

THE
HISTORY
OF
JAVA.

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

WITH A MAP AND PLATES.

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The bull and cow (*sápi* or *lémbu*) are general, but much more so in the central and eastern districts than in the western. The breed has been greatly improved by the species introduced from continental India. But the animal of most essential and general use in the agriculture of the country is the buffalo (*kábu*, *maisa*, or *múnding*), a particular account of which will appear in the chapter on Agriculture. Goats (*wedús*) are numerous and of a small size: sheep (called here European goats) are scarce and small. As in other sultry climates, the latter have a coarse woollen coat, which is employed for stuffing saddles, pillows, &c. but it is in so little request that the inhabitants are rarely at the trouble of shearing for it. The hog (*chélang*) is reared principally among the Chinese.

Of beasts of prey may be enumerated several species of the tiger, as the *máchan löreng* (*felis tigris*), *máchan gógor* (a variety), *máchan tátul* (probably the small leopard of Pennant), *máchan kembang* and *kéwuk*, the smallest kind, called tiger cats. The jackal, and several varieties of the wild dog; as the *ásu wéwar*, *ásu ájag*, or *ásu kiki*; and among other wild quadrupeds, the rhinoceros, and *bánteng*, or wild Javan ox, the wild hog and the stag: the last, as well as the rib-faced and axis deer, is tamed and fattened for food. The aggregate number of mammalia on Java have been estimated at about fifty. The habits and manners of the larger animals, the tiger, leopard, black tiger, rhinoceros and stag, and two species of deer, the varieties of the wild hog, &c. are sufficiently known; but the *bánteng*, or Javan ox, the Javan buffalo, the varieties of the wild dog, those of the weasel and squirrel, and most of the other smaller quadrupeds, still present curious subjects for the study of the naturalist. Next to the rhinoceros, which sometimes (though rarely at present) injures plantations, the wild hogs are the most destructive animals. They are often poisoned (or intoxicated, according to the quantity they

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consume)

" its effects are considered as incurable; the other kinds are distributed among the soldiers on going to war. After having proved mortal to many of the Dutch soldiers in Amboyna and Makasar, they finally discovered an almost infallible remedy in the root of the radix toxicaria of Rhizophora, which, if timely applied, counteracted, by its violent emetic effect, the force of the ipas. An intelligent Javan of Banyuwangi informed me, that a number of years ago an inhabitant of that district was wounded in a clandestine manner, by an arrow thrown from a blow pipe, in the fore arm near the articulation of the elbow. In about fifteen minutes he became drowsy; after which he was seized with vomiting, became delirious, and in less than half an hour he died. From the experiments above related, we may form an analogous estimate of its probable effects on man."

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consume) by the *kálák kámbing*, or by the remains from the preparation of *bróm*. The practice of suspending rags impregnated with urine, at small distances around the plantations, is universal over the whole island. These animals are said to have so violent an aversion to this odour, that even this "feeble barrier" is useful in preserving the plantations.

Musk.

Musk, called *dodes*, is procured from the *rasé*.

Bezoars.

Although the same qualities are ascribed to them here as in other countries, bezoars are comparatively scarce in Java; and those occasionally found in the maritime capitals are uniformly brought from other countries. The hog-deer and Nicobar pigeon are not natives; and although wild hogs, in which bezoars are said to be found, are very abundant, they are never examined or approached by the natives. Every extraordinary concretion, calculus, ossification, &c. found in any part of an animal, is called *mustika*, which corresponds to the bezoar of the Arabs, Persians, &c. A concretion of feathers found in the stomach of a fowl is called *musika ayam*, and is carefully preserved. A stony concretion, discovered accidentally by the rattling of a human skull exposed for many years to the action of the sun, has been denominated *mustika brang*, and the most salutary virtues ascribed to it. Analogous to the bezoars, must be considered the horns of the rhinoceros, whose virtues are highly prized.

Birds.

Among the domestic fowls, or poultry, are the turkey, which is comparatively scarce, and chiefly raised for the tables of Europeans; the goose, which is very common near all the establishments of Europeans; the *bétek*, or duck, abundant in every part of the island; the common fowl and pigeons. Among the birds of prey, the eagle is not found; but there are several varieties of the falcon, of which the *joko wuru* is the largest; also the carrion crow and the owl. Of the parrot kind, two only, the *bélet* and *selindil*, are found on Java. The peacock (*merák*), is very common in large forests. The number of distinct species of birds has been estimated not greatly to exceed two hundred, of which upwards of one hundred and seventy have been described, and are already contained in the collections made on account of the English East-India Company.

The dorsal feathers of the white heron, and the vent feathers of the *sándang laré*, are employed as substitutes for ostrich feathers by the natives for plumes, &c. It is very rarely that the feathers of geese, &c. are employed for beds or pillows, the silky cotton of the *kápok* being preferred