THE

HISTORY

OF

TIMUR-BEC,

Known by the Name of

Tamerlain the Great,

Emperor of the

MOGULS and TARTARS:

BEING

An historical JOURNAL of his Conquests in Asia and Europe.

Written in Persian by Cherefeddin Ali, Native of Tezd, his Contemporary.

Translated into French by the late Monsieur Petis de la Croix, Arabick Profesior in the Royal College, and Secretary and Interpreter to the King in the Oriental Languages.

With historical Notes and Maps.

Now faithfully render'd into English.

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the gate: and the conforts of music were per-Chap.20. form'd on this occasion on the tune Rihavi, us'd only on victorys. And to preserve the memory of so considerable a conquest, an ingenious poet made these verses, the letters of which form the epocha of this memorable day.

On wednesday the eighth of the month of Rabiulak-Jan. 4. her, the ever-victorious emperor Timur made 1399. himself master of Deli, the sun being in Capricorn.

All the elephants and rhinoceros's were brought to Timur. These animals, being before instructed, fell down before the emperor in an humble posture, and at the same time made a great cry as if they demanded quarter. There were an hundred and twenty of these elephants of war, which at the return from India were sent to Samarcand, and to the provinces of the empire, where Timur's sons resided. Two were carry'd chain'd to Tauris, one to Chiraz, five to Herat, one to Chirvan to the Cheik Ibrahim, and one to Arzendgian to the lord Taharten. The tenth of Rabiulak-Jan. her, the doctor Nasereddin Amor was order'd to enter the city, with the other lords and Cheriffs of the court, to preach in the grand mosque, and make the public prayers and Coutbe in the august name and titles of the invincible empe-

The Orientals have an alphabet, the letters of which they make use of instead of cyphers, and by which they compose a verse to the praise of any one who has perform'd some remarkable action; and the letters of this verse us'd for cyphers, denote the day, month and year wherein this action was perform'd.

Book IV. for Timur, and not in the name of Firour Chah, as was done before.

The Debirs, Menehis and other secretarys sent a relation of this expedition, in their letters of conquest, into all the parts of the empire, and even to the princes in alliance with Timur, tho it were a year's journy to go round to 'em all; so that public rejoicings might be made for these great advantages with which God distinguish'd the reign of Timur.

The Bitictechis, or controllers of the Divan also enter'd the city, where having taken an estimate of the mony due for saving the peoples lives, the receivers-general took care to

receive it.

In the mean while the principal lords of the court, and the emperor's favorites remonstrated to his majesty, that after having suffer'd the fatigues and difficultys of this war, victory inspir'd 'em with thoughts of renewing their diversions and pleasures; that Feridon and the Keis had always done the same; and that it was in jultice due to 'em after they had thus fatigu'd themselves. The emperor willingly consented, and gave orders for a feast, which was to continue for several days. Timur began the rejoicings by presents to the princes of the blood, the Emirs and generals of the army, in consideration of their services and great actions: and afterwards the musicians perform'd consorts of music in amorous and drinking tunes, which so charm'd the hearts of all, that they forgot the rigors of war, and the fatigues of a campain.

Tan. 12.

The fixteenth of Rabiulakher, a great number of our foldiers being assembled at the gate of Deli, insulted the inhabitants of the suburbs. The great Emirs were order'd to put a stop to these disorders; but God, who had predestin'd

the

BookIV. The Mirza Pir Mehemed, son of Gehanghir had a present made him of a belt and crown set with precious stones.

He also honor'd with his liberalitys the lords of India, the Emirs and Cherifs, who had the good fortune to accompany him; and giving 'em letters-patent for their principalitys, he permitted 'em to return into their respective coun-

trys.

Timur assign'd the government of the city and province of Moultan to Keder Can, who having been arrested by order of Sarenk brother of Mellou Can, and laid in irons in a citadel, had escap'd thence, and sled to Biana, a place dependent on Deli, to the king Ahoudan a Mussulman; and who having heard of Timur's arrival in that country, had with an humble confidence fled for refuge to the foot of the throne, and had the honor to accompany his majesty from that time.

As in this country there was a plain, which for its vastness, and the great quantity of game in it, seem'd to invite passengers to the chace, (for there were lions, leopards, rhinoceros's, unicorns, blue stags, wild peacocks, parrots, and other uncommon animals) Timur spent some time in that diversion. He sent several thousands of soldiers to form the great circle; and having first pursu'd the idolaters, he chas'd the wild beasts, and afterwards went a fowling. The falcons and hawks destroy'd all the peacocks, pheasants, parrots and ducks in this country. The soldiers took a great deal of game, and slew several rhinoceros's with their sabres and lances, tho this animal is so strong, that it will beat down a horse and horseman with a single blow of its horn; and has so thick a skin, that it can not be peirc'd but by an extraordinary force.