

DIARY  
OF  
TRAVELS AND ADVENTURES  
IN  
UPPER INDIA,  
FROM BAREILLY, IN ROHILCUND,  
TO HURDWAR,  
AND NAHUN, IN THE HIMALAYA MOUNTAINS,  
With a Tour in Bundelcund,  
A SPORTING EXCURSION IN THE KINGDOM OF OUDE,  
AND A VOYAGE DOWN THE GANGES.

BY  
C. J. C. DAVIDSON, ESQ.  
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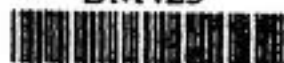
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## CHAPTER III.

Leave Nargul for Bhogpore—Singular Quicksand—Horses crossing a ferry—Antelopes sent to Coventry—Game—Bhogpore—Fine sporting country—The Mahaseer, or great head—Camp of Bumbo Khan—Start for Hurdwar—Wild hogs—Singular breed of hounds—The Zenanah of Bumbo Khan—High cultivation—An Indian town on the Ganges—Singular style of ornament—Sacred monkeys—Pilgrims—Old and new roads—Arrive at Hurdwar—A fit of indigestion—Extempore house building—Nautch girls—The perils of beauty—A strange mistake.

*March 29th.*—Left Nargul at sunrise for Bhogpore. After quitting the village a couple of hundred yards, the roads descended through a very long, rugged, and steep ravine, down to the Ganges. The sides were covered with low brushwood, and swarmed with black and grey partridges, hares, and peacocks. I plucked some beautiful wild flowers, which I

Bhogpore is a very small grazing village, with many hundred head of a small-sized breed of cows, which are turned loose during the day, on the lands through which I had passed; while their little snowy calves are confined to their pens. It is on the west bank of the Ganges, and within eighty yards of the stream. A hundred years ago, or perhaps less, this was a fortified place; and three bastions of the square are still standing, although in a tottering ruinous state. The opposite bank of the river is covered with a dense but low forest; and the Ganges is split up into innumerable small and rapid streams, each perhaps eighty yards wide. The forest continues to the east till it meets the lower range of mountains, which form the great chain from Dhera to the Bay of Bengal, and swarms with game of all shapes and sizes, from the wild elephant and rhinoceros to the hare—from the Numidian crane to the rain quail.

The river abounds with fish of all kinds, and amongst them is the noble mahaseer, or great-head, perhaps the most delicious fresh-water fish known, which rises to the fly, and affords most splendid sport to the lovers of angling. They are often caught of the size

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## CHAPTER V.

Immense quantities of fish—Cultivation of potatoes—Pastoral scene—Sporting ground—Colin, of Nantes—Rajmuhal—A palace turned to a coal-hole!—Effects of time—Singular situation of Rajmuhal—Philosophy and politics—Tiffin—Immense flock of pelicans—Their singular habits—Lugâod—A meeting with an old friend—Cure for ague—A telescopic view—Bogwangola—Civil cantonments at Rampore—Destructive character of the Ganges—Captain and Mrs. Warner—An English girl—Unhealthiness of tanks—Rapids of the Ganges—Manufacture of indigo—Native curiosity—Cross-questioning—Dhacca river—Dolphin of the Ganges.

*December 30th.*—A fleet of eight deeply laden and fast sailing boats overtook and passed us, destined to supply the bazars of Rajmuhal, Bogwangola, and Monshudabad, with their cargoes of live fish, which are carried in



pastoral and pleasant, producing a gentle reverie.

I saw bands of weary travellers, with heavy bundles on their backs, searching for shelter amongst the villagers; but could see no serace to which they could resort. The situation of the bungalow is beautifully romantic; commanding, as it does, a most lovely and extensive view of the river and adjoining hills, crowned with eternal verdure, and itself almost shaded by dense masses of hanging wood, of various hues and figures. The turf was green, thick, and matted, resembling a soft and delicate carpet to the feet. The air was calm and cool.

Capital sport may be enjoyed, in the highest perfection, within a mile of the village. Tigers, leopards, bears, and it is said even rhinoceroses, abound; with various sorts of deer, hogs, hares, peacocks, common wild fowls, and black partridges in abundance. On foot, shooting would, of course, be rather dangerous; but on an elephant, many years ago, Lord Hastings found most capital sport.

Our boat was moored in the small tranquil bay, where we passed the night in peace and comfort; only startled occasionally, when the