

nued without interruption during every hour of the day until dark, and frequently from eight to twelve times in the hour. As this was about the time of the equinox, those who are occupied with any theories upon this phenomenon may, perhaps, be able to draw some inferences not altogether unimportant from our observations, and it is only to be lamented that we were prevented from commencing them in the first months of our stay here. I know of no place where better observations may be made upon the tides than in the harbour of Nangasaky, not only because their changes are here very regular, but because the water is always very calm, and never agitated except by the most violent storms; and it is particularly to be wished that the Dutch, who have plenty of time for such occupations, would give a continued series of them.

I have always determined the time of the highest flood and lowest ebb by corresponding altitudes; and as I had several observations between each change, I could invariably take the mean of them. In the syzygies the time of the highest flood is at 7 *h.* 52' 41". Generally the highest flood and lowest ebb was on the third and fourth change after these and the quadratures. The highest tide we witnessed was on the 2d of April, two days after the new moon, when the horizontal parallax of the moon was 59' 48" and its declination 23° 15' N. The water rose 11 *f.* 5 *in.* the wind was moderate from the north. The lowest tide was on the 25th March, two days after the quadrature, three days after the apogee, and the same period after the equinox: the water on this day only rose 1 *f.* 2 *in.*; the wind blew gently from the northward.