

A ²
V O Y A G E
TO THE
EAST INDIES;

CONTAINING

AUTHENTIC Accounts of the MOGUL Government in
general, the Viceroyalties of the DECAN and BENGAL,
with their several subordinate Dependances.

O F

ANGRIA, the MORATTIES, and TANJOREANS.

O F T H E

MAHOMETAN, GENTOO, and PARSEE RELIGIONS.

O F T H E I R

CUSTOMS AND ANTIQUITIES,

With general Reflections on the

TRADE OF INDIA.

O F T H E

EUROPEAN Settlements, particularly those belonging to the
ENGLISH; their respective Factories, Governments,
Trade, Fortifications and Public Buildings: The History of
the War with the FRENCH from 1754 to the Conclusion of
the general Peace in 1763.

By *John Henry*
Mr. G R O S E.

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Desert, by Mr. CHARMICHAEL.

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years; it is only then that they can build a tower upon his back. From his nose there hangs a mass of long and hollow flesh, which they call his trunk, and sometimes his hand, because it is of infinite service to him whether for feats of advantage, or of strength: he makes use of it to carry things to his mouth; from that arise two teeth, or prodigious tusks, which grow to six feet in length, from whence we have our ivory. As if this animal was acquainted with their value, or apprehended being killed on their account, he hides them in the earth whenever they fall from him through age, or any other accident. The skin upon his back is like a thick buckram, or rather a suit of armour, which can scarce be cut through; but under his belly it is much thinner.

THEIR ordinary food is grass or corn; but they are very fond of sweets, such as barley-sugar, and this is given to tame them. They make those whom they design for war drink the wine of the country, that is a kind of beer: but others who are weaker, and used for labour, drink only water, which they love best when it is muddy. They are subject to different distempers, of which the Indians know the remedies; and this makes that animal live two or three hundred years. Apollonius Tyaneus, or Damis, related that they had seen in the city of Taxila, the elephant of the famous Porus, with two circles of gold round his tusks, in which it was written, in Greek characters, that Alexander, in esteem of him, had consecrated him to the Sun. At the same time he must have been above four hundred years old. But their too great love for the marvellous renders this suspected.

THE Rhinoceros, called by the modern Indians Abadu, comes very near the elephant in bulk and figure.

figure. This creature is chiefly found in the island of Java ; but is common enough in the kingdoms of Bengal and Patna. The ancients have frequently mentioned this animal, but without giving an exact description of it.

WE must then have recourse to the moderns for a knowledge of this extraordinary animal. Bon-tius and Father le Compte, who had examined it several times, speak of it pretty much in the same manner. Here follow the words of the missionary. The Rhinoceros is one of the most extraordinary animals in the world. He is somewhat like the wild boar, if it was not that he is much larger, that his feet are thicker, and his body more unwieldy. His skin is all over covered with large and thick scales of a blackish colour, and an uncommon hardness. They are divided into small squares or buttons, raised a little above the skin, and nearly like those of the crocodile. His legs appear to be set in boots, and his head wrapt up behind in a smooth capuchin, which has given occasion to the Portuguese, to call him an Indian monk. His head is large ; his mouth little ; and his snout down to a great length, and armed with a long thick horn, which makes him terrible to the tygers, buffaloes, and elephants. But what appears most wonderful in this animal is his tongue, which Nature has covered with so rough a membrane, that it is not at all different from a file, and flays every thing which he licks. As we have animals in Europe that make a grateful repast on thistles, whose small points agreeably stimulate the fibres or the nerves in their tongue ; so the rhinoceros eats with pleasure the branches of trees bristled all over with the largest thorns. We are told by some travellers, that they have frequently given him of these, whose points were very rough
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and long, and it was wonderful to see with what greediness and dexterity he immediately licked them up, and chewed them in his mouth without the least inconvenience. It is true, it was sometimes a little bloody, but that even rendered the taste more agreeable, and these little wounds to appearance made no other impression on his tongue than salt and pepper make on ours." The author might have added, that this animal has two kinds of wings of a skin extremely ugly, which cover his belly like a housing, and in shape resembling the wings of a bat.

THOUGH the rest of his body is in a manner wrapt up in armour, and those who attack him are exposed to great danger; yet the Indians hunt him as they do other animals, because he is of great use to them after his death. The Moors eat his flesh, however hard it may be. His horn is not less curious than useful: when it is cut through the middle, on each side is seen the figure of a man, whose outlines are marked by little white strokes, with those of different birds and other things, as in the Egyptian flints. The greatest part of the Indian princes drink out of cups made of this horn, because they say, it sweats at the approach of any poison whatsoever. The people of Java likewise set a great value on this animal, because there is no part but is found in some degree useful in medicine. They make use of its flesh, horn, blood, teeth, skin, and even its excrements. They are persuaded there cannot be a better antidote against all kinds of poison, and they attribute to it the qualities which the ancients did to the Unicorn. Frequently they make bucklers of its skin with its scales.

THE camel and the dromedary perform to the Indians, and the greatest part of the eastern nations,