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*F E R I S H T A ' s*  
HISTORY OF DEKKAN.

FROM  
THE FIRST MAHUMMEDAN CONQUESTS :

WITH  
CONTINUATION FROM OTHER NATIVE WRITERS, OF THE EVENTS IN  
THAT PART OF INDIA, TO THE REDUCTION OF ITS LAST  
MONARCHS BY THE EMPEROR AULUMGEER AURUNGZEBE :

ALSO,  
THE REIGNS OF HIS SUCCESSORS IN THE EMPIRE OF HINDOSTAN  
TO THE PRESENT DAY :

AND  
*THE HISTORY OF BENGAL,*  
FROM THE ACCESSION OF ALIVERDEE KHAN̄ TO THE YEAR 1780.

*COMPRISED IN SIX PARTS.*

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BY JONATHAN SCOTT,  
CAPTAIN IN THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SERVICE, PERSIAN SECRETARY  
TO THE LATE GOVERNOR GENERAL, WARREN HASTINGS, ESQ. AND  
MEMBER OF THE ASIATIC SOCIETY IN CALCUTTA.

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TWO VOLUMES.  
VOL. I.

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SHREWSBURY:  
PRINTED BY J. AND W. EDDOWES,  
FOR JOHN STOCKDALE, PICCADILLY, LONDON,

1794.

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TO THE HONOURABLE  
THE CHAIRMAN AND COURT OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY,

THIS ATTEMPT  
TO ADD TO THE PUBLICK STOCK OF HINDOOSTAN HISTORY,  
IS, BY THEIR PERMISSION, MOST HUMBLY DEDICATED;  
IN GRATITUDE FOR THAT LIBERAL PATRONAGE,  
WHICH THE TRANSLATOR HAS RECEIVED  
FROM THAT HONOURABLE BODY,  
EVER FORWARD TO REWARD  
ANY EFFORTS OF THEIR SERVANTS TO MERIT  
THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF  
THE HONOURABLE COMPANY,

BY  
THEIR FAITHFUL AND  
MOST OBEDIENT HUMBLE SERVANT,

SHREWSBURY,  
1st JAN. 1794.

NATHAN SCOTT.

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## P R E F A C E.

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IT is hoped that this attempt to make known the native history of a country, which was the first scene of our consequence in India, of the gallant exploits of General LAWRENCE, Lord CLIVE, Sir EYRE COOTE, and, very lately, the field of most important and successful operation to Britain, under Marquis CORNWALLIS, will not be wholly unacceptable. The earlier transactions of our countrymen in Dekkan have already been amply detailed, by the elegant pens of a CAMBRIDGE and an ORME. Dr. THOMSON, in his Memoirs of the War in Asia, has done justice to the skill and gallantry of Sir EYRE COOTE and his deserving followers, who, supported by the active zeal of the virtuous but yet suffering HASTINGS, (posterity will most certainly venerate his character, for prejudice will in time give place to judgment) saved our part of Dekkan to the British empire.

Our late successes have been shortly narrated by Major DIROM, who had a share in the toils of the two campaigns;  
VOL. I. a and,

and, I have heard, that his and other able pens are employed in preparing a fuller detail of British transactions in Dekkan. Of that country I only profess to give the native accounts from its own writers; which will, I hope, at least gratify the curiosity of those who wish to learn the former state of this part of India, and fill up a chasm in history.

FERISHTA, author of the history now offered to the public in an English dress, is one of the most esteemed writers of Hindoostan, and was of noble rank, and high in office at the court of Ibrahim Adil Shaw, of Beejapore, one of the sultans of Dekkan.

Besides the 'History of the Dhely emperors, and this of Dekkan, FERISHTA compiled one of every province in India, and many complete copies of his works have been brought home by English gentlemen.

My first intention was to have published a literal translation; but, on revision, I thought it would be more pleasing to an English ear, deprived of some of the numerous hyperbolic epithets and too frequent conjunctions, which drew out the periods to a distracting length, hurtful to the sense in our language. This alone has been done; yet perhaps, some readers may still think the stile too oriental; but to have deviated farther from the original, would have been imposing a compilation for a translation.

To

Translated and published many years since by colonel Dow.

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To those who have been in India, and are conversant with the history and manners of the natives, some of the notes may appear trivial: but every explanation is necessary to render satisfactory, to most readers, the perusal of foreign idiom, customs, and uncommon names. The last I have endeavoured to write as pronounced in the country.

It is necessary to mention, that from page 400 to the end of the Nizam Shawee dynasty, is not taken from FERISHTA, his work concluding with the fall of Ahmednuggur. What follows, was from a work written by Shaw-nowauz Khan, a nobleman of Dekkan, entitled, *Masser al Amra*, or Biography of Nobles.

In his account of the Golconda Princes, FERISHTA was so very brief, that, as he mentioned no more than what was contained in the *Lub al Towareekh*, an abbreviated history of Hindoostan, I had recourse only to the latter work; but it was thought inconvenient for so few pages to alter the running title of the volume. Had the most earnest search after fuller materials for the history of Golconda been successful, my readers should have had a fuller account of the princes of that sovereignty.