

Tobias Lear Journal

Transcribed by Cameron L. Kline

Completed in partnership with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania 2017-2018

1799 – 1800 – 1801

Tuesday Dec. 10th: 1799.

Fair W.

Engaged in writing letters, recording military papers etc. etc. –

=====

Wednesday Dec. 11th. 1799.

Fair W –

Employed as yesterday. –

=====

Thursday. Dec. 12th. 1799.

Very disagreeable W. snow, hail etc. etc.

Employed all day in writing letters. –

=====

Friday Dec. 13th 1799.

Heavy fall of snow –

Employed in recording military papers all day –

=====

Saturday Dec. 14th 1799.

This day being marked by an event which will be memorable in the History of America, and perhaps of the world, I shall give a particular statement of it to which I was an eye witness.

The last illness and death of General Washington

On Thursday Dec. 12th _ the general rode out to his farms about ten o'clock, and did not return home till past three. _ Soon after he went out the weather became very bad, rain, hail and snow falling alternately with a cold wind: When he came in, I carried Some letters to him to frank, intending to send them to the Post Office in the Evening. _ He franked the letters; but said the weather was too bad to send a Servant to the Office that Evening. _ I observed to him that I was afraid he had got wet; he said no, his great coat had kept him dry; but his neck appeared to be wet and the snow was hanging upon his hair. _ He came to dinner (which had been waiting for him) without changing his dress. _ In the evening he appeared as well as usual. _

A heavy fall of Snow took place on Friday, which prevented

the

the General from riding out as usual. _ He had taken cold (undoubtedly from being so much exposed the day before) and complained of a sore throat: he however went out in the afternoon into the ground between the House and the River to mark some trees which were to be cut down in the improvement of that spot. _ He had a Hoarseness, which increased in the evening; but he made light of it. _ In the evening the Papers were brought from the Post Office, and he sat in the parlour; with Mrs. Washington & myself reading them till about nine o'clock. When Mrs. W. went up into Mrs. Lewis' room, who was confined in Child bed, and left the General & myself reading the papers. _ He was very cheerful, and when he met with anything interesting or entertaining, he _ read it aloud as well as his hoarseness would permit him.

-- He requested me to read him the debates of the Virginia Assembly on the election of a senator and a governor; _ and hearing Mr. Madison's observations respecting Mr. Monroe, he appeared much affected and spoke with some degree of

asperity

asperity on the Subject, which I endeavored to moderate, as I always did on such occasions. _

_ On his retiring I observed to him that he had better take something to remove his cold¹; He answered no; "you know I" never take anything for a cold. Let it go as it came". _

Between two & three o'clock on Saturday Morning, he awoke Mrs. Washington, and told her he was very unwell, and had had an ague. _ She observed that he could scarcely speak and breathed with difficulty; and would have got up to call a Servant; but he would not permit her lest She should take cold. _ As soon as the day appeared, the woman (Caroline) went into the Room to make a fire, and Mrs. Washington sent her immediately to call me.

_ I got up, put on my clothes as quickly as possible and went to his Chambers. _ Mrs. Washington was then up, and related to me his being taken ill as before stated. _ I found the general breathing with difficulty, and hardly able to utter a word intelligibly. _ He desired that Mr. Rawlins (one of the Overseers) might be sent for to bleed him before the doctors could arrive. _ I dispatched

dispatched a Servant instantly for Rawlins, and another for Dr. Craik, and returned again to the General's Chambers, where I found him in the same Situation as I had left him. _ A mixture of Molasses, Vinegar & butter was prepared to try to its effects in the throat; but he could not swallow a drop; _ when ever he attempted it he appeared to be distressed, convulsed and almost suffocated. _ Rawlins came in soon after Sun rise, and prepared to bleed him. _ When the Arm was ready the General observing that Rawlins appeared to be agitated _ said, as well as he could speak "Don't be afraid". _ And after the incision was made, he observed "The orifice is "not large enough"". _ However the blood ran pretty freely. Mrs. Washington not knowing whether bleeding was proper or not in the General's Situation, begged that much might not be taken from him, lest it should be injurious, and desired me to stop it; but when I was about to untie the string, the General put up his hand to prevent it, and as Soon as he could speak, said _ "more, more"!. _ Mrs. Washington being Still very uneasy lest too much

blood

blood should be taken, it was stopped after taking about half of pint pint. _
_ Finding that no relief was obtained from bleeding, and that nothing would go down the throat, I proposed bathing it externally with salvi latola, which was done; and in this operation, which was with the hand, and in the gentlest manner, he observed "'tis very sore". _ A piece of flannel² dipped in salvi latila was put round his neck, and his feet bathed in warm water; but without affording any relief.

In the mean time; before Dr. Craik arrived, Mrs. Washington desired me to send for Dr. Brown of Port Tobacco, whom Dr. Craik had recommended to be called, if any case should ever occur that was seriously alarming. _ I dispatched a messenger (Cyrus) immediately for Dr. Brown (between 8 & 9 o'clock). Dr. Craik came in soon after and when examining the General, he put a blister of Cantharides on the Throat, took some more blood from him, and had a gargle of Vinegar, & sage³ tea⁴, _ and ordered some Vinegar & hot water for him to inhale the steam, which he did; _ but in attempting to use the gargle he was almost

almost suffocated. When the gargle came from his throat some phlegm followed it, and he attempted to cough, which the Doctor encouraged him to do as much as possible; but he could only attempt it. _ About eleven o'clock Dr. Craik requested that Dr. Dick might be set for, as he feared Dr. Brown would not come in time. A messenger was accordingly dispatched for him. _ About this time the General was bled again. _ No effect, however, was produced by it, and he remained in the same state, unable to swallow anything. _ A Glister⁵ was administered about 12 o'clock, which produced an evacuation; but caused no alteration in his complaint. _

Doctor Dick came in about 3 o'clock and Dr. Brown arrived Soon after. _ Upon Dr. Dick's seeing the General, and consulting a few minutes with Dr. Craik, he was bled again; the blood came very slow, was thick, and did not produce any symptoms of fainting. _

Dr. Brown came into the Chamber soon after; and upon feeling the General's pulse etc. the Physicians went out together. _ Dr. Craik returned soon after. _ The Genl. could now swallow a little. _ Calomie & tarter em. were administered; but without any effect. _

About half past 4 o'clock he desired me to call Mrs. Washington to his bed side, when he requested her to go down into his room, and take from his desk two Wills which she would find there, and bring them to him; which she did. _ Upon looking at them he gave her one, which he observed was useless, as being superseded by that other⁶, and desired her to burn it, which she did, and took the other and put it into her closet. _

After this was done, I returned to his bed side and took his hand. _ He said to me, "I find I am going,

My

"my breath cannot last long: I believed

"from the first that the disorder would prove

"fatal. – Do you arrange & record all my late

"military letters and papers -- arrange my

"accounts and settle my books, as you know

"more about them than anyone else, and

"let Mr. Rawlins finish recording my other letters

"which he has begun." _ I told him this should be done. _ He then asked if I recollected anything which it was essential for him to do, as he had but a very short time to continue among us. _ I told him I could recollect nothing; but that I hoped he was not so near his end; he observed, smiling, that he certainly was, and that as it was the debt which must all pay, he looked to the event with perfect resignation. _

In the course of the afternoon, he appeared to be in great pain & distress, from the difficulty of breathing, and frequently changed his posture in the bed. _ on these occasions I lay upon the bed & endeavored to raise him, & turn him with as much ease as possible. He appeared penetrated with gratitude for my attentions, & often said, I am afraid I shall fatigue you too much; and upon my assuring him that I could feel nothing but a wish to give him ease; he replied "Well! it is a debt we must pay to each other, and I hope when you want aid of this kind you will find it.

He asked when Mr. Lewis & Washington Custis would return. (they were in New Kent.) I told him about the 20th of the month. _

About 5 o'clock Dr. Craik came again into the Room & upon going to the bed side, the Genl. said to him, Doctor, I die hard; but I am not afraid to go, I believed from my first attack, that I should not survive it; my breath could not last long. –

The

The Doctor pressed his hand; but could not utter a word. He retired from the bed side & sat by the fire absorbed in grief. –

Between 5 & 6 o'clock Dr. Dick & Dr. Brown came into the room and with Dr. Craik went to the bed; when Dr. Craik asked him if he could sit up in the bed. He held out his hand & I raised him up. He then said to the Physicians,

"I feel myself going. I thank you for your

"attentions; but I pray you to take no more

“trouble about me, let me go off quietly:

“I cannot last long.” – They found that all which had been done was without effect; he laid down again, and all retired, excepting⁷ Dr. Craik. _ He continued in the same Situation, uneasy & restless; but without complaining; frequently asking what hour it was. _ When I helped him to move at this time he did not speak; but looked at me with strong expressions of gratitude. _

About 8 o’clk the Physicians came again into the room & applied blisters and cataplasms of wheat bran to his legs & feet; after which they went out (except Dr. Craik) without a ray of hope. _

I went out about this time and wrote a line to Mr. Law & Mr. Peter, requesting them to come with their wives (Mrs. Washington’s grand-daughters) as soon as possible to Mt. Vernon. _

About 10 o’clk he made several attempts to speak to me before he could effect it; at length he said, _ “I am just going!

“Have me decently buried; and do not let my

“body be put into the vault in less than three

“days after I am dead.” _ I bowed assent; for I could not speak. He then looked at me again and said, “Do you understand me?” I replied yes!. _ “Tis well” said he. –

About ten minutes before he expired (which was between ten & eleven o’clk). he breathing became easier; he lay quietly; _

he

he withdrew his hand from mine, and felt his own pulse. _ I saw his countenance change, – I spoke to Dr. Craik, who sat by the fire; _ he came to the bedside. _ The general’s hand fell from his wrist _ I took it in mine and put it into my bosom. _ Dr. Craik put his hands over his Eyes and he expired without a struggle or a sigh!⁸ _ _____
While we were fixated in silent grief, Mrs. Washington (who was sitting at the foot of the bed) asked, with a firm & collected voice, Is he gone? _____ I could not speak; but held up my hand as a signal that he was no more. _____ “Tis well, said she in the same voice, All is now over, I shall soon follow him! I have no more trials to pass through!

=====

Occurrences not noted in the preceding narrative. –

The General’s Servant Christopher was in the room through the day; and in the afternoon the General, directed him to sit down, as he had been standing almost the whole day. He did so. _

About 8 o’clk in the morning he expressed a desire to get up. His Clothes were put on and he was led to a chair by the fire. _ He found no relief from that position, and lay down again about 10 o’clk. _

About 5 P.M. he was helped up again & after sitting about half an hour desired to be undressed & put in bed; which was done.

During his whole illness he spoke but seldom, and with great difficulty and distress; and in so low & broken a voice as at times hardly to be understood. _

His.

His patience, fortitude and resignation never forsook him for a moment. _ In all his distress he uttered not a sigh nor a complaint; always endeavoring (from a Sense of duty as it appeared) to take what was offered him, and to do as he was desired by the Physicians. _

At the time of his decease Dr. Craik and myself were in the Situation before mentioned; Mrs. Washington was sitting near the foot of the bed. _ Christopher was standing by the bedside. _ Caroline, Molly & Charlotte were in the room standing near the door. _ Mrs. Forbes, the House Keeper, was frequently in the room during the day and evening _

As soon as Dr. Craik could speak, after the distressing Scene was closed, he desired one of the Servants to ask the Gentl. below to come up stairs. _ When they came to the bed side; I kissed the cold hand, which I had held to my bosom; laid it down & went to the other end of the room; where I was for some time lost in profound grief; until aroused by Christopher desiring me to take care of the General's keys and other things which were taken out of his pockets; and which Mrs. Washington directed him to give to me. _ I wrapped them in the General's handkerchief & took them with me to my room. . _

About 12 o'clk the Corps was brought down stairs and laid out in the large Room.

=====

Sunday Dec. 15th 1800

The foregoing statements so far as I can recollect is is Correct.

James Craik

Sunday Dec. 15th: 1799.

Fair weather.

Mrs. Washington sent for me in the morning. _ And desired I would send up to Alx. and have a Coffin made: which I did. _ Doctor Dick measured the body, the dimensions of were as follows

In length 6 feet 3½ inches. exact

Across the Shoulders _ 1 " _ 9 " "

Across the Elbows ___ 2 " _ " " "

After breakfast, I gave Dr. Dick & Dr. Brown forty dollars each, which Sum Dr. Craik advised as very proper; and they left us after breakfast.

I wrote letters to the following persons, informing them of the late melancholly event. _

The President of the United States
General Hamilton

Genl. Pinckney _
Bushrod Washington
Colo. W. A. Washington

Lawrence Lewis
G.W.P. Custis
Geo. S. Washington
Saml. Washington
Col. Ball

Capt. Hammond also to
John Lewis, desiring him to inform his brothers George, Robert & Howell. _
The letters were sent by the following conveyances _
To the President, Genl. Hamilton & John Lewis by the mail. _
To Col. W. A. Washington & to Bd. Washington by express to Col. Blackburn,
requesting him to forward them by the same conveyance. _
To L. Lewis & G. W. P. Custis; by Express _
To General Pinckney, Col. Ball, Saml.
Washington, G. S. Washington & Capt. Hammond; by my own Servant Charles with my
riding horse _

Mr. Stuart was sent for in the morning. _
About 10 o'clk Mr. Thos. Peter came down; and about two Mr. & Mrs. Law to whom I
had written on Saturday Evening. _ Dr. Thornton came down with Mr. Law. _ Dr. Craik
tarried all day and all night.

In the evening I consulted with Mr. Law, Mr. Peter & Dr. Craik on fixing a day for
depositing the Body in the vault. _ I wished the Ceremony to be postponed until the last
of the week, to give time to some of the General's relations to be here: But Dr. Craik &
Dr. Thornton gave it decidedly as their opinion, that, considering the disorder of which
the Genl. died, being of an inflammatory nature, it would not be proper, nor perhaps
safe to keep the body so long; and therefore Wednesday was fixed upon for the funeral
to allow a day (Thursday) in case the

weather

weather shd. be unfavorable on Wednesday. _

Monday Dec. 16th, 1799 –

I directed the people to open the family Vault, clear away the rubbish from about it, and
make every thing decent. _ Ordered a Door to be made to the Vault, instead of closing it
again with Brick, as had been the custom. _ Engaged Mr. Inglis [sic] and Mr. McMunn to
have a mahogany Coffin made, lined with lead, in which the Body was to be deposited.

– Dr. Craik, Mr. Peter & Dr. Thornton left us after breakfast. _ Mrs. Stuart & her
Daughters came in this afternoon. _ Mr. Anderson went to Alexa. to get a number of

things preparatory for the funeral. _ Mourning was ordered for the Family, Domestics and Overseers. _

Having received information from Alexa. that the Militia, Freemasons & etc. were determined to shew [sic] their respect to the General's memory, by attending his body to the Grave, I directed provision to be prepared for a large number of people, as some refreshment would be expected by them. Mr. Robt. Hamilton wrote me a letter informing that a Schooner of his wd. be off Mt. Vernon to fire minute guns when the body was carrying to the grave. _ Gave notice of the time fixed for the funeral to the following persons by Mrs. Washington's desire viz _ Mr. Mason & family _ Mr. Peake & family _ Mr. Nichols & family _ Mr. W. McCarly & family Miss. McCarty _ Mr. & Mrs. Mclanahan _ Lord Fairfax & family _ Mr. Triplet and family _ Mr. Anderson & family _ Mr. Diggs.

Mr.

Mr. Cockburn & family _ Mr. Massey & family _ Mr. R. West. _
I wrote also to the Rev. Mr. Davis to read the Service. _

Tuesday Dec. 17th. 1799 –

Every preparation for the mournful Ceremony was making. _ Mr. Diggs came here in the forenoon. _ Also Mr. Stewart, Adjutant to the Alexa. Regiment. _ to view the ground for the procession. _ About one o'clk the Coffin was brought from Alexa. in a Stage. _ Mr. Ingle & Mr. McMunn accompanied it _ also Mr. Grater with a shroud. _ The Body was laid in the Coffin _ at which time I cut off some of the hair. _

The mahogany Coffin was lined with lead soddered at the joints _ and a cover of lead to be soddered on after the body should be in the vault. _ The whole was put into a case lined & covered with black cloth.

Wednesday Dec. 18th. 1799 –

About eleven o'clk numbers of people began to assemble to attend the funeral, which was intended to have been at twelve; but as a great part of the Troop expected could not get down in time, it did not take place 'till three. _

Eleven pieces of Artillery were brot.⁹ from Alexa. _ And a Schooner belonging to Mr. R. Hamilton came down and lay off Mt. Vernon to fire minute guns. _

About 3 o'clk the procession began to move. _ The arrangements of the procession were made by Colonels Little, Simms & Deneale and Dr. Dick. _ The Pallholders

were

were Colonels Little, Simms, Payne, Gilpin, Ramsay and Marsteler. _ Col. Blackburne proceeded the Corps. _ Colo. Deneale marched with the Military. _ The procession moved out of the Gate at the left wing of the House and proceeded round in front of the lawn & down to the Vault on the right wing of the House. _ The Procession as follows

The Troops, Horse & foot
Music playing a solemn Dirge _
The Clergy-- viz the Revd.
Mr. Davis
Mr. Muir
Mr. Moffatt &
Mr. Addison _

The Generals Horse with his saddle Holster
Pistols & etc. led by his two, grooms
Cyrus & Wilson in black _
The Body borne by the
Free masons & Officers

Principal Mourners viz.

Mrs. Stuart & Mrs. Law
Misses Nancy & Sally Stuart
Miss Fairfax & Miss Dennison _
Mr. Law & Mr. Peter
Mr. Lear & Dr. Craik.
Lord Fairfax & Ferdo. Fairfax
Lodge No. 23
Corporation of Alexandria. _
All other persons preceded by Mr. Anderson & the Overseers.

When the Body arrived at the Vault The Revd. Mr. Davis read the Service & pronounced
a short extempore speech. _

The Masons performed their Ceremonies & the Body was deposited in the
Vault !!!!!!!!!!!

After the Ceremony the Company returned to the house, where they took some
refreshment & retired in good order. The remains of the Provisions were distributed
among the blacks. _

Mr. Peter, Dr. Craik & Dr. Thornton tarried here all night. _

When the Ceremony was over I retired to my room (leaving to Mr. Laws & Mr.
Diggs the care of the Company) to give a loose to those feelings which I had been able
to keep under controul, while I found it necessary for me to give a personal attention to
the preparations for interring the body of my deceased friend _

What these feelings were is not to be told, if it were even possible to describe them! _

Monday Dec. 23'. 1799 –

Employed as yesterday. _ _ _

Tuesday Dec 24th: 1799 –

Spent the day in looking over and arranging papers in the General's Study. _

Wednesday Dec. 25th. 1799 –

I this day sent to Alexa. for the Plumber to come down & close the leaden Coffin containing the General's Body. as Judge Washington had arrived, and did not incline to see the remains. _ The Plumbers came. _ I went with them to the Tomb _ I took a last look _ a last farewell of that face, which still appeared unaltered _ -- I attended the closing the Coffin _ and beheld, for the last time that face which Shall be seen no more here; but wh[ic]h I hope to meet in Heaven -- --

Thursday Dec. 26th . 1799 --

This day, as well as yesterday, I had a full communication with Judge Washington, respecting the General's papers wh[ic]h are left to him; Gave him an account of the arrangement of them & etc. _ He proposed that we shd. write the life of the late General in partnership. _ I was to attend to the arranging of the papers & preparing the materials & doing all the laborious part of the business _ and he was to assist in finishing the work, as his health and occupations would permit. The terms mentioned were, _ that the whole Exps. of publication shd. be first depay'd out of the sale of the work, and the balance divided equally between him & myself. _ He also informed me that since the Genl.'s death, he had himself made a new Will, and had named me an Executor. _ and given the papers etc. of the late General for my use. _

=====

From January 1st: to March 31st:
1801. –

During this period I have been closely engaged on my farm, wroking with my own hands, and making every exertion to carry it on to the best advantage. _ I have also been, as often as I could, at Mt. Vernon attending to such things as Mrs. Washington wished me to do for her. _

On the 29th of March I recd. a letter from the President of the United State, sent on by Express, requesting me to accept the office of Council General in St. Domingo, and urging my compliance with his wishes, and a speedy departure for that place. _

I answered him with the proper acknowledgements, and declined the offer, as my own affairs wd. not permit me soon to leave the Country. I strongly recommended Mr. Bw. Dandridge for that office, who

had

had been appointed Consul for the So. ports of the Same Island. __

I attended the Court in Fairfax County agreeably to the order obtained on its Motion of D. Stuart, and the Court wd. not permit me to give up the Estate of Major Washington, as I wished to do. _ I however Settled all my accounts with that Estate leaving a balance in my favour of one thousand & ninety Six dollars, and lodged my Vouchers in the Clerk's Office. _

-- I have chd. no commissions on sd. Estate, nor any Expenses wh. I have incurred by attend'g to it. _ I have improved it, by advancing my own money, from a rent of 400 dollars per year to nearly 1200 dollars per year. _

David Stuart did not attend the Court when I went there to Settle my accounts; but I laid the motives of his conduct before the Court, who appeared to be ashamed of him. --

=====

From April 1st. to May 31st:
1801. --

Early in April I went to the City, where the Presid. of the U.S. urged my acceptance of the office of Council Genl. in such a manner, as induced me to accept it, as time was allowed me to prepare for my departure. _ I have therefore been for the greater part of the period above mentioned employed in preparing for my departure & absence from the U.S. for some years.

I went to Baltimo. where I saw the attorneys for the Creditors of Lear & Co. to give them information of my intentions to quit the Continent, and to place in their hands all the power & property which I held in the concerns of Lear & Co. for their Creditors. _ To Robt. Gilmore I am to give a power of Attorney in the business to do for the Creditors all that I could do in the premises. _

I went to Leesburg on the 16th of April to meet my children, whom Capt. Hammond was to have brought there; but I found only my Son Lincoln: the Roads & and weather having been so bad that they could not come down:

On my way home my Son Lincoln was taken very ill at the Gum Spring, where I was detained 6 days. _

I have engaged Mr. Albin Rawlins to live with me as a Clerk on my farm from the 16th of March for 6 Mos. at the rate of fifty pounds V.C. per year _ He to attend to the fishery; _ which has been carried on by myself this Season, under the Superintendence of Mr. Thos. Cawood. _ The Season has been tolerably good. _

I have settled my debt with John Wager _ he has taken property which I have in Berkley to the amt. of 1560 dolls. and the balance I am to pay him in Cash – bide Cash amt.

Diary Continued.

=====

Monday June 1st: 1801.

Pleasant weather. _

I went over to Mt. Vernon to day and retd. home in the evening. _ Engaged in the evening. in packing up sundry Articles for my Voyage to St. Domingo. .

=====

Tuesday June 2'. 1801

Pleasant W. _

After breakfast I went to Alexa. _ where I recd. the award of the Referees _ viz. Mr. Hawthorne, Wm. Lyles & T. Peyton on an arbitration between myself & the U.S. where I claimed compensations for my lease of Harper's Ferry made in 1795, wh. the U.S. purchased afterward, and agreed to make me a compensation therefor, wh. has not been done till this time, when they have allowed me 3000 Dollars

I went up to the City in the afternoon & lodged at Mr. Law's _ Visited Mr. Dalton.

—

=====

Wednesday June 3^d. 1801

Pleasant W. _

Engaged all the forenoon in the office of the Secy. of State on business relative to my appointment in St. Domingo _ dined with the President _

=====

Thursday June 4'. 1801.

Pleasant W.

Engaged in the mornng. at the office of the Secy. Of State. _ Went down to Alexa. to dinner _ Engaged my passage to Cape François on board the Brig Neptune, which is loading for that port. . Retd. home after dinner & employed in Packing up etc.

=====

Friday June 5': 1801.

Pleasant W. _

Sent my Baggage etc. up on board the Neptune _ _ . viz.

1 large Chest contg. mattresses etc. etc. etc.

1 ditto Trunk. contg bed & Table linen & plate
 1 trunk contg best clothes _
 1 ditto contg clothes for passage _
 1 ditto contg my official papers etc. etc.
 1 ditto contg books etc.
 1 ditto leather _ contg books etc.
 1 ditto small _ contg pistols etc.
 1 ditto ditto _ contg Lincoln's clothes _
 1 Writing Desk _
 1 Box contg. glass ware
 1 ditto contg ditto
 1 ditto small contg knives & forks etc.
 1 ditto contg sweetmeats. _
 2 barrels containing Hams.
 4 ditto containing china ware
 1 trunk contg copying press etc.
 Umbrilla[sic] etc.
 1 Trunk contg Stationary etc. _

After seeing my things on board the Vessel I went up to the city, where I finished my business at the Office _ took leave of my friends & ret.. to Alexa. where I tarried all night.

Saturday June 6.th 1801 –

Pleasant W.

In the mornng my Son Lincoln came up to Alexa. agreeably to my directions to get some things for him before our departure. Employed all day in settling business and getting every thing ready.

Let Mr. Lewis have my man Ruben for 4 years at fifty dollars per year

Dined at Colo. Hoe's, where I agreed to pay for my passage in the Neptune 50 dolls¹⁰, and for my Son's 25 dols. To be pd. on our arrival in Cap. Francois

In the Evening _ went on board the Neptune and dropd. down as far as my House, where I went on shore with my Son & Mr. Laurison & Lodged _

=====

Sunday June 7th . 1801 -

Pleasant Weather.

At day lights Mr. Laurison & my Son went on board the Neptune. _ I took leave of my people, and went over to Mt. Vernon, where I breakfasted and after breakfast, the Brig being opposite the House, I took leave of the family and went on board, with Ms. Lewis, Mr. Curtis &

Mr. Henley. After saluting Mt. Vernon with 3 Guns, we got under way and stood down the River.
_ Head wind the fore part of the day _ fair the remainder.

=====

Monday June 8. 1801. .

In the mornng we were near St. Mary's _ The Pilot & Mr. Laurison went on shore & ret'd. on board again abt. 9 o'clk, when we got under way & stood out of the River. A strong gale from the East. with a considerable Sea. In the Eving & night it blew very Strong from Et. with heavy rain. Reef'd topsails & kept on our Course, close on a wind, down the Bay. _

=====

Tuesday June 9'. 1801

This day a strong Gale from the Et. with rain. _

At 11 A.M. we came to Anchor in Hamptons Road, the wind & weather not permitting us to go to Sea with Safety. _ Fresh gales from E. S. E.

=====

Wednesday June 10th. 1801.

At 5 A.M. heave up the Anchor & stood out in the Bay, the wind fresh from E.S.E. Got within a league of Cape Henry, when the weather threatening blew bad and the wind fast ahead, we put about, at 7 P.M. and stood in for Hampton Roads again, where we came to Anchor about 10 P.M. _ All night a Strong Gale from E.S.E. with heavy rain.

Thursday June 11th: 1801.

All these 24 hours a stormy Gale from the E.S.E. with heavy rain _ The Vessel draged her Anchor, let go the back bow [unclear word], Got down F.T.G. yard. _

=====

Friday June 12th: 1801. _

The Gale still continues fresh _ about Noon hove up, and stood further up the Road, where we came to anchor again _ In the Afternoon the wind moderating, the boat went on Shore and got a cask of Water & some vegetables. _

=====

Saturday June 13th. 1801 –

Fresh Gale out N.E. & N.N.E. _ About noon hove up and stood out into the Bay, at 3 P.M. the Pilot (Mr. Cecil) left us. _ at 8 P.M. the wind failing, and the flood tide setting in, we came to Anchor about a league within Cape Henry. _____

=====

Sunday June 14th. 1801 –

Light winds the first part of this day. At 2 A.M. got under way and stood out to Sea _ with the wind at W.S.W – at 9 P.M. Cape Henry bore

W.N.W. ½ N. Dir. 4 Leagues _

Observed in Lat. 36°.50'.

From this I begin the 24 hours at 12 o'clock _ and of course the day following viz. Monday, commences on Sunday Noon.

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Monday June 15 th : 1801
2	4	1	S. by W.	S.E. by E.	These 24 hours moderate & gales cloudy _
4	4	1			
6	4	1	E. by N.	S.E. by S.	
8	4				
10	4				
12	4				
2	3		E ½ S	from S.S.E	
4	2			to	
6	3			S.W.	
8	4		SE. by E.		
10	5	1	S.E ½ S		
12	6	1	S.E.		

99 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Tuesday June 16 th . 1801 -
---	---	----	--------	-------	----------------------------------------

2	7	1	S.E. by E.	S.W.	The first parts of these 24 hours fresh Gales _ Middle & latter parts more moderate & pleasant Lat Obs.d 36°.15'.
4	6		S. E.		
6	6		S.E. by E.	From S.	
8	5	1		to	
10	5	1		S.S.W.	
12	5		S.E. ½ E		
2	4	1			
4	4	1			
6	3		S.E. by E.	From S.	
8	3			to S. by W.	
10	5	1			
12	5				

122 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Wednesday June 17 th . 1801
2	3		S.E. b. E ½ E	From S. To S.S.W.	The first part of these 24 hours moderate gales & pleasant w.
4	3		S.E. b. E		
6	4	1	S.E. b. E ½ E		Middle & latter parts fresh Gales & cloudy Lat Obesd. 34.45.
8	5		E.S.E.		
10	4		S.E.		
12	4		S.E. b. E		
2	6		E.S.E.		
4	5	1	S.E. ½ E.		
6	4	1	E.S.E.		
8	5		S.E. b. E.		
10	6		E.S.E.		
12	6		S.E. b E.		

133 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Thursday June 18'. 1801
---	---	----	--------	-------	-------------------------

2	4		E.S.E.		These 24 hours fresh Gales & heavy sea Lat. Obsd. 33.59 _
4	3		S.E. ½ E		
6	3			From	
8	3	1		S.	
10	3		S.E.	To	
12	3		S.E. ½ E.	S.S.W	
2	3				
4	3				
6	3		S.E.		
8	3		S.E. ½ E.		
10	3		S.E. b. E.		
12	3				

75 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Friday June 19'. 1801
2	3	1	SE. ½ E.		The first part of these 24 hours moderate
4	3				
6	3				
8	3	1			
10	4	1			The middle fresh Gale _ latter part moderate
12	4				
2	3		S.E.	S.S.W.	Long. by rough calculation 68°.4' Wst. Lat. Obsd. 33°.24' _
4	3				
6	3				
8	3		S.E. b. E.		
10	4				
12	4		S.E. ½ E.		

83 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Saturday June 20'. 1801
---	---	----	--------	-------	-------------------------

2	4		S.E. ½ E	From S. to S.S.W.	The first part of these 24 hours moderate gales _ Middle & latter part fresh Gales & cloudy at 10. TL'd ship to the westward
4	4				
6	5		S.E. b. E. ¼ E.		
8	4				
10	4		E.S.E.		
12	5		S.E. b. E.		
2	5				
4	4				
6	3	1	S.E. b. E. ½ E.		
8	3		E.S.E. ½ E.		
10	4	1	E.S.E.		
12	4		West		

100 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Sunday June 21'. 1801
2	4		S.E. ½ E.	From S. to S.S.W.	These 24 hours moderate gales _ Middle cloudy _ First & last parts pleasant Lat. Obsd. 31°.47'
4	4		S.E.		
6	4		S.E. ½ E.		
8	4				
10	4	1	S.E.		
12	4				
2	4		S.E. b. E.		
4	3	1	E.S.E.		
6	4				
8	3	1	E.S.E.		
10	4				
12	4				

95 miles per leg.

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Monday June 22°. 1801
---	---	----	--------	-------	-----------------------

2	4		W. b. S	From	These 24 hours fresh gales and squally weather with rain & a heavy Sea _ No observation
4	5	1		S. b. W.	
6	3		S.E. ½ E.	to	
8	3		S.E. b. E.	S.S.W	
10	3	1			
12	3				
2					
4					
6	3		S.E. b. S.		
8	3		S.E. ½ E.	From	
10	3		S.E.	S. b. W.	
12	3		S.E. b. S.	to S.W. b. S.	

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Tuesday June 23'. 1801
2	3		S.E		The first part of these 24 hours fresh Gales, & a heavy Sea. Middle & latter part moderate. _ Lat Obs 30°.32'
4	3	1	S.E ½ East	From	
6	3		N. E.	S.S.W	
8	3	1		to	
10	4		S. b. E. _	W.S.W.	
12	4		S.		
2	3		S. ½ E.		
4	2	1	S. b. E. _		
6	1				
8					
10	Calm				
12					

53 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Wednesday June 24 th . _
---	---	----	--------	-------	-------------------------------------

2	3	1	S.S.E _	From S.S.W. to W.S.W.	These 24 hours moderate weather & light breezes. Variable _ Long. by rough calculation this day _ 62°.40' West Lat obs. 30°.1'
4	3	1	S. b. E. ½ S		
6	4				
8	3		S.E ½ S.		
10	3		S. b. E.		
12	3		S.E. ½ E.		
2	2	1	E.S.E.		
4	2	1	West		
6	2		W. ½ N.		
8	2		S.E. ½ E.		
10	2	1	S.E. b. E.		
12	2	1	S.E. b. E. ½ E.		

68 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Thursday June 25'. 1801
2	2		SE. b. ½ E.	From S.b.W. to S. _ From S. to S.E. _	Light breezes and moderate these 24 hours – Lat Obsd. 29°.21'
4	1				
6	1				
8	3	1			
10	3	1	W. b.S. ½ S.		
12	4		W.S.W.		
2	3	1			
4	2				
6	1	1	S.W.		
8	2				
10	3		S.S.W.		
12	3	1			

61 miles _

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Friday June 26'. 1801
---	---	----	--------	-------	-----------------------

2	4	1	S.W. b. S. ½ S		
4	3	1			
6	2	1			
8	2	1	S.W. ½ S.	From	Light, variable winds & pleasant weather
10	2		S.W. b. S.	S.E.	these 24 hours. _
12	3	1	S.W.&S1/2S	to	
2	3	1	S.W. b. S.	S.E. b. S.	
4	3				
6	3	1	S.W. b. S. ½ S.		
8	4		S.S.W		
10	3	1	S.W. b. S.		Lat Obsd. 28°.12'
12	3		S.S.W.		

76 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Saturday June 27'. 1801
2	2	1	S.S.W	SE. b. E.	These 24 hours light breezes & pleasant W.
4	3				
6	3			+	
8	4	1	S. W. b. S ½ S.		The middle & latter part, showers & very
10	4	1	S.W. b. S.	variable	warm _
12	4	1			
2	4				
4	3				
6	4		S.W.		Lat obsd. 27°.8' _
8	2		South		
10	1				
12	2	1	S.S.W.		

77 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Sunday 28 th . June 1801
---	---	----	--------	-------	-------------------------------------

2	2	1	S.S.W	From	These 24 hours began with very light breezes _ middle fresh breezes latter part moderate & light. Pleasant W. Long. by general calculation 65°.39' West Lat. Obsd. 26°.7'
4	2	1		S.E. b. E.	
6	3	1		to	
8	4	1	S.W. b. S.	East.	
10	4				
12	5				
2	4				
4	3				
6	3				
8	3				
10	3				
12	3				

84 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Monday June 29. 1801
2	4				Light breezed & pleasant weather these 24 hours. Lat. Obsd. 25°.16'
4	4				
6	3				
8	4				
10	3	1			
12	3		S.S.W.	E. b. S.	
2	2				
4	2				
6	2				
8	2				
10	2				
12	2				

67 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Tuesday June 30 th 1801.

2	2	1	S.S.W.	From East to S.E. b. E..	The first part of these 24 hours light air at 4 P.M. a squall freshened the wind, which continued a fresh breeze both and of these 24 hours. Lat Obsd. 23°.30'
4	4				
6	4	1			
8	5	1			
10	5	1			
12	5	1			
2	6		SW. b. S ¼ S.		
4	5				
6	5		S.S.W.		
8	5				
10	6				
12	6	1			

122 miles

H	K	HK	Course	Winds	Wednesday June 31 st . 1801
2	6	1	S.S.W	E.S.E.	These 24 hours fresh Gale and pleasant Wr. Lat obsd. 21°.8' _ Long 68°.15'.W.
4	6	1			
6	7				
8	7				
10	6		S.S.W ½ S.		
12	5	1	S b. W.		
2	6	1			
4	6		South		
6	6		S. b. W.		
8	6				
10	6		S.W. _		
12	6	1	W ½ S.		

153 miles

Thursday July 2^d. 1801 _

These 24 hours began with a fresh gale from Et. at 8. P.M. hove to, and in the mornng at 4 made sail again. The weather very dark and squally

Friday July 3^d, 1801 _

This day commences with the natural day _ uzt at 12 at night. _
At 4 A.M. we made sail _

_ and at half past 5 saw the Grand Turk bearing West, dists. about 3 leagues. _ The weather very squally & threatening. At 6 we were abreast of the Grand Turk _ at ½ past 7 abreast of the salt Key _ and at 9 we passed the Land Key. _ The wind freshened with heavy squalls & thunder at 10 o'clock, but cleared off again abt. one. _ We ran on with a strong wind at East _ our course being S. b. W. made good. A heavy sea. At 10 at night saw the land from S.E. to S.W. _ Laid off & on 'till day light, when we found ourselves abreast of Monte Cristo. _

=====

Saturday July 4th: 1801 –

Made sail at day light, with a very light wind, and stood for Cape Francois. _ at 11 A.M. we were near the Fort and the wind had left us. _ A Pilot came on board at 12 o'clk _ and from that time till 4 P.M. the

the weather was calm, with Showers. Got the boat out to tow the Vessel; but at 4 a breeze sprang up, which carried us into the Harbour, in half an hour _ where we came to Anchor. And a boat came off immediately with the Harbour Master, with whom I went on shore _

N.B. when we made Turks Island I found by the irregular sea coming which I had kept _ that I was within 5 leagues of the Longitude in which it is laid down by Hamilton Moore _

Viz. 71° _ 4' _ West _

¹ It looks like the word "but" was written here and then later crossed out.

² There is a cross out here, maybe "but"

³ There is a cross out here. It looks like he wrote "sage"

⁴ There seems to be about 5 words crossed out here

⁵ Clyster (/ˈklistə(r)/), also spelled glistler, refers to an enema. Given the location and time this may have been a tobacco enema

⁶ There is a cross out of about 3 words the first two seem to be "of which"

⁷ The word here is "excepting" but there is a letter after it, so he may have meant "except"

⁸ This sentence is boxed in

⁹ Abbreviation for "brought"

¹⁰ Abbreviation for "dollars"