ready, we learnt that the governor had changed his mind and had gone hawking.

10 Misty weather. The *otona* and the interpreters – except for Kichibyōe who is ill and weak – came in the morning. I had them read out and translate the Shogun's order which the councillors had given me orally in the castle in Edo on 14 February.

60 Chikugo-no-kami had given me a copy written in Japanese. The contents are the same as the translation made for us in the palace.

11 In the morning two junks left for China. I could not find out their exact cargoes, because they belong to many factors and consist of various small things and foodstuffs. The warehouse in which the Siamese cowhides are usually kept, will be demolished because of its age. A new one will be constructed and today I proposed to the landlord or owner that, in order to make it more convenient for the heavy hides and other goods, it should be built wider and higher. There was enough space. The back gallery, which is ramshackle and useless and in the way, could be torn down. The proposal appealed to him and he would discuss it with his carpenter and let us know his reply shortly.

16 A junk arrived from Anhai flying Coxinga's flag. [List of cargo.]

17 The *otona* informed us that the warehouse for the cowhides would be constructed according to my proposal. It would be built sound and sturdy and for our convenience. He himself would begin on some repairs on his own house, my house, which is highly necessary.

61 19 Rainy weather. A Chinese junk is returning to Zhoushan.

21 The surgeon gave Sukezaemon some more written instructions on the cure for gravel for Chikugo-no-kami, because tomorrow Nabeshima-dono's people will take the horns and the syrup, which I gave the interpreter on the 8th, to Edo.

25 Yohyōe sent Interpreter Magobei to take the surgeon's mortar to his house because he wants to see it.

27 A junk arrived from Fuzhou, carrying 132 men. [List of cargo.]

28 Five Japanese have been brought here from Satsuma. Last August they had dredged up 3–4 packs of silk from a certain Chinese junk which had foundered in a storm off one of the islands there and had kept them hidden from the authorities. They had sold the silk below its value in Miyako a short while ago and this had been the cause of their discovery. They had been apprehended and because it concerned the Chinese or foreigners who come under this government's jurisdiction, the five principal culprits had been brought here to be punished. But Yohyōe sent the delinquents back on the same vessel to the powerful Lord of Satsuma, in whose domain the crime was committed, with his judgement, which was that these five men should be crucified on or near the island where they had obtained the silk as an example and a deterrent to others.

- 62 Their accomplices, who some say number fifty people, should be punished according to the severity of their crime. Apparently they and their entire families will be put to death. The interpreters say that nowadays everything and everyone is so closely watched that nothing can remain hidden. Everything is revealed within a short time because everywhere there are many *dwarsschijfers* and spies.
- 29 Two junks arrived from Anhai. One had been captured by Coxinga's people – because it had tried to sail without his pass, which costs them a lot of money – and most of the goods had been taken. Thus both junks bring just a few goods. [List.]

May

- 1 Sukezaemon came with one of Nabeshima-dono's servants to fetch two *gantang* of tent wine. They were given to him.
- 2 Overcast. An Anhai junk is returning home. A junk arrived from Fuzhou. [List.]
- 3 Fine weather. Sukezaemon and the interpreters came to inform me that news had arrived from Edo that the Shogun – who is now about 15 years old – had been suffering from smallpox, but now he is out of danger and improving.
- 63 Everyone in Edo and elsewhere is rejoicing. They had been to congratulate the governor. I commended

them to do so in the politest manner on my behalf. They promised to do so. Old interpreter Kichibyōe has also been to visit us today, but because of his weak legs, he was carried to the island in a *norimono*.

4 Fine, clear weather. The interpreters, the *otona* and their following have been invited to a Japanese dinner, as is the custom after we have returned from the court journey.

5 In the morning two junks left for Anhai.

6 Another junk departed. The interpreters came to announce that the governor had received a letter from Chikugo-no-kami in Edo last night, that an important Japanese doctor called Mukai Genshō,⁶ who is living in the city, should be permitted to come on the island to be instructed by our surgeon in the art of medicine and the preparation of some medicines according to the memorandum we had been given in Edo. We promised we would comply with his wish when the governor sent him. In the evening, the interpreters brought the doctor. He announced the purpose of his visit. After he had sat down for a moment and had taken a small cup of tent wine, he said goodbye. He would return within two or three days to start on his assignment.

8 In the afternoon, the interpreters and the *otona* came with the doctor for the said purpose. They wrote down the preparation of some plasters. They were busy till the evening. They found – which is true – that although they had written it out extensively,

- 64 it will not be possible to prepare the plasters and salves here because of a lack of various spices and herbs. The work will just serve to oblige Chikugo-no-kami. When he has seen the notes, he will be satisfied and will order the medicines, if needed, well prepared as before.

9 Sukezaemon told me that *Burgemeester* Takashima Shirōbei will leave for Edo on the 15th to convey the joy of the entire population of Nagasaki

6 Mukai Genshō (1609–1677) was a Chinese-style doctor and founder and head of the Seidō Academy in Nagasaki. See Michel, Wolfgang, 'Shoki kōmō – ryū geka to jūi Mukai Genshō ni tsuite' (The Confucianist doctor Mukai Genshō and early Dutch-style surgery), *Nihon Ishigaku Zasshi* (2010), pp. 367–385.

about the Shogun's convalescence and recovery from smallpox. Many people from all over the country will be paying a visit to the Court, because they say that the Shogun has only now become a sound person. We should consider whether we should do so as well on behalf of the Company. I intend to sound out the interpreters.

10 Fine weather. A Fuzhou junk departed. Its main cargo is cotton, rice and copperware. *Nachoda* Pinqua also returned to Anhai on his junk.

11 In the morning, *Otona* Kurōzaemon came with Sukezaemon and told me that everywhere people were rejoicing about the Shogun's recovery. Many envoys from the surrounding regions have been dispatched to Edo. Shirōbei and a deputy of Yohyōe will also set off within four days for that purpose. They asked my opinion on sending someone on behalf of the Company.

65 They thought it would be very worthwhile. I told them that I had already considered it and had intended to send for them if they had not come to ask for their opinion. We held a meeting of the council at once and after having discussed the matter, we decided that it would be in the interest of the Company that we propose to Yohyōe first that one of the interpreters go to the Court for this purpose on the Company's behalf. We would appreciate His Honour's advice on this matter and would follow it up. I informed the interpreters of our decision and they approved of it. They said they would consult *Burgemeester* Sakuemon first and with his permission they would put our proposal to the governor. In the afternoon, they would bring his reply. In the evening, Magobei came to tell me that they had notified *Burgemeester* Sakuemon of our proposal and he had been very pleased. He said it was even more appropriate now, because this year we had been given such an early audience and had even been given our dispatch in the highest hall. They had then requested Sakuemon to propose it to the governor on our behalf, but he refused at first, saying that it might be seen that he had advised us to do so. But the interpreters and the *otona* had finally managed to convince him and he had gone to the

house of the governor. When he arrived there, he was told that today was the anniversary of the death of Shogun Ōgosho-sama and it was an inopportune moment. Thus it was postponed till tomorrow.

66 12 The *otona* and the interpreters came to inform us that they had gone together with Sakuemon to announce our proposal to the governor. He had been highly pleased. He had said that it would be a great honour for the Company. He also said that such a mission would be costly, would the captain be upset? We had discussed this before and they said that I was well aware of this. His Honour thought that it was necessary to present something small to the Shogun on behalf of the Company, apart from the congratulations. But he would ask the approval of Chikugo-no-kami and Kiemon to present something to the councillors and other nobles. We do not have any goods and I asked them what were the best offers in the city. They thought *pansies*, *pelangs* and *gjelams* and we could select a proper gift from these. I told them that they should ask Sakuemon's advice first and then inquire in the city for the things that were required. They promised to do so. At three o'clock they returned in their finest dress and told me that mail had just arrived from Edo with letters for Yohyōe, in which he had been informed that the Shogun had been completely healthy again on the afternoon of the 7th of their month, which was the 1st of this month. He had been bathed and he is partaking of food again as before. They had been to congratulate the governor. His Honour had again expressed his appreciation for the love and interest we are displaying for His Majesty.

67 He said that he had given more thought to sending an interpreter and had considered the expenses, but as we ourselves had proposed it and had asked for his advice, he dared not advise against it, the more so because it was a matter which would reflect favourably on the Company and would yield the Company great honour. Yea, the interpreters continued, they had never seen the governor so pleased and happy as now about the presentation of a mission to the Court. And because the governor had treated them so well, they were also very happy

and joyful about this. When we speculated some more about this mission, we thought that it was even more pressing and this occasion more opportune for the Company, because as yet no envoy had arrived to congratulate the Shogun on his government. The occasion has now presented itself to display the Company's affection for His Majesty, who is still young. May God grant that it will turn out to the best advantage of the Company.

13 In the morning a junk left for China. The interpreters came to tell me that they had been to Sakuemon and they had decided that it would be best if Magobei undertook the journey to Edo, pending the governor's approval. Sakuemon had also advised to present just ten pieces of red *gielam* to the Shogun and to the councillors three pieces of *pelang* each. This would be sufficient, because, he said, the whole city of Nagasaki would present just ten red and ten pieces of white *gielam* to the Shogun. But Magobei would ask Chikugo-no-kami's advice.

68 We agreed. They went to Yohyōe to inform him of this. Magobei returned in the evening and said that Sakuemon and the governor were much pleased with our decision and that His Honour had sent a letter to Edo today, in which he also mentioned that an interpreter would travel there on behalf of the Company. The governor had also promised Magobei to give him a letter of recommendation when he left.

14 The interpreters came with thirty pieces of white *pelang* and 15 pieces of red *gielam*, which they had obtained from the Chinese in the city to be paid for according to the price they were sold for later. It is an ample amount to select the gifts from and the remainder will also come in good stead. At my request, they wrote two letters of similar content according to Japanese custom to Kiemon and Chikugo-no-kami, but the superscription was addressed to their secretaries with the request to hand the letters to their masters at a suitable opportunity. They translated the contents for me: we were happy from the bottom of our hearts about His Majesty's good health and

that he had recovered from his illness. To express this, the interpreter Magobei had been dispatched with a letter written in Japanese to congratulate the Shogun. We also hoped that the interpreter would find Their Honours in good health and prosperity. Whatever else we had to say Their Honours would hear from Magobei's mouth. The 20th day of the first 4th month of *Shigatsu*,⁷ signed by me and all interpreters.

69 I would have liked to add my gratitude for all their favours and help in Edo, or written a separate note, but they told me that this concerned the Shogun and I should not add this here. I would be better to commend Magobei to do so orally, because he would have to speak to Chikugo-no-kami in Edo and furthermore, he would have to ask His Honour's advice concerning the gifts. Nothing could be done without his foreknowledge. Therefore, I commended Magobei to convey my gratitude to both gentlemen in the best possible way and to request their help in this matter. I handed him twenty *koban* for the journey. He promised to give an account on his return. I also gave him two Dutch jugs for Chikugo-no-kami, for I had seen on his list of demands that His Honour had asked for three or four of such jugs for next year. The items and the letters were packed in a canaster and sealed. Everything was now ready and they left. Tomorrow, when the governor had written his letter, they would return.

15 At seven o'clock in the morning, Magobei came to inform me that he had received the letter from Yohyōe. Shirōbei had already left at daybreak and he was now ready to travel over land to Shimonoseki. I impressed upon him for the last time to convey my messages of gratitude to Chikugo-no-kami, Kiemon and the other gentlemen and to commend the Company's affairs to their favour. He should also remind Kiemon at a good opportunity of the matter of raising money at interest.

70 He promised to settle everything to my satisfaction. I would trust Magobei to do so indeed. We shall

⁷ This year had an intercalary month after the fourth month.

learn the success of this mission on his return. We can foresee nothing but good for the Company. All the citizens of this city are also happy for us and the news of this mission is spreading.

18 Fine weather. I heard that the Chinese interpreters will stage a play and a dance in the Chinese and Japanese manner in front of Yohyōe's house to express their joy about the Shogun's good health. The governor has given permission for this.

24 The 1st day of the Japanese 4th month. The Chinese junk which arrived on 29 April has left. Just as he had brought little, so he is carrying just some cotton and foodstuffs away.

27 We have again been occupied with explaining to Doctor Genshō the preparation of medicines for Chikugo-no-kami.

28 According to annual custom, most of the residents of this factory have gone to Fukahori at the end of this bay under the pretext of collecting medicinal herbs. We walked around and visited some temples. On our return in the evening, I sent the interpreters to the governor to thank him for his permission.

29 The governor's factor handed me 515 taels. This sum had been lent in gold, on behalf of Yohyōe, to San'emon, our *bongiois* and escort on the court journey, in Miyako and Edo. Now the loan has been repaid.

June

71 1–2 Misty weather with drizzle. This kind of weather brings out all the caterpillars and other vermin and they eat all the seedlings in the garden and it looks as if all the vegetables on the island have been destroyed.

6 Today is the first dry day in eight days. We have inspected the warehouses which were leaking and need repairing. I had one of the guards call the owners, because now is the best time for them to see the leaks.

7 Most of the landlords came to inspect their houses. They promised to repair them as soon as the weather improved.

11 Fine weather. Today the last two junks returned to China.

12 We have been explaining the medicines for Chikugo-no-kami.

15 Interpreter Nihyōe told me that the white raw Chinese silk is being sold for 500–550 taels per picul in Miyako. The missions to congratulate the Shogun are increasing the demand for silk piece-goods. We hope that the Company will find a good market for the silk and other goods which the ships will bring.

16 We have been busy explaining the medicines to the Japanese doctor.

18 Sukezaemon and the *otona* told me that *Burgemeester* Hikoemon returned from Edo last night. They did not know if he brought any news or the money which Genba-dono and Uneme-dono owe us. They promised to find out tomorrow.

72 I told them that it is time to request the governor for permission to purchase and take delivery of copper. But they thought that it is still too soon. They said that there were about 2000 piculs of copper in the city, but not a single merchant or owner had arrived yet. When the merchants arrive, they expected that permission would be given, especially because four years ago Edo had given permission once and for all. I am afraid that these merchants will be slow in coming here, because it is now a leap year and there are two fourth months, which according to their calendar makes it early. We might not be able to purchase any copper before the arrival of the first ships.

20 Sukezaemon told me that Yohyōe had received express letters from Edo yesterday. He had been notified that the Shogun had ventured outside the castle on the 8th to enjoy himself and the Court is rejoicing and every day people are enjoying entertainment and theatrical performances. The interpreter had also received a letter from Shirōemon, the landlord in Osaka, that the Bengal silk *cabessa* was being sold for 490–500 taels. This is a profit of about 100 taels per picul. Furthermore, that the Miyako merchants had made a good profit on all the goods which they had bought from the Company last year. But the European goods made the lowest profit. Furthermore, the prices for all silk fabrics have risen because of the missions to the court. The shops in Miyako and Osaka are almost empty.

- 73 This tallies with what Nihyōe told us on the 15th.
 21 Sukezaemon brought the money for a *gantang* of tent wine, some almonds and spectacles, for which the servants of Andō Ukyō-sama and Minbu-no-shō had not yet paid on our departure from Edo. They had paid the landlord afterwards. Hikoemon had brought the money. But we have received no payment for the *lakenen* which Genba-dono took and for the small things for Uneme-dono. Because Genba-dono was absent from Edo during Hikoemon's stay there, I hope that payment will follow with Magobei.
 23 Today is the 1st day of *Gogatsu*, the 5th Japanese month. In the afternoon, the Japanese doctor came for more instruction in medicine.
 29 Fine weather. A Chinese junk which had lain in mid-stream for some time waiting to sail, has been brought to the shore with the governor's permission, because the northern monsoon has passed and the southern wind is blowing strongly. The *nachoda* has received permission to remain here till October.

July

- 1 The interpreters came to tell me that Yohyōe intended to visit the island. Two hours later he came with *Burgemeester* Sakuemon and a large train of servants. I went to welcome them at the gate and led them to my house. There I treated them to some pastries and drinks. The governor was very friendly and affable. He, Sakuemon, and his principal servants drank a cup of tent wine and looked at some things that we still had in the factory,
 74 including some glasses, of which he selected a beer glass which he liked. He was also curious to see some foreign wood that was still in the warehouse. It was brought out and he wished to have two or three pieces at his house tomorrow to test them to see if they were suitable for gun stocks. I accompanied him to the garden and he enjoyed himself at the billiard table. He thanked me for the hospitality and, evening approaching, he said goodbye.
 2 Early in the morning, Hachizaemon came to fetch the wood which the governor had selected yesterday. I commended him to thank the governor

on my behalf for his visit and to apologize for the meagre offerings and to add other such compliments according to Japanese custom. Hachizaemon returned within the hour and told me he had passed on my message to the governor himself. He had been pleased and had repeated that he was grateful for the fine treatment.

4 Strong southerly wind. In the evening, a junk appeared from Anhai, the first in the southern monsoon. It is the same junk which left here on 24 May. Thus it has journeyed back and forth in forty-two days. It had taken just five days from Anhai to here. [List of cargo.]

- 75 According to the present rate it is worth around 34,000 taels. It brought the news that the Tartars and Coxinga had not yet made peace, but there was an armistice. Also that next month several other junks could be expected from there loaded with silk and fabrics.

6 With a strong south-westerly wind a junk from Siam arrived in the roadstead. It had sailed from Siam to Quanzhou on 24 May and had left for this place on the 1st. [List of cargo.] On today's market it is worth about 18,000 taels of silver.

7 In the afternoon, Sukezaemon and Kichibyōe's son Shinkichi came. The governor had sent them with a pass and a flag which had been found yesterday when the junk from Siam was inspected. They wished to know the contents. I notified them that it was a pass issued by *Oppperhoofd* Volkerus Westerwolt to the Chinese Benqua in Siam on 5 May. It stated that he, Benqua, would sail with his junk with a cargo of sappanwood, pepper, tin, lead, saltpetre and cotton to Quanzhou. All the masters of the ships which Benqua encountered were advised to let him continue his journey unmolested,

- 76 unless the High Government in Batavia had issued different orders. On the prince's flag was written in Latin script '*Vive Orangie*'. I explained this to them. They wrote it down and went to report to the governor.

9 Continuing south-westerly wind. A junk arrived from Cambodia. [List of cargo.] On today's market the goods are worth 16,500 taels. In the afternoon,

we heard a rumour that a Dutch ship had been spotted by the guards on the Nomo Mountains. The governor gave us permission to send a vessel with a couple of Dutchmen. But an hour later we saw a ship, with sails made up in the Dutch manner, sail into the bay. It had a Chinese flag at the back. On the return of our people they reported that the ship came from Siam and belonged to the King. It is said that it had been constructed there by a Dutch carpenter. Time will tell if this will cause us problems, in particular with the officials in Edo, such as in 1647 on the arrival of the two Portuguese ships. It is probable that not much good will come out of it for the Company.

77 In the evening, two junks sailed into the bay, the one from Quinam and the other from Anhai. [List of cargoes.]

10 Strong south-westerly wind. Early in the morning, Nihyōe told me that the Siamese ship which arrived yesterday had brought an ambassador on behalf of the King to His Majesty of Japan. There were 15 Chinese on the ship – including the master and the first mate – and 101 native Siamese.

78 They had sailed from Siam last year but adverse wind had forced them to Cochin China. They had not returned to Siam, but had sailed hither directly. In the afternoon, while we were busy with all the interpreters and the doctor noting down the medicines, the governor sent for them. Shortly after, they returned and told us that the ambassador had stated that he had been sent by the new Siamese king and the true successor of the kingdom – he became king five years ago. Thus the governor would like to know what we knew about this new king. They also said that about twenty years ago a similar ambassador of Siam had arrived here. But when it became known here that he had been sent by a self-appointed king, who was not of true blood and had usurped the kingdom, he had not been accepted but had been sent back. I replied that I had not heard of any change of king in Siam for some years. Merchant Oetgens and the Junior Merchants Messtecker and Hogenhouck, who had been in Siam a few years ago, confirmed this. But the surgeon, who had been stationed in Siam before

and had sailed hither and back for some time, said that the Siamese king had his son crowned king four or five years ago. Furthermore, that the old King had taken a daughter of the true royal lineage as his wife, but he did not know

79 whether she was the mother of this young, newly-crowned King. When the interpreters understood what we had said, they went to the governor and shortly after they returned. They reported that they had made the following statements: that the captain had never been in Siam and up to now had never heard of a new king; that there were some Dutchmen who had been in Siam four, five or six years ago, but they were not aware of any change of king; but the surgeon had heard in Siam three years ago, that a new or young king had been crowned, but that he did not know if he was of true royal blood. Whatever may be the case, we cannot know, because no ship arrived from Siam last year and we have not received any letter from there. But it is more likely that this ambassador has been sent by the old King than the new one, because *Opperhoofd* Volkerus Westerwolt mentioned in his letter of 3 July 1654, brought by the *Breda*, that an ambassador would be sent. He wrote that: 'It has pleased His Majesty this year to equip two yachts for Japan loaded with sappanwood, elephant's teeth, tin and lead. He is sending envoys with letters and gifts for His Imperial Majesty.' He did not mention a young or new King. They did not appear here in 1654 and according to them, they set off on their journey last year. Thus we do not know more than already stated. But we shall hear more when the ships from Siam arrive. It might even be possible that the governor is just proposing this to sound us out, because the Chinese, who left there on 24 May and arrived here on the 6th of this month, can provide him with clearer information.

80 The governor sent mail with the news of the ambassador's arrival to the government in Edo last night. In the meantime, the junks which arrived from Cambodia, Quinam and Anhai are being unloaded and the Chinese are coming ashore. On the other hand, this ship is being closely guarded and none of the persons on board has come ashore. I do not

think this will happen before orders arrive from Edo. I have heard that the ambassador has claimed not to have brought any commodities, but that the ship is carrying some sappanwood as ballast and some other goods belonging to the master, the first mate and other sailors to be traded here for small things and food. In the evening, a large junk arrived from Cambodia. [List of cargo; worth around 13,400 taels.]

11 I heard that the Chinese who arrived here on the 6th from Siam via Quanzhou have sold their entire cargo for good profits.

81 The elk hides for 78 and the three kinds of deerskin for 36 taels the hundred; the sappanwood for 56 mas; the black sugar for 58 mas a picul. The other goods accordingly. The merchants are very eager to buy the skins and the sappanwood, because last year no junks or ships arrived from that region. I hope that the goods the Company's ship will bring will also find such eager buyers.

12 Fine weather. South-westerly breeze. I heard that the 15 Chinese who came on the Siamese ship have been allowed to come ashore. They have been divided over three houses of five each and they are not allowed to go out. The Lord of Ōmura is guarding this ship till further orders come from Edo.

13 Two junks arrived flying Coxinga's flag. They sailed here from Zhangzhou in six days. [List of cargoes; worth 35,000 taels.]

14 Sukezaemon told me that the Siamese ambassador had informed Governor Yohyōe that the old King of Siam had died and this young King – who, he claims, has sent him – has been accepted all over the Siamese kingdom. He also said that the 15 Chinese who came with the ambassador have indeed been divided over three streets, but each in a separate house and no other Chinese or Japanese are allowed near them. They are being closely guarded.

82 This has put the fear into them. They have been separated in order to interrogate each Chinese about the Siamese king and this ambassador and to find out who has ordered this mission. But Sukezaemon said that, when questioned, some of these Chinese had already told the governor that the old King was

still alive when they left Siam. This contradicts the ambassador's statement. If he is found out to have told lies, it will end badly for him. At best he will be sent away without having achieved anything, just like twenty years ago. If the Chinese also suffer and come under suspicion, the more so because it is rumoured that their replies differ, time will tell. Whatever, I trust that they will have had their fill of this and in future will not easily lend themselves to show the Siamese the way hither.

15 In the morning the guards of the Lord of Ōmura towed two Chinese junks, which had been anchored off Seto, into the roadstead with Japanese barges. The one came from Cambodia and the other from Quinam. [List of cargoes; together worth 12,000 taels.]

83 16 The Chinese *nachoda* Siouniquan arrived with a large junk from Quinam. He has been sailing between Quinam and Japan every year for fifteen years, but last year he had not been able to complete his journey because of adverse wind. He had returned to Quinam and he now brought last year's cargo. [List; value 20,000 taels.] In the evening, news arrived that the guards on the Nomo Mountains had spotted a Dutch ship out at sea. Shortly after, the *otona* and the interpreters came and said that it had been confirmed by a second dispatch boat. They brought permission from the governor to send a few Dutchmen tomorrow before daybreak.

84 I had the governor thanked.

Arrival of the *Zoutelande*

17 Merchant Oetgens, Junior Merchant Messtecker, an interpreter and two *bongioisen* carried a note with instructions to the ship's officers to prevent them from unwittingly doing anything to contravene the orders or the customs of the Japanese. In the afternoon, the ship sailed into the bay. It was the yacht the *Zoutelande*, sent by Governor Cornelis Cæsar from Tayouan with a cargo worth 130,461 guilders. [List of cargo.] Except for the Formosan sugar and skins, it is the cargo which had been loaded on the *Trouw* in Batavia and Siam for this factory. The *Trouw* had not been able to continue her journey and turned back off Pehu on 29 September last year.

In the letter-book one can read what the governor wrote us about the state of affairs on Formosa and other matters. After we had read the letters and other papers, on the governor's orders, the interpreters came to inquire what news the ship had brought.

85 I told part of it, firstly the safe arrival of the ships which sailed from here last year, the mission of the Cantonese ambassadors to Peking,⁸ the war against the Portuguese in Colombo,⁹ the fine state of affairs in Formosa and finally which ships can be expected here from Tayouan, Siam, Batavia and Tonkin and what cargo they will bring if they arrive safely. They noted this down in Japanese and took it to the governor together with the muster-roll and the list of this ship's cargo. Shortly after, they returned and told me that the governor had been well pleased that this ship had arrived so early and safely. He congratulated us on this. If the weather was fine tomorrow, we could start unloading. In the evening, a large junk arrived from Siam. The *nachoda* is Lipsien's brother and his name is Rocquan. [List of cargo; value 23,000 taels.]

18 In the morning, after the *bongioisen* had come, the crew of the *Zoutelande* was mustered, the rules and regulations which they have to follow here were read out to them and we started to unload. We made good progress and by the evening the ship was empty except for the sugar.

86 In the evening, Hachizaemon told us that yesterday the *nachoda* of the junk from Siam had been brought ashore and had been questioned by the governor about the Siamese king. He had declared that on his departure from there, which was on the 7th of last month, the old King had still been alive and ruling. This makes clear that the ambassador's

claims that he has been sent by the new King and that the old King is dead are completely false. How this will end we shall find out shortly when orders from Edo arrive. So far none of the Siamese have come ashore and they are under strict surveillance. The Chinese who arrived from Anhai recently brought the news that the junk belonging to the brother of the late One-eye, the Chinese Itchien, which left here for Tonkin in March last year with 70 chests of silver, having taken over his brother's trade, had foundered off Hainan in a severe storm. The cargo and most of the crew had been lost. The *nachoda* and a few Chinese had been saved and had reached Tonkin naked. If this is true, then the Tonkin trade will not suffer on their account this year, either in the imports or the exports.

19 Fine weather. We started early to unload the sugar. But it did not proceed so smoothly as yesterday because some barges were taking on stone for ballast. Except for 50 chests, all the sugar was brought ashore. In the evening, on the orders of the governor, the interpreters brought a pass which had been brought by the Siamese junk.

87 The governor wished to know the contents. It has been issued by *Oppperhoofd* Westerwolt in Siam on 20 May to the Chinese Locqua, who was to sail to Japan with his junk loaded with sappanwood, black sugar, Cambodian nuts, black lacquer, *boreh-boreh*, buffalo-horns, rayskins and 500 cowhides. Westerwolt commended all the masters of the ships which the *nachoda* might encounter not to harm him or to hinder him on his journey, unless the High Government in Batavia had issued different orders. I explained the pass to them and they wrote it down in Japanese. They returned to the governor.

20 Fine weather. Before noon the yacht the *Zoutelande* was empty. Her cargo was dry and in good condition. It tallied with the bill of lading. The ship was inspected and everything was done to the satisfaction of both parties. I had the interpreters thank the governor for the good orders he had given concerning the unloading. In the evening, we were told that a short while ago, two of the governor's falconers were passing through the streets with the falcons on their wrists. A servant of a *bongiois* from

8 The High Government sent two envoys, Pieter de Goyer and Jacob Keyser, to Canton in 1655. They had to wait seven months before they received permission to travel to Peking on a so-called tribute-bearing mission. The Emperor's response to their humble request that the VOC be allowed free trading rights in China was that the Dutch need only bring tribute once every eight years.

9 In 1656 the Dutch captured Colombo, which then became the capital of their government on Ceylon.

Ōmura, approaching from a side street, bumped into them. This had infuriated the falconers and they abused this man and kicked him. They got into a fight and the servant killed both falconers. The servant was badly hurt himself and he slit open his belly. Thus within the space of a quarter of an hour, three men have been killed because of the arrogance of these falconers.

21 Before dawn a junk arrived from Quinam.

88 [List of cargo; value 19,200 taels.] I heard today that the Siamese ambassador – when he realized that he could not keep up appearances – had informed the governor yesterday that the old King in Siam, contrary to what he had said before, was still alive, but that he, the ambassador, had been forced by him to undertake the mission as he had announced on his arrival. He would have preferred to have foregone this embassy, fearing mishaps, but he had been unable to. Now he had fulfilled the King's order. The ambassador is also supposed to have requested that some of the sappanwood which the ship had brought be traded for rice and other foodstuff. No decision has yet been given. I also heard that the fifteen Chinese who came with them here are still being kept separate in great fear of death, because they have given the governor replies concerning the Siamese king which were at variance. One can tell from this that this Siamese embassy, of whose King people are already speaking disparagingly, will end badly.

89 22 Fine weather. We have now access to the warehouses because they are left unsealed and we opened nineteen packs of Coromandel *gingham* and *sestienes*, because some are damp on the outside and they seemed in disorder. But when we opened them we found that the fabrics were dry and unsoiled. However, compared to the invoice and the enclosed notes, twenty-eight pieces were short in three packs of *gingham* and six pieces in one pack of *sestienes*. We have passed an attestation on this.

26 Fine weather. To make room for the goods on the ships which we are expecting any day now, I had 103 packs of Bengal silk *cabessa* which the *Zoutelande* brought and which are of a similar quality and

value, taken to a secure display attic. I intend to open the packs and to display them as soon as we receive permission to trade. This will save us some time.

28 A junk from Anhai arrived flying Coxinga's flag. It left on the 13th of this month with the following cargo. [List.] It is worth 10,000 taels.

30 The interpreters came with Doctor Genshō to note down the remedy for some illnesses for the last time. After they had finished, I commended them to request Yohyōe permission to purchase copper because the copper merchants will appear here shortly.

90 They promised to do so and they will bring me the reply tomorrow.

31 This morning Magobei, the interpreter who was sent to Edo on 15 May, returned. He reported – this has also been written in the reply to my letter by the major-domo of Chikugo-no-kami and his interpreter Senoosje – that not only were the Commissioner and Kiemon most appreciative of the mission which contributed to the honour of the Company, but the councillors had been so pleased that he, Magobei, had been given audience on 23 June – which is the 1st day of the 5th Japanese month – in their full meeting in the shogunal palace. Our gifts – just consisting of ten pieces of red *gielam* – had been accepted by the councillors on behalf of His Majesty. But the gifts which had been taken to the houses of the councillors had been refused by their secretaries with many apologies, because the councillors did not accept anything from anyone on these extraordinary missions. On the 27th Magobei had received two silk gowns on behalf of the Shogun and he was given his dispatch by the councillors. During his stay in Edo he had been entertained very affably by Chikugo-no-kami and the Nagasaki Governor. They value this mission highly, because it shows our sincere affection for His Majesty's well-being. In sum, according to the interpreters, the honour bestowed on the Company was great. Thus the 261 taels which this mission cost have been well spent.

91 Magobei brought the news that grand and costly feasts are being held in Edo for the Shogun's

recovery. Every day there are great displays of joy. Governor Kiemon would be travelling here shortly after his departure. Thus he is expected here soon. Then we can expect the reply to the raising of money at interest, of which Magobei reminded him. Genba-dono had paid for the *lakenen* he had taken during our stay in Edo and so had Uneme-dono for the small things. The Dutch seeds which we had sent to Chikugo-no-kami had been sown and they had borne fruit, such as cabbage, legumes, parsley and cherries. He would like to have some more next year. I promptly sent the interpreters, who had all been present in my room, to the house of Governor Yohyōe to inform him of the success of the interpreter's mission. We attributed it to His Honour's favourable commendation, for which we were grateful. He sent the reply that he was most pleased and rejoiced with us. *Burgemeester* Takashima Shirōbei – who had been to Edo on behalf of the citizens of Nagasaki on the same kind of mission and who had returned together with Magobei – sent his congratulations on our success at the Court as did *Burgemeester* Sakuemon. We responded with the required courtesy. The interpreters have had no opportunity to request the governor for the purchase of copper. They proposed waiting for a further two or three days, when most of the merchants would be present here, and he would more likely approve it.

August

- 92 1 In the morning the governor had the interpreters inform me that the guards on the Nomo Mountains had spotted a Dutch ship. He gave permission to send a few Dutchmen there. When they returned in the evening, they reported that the ship could be seen from the mountains, but that it was still far out at sea and could not make headway because it was becalmed. The governor let me know late in the evening that we could send another barge there in the morning, if we so wished. I had him thanked for his courtesy.

Arrival of the *Koning David*

- 2 I sent another barge with three Dutchmen. Southwesterly wind during the day. In the afternoon,

we saw the ship sail into the bay. It is the flute the *Koning David*, dispatched by Governor Cæsar from Tayouan on the 19th of last month. [List of cargo: Formosan powdered sugar, Formosan deerskins, mountain goat skins and elk hides.] The skins and the sugar cost 48,423 guilders with expenses. From Cæsar's letter I learnt that thus far no ships had yet arrived from Batavia. That Coxinga has forbidden his subjects to trade in Formosa and had sent a placard there which had been affixed for the public.

- 93 In it he summoned all his junks from there within a period of one hundred days. This indicates that Coxinga has evil designs against Tayouan or the Company. Therefore, Cæsar recommended us to be on guard against the Chinese who are sailing from here. The Tartar ruler had sent 15,000 native Tartars from Peking to Anhai and Amoy to fight against Coxinga. I gave the interpreters this news and the cargo of the ship. They wrote this and the muster-roll down in Japanese and took it to the governor.

3 Last night and this morning eight Chinese junks arrived in the roadstead. I was told that six came from Anhai and one from Tonkin and the eighth was a Patani junk which had sailed directly from Batavia. In the morning the weather was fine. I went on board the ship to muster the crew and to publish the instructions. The *bongioisen* were pleased with the proceedings. Then we started to unload and all the skins were brought ashore.

4 Last night and early in the morning four more Chinese junks arrived. They are said to have come from Anhai. I do not know what they or the junks which arrived yesterday brought, because most cannot be unloaded because of a shortage of *bongioisen*. The *bongioisen* came early and we started to unload the sugar from the *David*. In the afternoon, two more junks arrived from Anhai, flying Coxinga's flag. In the afternoon, the governor sent the interpreters with a pass and a bond.

- 94 They had been found upon inspection of the junk from Batavia. They wanted to know the contents. It is a pass issued in Batavia by Governor-General Joan Maetsuyker on 14 June to the Chinese *nachoda* Wansick, who had arrived there from China with his *wankang* and would return there. The bond

has been written and signed by the cashier Mr Wijnant Rutgers on 13 July. It stated that the Chinese *nachoda* Wansick – who had recently arrived from Japan with his junk and when sailing through the Malacca Straits had been seized – had deposited the sum of 3000 reals at 51 stivers each in the Company's account as security, because the two ships from Canton had not yet returned to Batavia. The authorities would use this money as they deemed fit. I told the interpreters the contents of the pass and the bond. I added that I did not know further particulars of this junk or the reason why he had deposited the money. According to the interpreters, Wansick has spread the rumour that this sum had been extracted from him in Batavia and he had paid this as a toll. Therefore I explained to them the correct meaning of the word '*namptiseren*'.¹⁰ They understood it and went to report to the governor. It seems that the Chinese are forever trying to use lies to make us suspect in the eyes of the governor. However, not much credence is given to their statements, because previously, when a few of their junks were late in arriving, the Chinese here would always spread the rumour that they had been seized at sea by the Dutch, but when the junks appeared much later in the season or the next year, their lies were brought to light.

- 95 According to the interpreters, this has led the governors to setting little store by what they say. The interpreters brought me a piece of *attentaij*¹¹ inscribed with Moorish lettering which has been found in the *wankang*. They asked what it could mean. I told them that they were Moorish letters and not Dutch and it looked like the name of the person who had made it. This shows how closely they inspect everything here. Nothing can remain hidden. In the evening, all the sugar had been brought ashore. It was dry and in good condition, as were the skins. All tallied with the bill of lading.

5 Hard rain and fierce thunder in the morning, but later it cleared. The ship has been inspected, twelve pieces of ordnance were removed from the hold and ballast stone has been loaded. The governor gave

permission that the rudder remain in the ship. I had the interpreters thank him for this and also because the ship had been unloaded so quickly thanks to the diligence of the *bongioisen*.

6 *Burgemeester* Sakuemon sent for the red thrum blanket and the burning-glass which Inaba Mino-kami had ordered when we were in Edo. Yohyōe asked for two blue thrum blankets which were still at the factory. I had the interpreters take the goods to Sakuemon and the governor.

8 Fine weather. Today the confiscated goods of the Lord of Karatsu, which are being kept in one of the warehouses on Tsukishima, have been aired. *Burgemeester* Hikoemon and two of the governor's *bongioisen* were present.

- 96 The interpreters and the *otona* came and, as the copper merchants are now in town, I ordered them to ask the governor for permission to purchase copper and that the merchants be allowed onto the island. They did so straightaway and returned with the governor's permission. We could send for the merchants whenever we liked. I told them to bring them to me tomorrow.

9 The interpreters came with a few of the principal copper merchants. I told them that, if we could agree on a fair price, I would order a good quantity of fine bar-copper. As they do every year, they explained the reason for the high price of copper. They gave me a quote of 14 taels per picul. I offered them 10 taels. After some haggling, they finally lowered their quote to 12.5 taels and I raised my bid to 11 taels, to show them that we were willing to buy. They would not listen to this and left. If we could not offer them a higher price, we need not send for them again.

10–11 The interpreters came and I asked them what they thought of the price I had offered for the copper. They thought the bid was fair, but that it would not be possible to obtain it for that price this year. We could wait for another two or three days and they would sound the merchants out about for which price they would be willing to deliver. I commended them to do so without letting on that I had given orders to do so.

12 The copper merchants came again and after much haggling they lowered their quote to 117 mas.

10 From the French *nantir*: provide collateral.

11 We could not find the meaning of this.

97 I offered them 111 mas and finally 113 mas – that is to say for a picul of fine copper with the chests – which I considered a fair and high bid. But these tough merchants would not listen to it and after much talk about the high purchase price of this mineral, they left without having come to an agreement. I remained determined not to increase my bid, notwithstanding that time is passing fast. I shall see first what the interpreters can achieve. In the evening, the governor let us know that a Dutch ship had been spotted by the guard on the mountain. We could send a barge with a few Dutchmen outside. We did so immediately and they returned at midnight. They had not seen a ship. It may be that it put to sea again because it feared coming too close to shore in the dark.

13 At nine o'clock in the morning we sent another vessel to the ship. They returned again in the evening not having achieved their goal, but the ship had been spotted far out at sea from the mountain.

Arrival of the *Arnemuiden*

14 For the third time I sent two barges. They returned in the afternoon with the ship. It is the yacht the *Arnemuiden* from Tayouan. According to the master she is loaded with 300 chests of sugar, about 40,000 Siamese deerskins and cowhides and 3,000 buffalo-horns, which the *Trouw* had brought there last year. But he did not bring me any letters, invoices, bill of lading, or other documents. The reason is that on 30 July a fierce storm had struck the ship which cut her anchor ropes and she had drifted from the southern roadstead.

98 She had been in great danger of running aground and because most of the cargo for this factory had already been loaded, she had set course hither. The weather was fine during the journey and they reached here in sixteen days. Thank the Lord for her safe arrival. I notified the interpreters of the cargo and they went to report to the governor. They also informed him that the ship had drifted away as aforesaid.

15 Fine weather. The crew of the *Arnemuiden* was mustered and we began to unload. All the skins and the horns have been brought ashore.

16 After we had sent three sampans full of ballast stone to the ship, the sugar was unloaded. In the evening, a junk from Anhai arrived flying Coxinga's flag.

17 The *Arnemuiden* is empty and has been inspected. The munitions have been brought ashore. Every day the interpreters have been impressing upon the copper merchants that, if they did not sell their copper in time, they would be left stuck with it. Thus they came for the third time and after some negotiations we finally agreed to 11.4 taels per picul for fine copper with the chests, to be weighed on the Company's *daats*. Thereupon about 2000 piculs were brought onto the island.

Arrival of the *Kalf* and the *Avondster*

18 The copper is of a good quality and alloy. We have begun to take delivery employing four *daatsen* simultaneously.

99 In the afternoon, news came that two ships had been spotted close to shore. The stiff south-westerly wind brought them to the roadstead around four o'clock. They are the yachts the *Kalf* and *Avondster*. Both left Batavia on 13 July with my successor Zacharias Wagenaer. They brought an excellent and costly cargo of Bengal silk fabrics, Dutch cloth, Coromandel cloth, spices, rarities, provisions and such, together worth 571,221 guilders.

19 After the crew had been mustered and the instructions had been published, we began to unload the *Kalf*. Around eight o'clock we were told that another Dutch ship had been spotted, but when we sent a vessel there, it returned without having seen any ship. This afternoon six Chinese junks arrived in the roadstead, including one belonging to the brother of Itchien, the one-eyed Chinese, who came from Tonkin on his newly-built junk with a costly cargo. We shall hear shortly what it consists of.

20 The *bongioisen* urged the workers on and the *Kalf* was empty in the afternoon. The cargo is in good condition and tallies with the bill of lading. The governor gave permission to leave the 100 sows of lead which had been loaded onto the yacht for Tayouan on board as ballast.

100 Magobei told me this morning that the ship which had been spotted yesterday had reached the Bight of Arima, which is very dangerous and ridden with cliffs. Thus I sent a request to the governor that a barge be sent there. After I had received permission, I sent Master Cornelis Martensz Rob there to aid the ship in all possible ways. I received tidings that another ship had been spotted off Nomo. I sent a vessel there with two Dutchmen. On their return, they reported that it was the yacht the *Cabo Jasques* from Tonkin. It had 460 piculs of silk, 300 pieces of *pelang* and 20 piculs of cinnamon on board, worth 225,997 guilders. The voyage had been propitious, it had taken them just fourteen days from Tonkin to here. Late at night we were told that the ship *Arnhem* was now out of the Bight of Arima and out of danger. Yesterday we received around 1000 piculs of copper. They have been packed in chests of 100 cattles each.

21 After midnight the wind started to blow strongly from the east and then from the south-east with driving rain. The water in the bay, it being spring tide, rose to a high level, almost as high as Tsukishima. We were afraid that we would suffer the same experience as in 1650, when the fence, the pantry and the buttery blew down.

101 But in the afternoon, when the water-level began to drop, the wind did so too. There was no damage done on Tsukishima. But we did not know how the ships fared. We could not send a vessel to find out. During the rough weather all four of the *stadsgemeesters* came to inspect the island and find out how we were. They offered their help if need be, or any workers. Then the wind veered to the south-west, but we did not see either of the ships come in. We were very worried. It was not possible to send any men there because none of the *bongioisen* could be persuaded to go out. Therefore I sent a sturdy barge with ten Japanese outside. On their return in the evening, they reported that from the mountain they had seen one ship within Iōshima, but the other was lying without her masts off the cliffs of Kurosaki. Another dispatch boat confirmed this, but we could not send any help because of the strong wind.

Arrival of the *Arnhem* and the *Cabo Jasques*

22 It had calmed down a little and I sent the interpreters to the governor with the request to have the mastless ship towed in by tow-boats. He gave permission to do so. I sent Oetgens there straightaway. Although we would have liked to postpone it till tomorrow, the *bongioisen* also came to unload the *Avondster*. After the crew had been mustered, we made a start. Around nine o'clock the *Arnhem* arrived safely in the roadstead. She had sailed from Siam and, apart from the cargo from Batavia, she carried a Siamese cargo

102 consisting of deerskins, cowhides, sappanwood, rayskins and buffalo-horns, worth 67,873 guilders. In the evening, the mastless *Cabo Jasques* was also towed into the bay by 48 tow-boats. I went to the ship with Wagenaer and learnt in what danger the ships had been in yesterday. The *Jasques*, which had been anchored off Takabokojima, had three anchors cut and had been driven close to the cliffs, but by cutting down both masts they had been spared. They had ridden there at one anchor in great danger. The *Arnhem* had also been close to the projecting cliffs off Iōshima. In sum, both costly laden ships have been saved by God's grace, for which we thank Him. Two junks, one of which came from Cambodia, which had been sailing with the ships close to the shore, had been unable to reach the shore because of the strong easterly wind. No sign has been found of them. They have probably gone to the bottom of the sea with all their men. Several Japanese barges which the Lords of Arima and Ōmura had sent out to aid those ships had foundered. Four Japanese had drowned and both ships had been towed here by patrol vessels and tow-boats from Ōmura and Arima, apart from the thirty vessels which had been sent from here. Immediately I sent to thank Yohyōe and the *bongiois* of Ōmura and Arima for their assistance to the ships.

103 A good batch of commodities has been unloaded from the *Avondster*. We also received 600 piculs of copper.

23 The ship was being unloaded when the hard rain made us stop. Yesterday I had the interpreters inform the governor's secretary that I wished to

offer some payment to the tow-boats of the Lords of Arima and Ōmura. The secretary sent the reply that I could do as I wished. He thought that this was a good opportunity to present it to them. After consultation with the interpreters, I sent the men of Arima 20 *schuiten* of silver and those of Ōmura ten, a total of 30 *schuiten* of silver, which is 129 taels. The interpreters took it to them with our gratitude. The men of Ōmura refused to accept it, their lord having forbidden it, but the men of Arima accepted it on condition that they receive their lord's permission first. They expected a reply within two days. In the evening, two Nanking junks arrived. They have brought medicines and some fabrics. This is the first time in two years that a vessel from that place has arrived here.

24 All the goods have been unloaded from the *Avondster*. It has been inspected and the munitions have been brought ashore. In the meantime, the *Cabo Jasques* was mustered and we unloaded the Tonkinese silk. In the afternoon it was also empty.

104 All the silk and the cinnamon are dry and in good condition and the packs tally with the invoice. The rough weather has caused no damage at all to the commodities, because the yacht is sturdy and solidly build. Four Tonkinese men of Mandarin Ongjade have also come on the ship. *Opperhoofd* Baffart wrote to me that he had to permit this to prevent ill feelings. They came with sixty packs of silk and piece-goods. If we have to continue this practice every year, this will be damaging to the Company. On top of this, we have to provide quarters and food for these men. Now they can see and hear all that goes on in our trade and other affairs.

25 The *bongioisen* came early to unload the *Arnhem*. We made good progress. Kiemon arrived from Edo over land. As soon as we heard the news, I sent the interpreters to welcome him. We also heard that several pieces of timber, ropes and other things which had fallen over board when the masts of the *Jasques* were cut, had been dredged up. The Ōmura men had picked them up on the beach. I sent a few Japanese vessels to collect them. A junk arrived from Anhai. It just brought medicines, alum and 200 piculs of black sugar. We have brought a

good part of the Siamese goods of the *Arnhem* on shore.

105 26 We proceeded to unload the ship. The master notified me that he could not unload any more goods unless he received some ballast, thus I sent him 700 piculs of copper as ballast. Hachizaemon came to inform me that one of the Nanking Chinese who arrived two days ago had told him that he had been in Peking a short time ago. He had said that there were six Dutchmen in Peking.¹² This Chinese man had seen them himself when they were on their way to the court in Peking carrying the gifts they had brought along, such as a beautiful mirror, a large *alcatief* and another rare item, which he could not name. He had also said that the Dutchmen had been shown great honour at the Court in Tartar fashion by the sounding of shawms and such. They had travelled from Canton to Peking in eighty days, but he had no knowledge of their further exploits because he had left Peking shortly after. These are good tidings and signs of a desired outcome of trade in that large empire. Hans van der Heijde, former able seaman on the *Arnhem*, died last night. I asked the governor permission for burial of the corpse. He gave it promptly and the *bongiois* went to fetch the coffin with the corpse from on board. In the presence of a senior surgeon and an assistant, who had received permission to accompany him, he was buried in Inasa near a Japanese temple.¹³ The broken masts, yards, ropes and blocks from the *Jasques*, which had been collected by the Ōmura men with 26 vessels, were brought here.

106 They have been damaged by the cliffs and are useless. We shall have to provide the ship as much as possible with the necessary gear from the other six ships lying here and find new masts in the city or in the Gotō Islands.

27–28 We have been busy unloading the *Arnhem* and we loaded 1800 piculs of copper. She is now ballasted with 2500 piculs of copper. The masters received permission to go to the city to look for some masts. They found three suitable ones for

¹² See 17 July 1656.

¹³ The Goshin-ji.

the *Jasques* and the *Kalf*. They were purchased for 150 taels each. Compared to former times, this is reasonable.

29 The *Arnhem* is empty. She has been inspected and the munitions have been brought ashore. The whole cargo, both from Batavia and Siam, is dry and looks in good condition and tallies with the bill of lading. In the afternoon, while the gates were still open, the three pieces of timber for masts were brought onto the island. One is damaged and useless for a mast.

30 All the ships have been unloaded. We have started to weigh copper again. We received 500 piculs and packed them. In the afternoon, Doctor Mukai Genshō received his final instruction in medicine from the surgeon, both orally and in writing. The order from Edo concerning surgery has now been fulfilled and has been explained extensively. They can understand it now.

31 After having received permission, I went to welcome Kiemon after his difficult journey hither.

107 I thanked him for the fatherly assistance he had given the Company, both during my stay in Edo and afterwards when Magobei was sent there to congratulate the Shogun on his good health. I requested his continuing good feelings towards us. He was pleased that all ships had arrived here early and that several goods which he had ordered had arrived. I took my leave and went to the house of Yohyōe. I congratulated him that his confrère had arrived here in good health and thanked him for giving good orders for the unloading of the ships. It had all been done without any disruption through the friendly cooperation of the *bongioisen*. All ships that were expected this year had arrived and I requested permission to begin trading. His Honour treated me affably, as is his custom. He was also pleased about the early arrival of the ships. But the principal merchants were still on the way. If we started to trade now, this would not be in our favour. We should wait for a few days till they arrived. He thanked me for the 20 *schuiten* of silver which I had sent for the *bongioisen* of Arima, who had assisted the *Arnhem* and had brought her here. I expressed my gratitude that the ship had been taken out of

danger through their help and this was just a small token of my gratitude.

108 I took my leave and returned to the lodge. The interpreters confirmed that the principal merchants are not present yet, but they agreed to my proposal to request the governor for permission to start selling the coarse wares such as sappanwood, sugar, deer-skins, catechu, nutmeg and such, after five or six days even if the merchants have not arrived by then. These goods are being bought by the bulk in the city from the Chinese. Selling these goods early would not harm us, but would yield us profits. Today we received 500 piculs of copper.

September

1 I had the interpreters request the governors for permission to leave the hatches of the *Cabo Jasques* unsealed as long as the carpenters are busy with their work and stepping new masts, which are being prepared on the island. Their reply was that the *bongiois* could open the hatches at all times, even ten times a day, but they would consider whether to leave them open all the time. We received 500 piculs of copper.

2–3 Today is the Japanese holiday for the dead called *Bon*. We could not weigh copper. In the afternoon, both governors sent for some of the goods they had ordered and which have now arrived, such as plush, blankets, lanterns, morions, spectacles and spyglasses. I had the interpreters take the goods to them. They returned with the message that Yohyōe had thought about the start of our trade and when he heard that most of the merchants were present and also that the Chinese are selling their coarse goods, even silk, every day, he had said that we could start selling the coarse goods after the holidays.

109 This is a welcome decision, because there is no shortage of merchants who are buying these goods from the Chinese every day.

4 Three barges brought some goods from a Cambodian junk which had been with our ships in the storm on 21 August. It had been driven to Ishū off Hirado, where it had been dashed against the cliffs and was smashed to pieces. Most of the men on board had been saved. On the orders of the

Lord of Hirado they were brought here. Today we received 800 piculs of copper.

5 I had the interpreters request the governors that the experts on rayskins be allowed on the island to see if there were any suitable for the Shogun. We should also like permission to load the copper, which we have in store, on the ships as ballast. This will save us time when we have to load and it would be done in a more orderly and careful fashion than when we were pressed for time. The governors gave their permission and we can proceed tomorrow when the *bongioisen* come.

6 After the ballast stones had been unloaded from the *Zoutelande*, they were replaced by 1000 chests of copper. I urged the master to have the chests handled carefully and to see to it that they arrived at their destination in proper order. We would not like to receive any complaints about any underweight. He promised to do his best.

110 7 The ballast stones in the *Koning David* were similarly replaced by 1500 chests of copper. I gave the master the same instruction as the one I had given to the master of the *Zoutelande*.

In the afternoon, the son of Nabeshima-dono, Lord of Hizen, came with a very large suite to view the rarities which have arrived. I entertained him in my room for half an hour and treated him to tent wine and confitures. He left satisfied and went on his vessel to the *Arnhem*. He looked it all over and after having spent an hour there, he sailed out of the bay. Yesterday and today the San Thome rayskins were inspected by the expert on rarities in the presence of the governor's *bongiois*. They found some old and damaged ones in the packs. From the entire number of 32,600 skins they selected 16, which were taken to the governors in the evening for inspection.

8 After the *bongioisen* had come, the ballast stones were unloaded from the *Cabo Jasques* and they were replaced by 400 chests of copper.

9 Heavy rain in the morning, but around nine it cleared and the *bongioisen* came to unload the stones from the *Kalf* and to load copper. Before evening all the stones had been unloaded and 845 piculs of copper loaded. This was all that we had in store. Before the start of trade we have loaded 6245

piculs in four ships, which will save us a lot of time when the ships have to be dispatched.

Arrival of the *Charlois*

111 10 Magobei brought me Kiemon's decision on the raising of silver at interest. Because of his many occupations he had not had the opportunity to speak to the government in Edo about this. Thus we could expect a reply later. But the interpreter told me that he had heard as an aside that the governor and Chikugo-no-kami had proposed this, but that the first councillor, Izu-no-kami, had been against it because of the losses which these men suffered when they gave their money to the Portuguese at interest or bottomry. Raising silver has thus been cancelled for now. Two masts and their trappings have been prepared here on the island for the yacht the *Cabo Jasques* and today they were stepped. The yacht was brought close to the *Arnhem* for this purpose. In the afternoon, the governor had me informed that a white sail had been spotted at sea by the guards on the mountain. They could not tell whether it belonged to a ship or a junk. I sent a vessel with a couple of our people. In the evening, they returned and reported that it was the yacht the *Charlois*, she was lying off Iōshima because of the northerly wind. She came from Tayouan and was loaded with 250 chests of sugar worth 9,578 guilders. She had been dispatched on 25 August mainly to bring the invoices and other papers of the yacht the *Arnemuiden* – which, as has been mentioned, was driven by the storm from the Tayouan roadstead on 29 July – and to take back some provisions for the Tayouan office. Some other reasons are mentioned in Governor Cæsar's letter of 24 August.

112 I informed the governors of this. They were very surprised about the arrival of this vessel.

11 The interpreters have assured us that most of the merchants have arrived and I requested the governor that we may start trading. The interpreters told me that they had presented our request to the governors and after some thought and discussion they had said that they would see to it that we could start trade in this, the 7th, month. Today it is the 23rd of that month. This means more delay, but we can

proceed with taking delivery of copper and sorting the goods. The wind is still northerly, thus we sent ten tow-boats to the *Charlois* to bring her in.

12 The sugar on the *Charlois* has been unloaded and 100 chests of copper were taken there as ballast. The yacht has been inspected and because there is just one landing, the hold has been left unsealed. In the afternoon, the interpreters came to tell us that all of them had been summoned by both governors. They had been told that notwithstanding that not all merchants had arrived from up country, we could start selling the coarse goods, for which there is no shortage of merchants. I had the governors thanked for this welcome message. In the evening, we decided to sell sugar, pepper, sappanwood, deerskins, cowhides and such. The goods will be displayed the day after tomorrow.

113 13 The goods were taken out to be put on display. We received 400 piculs of copper.

14 Fine weather. The skins were put on display and the island was opened for everyone. The merchants came in droves and inspected the goods. The four *burgemeesters* of the city came to supervise proceedings. We entertained them in the *otona's* quarters and treated them to tent wine and *sakana*.

15 In the morning, the *otona* and the interpreters showed Wagenaer, Oetgens and me a Japanese document in the form of a request which the Chinese *nachoda* Wansick – who arrived here on 2 August from Batavia – had handed to the Chinese interpreters to present to the governors here. It contains many false complaints and accusations against the Company, namely that he, the *nachoda*, had been forced to hand over all his money and merchandise in Batavia. He had been belittled and treated very disgracefully because he came from Japan and he had been threatened that if he sailed back to Japan, his junk would be confiscated and all the people on board would be killed. And more such lies. The Chinese interpreters had handed the document to our interpreters before they took it to the governor, to show it to us and to find out what was the matter. We told them in general about the junk, why it had been brought to Malacca and why he had deposited 3000 reals in Batavia. Furthermore, that

the *nachoda* was telling lies saying that he had permission from the *opperhoofd* of the Japan factory to go to Malacca, while they, the interpreters knew very well

114 that for as long as the Company had been trading in Nagasaki, the *opperhoofden* had never been required to give any Chinese a pass and even if they were to ask for one, it could never be given without the governor's special order. They understood this and would report so when summoned by the governors. I commended them to tell the governors that they should not give any credence to the false complaints which the Chinese bandy about every year in order to bring us into disrepute. The truth of the matter would be found to be as I had told all of them in general. Moreover, the Chinese who had been seized in the Malacca Straits had even enjoyed great favour. I explained to them the reason and the rights of the Company in those waters, so that they were informed in case of other complaints.¹⁴ In the afternoon, we held the first sale of sappanwood, pepper, sugar, deerskins and other coarse goods. Except for the Siamese rayskins, all were sold for a fair price. See the memorandum of the sales.

16 Rainy weather. This prevented us from delivering the deerskins. The merchants came to fetch the rayskins, elephant's teeth, nutmeg and catechu.

17 We delivered a batch of deerskins, *namrak*, sugar and pepper. In the evening, we decided which of the silk, European woollen goods, Coromandel cloth and hides to put on display for the merchants' inspection in two days.

115 18 The 1st day of the Japanese 8th month. Every year on this day the citizens of this city present the governors with gifts.¹⁵ In the afternoon, we delivered the remainder of the goods sold, except for the sappanwood.

19 The remainder of the goods we have chosen for the sale have been put on display. In the afternoon, people came to view them.

20 After the merchants had viewed some goods, we held the second sale. The Bengal and Tonkinese silk

14 See 4 October.

15 *Hassaku*.

raised good prices, the European goods on average also 100 per cent, some of the Coromandel cloth accordingly, the Siamese and Tayouanese deerskins made prices similar to the previous sale, so we can say that the thirty-three lots have been sold at a good profit.

21–22 We have been busy delivering the silk and the other commodities which we sold yesterday. The weather is dry and fine and suitable for this kind of work. In the evening, we decided on which goods to take out tomorrow for another sale.

23 We have been busy all day selecting the silk and other goods and displaying them in the warehouses.

24 The goods have been divided into 34 lots. In the afternoon, a crowd of merchants came to view them. The *stadsburgemeesters* also came and we entertained them as before in the house of the *otona*. They left after they had visited several of the warehouses where the goods are displayed.

25 Several merchants came to view the silk, red coral, European cloth and other goods in the morning.

116 In the afternoon, we held the third sale. The goods were sold for good prices as in the previous sale, but the Tonkinese royal silk, which cost 460 guilders, did not make more than 206 taels, because there was much coarse and inferior silk mixed in between. But the fine silk made 346 taels per picul and the *armoezen* and madder red *lakenen* were sold for little less. Some other European goods again raised higher prices. See the memorandum of the sales. Today we delivered thirteen batches of the goods.

26 Heavy rain most of the day. This prevented us from handing over the skins to the buyers, but we made fair progress delivering the other commodities which we sold.

27 Steady rain, but we received a batch of copper and delivered some Bengal and Tonkinese silk. We also had the gift goods, which will be presented to the governors, Regent Heizō and the four *burgemeesters* when the weather improves, brought out. The time of departure of the first ships is approaching, thus we decided in a meeting of the council to dispatch the *Arnhem* and the *Cabo Jasques* around

10 or 12 October with the first northerly wind to Batavia and Tonkin. The ships for Tayouan will wait till 15–20 October. We shall also decrease the *schuit-zilver* for Batavia and Tonkin so that we can send more capital to Tayouan for the coast of India. See the resolution.

28 Steady rain, which hindered us in the delivery of the goods sold, especially the skins.

117 In the afternoon, I proposed the interpreters request the governors' permission to buy 12,000 bales of rice and 3000–4000 bales of wheat. When we have received permission, what would be the best way to buy them with the least possibility of being defrauded? They and the *otona* thought it best to affix a list at the gate of the island stating the quantity of grain and that anyone who had fine rice should bring it to the island, but no less than 1000 bales and the price would be settled on the quality and the weight. We agreed and trust that in this way we shall in some measure prevent the cheating which always takes place when we take delivery of the rice and are in a hurry to load it on the ships. In the evening, an able seaman of the *Koning David*, who had been brought on shore suffering from a wasting illness, died. We asked the governor permission to bury him.

29 Early in the morning, the merchants came to take delivery of the silk and sugar they bought. The *bongioisen* came to bury the deceased. In the presence of four Dutchmen he was buried at the other side of the bay near a Japanese temple.

30 Fine weather. In the morning Wagenaer and I went to governors Kiemon and Yohyōe, Regent Heizō, and the four *burgemeesters* of the city to present them with gifts according to annual custom. They all accepted the gifts very affably and gratefully. We were treated to food and drink. In the meantime, the skins sold were delivered and the goods that have been selected to be viewed tomorrow have been taken out and put on display.

118 When we were back home, the governors let us know that we could buy as much rice and wheat as we liked and could transport on our ships. I had them thanked as required.

October

- 1 After the skins had been set out, all the goods that were on display, consisting of 36 packs, were viewed by the merchants. The governors sent for some tent wine and wine for several nobles.
- 2 Gloomy weather with a stiff easterly wind which prevented us from proceeding with the sale. In the afternoon, the wind gathered such force that a severe storm broke loose and the ships could barely ride at three anchors. Some snapped their anchor ropes. The bowsprit of the *Zoutelande* was damaged and the mizzenmast of the *Charlois* broke. The *Jasques* lost two anchors and the *Arnemuiden* 120 lost a piece of the taffrail. In the evening, the wind veered south-westerly and when the tide rose, it calmed. We have been lucky that it was low tide during the storm, otherwise we would have suffered great damage on the island, part of the fence having already been blown down, through the collapse of the pantry, the houses of the interpreters and the *bongioisen*, and the warehouses on the south-eastern side. Thank the Lord that we were spared this.
- 3 The merchants have again viewed the goods on display and we held the fourth sale. Most of the lots fetched good prices, but the buyer of the elk hides made himself scarce.
- 119 His bid was much higher than that of the other merchants. We have delivered a large part of the goods sold.
- 4 We have been busy handing over the silk and skins to the buyers. The two anchors of the *Cabo Jasques* have been dredged up. In the meantime, the interpreters were summoned by the governors. They brought us the document or request which *Nachoda* Wansick presented to the governors yesterday. He expounded on his false complaints – as mentioned on the 15th of last month – and requested the governors' help to recover the 4846 taels, which – according to him – he had paid in Batavia as toll – this included the 3000 reals he 121 deposited. Otherwise he would be unable to repay the 6000 taels which he claims several citizens here lent him last year. The governors had the interpreters ask us about this matter. Wagenaer, Oetgens and I explained to them extensively that the Company had taken Malacca from the Portuguese by force in 1641. This gave the Company jurisdiction over those waters. Since olden times all passing vessels had paid toll there and this was the reason why this Chinese, having already passed Malacca, had been taken to Batavia, where – contrary to his false claims that his money had been taken from him after much harassment because he came from Japan and that he had been subjected to violence – he had been favoured above the other Chinese.
- 5 We also explained to them the deposit of the 3000 reals and the conditions. They said that they understood it and after having written it down extensively, they went to the governors.
- 5 We delivered the silk sold. We brought out the last goods which will be displayed tomorrow. In the evening, we presented the annual gifts to the *otona*, the interpreters and the guards, all of whom accepted them gratefully.
- 6 In the morning, the ship of the Siamese ambassador left as she had come. Just 700 taels' worth of sappanwood has been unloaded to pay for the provisions for their journey back. The two ambassadors and fifteen Siamese have died since their arrival. During the three months that they stayed here they have been closely guarded by men from Ōmura. None of the Siamese has been allowed on shore. We shall hear shortly how they were given their dispatch. I trust that this will make the Siamese king think twice about sending another ambassador under this guise. In the afternoon, a crowd of people came to view the merchandise on display.
- 7 I struck an agreement with the designated merchant of the vermilion. He will accept it for 122 taels per picul. After the sale of the mercury, this is a fair price and only 9 taels less. Usually it fetches 30 to 40 taels less. But because of the low price of mercury the profit is just 40 per cent.
- 121 In the afternoon, we held the fifth sale. This is the last of our goods. On average the market was fair. Before the evening, we delivered some piece-goods. To our surprise we have heard nothing further of

the Chinese complaints, nor the governors' opinion about it.

8 We have been busy all day delivering the sold piece-goods. In spite of the sharp watch, we still found some to be short, in particular the *taffachelas gingham* of which there were nine pieces less than we had displayed. This thieving is regrettable, but we cannot do anything about it because of the hustle and bustle and the throngs forcing themselves into the warehouses.

9 Another storm from the north with rain. It abated in the afternoon, but the northerly wind kept blowing hard. Today Magobei told me that Kiemon had returned the Chinese *nachoda* Wansick's request – which had been presented to him on the 3rd – with an irate expression on his face. The governor had surmised from our reply that the Chinese had been heading for Portuguese or popish places after he had passed Malacca. His creditors, who had lent Wansick a total of 4000 taels on bottomry, had also complained to the governors and had requested payment. But the governors referred them to their debtor. This makes it clear that the governors do not wish to become involved in foreign affairs.

122 If the citizens here give any money to the Chinese on their departure, they do so at their own risk. The governors do not wish to be bothered with their complaints. I trust that we do not have to fear any harm from them. But the *nachoda* has brought a lot of trouble on himself by presenting this false request.

10 Fine weather. The remaining Bengal silk and deerskins have been delivered. Some rice merchants came with samples of their grain to make a deal with us. But the interpreters had been summoned by the governors and we could not go ahead.

11 The grain merchants came again and we made a contract for a quantity of 12,000 bales of rice, to wit, a bale of Higo rice which contains 32½–33 *gantang* at 138 candareens a bale and the Chikugo rice containing 32 *gantang* at 128 candareens a bale, which is a fair price.

12 A good quantity of rice has been brought onto the island and stored in the warehouses. In order to do everything possible to prevent any fraud, to

which we are subjected every year by the rice suppliers, the interpreters proposed to appoint someone from the *Geldkamer* who was experienced in this trade and who knew the rice of every domain to supervise it together with the persons who are assigned to execute this. I thought this a good plan and told them to promise the man that he would get something in remuneration.

123 13 The *bongioisen* came early to open the water-gate. We began to load the *Arnhem* and we made good progress. We have loaded 1000 boards and 3700 bales of fine Higo rice.

14 We proceeded loading the *Arnhem*. In the afternoon, Sinnemon, Chikugo-no-kami's interpreter, who arrived from Edo yesterday, came to greet us on behalf of his master. He would like to know what goods the ships had brought for his master and if the long-requested fire engine had now come. He told us that all the Dutch seed which I had taken to Edo had been sown and had matured well. Also that Chikugo-no-kami had given all the councilors some produce from those crops as a novelty. Therefore, he commended us to supply him with some on the next journey. After some other conversation, for instance that the mission of Magobei to congratulate the Shogun on his recovery had pleased his master immensely, he left.

15 In the morning, we began to load rice on the *Cabo Jasques*. We also received and packed 100 chests of silver which will be sent with both ships.

16 The remainder has been taken to the *Arnhem*. The ship has been loaded with 50,000 taels of *schuit-zilver*, 2500 piculs of copper, 5000 bales of Higo rice, 1000 bales of new wheat, 200 bales of white unhusked rice, 1000 *sugi* and *somagi* boards and 12 jars of *cha* for the Netherlands. The total value is 251,383 guilders.

124 On the *Jasques* we have loaded 50,000 taels of *schuit-zilver*, 400 piculs of copper, 1000 bales of rice and some small stuff for Tonkin, worth 160,568 guilders.

Departure of the *Arnhem* and the *Cabo Jasques*

17 Fine weather. In the morning, we dispatched the *Arnhem* to Batavia and the *Cabo Jasques* to Tonkin. The total value of both ships is 411,952 guilders.

They set sail with a fresh northerly wind. May the Almighty guide them safely to their destination. In our letter-book one can read what we have written to the Governor-General and the Council of the Indies in Batavia and to Louis Baffart, *opperhoofd* in Tonkin. In the evening, we packed another 100 chests of silver.

18 After the *bongioisen* appeared, we began to load the *Zoutelande* with copper, grain and other goods.

19 We loaded the *Koning David* and the *Charlois*.

20 The remaining goods have been loaded on the *Koning David*. We have also loaded 10 chests of silver, 300 chests of copper, 150 bales of whale train and 200 bales of wheat for Tayouan on the *Charlois*. The three ships are now fully loaded with 210 chests of silver of 1000 taels each, 3200 piculs of bar-copper, 2500 bales of rice, 1200 bales of wheat and various other necessities for Formosa, Bengal and Siam.

125 The total value is 727,407 guilders. May the Almighty guide them safely to their destination.

21 The stone has been unloaded from the *Arnemuiden*. The pieces of ordnance have been brought out and 1200 piculs of copper have been loaded as ballast.

Departure of the *Koning David*, *Zoutelande* and *Charlois*

22 In the afternoon, we dispatched the *Koning David*, *Zoutelande* and *Charlois* to Tayouan. They set sail with a north-westerly wind. One can read in the letter-book what we wrote to Governor Cæsar and the Council of Formosa and to Siam. In the evening, we received and packed another 100 chests of silver.

23 We loaded rice on the *Arnemuiden*. We also received 800 piculs of fine refined copper. In the evening, the complete number of interpreters came to inform us that Yohyōe intends to set off to the Court before the 20th of the 9th month.¹⁶ Thus I should hasten my departure and I should be ready by the 16th of this month, which is 2 November. They added that the governor could not force me to depart before the set date, but if I stayed till the final day while the trade had started early this year, this

would harm the following captains in future, giving many more circumlocutory arguments, of which they are never short.

126 We told them that we would do our best to sail early and would make haste to oblige the governor, but we could not give them any assurances about the date.

24 Today is a Japanese holiday and the island was quiet.¹⁷ We have been busy settling the accounts.

25 The *Kalf* has taken on 1100 chests of copper and 2200 bales of Higo rice.

26 Rainy weather. Another holiday. In the afternoon, we received and packed another 100 chests of silver. The yacht will carry these to Tayouan.

Departure of the *Arnemuiden* and the *Kalf*

27 Fine weather. When everything was ready, the *Arnemuiden* and the *Kalf* were dispatched to Tayouan. The *Arnemuiden* is carrying 125 chests of silver, 2000 bales of rice and 1300 piculs of copper, worth 407,214 guilders, and the *Kalf* 125 chests of silver, 1100 piculs of copper and 2200 bales of rice, worth 401,836 guilders. In our letter-book one can read what we have written to Tayouan, Coromandel and Bengal.

127 28 We received a further 174 piculs of copper. The governors have been urging the merchants to pay for the goods they bought. This has brought so much silver onto the island, that the citizens could hardly be served by the *Geldkamer*.

29 I settled with the *Geldkamer* for the entire delivery. I paid the rent for the island and the powder magazine and handed the *otona*, money-weighers and clerks their annual payment.

30 A part of the ballast stone has been unloaded from the *Avondster* and 398 chests of copper, 1000 bales of wheat and some bales of rice have been loaded. In the afternoon, *Burgemeester* Sakuemon appeared with 25 *schuiten* of silver as payment for three dogs which had been taken from the *Arnhem* and the *Koning David* for the Lord of Hakata. The lord also sent five silk gowns as gifts. He told us that the lord was exceptionally pleased with the dogs

16 6 November.

17 The *Kunchi* Festival.

and he requested that another one be brought for him next year. He also said that Yohyōe would like me very much to be ready to leave on the 16th of their month, which is 2 November, in connection with his journey to Edo. This would be to our advantage in future when the ships were late in arriving and we had to request an extension. I told him that we were very busy settling our accounts and hoped to be ready on that date. He was pleased and after some friendly conversation,

128 and the offer of his help, if we were to need it in future, he said goodbye.

31 The *Avondster* has taken on the remainder of her cargo. She is carrying 27,000 taels of *schuitzilver*, 2000 bales of wheat, 2000 bales of Higo rice, 10 jars of *cha* for the Netherlands and some porcelain flasks and jars for the surgeon's shop. The total value is 101,817 guilders. We have been busy closing the books and settling all our accounts and preparing for the transport.

November

1 Shortly after midday, Zacharias Wagenaer, Merchant Johan Oetgens and I went to the house of Kiemon and Yohyōe to bid them farewell. They were together. I thanked them for the favours they have

bestowed on me and requested them to bestow them also on my successor. They said that they were most pleased that this year everything had gone smoothly and peacefully and they hoped that next year the ships would arrive early and everything would go smoothly as well. I should inform the Governor-General of this when I arrived in Batavia and also of the recommendation of the authorities in Edo that we should notify the Japanese in time if the Portuguese or any other nation intended to send a mission to Japan and, furthermore, not to harm any Chinese junks sailing to this empire to trade.

129 I gave the required responses. Then we were given our leave and returned to the lodge. In the evening, I transferred the Company's effects, worth 57,735 guilders to Zacharias Wagenaer and authorized him as *opperhoofd* of this factory according to the instructions of the government in Batavia. The *dagregister* ends with a summary of the commodities which were brought to Nagasaki by the Chinese on fifty-two junks between 1 February and 25 August 1656 from the following regions: thirty-four junks from China [Anhai, Zhangzhou and Fuzhou]; two from Nanking; seven from Quinam; four from Cambodia; two from Siam; two from Tonkin; and one from Batavia.