

THE
JOURNAL
OF THE
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY
OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.



VOLUME THE FIRST.

LONDON:
JOHN W. PARKER, WEST STRAND.

M.DCCC.XXXIV.

LONDON :
PRINTED BY JAMES MOYES,
Castle Street, Leicester Square.

P R E F A C E.

THE mode heretofore followed in publishing the Transactions of the Society having been attended with many inconveniences, arising partially or wholly from restrictions on the subjects to be introduced, as well as from the quarto form of the impression, and from the uncertain, but widely extended periods at which the editions were made, the Council has considered it advisable to sanction a regular quarterly publication in octavo, and less limited as to the nature of the materials of which it is to be composed. This arrangement will afford the means of rendering available many valuable contributions, which, notwithstanding their real interest and importance, may not entirely conform to the system on which the quarto publication is founded: and the latter may still be continued whenever the accumulation of matter on subjects more peculiar to its original design shall render any additional volume expedient.

The octavo publication is styled the *JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY*, will be edited at intervals of three months, and we may trust will become a repository for much valuable information, which, consistently with the views of the *SOCIETY*, will thus be communicated to the Public. The researches of the learned into the history and customs of the nations of the

East in ancient times, their investigations into the yet remaining monuments of early and extensive civilization, may here be placed in contrast with the labours of those who prefer the progress of improvement in the present day, or suggest the means by which that improvement may be accelerated and enlarged; the deductions of philosophy may be compared with the results of experience, and the theories of the speculative produce schemes of practical utility.

The COUNCIL, while thus endeavouring to give greater extension to the operations of the Society, and to increase its claims to public approbation and support, feels that its ability to do so may be materially increased by the earnest and effective co-operation of the Members of the Society, and of all others who feel an interest in the manners, literature, and science of Asia, as well as in the welfare of our empire in the East.

CONTENTS.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

	Page
ART. I.—Description of the various Classes of Vessels constructed and employed by the Natives of the Coasts of Coromandel, Malabar, and the Island of Ceylon, for their Coasting Navigation. By JOHN EDYE, Esq., late Master Shipwright of His Majesty's Naval Yard at Trincomali, now in the Department of the Surveyor of the Navy*	1
ART. II.—Remarks on the School System of the Hindús. By Captain HENRY HARKNESS, Secretary to the Royal Asiatic Society, late Secretary to the College of Fort St. George, &c. &c.	15
ART. III.—Dissertation on the River Indus. By the late Captain JAMES M'MURDO, of the Hon. East-India Company's Military Service on the Bombay Establishment	20
ART. IV.—On the Law and Legal Practice of Nepál, as regards Familiar Intercourse between a Hindú and an Outcast. By BRIAN HOUGHTON HODGSON, Esq., M.R.A.S., Resident at Cat'hmandu	45
ART. V.—Description of Ancient Chinese Vases, with Inscriptions illustrative of the History of the Shang Dynasty of Chinese Sovereigns, who reigned from about 1756 to 1112, B.C. Translated from the Original Work, entitled <i>Pö-koò-too</i> . By P. P. THOMS, Esq.	57
ART. VI.—Notice of the Tabernacle or Car employed by the Hindús on the Island of Ceylon, to carry the Image of the God, in their Religious Processions: with some Remarks on the Analogies which may be traced in the Worship of the Assyrians and other ancient Nations of the East, as compared with that of the Hindús. By the Rev. JOSEPH ROBERTS, C.M.R.A.S., &c.	87
ART. VII.—A Transcript in Roman Characters, with a Translation, of a Manifesto in the Chinese Language, issued by the Triad Society. By the Rev. ROBERT MORRISON, D.D., F.R.S., M.R.A.S., &c. &c.	93
ART. VIII.—Notice of a remarkable Hospital for Animals at Surat. By Lieut. ALEX. BURNES, F.R.S. of the Bombay Military Establishment, being an extract from a MS. Journal	96

* The attention of the Royal Asiatic Society was particularly called to this and other papers of Mr. E dye, upon subjects connected with the Malabar Coast, by Sir Alexander Johnston, in that part of the Annual Report made by him, as Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, to the Society at their last Anniversary Meeting (see p. 157), in which, alluding to the communication about to be opened by steam-boats between England and the western coast of India, either through the Gulf of Arabia or that of Persia, he dwelt at considerable length upon the importance of the inquiries instituted by the Committee of Correspondence, relative to the port of Cochin and the back-water of 150 miles long, upon which it stands; the break in the southern part of the great western Ghauts called Paul Ghautcherry, and the practicability of opening a water-communication through this break between the Malabar and Coromandel coasts, by forming a junction between the Paniany River, which flows into the sea on the Malabar Coast, and the Cauvery River, which flows into the sea on the Coromandel Coast.

	Page
ART. IX.—Abstract of a Notice of the Circassians, drawn up by CHARLES TAUSCH, a German, who resided for eight years in an official capacity at Psihiad, near the Port of Ghelendik	98
ART. X.—Analysis of the <i>Mirât-i-Ahmadi</i> ; a Political and Statistical History of the Province of Gujarât. Translated from the Persian, by JAMES BIRD, Esq., M.R.A.S., F.R.G.S.	117
ART. XI.—Analysis of the <i>S'ri Lakshmi Nârâyana Nyâyâlanakâra Virachita Vyavast'hâ-Ratnamâlâ</i>	119
ART. XII.—Biographical Sketch of the late Captain JAMES M'URDO. By JAMES BIRD, Esq., M.R.A.S., F.R.G.S., &c. &c.	123
ART. XIII.—Biographical Sketch of M. ALEXANDER CSOMA KÖRÖSI, the Hungarian Traveller; extracted from a Letter addressed by that Gentleman to Captain C. P. KENNEDY, of the Hon. East-India Company's Service, Assistant to the Political Resident at Dehli, &c.	128
ART. XIV.—Notice of the Circumstances attending the Assassination of Professor SCHULTZ, while visiting Kurdistân, in the year 1829: in a Letter from Major Sir HENRY WILLOCK, K.L.S., M.R.A.S., &c. to Captain HARKNESS, Secretary R.A.S.	134
ART. XV.—Biographical Sketches of Dekkan Poets; being Memoirs of the Lives of several eminent Bards, both ancient and modern, who have flourished in different Provinces of the Indian Peninsula; compiled from Authentic Documents, by CAVELLY VENKATA RAMASWAMI, late Head Translator and Pundit in the Literary and Antiquarian Department, Calcutta	137

NOTICES OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

1. Illustrations of the Sacred Scriptures, collected from the Customs, Manners, Rites, Superstitions, Traditions, Parabolical and Proverbial Forms of Speech, Climate, Works of Art, and Literature of the Hindús, during a Residence in the East of nearly Fourteen Years. By the Rev. JOSEPH ROBERTS, C.M.R.A.S., &c.	145
2. Essay on the Architecture of the Hindús. By RÂM RÁZ, Native Judge and Magistrate at Bangalore, Corresponding Member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. With Forty-eight Plates. 4to. London.	145
3. Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society, Vol. III., Part III.	146
—————	
Proceedings of the Royal Asiatic Society	147
Report of the Committee of Correspondence	157

APPENDIX.

Annual Report of the Royal Asiatic Society for 1834	iii
Auditors' Report	xv
Regulations of the Royal Asiatic Society	xxvi
Members of the Royal Asiatic Society	xxix

CONTENTS.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

- ART. XVI.—A Memoir of the Primitive Church of Malayála, or of the Syrian Christians of the Apostle THOMAS, from its first rise to the present time, by Captain CHARLES SWANSTON, of the Honourable East India Company's Military Service on the Madras Establishment 171
- ART. XVII.—On Female Infanticide in Cutch, by Lieutenant ALEXANDER BURNES, F.R.S. 193
- ART. XVIII.—On the Present State of the River Indus, and the Route of ALEXANDER THE GREAT, by Lieutenant WILLIAM POTTINGER, of H.M. 6th Regiment of Infantry 199
- ART. XIX.—Description of Ancient Chinese Vases; with Inscriptions illustrative of the History of the Shang Dynasty of Chinese Sovereigns, who reigned from about 1756 to 1112 B.C. Translated from the Original Work, entitled *Pò-koo-too*, by PETER PERRING THOMS, Esq. 213
- ART. XX.—An Account of the Country of Sindh; with Remarks on the State of Society, the Government, Manners, and Customs of the People, by the late Captain JAMES M'MURDO, of the Bombay Military Establishment 223
- ART. XXI.—Some Account of the Systems of Law and Police as recognised in the State of Nepál, by BRIAN HOUGHTON HODGSON, Esq. M.R.A.S., of the Bengal Civil Service, Resident at the Court of Kat'hmandu, &c. &c. 258
- ART. XXII.—Some Account of the P'hansigárs, or Gang-robbers, and of the Shúdgarsheids, or Tribe of Jugglers, by JAMES ARTHUR ROBERT STEVENSON, Esq., of the Madras Civil Service 280
- ART. XXIII.—On Female Infanticide in Cutch, by Lieutenant ALEXANDER BURNES, F.R.S. 285
- ART. XXIV.—Notice of the Port of Redout-Kali, and Statement of the Nature and Value of the Exports from Russia to Asia in the year 1827 289
- ART. XXV.—Remarks on the Revenue System and Landed Tenures of the Provinces under the Presidency of Fort St. George, by the late RÁMASWAMI NAIDU 292
- ART. XXVI.—1. Tchao-chi-kou-eul, ou l'Orphelin de la Chine, Drame en Prose et en Vers, suivi de Mélanges de Littérature Chinoise, traduits par S. JULIEN, Membre de l'Institut. Paris, 1834. 8vo.—2. Peshi-tsing-ki: Blanche et Bleue, ou les deux Couleuvres Fées; Roman Chinois, traduit par S. Julien. Paris, 1834. 8vo. 307
- ART. XXVII.—Biographical Sketch of his late Royal Highness ABBAS MIRZA, Prince Royal of Persia, Hon. M.R.A.S., &c. &c. 322

ART. XXVIII.—Biographical Sketches of the Mogul Emperor JEHÁNGÍR; his Sons Sultán KHURRAM and Sultán PARVÍZ; his Grandson Sultán SHUJÁ; and the principal Personages of his Court, by Major CHARLES STEWART, M.R.A.S.; intended as an Explanation of a valuable original Painting in Water-Colours, presented by that Gentleman to the Royal Asiatic Society, and now deposited in its Museum . . . 325

ART. XXIX.—Biographical Sketch of the Literary Career of the late Col. COLIN MACKENZIE, Surveyor-General of India; comprising some particulars of his Collection of Manuscripts, Plans, Coins, Drawings, Sculptures, &c. illustrative of the Antiquities, History, Geography, Laws, Institutions, and Manners, of the Ancient Hindús; contained in a letter addressed by him to the Right Hon. Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, V.P.R.A.S. &c. &c. 333

Notices of Works 365

Proceedings of the Royal Asiatic Society 367

Proceedings of the Oriental Translation Fund 371

General Meetings of the Royal Asiatic Society 374

APPENDIX.

Donations to the Royal Asiatic Society lxxv

Index lxxxv

Cut of the Metropolitan of the Syrian Church iv