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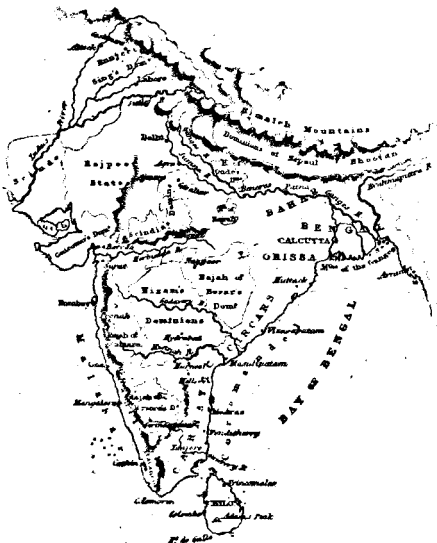


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FRAGMENTS
 OF
 VOYAGES & TRAVELS.
 BY
 CAPT BASIL HALL, R.N.

THIRD SERIES

VOL. I.



PRINTED FOR R. CADELL, EDINBURGH.
 AND WHITTAKER & CO LONDON.

1833.

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BY CAPTAIN BASIL HALL, R.N.
F.R.S.

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IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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ERRATA VOL. I.

Page 41, line 8, *for* "more populous," *read* "three times more populous."

Page 95, 6th line from the bottom, *for* "Hindoo," *read* "Mahometan."

Page 155, line 8, *dele* "or Lake."

Page 276, last line, *for* "1826," *read* "1818."

Page 357, line 9, *dele* "Hindoo and."

VOL. III.

Page 276, line 5 (in a part of the impression), *for* "503°," *read* "493°."

DIRECTIONS TO THE BINDER.

The Facsimile Letter from Sir Walter Scott is to face the last page (328) of Vol. III., and is to be so pasted in, that it may open upwards.

TO

His Royal Highness

PRINCE GEORGE OF CUMBERLAND.

SIR,

THE flattering notice your Royal Highness was pleased to confer upon the early parts of this little work, has encouraged me to continue it, and prompted me to solicit permission to dedicate the whole to your Royal Highness.

In these concluding volumes I have endeavoured to adapt both the topics themselves, and the terms in which they are expressed, to the more advanced age and experience of the persons for whose use chiefly the design was originally conceived.

It occurred to me, that it might be advantageous, particularly at this juncture, to render the great question of the East India Company's government, if possible, less complicated and unintelligible to young readers than it has heretofore been considered. I also hoped, that, if this task could be accomplished in connexion with lighter matters, and within any reasonable compass, the intrinsic importance and variety of the subject might lend it an interest, which I well knew, from personal examination on the spot, essentially belonged to it, though too rarely participated by persons at a distance.

My first intention, accordingly, was to have combined, incidentally with a narrative of the various voyages and travels which I made in the East, such remarks on the administration of the Company as might help to elucidate the intricate nature of the subsisting relations between the British nation and the inhabitants of Hindustan.

I soon found, however, that this plan would lead to much confusion, and that it was necessary, in order to afford the subject the best chance of being understood, not merely to arrange these materials separately, but greatly to condense them ; and, instead of attempting to exhaust, or even to touch upon every thing, to advert to those points alone which, upon the whole, appeared most likely to leave correct general impressions.

In this spirit, I have confined my observations on India to the first volume, in which is contained a brief account of the rise, progress, and present state of the East India Company, together with such details as seem calculated to illustrate the proceedings of our distant fellow-countrymen, in war, in peace, and in diplomatic arrangements with the native powers.

In the second volume are given sketches of some of the numerous excursions I made in the Eastern islands and on the continent of India.

The third volume is devoted almost exclusively to those nautical topics in which I have observed people on shore take the greatest interest ; and in the consideration of which the rising generation afloat may, perhaps, find their account.

My chief purpose, however, will be answered, if these volumes prove acceptable to your Royal Highness, or instructive, or entertaining to young persons in any walk of life.

I have the honour to remain

Your Royal Highness's

Most obedient and most humble Servant,

BASIL HALL.

London, 20th April, 1833.