

**T O U R S**  
**I N**  
**U P P E R I N D I A,**  
**A N D I N P A R T S O F**  
**T H E H I M A L A Y A M O U N T A I N S ;**  
**W I T H A C C O U N T S O F T H E**  
**C O U R T S O F T H E N A T I V E P R I N C E S,**  
**&c.**

**BY MAJOR ARCHER,**  
**LATE AID-DE-CAMP TO LORD COMBERMERE.**

—Where the gorgeous East, with richest hand,  
Showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold.

MILTON.

**I N T W O V O L U M E S.**

**V O L . I .**

**L O N D O N :**  
**R I C H A R D B E N T L E Y , N E W B U R L I N G T O N S T R E E T ,**  
**( S U C C E S S O R T O H E N R Y C O L B U R N . )**  
**1 8 3 3 .**

# TOURS IN UPPER INDIA,

&c.

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## FIRST TOUR.

FROM 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 1827, TO APRIL 8<sup>th</sup> 1828.

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### CHAPTER I.

Enter the territories of the King of Oude.—Coronation.—Hindoostani Dishes. — Procession. — Breakfast. — The Prince.—Presents.—Aspect of the Country.—The Prince's Visit.—Cavalcade.—Procession to Lucknow.—The Meeting.—Distribution of money.—Arrival at the Palace.—The King's Dress.—Eastern Ceremony.—Regal Assumption.—The English Village.—Struggle for Seats.—Tomb of the late King.—The Happy Abode.

ON the 6th of December 1827, crossed the Ganges, at Cawnpore, and entered into the King of Oude's territories. Until the year 1819, this monarch had borne the title of Nawaub Vizier, being the hereditary Vizier of the Great Mogul, in which dignity his ancestor, Saadut Khan, was placed by Mahomed Shah, in 1730.

ingly well worth seeing. The King and the Chief had an embrace as usual, when the former withdrew; dancing then commenced, which was kept up until a late hour. A report in town that Hakim Mehdee, a former minister of Oude, is coming over from Fuddy-ghur, whither he fled for British protection on the accession of the late Nuwaub: people say the present minister's seat is not a safe one if the Hakim does come.

Dec. 15.—Met the King this morning at nine o'clock, and proceeded to see the elephant-and-tiger fights, which were in honour of the Commander-in-chief. On reaching the place, which was adjacent to one of the palaces, we found a strong circular bamboo enclosure covered in at the top with a net; this space was about thirty-five feet high and fifty in diameter; in it were seven or eight buffaloes and a young calf; they were quite tame, but upon a tiger being thrust into the arena, they all attacked him with great and instant fury. A large bear was let in and met with as little good will, but Bruin, knowing the use of his claws, clambered up to the top of the cage, where he abided. A second bear was then introduced, and, after battling for some short time, spied his brother up aloft, whither he speedily followed. No persuasions could in-

duce him to descend, though the arguments used were in the guise of a huge bamboo, laid on with energy and emphasis. Leaving these poor devils, we came to a spot where a large tiger was tied round the loins by a long rope running through an iron ring fixed in the ground, which enabled several men who had hold of the other end to lengthen or shorten the tether at will. The tiger was attacked by a rhinoceros, who galloped to him boldly, but, getting a scratch on his snout, prudently relinquished the fray. A herd of buffaloes were next sent against him, and forming a good line, they charged him gallantly; he gave one a clawing over the face. A leopard was similarly fettered, and had to defend himself against an elephant; the latter rushed at the animal and endeavoured to kneel on him; he succeeded in mauling the poor beast, and left him *hors de combat*. Signor elephant was mightily pleased with the part he had played, and literally trumpeted his own praise; by making the noise called trumpeting, which is done by knocking the end of the trunk or proboscis on the ground and screaming; during the scuffle the elephant took good care of his trunk by folding it up and putting as much of it as he could into his mouth. These fights were invariably accom-

panied by the same want of fairness towards the animals baited, and in no one instance had they any chance of success or escape.

Breakfast was prepared at a palace built by the late King, and called the Sultan Munzil, the prettiest of the royal houses. It is entirely of stone, and in the present Indian taste and style, namely, an oblong room, the ends supported by Saracenic arches of good proportions and light elegance. The walls are coated with a mortar to resemble granite; the pillars are of white marble, as were the arches. The appearance of this room was very pleasing: it has verandahs all round, and also an upper story. The mansion stands on the bank of the river, and realizes more the notion of an eastern pavilion, than any building I have yet seen.

After breakfast some species of quail were put on the table to fight; the contests between these little creatures are carried on with the greatest fury, and their animosity is greatly excited by the presence of a female. The natives are particularly fond of this sport, at which they will risk large sums.

The nearness of the sublime to the ridiculous, was instanced by the party quitting the quail-fight to see one in which large elephants were the combatants. The field of battle was