

THE
V I E W
OF
H I N D O O S T A N .

V O L . II.
E A S T E R N H I N D O O S T A N .

QUIA IPSA SIBI OBSTAT MAGNITUDO, RERUMQUE DIVERSITAS ACIEM INTENTIONIS ABRUMPIT; FACIAM QUOD SOLENT, QUI TERRARUM SITUS PINGUNT: IN BREVI QUASI TABELLA TOTAM EJUS IMAGINEM AMPECTAR, NONNIHIL, UT SPERO, AD ADMIRATIONEM PRINCIPIS POPULI COLLATURUS, SI PARITER ATQUE INSIMUL UNIVERSAM MAGNITUDINEM EJUS OSTENDERO.

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and furling it full in the animal's face, terrified it so that it instantly retired. This lady afterwards fell into distress, but was gratefully relieved by the whole party, as each individual might suppose that his particular existence might have been owing to her. I am told that the tigers are sometimes plagued with flies, which fettle about their eyes, and frequently make them almost blind: These wander remote from their usual haunts, and give themselves up to destruction. Large rewards are given for destroying of tigers in general; the skins, the claws, and the teeth, are articles of exportation.

THE colors of these animals differ to their age or state of health; the ground color of a young or vigorous beast is almost of a brilliant orange; the black intense, and the little white it has is most pure. In old or sickly beasts the black is dull, and the yellow fades to a sandy hue. COLOR OF.

AN animal of the panther or leopard kind, of a deep black color, with the spots of a more intense black, was taken in these forests, and added to the menagerie in the tower of *London* by Mr. *Hastings*. By the size and strength it more probably merits the name of panther than leopard. An animal of the last species, of a dirty white color, spotted with grey, taken near *Agra*, was presented to *Jebangir*. It is singular that in the Torrid Zone many more instances of the accident of white animals should have been found, for it is recorded that the same emperor had seen an antelope, a hawk, a crow, a partridge, a quail, and a peacock of that color.

THE one-horned Rhinoceros is very common in these islands, RHINOCEROS. it loves forests and swampy places, and is a frequent concomi-

tant of the tiger. *Bontius* even says, that the *Indians* have a popular notion that there is between the two animals a strong friendship. The fact is, the rhinoceros repairs to wet places out of love of rolling itself like a hog in the mire; the other retires here from the burning heats, or to quench its raging thirst. The *Rhinoceros*, when provoked, is a most dangerous enemy, and extremely swift. A gentleman of my acquaintance, once in the service of the Company, had landed on one of these islands, and roused a *Rhinoceros*, which rushed on him, flung him down, and ripped open his belly; the animal proceeded without doing him any farther injury; the gentleman survived the wound, and lived to a very advanced age. Cups made of the horns are reputed to communicate to the liquor poured in them an antidote against poisons. *Bontius* speaks frequently of the scrapings of the horn as a remedy in several diseases.

LET me here mention that the duty on the salt made here, and in different parts of this province, produces, as usual in all countries, a vast revenue. In *Bengal* it yields annually £.430,000; and the woods are inexhaustible magazines for boat building, to carry on the vast commerce of the *Ganges*, and its contributory streams.

NATURAL
HISTORY.

THE natural history of this singular tract shall now engage my attention:—The tides, and vast bores, or leading waves, the current, and annual inundations shall be reserved till my return from the fountain of this vast river; I mean, after my slight view of the zoology of the *Sunderbund*, at once to gain the head of the *Ganges*, to descend the stream, and in the passage note its particularities, or those of the great rivers which augment its waters.

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