

THE
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AND

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FOR



British India and its Dependencies :

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1818.

Bussora—State of Weather.

We have had the hottest weather we have ever experienced here in the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

The Rhinoceros.

I have frequently heard it questioned if a musket-ball would penetrate the hide of a rhinoceros. I remember having the opportunity of making the experiment on the carcase of an old animal of uncommon size, which had been killed near Givalpara on the border of the wild country of Asam, a spot where rhinoceroses abound. After repeated trials the bullet was found always to fly off, for the skin being very thick and extremely loose, it was constantly by that means put out of its course.

In that part of the country there are many rhinoceroses, and elephants in vast numbers. So numerous a flock was seen crossing the Burhanputa river, at a breadth of two miles, that the channel seemed full, nor was the end of the line perceptible, although they had been some time passing. E. S.'s boat, going down the river, was obliged to put about, as it was impossible to get by them; and it was a considerable time before the line had left the jungles of the eastern side, whilst the jungles on the western side prevented their course being traced by the eye.

The people of the country say, that the rhinoceros is much an overmatch for the elephant; as the former being very nimble gets round the elephant, makes his attack in the same manner as the wild boar, and rips up the belly of his antagonist.

Hindoostanee Lectures in London.

We have just received intelligence on respectable authority, that as soon as the Hon. Court of Directors shall concede their sanction and patronage to the plan of establishing lectures on the Hindoostanee language in London, by Dr. Borthwick Gilchrist, late professor in the college at Calcutta, a regular course will be delivered by that celebrated orientalist on the following principles, and, if possible, in October this year. The annual term of lectures will commence with the winter and terminate with the spring months, embracing three complete courses in succession on the vernacular speech of Hindoostan, to accommodate all those gentlemen in the Hon. Company's service who have access to no other oriental institution at home or abroad. From the acknowledged talents of the Hindoostanee professor, and his successful exertions in that capacity for many years, we are inclined to anticipate that two months attendance at least will be cheerfully devoted to his valuable lectures in

future, from motives of private interest and public duty, by all persons unacquainted with the popular tongue of British India, before they proceed to discharge responsible and important functions in that vast empire. When better informed than we can yet be, the most minute and early intimation will be communicated on this interesting subject, to the readers of our Journal in particular, and the community at large, in order that application may be made to the publishers for tickets of admission, class books, &c. the moment we are authorized to dispose of them to the proper applicants.

NEW LONDON PUBLICATIONS.

The Duties of Customs and Excise on Goods, Wares and Merchandize imported, and the Duties, Drawbacks, Bounties and Allowances on Goods exported to Foreign Parts, or brought or carried Coastwise, &c. Shewn in as concise and clear a view as practicable, and carefully brought down to August 1818. By Thos. Thornton, Custom House. 8vo. Price 5s.

By the same Author, a New Edition of a Compendium of the Laws and Regulations concerning the Trade with the East-Indies, the Duties and Drawbacks of Customs and Excise; with a short Historical Account of the principal Articles usually Imported. Corrected to July 1818. 8vo. Price 7s.

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