

Appendix 4.6: Suicides and Attempted Suicides

No.	Date & Co.	Description	Source
1	1731.09.20 Danish	The seaman Peder Hollersen, in desperation from his illness, jumped overboard in the night and drowned.	Wigandt 202
2	1738.08.26 EIC	'John Manwaring Ships cook being in liquor wilfully jump'd out of the gangway and drown'd himself, took his body up the day after & buried it on French Island'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/636C <i>Prince Orange</i>
3	1738.09.13 DAC	In the afternoon, about 4:00, Pieter Sörensen Franck, being drunk, fell overboard out of the galley. He had stolen a bottle of French brandy wine, and upon getting caught—in shame and desperation—he jumped over and drowned himself. On December 23, his effects were valued at 51.7 taels.	RAC: Ask 879 ^a , 999, <i>King of Denmark</i>
4	1753.09.16 EIC	'PM confin'd Joseph Hickey seaman for abusive language & threatning to stabb several of our officers likewise to prevent his drowng himself he having attempted to do it twice before & now threatng to do it again'. On September 22 'Call'd a consultation of Officers on Joseph Hickey for his ill language & threatnings who receiv'd 9 lashes and then orderd to his busyness again'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/572B <i>Boscawen</i>
5	1755.10.29 EIC	'At ½ past 1 AM Wm Cotterill, Midshipman being delerious, came upon Deck, Jump'd over board and was Drown'd'	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/404G <i>Prince of Wales</i>
6	1759.11.22 EIC	'Att AM the carpenter was found hanging in the well [aboard the ship] and had been dead sometime . . . At 6 PM buried the carpenter on Danes Island'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/285HH <i>Britannia</i>
7	1764.10.10 EIC	'at 8 PM John Burton seaman (a blackman) jumped overboard and was drowned sent the pinnace immediately after him but could not see anything of him'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/141C <i>Northumberland</i>
8	1768.06.05 EIC	[at Macao] 'Mr. Mann Horner [supercargo] after being some time indisposed by the heat of the climate, had a fever and lowness of spirits, but the Doctor was in hopes he had got the better of his illness, as he came this day and dined at Table, and soon after retired to his room (as he said to take a nap) at about 6 OClock in the Evening, his door being shut, his Servant was surprized and knocked at the same, and by not having any answer, he forced open the door, and when his Servant William Nicholson entered the room he found his Master stretched on his Couch dead, The Doctor being sent for to examine the Body, found that he had destroyed himself, by cutting with his Penknife the Corotid Artery, and had given himself two wounds in his Breast with his Sward which was found in his room bloody. We design carying him to Whampo to inter him there.' He seems to have been temporarily buried in Macao, and was reburied on French Island on 5 August	BL: IOR R/10/5, pp. 16-17

		1768.	
9	1773.09.07 VOC	The corporal in the Dutch factory, Hendrik Ditmar, shot himself in the early morning with a pistol, and was immediately buried.	NAH: Canton 82, 1773.09.07, Canton 235, report dated 1773.12.20, p. 143
10	1781.09.05 EIC	'in the evening Geo. [George] Boughton jump'd overboard, and being drunk supposed him to be Drown'd'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/504D <i>Duke of Portland</i>
11	1795.01.19 EIC	'Monday. At 9 AM found Mr. Cruikshank dead in his Cabin on Examining the Body found he had cut his throat and the arteries of his Arm. At 11 an Inquest was held who brought in their verdict Lunacy'. The ship was on its way upriver at the time. The crew list in front of the journal shows him to be Mr. P. Cruikshank Surgeon. The ship arrived at Whampoa on 21 January and on the 22nd 'At 1/2 past 4 sent the Body of Mr. Cruikshank to French Island to be Interrd'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/165D <i>Carnatic</i>
12	1795.03.21 EIC	'Releasd from confinement Eman. Sullivan Boatswain's Mate. The Surgeon having given an official paper in writing, declaring that the Prisoner's Life was in eminent danger & he could not be answerable for his life unless releas'd, placed over him in his hammock a midshipman & seaman to guard him'. He did not commit suicide, but it was feared that he might try.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/293R <i>Walpole</i>
13	1797.04.16 EIC	'Early this morning Mr Goumore a Swiss mechanic [clock repairman] in the Employ of Mr. Beale put an end to his life by cutting his throat; he appeared to have been some days previous much agitated in his mind.' On April 17, 'The Namhoiyuen [magistrate of Nanhai County 南海縣] examin'd the Body of Mr Goumore & being satisfied of the suicide permitted the Corps to be buried.'	BL: IOR G/12/116, pp. 203-4.
14	1800.07.31 EIC	'jumped overboard out of the sick chop [boat carrying sick seamen] and was drown'd Edw. Gilson seaman'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/8G <i>Thames</i>
15	1800.08.01 EIC	'At 4 AM jump'd overboard and was drownd Ja. [James] Smith ord[inary]. Seaman'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/8G <i>Thames</i>
16	1812.02.28 EIC	'At 9 PM Robert Pattison (Seaman) committed an act of suicide'.	BL: IOR L/MAR/B/36L <i>Princess Amelia</i>