

at 3 I went with my nephew Rajan and Kunjunni to the Public Gardens as I had an appointment with Mr A.S. Ferguson under whom I had learned English for some time while he was the guardian to the princes. The Maharaja's procession to Shasthamangalam took place today, we witnessed from the Public Gardens.

Tuesday~ 6th October j 90)

There was an Eclipse of the moon to night. It was nearly total. It commenced at about 7 and lasted till about 10 p.m. The night was clear and cloudless. The belief that Eclipses are caused by the monster Rahu swallowing the sun and the moon is still very strong among the non English knowing natives. Many therefore purified themselves by ablution after the eclipse was over.

Wednesday~ 7th October j 90,

This morning at 10.30 we went to Mr Shankara Subbar Iyer's the late Dewan's bungalow at Karmara[?] for breakfast according to invitation. After meals my brother had his usual siesta while I worked on the old Dewan's portrait, as it was necessary to finish it that same day. At about 3.30 he gave a sitting and I gave the finishing touches to the face, hands etc. We returned home at about 6.30. I did not feel well enough to go to my wife's house.

Thursday~ 8th October j 90,

I have symptoms of a strong attack of cold. My bowels too are constipated. My cousin KR.R. is suffering from cold and this evening he has fever. My wife sends word to me that there was to be a dramatic performance at her house, the play being Shakuntala²³³ and that I would [sic] be present, but I could not oblige her owing to my indisposition.

Friday~ 9th October 190,

Last night I felt feverish and had not a quiet night. I took a dose of Rubinat Water early this morning to reverse the constipation. I did not feel disposed to work to day and so I enjoyed complete rest. I have headache and sore throat though not much of fever. My cousin is much better today. I had only Coya today.

Monday~ j 2th October j 90,

My brother, myself and KR.R. left Trivandrum this morning at 11 and arrived at Cherayankel in the evening. We have engaged a cabin-boat to take us to Ernakulam. I had fever last evening and I thought I would be unable to start today but I am better today though [I] still suffer from cold. KR.R. leaves tomorrow for Kilimanur. We left tonight for Quilon.



Tuesday~ J 3th October J 903

Reached Tevalli at Quilon about 7. Took Coffee and went out for a drive towards the new Railway station with Mr Paramee Pillai M.B. My health is better. In the evening after supper we left for Mavelikara. When Quilon is connected with Tinnevely by railway we can save much time and money, but it would take yet another year or so.

Wednesday~ J 4th October J 903

Reached Mavelikara early this morning. My brother Ittikomer²³⁴ was awaiting us at Kayamkulam till midnight, but we were a little too late in arriving at the place. The object of our alighting at Kayamkulam was to have [a] consultation with the astrologer who is said to be doing wonders in the way of prophesy. I have myself no belief in palmistry, fortune telling etc., for it is my firm conviction that God has not given men the power to pierce into the mystics of the dark future, for the consequences of possessing such a power would be disastrous to the continuance of the world. Left Mavelikara the same night.

Thursday~ 15th October 1903

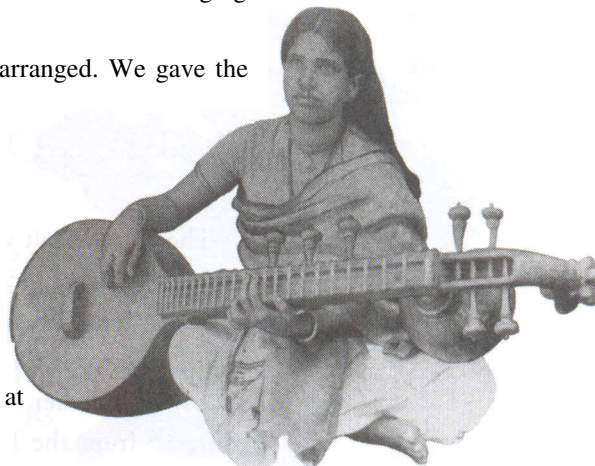
Reached Alleppy at 6 o'clock this morning. After breakfast we left the place and towards evening reached Tannirmukom a very inhospitable place on the western shore of the Vembanad Lake. Neither milk nor butter-milk or other necessities are available. The inhabitants are subject to elephantiasis and leprosy more than in any other place in Travancore. The Traveller's Bungalow very dirty and uncomfortable.

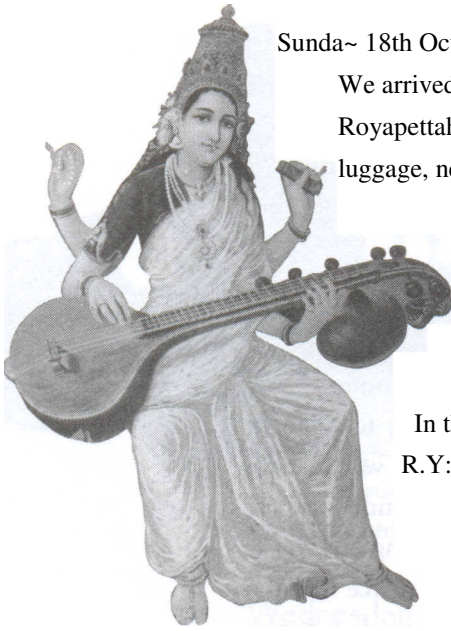
Friday~ J 6th October J 903

Reached Ernakulam early in the morning, put up at the palace as the guests of the 13th Prince, at 2 took [a] train for Trichur where we halted for the night as the guests of the 6th Prince. After supper we went to the Eastern Kurapam to hear the singing of a girl well known for her talents. It was a typical Nayar³⁵ home and everything was sweet and well arranged. We gave the girl presents for her proficiency in music.

Saturday~ J 7th October J 903

We left Trichur this morning at 11, changed train[s] at Shorunur and continued our journey to Madras. We travelled first class. At Olavakote we met Mr Amanatha Pattar who said he was going to Waltair to make plague preventive measures, since the disease was already at Coimbatore and [the] Nilgiris.





Sunda~ 18th October I 903

We arrived at Madras this morning and stay with my nephew Rama Varma at Royapettah. This evening we drove to the Central Station to see about our luggage, next visited Mr Baliah Naidu's.

Monda~ 19th October I 903

At the desire of our friend Mr Baliah Naidu we removed our residence to his bungalow on the Poonamally, Road. He has made excellent arrangements for our comfort.

In the morning we visited Sir Bhashayam Iyengar and Dewan Bahadur R.Y: Srinivasa Iyer. In the evening we drove to the beach in our friend's carriage-and-pair and returned at about 7. Last evening we met C. Karanakar Menon of 'The Hindu' at the beach and were talking [for a] long [time].

Tuesda~ 20th October I 903

This morning I paid a visit to Thurston who is shortly going home on leave and handed to him the painting of the 'Retired Sepoy' as a present to the Art Gallery in the Madras Museum. In the afternoon we called on the National Bank, cashed a cheque for Rs 6000 and then deposited the amount in my name with Messrs Arbuthnot & Co., on fixed deposit at 5 per cent interest. The number of the receipt they granted me is H. 6438. We left by the Bombay Mail this evening for Karli.

Wednesda~ 21st October 1903

Our journey was not so trying as we had expected since we were almost alone till we reached Guntakal where a Punjabi military officer joined us as a fellow passenger, as plenty of rain has fallen all along, the weather was not warm. At Poona there was a rush of passengers but we were not inconvenienced as we got down at Karli soon after. It was midnight and Mr Schleicher and Bhow Sahib were at the station. The air was very cool and pleasant. We stayed at Mr Schleicher's bungalow.

Thursda~ 22nd October 1903

Karli

The amount left with us today is Rs 165-6 as. We had a long conversation with Mr Schlucker [Schleicher] today and he has promised to settle our accounts on Tuesday next by paying up the whole balance. In the afternoon we visited the Press. There is no work today. There is a stock of playing cards and labels and Mr Schleicher is printing cheap pictures to oust the cheap German pictures²³⁶ from the Indian markets.



Frida-SJ 2)rd October J 90)

This morning we paid a visit to the Press which was at work. **In** the afternoon I walked to the Karli Village to make a sketch of the tank showing reflections, but owing to a breeze that kept disturbing the surface of the water "no reflections could be seen. On my return brother and I went to the Bhaji Village²³⁷ as invited by Mr Bhow Sahib the leading man. He entertained us at coffee and *[sic]* fruits etc. at 6 p.m.

Saturda-SJ 2+th October J 90)

Left Karli by midday train. We travelled first class and we had no fellow passengers. The Ghaut scene after we left Khandla was very grand and beautiful. Between picturesque hills in the immediate foreground opened a vista of the hazy plains far down below. We reached Victoria Terminus at 5 in the evening and proceeded to our temporary residence on the Kalbadevi Road.

Sunda-SJ 25th October j 90)

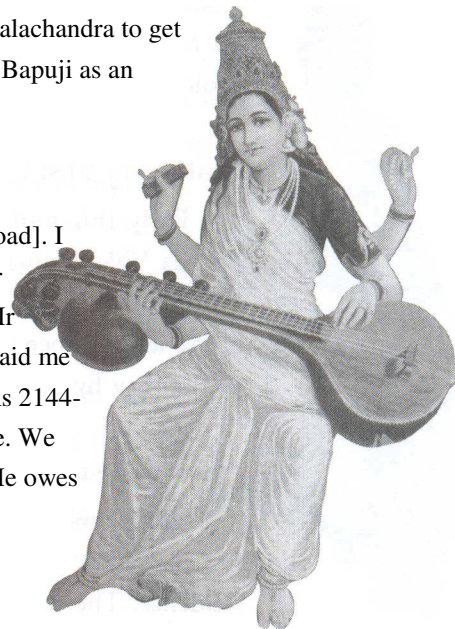
Balance left with us to day is Rs 142-6 as. **In** the evening we went to look out for an other lodging since there is so much noise and bustle at our present residence. We liked the bungalow at Tardeo but its proximity to two mills rendered it unfit for us.

Monda-SJ 26th October j 90)

Early this morning I paid a visit to Sir Balachandra and his brother. At 12 o'clock I called on Mr Dixit my solicitor to consult him about the final sale deed of our press. Mr Bapuji, I and Mr Schleicher went to Mr Byrne, Solicitor, who promised to draw up the deed tomorrow at 3. Mr Byrne is Mr Schleicher's counsel. **In** the evening at 7 we called on Sir Balachandra to get the documents relating to the Press. They were placed with Mr Bapuji as an umpire.

Tuesda-SJ 27th October J 90)

Early this morning I went to see the house at Gamdevi [Road]. I liked it. I and Shriram [Pant] next called on Sir Balachandra for certain accounts relating to our press. After breakfast went to Mr Brynne's office where I met Bapuji and Schleicher. The latter paid me through his solicitor Rs 4000 promising to pay the balance of Rs 2144-1-3 in about 10 days and then get the conveyance deed from me. We received Rs 600 from the Raja of Vollur for portraits painted. He owes Rs 300 still. Balance this evening is Rs 128-3-2 pice.





Wednesda~ 28th October 1903

In the morning called on Sir Balachandra to get medicine for Brother and to consult him with regard to the complaint. Our cook Chathu is suffering from [+++]. In the afternoon I wrote a letter to Messrs Arbuthnot & Co. enclosing a draft of Hundi for Rs 4000 to be credited to my account and invested on fixed deposit for one year at 5 percent interest payable half yearly in the same way as the Rs 6000 invested with them on the 20th instant. The draft was obtained from the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China. I next visited Messrs Marks & Co., Hussainally Abdulally, Kump and Co. etc. Returning home at about 5.30. Bapuji and Pannuswami Pillai came.

Thursda~ 29th October 1903

Last night we witnessed the performance of Sinjit Saubhadra of Kirloskar Dramatic Company at one of the Grant Road Theaters. This is the best Mahratta dramatic troupe. A carriage has been engaged from today at a rate of Rs 3 per day for Out use. Its owner is a Parse[e] who had given his carriage on former occasions too. We drove to the Fort, gave Brother's watch to Charpie & Co. for repairs, ordered Laidlaw & Whiteaway for two long coats for summer weather.

Frida~ 30th October 1903

In the morning we paid a visit to Mr Jagmohan Das Vandravandas Bhaiset our friend who had been suffering lately from [a] paralytic attack. He has fortunately escaped from the first attack and is now alright. In the evening Mr Bapuji and we two went to Mr Soundy and purchased tickets for the London Comedy Company's play of 'H.E. The Governor'. Next we attended a discourse on Mahabharat by a clever Banares Pandit as he spoke in Hindusthani we could well understand him.

Saturda~ 31st October 1903

Early this morning we left by steamboat from the Carnae Bunder for Panvila Village situated among the hills and crags about 2 miles to the south east of Bombay. We enjoyed the trip on the steamer very well. At Panwil three of the leading men of the place invited [us] for coffee and pansupari. Returned to Bombay by train from the Mumbra station.

Sunda~ 1 st November 1903

This evening we removed to a bungalow on the Gamdevi Road near the fire engine, as Kalbadevi Road was too noisy and crowded to be agreeable for residence. The new residence requires a lot of cleaning.



Monda~ 2nd November 1903

This morning we paid a visit to *Dr Mathai's* dispensary at the Chukter[?] Street. [I]t is a pity the Doctor is not able to have a better building for his dispensary. This afternoon I received from Messrs Arbuthnot & Co. the receipt for Rs 4000 I had remitted to them on the 28th instant. In the evening we drove to the Fort visiting some shops where we had business. Soon after our return home we had the pleasure of receiving a visit from Mr Permanand Das Baghavan Das of Hyderabad.

Tuesday~ 3rd November 1903

This morning we paid a visit to Mr Tribhavan Das Varjivan Das at his house at Mahalakshmi and to Mr Bhagavan Das Gopal Das on the Ridge Road Malabar Hill. In the evening we did some work on the portrait of Mr Devarajanand [and] at about 6 went out for a walk on the Chaupati Sea Fall. Tonight we are going to see the London Comedy Company's performance of His Excellency the Governor.

Wednesda~ 4th November 1903

Last night we witnessed the Comedy of 'H.E. the Governor' at the Novelty. I did not like it much nor did Brother or Bapuji. There was not much for the display of an actor's skill. The whole thing was a domestic incident and nothing else. This morning I painted the Parsee Widow's jacket and Sari, while brother retouched the Nizzam's head for Mr Schleicher. In the evening we returned the visit of our Hyderabad friend Mr Permanand Das. He lives in the palace of Devaki Namdas Maharaja, one of the high priests of the Vaishnavas of the Vallabhachari persuasion. The building is splendid.

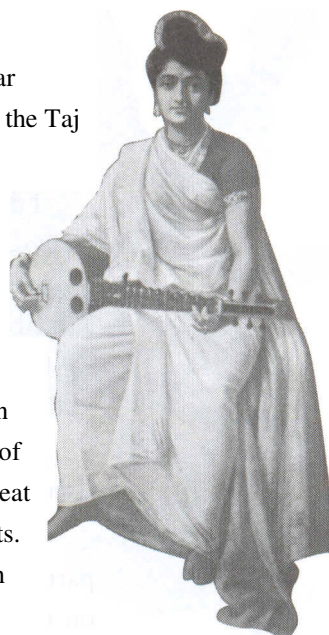
Thursda~ 5th November 1903

This afternoon we drove with Mr Bala Sahib of Aundh, a small state near Satra238 to the Apollo Bunder and took advantage of the opportunity to visit the Taj Mahal Hotel which Mr Tata is building. It is a colossal building

with three domes resembling those of the Taj. The first floor is nearly ready for habitation and people have begun to occupy it. On our way back home we called Mr Dharmsey Moraji, but he was not at home.

Frida~ 6th November 1903

Early this morning we paid a visit to Mr Puroshotram Vishram Moraji in whose house on the Kalbadevi Road we had put up during the first few days of our arrival here. He is a man of taste and is writing a history of Shivaji the great Mahratta Hero.239 He has visited all the scenes connected with his exploits. He has got some good pictures and picture books. There are few Bhalias with artistic and literary taste.





Saturda~ 7th November J 90;

I went this morning as usual for a walk and to study the sunrise effect which is particularly beautiful in the misty morning. I am making a sketch of it from memory. In the evening we went to the Fort and purchased from Mr Hussainally some stationary [*sic*].

Sunda~ 8th November J 90;

This morning we went to Mr Chaturbhuj Khinji's to photograph him and his wife who are anxious to have their portraits painted by us. On our return we were pleased to see Mr A. Raffin whom we had known 10 years ago as a boy at Grant Road.

Monda~ 9th November j 90;

Today we have severed all connection with our press known as 'The Ravi Varma Fine Art Lithographic Press' selling it to Mr Fritz Schleicher for a consideration of Rs 25,000 over and above paying all the debts connected with the establishment amounting to Rs 5 or 6 thousand. Out of this amount Rs 12,000 has been invested on fixed deposit in my name with Messrs Arbuthnot & Co. bearing interest at 5 percent. The proprietorship of the Press was in my name though it was called after Brother.

Tuesda~ 10th November 190;

This afternoon I went to the Chartered Bank of India, China, and Japan and got a draft for Rs 2000 payable to Messers Arbuthnot and Co. Received Rs 300 from Coconada in part payment of the price of the portrait of King Edward VII. In the evening met our old friend Mr Govardhan Das Khatas, who was our partner for some time, at the Band Stand. He introduced us to Karimbhai Ibrahim and his son who are anxious to have their father's portrait painted.

Wednesda~ 1 J th November J 90;

I despatched today the first half of the draft for Rs 2000 to Messrs Arbuthnot & Co., in a registered cover to be placed with them on Fixed Deposit. The total amount now invested in this firm is Rs 12,000 in my name, and the annual interest at 5 per cent is Rs 600. As there is no suitable light for painting we have decided to remove the tiles from a portion of the covered passage leading to the kitchen from the main building.

Thursda~ J 2th November 190;

This morning we paid a visit to Mr Chathurbhoj Khinji to ascertain particulars regarding his own and his wife's portraits. He promised to call on us in the evening and then give us the necessary information. Glass has



been put on the roof of our studio and we have now good light. In the evening at about 6 Mr Pushotam Vishram called and desired us to paint a picture of Shivaji's coronation. He has promised to give all historical notes necessary.

Frida~ J)th November 190)

Not having been well for the last three or four days, I opened my bowels this morning with Rubinat Water. In the afternoon I went to Phadkis Studio to make an enlargement of a negative. This done I returned home and went again with Brother to the market to purchase curtains and other things for our studio. On return home we saw Mr Chaturbhuj Khinji waiting for us. His request is that we should make some reduction in our charges.

Saturda~ J 4th November 190)

The orders that we have now in hand are two and both are from Dr EE. Dawar. One bust is of his deceased mother and the other of his late wife. Three other orders have been promised but not actually given. It is very difficult to deal with Banias and Bhattias. They want the price to be always reduced.

Sunda~ J 5th November J 90)

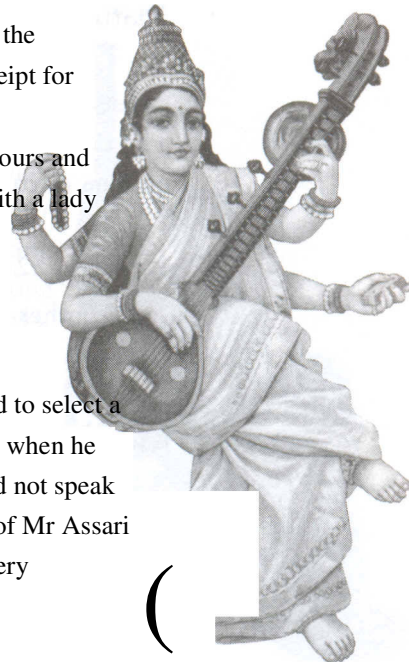
This morning we went to see Mr Govardhan Khatas, but he was not at home. Next we paid a visit to Mr Dharmaji Maharaji. In the evening drove to the Victoria Gardens which have been much improved since we saw them last.

Monda~ 16th November J 90)

This morning I did not go out for a walk as I did not feel well. In the afternoon I received from Madras [Messrs] Arbuthnot & Co. their receipt for Rs 2000 I had remitted to them on the 11 th inst. In the evening we went to Mr Hussainally's shop and took certain oil-colours and brushes. At the Band Stand we spent a few minutes in conversation with a lady friend and her husband, then returned home.

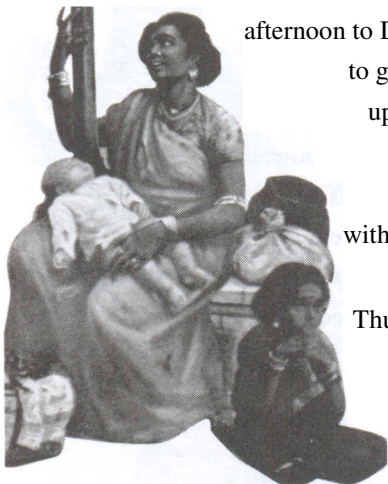
T uesda~ J 7th November J 90)

We paid a visit to Dr Dawar at his house on the Wandley[?] Road to select a suitable sari for his wife's portrait. Poor man, his eyes filled with tears when he unpacked along with his late wife's clothes, a lock of hair and he could not speak for some time. We were moved too. We next visited the son and heir of Mr Assari Virji who died a year ago after he had his portrait painted by us in a very successful manner. He was 78 years old.



Wednesda~ 18th November 190)

This morning I was engaged in painting the body and sari of Dr Dawar's wife while Brother painted his mother's head. As I did not feel well we drove in the afternoon to Dr Mathai's dispensary at the Chakle[?] and he was pleased to give me a mixture. My complaint is unequal temperature of the body going up to 99 1/2 towards evening and a trouble headache. We gave Mr Naoraji a loan of Rs 30 when we met him at the Band Stand from where we went to the Apollo Bunder and hence returned home. Bapuji was with us.



Thursda~ 19th November 1 90)

Brother and Bapuji went this morning on a visit to a Bania gentleman from whom Rs 500 are due to us for a portrait executed for him. I was too unweak [*sic*] [unwell] to go with them. I had feverishness [*sic*] and headache throughout the day. Bapuji came in the afternoon and wanted our cook to make certain vegetables dished after the fashion of his own caste men. They were very good.

Frida~ 20th November 1 90)

Dr Bhajikar visited Chathu this morning and dressed his wound. The patient had a very restless night and the doctor says as the wound heals the other symptoms will disappear. He prescribed for me a mixtUre for me [*sic*]. In the afternoon I had fever the temperature having been nearly 100 degrees. I remained at home the whole evening and did not do any work. Dr Mathai called at about 3 p.m.

5aturda~ 2 I st November 1 90)

I am still confined within the four walls of my room. I am suffering from a nasty headache about the left temple. Sometimes I feel severe shooting pains. The doctor said it would disappear with the feverish symptoms. I am taking quinine mixture. This is not the first time that I have this sort of headache.

5unda~ 22nd November 1 90)

Another day spent at home without any work. My brother feels rather lonely without me in [*sic*] his evening drives. I am better today on the whole.

Monda~ 2)rd November 190)

I had to spend this day also at home not feeling quite disposed to go out, did little in the way of work, as too much concentration of mind produces headache. Chathu is making favourable progress. The wound is fast healing. He has slight fever on [?] for which Dr Mathai is treating him. Brother out as usual for his evening drive.



Tuesday~ 24th November 1900)

Received a letter from the private secretary to the Thakore Sahib of Gondal confirming the terms on which we were to visit his state on business, but we disagreed with the condition stating the remuneration which was put down at 900 instead of 1000. We wrote back that unless that latter sum was paid for each portrait we shall not accept the offer.

Wednesday~ 25th November 1900)

I went out with Brother for a drive this evening and got back his watch which had been given to Messrs Charpia & Co. for repairs which cost Rs 25. My health is much improved now. I purchased a bottle of Fellow's Syrup from Madow & Co. for Rs 1-12-0 and commenced taking it this evening. Dr Mathai has recommended [to] me [to] take it regularly for some months as it relieves one of headache, poverty of blood and other complaints.

Thursday~ 26th November 1900)

I am almost relieved of my health and feverishness and I have commenced today my daily baths. This morning I worked on Dr Dawar's wife's portrait. In the evening we went to Sitaram Buildings where Mr Bapuji lives and with him went to the Apollo Bunder where we spent about a quarter of an hour. We returned home at about 7 o'clock.

Friday~ 27th November 1900)

This morning Dr Dawar came and had a look at his wife's portrait and said that he could not recognize her. Though it requires improvements we did not think it was so great a failure. These are the difficulties of portrait painting especially from Photographs. An other Parsee youth came with a profile of his deceased brother and wants a three quarter face made from this profile.

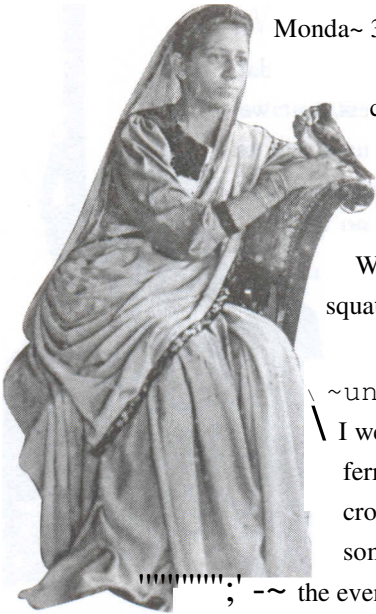
Saturday~ 28th November 1900)

This evening we paid a visit to Mr Purushotham Vishnu Moraji's at his bungalow at Mahalaxmi where a yagna or the offer of burnt ablutions [was held]. Numbers of Gujrati Brahmins were sitting round [a] big fire and pouring milk pottage into the fire repeating mantrams. Dharamsey Morarji was among those invited. We returned home at 7.30.

Sunday~ 29th November 1900)

This afternoon we went by train to Ghatkopar and thence drove to the Vihar Lake 6 miles distant [*sic*]. It is not as large a sheet of water as I had expected it to be. It is one of the lakes that supply Bombay with water. We supped at Shriram Pant's house at Ghatkopar.





Monda~ 30th November 1 903

This afternoon Prince Samatsinghi of Palitana sent a tray of sugar candy with the announcement that a grand son has been born to him. We therefore called on him in the evening to congratulate him. His eldest son who has now become for the first time a father and who unlike his father is a stout young man, was also present.

We saw a number of Kathiawar men come to congratulate the Prince, squatting on the ground after true oriental fashion.

~unda~ Ist [] eember 1903

I went this afternoon at 2 to Kalyan by the Poona Mail to make a sketch of the ferry across the river. From the station drove to the river side in a tonga, crossed it in a ferry boat, and made the sketch of the opposite shore with some boats, one or two buildings lightened by

the evening sun and the distant hills purple and grey with touches of warm colour. Returned home at 8 p.m.

Wednesda~ 2nd [] eember 1903

This evening we called on Powel & Co. to whom we have given an order for making a truss for brother. The proprietor who called himself a Nair originally belonged to Cochin, his mother having come and settled in Bombay. The Nair was born and brought up here and took to the chemist's business in which he had scored great success. He showed us some of the surgical instruments and artificial hands and legs his firm has produced. They were very good. At night we went to the 'Novelty' to see 'Harischandra'^{24°} by Baleivalas[?] Company. There are two actresses who are good looking, but unfortunately [they] lack musical taste and training.

Thursda~ 3rd [] eember 1903

This evening we called on Mr Khimji Assur Virji at Modi Khana near Bori Bunder to giver [*sic*] a coat of varnish to his father's portrait which we had painted nearly ten years ago. After this work we took a walk to the kerosineoil-wells near the Ballard Pier. They are big tanks of tin or lead into which kerosine-oil is pumped from the steamers before being sold in retail. We returned home after enjoying the evening for a short time.

F rida~ 4th [] eember 1 903

This evening we went to the Cornae Bunder to watch the moon-rise effect, but owing to our ignorance of the place we had to wander a good deal before we could get a suitable point of view. After supper Mr Bapuji took us to the Fair at Nana[?] Sankar Seth's 'Wadi' on the Jaria[?] Road which was lined by stalls laden with all sorts of things for sale. In the garden there was singing and aftetwards fire-works, a large number of guests being present.



Saturda~ 5th December 190)

We remained working till about 5 o'clock in the evening when we went to the Apollo Bunder to see again the moon-rise which was indeed very beautiful. On our return home we found Naoroji waiting to take us to show the bread and loaf making process. The bakery belonged to a Parsee gentleman. We were surprised to find that they were using the hops for leavening the dough.

Sunda~ 6th December 190)

This evening we attended the evening party given to H.H. the Gaekwar by Menon[?] Vital Das Damodar Thakersey and Purushotham Vishram Moraji at the Bungalow of the former at Mahalakshmi.

Monda~ 7th December 190)

This evening we drove to Hussainally, purchased 8 bottles of varnish and six bottles of turpentine. Gave another coat of varnish to Mr Assur Virji's portrait, then went to the market and ordered the Mohammedan dress maker to make half a dozen shirts for us. Next we called on Doctor Mathai who we heard was unwell. It was about 6 o'clock, we were pleased to find that he was not so badly off as we thought. From there we returned home through Kamatipura.

Tuesda~ 8th December 190)

We had received a telegram from Mr Baliah Naidu asking the price of Kilson and Washington Lamps for the Park Fair in Madras. Yesterday it was too late to make enquiries and so I went out this morning first to Richmod & Sons, Chandeliers, who charged Rs 1155 for six lamps Kilson. I went[?] to Mahur and Co., Fort, whose charges for Washington Lamps also amounted nearly to the same sum. I telegraphed to Mr Baliah. Visited Sir Balachandra in the evening.

Wednesda~ 9th December 190)

This noon I went again to Kabhai to finish the sketch of the ferry I commenced the other day. When I reached the ferry it was nearly 3.30. I had only an hour and a half to work. There was no wind and so the surface of the river was placid and everything was reflected as 'in a mirror. I found at the conclusion of the work that I could improve it still further if I paid another visit to the place. I returned by the Poona Passenger and when I reached home it was[?] about[?] 8 o'clock.

Thursda~ 10th December 190)

The whole day we were very busy finishing the new picture and retouching old ones. In the evening we went to the Churchgate Station by rail and after visiting one or two shops returned home by train. This morning two or three wandering minstrels came singing at our

