

others in shoes with coloured stockings. In short, unless it was in second-hand coats and waistcoats, which did not fit them, the inferior part of the suite did not enjoy even the appearance of shabby uniformity.

1793.
September.

In this state and order the procession moved on with a slow pace to the city of Jehol, and soon after ten o'clock arrived at the palace provided for the accommodation of the British embassy in this city. Here the military part of the cavalcade formed a line to receive the Ambassador with the usual honours.

Thus the embassy arrived at the end of its tedious and troublesome journey: but the manner of its reception did not fill us with any extravagant expectation as to the issue of it: for not a mandarin appeared to congratulate the Ambassador on his arrival, or to usher him, with that form which his dignity demanded, to the apartments provided for him. In short, we came to this palace with more than usual ceremony; but we entered into it with as little, as any of those where we had been accommodated during our journey. This appeared to be the more extraordinary, as it was the avowed expectation of the principal persons of the suite, that the Ambassador would be met, on his entry at Jehol, by the Grand Choulaa, the Imperial Minister of state: but on what grounds this expectation was formed, or for what reason it received such a disappointment, it is not for me to offer a conjecture.

On our arrival, Lieut. Col. Benson ordered the troops to hold themselves in readiness to fall into a line at a moment's warning; and desired the servants, mechanics, &c. to range themselves in order before the door of the Ambassador's apartments, in order to receive the Grand Choulaa, who was expected every moment to pay his visit of salutation and welcome.

1793.
September.

In this state of suspense we remained from our arrival till past four o'clock ; in the course of which time we had paraded at least a dozen times, as several mandarins came to take a curious view of us, and every one of them was supposed, in his turn, to be the Grand Chou-laa. The arrival of dinner, however, put an end to all expectations of seeing him on this day.

The palace, which was now become the residence of the embassy, is built on the declivity of a hill ; the entrance to it is by eight large broad steps which lead to a wooden gateway, through which there is a passage to a large court, paved in the center with large flat stones. On each side of this court there is a long and broad gallery roofed with black shining tiles, and supported in front by strong wooden pillars. That on the left was employed at this time as a kitchen, and enclosed by mats nailed along the pillars to the height of seven or eight feet : the other, on the opposite side, was quite open, and used as a place of parade and exercise for the soldiers. At the upper end of this court there is another neat gallery or platform laid with stones, and roofed in the same manner as the others. To this there is an ascent of three steps, and a door opens from it into another court, the wings of which afforded chambers for the military part of the embassy ; and the center part, fronting the gallery, to which there is an ascent of three steps, contained the apartments of the Ambassador and Sir George Staunton : beyond this is another court of the same dimensions, the wings of which were occupied by the mechanics, musicians and servants, and the center of it by the gentlemen of the suite : but it consisted only of two large rooms, where they slept in two divisions, and a lobby of communication, which was used as an eating saloon.

This building cannot be described as possessing either grandeur or elegance : it does not rise beyond a ground floor, but is of unequal height, as the ground on which it is built is on a gradual ascent. It is

is furrounded by a wall, but is overlooked, from the upper parts of the hill, on whose declivity it is erected.

1793.
September.

But though we were as yet rather disappointed in the reception of honours, we had no reason to be dissatisfied with the attention paid to our more urgent necessities; and we dined in comfort and abundance.

This morning, at so early an hour as seven o'clock, was received a Monday 9. large quantity of boiled eggs, with tea and bread, for breakfast. At noon his Excellency was visited by several mandarins. Nothing, however, as yet transpired that could lead us to form a judgment as to the final issue of the business: as far as any opinion could be formed from the general aspect of things, it did not bear the promise of that success, which had been originally expected from it.

The Grand Choulai still delayed his expected visit.

In this palace, as in our former places of residence, we experienced the jealous precaution of the Chinese government: we were kept here also in a state of absolute confinement; and, on no pretext, was it permitted to any person, attached to the embassy, to pass the gates.

This morning his Excellency was visited by a mandarin, accompanied by a numerous train of attendants. He remained with the Tuesday 10. Ambassador and Sir George Staunton about an hour, in which some necessary formalities were interchanged; and then returned with the same form in which he came. During the visit of the mandarin, his attendants were very busily employed in examining the dress of the English servants; the lace of which they rubbed with a stone to certify its quality, and then looking at each other with an air of surprize, they shook their heads and smiled; a sufficient proof that the Tartars are not unacquainted with the value of metals; at least, they clearly comprehended the inferior value of the trimmings that decorated the

1793.
September.

the liveries of the embassy. They appeared to be a polite and pleasant people, and of an agreeable appearance.

Though it cannot be supposed that such a conference as was this morning held between the British Ambassador and the mandarin would be communicated to the general attendants on the embassy, yet we could not resist the spirit of conjecture on the occasion: the following circumstance, which took place this morning, did not serve to dissipate that disposition to forebode ill, which prevailed among us.

The Ambassador ordered Mr. Winder, one of his secretaries, to intimate to the servants that, in case they should find, in the course of the day, any deficiency in their provisions, either in quality or quantity, they should not reflect or complain to the people who supplied them, but leave them untouched, and intimate the grievance to his Excellency; who requested, for very particular and weighty reasons, that this order might be punctually observed.

It became those to whom this intimation was made, to pay the most willing obedience to it; at the same time, it excited no small degree of astonishment that we should thus be ordered to prepare ourselves for ill-treatment in the article of provisions, of which we had, hitherto, so little reason to complain. Our treatment in this respect had been not only hospitable, but bounteous in the extreme. To suggest causes of complaint to those who never yet had reason to complain, was a conduct perfectly unintelligible in itself; and was, therefore, very naturally referred to the interview of the morning between the mandarin and the Ambassador.

When, however, dinner came, we were sensible that the precautions communicated to us were, as we expected to find them, the result of some well-grounded suspicion; for, instead of that abundance with which our tables had hitherto been served, there was not
now

now a sufficient quantity of provisions for half the persons who were ready to partake of them.

1793.
September.

The emotions of every one attached to the embassy were, I believe, very unpleasant upon the occasion. We not only felt the probability that we might be starved as well as imprisoned; but that the embassy itself was treated with disrespect; and, of course, we felt some alarm, lest the important objects of it would quickly vanish into nothing. We had also our feelings as Britons, and felt the insult, as it appeared to us, which was offered to the crown and dignity of the first nation in the world.

This meagre meal, therefore, was left untouched; and, in conformity to the orders which had been received, complaints were preferred to his Excellency on the occasion; and, on a report being made to him that the representations which had been made were founded in reality, Mr. Plumb, the interpreter, was requested to communicate the cause of discontent to the mandarin, and to insist on more hospitable usage: nor was the remonstrance without an immediate effect; for, within five minutes after it was made, ~~each~~ table was served with a variety of hot dishes, not only in plenty, but profusion.

Why this entertainment, when it must have been in actual state of preparation to be served, was thus withheld from us, could not be reconciled to any principle of justice or policy. To suppose that it proceeded from caprice, or an humorous spirit of tantalising, cannot be readily imagined; and, as for any saving of expense in the business, that could be no object to the treasury to the Chinese Emperor. It was considered, therefore, as an enigma, which, as the evil was removed, soon ceased to be a subject of curiosity or inquiry.

The Ambassador was this morning pleased to order the presents which were brought from Peking, to be unpacked in the great platform, or portico, facing his Excellency's apartments; where several

Wednes-
day 11.

C H A P. XIII.

The presents removed from the palace. A notification received that the Emperor would give audience to the British Ambassador. Orders issued to the suite on the occasion. The procession to the Imperial palace described. The Ambassador's first audience of the Emperor. Presents received on the occasion. The Ambassador's second visit to the Emperor. Additional presents. Favourable opinions entertained of the success of the embassy.

THIS morning, the conducting mandarin Van-Tadge-In, accompanied by several of his mandarin brethren, and a troop of attendants, removed the presents, as was presumed, to the palace of the Emperor.

1793.
September.
Thursday 13.

His Excellency, at the same time, received a visit from a mandarin of the first order, who came to notify that the Emperor would, on Saturday morning, give audience to the Ambassador of the King of Great Britain at the Imperial palace. This intelligence enlivened the spirits, as it animated the hopes, of the whole embassy: and, though the Grand Choulaa had not visited the Ambassador, and other circumstances of an unfavourable aspect had taken place, the news of the day not only dissipated our gloom, but renewed the tide of expectation, and made it flow with an accelerated current.

His Excellency received the visits of several mandarins of distinction, who continued with him upwards of an hour. Friday 13.

Orders were issued, that the whole suite should be ready on the following morning, at three o'clock, to accompany the Ambassador to

C H A P. XIII.

The presents removed from the palace. A notification received that the Emperor would give audience to the British Ambassador. Orders issued to the suite on the occasion. The procession to the Imperial palace described. The Ambassador's first audience of the Emperor. Presents received on the occasion. The Ambassador's second visit to the Emperor. Additional presents. Favourable opinions entertained of the success of the embassy.

THIS morning, the conducting mandarin Van-Tadge-In, accompanied by several of his mandarin brethren, and a troop of attendants, removed the presents, as was presumed, to the palace of the Emperor.

1793.
September.
Thursdays.

His Excellency, at the same time, received a visit from a mandarin of the first order, who came to notify that the Emperor would, on Saturday morning, give audience to the Ambassador of the King of Great Britain at the Imperial palace. This intelligence enlivened the spirits, as it animated the hopes, of the whole embassy: and, though the Grand Choulaa had not visited the Ambassador, and other circumstances of an unfavourable aspect had taken place, the news of the day not only dissipated our gloom, but renewed the tide of expectation, and made it flow with an accelerated current.

His Excellency received the visits of several mandarins of distinction, who continued with him upwards of an hour. Friday 13.

Orders were issued, that the whole suite should be ready on the following morning, at three o'clock, to accompany the Ambassador to

1793.
September.

the Imperial palace. The servants were ordered to dress in their green and gold liveries, and to wear white silk, or cotton stockings; with shoes; boots of any kind being absolutely prohibited on this occasion. It was, at the same time, intimated, that neither the soldiers, or the servants, were to remain at the palace for the return of the Ambassador; but when they had attended him there, they were requested to return immediately to Jehol, without presuming to halt at any place whatever for a single moment; as his Excellency had every reason to expect that, in a few days, the present restrictions, which were so irksome to the retinue of the embassy, would be removed, and every indulgence granted them which they could reasonably desire: and as any deviation from this order would tend to risque the loss of that meditated favour. His Excellency seriously expected it to meet with a general and willing obedience.

Saturday 14. This morning, at so early an hour as three o'clock, the Ambassador and his suite proceeded, in full uniform, to the Emperor's court.

His Excellency was dressed in a suit of spotted mulberry velvet, with a diamond star, and his ribbon; over which he wore the full habit of the order of the Bath, with the hat, and plume of feathers, which form a part of it. Sir George Staunton was also in a full court dress, over which he wore the robe of a doctor of laws in the English universities, with the black velvet cap belonging to that degree.

Though the morning was so dark that we could not distinguish each other, Lieutenant-Colonel Benson made an attempt to form a procession, to proceed the palanquin of the Ambassador. But this manœuvre was of very short duration, as the bearers of it moved rather too fast for the solemnity of a slow march; and, instead of proceeding it with a grave pace, we were glad to follow it with a quick one. Indeed, whether it was the attraction of our music, or any accidental circumstance, I know not, we found ourselves intermingled with

with a cohort of pigs, asses, and dogs, which broke our ranks, such as they were, and put us into irrecoverable confusion. All formality of procession, therefore, was at an end; and the Ambassador's palanquin was so far advanced before us, as to make a little smart running necessary to overtake it.

1793.
September.

After a confused cavalcade, if it can deserve that name, we arrived at the palace of the Emperor, in the same state of confusion in which we had proceeded—the pedestrian part of the suite being a little out of breath with running; and the gentlemen on horseback, not altogether insensible to the risk of accidents from the dark hour of the morning. In short, it appeared, to the greater part of those who were concerned in it, to be rather ridiculous to attempt to make a parade that no one could see.

At about five o'clock the Ambassador alighted from his palanquin, amidst an immense concourse of people; Sir George and Mr. Staunton bearing his train, and followed by the gentlemen attached to the embassy.

The servants, &c. returned according to order, and the soldiers marched back with file and drum. As our return was by day-light, we had some opportunity of examining the appearance of the city where we resided.

It is a large and populous place, built without any attention whatever to regularity of design, and lies in an hollow, formed by two large mountains. The houses are low, of a mean appearance, and built chiefly of wood: the streets are not paved in any part of the city, but in that quarter of it which is most contiguous to the Emperor's palace; the road to which is laid with large flat stones.

As this place is not watered by any river, it cannot be supposed to enjoy a large portion of commerce. Its trade, however, is not al-

1793.
September.

together inconsiderable, from the consumption occasioned by the residence of the Emperor in the immediate neighbourhood; a circumstance which not only occasions a great increase of inhabitants, but brings with it the wealth, the luxury, and the expences of a court.

The surrounding country wears a greater appearance of fertility, than any I have seen, in those parts of Tartary through which the embassy had passed; but, in its best state, it is by no means comparable to that of China.

At eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the Ambassador and his suite returned from the Imperial palace. It was a visit of mere form and presentation; and his Excellency, Sir George Staunton, and Mr. Staunton, with Mr. Plumb, the interpreter, were alone admitted into the presence of the Emperor.

The Emperor, it was said, received the credentials of the embassy, with a most ceremonious formality. All, however, that we could learn, as a matter of indubitable occurrence, was the notice his Imperial Majesty was pleased to take of Master Staunton, the son of Sir George Staunton. He appeared to be very much struck with the boy's vivacity and deportment; and expressed his admiration of the faculty which the young gentleman possessed of speaking six different languages. The Emperor, to manifest the approbation he felt on the occasion, not only presented him, with his own hand, a very beautiful fan, and several small embroidered bags and purses, but commanded the interpreter to signify, that he thought very highly of his talents and appearance.

In a very short time after the Ambassador had returned from court, a large quantity of presents were received from his Imperial Majesty.

They consisted of the richest velvets, satins, silks, and purses beautifully embroidered. To these were added large parcels of the best tea

tea of the country, made up in solid cakes, in the size and form of a Dutch cheese. It is thus, in some way, baked together, by which means it will never be affected by air or climate, nor ever lose its flavour, though kept without any covering whatever. Each of these balls weigh about five pounds.

His Excellency distributed to every gentleman of the suite his proportion of the presents. Those which were peculiarly addressed to their Britannic Majesties, were deposited in the lobby, in the boxes wherein they arrived.

This morning, at one o'clock, the Ambassador, accompanied by his suite, but unattended by any of his guards or servants, proceeded to pay a second visit to the Emperor. The object of this interview was, as we understood, to make an attempt to open the negotiation, for the purpose of obtaining that extension of commerce so anxiously desired by our East India Company.

Sunday 15.

His Excellency did not return till near three o'clock; and, on his arrival, appeared to be very much exhausted. Mr. Plumb, the interpreter, gave, however, such a favourable account of the general aspect of the negotiation, as to elevate the hopes of every one concerned in the issue of it. He mentioned, that the Emperor had, through the medium of the Grand Choulaa, entered upon the business of the embassy with Lord Macartney; which, as far as it went, had altogether succeeded. This favourable information appeared to be confirmed by a second cargo of presents from his Imperial Majesty. They consisted of large quantities of rich velvets, silks, and satins, with some beautiful Chinese lamps, and rare Porcelain. To these were added a number of callibash boxes of exquisite workmanship, beautifully carved on the outside, and stained with a scarlet colour, of the utmost softness and delicacy: the inside of them was black, and shone like japan.

His

1793.
September.

His Excellency made the same distribution as he had before done to the gentlemen of the suite; while the presents, addressed to their Britannic Majesties, were assigned to the same apartment which contained those of the preceding day.

The evening of this day was passed in great mirth and festivity by the whole suite, from the very favourable forebodings which they now entertained of the final success of their important mission.

CHAP.

C H A P. XIV.

The Ambassador visited by mandarins on the part of the Emperor, to invite him to court on the anniversary of his Imperial Majesty's birth-day. The whole suite attended on the occasion. The Imperial palace described. Some account of the Emperor. A succession of presents. Business transacted with the Imperial court. Particular present of the Emperor of China to the King of Great Britain. Description of theatrical amusements. A British soldier tried by a court-martial, and punished. Leave Jehol.

THE Ambassador received the visits of several mandarins, who came to inform him, that as the following day was the anniversary of the Emperor's birth-day, his presence, and that of the whole embassy, would be expected at court.

1793.
September.
Monday 16.

This morning, at two o'clock, his Excellency, with the whole of the British suite, set out for his Imperial Majesty's palace, where we arrived, with much interruption, in about two hours, amidst an immense crowd of spectators without, and a great concourse of people within the palace; the latter consisting of mandarins of all classes and distinctions. Tuesday 17.

This palace is built on an elevated situation, and commands an extensive view of the mountainous country that surrounds it. The edifice itself is neither lofty or elegant, but very extensive; and contains a very numerous range of courts, surrounded with porticos, ornamented with gilding and colours. The gardens extend for several miles, and are surrounded by a strong wall, about thirty feet in height.

1793.
September.

height. In front of the palace there is a large plain, with a considerable lake in the center of it.

Here we waited several hours, till, at length, the approach of the Emperor was announced, by the prostration of the mandarins, as he advanced. This great personage was in a very plain palanquin, borne by twenty mandarins of the first order; and were it not for that circumstance, he could not have been distinguished from a common mandarin, as he wore no mark or badge of distinction, nor any article of dress superior to the higher classes of his subjects. The simplicity of his appearance, it seems, proceeds from that wise policy which distinguishes his reign; as it is a favourite principle of his government to check, as much as possible, all useless luxury, and to encourage œconomy among his people. It is from the same paternal regard for the situation and circumstances of his subjects, that he has suppressed all public rejoicings on account of his birth-day, in this less flourishing part of his dominions; from the apprehension that the loyal and affectionate spirit of the poorer classes of the people would distress themselves, in promoting the festive celebration of the day. This prohibition, however, as we understood, reached no further than the immediate vicinity of the Imperial residence; the birth-day of the sovereign being observed with great joy and solemnity through every other part of a grateful empire.

The Emperor on this day completed the eighty-fifth year of his age, as he was in the fifty-seventh of his reign. Though he had dark, piercing eyes, the whole of his countenance discovered the mild traits of benignant virtue, mixed with that easy dignity of exalted station, which results rather from internal consciousness, than exterior grandeur.

The appearance of the suite was exactly the same as on the first day of audience; and we returned, in an equal state of embarrassment and fatigue, at one o'clock. A very large quantity of presents soon followed

lowed us, consisting of the same kind of articles as had been already sent, but of different colours and patterns. There were, however, added, on the present occasion, a profusion of fruits and confectionary, sufficient to have furnished a succession of fine deserts, if our stay had been prolonged to twice the period which was destined for our abode at Jehol.

1793.
September.

The Chinese possess the art of confectionary in a very superior degree, both as to its taste, and the variety of its forms and colours. Their cakes of every kind are admirably made, and more agreeable to the palate than any I remember to have tasted in England, or any other country. Their pastry is also as light as any I have eaten in Europe, and in such a prodigious variety, as the combined efforts of the European confectioners, I believe, would not be able to produce.

This morning the Ambassador went to the Imperial palace, but not in the former style of parade, to have his audience of leave, as the period of our stay in Tartary was verging to a period.

Wednes-
day 18.

His Excellency, at the same time, transacted certain official business at court, which was said without reserve at the time, by the gentlemen of the suite, to be as follows :

The Emperor of China refused, in the first instance, to sign, and of course, to enter into any engagement by a written treaty with the Crown of Great Britain, or any other nation; as such a conduct, on his part, would be contrary to the ancient usage, and, indeed, an infringement of the ancient constitutions, of the empire. At the same time he was pleased to signify his high respect for his Britannic Majesty and the British nation; and that he felt a strong disposition to grant them greater indulgencies than any other European power trading to his dominions; nor was he unwilling to make such a new arrangement of the duties payable by British ships arriving at Canton, as ap-

1793.
September.

peared to be a leading object of the negotiation. At the same time, however, he should be ever attentive to the real interests of his own subjects, an atom of which he would never sacrifice; and should, therefore, withdraw his favours to any foreign nation whenever it might appear to be incompatible with the interests of his own; or that the English should, by their conduct in trade, forfeit their pretensions to any advantages which might be granted them in preference to other nations trading to China. These were the declarations of the Emperor on the occasion, which did not, in his opinion, require any written instrument or signature to induce him to realise and fulfil:

At the same time, to prove the high regard and esteem the Emperor of China entertained for the King of Great Britain, his Imperial Majesty delivered, from his own hand, into that of the Ambassador, a very valuable box, containing the miniature pictures of all the preceding emperors; to which is annexed, a description in verse by each emperor, descriptive of himself, and the principal features of his government, as well as a line of conduct recommended to their several successors.

The Emperor, on presenting this gift to the Ambassador, spoke to the following purport:

“ Deliver this casket to the King your master, with your own hand, and tell him, though the present may appear to be small, it is, in my estimation, the most valuable that I can give, or my empire can furnish; for it has been transmitted to me through a long line of my predecessors, and is the last token of affection which I had reserved to bequeath to my son and successor, as a tablet of the virtues of his ancestors, which he had only to peruse, as I should hope, to inspire him with the noble resolution to follow such bright examples; and, as they had done, to make it the grand object of his life to exalt the honour of the Imperial throne, and advance the happiness and prosperity of his people.”

Such

Such were the words delivered by the Emperor on the occasion, as communicated by Mr. Plumb, the interpreter, and which occasioned, as may be imagined, no small degree of speculation among the gentlemen of the retinue.

1793.
September.

The Ambassador returned to dinner, and soon after repaired again to the Imperial palace, with his whole suite and attendants, to see a play which was expressly performed as a particular mark of respect to the embassy.

This dramatic entertainment was represented in one of the inner courts of the palace, on a temporary stage erected for the purpose. It was decorated with a profusion of silk, ribbons, and streamers, and illuminated with great splendour and elegance.

The performance consisted of a great variety of mock battles and military engagements; lofty tumbling, as it is expressed with us, and dancing both on the tight and slack ropes; and in all these exercises that agility was displayed, which would have done no discredit to the gymnastic amusements of Sadler's Wells or Astley's amphitheatre: but the skill of the performers was more particularly astonishing in the art of balancing, in which they excelled any thing of the kind I had ever seen. By an imperceptible motion, as it appeared, of the joints of their arms and legs, they gave to basons, jugs, glasses, &c. an apparent power of loco-motion, and produced a progressive equilibrium, by which these vessels changed their positions from one part to another of the bodies of the balancers, in a manner so extraordinary, that I almost suspected the correctness of my own senses.

The succession of entertainments was concluded by a variety of curious deceptions by flight of hand, which the almost magical activity of Breslaw or Comus has never exceeded: and, as a proof of my assertion, I shall mention one of them, which, I must own, astonished me, and seemed to have an equal effect on the rest of the spectators.

1793.

September.

The performer began by exhibiting a large basin in every possible position, when he suddenly placed it on the stage with the hollow part downwards, and instantly taking it up again, discovered a large rabbit, which escaped from the performer, who attempted to catch it, by taking refuge among the spectators. This deception was perfectly unaccountable to me, as there were no visible means whatever of communication, by which it was possible to convey so large an animal to the spot: the stage was also covered with matting, so that it could not be conveyed through the floor, which, if that had been the case, must have been discovered by those, and there were many of them, who were within three yards of the spot; besides, the whole display of the trick occupied but a few seconds. Several other deceptions of a similar kind prolonged our amusement. The whole of the entertainment was accompanied by a band of musicians, placed on the stage.

The theatre was filled with persons of distinction, and formed a very splendid appearance. The Ambassador and his suite returned about nine o'clock, having been very much gratified by the entertainment of the evening.

Thursday 19.

At noon several mandarins came to visit his Excellency; when every individual belonging to the embassy received a pipe and tobacco-bag containing a quantity of that herb for smoking.

In the several visits which the mandarins of different classes paid to the Ambassador, they never varied in their exterior appearance, and changes of raiment do not seem to be an object of attention in China, as it is, more or less, in every part of Europe. Even the court dress of the mandarins differs very little from their ordinary habiliments. It consists of a robe that falls down to the middle of the leg, and is drawn round the lower part of the neck with ribbons. On the part which covers the stomach, is a piece of embroidery worked on the garment about six inches square; and is finished in gold or silk of different colours,

lours, according to the rank of the wearer: this badge of distinction has its counterpart on a parallel part of the back, minutely corresponding in pattern and dimensions. In winter, it is generally made of velvet, and its prevailing colour is blue. The fash, which, on all other occasions is worn round the waist, is dispensed with at court, and the dress is left to its own ease and natural flow.

As I am now come to a period when a certain degree of authority was attempted to be assumed, altogether inconsistent with the character and privileges of Englishmen, and which, I fear, conveyed no favourable impression to the Chinese of our national character and customs; I shall previously state the orders issued by Lord Macartney, and read to the ship's companies, and all persons of every rank attached to the suite, about five o'clock in the evening of the 20th day of July 1793.

Sealed and signed MACARTNEY.

“As the ships and brigs attendant on the embassy to China are now likely to arrive in port a few days hence, his Excellency the Ambassador thinks it his duty to make the following observations and arrangements:

“It is impossible that the various important objects of the embassy can be obtained, but through the good will of the Chinese: that good will may much depend on the ideas which they shall be induced to entertain of the disposition and conduct of the English nation, and they can judge only from the behaviour of the majority of those who come amongst them. It must be confessed, that the impressions hitherto made upon their minds, in consequence of the irregularities committed by Englishmen at Canton, are unfavourable even to the degree of considering them as the worst among Europeans; these impressions are communicated to that tribunal in the capital, which reports to, and advises the Emperor upon all concerns with foreign countries. It is therefore

1793.

September.

therefore essential, by a **conduct** particularly regular and circumspect, to impress them with *new, more just, and more favourable* ideas of Englishmen; and to shew that, even to the lowest officer in the sea or land service, or in the civil line, they are capable of maintaining, by example and by discipline, due order, sobriety, and subordination, among their respective inferiors. Though the people in China have not the smallest share, in the government, yet it is a maxim invariably pursued by their superiors, to support the meanest Chinese in any difference with a stranger, and if the occasion should happen, to avenge his blood; of which, indeed, there was a fatal instance not long since at Canton, where the gunner of an English vessel, who had been very innocently the cause of the death of a native peasant, was executed for it; notwithstanding the utmost united efforts on the part of the several European factories at Canton to save him; peculiar caution and mildness must consequently be observed in every sort of intercourse or accidental meeting with any the poorest individual of the country.

“ His Excellency, who well knows that he need not recommend to Sir Erasmus Gower to make whatever regulations prudence may dictate on the occasion, for the persons under his immediate command, as he hopes Capt. Mackintosh will do for the officers and crew of the Hindostan, trusts also that the propriety and necessity of such regulations, calculated to preserve the credit of the English name, and the interest of the mother country in these remote parts, will insure a steady and cheerful obedience.

“ The same motives, he flatters himself, will operate likewise upon all the persons immediately connected with, or in the service of, the embassy.

“ His Excellency declares that he shall be ready to encourage and to report favourably hereupon the good conduct of those who shall be found to deserve it; so he will think it his duty, in case of misconduct or disobedience of orders, to report the same with equal exactness,
and

and to suspend or dismiss transgressors, as the occasion may require. Nor, if offence should be offered to a Chinese, or a misdemeanor of any kind be committed, which may be punishable by their laws, will he deem himself bound to interfere for the purpose of endeavouring to ward off or mitigate their severity.

1793.
September.

“ His Excellency relies on Lieutenant-Colonel Benfon, commandant of his guard, that he will have a strict and watchful eye over them; vigilance, as to their personal demeanor, is as requisite in the present circumstances, as it is, though from other motives, in regard to the conduct of an enemy in time of war. The guard are to be kept constantly together, and regularly exercised in all military evolutions; nor are any of them to absent themselves from on board ship, or from whatever place may be allotted them for their dwelling on shore, without leave from his Excellency, or commanding officer. None of the mechanics, or servants, are to leave the ship, or usual dwelling on shore, without leave from himself, or from Mr. Maxwell; and his Excellency expects, that the gentlemen in his train will shew the example of subordination, by communicating their wishes to him before they go, on any occasion; from the ship, or usual dwelling place on shore.

“ No boxes or packages, of any kind, are to be removed from the ship, or, afterwards, from the place where they shall be brought on shore, without the Ambassador's leave, or a written order from Mr. Barrow, the comptroller; such order describing the nature, number, and dimensions of such packages.

“ His Excellency, in the most earnest manner, requests that no person whatever belonging to the ships be suffered, and he desires that none of his suite, guard, mechanics, or servants, presume to offer for sale, or propose to purchase, in the way of traffic, the smallest article of merchandize of any kind, or under any pretence whatever, without leave from him previously obtained. The necessity of avoiding the least appearance of traffic accompanying an embassy to Peking was
such,

“ disobedience of orders from the Secret Committee, or from his
“ Excellency, during the continuation of the embassy to China.

1793.
September.

(Signed) “ W. RAMSEY, Secretary.”

Extract from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman's Letter to Lord Macartney, dated the 8th of September, 1792.

“ The Secret Committee having given orders to Captain Mackintosh,
“ of the Hindostan, to put himself entirely under your Excellency's
“ direction, as long as may be necessary for the purpose of the em-
“ bassy, we have inclosed a copy of his instructions, and of the
“ covenants which he has entered into, together with an account of
“ his private trade, and that of his officers: there is no intention
“ whatever, on the part of the court, to permit private trade in any
“ other port, or place, than Canton, to which the ship is ultimately
“ destined, unless your Excellency is satisfied that such private trade
“ will not prove of detriment to the dignity and importance annexed
“ to the embassy, or to the consequences expected therefrom, in which
“ case your consent in writing becomes necessary to authorize any
“ commercial transaction by Captain Mackintosh, or any of his
“ officers, as explained in the instructions from the Secret Committee.
“ But as we cannot be too guarded with respect to trade, and the con-
“ sequences which may result from any attempt for that purpose, we
“ hereby authorize your Excellency to suspend, or dismiss the com-
“ mander, or any officer of the Hindostan, who shall be guilty of a
“ breach of covenants, or disobedience of orders from the Secret
“ Committee, or from your Excellency, during the continuance of
“ the present embassy.”

“ His Excellency takes this opportunity of declaring also, that how-
ever determined his sense of duty makes him to forward the objects of
his mission, and to watch, detect, and punish, as far as in his power,
any crime, disobedience of orders, or other behaviour tending to en-
danger,

“ disobedience of orders from the Secret Committee, or from his
 “ Excellency, during the continuation of the embassy to China

1793.

September

(Signed)

“ W. RAMSEY, Secretary.”

*Extract from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman's Letter to Lord McCartney, dated the 8th of September, 1792. **

“ The Secret Committee having given orders to Captain Mackintosh,
 “ of the Hindostan, to put himself entirely under your Excellency's
 “ direction, as long as may be necessary for the purpose of the em-
 “ bassy, we have inclosed a copy of his instructions, and of the
 “ covenants which he has entered into, together with an account of
 “ his private trade, and that of his officers; there is no intention
 “ whatever, on the part of the court, to permit private trade in any
 “ other port, or place, than Canton, to which the ship is ultimately
 “ destined, unless your Excellency is satisfied that such private trade
 “ will not prove a detriment to the dignity and importance annexed
 “ to the embassy, or to the consequences expected therefrom, in which
 “ case your consent in writing becomes necessary to authorize any
 “ commercial transaction by Captain Mackintosh, or any of his
 “ officers, as explained in the instructions from the Secret Committee.
 “ But as we cannot be too guarded with respect to trade, and the con-
 “ sequences which may result from any attempt for that purpose, we
 “ hereby authorize your Excellency to suspend, or dismiss the com-
 “ mander, or any officer of the Hindostan, who shall be guilty of a
 “ breach of covenants, or disobedience of orders from the Secret
 “ Committee, or from your Excellency, during the continuance of
 “ the present embassy.”

“ His Excellency takes this opportunity of declaring also, that how-
 ever determined his sense of duty makes him to forward the objects of
 his mission, and to watch, detect, and punish, as far as in his power,
 any crime, disobedience of orders, or other behaviour tending to en-
 danger,

1793.
September.

danger, or delay the success of the present undertaking, or to bring discredit on the English character; or occasion any difficulty, or embarrassment to the embassy: so in the like manner shall he feel himself happy in being able at all times to report and reward the merit, as well as to promote the interest, and indulge the wishes, of any person who has accompanied him on this occasion, as much as may be consistent with the honour and welfare of the public.

“In case of the absence or engagements of his Excellency, at any particular moment, application may be made in his room to Sir George Staunton, whom his Majesty was pleased to honour with a commission of minister plenipotentiary, to act on such occasions.”

*Given on board his Majesty's ship the Lion,
the 16th day of July, 1793.*

By his Excellency's Command.

(Signed) ACHESON MAXWELL, } Secretaries.
 EDWARD WINDER, }

Having thus given at large, and from the first authority, the whole of those regulations which were framed, and with great good sense and true policy, to forward the objects of the embassy, I shall now proceed to state certain circumstances, which do not altogether appear to be consistent with, if they may not be considered by some, as violations of, them.

It was now hinted to all the servants of the Ambassador, that they were hereafter to consider themselves as subject to military law, and that the corporeal punishment usual in the army would be applied to them, if they should refuse to obey the commands of any of their superiors in the suite. Such an idea, as may be supposed, occasioned no small alarm, as well as abhorrence in the minds of those who would be affected by a regulation so contrary to every principle of right or justice:

justice: and when they were at such a distance from their own happy country, that any one injured by such an act of tyranny, might never again return to the protection of that power which would avenge it.

To the honour of Sir George Staunton, I have the satisfaction to say, from the general report in the palace, that he reprobated, in very severe terms, the proposition of a measure so subversive of those privileges, which, as Englishmen, we carried with us into the heart of Tartary; and which no power of the embassy had a legal right to invade.

This strange extension of military discipline was certainly proposed to Lord Macartney by some officious persons in the suite; but the experiment, very happily for all parties, was never attempted to be made.

When Lieutenant Colonel Benson ordered a court-martial to be held on one of his soldiers, and saw the sentence of it carried into execution, he did that which he had a legal power to do, however indiscreet the exercise of it might be: but in the verge of an embassy, which, within its own circle, carries the liberties of English subjects to the remotest regions of the globe, any attempt to infringe them, deserves the severest reprobation.

This morning, James Cootie, a private in the infantry, who composed a part of the Ambassador's guards, was reported to the commanding officer, for having procured, by the assistance of a Chinese soldier, a small quantity of samchoo, a spirituous liquor already described: for which offence he was immediately confined, and soon after tried by a court-martial, consisting of a certain number of his comrades, and a corporal as president; and the sentence pronounced on this unfortunate man was approved by Lieutenant-Colonel Benson.

1793.
September.

In consequence of this sentence, all the British soldiery were drawn up in the outer court of the palace; and, after observing all the forms usual on such occasions, the culprit was tied up to one of the pillars of the great portico, and, in the presence of a great number of the Chinese, he received the punishment of sixty lashes, administered with no common severity.

The mandarins, as well as those of the inferior classes who were present, expressed their abhorrence at this proceeding, while some of them declared, that they could not reconcile this conduct in a people, who professed a religion, which they represented to be superior to all others, in enforcing sentiments of benevolence, and blending the duties of justice and of mercy. One of the principal mandarins, who knew a little of the English language, expressed his own sentiments, and those of his brethren, by saying, "Englishman too much cruel, too much bad."

Of the nature of the soldier's offence, I do not pretend to determine; nor shall I observe on the necessity of applying the severity of military discipline on the occasion; these things are not within the scope of my information or experience: but a little common-sense alone is necessary to determine on the impolicy of exhibiting a kind of punishment which is unknown in China, and abhorrent to the nature of the people, in the presence of so many of them; as from their numbers, and our general ignorance of the language, it was impossible to explain or justify it to them, by the policy of our laws. Whether this punishment was necessary to the discipline or good order of the troops, I do not, as I before observed, propose to consider; but of this I am sure, that it was by no means necessary to make it a public spectacle, and to risque the unfavourable impressions which it might, and, indeed, did make in the minds of the Chinese, before whom it was purposely exhibited.

This

This measure, as I have reason to believe, was very much canvassed at the time when it was carried into execution, and justified on the policy of convincing the Chinese of our love of order, and the rigour we employed in punishing any infringement of it. That it had, as I suspected it would have, the contrary effect, the looks, gestures, and expressions of the Chinese present on the occasion, are unanswerable testimonies.

Sir Erasmus Gower, however, as I was informed on my return to the Lion, went a step further at Chusan, when she lay at anchor off that island, in the Yellow Sea. The fact, to which I allude, is known to every one at that time on board the ship.

A Chinese had come on board the English man of war, from Chusan, and brought with him a small bottle of samtchoo, a kind of dram, in expectation of exchanging it with the sailors for some European article. A discovery, however, being made of his design, Sir Erasmus Gower ordered him to be seized and punished by the boat-swain's mate, with twelve lashes; and to add to the bad effects of such a conduct, in the presence of a great many of the Chinese, who were then on board.

This is one of those irreconcilable circumstances which occasionally happened in the progress and completion of this embassy: because an application to the mandarins would have had all the effects, which could be desired, in redressing the grievance, and assumed the form of a proper and regular proceeding.

C H A P. XV.

Leave the city of Jehol. Description of two rocks in its neighbourhood. Circumstances of the journey. Arrive at Peking. Arrangements made there. The remainder of the presents prepared to be sent to the Emperor. Sickneſs prevails among the ſoldiers. The Ambaſſador attends his Imperial Majeſty. Brief account of his palace. Further arrangements reſpeſſing the houſehold of the embaſſy. Preſents to the Emperor and the Grand Choulan. The Emperor goes to Yeumen-män-yeumen to ſee the preſents. His perſon and dreſs particularly deſcribed. Preſents received from court for their Britanniſc Majeſties. Circumſtances concerning thoſe which had been ſent to the Emperor. Report prevails that the embaſſy is to leave Peking.

1793.

September.
Tueſday 20.

IT was notified by orders, iſſued this morning, that the embaſſy was to quit Jehol on the morrow, to proceed to Peking, where the final iſſue of it would be known and ſettled.

In the evening, the whole of the heavy baggage was ſent off for Peking. At nine there was a very heavy ſtorm of thunder, lightning, and rain, which continued, without any intermiſſion, till four o'clock of the following morning.

Wedneſ-
day 21.

This morning, at eight o'clock, the Britiſh embaſſy took their leave of the city of Jehol, after a ſtrict confinement of fourteen days; as the liberty, with which we had been flattered ſoon after our arrival, had never been granted.

We paſſed the Emperor's pagoda at nine o'clock, where we ſaw an Ambaſſador and his ſuite, from the King of Cochin China, reſreſhing
themselves.

themselves. It is an annual visit to pay tribute from that Prince to the Emperor of China.

1793.
September.

The confusion and solicitude which attended the entry into Jehol, prevented me from giving a description of the two rocks, which are among the most extraordinary objects I have ever seen or read of; and must not be passed by without such a particular description, as it is in my power to give of them.

The first is an immense pillar, or column of solid rock, which is seen from the palace, occupied by the embassy at Jehol, at the distance, as it appeared to me, of about four miles. It is situated on the pinnacle of a large mountain, and near the verge of it: from which it rises, in an irregular manner, to the height of one hundred feet. Its base is small, but it gradually thickens towards the top; and from several of its projecting parts issues streams of the finest water.

The upper part of this enormous rock, which is rather flat, appears to be covered with shrubs and verdure; but as it is absolutely inaccessible, there is no possibility of knowing the kind of plants which crown it. When its own individual height is considered, and added to the eminence where nature, or, perhaps, some convulsion of the elements, has placed it, the passenger in the valley below cannot look up to it without an equal degree of horror and amazement. It is esteemed, and with great propriety by the Chinese, as among the first natural curiosities of their country; and is known by the name of Panfuiashaung.

The other rock, or rather cluster of rocks, is also a very stupendous object, and stands on the summit of a very grand, though not a fertile, mountain. They are also in the form of pillars, and appear, except in one particular point of view, to be a solid rock; though they are actually separated from each other, by an interval of several feet. Their height rises to near two hundred feet, as I understand from a correct mathematical admeasurement.

Opposite

1793.
September.

Opposite to the mountain which forms the base, rises another of a similar form, which slopes with a more gentle declivity, down to a charming valley; that is formed by them, and is itself watered by a pretty rivulet, abounding in fine trout.

In the course of this afternoon we arrived at the Imperial palace of Callachottueng, where we had the misfortune to lose Jeremiah Reid, one of the royal artillery, who died of the bloody flux, with which he had been afflicted but a very few days. Several men belonging to the military detachments were attacked with the same complaint.

Thursday 22. This morning, at one o'clock, the body of the deceased soldier was removed to the next village, to remain there till our arrival, to receive the interment which was due to him. This measure was suggested by the mandarin, who expressed great apprehension lest the circumstance should reach the Emperor, and awaken his alarm respecting any contagious disorder.

At six o'clock the embassy continued its route; and at the small village of Quangchim, where it stopped to breakfast, the body of our deceased companion was interred with military honours.

In the course of this morning intelligence was received by the mandarin, Van-Tadge-In, that his Imperial Majesty had left Jehol, on his return to Peking: he, therefore, requested the Ambassador and his train to exert themselves in making two stages without halting, that the palaces might be left to receive the attendants of the Emperor.

In consequence of this unexpected requisition, we arrived, after a very fatiguing journey, at the town of Waungchaung, in the vicinity of the great wall, of which stupendous object I took another and a last view; but without any novelty of impression, or the acquisition of an additional circumstance concerning it.

At

At a very early hour we continued our route ; the air was cold and piercing, and we breakfasted at a place called Caungchumfau ; after which we passed a prodigious number of carts, containing the Emperor's baggage. Arrived at three o'clock at Cubacouoo, as the station of the day.

1793.
September.
Monday 23.

We proceeded on our journey at four in the morning, by the assistance of a very bright moon, and took our first meal at the town of Chanchia ; our second regale was taken at Mccucang, and we then proceeded to Whiazow, the last stage of the day.

Tuesday 24.

Breakfast was this morning provided for the embassy in the barnyard of a small village ; and the journey of the day was finished at Nanshissee. There I was surprized by the sight of several fields of turnips of an excellent quality.

Wednes-
day 25.

This day finished our returning journey from Tartary, which, as it was by the same route that conducted us thither, and offered no novelty that deserved attention, I have dispatched, with little more than the names of those places where we stopped for refreshment, or repose. After a breakfast at Chingelio, which we found less plentiful than on former occasions, we arrived early in the afternoon at Pekin, and proceeded to the palace of the British Ambassador.

Thursday 26.

His Excellency employed a great part of this morning in examining the several arrangements which had been made in the palace during his absence ; the whole of which was favoured with his approbation. The gentlemen of the suite also received their particular baggage in their respective apartments, and the final adjustment and distribution of the different parts of the palace was settled.

Friday 27.

In the principal room of the Ambassador's apartments, the state canopy, brought from England, was immediately put up. It was made of flowered crimson satin, with festoons and curtains, enriched

1793.
September.

with fringes of gold. On the back part of it the arms of Great Britain appeared in the richest embroidery; the floor beneath it was spread with a beautiful carpet, on which were placed five chairs of state, of the same materials as the canopy, and fringed with gold. The center chair immediately under the coat of arms was elevated on a platform above the rest, to which there was an ascent of two steps. The whole had been arranged with great taste in England, and, in its present situation, made a very superb appearance, in every respect suited to the occasion for which it was erected. At the other extremity of the apartment, opposite to the canopy, were hung the whole length portraits of their Britannic Majesties; so that this chamber wanted no decoration appropriate to the exterior of diplomatic dignity.

These dispositions being completed, and in a manner equally suited to the splendor of the embassy, as to the individual convenience of those who composed it, nothing remained to perfect the domestic establishment, but the regulation of the different tables to be provided for the several departments of the household; which it was thought proper to delay till the arrival of the Emperor in Peking.

Captain Mackintosh proposed to set off on the Monday to join his ship, the Hindostan, now lying at Chusan, and to proceed to Canton, there to take in his cargo for England, having seen, as he conceived, a favourable commencement of this important embassy, in which his masters, the East India Company, had such a predominant interest.

Saturday 28.

This day the Emperor of China returned to the Imperial palace in Peking; and his arrival was announced by a grand discharge of artillery.

The occupations of this day in the palace of the Ambassador were entirely confined to writing letters for England, of which Capt. Mackintosh was to take the charge; it then being considered by Lord Macartney as a settled arrangement with the court of Peking,

that the English embassy should remain in that city during the winter, to carry on the important negotiations with which it was entrusted.

1793.
September.

His Excellency received the visits of several mandarins. Certain packages designed for the Emperor were prepared to be presented to his Majesty: they consisted of superfine broad and other cloths of various kinds of British manufacture. Sunday 29.

In consequence of the sickness that prevailed among the soldiers belonging to the embassy, it was thought expedient to establish an hospital for their more speedy cure, as well as to separate the invalids from those who were in health and capable of duty. Dr. Gillan and Dr. Scott were accordingly desired to examine a range of buildings behind the Ambassador's apartments, with an open area beyond it, and on the report of those gentlemen, it was determined that they should be formed into an hospital. Accordingly several arrangements took place, to render it comfortable to those who were under the necessity of taking up an occasional abode in it. At this time, of the fifty men which composed the guards of the embassy, eighteen were in such a state as to require the attentive care and skill of the physician. Monday 30.

A mandarin came from the Emperor to request that the ordnance presents might be immediately sent to the palace of Yeumen-manyeu-men, where they were to be proved and examined: but the Chinese thought themselves equal to the task of proof and examination; for the British artillery soldiers were never employed, as was expected, to display their superior skill in the science of engineering and gunnery. October. Tuesday 1.

The chariots, &c. were also removed to the same place, and the sadler and carpenters belonging to the embassy, with some assistant mechanics, were sent thither to unpack and hang them on their carriages; this was done, but the workmen were not permitted to adjust them fully for presentation; and came back in the evening to Pekin without receiving orders to return to complete their work, and explain

1793.

October.

the mode of applying the different machines, under their direction, to the respective uses for which they were designed.

Wednesday 2.

The Ambassador received a formal intimation to wait on the Emperor as to-morrow; when it was hoped and anxiously expected that the final ratifications would take place between the ministers of the two courts, and prepare the way for entering upon the projected negotiation, from which so many advantages were expected to be derived to the commerce of Great Britain.

The sick were this day removed to that part of the palace which had been fitted up as an hospital.

Another package of presents was opened and examined preparatory to their being sent to his Imperial Majesty.

Thursday 3.

The Ambassador, in obedience to the requisition of yesterday, went in a private manner to the Emperor's palace; where business was transacted between his Excellency and the officers of state; and it was a report among the English suite, but on what foundation I cannot tell, that the requisitions of the British Minister were submitted to the consideration of the Imperial Council. This conference lasted two hours, but the result of it was not, as may be supposed, a matter of general communication; but there were no apparent reasons to suppose that it was not favourable to the success of the embassy.

As I had this day attended the Ambassador, I shall just mention what I saw of the Imperial palace, which will be comprised in a very few lines.

It is situated in the center of the city, and surrounded by a wall about twenty feet in height, which is covered with plaister painted of a red colour, and the whole crowned or capped with green varnished tiles. It is said to occupy a space that may be about

about seven English miles in circumference, and is surrounded by a kind of gravel walk: it contains a vast range of gardens, full, as I was informed, of all those artificial beauties, which decorate the gardens of China. I can only say, that the entrance to the palace is by a very strong stone gateway, which supports a building of two stories: the interior court is spacious, and the range of building that fronts the gateway rises to the height of three stories, and each of them is ornamented with a balcony or projecting gallery, whose railing, palisadoes, and pillars, are enriched with gilding: the roof is covered with yellow shining tiles, and the body of the edifice is plastered and painted with various colours. This outer court is the only part of this palace which I had an opportunity of seeing, and is a fine example of Chinese architecture. The gate is guarded by a large body of soldiers, and a certain number of mandarins of the first class are always in attendance about it.

Of the magnificent and splendid apartments this palace contains for private use or public service; of its gardens appropriated to pleasure, or for the sole production of fruit and flowers, of which report said so much, I am not authorised to say any thing, as my view of the whole was very confined; but, though I am ready to acknowledge that the palace had something imposing in its appearance, when compared with the diminutive buildings of the city that surround it, I could see nothing that disposed me to believe the extraordinary accounts which I had heard and read of the wonders of the Imperial residence of Peking.

It cannot be supposed for a moment, that those who had no other concern in the embassy, than as a part of the retinue necessary for its exterior conduct and appearance, should be informed of any of the official circumstances of it; they could, therefore, only judge of its progress from the general arrangements which were made concerning its domestic establishment. It was, however, with particular satisfaction that the following directions were this day received from the

Friday 4.

1793.

October.

Ambassador, relative to the future order and disposition of the tables for the different departments of the household; as an attention to domestic business seemed to announce his Excellency's opinion concerning the permanency of our residence at Peking; and, of course, an entire disposition in the court of China to give the negotiation every advantage that might be derived from frequent conference and deliberate consultation.

The order of the tables was as follows :

The table of the Ambassador was ordered for himself alone; with two covers for gentlemen of the suite, who were to be invited in daily succession to dine with him.

The next in precedence was that of Sir George Staunton, at which he was to be accompanied by Mr. Maxwell, one of the secretaries, Doctor Gillan, Captain Mackintosh, while he remained at Peking, Mr. Barrow, and Master Staunton. The table of Lieut. Col. Benfon was to be attended by the Lieutenants Parish and Crewe, Dr. Scott, Messrs. Hickey, Baring, Winder, Alexander, and Dr. Dinwiddie.

The foregoing disposition of the household commenced on this day; but it was thought proper to continue the Chinese dishes till the kitchen in the palace was completed, when a certain proportion of English cookery was to be blended with that of the country. To complete the table arrangements, the chests containing the service of plate were removed to the apartments of the Ambassador, in order to be prepared for general use.

The cabinets of British manufacture were removed by Chinese porters to the Imperial palace.

Saturday 5.

A large quantity of plated goods, hardware, and cutlery, were unpacked at Sir George Staunton's apartments, a considerable quantity of

of which was damaged. There were also several of Argand's lamps, with a great variety of watches, trinkets, jewellery, &c. &c. The whole of this cargo was equally divided between the Emperor and the Grand Choulaa.

1793.
October.

The carpenters with several assistants were sent to Yeumen-manyeu-men, to clean and complete the carriages, and also to set up the model of the Royal Sovereign, an English first-rate man of war.

The Emperor himself came to the palace; and, after he had taken a view of the presents, his Majesty was pleased to order eight ingots of silver to be given to each person; which were instantly received.

The account I have given of the person of the Emperor was from a partial view as he was seated in a palanquin; I shall, therefore, repeat the more particular description of him, which was given by the six English artificers who were employed in fitting up and arranging the presents, when he came to view them, and who were the immediate objects of the Imperial generosity which has just been mentioned.

The Emperor is about five feet ten inches in height, and of a slender but elegant form; his complexion is comparatively fair, though his eyes are dark; his nose is rather aquiline, and the whole of his countenance presents a perfect regularity of features, which, by no means, announce the great age he is said to have attained: his person is attracting, and his deportment accompanied by an affability, which, without lessening the dignity of the prince, evinces the amiable character of the man.

His dress consisted of a loose robe of yellow silk, a cap of black velvet with a red ball on the top, and adorned with a peacock's feather, which is the peculiar distinction of mandarins of the first class. He wore silk boots embroidered with gold, and a sash of blue silk girded his waist.

As

In the forenoon of this day the servants of the embassy were summoned to the apartments of Sir George Staunton, and the soldiers to those of Lieut. Col. Benson; when each person received four pieces of silk, four pieces of dongaree, (a sort of coarse nankæn) and a junk of silver, being a square solid piece of that metal, weighing sixteen ounces, as a present from his Imperial Majesty.

The gentlemen and mechanics were dismissed from their attendance at the palace of Yeumen-manyeumen; for, as all the optical, mechanical, and mathematical instruments were removed from thence, their presence was no longer necessary. Besides, several of these presents, when a trial of them was made before the mandarins, were found to fail in the operations and powers attributed to them; and others of them did not excite that surprise and admiration in the breasts of the Chinese philosophers, which Dr. Dinwiddie and Mr. Barrow expected, who immediately determined upon the ignorance that prevailed in China, and the gross obstinacy of the people.

A report was in circulation this day throughout the palace, that the embassy was to quit Peking in the beginning of the week: a circumstance which was so contrary to the general expectation, that it did not at first meet with the credit, which it was afterwards found to deserve.

C H A P. XVI.

Orders issued for the suite to prepare for an immediate departure from Peking. The Emperor refuses to allow of any delay. Great confusion occasioned by this sudden departure. The embassy leaves Peking. Returns to Tong-tchew. Order of the junks which are to take the embassy to Canton. Difficulties respecting the baggage. The junks enter a canal. Description of it. Circumstances of the voyage. View and cultivation of the country. The Chinese post described. Pass through several large cities. A general account of them.

1793.

October.
Monday 7.

THE carpenters were employed in strengthening the cases that contained the presents from the Emperor of China to their Britannic Majesties.

In the afternoon the report of yesterday was confirmed by an order, issued by the Ambassador, to the whole suite to prepare for departure from Peking, on Wednesday. Our surprize at such unexpected intelligence may be readily conceived, but the mortification which appeared throughout the palace, on the occasion, was at least equal to the astonishment: for, in one moment, as it were, all the domestic arrangements, which had been formed with every attention to individual comfort and repose, were overthrown—our fatiguing pilgrimage was to be renewed, and with all the humiliation that accompanies a forced submission to peremptory power, and the painful despondency which arises from the sudden annihilation of sanguine and well-grounded hope. But, though we might, in the first moments of surprize, be disposed to feel something for ourselves, superior considerations soon succeeded, and we forgot the trifle of personal inconvenience, in the failure of a political measure, which had been pursued

purſued with ſo much labour, hazard, and perfeverance; had been ſupported with ſuch enormous expence, and to which our country looked with eager expectation, for the aggrandizement of its commercial intereſts. There was, however, no remedy; and nothing now could be done but to uſe every endeavour to prolong the period aſſigned to the departure of the embaffy, that there might be ſufficient time to make the neceſſary preparations for leaving Pekin with conveni-
 ence, and that the Ambaſſador might not appear to be turned out of the metropolis of a country, where he had repreſented the crown of Great Britain.

1793.
 October.

For theſe reaſons, and they were, it muſt be acknowledged, of very great importance, the attendant mandarin was requeſted to ſtate to the prime miniſter the impoſſibility of our departure at ſo ſhort a notice, not only without very great inconvenience, but abſolute injury; as it would be impoſſible to pack up and arrange the baggage, &c. of the Ambaſſador and his ſuite, in a manner to transport it with ſafety, in ſo ſhort a time as was then allotted for that purpoſe.

This commiſſion he readily undertook, to execute; and, in the evening, he returned with the permiſſion of the Grand Choulaa, to delay the departure of the Britiſh embaffy till Friday, which would have given time ſufficient to have made every neceſſary preparation.

The mandarin came with a counter-order of the permiſſion of yeſterday, from the Emperor himſelf, who expreſſly commanded the Ambaſſador, and all his retinue, to quit Pekin on the next day. They were again thrown into a renewed ſtate of confuſion, which I ſhall not attempt to deſcribe.

Tueſday 8.

It was reported in the palace, by the Chineſe, that the Emperor having conſidered the buſineſs as completed between the two courts, expreſſed his ſurprize that the Engliſh miniſter ſhould wiſh to make an unneceſſary ſtay at Pekin, and not be eager to return to his own country. His Imperial Majeſty was alſo ſaid to be alarmed at the num-

1793.

October.

ber of sick persons in the retinue of the embassy, and to apprehend the communication of a contagious disorder among his subjects. It was also reported, that when the brass mortars were tried in the presence of the Emperor, his Majesty admired the skill and ingenuity of these engines of destruction, but deprecated the spirit of a people who employed them; nor could he reconcile their improvements in the system of destruction to the benign spirit which they represented as the soul and operating principle of their religion.

Many other reports of a similar nature were propagated; but the reason assigned by the Chinese government, for thus urging the departure of the Ambassador, was the near approach of winter, when the rivers would be frozen, and the journey to Canton, through the northern provinces, be crowded with inconvenience and impediment.

Whatever policy governed the councils of China on this occasion; whether it was an enlarged view of national interest, which it was supposed the propositions of Great Britain would not tend to advance, or any disgust or prejudice proceeding from misconduct, and mismanagement in the embassy itself, the manner in which the Ambassador was dismissed from Peking, was ungracious, and mortifying in the extreme. For even if it is supposed to be a policy of the Chinese government, that no foreign minister shall be received, but on particular occasions, and that he is not suffered to remain in the country when he has finished his particular mission; it does not appear that the business was at all advanced which Lord Macartney was employed to negotiate; and he certainly would not have entered into any domestic arrangements, if he had not considered himself as secure of remaining at Peking throughout the winter. He must have been encouraged to believe that his residence would not only be permitted, but acceptable to his Imperial Majesty; and that there was a very friendly disposition in the councils of China, towards the entering into a treaty with Great Britain, respecting a more enlarged system of commercial intercourse between the two countries.

The

The jealousy of the Chinese government had so far subsided as to express a wish for an embassy from this country, and afterwards to receive it. The power of Great Britain, its possessions in the East Indies, with the manner in which they have been acquired, and the general state of Europe, are subjects, by no means, unknown at the court of Peking; nor was the English settlement at Chusan, or the manner in which it was destroyed, altogether forgotten. The Emperor himself had not only manifested a respect for the British embassy, by the great attentions which had accompanied its progress, but discovered an impatient desire to receive it by inviting it to his residence in Tartary, when he was so soon to return to Peking. In short, there was no apparent public reason, when the Ambassador was once received, why he should not be permitted to proceed in his negotiation: But, even, if any change had taken place in the mind of the Emperor, or any prejudice arisen against the embassy, from any indiscretion or misconduct in the management of it, which might induce the court of China to put an immediate termination to it; it is wholly irreconcilable to the common rules of political decorum and civility, as well as the principles of justice and humanity, that an Ambassador, of so much consequence as Lord Macartney, should be dismissed, under his peculiar circumstances, without the least ceremony; and be not only ordered to depart without allowing the time necessary to make the common arrangements for his journey, but also refused a respite only of two days to his urgent solicitations. In short, we entered Peking like paupers; we remained in it like prisoners; and we quitted it like vagrants.

This day, — Newman, a marine, who, with three of his comrades, had been taken from on board the Lion, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the death of some of the soldiers belonging to the embassy, died of the flux; and to prevent this circumstance from being known, his corpse was conveyed away in the night.

Lord

1793.

October.

Lord Macartney sent his own state carriage as a present to the Grand Choulaa, who refused to accept it. It was then re-demanded to be unslung and packed up; but no answer whatever was returned; and so short was the period allotted us to stay, and so much was to be done in it, that there was no time to make farther inquiries concerning the fate of this chariot, or the reasons of such an ungracious behaviour on the part of the minister by whom it was refused.

The hurry and confusion of this day is beyond description; and if the soldiers had not been called in to have assisted in packing the baggage and stores, a much greater part must have been left behind, that actually became a prey to the Chinese.

The portraits of their Majesties were taken down, but as the cases in which they had come from England, had been broke up for fixtures in the apartments, a few deals, hastily nailed together, were now their only protection. As for the state canopy, it was not taken down, but absolutely torn from the wall; as the original case that contained it, had been also employed in various convenient uses, and there was not time to make a new one. The state chairs were presented to some of the mandarins; and the canopy was given to some of Lord Macartney's servants. Though, in the scramble, the Chinese contrived to come in for a share. They also contrived to purloin a very large quantity of wine; nor was it possible, in such a scene of hurry and confusion, to prevent those opportunities which they were on the watch to seize. In one way or other, however, the public baggage, stores, furniture, &c. were jumbled together as well as circumstances would admit; and no pains or activity were wanting in those employed to perform that sudden and unexpected duty.

Wednesday 9.

The whole of the suite were occupied, at a very early hour of this morning, in getting their packages in readiness, which were taken away by the Chinese appointed to convey them on the road. The whole of the embassy soon followed. Newman, the marine, was buried on

the road to Tong-tchew, and at that town we arrived in the evening, where we found a great change in the article of our accommodations. The apartments which were now allotted to us, were nothing more than temporary sheds, hung with straw matting.

1793.
October.

On going to the river side we found the junks ready to receive us ; and when the circumstances of the embarkation were settled, the junks were arranged in following order : Thursday 10.

- No. 1. The Ambaffador.
2. Sir George and Master Staunton.
3. Captain Mackintosh, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Barrow, and Dr. Gillan.
4. Lieutenant-Colonel Benfon, with the Lieutenants Parish and Crewe.
5. Messrs. Winder, Barring, Huttner, and Plumb.
6. The Doctors Dinwiddie and Scott, with Messrs. Hickey and Alexander.
7. The Musicians, Mechanics.

The mandarin, Van-Tadge-In, and his attendants, were in separate junks.

All these matters being finally adjusted, his Excellency, with Sir George Staunton, &c. went on board their junks : while the gentlemen were employed in getting their baggage into their respective vessels, which exhibited a new and superior scene of confusion to any we had yet experienced. There was, in the first place, no small difficulty in affording the junks, with the persons who belonged to them. Nor were there a sufficient number of coolies to transport the different effects on board the vessels. In short, those attentions which were shewn to the Ambaffador on his former abode in this city, seemed to have been forgotten ; and the place which was now appropriated to receive

to the water: they are in the form of an half-moon, and confine the water to a narrow passage in the middle of the canal, which occasions a fall of about three feet. The junks acquired an accelerated motion in passing these locks, which continued for a considerable distance; and, in order to prevent their receiving any injury from striking against the walls of the lock, which, on account of the sudden descent of the water, it is not often possible to avoid, men are always stationed there to let down large leathern pads, which effectually break the shock that would otherwise be felt from such an accident.

We passed through at least thirty of these locks in the course of this day's voyage, without being able to discover any variation in them, as to their construction, or the effects produced by them.

On each side of the canal, the country, as far as the eye can reach, is one entire flat, but smiling with fertility. Several villages, with their crowds of inhabitants, varied the scene; and, at each of them the soldiers of the district appeared in military array, and saluted the fleet as it passed with three guns.

We passed by several towns and villages, and at every one of them the Ambassador and mandarins were received with military honours. Thursday 17.

It may be proper to observe in this place, that a mandarin of the second class, named Chootadzin, was on board the fleet, and was to continue with us till our arrival at Hoang-tchew, of which province he is appointed the viceroy. Van-Tadge-In, although a mandarin of the first class, was inferior to him in authority, as the appointment of viceroy gives precedence to the highest order of mandarins.

I observed a considerable number of rice fields, in which there were stone gutters or channels, finished with great neatness, and admirably contrived to convey water to every part of the plantations.

to the water: they are in the form of an half-moon, and confine the water to a narrow passage in the middle of the canal, which occasions a fall of about three feet. The junks acquired an accelerated motion in passing these locks, which continued for a considerable distance; and, in order to prevent their receiving any injury from striking against the walls of the lock, which, on account of the sudden ferment of the water, it is not often possible to avoid, men are always stationed there to lay down large leather pads, which effectually break the shock that would otherwise be felt from such an accident.

We passed through at least thirty of these locks in the course of this day's voyage, without being able to discover any variation in them, as to their construction, or the effects produced by them.

On each side of the canal, the country, as far as the eye can reach, is one entire flat, but smiling with fertility. Several villages, with their crowds of inhabitants, varied the scene; and, at each of them the soldiers of the district appeared in military array, and saluted the fleet as it passed with three guns.

We passed by several towns and villages, and at every one of them the Associates and mandarins were received with military honours. Thursday 17.

It may be proper to observe in this place, that a mandarin of the second rank, named Chootadzin, was on board the fleet, and was conversant with us till our arrival at Hoang-tchew, of which province he is appointed the viceroy. Van-Tadge-In, although a mandarin of the first rank, was inferior to him in authority, as the appointment of viceroy gives precedence to the highest order of mandarins.

I observed a considerable number of rice fields, in which there were little canals or ditches, finished with great neatness, and admirably contrived to convey water to every part of the plantations.

1793.
October.

For some days the provisions with which we had been supplied, were not only deficient in quantity, but were sent ready dressed and cold; so that we found it necessary to dress them again, or rather heat them up as well as we could. Mr. Plumb, the vehicle of all complaints, and who, in general, contrived to procure redress, was employed on the present occasion to represent the dissatisfaction which was felt by the different departments of the embassy, respecting the deficiency and quality of the daily provisions.

Friday 18.

The same flat and fertile country appeared on either side of the canal, though the view was this day varied by several gardens, in which there were plantations of that shrub which bears what is called the Imperial and gunpowder teas: it grows to the size of a gooseberry bush, with leaves of the same size. The former of those teas is collected from the first, and the other from the successive, blossoms of that plant.

We continued to pass through a succession of locks, and to excite the curiosity of various towns and villages which poured forth their inhabitants to see the extraordinary spectacle of an European embassy.

Saturday 19.

Towns and villages alternately presented themselves on either side of the canal, with their prodigious population, but possessed no peculiarity, and offered no circumstances of novelty which would justify a particular description.

The representation which had been made concerning the provisions produced an immediate change in the supply of them: we this day received a large quantity of mutton and beef, with fowls and ducks; to these were added bread, flour, tea, sugar, rice, vegetables of all kinds, with soy, oil, candles, charcoal, and wood; and, while the solid part of the meal, with the means of preparing it, were amply administered,

administered, the elegant addition of fruits of various kinds, and the liquors of the country, were not forgotten.

1793.
October.

In the very unexpected situation of the embassy, it was very natural for those who composed the retinue of it to be continually forming conjectures, and eagerly inquiring after any information that might tend to elucidate the extraordinary circumstances of it. Thus we became acquainted with various reports on the subject, some of which we were disposed to credit, while we rejected others, as they seemed to concur with, or contradict, the events of the moment.

Thus we were not unwilling to believe, as it was propagated among us by some of the Chinese, that a Tartar mandarin had been able to prejudice the Emperor against the English people, by representing them as barbarous, inhuman, and destitute of all those amiable qualities which they pretended to possess: nor were many of the suite indisposed to believe that to such an unpropitious circumstance the embassy had been treated, to use no worse expression, with such strange disrespect and peremptory dismissal. It was also added, that Van-Tadge-In, the attendant mandarin, had since represented the conduct and character of the embassy in a very different point of view, in a written memorial addressed to the Emperor; which had induced his Imperial Majesty to give orders that the British Ambassador and his suite, should be abundantly supplied with every thing necessary for their convenience and comfort, and that they might at all times enjoy the liberty of going on shore, and amusing themselves at their own discretion.

We passed a great number of tobacco plantations. The Chinese cultivate and manufacture this plant in a very superior degree, and are supposed to possess greater varieties of it, than any other country in the world. Sunday 23.

The quantity of tobacco consumed, and, of course, grown in China, must be beyond all calculation, as smoking is universally

1793.

October.

practised, and by all ranks and ages. Children, as soon as they have sufficient strength or dexterity to hold a pipe in their hands, are taught by their parents to smoke, which they feel not only as an habitual amusement, but is considered as a preservative against all contagious diseases.

Several walled cities appeared at some distance from the canal, whose guards and garrisons were marched to the banks, in order to give the usual salute; and one in particular of very great extent and amazing population, called Tohiamfyn. The crowds of people of both sexes which came to see the junks pass, were beyond all belief.

We this day passed several stone bridges, some of them were of one, and others of two arches, which appeared to be constructed with great strength and excellent masonry. The number of locks appeared rather to increase than diminish in the course of this day's voyage.

Tuesday 22.

The country offers a very fruitful scene, and, in some places, rose into hills and uplands. The water-mills, of which we saw several at work, appear to be in a great measure the same as those used in Europe: they were corn-mills, as we were informed; and were situated in the midst of very extensive fields of that grain, which was almost ready for the sickle.

Several gentlemen of the suite went on shore to enjoy the exercise and variety of walking on the banks of the canal; but the junks were carried on with such rapidity from the quick succession of locks, that they were left behind, and the whole fleet was obliged to come to anchor till they rejoined it.

Wednes-
day 23.

We this morning saw a very lofty pagoda situated on an eminence: it appeared to be a stone building, consisting of eight stories, each of which was encircled with a balcony, and the whole terminated in an ornamented roof that runs up to a very slender point.

We

1793.
 October.
 Thursday 24.

We this day saw the Chinese post pass along the road, on the side of the canal, with great expedition. The letters and packets are carried in a large square bamboo basket, girt with cane hoops and lined: it is locked, and the key is given to the custody of one of the attendant soldiers, whose office it is to deliver it to the post-master: the box is fastened on the courier's shoulders with straps, and is decorated at the bottom with a number of small bells, which being shaken by the motion of the horse, make a loud gingling noise, that announces the approach of the post. The post-man is escorted by five light-horsemen to guard him from robbery or interruption. The swiftest horses are also employed on the occasion, which are renewed at every stage; so that the posts of China may vie in expedition with the English mail.

The succession of populous and large towns was so continual, that Friday 25.
 it would be tedious to mention them but as a general characteristic of the country; unless some particular circumstance, from its novelty or interest, should justify description.

When I rose this morning, I was surprised to find the junk fleet at anchor in the heart of a very large city, through the center of which the canal passes: it is here crossed by a continual succession of bridges, which are connected with a circular breast-work on each side, guarded by soldiers, who suffer no vessels to pass till they have been inspected by mandarins who preside over that department. The fleet was favoured here with the usual salute of three guns, and a very large body of soldiers was drawn up on both sides of the canal: they were completely armed, and wore large helmets, which gave them a very military appearance, while their ranks were enlivened with several stands of colours.

At six o'clock the fleet left this city, and at ten passed through another, which, as far as we could judge from our passage, was of equal dimensions and population. Its name is Kord-cheeaung.

To

1793.
October.

To the left of the canal, and in the center of the city, we saw a very magnificent and lofty pagoda; it rose to the height of ten stories, each of which is surrounded with an elegant gallery, and projecting canopies, supported by pillars.

The chief mandarin of the place has an handsome palace guarded by a fort, whose garrison came forth to salute the Ambassador, as the vessels passed by it.

In the subsequent progress of this day's voyage we passed four other cities, of equal magnitude with those which have been already mentioned; and about nine o'clock at night anchored in the city of Lee-yaungoa, which was illuminated to do honour to the distinguished persons on board the fleet; nor were any of those marks of respect omitted which had been demonstrated in all the places, according to their rank, through which we had passed.

A very large body of troops, consisting at least of a thousand men, were drawn up on the banks of the canal; and each man held a pole, with a coloured paper lantern hanging from it, which, when the troops halt, is stuck in the ground; the whole forming a very singular and pleasing spectacle.

Saturday 26.

The air was this morning extremely cold; the thermometer having sunk so low as forty degrees. At seven o'clock we passed a lock, whose current bore us into the city of Kaunghoo, which, from the great number of junks laying there, must be a place of immense trade. Indeed, the water was so entirely covered with them, that our fleet was obliged to come to anchor, in order to give time for a passage to be made between them. The canal took a winding course through this place, which is elevated above it, and its banks fall in beautiful slopes to the water.

The

The weather was moderate and agreeable: and the prospect was varied with meadows of the richest verdure, and covered with flocks of sheep and herds of cattle. We passed also several large fields of paddy and millet, and the eye ranged over a vast extent of flat and fertile country.

1793.
October.
Sunday 27.

The voyage of this day furnished no variety—unless a great number of flour-mills may be supposed to vary the scene. Monday 28.

The growing wealth of cultivation we had seen every hour as we proceeded on our voyage, and not a spot appeared, which towns and villages did not occupy, but proved the skill and labour of the husbandman. This morning, however, gave us a prospect of that labour, for we passed several extensive fields where the peasants were busy with their ploughs; these machines, so essential in agriculture, were drawn by oxen, and though of a very clumsy form, when compared with those of our own country, perform their office with good effect, as the ground appeared to be got into a very promising state of tillage. Tuesday 29.

We saw a fleet of junks laden with tea for the Canton market; nor was it an unnatural, or uninteresting observation, that in the chance of commerce, some of their cargoes might ultimately be consigned to our own country, and arrive there before us. Wednesday 30.

The prospects of this day were enlivened by pagodas, and country seats; some of which were adorned with beautiful gardens, and others surrounded with the finest orchards I ever beheld.

This morning the fleet passed through a walled city named Hoong-loafoo. This is another of those places where the vast number of junks which covered its canal, justify the opinion of its extensive commerce. In its neighbourhood there are large plantations of tea, extensive fields of tobacco, and a great number of large flour-mills. Thursday 31.

C H A P. XVII.

Various circumstances of the voyage. Enter the Yellow River. Pass several towns, lakes, &c. Ceremonies at the city of Kiangsou. Enter a beautiful lake; description of it. Enter another river; circumstances of it. Pass several cities, &c. Dock-yards for building junks. Arrive at the city of Mee-you-mee-awag—beautiful country. Further account of the Chinese troops. A mandarin's palace and pagoda described.

THE canal appeared now to have assumed the form of a considerable river, and brought us to a very large city, where we came to an anchor at six o'clock in the morning, having passed a fort at the entrance, by which the fleet had been saluted.

1793.
November.
Saturday 29

When I mention the situation and circumstances of this city, it would be needless to describe it as a place of great trade, or speak of the inconceivable number of junks which were moored at its quays and wharfs, it will be sufficient to say, that it is washed by large canals, and that, on the south side of it, there is an extensive bay which communicates with the Yellow river, to give some notion of its commercial character.

Here the fleet remained at anchor about an hour; when it unmoored, and soon entered the bay, with an alarming rapidity, through a large lock, constructed with rushes, curiously matted together, and secured with logs of wood.

This bay is of great extent, and would contain the proudest fleets of Europe, while its shores offer an amphitheatre of landscape

1793.
November.

beauty. The hills are verdant to their very summits, which are sometimes crowned with pagodas; and the lower parts are enriched with houses and gardens, and that variety of cultivation which distinguishes this extraordinary country.

On entering this bay, it was discovered that there were a variety of currents running with great violence, and in opposite directions, at not less than seven miles an hour; and the skill of navigating it consists in being able to get into that individual current which runs towards the place of the vessel's particular destination.

In this situation we should have been glad, if it had been consistent with the course of the voyage, to have cast anchor, and enjoyed, at leisure, the contemplation of its beauties; but the fleet immediately steered towards a large river, which it soon entered, and whose stream soon bore us, as it were, into the bosom of a rich and beautiful country.

At the mouth of this river there is a large town, with the palace of a mandarin of the first class, surrounded by a strong stone wall: it is a very large edifice, crowned with turrets, richly gilt and ornamented after the fashion of the country. The front looks towards the bay, of which it commands an extensive and enchanting prospect.

Town now succeeded to town; the country offered the most beautiful views, of which no adequate idea can be given by written description. And when I mention the country as one scene of varied cultivation, divided by well-planted enclosures, peopled with farms that are surrounded by orchards, enriched with villas, and their ornamental gardens, a very inadequate picture is given of the expansive scenery on either side of the navigation which bore us through it.

At two o'clock, and as we were preparing for dinner, the junks arrived at a very large town, through which the river took a course of

at least three miles. This place is formed on a more regular plan than any which we had seen in China. The houses were uniformly built of brick, varied with an intermixture of blue stone, and seldom deviated from the height of two stories.

The usual honours of forts and military guards were received here, as through every place we passed, of whatever size or distinction it might be: the walled city, and the village, were equally attentive to this act of official civility, according to their respective capacities. It may, indeed, be here observed, that through the whole of our travels in this country, whether by land, or by water, and not excepting Tartary, the villages, as well as the cities, have their mandarin, and his guards proportioned to the magnitude and consequence of the place where they are cantoned; and that the interior parts of the kingdom are equally secured by troops, as the frontiers, or sea coast: we may, therefore, be said to pass, almost, between a continued line of soldiers, on each side of the canals, or rivers; where the intervals are so small between those villages and great towns, which form a chain of military cantonments.

In the latter part of the afternoon we anchored, for some time, at another considerable town, where the junks stopped to take in a supply of China wine. It is situated on the side of a large lake, which, in some places, was divided only by a bank from the river on which we sailed. As I could not discover any land in the distant part of this large body of water, I was disposed to consider it as an inlet of the Yellow sea.

The country now began to wear a swampy appearance, and, of course, did not altogether retain those beautiful features, which I have faintly represented it to possess, during the more recent parts of our voyage. This circumstance naturally arises from the great number of rivers, canals, and lakes, that aid the navigation of this part of the

1793.
November.

country; which being subject to occasional inundations from them, is frequently in the situation that I have described.

In the evening we saw a very fine palace belonging to the mandarin of a town, through which we afterwards passed in the night, and neither knew its form or character: nor should we have even discerned the grandeur of the mandarin's residence, if he had not illuminated it in honour of the Ambassador and his brethren on board the junks; and ordered out his guard, consisting of at least five hundred men, to enlighten with their paper lanterns the banks of the river.

Sunday 3.

This morning was very keen and frosty. The fleet anchored opposite to a large lake, which appeared to communicate with several considerable rivers. The country continues its flat and swampy appearance. I have this day been informed that the river on which we are proceeding is called the Yellow river, which may probably be owing to the communications it may have with the Yellow sea. There is a considerable town situated between the lake and this river.

The junks remained at anchor no longer than was necessary to receive the usual supply of provisions and wine. In a short time we passed another lake; and, without enumerating the canals, with their stone and wooden bridges, as well as the villages and towns that claimed our transient attention, I shall come at once to another lake that appeared to be much larger than any of those which have been already mentioned. A great number of junks were sailing across it in different directions, and several hundred fishing-boats were employed on it in their necessary occupations. It is said to abound in fish; those we procured were small, of the size of a sprat, but in taste and shape resembling an haddock. Nor was our river deficient in its produce, as plenty of fine trout were taken in it.

At some distance from the river, on the side opposite to the lake, is a very large, and, as far as we could judge, magnificent city, furrounded by

by a wall, named Chun-foong. The suburbs which extend towards the water, are also very considerable, and the houses of which they consist are built of a dark stone, roofed with tiles of the same colour. They are only of one story, and their windows are circular and grated with iron, which give them a very disagreeable appearance. The wall of this town is not so high as those we have hitherto seen, and, as far as I could judge by the telescope, does not rise above fourteen or fifteen feet. The part of it which we passed could not be less than two miles in extent; which may lead us to the plausible conjecture that the city itself is at least eight miles in circumference. From its general appearance and accessory circumstances, no doubt could be entertained of its extensive commerce; and, from the dress and manners of its inhabitants, a similar opinion might be entertained of their urbanity and opulence.

1793.
November.

At four o'clock the fleet anchored at the extremity of the wall of this city, and received a fresh supply of wine and provisions: these, indeed, were now provided in such plenty, that the poor people who navigated the junks found themselves in a state of unexpected and unexampled luxury, from the superabundance of them.

Several of the gentlemen from the other junks did us the honour to pay us a visit, which produced an evening of great mirth and festivity.

The weather was extremely cold. We passed two large lakes, which, by their respective branches, unite with the river. At noon we sailed through a considerable town, and beyond it, saw several small canals on either side of the river, with many boats on them employed in fishing. The country is flat and marshy, and wherever the road on the side of the river passes over swampy dips or vallies, wooden platforms are erected to preserve the level, and avoid the inconvenience of sinking into them.

Monday 4.

A large walled city, whose name is Kiangfou; next claimed our attention. At the entrance of it a mandarin and his guards appeared

on

1793.

November.

on the water-side in martial figure, to give the customary salutes. At each end of the line of troops there was a temporary arch erected, with a connected platform, about three feet from the ground, guarded by railing, and projecting into the river: these temporary structures were covered with beautiful matting, the rails were bound with silk of various colours, and ornamented with knots and festoons: the arches were decorated in similar taste, and the whole was erected for the convenience of the Ambassador, if it had suited his convenience to stop, and visit the mandarin.

At a small distance, and on an elevated situation, was an encampment of the mandarin's guards. The tents were pitched close to each other, in a circular form, with a small vacant space as an entrance to the mandarin's pavilion, which occupied the center: it was decorated in a very elegant manner with ribbons and silken streamers: the front of it was open, and displayed its interior ornaments; it contained a table covered with a collation, and surrounded with fine chairs, with a canopy over one of them. The mandarin's attendants appeared to be in waiting, and a centinel was on duty on each side of the pavilion.

This regale was prepared with great politeness and hospitality in honour of the Ambassador and the mandarins on board the junks, if the order of the voyage would have permitted them to have delayed its progress for a short time, to have acknowledged these respectful attentions.

Each tent had a flag of green silk, ornamented with golden figures and Chinese characters, flying on the top of it, so that this encampment was a very pretty and picturesque object.

At a small distance from it, there was a large town, the houses of which being built of stone gave it a very superior appearance, and the inhabitants possessed all the exterior of an opulent and polished people.

Here

Here we stopped for a short time in order to receive a supply of provisions, as well as to be furnished with a body of those men whose employment it is to tow the junks. They wore a kind of uniform, and had red caps on their heads, by which their laborious profession is known and distinguished. Our eyes were very much gratified at this place by the sight of a considerable number of women, who appeared to us not only to possess fine features, but fair complexions.

1793.
November.

At five o'clock we came to the suburbs of a very large city, and passed at least a mile along the suburbs before we reached the wall of it. From such a view as my situation would admit, and the best information I could obtain, this place is at least nine miles in circumference. Several hundred junks were moored along its wharfs, some of which were of very large dimensions. The wall is at least forty feet in height, and has a very ancient appearance. The redoubts which support the gates are such as I had not seen in China, being in the form of an half-moon. The troops were drawn out, as in other places, on our arrival, and a very brilliant illumination, exhibited by the mandarin, did not fail to dissipate the gloom of the evening.

This morning the fleet entered a large lake, adorned with a great number of beautiful islands. The most considerable of them is on the south-west side of the lake; its length is about three quarters of a mile, but not of equal breadth. It contains a mandarin's palace, with several summer houses fancifully scattered about it; the whole shaded with the finest trees, and presenting to us, as we sailed by it, a most inviting scene of rural elegance. But beauty was not the only circumstance which allured our attention to this charming island; a considerable rock, an object of comparative grandeur, also rose from the midst of its groves, and was crowned with a stately pagoda. Tuesday 5.

We

1793.

November.

We had no sooner passed this delightful spot, possessing so much beauty in itself, and commanding so large a portion of fine prospect around it, than we entered another river, the mouth of which is surrounded with high lands, offering the most picturesque scenery that can be imagined: thick woods, stately edifices, lofty pagodas, and mountainous shapes, with the river and the lake, all blended together in one picture, may exercise the imagination of those who read this work, but far transcends the descriptive powers of the writer of it. It may not also be unworthy of remark, that all the houses which occupy the heights surrounding this bay, are ornamented with gilt pyramids or pinnacles, which rise from the roof, and give some of the buildings the appearance of Gothic architecture.

This river, as might be expected, soon brought us to a town, where the soldiers, which were drawn up on either side of the water to salute the fleet, were different from those we had already seen, by the variety of their dress and the colour of their standards; which were now multiplied into white, scarlet, orange, light and dark blue and green.

A mandarin's palace, very finely ornamented with painting, gilding, and silken streamers, a river crowded with junks, and a charming country on either side of it, were the only objects that presented themselves to us, till we arrived before the city of Mee-you-mee-awng. The walls are of great height, and guarded by towers; while a kind of glacis slopes down from the foot of it to a meadow, agreeably planted with trees that stretch along the side of the river, and add very much to the beauty of the place.

Here the fleet anchored for a short time to take in the usual supply of provisions; and, from the general appearance of the city, as well as of the adjacent country, they seemed to have been formed by the hand of Commerce itself for the purposes of navigation.

Beauty

Beauty of situation might also be added to the abundance of its productions; for the banks of the river that passed before its walls, when they rose into height, were covered with hanging woods and gardens, which gave a charming variety to the transient scene.

1793.
November.

To these pleasing objects succeeded one of a very different nature, and, by its contrast, acquired an additional importance. It was no less than a large body of soldiers drawn up on an esplanade; the line of which, extending near a mile, divided into companies distinguished by the variety of their uniforms, and enlivened by the number, as well as colour of their standards, offered a very beautiful spectacle.

No other object for some time attracted our notice, except a small dock yard for building junks, enclosed in a fine grove, which formed a pretty, picturesque scene. The river now appeared to be proceeding boldly on into a rich, fertile country, but of more unequal surface than any we had yet seen; when, by an unexpected meander, it brought us back to the city of Mee-you-mee-awng, to astonish us with the extent of it. Here we passed through another large bridge, and near a circular bastion which commanded, by its battery, every direction of the river.

On another turn of the stream, a very fine hill rose up, as it were, before us, whose summit is crowned with a magnificent pagoda, and whose declivities have all the decoration that could be conferred on them by beautiful gardens and elegant buildings. At the foot of this elevated spot are two stone arches, or gateways, which open to a walk that winds gradually up the hill to the pagoda.

The palace of the mandarin, of whose garden this hill appeared to form a part, is situated on the banks of the river, from whence a broad flight of steps ascends to the gate of the outer court. This edifice is perfectly suited, both in its size and appearance, to the dignity of its possessor. Like other buildings of the same kind and character in China,

1793.
November.

it is perfectly uniform in all its parts. The body of the house rises to three stories, and the wings are diminished to two. A paved court occupies a large space in the front; and the whole is enclosed by a wall, including a large garden, that extends to the beautiful hill, of which a very inadequate sketch has been already given.

The country continues to make great advances in landscape beauty: fields full of fertility, with their thick and shady enclosures; farms embosomed in orchards; villas, and their gardens, we have long continued to see: but now the mountain rises before us, not rugged and barren, but verdant to its very top; while innumerable herds of cattle, and flocks of sheep, hang down its sloping pastures.

Another town soon succeeded; and to that a lake, surrounded by hills of the same kind, and covered with the same inhabitants as those which have just been mentioned. From this enchanting spot our fleet passed through a lock, and between a draw-bridge, into a canal, that divides another large commercial town. Here we saw a brick-kiln, and a great pile of bricks just made: they appear to be composed of a kind of sand, mixed up with the mud of the river. The kiln itself is built of the materials which it makes, and is in the form of a sugar loaf.

In the evening we passed a large walled city, containing all the circumstances of the various places of that description which have been already enumerated. Several pagodas were illuminated on the occasion, and had a very pretty appearance amid the gloom of night.

C H A P. XVIII.

The voyage continued. A succession of various objects. The elegant attentions of a mandarin to the embassy. Captains of the junks punished for embezzling the provisions supplied for the use of the Ambassador and his suite. Husbandry of the Chinese. Preparations for sending the heavy baggage belonging to the embassy to Chusan: several persons of the suite ordered to accompany it. Arrive at Hoang-tchew. Captain Mackintosh, and the other gentlemen, set off for Chusan.

A TOWN, which we entered this morning, had a very dismal appearance, from the colour of the houses, which are all built of a black brick. They were, however, much more lofty than any we had yet seen in China; some of them rising to four stories; and there were very few indeed that had less than two.

1793.
November.
Wednes-
day 6.

We passed beneath a very handsome stone bridge of three arches, that appeared to be of recent erection. It was built in the manner of our bridges in England; the center arch occupying a much larger span, and rising to an higher elevation than the lateral ones. On the parapet, over the former, were six round small stones, by way of ornament, with Chinese characters engraven on them.

The mandarin's palace, a very singular structure, immediately attracts the attention on passing the bridge near which it stands. On each side of the principal gate are two lofty walls, painted of a red colour, to prevent the building from being seen but in a front view of it. The gateway is very much enriched with sculpture, and the usual accompaniments of Chinese characters: it is of stone, and

1793.
November.

supports an apartment. The house itself is painted of different colours, with a stone gallery in front, and covered with a roof of the same material.

The mandarin, who resided here, had given to his hospitality the most elegant appearance. He had caused a temporary stage, or platform to be erected, from the palace to the side of the river, in case the Ambassador, and the mandarins, should find it convenient to land. The roof of this building was covered with silk of every colour; a great number of lamps were suspended from it, fancifully adorned with gauze and ribbons, and the floor was covered with a fine, variegated matting. But this was not the whole of the elegant attentions which were exerted by the mandarin on the occasion; as he had caused a large screen, or curtain, of this matting, to be fixed on the opposite side of the water, in order to hide some ruinous buildings, that would otherwise have disgraced the gay picture he had contrived, by their deformity.

The soldiers, under the command of this mandarin, were of a different appearance from any we had seen. They wore red hats, with a very high and pointed crown; on the side of which was a brass plate, that appeared to be fastened with yellow ribbons.

Towns, locks, bridges, and pagodas still continued to appear in an hasty and astonishing succession. In the afternoon, a very large country residence was seen at some distance, with a very lofty pagoda rising, as it perspectively appeared, from the center of it. The tower terminated in a cupola, with a spiral ornament rising from the top, crowned with a ball, from each side of which a chain hung down till it touched the upper story of the building.

Soon after we had passed this structure, the banks of the river were, for a considerable distance, so high, as to obscure all view of the adjacent country.

When

When the fleet came to anchor, the grand mandarin visited all the junks, in consequence of a complaint that had been made against some of the captains of them, for embezzling the provisions which were daily supplied for the use of the embassy. After a severe examination into this business, the mandarin was so convinced of the truth of the charge, that the persons accused were immediately sentenced to be bamboosed: they were accordingly stretched on the ground, and being held down by two soldiers, were struck, in a very violent manner, across the hips; till the judge gave a signal for the punishment to cease.

It had been a very foggy night, and the weather continued to be hazy till ten o'clock, when the fog cleared away, and a fine day succeeded, which unfolded to the view a charming and fertile country, bounded by hills, whose summits were crowned with pagodas. Tuesday 7.

I, this day, caught a transient view of the practical husbandry of the country; as the different operations of digging, manuring, and ploughing were going forwards in fields on the river's side. And though the Chinese farmers certainly produce as fine crops of grain as any I have ever seen in Europe, this circumstance must arise from the sole efforts of persevering labour, as their agricultural utensils are of a very clumsy form and inconvenient mechanism.

In the course of this day we passed through a noble arch, and entered a very large town, whose houses, which are, many of them, so lofty as to reach to three stories, are covered with plaister, and universally painted black. After a course of at least two miles through this town, we passed beneath another arch of dimensions equal to that through which we had entered it.

Another town, of the same size and appearance, soon succeeded; where, as a part of the houses, on the side of the river, projected a small

1793.
November.

small space over it, the men who towed us could be of no service, and the junks were dragged forwards very slowly by boats.

The continual interfection of canals, with the succession of lakes and rivers, may be supposed to have perplexed a more keen observation than mine; and, in the extraordinary succession of objects, I may not have always been correct as to the exact character of the water on which we failed: the rivers may have sometimes assumed the form of canals, and the canals have sometimes expanded into the appearance of rivers; but if I should, at any time, have mistaken the one for the other, either from inaccuracy of observation, or the hurry of the moment when I wrote those remarks from whence this volume is formed, such an accidental circumstance will not operate as to the more particular and important information of it. I shall not, however, hesitate to consider it as a very noble river, which brought us beneath the walls of the city of Chaunopaung, that were crowded with its inhabitants to see us pass: and as the stream soon bore us from it, there was no opportunity to observe whether it had any circumstance of novelty worthy of record.

Friday 8.

At noon the junks came to an anchor in the country. When his Excellency sent for several persons of his suite, to inform them of the regulations which would take place on their arrival at Hoang-tchew, that they might make the necessary arrangements. They were as follows:

All the heavy baggage was intended to be forwarded from Hoang-tchew to Chufan, in order to be put on board the Hindostan, and conveyed by sea to Canton. It was accordingly ordered, that no person should retain any thing but what might be necessary for present use, as the junks, which would shortly receive us, were not sufficiently large to carry heavy cargoes.

It was also settled, that Lieutenant-Colonel Benson, Doctor Dinwidie, and Mr. Alexander, were to accompany Captain Mackintosh to Chusan: four servants, and two mechanics, to take care of the stores, were also to attend upon those gentlemen. The rest of the suite were to accompany his Excellency over land, and I was of that number.

1793.
November.

The country still continued to be as we have for some time described it. As we proceeded, and the country became more unequal, the pagodas, which are almost always placed on heights, seemed to multiply; and there were few of them that did not reach to seven or eight stories. As for towns and villages we never ceased to see a continual succession of them; and when they did not cover the banks of our river, they appeared at a distance, where we might suppose them to be reflected by some other water.

Saturday 9.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the fleet was ordered to anchor in the open country, near the shore, when the grand mandarin, Choo-Tadge-In, came round to each junk, the owners of which he ordered into his presence, and, after a short examination, commanded every one of them to be bamboosed: though I could never learn the offence which produced this example of summary justice.

This morning the air was extremely cold and piercing. We passed several plantations of tallow-trees, and arrived at Hoang-tchew in the afternoon, when the whole fleet came to anchor in the principal part of the city.

Sunday 10.

The junks were now fastened together, and orders were issued to forbid any person belonging to the suite to go on shore. Indeed, as it appeared, to prevent any attempt of that kind, a body of Chinese soldiers pitched their tents in the street opposite the junks, and formed a little camp there, to do duty over the embassy.

In

1793.

November.

In the same street there were also several erections like triumphal arches, where the mandarins used to come every day, to sit in state; and, as we were informed, to consult on the affairs of the city.

Monday 11.

No circumstance of any moment happened from this time, till the Thursday following, which was the day of our departure; and the business of arranging and dividing the baggage, according to the orders issued for that purpose, did not allow us much leisure for observation, if any thing had occurred worthy of attention: but, the truth is, nothing did occur, but the never-ceasing uproar of the inhabitants of the city, who were continually flocking to the junks to take a view of us.

On Wednesday night the attendant mandarin passed through all the junks, and requested that the different articles of the baggage should have the respective names of Chusan, or Canton, written upon them, according to their respective destination; which was no sooner completed, than those consigned to the former place were sent off by coolies to the depot appointed to receive them.

The Ambassador ordered ten dollars to be given to the owners of each junk, for their respective crews.

Thursday 14.

Lieutenant-Colonel Benson, Doctor Dinwiddie, Mr. Alexander, with the servants and mechanics already mentioned, set off this morning, to proceed with Captain Mackintosh, to join the Hindostan at Chusan.

C H A P. XIX.

The Ambassador, with his suite, proceed through the city of Hoang-tchew to the Green River, where they embark. Formalities on the occasion. Circumstances of the voyage. Description of the country. Respect paid to the Ambassador. Leave the junks, and proceed by land. Mode of conveyance. Return to the junks. The voyage continued.

THE Ambassador, after having received the farewell visit of the mandarin of Hoang-tchew, set off, with his whole retinue, for the Green river, where they were to embark in junks of a lesser burthen. His Excellency was carried in a palanquin, and the rest of the suite in a kind of sedan chair. The guards, commanded by Lieutenants Parish and Crewe, preceded the cavalcade.

1793.
November.
Thursday 14.

On passing through the city gates, the embassy was saluted with three guns. The distance between the two rivers could not be less than seven miles, the whole of which was covered by the city and suburbs of Hoang-tchew. The streets were lined, on either side, with foldiers, or it would have been impossible to have passed, from the prodigious crowds of people, whom curiosity had collected on the occasion.

The streets of this city are very narrow, but well paved; and the houses, which are two and three stories high, being uniformly built of brick, have a very neat appearance. The warehouses of the merchants exceed any I ever saw, both for splendor and magnitude; while the shops are fitted up, both within and without, in a style of the greatest elegance. Their goods, whether inclosed in packages, or displayed to view, were disposed in the most pleasing and attractive

1793.
November.

mode of arrangement. Hoang-tchew is a very magnificent, populous, and opulent city, maintaining by its commerce the immense number of its inhabitants; and is the capital of a province to which it gives a name.

At noon his Excellency arrived at the Green river, on whose banks a very large body of troops, all armed with helmets, and accompanied with a large corps of artillery, were drawn up in regular order: the whole consisting, as it appeared, of several thousand men; the grandeur of whose appearance was enlivened by a great number of gaudy standards and ensigns. The artillery troops were dressed in blue, and had figures of the ordnance embroidered on their cloaths, by way of distinction. They consisted of several companies, and were stationed in the center, and on the flanks of the lines. Their cannon were by much the largest we had seen in China: and as the British cavalcade passed through two very elegant triumphal arches, it was saluted by a discharge of artillery.

The river being very shallow towards the shore, the junks lay at the distance of fifty yards from it, and were ranged in a line close to each other. A platform was erected from the triumphal arch to the junk appointed to receive the Ambassador, which consisted of a great number of carts fastened together, with split bamboos laid across them.

The multitudes of people assembled to see the embarkation were so great, that I should hazard credibility were I to express my opinion of them. Besides the crowds which were on foot, great numbers were mounted on buffaloes, or drawn in carts by the same animals, who were tame and docile as our oxen. Some of them had three or four persons on their backs at the same time, whom they bore with great ease, and were submissive to their riders. The buffalo is very much used in this country in every kind of draught labour, and particularly in the occupations of husbandry.

On

On entering these junks, they were found, though of small dimensions, to be fitted up with great neatness and peculiar accommodation. At five o'clock in the afternoon the whole fleet was unmoored, and proceeded on its voyage.

1793.
November.

I went on board the store junk, where I saw the mandarin, Van-Tadge-In, examining one of the people belonging to it, concerning some misdemeanour he had committed. The poor culprit was ordered to be punished with a bastinado, and he accordingly received two dozen strokes from a bamboo across the thighs. Friday 15,

The greater part of this day's voyage was between ranges of mountainous country, offering a great variety of romantic and picturesque scenes. The intervening vallies were covered with the tallow and mulberry trees; from the former of which the Chinese make their candles, which are of a superior quality. This tree is here called the latchoo, and is remarkable for the beauty of its appearance; it is the size of an apple tree, having scarlet leaves edged with yellow, and blossoms of a pale purple. The mulberry tree is cultivated in China with great care, for the produce of silk, which is a principal article of Chinese commerce.

We this day passed several small villages, and a walled city, named Syountong: it is situated about three quarters of a mile from the river, and near a large forest that shades the country about it.

This part of the river, though very broad, is seldom more than two or three feet in depth, and in no place more than four. The water has a green hue, and the bottom gravel. The beach, however, is a mixture of sand and stones.

In the evening of this day we were very much delighted with a view of the city of Zaungoa in a state of magnificent illumination. The troops were also drawn up on the banks, as we perceived by their

1793.
November.

lanterns; and from the number of them, as well as the brilliant appearance of the place, there was every reason to consider it as in the first rank of Chinese cities. The Ambassador was saluted here as he had been by a great number of forts in the course of the day.

Saturday 16. The weather was exceeding cold, accompanied with rain.

We passed several stone pagodas of a greater height than any we had yet seen, some of them reaching to nine stories. The environs of the river still continued to be mountainous and full of picturesque beauty, heightened by the fancy and singular genius of the inhabitants, both as to cultivation and ornament. Large plantations of the tallow and mulberry tree occasionally appear, to vary and enliven the succession of delightful views which unfolded themselves as the stream bore us along.

The salutes of artillery were now become so frequent, that they were tiresome; as the banks of the river are, in a great measure, lined with forts, which expended their gun-powder in doing honour to the embassy. It may, indeed, be said, with a strict regard to truth, that in our long journey through this kingdom, we had never proceeded a single mile without receiving the salute of some fort or military cantonment: nor were these military honours altogether confined to the sides of the river; for this evening the fleet was an object of respect from a body of troops at a considerable distance, as we could judge from their illumination; which had a very pleasing effect.

Sunday 17.

About three o'clock in the morning I was awakened by a very heavy discharge of artillery; and instantly quitting my bed, I perceived, by the number of lanterns, that a very large body of men were drawn up on the shore: but this was not all; for a lighted torch was fixed to the carriage of every gun, and the bearer of each stand of colours was also distinguished by a flambeau, which gave new brilliance and effect to the military illumination.

In

In an early part of the afternoon the fleet came to an anchor opposite to a small, but very pretty town, on the banks of the river; and in a short time the conducting mandarin visited the junks, to convey to the whole of the ambassador's train, according to their rank, presents of perfumes, fans, Imperial tea, and nankeen.

1793.
November.

We now seemed to have quitted the mountainous country for an extensive plain, covered with plantations of the tallow and mulberry tree, intermixed with villages, and the ornamented habitations of mandarins; some of which were faced with a lead-coloured plaister, bordered with white;—an arrangement of colours not uncommon in our own country, whether applied to the furniture of houses, or the dress of ladies.

Monday 18.

The provisions which we now received, though by no means deficient in quantity, were far inferior, indeed, in quality to those we received in the former part of our journey; which we were made to understand arose from the nature of the country, rather than from any inattention to the comfort and convenience of the embassy. Indeed, there could be no reason to suppose that the Emperor had not even been anxious to render our departure from his kingdom as agreeable as respect and exterior honour could make it. In short, from Tartary to Canton, it was a chain of salutes, which were so frequent, as I have before observed, that it might be compared almost to a train of wild-fire laid from one end of the empire to the other.

I saw a groupe of water-mills, consisting of ten or twelve of them, all turned by a small cut from the river, which made a circuit round a meadow where they were erected: they bore an exact resemblance to our flour-mills in England, and appeared to be worked on the same principle: they were now, however, become very common objects. Those, which I have now mentioned, were, as I understood, employed in threshing rice. Among the various circumstances

common

1793.
November.

common to the country, we this day saw a pagoda that rose to the height of eleven stories.

The fleet anchored at night before the gates of the city of Tootchou.

Tuesday 19. The country in some degree resumed its former appearance; the plains on each side being backed by a long range of mountains rising in the horizon.

The fleet anchored this morning before a very considerable village, to wait for the junks of Lord Macartney and Sir George Staunton, which had fallen considerably astern.

Wednesday 20.

Soon after dinner the whole fleet was moored opposite to a large town, a spot which offered such a display of beautiful and contrasted objects, as I never remember to have seen. The river was, of course, the central object of the picture: on one side of it was a town with all its peculiar circumstances; and before it a military encampment with all its gay and gaudy decorations. On the other side was a range of lofty, perpendicular mountains.

The rest of this day was passed in making preparations for proceeding a short way by land; in order to embark in other junks.

Thursday 21. At an early hour the Ambassador and his whole train disembarked, and proceeded in palanquins, fedans, and bamboo chairs, or on horse-back, as they severally chose: for, in all our expeditions by land, the mandarin Van-Tadge-In always consulted the suite as to the mode of travelling which they preferred, and never failed in accommodating them according to their respective inclinations.

The cavalcade proceeded but a short way, before we entered a walled city of considerable extent, and with very large suburbs, called

Chanfoiyeng. It is situated in a valley formed by two large hills, and about a quarter of a mile from the river. On the summit of one of these eminences is a pagoda of a very ancient construction, and flat at the top, instead of being crowned with a turret, or rising to a point, like those which every moment presented themselves to our view. On passing through the gates of this city, both as he entered and passed out of it, the Ambassador was honoured, as usual, with a discharge of artillery. The streets were very narrow and lined with shops, fitted up with that interior arrangement and display of commodities, as well as exterior decoration, which has distinguished so many of the towns which we had visited.

After passing another walled city, and seven villages, which were also surrounded with walls, we arrived at one o'clock at the city of Sooping, where dinner was already prepared. The remainder of our journey was along a good road, through a fertile country varied by hills; till, after passing, and surprising by our appearance, a succession of villages, we arrived at five o'clock at the city of Yoofau, and were introduced to the house of a mandarin, opposite to the wharf where the junks lay at anchor, in which we were to continue our voyage. The baggage of the embassy had arrived before us, and was distributed in the several courts of the building. After being refreshed with tea, every one was busy in seeing their baggage properly stowed on board their respective junks; and, in the evening, the Ambassador and his whole retinue were safely embarked, and not only ready, but anxious, to proceed on their voyage.

The rain was without remission through the whole of this day, so *Friday 22.* that the junks were prevented from quitting their situation; a circumstance that did not fail to exercise the patience of the passengers of every rank, who had not yet learned to prefer the accommodations, however well contrived, on board a junk moored to a wharf, to the comforts of an house on the shore.

C H A P. XX.

The voyage continued. Curious circumstances of the banks of the river. The embassy leaves the junks for vessels of a larger size. Circumstances of the voyage. Appearance of the country. Presents from the mandarin of Tyaung-sbi-senna. Brief account of tombs and sepulchres. Pass the town of Saunt y Tawn, and a cluster of three cities. Arrive at Chinga-foo.

1793.

November.
Sunday 24.

THE fleet had sailed in the night, and anchored early in the morning before a large city called Mammenoa.

The river now flowed between a range of huge unconnected masses of stone, which, as they did not appear to be rooted in the earth, cannot be called rocks or crags; but had all the appearance of having been disjointed and thrown about by some strange convulsion of nature. In the interstices between them there were veins of earth of different appearances, but not in regular strata: some of these were of a deep brown or black colour, others were yellow; and they were occasionally intermixed with sand and gravel. In some parts I observed people cutting the stone into the shape of bricks, and in others, there were large heaps of them, which were of a deep red. Several of these huge stones had been excavated with great labour, and formed a sort of dwelling, many of whose inhabitants came forth to see our fleet pass along before them. Some of the intervals between these stones were of sufficient extent to admit of gardens with their buildings and pagodas, which produced very picturesque, romantic, and delightful pictures. When the country, which is in the highest state of cultivation, was let in through the open spaces between these stones, it produced a curious and pleasing perspective. This very singular
and

and stupendous scenery continued, for a length of several miles, with little change, but what arose from the lesser or greater magnitude of the objects, and the occasional decorations of art in building and ornamented gardens.

1793.
November.

In the afternoon the fleet anchored before the city of Hoa-quoc, where we were agreeably surpris'd to receive orders for the removal of the embassy into larger junks, in which we should find a very pleasing change in our accommodations and comforts. These junks were hauled up along-side those which we then occupied; and, in a very short time, the whole of the baggage was shifted into them.

Here the grand mandarin of Hoa-quoc sent to each junk, except — that which contained the soldiers, two cases of various fruits, and as many boxes of sweet cakes and confectionary.

The rain which had continued almost without ceasing for the last two days, abated, and the weather became moderate. The city of Quiol-thee-sheng, where the fleet anchored for some time, has nothing remarkable but its wall, which is built of the red bricks that I mentioned yesterday. Monday 25.

The appearance of the country was as beautiful as cultivation could make it; with a few rocks of a red stone occasionally breaking the level of it. Near to some of them there appeared to be quarries where the people were hewing the large stones into smaller pieces, of the same size and figure of those already described.

The river had this day a more busy appearance than it had yet assumed, from the great number of rice mills which were at work on this part of it.

The fog of this morning so far obscured the country, as to render the distant parts altogether imperceptible. At noon, however, the Tuesday 26.
F f atmosphere

1793.
November.

atmosphere became clear, and the eye ranged over a flat, but as usual, fertile range of country, which, as far as I could distinguish, abounded in fields of rice: but the broadest and most uninterrupted level never presented a dull or uninteresting prospect in any part of China through which we had passed; as the seats of the mandarins and their gardens, with the farm-houses embosomed in the trees, and the long line of thickets that frequently form the enclosures of the fields, compose a picture which, though it may not be altogether suited to the canvas, is very pleasing to the eye in its natural appearance.

The provisions with which the junks had been for some time supplied, were of so bad a quality that we frequently gave them to the poor people who conducted the vessels. This day, however, brought us the hope of better fare, by an improvement in the quality of the various articles which were now sent on board: but our table sunk again, on the succeeding day, to that state of mediocrity to which we had been habituated since our departure from Houang-tchew.

Wednes-
day 27.

The morning was very cold and hazy:—the thermometer sunk to forty-six degrees.

I saw several fields where the farmers were busy in ploughing: they use buffaloes for that purpose. We were surprised also with a very unusual sight, which was a village of mud houses or huts, where the appearance of the inhabitants was as wretched as their dwellings. This circumstance I was not able to reconcile to the general industry of the inhabitants; and, particularly, in that abundant part of the country, where it appeared, to me at least, that industry could always find a comfortable support.

The suite this day received from the mandarin a present of caddies of tea to every person who composed it.

From

From the breadth of the river, the strength of the current, and boisterous wind, the waves run high, with a violent surf. Here the astonishing navigation of the river was varied by a fleet of fishing-boats, consisting of at least an hundred sail; and, during the whole of this day's voyage, we continually encountered little squadrons of them.

1793.
November.
Thursday 28.

In the afternoon we passed the city of Tyaung-shi-sennau, which is not only one of the largest places we had seen, but the most commodiously situated for commerce, being near the conflux of several rivers; nor can I be accused, with justice, of the least exaggeration, when I assert, that there were not less than a thousand junks at anchor before it.

Almost opposite to this city, but situated on another branch of the river, is a large town in an elevated position, but not surrounded with a wall, which is called Tfua-seenga. Nor can I resist making the observation, that, however I might be amused with the variety of prospects, and novelty of objects which continually solicited and rewarded my attention, I never felt an interval of astonishment at the villages, towns, and cities, with which, if I may use the expression, the banks of this river were thronged; as well as the myriads of people that they poured forth as we passed by, or anchored near, them.

The grand mandarin of Tyaung-shi-senna, came on board the Ambassador's junk, with a numerous train of attendants, to visit his Excellency. This ceremonial was accompanied with presents of silks, pieces of fine scarlet cotton, various coloured stuffs, elegant smelling bottles, pieces of porcelain, and caddies of the finest tea.

A village, whose houses are all built with a blue brick, and roofed with pantiles of the same colour, was the only object in this day's voyage that possessed any circumstance of novelty. The cities, mandarins palaces, and pagodas, did not differ, as far as we could judge,

Friday 29.

1793.
November.

from those which the reader may think, perhaps, have been too often described. The prospect of the country was sometimes interrupted by banks of sand, which continued for many miles on each side of the river.

We passed two brick kilns, with a small village around them, built for the accommodation of the workmen employed in the manufactory. We could form some judgment of the trade of the place by the large quantities of bricks formed in regular piles; both of those which were burned, and such as were ready for the kiln. This place is called Yu-was, which signifies, as I was informed, a furnace for making bricks.

Saturday 30.

A city, at the distance of two miles from the river, furrounded with meadows and orchards, and a very pretty small town, with several detached villages scattered about it, were the only objects which gratified our attention in the early part of this day. As we proceeded, the prospect was more delightful than the imagination can conceive; not merely from the beauty of the objects, but their contrast to each other. On one side of the river a verdant plain of vast extent, covered with herds of cattle, and flocks of sheep, stretched on to a range of lofty mountains that rose boldly in the horizon: while the whole country, on the opposite side of the river, was shaded with forests, in whose openings we could distinguish the humble cottage of the peasant, and the painted palace of the mandarin.

Cities and towns, as usual, continually appeared on each bank of the river; and having passed a small lake, we came to a village furrounded with trees, and distinguished by the ruins of a pagoda. The part that remained, consisted of three stories, and that which had fallen, lay in fragments about it.

The river, which was very unequal in its size, as well as depth, now expanded into great breadth; and, as the wind blew fresh, the current

current swelled into what might almost be called a rough sea. The waves were so violent, that the junk in which I sailed, was in great danger of being overfet.

1793.
December.

The thermometer was sunk so low as forty degrees, and the fields were covered with frost. The country was, for some time, bounded on either side by beautiful mountains, which sunk at length into one unvarying level; where fields of rice, and flourishing orchards, were those branches of cultivation which we could best distinguish.

Sunday 2.

I mentioned, on a former occasion; that there were no public cemeteries, or places of burial, but in the vicinity of large towns and cities; and that, at a distance from them, the spot where a person dies always affords him a grave. Hence it is that the whole country may be considered as a place of burial; and we could never turn our eyes to either bank of the river, but some trophy of death appeared, of rude construction, or more elegant form, according to the rank and opulence of the victim. Nay, it is not uncommon among the Chinese, to erect, during their lives, those sad repositories which are to contain their remains, when they are no longer numbered among the living. A greater number than usual of these solemn objects, and of more distinguished form than are generally seen, attracted our attention in this part of our voyage, and suggested the preceding observations.

The town of Taung-fong-au, by which we now sailed, has nothing to distinguish it from those which every hour presents to us, but the pleasing circumstance, which is not common to all of them, of its being surrounded with meadows, groves, and gardens.

The town of Saunt-yo-tawn, containing several elegant pagodas, which were seen above the groves that surrounded it, was a very pleasing and picturesque object. A succession of timber yards covered the banks of the river, and a large quantity of timber was floating in the water before them, which I understood to be in a state of

1793.

December.

of preparation for building junks; a principal business of the place. It must, indeed, be a principal business of the country at large; for when the internal commerce of China is considered, and that almost the whole of it is carried on in these vessels, on the numerous rivers and canals which every where intersect, and form a communication through the greatest part of this extensive kingdom; the quantity of timber used, and the number of artificers employed, in the construction of them, must render any attempt at calculation an idle presumption in a person under such confined circumstances as myself.

The quantity of gunpowder, expended in paying military respect to the diplomatic fleet, has, I fear, been already repeated; but I cannot omit that the Ambassador received, this day, more than usual honour from the artillery of May-taungo, a very considerable fortress on the bank of the river.

On the other side of the water is a very stately pagoda, built on an elevated spot, with a small village scattered about it. It may be supposed to belong to the mandarin, whose country residence is at a small distance from it.

Art and nature have equally combined to form the scenery of this charming place; but the most distinguishing circumstance of it is its contiguity to a cluster of three cities, which are not separated by the interval of a quarter of a mile from each other. Their names are, Loo Dichean, Morrinn Dow, and Chic-a-foo. The latter is built on a large sand bank in the middle of the river, but they are, all of them, more remarkable for their situation than their extent; or, as it appeared, their commercial importance. Of brick-kilns, indeed, there were plenty about them; and at a small distance I saw vast columns of smoke, which rose, as I was informed, from the furnace of a Porcelain manufactory.

In

In the evening we arrived at the city of Chinga-foo, where, from the crowd of people, the bustle made by the attendants of the mandarin, with the discharge of artillery, and the firing of rockets, such a scene of noise and confusion took place, as would have alarmed the whole British embassy on its first arrival in this country.

1793.
December.

Several temporary buildings were erected on purpose, as it appeared, to display a complimentary illumination of great magnificence, which was formed by a profusion of lamps, candles, and flambeaux.

A present of fruit and confectionary concluded the attentions which were received during our anchorage before this city.

C H A P. XXI.

The voyage continued; various circumstances of it. Pass the ruins of an ancient building. Peculiar modes of fishing in China. Extraordinary custom of employing birds in catching fish. Pass several cities, towns, &c. Arrive at Yoo-jenn-au, its beautiful situation. The junks anchor before Kaung-jou-foo. The reception of the Ambassador.

1793.

December.
Monday 2.

THOUGH this country abounds in a succession of never-ceasing variety to the traveller, it will not, I fear, possess that pleasing appearance in the opinion of the reader; as it is impossible to convey, by words, that diversifying character to the page of a printed book, which is seen in every leaf of the volume of Nature.

The slightest bend of the river presents a new prospect, or a new view of what has been already seen. Every city differs from the last; no two villages have the same form; and a multiplicity of circumstances occur, which occasion decided differences in the landscape figure of similar objects, that are incommunicable by any art of verbal description. Thus, I fear, it will prove, that, while the writer is receiving pleasure from the variety of objects that occur to his memory, he is preparing dullness for the reader by an enumeration of them.

The weather continued to be cold.—The river, for several miles, was flanked on each side by a range of hills; but the open country again appeared with its usual accompaniments of villages, towns, and cities. These, however, were now relieved by the contrasted appearance of a magnificent wood, or forest, that spread over a great extent of country.

The

The season of the year was now unfavourable for rural prospects, but still the country, almost every hour, presented scenes that would appear on the canvas with great advantage, if represented there by the pencil of a master. Though the frequency of pagodas may, sometimes, produce too much uniformity in the prospects of China, there are certain situations which receive a very great addition, taken in a picturesque view, from that kind of building.

The city of Fie-cho-jennau was so obscured by the plantations of trees about it, that we could not altogether judge of its extent; though we had now been long enough in China to have other criterions, by which we could determine on the size, or commerce of any place, besides a personal examination of it. The number of junks which were anchored near it, told the general state of its trade, while the crowd of spectators who came to gaze at us, or the number of soldiers who were drawn up to salute us, were sufficient indications of its extent and population. Of Fie-cho-jennau, we had no other means to form an opinion, but they were sufficient to satisfy us that it was in the first class of Chinese cities.

We, this morning, passed by the ruins of an ancient building; but to what purpose it had been originally applied, whether as a temple, erected by some great mandarin for his private worship, or a banqueting house for his private pleasure, I shall not pretend to determine; though the opinion of those I could consult, was in favour of the former suggestion. It had once been a considerable edifice, and the apartments that still remained were ornamented with shell-work. The dilapidated part of the building, formed a large heap of stones and rubbish. It was called by the people on board the junks, Wha-zaun. Tuesday 30

It is altogether unnecessary when we enter upon an hilly or mountainous country, to mention the addition of pagodas, which never fail to accompany it, as that command of prospect which is possessed by elevated situation, forms the delight of these buildings, as the loftiness of

1793.
December.

them marks the dignity or wealth of those to whom they belong.

Situation is an object of universal attention among the Chinese in erecting their places of residence, or of pleasure. Nor do I recollect seeing any house, or palace of a mandarin, which was not in the heart of a city, that had not been erected with a palpable view to the local circumstances about it. Sometimes they are seen in vallies, on the declivities of hills, and on the banks of rivers; while their gardens never fail to have something of a romantic character given to them by artificial rocks, or ruins, and the introduction of grotesque forms of art or nature.

In the afternoon we saw a great number of fishermen, who had changed their nets for rods and lines, and were busily employed in their necessary business. The modes of catching fish in the lakes, rivers, and canals of China, are various, and some of them peculiar to that country.

In the lakes and large rivers they frequently use the kind of baited lines, which are employed on board ships to catch fish in the sea. In other parts they use nets of the same kind, and in the same manner as the fishermen in Europe. In some places they erect tall bamboo stalks in the water, on which they spread a curtain of strong gauze, which they extend across certain channels of the rivers; and sometimes, where there is an opportunity, across the rivers themselves: this contrivance effectually intercepts the passage of the fish, which, from the baits thrown in, or attached to the gauze, are brought there in shoals; great numbers of boats then resort to these places, and the fishermen are seen to employ their nets with great success.

It appeared, however, on inquiry, that the rights of fishery are as strenuously exerted in China, as in our own country: for we were in-

formed, that none of these arts to get fish were employed but for the mandarin who possessed the shores of that part of the river, or by those who paid a rent for that privilege.

1793.
December.

The fish caught in the rivers which we have navigated, consist chiefly of a kind of whiting, and very fine trout, of an excellent quality and flavour; and they are so abundant, that though the fishermen are so numerous, and the demand so great from the junks, the former gain a very good livelihood, and the latter are well supplied with a food, which the crews of them are said to prefer.

But the most extraordinary mode of fishing in this country, and which, I believe, is peculiar to it, is by birds trained for that purpose. Nor are hawks, when employed in the air, or hounds, when following a scent on the earth, more sagacious in the pursuit of their prey, or more certain in obtaining it, than these birds in another element. They are called Looau, and are to be found, as I am informed, in no other country than that in which we saw them. They are about the size of a goose, with grey plumage, webbed feet, and have a long and very slender bill, that is crooked at the point. This extraordinary aquatic fowl, when in its wild state, has nothing uncommon in its appearance, nor does it differ from other birds whom nature has appointed to live on the water. It makes its nest among the reeds of the shore, or in the hollows of crags, or where an island offers its shelter and protection. Its faculty of diving, or remaining under water, is not more extraordinary than many other fowl that prey upon fish: but the most wonderful circumstance, and I feel as if I were almost risking my credibility while I relate it, is the docility of these birds in employing their natural instinctive powers, at the command of the fishermen who possess them, in the same manner as the hound, the spaniel, or the pointer, submit their respective sagacity to the huntsman, or the gunner.

1793.
December.

The number of these birds in a boat are proportioned to the size of it. At a certain signal they rush into the water, and dive after the fish; and the moment they have seized the prey, they fly with it to their boat; and though there are an hundred of these vessels in the fleet, these sagacious birds always return to their own masters, and amidst the throng of fishing junks which are sometimes assembled on these occasions, they never fail to distinguish that to which they belong. When the fish are in great plenty, these astonishing and industrious purveyors will soon fill a boat with them: and will sometimes be seen flying along with a fish of such size, as to make the beholder, who is unaccustomed to these sights, suspect his organs of vision: nay, it has been so repeatedly asserted to me as to prevent any doubt of the information, that, from their extraordinary docility and sagacity, when one of them happens to have taken a fish which is too bulky for the management of a single fowl, the rest will immediately afford their assistance. But while they are thus labouring for their masters, they are prevented from paying any attention to themselves, by a ring which is passed round their necks; and is so contrived as to frustrate any attempt to swallow the least morsel of what they take.

We also saw another fishing party, which, though it had more of ridicule than curiosity in it, I cannot forbear to describe. It consisted of at least thirty fishermen seated like so many taylor's on a wide board, supported by props in the river, where they were angling. There was another groupe of these people near the shore, who had embanked a part of the river with sand, where, by raking the bottom with a kind of shovel, they caught large quantities of shrimps and other shell fish.

At an early hour in the afternoon we arrived before the city of Vang-on-chean, where the junks anchored for two hours, and the Ambassador received a visit from the grand mandarin. This place is of considerable

considerable extent, and covers the whole flat that lies between the river and a range of high mountains.

1793.
December.

The river was for some distance enlivened by a succession of villages on each side of it. We then passed some considerable towns, which were succeeded by a double range of steep and craggy hills, with groves and thickets hanging down them; and wherever there was any flat or level spot, whether it was towards the bottom of these cliffs, or midway, or on their summits, an house was erected, which formed the most delightful and romantic scenery that can be conceived.

Wednesday 4.

I have already observed, that, in this part of our travels through China, the villages were not only populous, but in general of a pleasing appearance, and that a cluster of cottages, whose exterior form betrayed internal wretchedness, is by no means a common object. This morning, however, presented us with one of them, where the habitations were, in a great measure, formed of logs of wood; but the eye had not leisure to give them more than a glance of commiseration, so very alluring were the charms of the surrounding country; where, not only the residences of persons of distinction, but the village and the farm house, are placed in the most romantic situations, and individually display the most pleasing pictures, or together, compose the magnificence of landscape.

The weather was become moderate and pleasant; but the river was so shoaly in some places, and such a rocky bottom in others, that it was considered as dangerous to proceed after sun-set.

Thursday 5.

The pencil of a master might here communicate some general idea of the peculiar beauties of the country through which we passed, and the continual variation of it; but it is not in the power of language to convey any correct image even of the individual objects, much less of

the

1793-
December.

the picture formed by the combination of them. When I mention that I have seen forests and gardens, mountains and vallies, the palace and the cottage, the city and the village, the pagoda and the mill, with a variety of subordinate, but heightening circumstances, in one view, I certainly inform my readers of the constituent parts of the prospect; but to give them the least notion of their actual arrangement and relative situation; of their proportions and contrast, of their general distance from the eye, and comparative distance from each other, is beyond any exertion of verbal description.

At a large town, called Yoo-jenn-au, which is situated at the foot of a very high mountain, the river on which we had failed so long communicates with another equally capacious with itself. The situation of this place may be in some measure conceived, when we consider its position at the influx of two large rivers, both pouring their streams from mountainous and rocky chasms, whose declivities are enriched with woods of various trees, and adorned, where they are capable of receiving ornament from the hand of art, with airy buildings and hanging gardens.

My curiosity led me to examine several houses which were building at this place, when I observed that the scaffolding before them was constructed according to the principles which the builders and bricklayers of our own country employ in similar erections.

We passed an island which divided the river into two equal channels, and which some mandarin had made the place of occasional retirement. It contained an elegant house, with groves and gardens, and formed a charming contrast to the shores of rock and sand on either side of the water that surrounded it.

It

It will be sufficient to add, that the country never appeared in a more beautiful or romantic drefs, by day, since we entered it; and the city of Kaung-joo-foo presented the most brilliant illumination we had seen by night.

1793.
December.

A present of fruit, cakes, and confectionary, concluded the many complimentary attentions which the embassy received at this place.

C H A P.

C H A P XXII.

The voyage continued. The manner in which the Chinese water their fields. Sepulchres. Change in the appearance of the country. Leave the river at the city of Naung-aum-foo to travel over land. Circumstances of the journey. Arrive at the city of Naung-chin-oa. Some account of it. The Ambassador re-imbarks to continue the voyage down another river.

1793.

December.
Friday 6.

IN this part of the river we saw a great number of the machines at work with which the Chinese water their grounds. They consist of a wheel made of bamboo, which is turned by the stream, and throws the water into large reservoirs, from whence it is let off by sluices into channels that intersect the fields.

The pretty village of Sharboo, situated on an high bank of the river, is the only object that recalls the eye from wandering over the general beauty of the country; till, at the turn of the stream, the attention is solicited by the pagoda of Tau-ay, an ancient and very lofty building, whose upper story being fallen, gives it a more picturesque appearance, and is, on that account, emblematical of the little cemetery beneath it, which contains several sepulchres and other memorials of the dead. But whether this spot so appropriated belongs to any city or town, which we could not perceive, or is the burying place of any particular family of distinction, I could not learn. But though the ground at the foot of this pagoda is assigned to the dead, the upper part of the building is so situated as to delight the living by the view it affords of the surrounding country, and the windings of the river, for a very considerable distance, in both directions of it.

I cannot

I cannot omit mentioning the town of Whan-ting-taun, not merely because its environs are divided between woods and rice fields, but, as it is the only place of any importance which we have seen in our voyage of this day. Villages were, as usual, in frequent succession; and among many of them which wore the appearance of industry and comfort, we were again dissatisfied with a collection of huts, that did not appear to be capable of preserving their inhabitants from the inclemency of winter, or the heat of summer.

This was the most extraordinary day which we had yet known in China, as we saw neither city, town, or village, in the course of it. A few farm houses, with their orchards, were the only habitations that we saw in the extent of beautiful country through which we passed: nor could I, by any inquiries, in my power to make, discover whether it arose from accident, or any local circumstances, that the banks of the river, which had so long teemed with cities, towns, and villages, with palaces and pagodas, should at once become so barren of them. Saturday 7

But though we were, for some time, deprived of the wonders of population, a very singular and curious object accompanied a considerable part of this day's voyage, to continue, in some degree, the exercise of our astonishment.

It was a very lofty, perpendicular, natural mound of red earth, that embanked one side of the river, whose naked surface was marked in a very extraordinary manner by horizontal veins or stripes of stone, in a direction as perfectly rectilinear, as if they had been made with the line or the rule; and which continued without any apparent deviation, from this wonderful regularity, during a course of several miles.

The river was now become so shallow, that it was necessary to change several of the large junks for such as would draw less water, a circumstance which occasioned some delay; and it was not till eight

1793.

December.

o'clock that we passed the only inhabited place of this day's voyage ; and which might now have escaped our notice, if the soldiers of the cantonment had not exhibited their paper lanterns, and discharged a few volleys of respect towards us.

Sunday 8.

The weather has, for some time, been temperate and pleasant : the country also has gradually lost its fertile appearance, and is now become mountainous and barren : some of the mountains, indeed, are covered with wood, but the surface of the earth has here lost all that richness which had so long clothed it. The population of the country may be supposed to have suffered a proportionate diminution ; but the villages, though they are more thinly scattered than they have hitherto been, become more picturesque objects both from their form and situation.

The high grounds near the river, in many places, lose their abrupt and rugged appearance beneath the verdure of dwarf-trees of various kinds, among which the camphire tree is said to predominate.

But though the prospect was now become a mere succession of rude mountain and barren valley, it was sometimes enlivened by a pagoda in the distance, while the village still continued to animate the banks of the river.

We now observed several sepulchres or funeral monuments that had been erected in various parts of the mountains, with excavations in the rocks beneath them to receive the dead. That an amiable superstition might wish to consign the remains of the parent or the child, the friend or the relation, to such a sepulchral retreat, elevated as it were above the world, and, as it might be thought by the Pagan mythology, nearer to that heaven, where their spirits were destined to wing, or had already taken flight, is not inconsistent with the best feelings of nature and religion. But some of these places sacred to the dead appeared to
us,

us, at least, to be in such situations, as to render the attempt to gain access to them, a circumstance of no small hazard to the living.

1793.
December.

About sun-set we passed a large town called Syn-cham-au, which is situated on a small plain between the river and some high mountains covered with wood ; nor is this romantic appearance lessened by a large pyramidical rock, with a very lofty pagoda on the top of it.

Two considerable towns and several villages, with their junks, Monday 9. were the principal objects of this day's voyage ; till we arrived in the evening at the city of Naung-aum-foo. - As the embassy was to make a journey of one day over land from this place, preparations were made accordingly under the usual directions of the attendant mandarin.

The Ambassador ordered four dollars to be given to the crews of the Tuesday 10. respective junks ; and, after an hasty breakfast, the suite followed the baggage, which was already sent on shore.

The landing-place was adorned with a grand triumphal arch, decorated with silk and streamers of various colours. Here I was presented with a ticket, the meaning of which I did not comprehend. I then proceeded along a kind of platform, covered with fine matting ; its roof and railing were ornamented with ribbons and silk, in the same manner as the triumphal arch, and a range of lamps were suspended in a very elegant form on each side of it.

This platform led to a circular court, furrounded by a screen of silk, which contained, as well as I could calculate from the view of them, between two and three hundred horses, attended by their owners, and from which every person in the Ambassador's retinue was at liberty to chuse a beast for the journey of the day ; as from the badness of the roads, and the length of the way, it was ordered that the whole suite, except the Ambassador, Sir George Staunton, and

1793.

December.

Mr. Plumb, should proceed on horseback. I accordingly chose an horse, for which I was obliged to deliver the ticket already mentioned. It was a very wild and mettlesome steed, which, on my first mounting him, was so restive and unmanageable, that I wished to make an exchange; but I had delivered my ticket, and was obliged to abide by my choice, such as it was.

When all the arrangements were settled, the horses selected, and the whole suite transformed into a body of cavalry, his Excellency, with Sir George Staunton, and Mr. Plumb, came from the junk to their palanquins, and the cavalcade commenced, attended by a considerable body of Chinese soldiers.

Naung-aum-foo is a walled city of considerable extent, built on a rising ground above the river, and is commanded, both behind, and on the opposite side of the water, by lofty hills; on one of which is seen a solitary pagoda. Its suburbs are large, and, from the number of small junks, suited to the shallowness of the stream that washes its banks, it may be esteemed a place of some commercial character.

In about half an hour we had got clear of the city, when every exterior object was lost in attending to the peculiarities of our own appearance. Such a troop of equestrians are not often seen in China, or any other part of the world. The gentlemen of the suite, with the mechanics, soldiers, and servants, were all on horseback; many of whom were but indifferent riders, and some of them now found themselves obliged to ride for the first time. The horses themselves, on setting out, were also very frolicksome and ungovernable; so that the ridicule which attached itself to our general appearance, and the diversion which successively occurred from the cries of alarm, the awkwardness of attitude, and the various other circumstances, which the reader, without having been in China, may very readily conceive, served to amuse

amuse the tediousness of travelling through a mountainous and unproductive country.

1793.
December.

At noon we came to the foot of a mountain, which was so steep as to make it necessary for us to dismount, and lead our horses over it, being an ascent of two miles, which required an hour to master it. We passed several villages, and dined at the town of Lee-cou-au, where a considerable body of soldiers, in armour, lined the road as we passed; and both on entering, as well as quitting the lines, the Ambassador was saluted with the discharge of three pieces of artillery. This military parade, with the variety of colours, which never failed to accompany the least appearance of soldiery, had a very pretty effect.

The women, in this part of our journey, were either educated with less reserve, or allowed a greater share of liberty, than in the country through which we had lately passed, as we frequently saw them indulging their curiosity in observing such a new and extraordinary sight as we must exhibit.

I have already mentioned that we had, for some time, exchanged a fertile for an unprofitable soil; and all the splendor of cultivation, for the barren mountain. The eye was, however, sometimes relieved by large patches of camphire, and other medicinal, trees; at least, as I was informed by those who might be supposed to be able to instruct me.

The sun had set, when we arrived at the gates of the city of Naung-chin-oa. It stands in a plain, surrounded on three sides by mountains; on the fourth and to the south, flows the river on which we were to continue our voyage. It is a place of some extent and considerable commerce. The streets, like those of almost all the towns we have seen in China, are very narrow, but they have the advantage of being well paved, and well kept in the material article of cleanliness. The houses are chiefly of wood, and their general height is two stories.

Though

1793.

December.

Though elegance, either interior or exterior, is not the peculiar character of this place, some of the shops were gilt and varnished in a manner that might bring them within that denomination. At every door in the streets, after sun-set, a large paper lamp is hung up, and forms a very pretty illumination. These lamps display the name of the person who lives in the house, his trade, and the articles in which he traffics. The palaces of the mandarins are also ornamented with lamps, according to the dimensions of the building, or the rank of their inhabitants.

The streets were lined with soldiers to repress the curiosity of the people, which would, otherwise, have impeded our passage; and it was near seven o'clock when we arrived at the palace of the grand mandarin of the city. It is a very noble residence, composed of various courts, and several ranges of apartments. In spacious open galleries, on each side of the first court, tables were plentifully spread with tea, meats, of various kinds, and fruits, for the refreshment of the inferior orders of the suite; while other galleries, that opened on the interior courts, were magnificently illuminated, and prepared for the higher department of it. In short, throughout the palace, there was such a profusion of lamps and other lights, as, in my unexaggerated opinion, would serve the palace of an European sovereign for a month. But without this observation, which, I believe to be founded in fact, it must have already appeared, in the course of this Narrative, that illumination is a very principal feature of Chinese magnificence.

The Ambassador and Sir George Staunton preferred going to the junks instead of passing a night in the palace; and, accordingly, after having taken the refreshment prepared on their arrival, they repaired to them. The rest of the embassy remained on shore, and apartments were assigned them for their repose.

The baggage which was brought all the way from Naung-aum-foo on mens shoulders, arrived by degrees; but the whole of it had not reached

reached its destination till nine o'clock, when all the mandarin's principal servants assisted in depositing it in a long gallery, where it was arranged with the utmost regularity, each package having a ticket pasted on it, corresponding with the junk to which it was to be removed on the following day.

1793.
December.

C H A P.

C H A P. XXIII.

The suite embarks on board the junks; the voyage renewed; circumstances of it. A curious pagoda. Description of sepulchres. Vast rafts of timber. Embark in larger junks. Pass some curious mountains; a description of them. Extraordinary illumination.

1793.

December.
Wednes-
day 11.

AT an early hour of the morning the baggage was put on board the junks, with a regularity, as well as dispatch, that cannot well be described. There was a sufficient depth of water in this river to bring the junks close to the quay; so that the coolies, of which there were a great number, acting under the orders of the mandarin and his servants, and guarded by soldiers, soon transferred every article that belonged to the embassy on board the vessels to which it was specifically assigned.

The junks, to which we were now removed, were of less dimensions than those we had left; in conformity to the navigable state of the river, which only admitted vessels of small burthen.

About eleven o'clock the suite were all on board, and the whole fleet ready for sailing. We accordingly renewed our voyage, and began it by passing under a wooden bridge of seven arches, or rather, if accuracy of expression should be considered as indispensable, of seven intervals. These intervals are formed by strong stone pillars, built in the water, and overlaid with planks, guarded by a double railing. This structure stretches across the river, to form a communication between those parts of the suburbs of Naung-shin-oo, which are divided by it. Forts garrisoned with troops, and well supplied with artillery, guarded either end of it; nor was the fleet unnoticed by them.

them ; as in passing the bridge it was honoured by the parade of the one, and the discharge of the other. The city itself is also well defended by walls, which are, at least, thirty feet in height, towards the river, with ramparts that take the whole circuit of the place, and square towers which are not confined to the gates, but appear to rise above the walls in other advantageous situations.

At a small distance from the bridge the river divides into two branches, that take almost opposite directions : on that whose stream bore us along, we saw a large quantity of small timber in rafts.

In the afternoon we passed a pagoda, situated on a bank of the river, which was of a more singular appearance than any of the great number of that kind of edifice which we had seen in our travels through the country. It consisted of five stories, which terminated in a flat roof, with trees growing on it. The body of the building, from many parts of which also shrubs appeared to sprout forth, was covered with a white plaister, and decorated with red paint in its angles and interstices.

The country still remained barren and mountainous ; nor was its rude and dreary aspect enlivened by any appearance of cultivation. A considerable town called Chang-fang, was the only place we passed in the short voyage of this day.

The natural face of the country was still dreary ; and its artificial ^{Thursday 12.} circumstances did not enliven it by their character. The mountains, as we passed by them, exhibited a great number of those sepulchres of which some description has been already given. These, as the former, were in situations not easily accessible, and varied in their appearance, as may be supposed, according to the wealth or dignity of the person whose remains they already contained, or were, hereafter, destined to inclose.

1793.
December.

When we mentioned these solemn repositories in a former page, the thought suggested itself, that superstition might carry the dead to those high places, on the same principle that idolatry has raised its altars there; but, when it is considered that the dreary, uncultivated mountain is better suited to the character of the sepulchre; and that there is, perhaps, something consolatory in the idea of that security which belongs to these awful, and almost inaccessible solitudes; we may probably approach nearer to the real motives of consigning the dead to these elevated tombs.

The general construction of them appears to be the same: it consists of an excavation in the mountain, chiselled out in the form of a large niche, which is then paved, and concealed by a wall with an ornamented door. Some of these places are covered with domes; from others pyramidal forms spring up, and the façades of them were, as far as I could distinguish, painted of a lead colour, with a white border.

These receptacles of the dead were succeeded by few habitations of the living that have any claim to particular notice or observation, till we came to the large and populous village of Ty-ang-koa. Here we saw a vast length of timber in rafts floating down the river, with several bamboo huts erected on it, and the families belonging to them. Great numbers of people were also employed in bringing timber to the water side, either on their shoulders, or in waggons; while others were occupied in forming rafts.

The country still retains its barren aspect, though a pagoda was occasionally seen to grace the summits of the mountains.

Friday 13.

We this day passed a considerable town called Ty-waung, part of which was in ruins; and, a little farther down the river, we came to the city of Shaw-choo; the suburbs of which extend to the water side, and where the houses are built in such a manner as to be in con-

tinual danger of falling on the heads of their inhabitants, and involving them in one common destruction. A wooden frame work resting sometimes upon a foundation of clay or stone, with a few slender uprights, are the only supports of those habitations that ranged along the shore; where frequent ruins manifested the folly as well as the frailty of such architecture.

The fleet came to an anchor at the extremity of the city, before the palace of the grand mandarin, which was finely decorated with triumphal arches: a platform was also erected from the banks of the river to the house, to accommodate the Ambassador, if his Excellency had found it convenient to go on shore. The soldiers belonging to the mandarin were also drawn up in due form, and gave the usual salute.

At this place large junks were prepared to receive the embassy; and, in a very short time, the whole suite and the baggage was removed on board them. Our accommodations were accordingly increased in proportion to the superior dimensions of the vessels that now contained us.

In the evening the grand mandarin sent the suite a very handsome present of China, together with a large supply of provisions; we also received, at a later hour of the evening, a large parcel of tobacco, some ducks cured in the manner of hams, of a very delicate flavour, together with a considerable quantity of dried fish.

The voyage was this day agreeably varied by an occasional, though not very frequent patch of cultivated ground, which was now become, in shape, size, or situation, a cheering object.

The weather was moderate and pleasant; and, though there appeared a very small proportion of cultivated land, the mountains were sometimes clothed with wood. The village of Shoong-koang, situated

Saturday 14

1793.
December.

on a plain, with the river before, and an amphitheatre of mountains behind, it, drew our attention, as a very pleasing object, and surpris'd us with the number of inhabitants which it pour'd forth, to see the strangers pass.

I have already mentioned that small portions of cultivated ground now began, though very rarely, to make their appearance: this circumstance, however, had no influence on our supplies; as the provision-boats of to-day brought us the same indifferent eatables which we had, for some time, been accustomed to receive.

In the evening, the hills gradually approach'd the river, till, at length, they clos'd upon it, and form'd a rude and lofty barrier, which, at once, confin'd and obscur'd its channel. This scenery continued for a considerable distance, as it were, on purpose to lead the eye to a mountain of such stupendous magnitude, as the description which I am about to give, will not be able to convey, I fear, to the mind of my readers. It was so late as seven o'clock at night before we arriv'd at the commencement of it; but the moon shone in all her splendour, and enabled the eye to trace every part of this enormous object with less distinctness, perhaps, as to minute parts, but with better effect as to its magnificent outline.

This mountain rises from the river to the perpendicular height of at least three hundred yards. The face it presents towards the water is divid'd between bare rock and shaggy foliage: the upper part appear'd, in some places, to project over the river, and offer a most tremendous shape to the voyagers who sail beneath it: when, therefore, to such an elevation of solid rocky mountain, with its rugged base, and craggy summits, is added the extent of near two miles of lengthening precipice, some faint notion may be entertain'd of this stupendous object.

Its

Its termination is equally abrupt with its beginning; and all its parts support the savage grandeur of the whole. On the extreme point, as we passed down the river, a pyramidal rock appeared to spring up to a considerable height above the edge of the precipice, and finished in a peak.

This immense shape is separated by an intervening plain, that extends to the foot of distant mountains, from another enormous rock; which, though of different form, and less extent, possesses the same awful and majestic character. It rises with a steep but gradual ascent from the river to a certain height; when it shoots up, as it were, in a bold, unvarying, perpendicular elevation, to the clouds, affording another vast example of the sublime in nature.

As a range of hills may be said to conduct us along the river to these stupendous objects, a successive boundary of the same kind continued during a course of several miles after we had left them. But it was the peculiar office of this extraordinary night to awaken our astonishment by the grand exertions of art, as well as by the enormous works of nature; for, at the conclusion of this chain of hills, that had so long excluded any view into the country, we were surprized with a line of light that extended for several miles over mountains and vallies, at some distance from the river, and formed one uninterrupted, blazing outline, as they rose or sunk in the horizon.

In some parts of this brilliant, undulating line, it was varied or thickened, as it appeared, by large bands or groups of torches; and, on the most conspicuous heights immense bonfires threw their flames towards the clouds. Nor was this all, for the lights did not only give the outline of the mountain, but sometimes serpented up it, and connected, by a spiral stream of light, a large fire at the bottom, with that which reddened the summit.

The

1793.

December.

The number of lanterns, lamps, or torches employed on this occasion, must have been beyond all calculation, as the two extremities of the illuminated space, taken in a strait line, and without estimating the sinkings of the vallies, or the inequality of the mountain tops, could not exclude a less distance from each other than three miles. Whether these lights were held by an army of foldiers, and a very large one would have been necessary on the occasion, or were fixed in the ground, I could not learn; but it was certainly the most magnificent illumination ever seen by the European traveller, and the most splendid compliment ever paid to the public dignity of an European Ambassador. Not only a vast range of country, but the course of the river, for several miles, received the light of day from this artificial blaze. Successive discharges of artillery were, at regular distances, added to the honour of this amazing and most superb spectacle.

C H A P. XXIV.

The voyage continued. Description of a curious mountain. Various circumstances of the river. Arrive at the city of Tuyng-yan-yeau. Pass numerous villages, towns, &c. Anchor before the city of Tsyn-tian. Arrive at Canton. Formalities on the occasion, &c.

AT seven o'clock this morning the whole fleet came to an anchor beneath a mountain, which is considered by the Chinese, in respect to its elevation, figure, and extent, as one of the natural wonders of their country. It is called Koan-yeng-naum.

1793.
December.
Sunday 15.

The grand mandarin, who had the care of conducting the embassy, with that attention which distinguished every part of his official duty, had ordered the fleet to stop in this place, in order to give the Ambassador, and his retinue, an opportunity of indulging their curiosity, by taking a view of this extraordinary mountain.

It rises perpendicularly from the water to an amazing height, and terminates in a peak. Vast pieces of the rock project from the face of it in such a manner, as to have a most tremendous and threatening aspect; nor is it easy to persuade oneself, on looking up, that they will not instantly fall and fill up the channel of the river beneath them.

Several large caverns are among the curious circumstances of this mountain. The principal of them is about forty feet above the river, and the passage to it consists of a flight of fifty steps cut out of the rock, and guarded by a rail, which are over-shadowed by a projection of the mountain. A door, prettily ornamented with painting, opens into a handsome room of about forty feet in circumference, and nine feet

1793.

December.

feet in height, which contains a sacred image, to whom the Chinese, on their entrance, pay their adorations. There is also a window, chiselled through the stone, with a balcony before it, from whence there is a delightful prospect of the river. From this chamber we ascended, by an artificial staircase, to two other apartments of the same size with the former, and fitted up in a manner suited to the character of the place.

These rooms were excavated at the expense of the mandarin to whom the mountain belongs, and must have been a work of incredible labour. At the foot of the steps, an arch had been erected, with the usual decoration of silk and ribbons, of various colours.

Though the country still continued to be rude and uncultivated, it was, occasionally, varied by large woods, that hung down the steep, or thickened in the vallies. The ranges of mountains also, that branch off from Koan-yeng-naum, take such different directions, as to form a variety of grand, and even sublime, pictures of nature.

At noon the fleet anchored, for a short time, before the city of Shizing-ta-heng; situated on the upper part of an inclined plain, that advances with a scarce perceptible ascent from a large sandy beach of the river, to the foot of the mountains that rise behind it. This plain is also adorned with the most beautiful trees, so that the view may be supposed to consist of a river in the fore-part of it, a fine plain, covered with plantations, stretching away from the banks, and a large city beyond it, backed by a bold, unequal range of mountains. When to these circumstances are added, the woods on the opposite side of the river, and the magnificent pagoda which rises before them; the beauty of the landscape may be conceived without any very uncommon stretch of the imagination.

The river, in a very winding course, now afforded but little variety. The same lofty barriers continued to confine its course; and where a casual

casual opening suffered the eye to advance beyond them, it looked towards nothing more than similar objects, with no other circumstances of variation but such as might be supposed to arise from the peculiarities of light and shadow, and the diminution of distance.

1793.
December.

We not only observed, but also heard the labours, of large bodies of people, who were employed in blowing up certain parts of the rocks, to obtain that stone with which the Chinese form their pavements, whether for their houses, courts, or public ways.

Beneath one of these mountains was a large village, which had very mean appearance; and, as I afterwards learned, was entirely inhabited by the people employed in blowing up rocks, and working quarries, that were in the neighbourhood of it.

Several spires of smoke, ascending from the mountains, attracted our attention; when, on making inquiry concerning the fires that occasioned them, we found that it was a process preparatory to agriculture; by burning the heath on certain parts of these elevated situations, in order to commence the experiment of cultivation.

The evening of this day was also cheered by an illumination of the distant hills; and though it did not, in any degree, equal, either in extent or splendor, that which had so lately excited our astonishment, it had a very singular effect, and exhibited a very pleasing appearance.

Rugged and steep rocks, some of which were covered with wood, still continued to inclose, on either side, the channel of the river. Among them there rose a large mountain, shaded by an hanging forest, which was not only a very grand object in itself, but was also accompanied with circumstances that enlivened and adorned it. At the foot of it a road had been cut out of the solid rock, and to communicate with it a large arch of stone stretches across a deep chasm. In the centre of the wood, there is the palace of a mandarin, surrounded

1793.
December.

with detached offices, and at some small distance a temple, which belongs to it, and contains the image which is the usual object of religious worship. There are several burying places in different parts of the wood, which are the mausoleums of the mandarin's family to whom the palace belongs. It is called Tre-liod-zau.

This magnificent object, which, on a particular turn of the river, presented itself in charming perspective, is very much heightened by a contrasted succession of bare and barren mountains.

This rude and rugged scenery, at length, began to subside; when a rich, fertile level opened again upon us; and after we had been accustomed for seven days, to the bleak and barren appearances of nature, the tranquil scenes of cultivation afforded a most refreshing prospect.

We now passed the city of T'ing-yan-yenn, a place of great extent and commerce. It is surrounded by a wall, whose gates are flanked by strong towers, and which extends near three miles along the river; but of its breadth we were prevented from forming any accurate judgment, by the intervening groves, which appear before, and rise above, the walls. The suburbs had a mean appearance; and the houses projected over the water in the same insecure and alarming manner, as I have already described: a mode of building, common to all towns, and lesser places, which are situated on the banks of rivers. The great number of junks which were here at anchor announced the commercial state of the city; and the succession of timber yards, all stored with great quantities of planks, and wood for every kind of construction, marked a principal article of its trade. Several regiments of soldiers were drawn up on the beach, with a train of artillery: they were accompanied with triumphal arches, decorated in the same pretty and fanciful manner as has already been told of other complimentary erections of the same kind.

From this place the river takes its course in a strait, undeviating direction for three miles, between a very fertile and highly cultivated country, in which rice fields appeared to abound. The mountains, which so lately rose on the banks, seemed now to have retired, as it were, into the distance, and ranged along the horizon.

In this afternoon a very serious accident happened, which might have produced the most fatal consequences: it was no less than a fire in one of the inferior junks; and, if great exertions had not been made, the vessel would have been very soon consumed. It was supposed to have been occasioned by a spark falling unobserved from a tobacco pipe, which, trifling as it was, threatened the junk with irresistible conflagration.

The whole fleet experienced the good effects of the rich and fertile country which we now entered, by the improvement that was experienced in every article of our daily supplies. We this day received a large quantity of excellent provisions, with a jar of a very pleasant liquor, which is extracted from the sugar cane, and resembles in flavour the rum shrub, so well known in our own country.

The ruins of a pagoda, and some of those sepulchres which I have already mentioned, gave a picturesque appearance to the spot where they had been erected, and were the concluding objects of this day's voyage.

The weather was warm and pleasant, and the country in a fine state of cultivation; while the river increased in breadth, and admitted junks of a larger size than we had yet seen.

At eleven o'clock this morning we passed the large village of Ouz-chyna, with a crowd of manufactories in its neighbourhood: whether they were in the porcelain or iron service, I could not discover;

1793.

December.

cover; but the smoke of their furnaces told us that fire was a principal operator in them.

As we proceeded, the country increased in beauty on both sides of the river, and soon became a continued chain of pretty villages, fruitful fields, and handsome houses.

In the afternoon the provision junks still improved in their cargoes, and brought us an abundant supply of excellent provisions and fruits, with a quantity of Samptchoo, a liquor which has been already mentioned.

At eight o'clock in the evening the fleet anchored before a very large and commercial city, called Sangs-wee-yenno, when the Ambassador was saluted with an amazing discharge of artillery from all quarters of it. This mark of respect was accompanied by every other demonstration of regard that could be shewn on the occasion: triumphal arches appeared with all their gaudy decorations; temporary pagodas were erected to heighten the artificial scenery; and a platform, such as has been already described in former parts of our voyage, was prepared to accommodate his Excellency, if it should be his wish to visit the grand mandarin: to these circumstances may be added all that illumination could do, in a country where that species of splendor is so well understood and in such continual practice; so that some notion may be formed of the manner in which the fleet was received by this city.

Wednes-
day 18.

In the course of this morning we passed several very large and commercial towns; and, if any judgment could be formed from the unceasing discharge of artillery, it might be supposed that a chain of forts lined the shore: if we are also justified in drawing a conclusion from the numbers of people on the banks of the river, and in vessels on the water, we might believe that, from the time we sailed, which was at so early an hour as two o'clock, the fleet was passing for upwards

of two hours through the middle of an immense city, which had poured forth all its inhabitants to catch such an imperfect view of us, as the early part of the morning would allow.

1793.
December.

At the dawn of day, we came to the city of Tayn-tsyn-tau, a place of great importance and immense trade. Several thousand soldiers were drawn up along the beach, with a proportionate train of artillery, which thundered out a salute as we passed.

This city, or, perhaps, to speak more correctly, the suburbs of it, are built on each side of the river; which, for many miles, was covered with junks laden with merchandise, or preparing to receive it, and some of them were of very large dimensions.

We continued sailing before, or rather through, this place till seven o'clock, and, from the rate of our passage, I have no doubt but it is eight miles in length: of its breadth, no judgment could be formed on board the fleet; but, from the general appearance of the city, and the houses of the resident merchants, with other commercial circumstances, its trade must be immense, and its opulence in proportion: it appeared, indeed, to be only inferior to the cities of Pekin and Canton.

The river continued to be covered with a crowd of junks; so that it was with some difficulty the fleet proceeded on its voyage, which at length approached its termination; for, about noon, it came to anchor within a mile of the city of Canton, and but two miles distant from the English factory.

In consequence of an express dispatched by the conducting mandarin to Canton, to notify the arrival of the Ambassador, several mandarins, in the different departments of government, came to visit his Excellency. They were soon followed by the British commissioners, the Company's supercargoes, and Colonel Benson, a very welcome visitor,

1793.
December.

visitor, for he not only brought the public dispatches for Lord Macartney, but a large packet of private letters from England, and all the news-papers which had arrived by the last ships from Europe.

Orders were issued by the Ambassador for the whole suite to disembark on the following day.

Thursday 19. The embassy was removed into larger junks, which had been previously fitted up to go down the river.

In passing down this spacious river it is impossible to describe the magnificence of its navigation; for we saw, without exaggeration, several thousands of trading junks; nor were the vessels which were crowded with people to see us pass inferior in number; while the banks on either side were covered with houses, built very much in the style of European architecture.

There are also a succession of forts well supplied with men and artillery; and their respective garrisons were drawn out in military array on the beach before them, with their colours, music, and all the ensigns of war. These forts saluted the fleet by a successive discharge of artillery, and indeed the air resounded for near an hour with the repeated firing of great guns from every quarter.

There were also several thousand soldiers in military junks, who added the compliment of their musquetry. It was a very large army both on land and water, and the whole of them sunk down on their knees, as a manœuvre of military respect, till the Ambassador had passed.

At one o'clock we arrived opposite the English and Dutch factories; when both of them saluted his Excellency with a discharge of artillery, and instantly hoisted the standards of their respective nations.

Here we saw great numbers of boats, containing all kinds of provisions, fruits and merchandize, for sale. They rowed backwards and forwards, announcing, at the same time, their various commodities, with very violent vociferation, as is seen and heard among the owners of provision wherries on the Thames.

It appeared very singular to us, that most of the boats which we had seen for several days, were rowed and steered by women. It is not, indeed, by any means, uncommon to see a woman, with a child tied by a linen bandage to her back, and another suckling at her breast, while the mother herself is employed in handling the oar, or guiding the helm. I have also continually observed women on shore engaged in the most laborious employments, with an infant fastened to their breast. Such unpleasing, and it may be added to the feeling mind, such an affecting spectacle, is never seen in any of those parts of Tartary through which the embassy passed; for the women there, as well as in the northern provinces of China, have their feet crippled from their infancy, so that they can never submit to such fatiguing occupations. I was permitted to take the measure of a lady's foot, who was twenty years of age, which measured no more in length than five inches and an half. Of this compression of the feet, it may, indeed, be said to be a partial practice.

Lord Macartney, and the whole suite, went ashore, and took possession of the residence which the East India Company's supercargoes had provided for the use of the embassy, during its stay at Canton. This temporary habitation, both in respect to accommodation and extent, was far superior to any we had seen in our long journey through this country. Nor was it among the least agreeable circumstances of our present situation, that we saw, once again, a domestic arrangement which partook of the habitual comforts of our native soil.

C H A P. XXV.

Some account of Canton. Proceed from thence to Wampoa, and Macoa; brief account of them. Circumstances relative to the residence of the embassy at the latter place. Sail for England.

1793.

December.
Saturday 21.

CANTON, or **Quanton**, is situated on the south side of the river, to which it gives a name, and lies in about one hundred and twelve degrees east longitude, and twenty-four degrees south latitude. It is surrounded by a wall, near thirty feet in height, built of stone, and defended in every direction, particularly towards the river, by very strong forts, mounted with heavy artillery, and garrisoned with numerous troops. It is impossible, however, to form an accurate judgment of its extent, as it is built on a plain; the surrounding country being one continued level, except towards the south, where strangers are never permitted to go.

The streets of the city are, in general, from fifteen to twenty feet in breadth, and paved with broad stones. The houses seldom rise above one story, and are built of wood and brick. The shops have their fronts fancifully ornamented, with a balcony, that rises from the pent-house roof over the door, and is adorned with gilding and colours.

The dress of the inhabitants does not differ from those which have been already described. It is, however, a very remarkable circumstance, that notwithstanding this city is so much to the southward of Peking, the winter should be so severe as to induce the inhabitants to wear furs: and that such clothing is not altogether considered as a matter of luxury, or confined to the higher order of the people, is evident from
the

the great numbers of furrier's shops which I saw, and, as it appeared, stocked with large quantities of fur cloathing. It consisted of the skins of leopards, foxes, bears, and sheep. The skins were well dressed, made up in the form of jackets, and are worn with the rough side towards the skin.

1793.
December.

The Viceroy's palace at Canton, in form, dimensions, and ornaments, is the counterpart of that which the Ambassador occupied at Pekin: any description of it would, therefore, be superfluous. Of public buildings there are none, unless triumphal arches, and gateways, which are very numerous, may be included under that denomination.

The number of inhabitants in this city is estimated at a million: and its large and extensive suburbs may, without exaggeration, be said to contain half that number. Indeed, if the persons are included, who navigate, and live on board, the very numerous junks and sampans, or fishing boats, with which the Canton river is covered, my calculation will be considerably exceeded.

This river, as it approaches the city, is equal in breadth to the Thames, in its widest part. It abounds also in various kinds of fine fish; but the water is very unwholesome for strangers, till it has stood long enough for a very considerable sediment to subside: the people, however, who live in the junks, use it, as I am informed, for every purpose, and without any inconvenience that I could learn.

When we were on the river that flows by Tong-tchew, an experiment was made respecting the water, and, in a single gallon of it, there remained, on straining it, half a pint of yellow sand; yet in this state the people of the country universally use it, and have no idea of purifying it by filtration. We had no opportunity of becoming acquainted with the common maladies of the people who live on the banks of that river—but water so charged as this appears to be, must have

1793.

December.

some prejudicial effect on the constitutions of those who continually use it.

Though this is the only port in the empire of China, where Europeans are suffered to trade, all commercial business is transacted in the suburbs, which are about a mile from the city. They are very extensive, and without any pretensions to grandeur or elegance. The streets are, in general, very narrow, and always thronged with people. The houses are of wood, consisting only of a ground floor and upper story. They all contain shops, and are fitted up within after the English manner, to which the inhabitants appear to have a decided partiality. Indeed, it was not uncommon to see their names written on the signs, in English characters, and adapted to English orthography. The porcelain warehouses which I saw here, are said, and I believe with great truth, to exceed any similar repositories in the world, for extent, grandeur, and stock in trade. The warehouses of the tea merchants are also filled with extensive ranges of chests, which contain an article, now become almost a necessary of life in our country, and of increasing use in every other part of Europe.

The factories of the several European companies, who trade to this part of the eastern world, are formed in the style of that quarter of the globe to which they belong. The buildings are constructed of stone and brick, on a very substantial plan; they so far conform to the architectural designs of the country, which I believe to be the best, that they inclose large courts, where there are apartments for the supercargoes and writers, as well as for the captain and mates of ships, during the time they are loading their ships.

There is a range of these factories along the river, but without the least communication with each other; and their general distinction is the flag, or standard of their respective countries, which are seen flying during the day on some conspicuous part of each factory.

The several nations whose trading companies have factories here, are England, Holland, France, Sweden, Denmark, Portugal, Spain, and America. But the English, both from the extent of their buildings, and the number of their ships, appear to engross almost the whole of the China trade to themselves.

1793
December.

The residence of Lord Macartney was on the opposite side of the river; and, as a mere place of temporary accommodation, was contrived with great judgment, and arranged with uncommon attention to the convenience of the upper order of the embassy: the rest of the suite occupied some of the company's store-rooms, which were fitted up in a very neat and commodious manner for the occasion.

For several days after his Excellency's arrival at this place, he was entertained during dinner by a Chinese play, on a stage erected before the windows of his apartment; and with extraordinary feats of legerdemain, which always accompany their public entertainments of this country.

The Viceroy of Canton paid the British Ambassador only one visit during his stay here, which was followed by large presents of sugar-candy, porcelain and nankeen, to the whole retinue of the embassy.

The gentlemen of the British factory entertained Lord Macartney and the whole suite with great elegance and hospitality, on Christmas day, 1793, and the first day of January 1794. They also made a requisition to engage the band of music that had accompanied the embassy, from whose service it was accordingly discharged, and entered into that of the English factory; a very valuable acquisition in a country and situation, where so little exterior amusement of any kind is to be obtained.

Nor can I, in this place, where I am to take leave of Canton, avoid expressing a regret, that the inhabitants of it are very different

1793.

December.

in point of honesty, from the people of every other part of China where we had been; at least, as far as my means of observation would enable me to judge. Nor is it with less concern that I attribute this local character, which is knavish in the extreme, to their being the inhabitants of the only place where there is any communication with the natives of other countries.

On the eighth of January, 1794, Lord Macartney set off with his whole retinue, in boats, for the Lion man of war, then lying at Wampoa. At the same time, Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Barrow, with certain attendants, were ordered to proceed to Macao, to make preparations for the reception of his Excellency at that place. They went in junks by another river, which flows from Canton to Macao, and passing by that place, empties itself into the sea.

The country on each side of the river, between Canton and Wampoa, is rich, fertile, and full of variety; several lofty pagodas successively enlivened the distant parts of the progressive prospects.

Wampoa is the place where all ships come to an anchor, being universally prohibited to proceed further up the river.

It is a very beautiful and populous village, at the distance of about eighteen miles from Canton. The houses are built of a lead-coloured brick, with numbers of fine trees interspersed among them. The adjacent country is a continued level; but the opposite side of the river, which is not so wide here as at Canton, wears a different and more irregular appearance. At no great distance from this place there is a sand-bank or bar, which cannot be passed by large vessels but at high water. There are also two necks of land that project on either side of the river, which form the passage called the Bocca Tygris. Here are strong forts on each side with batteries and troops; and as the Lion passed she received a salute of three guns, from each of them.

Previous to the departure of Lord Macartney from Wampoa, he received the farewell visit of the attendant mandarin Van-Tadge-In. Of this distinguished personage and amiable man, it is impossible to use expressions beyond the merit he displayed in his care of, and attention to, every person attached to the British embassy. He was appointed by the Emperor of China to attend and conduct it; and, from the time we landed on the shore of the Yellow sea, to our arrival at Wampoa, he never quitted it for a moment. In all this long and various journey, he never neglected for an instant the duties of his office, nor omitted any opportunity of executing them in a manner the most agreeable to those who were entrusted to his care and direction: it was a task of no common trouble and difficulty; but he was not seen on any occasion or at any time to spare himself in performing it. He was amiable in his manners, affable in his demeanour, ready in his communication, active in his arrangements, and solicitous in the extreme not only to procure all possible accommodations, but to suit them, as far as the circumstances of the country would allow, to European habits and customs. He was a mandarin of the first class, and held a very high, if not the highest rank, in the army of China: but neither situation or dignity had elevated his mind above the discharge of duties, whatever they might be, or the suggestions of kindness, to whatever objects it might be directed. Nor was this all: in the true spirit of benevolence, he acquired a friendship for those in whose service it had been so continually employed; and his last adieu to the Ambassador and the suite was accompanied with the tears of affection.

The mandarin Van-Tadge-In, we well know, is high in the confidence of his sovereign; and, from his virtues, there can be little doubt that he bears a very distinguished character in the sphere of private life and public duty. But though the testimony of respect which is recorded on this page cannot add to his fame, it will prove, at least, a sincere admiration of superior merit, and a grateful sense of condescending favour, in the writer of it.

The

1794.

January.

The Canton river is so well known, that it would be not only superfluous, but impertinent in me, to add another description to the many which have been already given of it.

Wednesday
day 14.

Lord Macartney landed at Macao, and was received to dinner at the house of the Governor. In the afternoon he went to the residence of Mr. Drummond, one of the supercargoes of the East India Company, where his Lordship resided during his stay at this place. Here the gentlemen of the several European factories have their separate houses, as they are not suffered to remain at Canton beyond the time necessary to prepare cargoes for the ships of their respective nations.

Macao is situated in 110 degrees of east longitude, and about 22 degrees of south latitude. It is a place of some extent, and built on a rock. The houses are of stone, and constructed on the plan of European architecture, but without exterior elegance: the streets are very narrow and irregular, as they take the unequal surface of the spot on which they are erected. The public buildings consist of churches, convents, and the senate-house, which terminate the only spacious and level street in the town. The Governor's house is situated on the beach, opposite the landing place, and commands a beautiful prospect, but is not remarkable for external elegance or interior accommodation. Contiguous to it is the English factory, a plain, commodious building; the other factories are in the same style, and all of them surrounded with gardens. The upper parts of Macao command very extensive views of the sea and adjacent country. The harbour is very commodious, and sheltered from the winds, but will not admit ships of large burden. The town is defended, in all directions, by strong forts mounted with heavy cannon, and garrisoned with Portuguese troops. The sea runs into the harbour, through a narrow channel between the Ladrone islands and the town, and forms a fine bay behind it, extending at least four miles, when it is bounded by a neck of land that separates it from a large river. Here the Chinese have

have a fort that looks towards the Portuguese territory, and it is the principal duty of the garrison to prevent strangers from passing the limits of it. No one is suffered to walk on the neck of land, nor is any boat permitted to approach that side of the shore. There is a small, pretty island, in the middle of the bay, which contains the habitation of a mandarin, who frequently resides there, but seldom visits the town.

Macao is generally supposed to be situated on an island; but the fact is otherwise; nor is there any natural barrier which separates it from the Chinese territory. The whole extent of the Portuguese possessions does not exceed four miles in length, and one mile and an half in breadth: the limits of which are accurately determined, and cannot be passed without danger.

This place is divided in its jurisdiction between the Portuguese and Chinese over their respective people. The latter, however, exact very heavy duties on all goods landed, or shipped, on account of the European factories. There is a Governor, and a Judge, appointed by the court of Lisbon, who have an arbitrary power vested in them, to the extent of their jurisdiction. There is also a Portuguese custom-house and quay, on the south side of the town, where all ships coming into the bay are obliged to pay a duty. There are not more than two hundred and fifty European soldiers for the defence of the place, who are well clothed, and whose pay is very much advanced on their arrival there.

The residence of Lord Macartney was one of the most beautiful spots that the imagination can conceive. It was small, but built in the English manner, and surrounded with pleasure grounds of considerable extent, beautifully disposed and planted for prospect and for shade. The view which it commands combines a most delightful picture of river and sea, of cultivated island, and mountainous shore.

The

1794.

January.

The Chinese, who reside in this place, retain their own customs with a rigid preference; nor has the long intercourse they have here had with Europeans of different nations, induced them to deviate in the least article from the long-established, and, as it appears, invariable usages of their country.

Macao was originally fortified by a wall, a great part of which still remains, to the eastward of the town, where it passes between two hills, and connects itself with a fort, and a convent, that appear on their summits.

Without this wall is the common burying-ground of the place, where I saw the memorials of several of my countrymen, whose ashes repose at such a distance from their friends and native land. This cemetery, however, is exclusively occupied by the Chinese, and such Europeans who are not of the Roman Catholic persuasion; as the papists have particular places of interment for those who depart this life in the faith of their church.

At this place Mr. Plumb quitted the service of the embassy. He was very amiable and obliging in his conduct to every one engaged in the same service with himself. He was offered a suitable provision, if he would return to England; but, though he appeared to part from his European friends with a sensible regret, he very naturally preferred to return to the bosom of his family and friends, from whom he had been so long separated, and to pass the remainder of his days in the country that gave him birth.

Lord Macartney remained at Macao till the eighth day of March, 1794, when his Lordship, and the whole retinue, embarked from the Governor's house. The troops were all drawn out on the beach on the occasion, with six brass field-pieces, from which they fired a salute of nineteen guns, which was answered by several forts.

The

The Lion received Lord Macartney with a salute of fifteen guns, and every other mark of respect; as did also the King Charles, from Spain, and the Bon Jesus, from Portugal, with three country ships belonging to the English East India Company.

1794

March

In the afternoon the fleet of homeward-bound East Indiamen anchored off Macao roads, to proceed under convoy of the Lion to England, when they, severally, saluted the Commodore with nineteen guns as they successively came to anchor. The companions of our outwardbound voyage, the Jackall and Clarence brigs, as the embassy was concluded, were sold; the former to Capt. Proctor, in the marine service of the East India Company, while the latter found a purchaser at Macao.

Sunday 16.

Early this morning the signal was made for the fleet to weigh: and at seven the Lion got under sail, in company with the following ships:

Monday 17.

Lord Thurlow,
Glatton,
Abergavenny,
Exeter,
Hindoostan,
Royal Charlotte,
Hawke,
Warley,

Lord Walsingham,
Friton,
Henry Dundas,
Ceres,
Osterley, and
The Jackall, the Company's marine brig.

To these homeward-bound English ships may be added,

The King Charles, Spaniard;
Bon Jesus, Portugeule;
General Washington, American.

At eleven the signal was made to form the order of sailing, and the whole fleet stood to sea.

M m

No

1794
 April
 Tuesday 8.

No occurrence happened, of any kind, worth relating, till three o'clock in the afternoon of this day; when the Henry Dundas made the signal for seeing six strange sail, east-south-east. A sail to the north-east proved to be the Nancy grab, of Bengal. At four, the Hindostan and Exeter received a signal to chase. At five, shewed our colours to a brig and several prows.

The brig was commanded by a Moorish captain, and well armed: the prows were also mounted with cannon, as one of them returned, with a single shot, the fire of the English ships, to bring them too. These prows had upwards of fifty Malays in each vessel, and frequently do a great deal of mischief on the coast of Sumatra, where we now were, as well as in other parts of these seas.

Friday 12. Saw two strange sail, in consequence of which all the guns were shotted, and the ship was cleared for action. They were, however, soon discovered to be English; and instead of the sharp returns of enemies, we interchanged the salutes of friendship.

Monday 14. We anchored at Angara Point; where we were employed in wooding and watering till Saturday the nineteenth; when the whole fleet set sail, and continued its course for England, except the Jackall brig, which now separated from us.

Tuesday 15.

Nothing occurred between Angara Point and Saint Helena, except several very heavy gales of wind, particularly in doubling the Cape of Good Hope.

We this day anchored at Saint Helena; his Majesty's ships the Sampson of sixty-four guns, Captain Montague, and the Argo, Captain Clarke, of forty-four, &c. had arrived that morning.

June.
 Thursday 19.

Lord Macartney and his retinue went on shore, where they remained till the first day of July, when they returned on board, and the

the fleet set sail for England, with the addition of the following ships which we found at anchor here on our arrival : (the two men of war excepted)

1794
July
11

The Sampson, 64 guns,
The Argo, 44 ditto.

And the following East-Indiamen :

General Coote,
Fitzwilliam,
Belvidere,
Fort-William,
Marquis of Lansdown, with
The South Sea Whaler, Lucas of London.

We parted company with the General Washington, who saluted the Commodore with nine guns, which were returned in the usual manner. Thursday 3.

This morning the Sampson fired a gun, and made the signal for fleet. After some hours of suspense, and having made every preparation for an engagement, it proved the outward bound fleet of East-Indiamen, under command of his Majesty's ship Assistance, Captain Brunton ; which now parted company with his convoy, and joined our fleet. Monday 11.

Nothing occurred during the remainder of our passage, that would justify my adding a line to this page, till the third of September, when at three A. M. we were seriously alarmed with running foul of a fleet, off Portland Roads ; which was soon discovered to be the grand fleet, under the command of Earl Howe, coming up the Channel. This strange accident was attended, however, with no other inconvenience than the damage which was received by the Royal Charlotte, Triton, and Osterley Indiamen.

September
Wednes
day 3.

1794.
September.

At five o'clock P. M. we anchored safe, after a long and curious voyage, at Spithead; and soon felt the inexpressible satisfaction of once more treading the terra firma of our native country.

SUPPLEMENTARY CHAPTER.

Brief account of the passage from Hoang-tchew to Chufan, by Captain Mackintosh, &c. Various customs of the Chinese, &c. Miscellaneous articles, &c.

OF this short account of the passage of Hoang-tchew to Chufan, by Captain Mackintosh, and the gentlemen who separated from the embassy at the former place, to join the ships at the latter, I speak on the authority of others; and, therefore, give it a place among the miscellaneous matter, which I could not introduce elsewhere, without breaking the chain of narration, which the nature of the work appears to require.

The river which took this Detachment of the suite to Chufan, differed very little, as I was informed, in exterior appearance from those that have been already described. A succession of mountains and rocks, and cultivated plains, formed the natural scenery of its banks, while the pagoda and the palace, the village and the city, were the artificial objects that enlivened or ennobled the prospect which the stream offered to the voyagers on it.

But this river met with interruptions that we never experienced in those on which we passed; and its course was occasionally broken by cataracts of a deep fall and formidable appearance. Such circumstances would necessarily impede the navigation of the rivers where they present themselves, if the unparalleled industry, perseverance, and I may surely add, the ingenuity of the Chinese, had not surmounted this obstacle; and in a manner, which it requires some confidence in those who informed me of it, to relate.

To accelerate the passage of vessels at those places where the difference of levels forbids any further progress on the surface of the water, the powers of mechanism are applied to let the vessel down into a lower stream, or lift it up into an higher one, in the following manner. In the first place, two strong stentions are fixed in the center of the river, from which two large beams are made to project in a state of suspension over the other water: to these, strong blocks are attached, with ropes of sufficient strength; so that when a junk arrives at the place, she is well secured afore and aft, to preserve an equilibrium; when the persons, who are always stationed at these places for the purpose, and are accustomed to the business, hoist the junk, with its passengers and contents, from one river into the other, over every intermediate obstruction. So certain is this extraordinary operation, that it occupies but a few minutes in its execution, and is not considered by those who navigate these rivers as attended with greater danger, or more liable to accident, than many other frequent contingencies which are inseparable from the voyages on them.

Captain Mackintosh and his party were treated by the mandarins, of the different cities and towns through which they passed, with a degree of attention and hospitality equal to that which the embassy itself received. They were ten days in their passage from Hoang-tchew to Chusan.

I shall now proceed to give some detached accounts of the manners and customs of the Chinese, as they came beneath my observation.

To give an accurate description of the marriage ceremony in China, is to do little more than to reply to the Abbé Grosier, whose account of the Chinese nuptials, as well as of many other of their customs, is, altogether, erroneous. The Abbé says, "On the day appointed for the ceremony, the bride is first placed in an enclosed chair, or palanquin, when all the articles that compose her
her

her portion are borne before and behind her by different persons of both sexes, while others surround her, carrying flambeaux, even in the middle of the day." The marriage ceremony, which I saw at Macao, had little in common with this description, but the palanquin. The bride, seated in that machine, was preceded by music, and ensigns of various colours were borne by men both before and in the rear of the procession, which consisted principally of the relatives of the bride and bridegroom, who escort her to the house of her husband, where a feast is prepared, and the day is passed in mirth and festivity. Nor is the evening concluded with those absurd ceremonies, with which the Abbé Grosier, and other authors, have ridiculously encumbered the consummation of a Chinese wedding.

The idea which he and others have propagated of the rigid confinement of the Chinese women, is equally void of truth. In different parts of that extensive country, different customs may prevail; and the power of husbands over their wives may be such as to render them masters of their liberty, which they may exercise, with severity, if circumstances should, at any time, suggest the necessity of such a measure, or caprice fancy it: but I do not hesitate to assert, that women, in general, have a reasonable liberty in China; and that there is the same communication and social intercourse with women, which, in Europe, is considered as a principal charm of social life.

The Abbé has also asserted, with equal ignorance of the country, whose historian he pretends to be, that masters are desirous of promoting marriage among their slaves, in order to increase the number of them, as the children are born to inherit the lot of their parents. This is a mere fable, as there are no such class of people as slaves in the Chinese empire. They cannot import slaves in their own vessels, which are never employed but in their domestic commerce; and he must be afflicted with the most credulous ignorance, who believes that they import them in foreign bottoms. If, therefore, there are any slaves in
China,

China, they must be natives of the country; and among them, it is well known, that there is no class of people who are in that degrading situation.

Certain classes of criminals are punished with servitude for a stated period, or for life, according to the nature of their offences; and they are employed in the more laborious parts of public works. But if this is slavery, the unhappy convicts, who heave ballast on the Thames, are slaves. There is a custom, indeed, in China, respecting this class of criminals, that does not prevail in England, which is, their being hired for any service they are capable of performing: and this frequently happens, as these convicts may be had at a cheaper rate than ordinary labourers. This regulation, however, has one good effect, that it exonerates government from the expense of maintaining such unhappy persons without lessening the rigor or disgrace of the punishment. But I re-assert that slavery by which I mean the power which one man obtains over another, by purchase, or inheritance, as in our West India islands, is not known in China. Indeed, some of the Chinese in the interior parts of the country, were, with difficulty, made to comprehend the nature of such a character as a slave; and when I illustrated the matter, by explaining the situation of a negro boy, called Benjamin, whom Sir George Staunton had purchased at Batavia, they expressed the strongest marks of disgust and abhorrence. This conversation took place at Jehol, in Tartary. But at Canton, where the communication with Europeans gives the merchants a knowledge of what is passing in our quarter of the globe, poor Benjamin was the cause of some observations on his condition, that astonished me when I heard, and will, I believe, surprize the reader when he peruses them. The boy being in a shop with me in the suburbs of Canton, some people who had never before seen a black were very curious in making inquiries concerning him; when the merchant, to whom the warehouse belonged, expressed his surprize, in broken English, that the British nation should suffer a traffic so disgraceful to that humanity which they were so ready to profess: and on my in-
forming

forming him that our parliament intended to abolish it, he surprised me with the following extraordinary answer, which I give in his own words:—"Aye, aye, black man, in English country, have got one
 " first chop, good mandarin Willforce, that have done much good
 " for allau blackie man, much long time: allau man makie chin,
 " chin, hee, because he have got more first chop tink, than
 " much English merchant-men; because he merchant-man tinkee
 " for catch money, no tinkee for poor blackie man: Josh, no
 " like so fashion." The meaning of these expressions is as follows:
 " Aye, in England, the black men have got an advocate and friend,
 " (Mr. Wilberforce) who has, for a considerable time, been doing
 " them service; and all good people, as well as the blacks, adore the cha-
 " racter of a gentleman, whose thoughts have been directed to meliorate
 " the condition of those men; and not like our West India planters,
 " or merchants, who, for the love of gain, would prolong the misery
 " of so large a portion of his fellow-creatures as the African slaves.
 " But God cannot approve of such a practice."

That some general knowledge of the politics of Europe may be obtained by the mandarins and merchants in the port of Canton, might be naturally expected, from their continual communication with the natives of almost every European country; and as many of them understand the European languages, they may, perhaps, sometimes read the Gazettes that are published in our quarter of the globe. But that the question of the slave trade, as agitated in the British Parliament, should be known in the suburbs of Canton, may surprise some of my readers as it astonished me. Nor will it be displeasing to Mr. Wilberforce to be informed, that, for the active zeal which he displayed in behalf of the nations of Africa, in the senate of the first city of Europe, he should receive the eulogium of a Chinese merchant beneath the walls of an Asiatic city.

There are frequent festivals in China, and we saw at Macao, the principal of them which celebrates the beginning of the New-Year.

According to the Chinese calendar, it commences on the second day of our month of February, and is observed with great joy and gladness throughout the whole empire, and by an entire suspension of all business. Of any religious ceremonies that usher in the dawn of the year, I cannot speak, as all the distinctions of the season which appeared to us, consisted of feasting by day, and fireworks by night. This festival is prolonged, by those who can afford it, for several days: and they, whose circumstances confine their joy to one day, take so much of it, that they generally feel its effects on the next.

Of the manner in which they keep or observe their ordinary holidays, I shall give the following account :

In the first place they purchase provisions according to their situation and capacity, which are dressed, and placed before a small idol, fixed on an altar, with a curtain before it: and such an altar, in some form or other, every Chinese has in his habitation, whether it be on the land, or on the water, in an house, or a junk. This repast, with bread and fruit, and three small cups of wine, spirits, and vinegar, are, after a threefold obeisance from the people of the house to the idol, carried to the front of their dwelling: they there kneel and pray, with great fervour, for several minutes; and, after frequently beating their heads on the ground, they rise, and throw the contents of the three cups to the right and left of them. They then take a bundle of small pieces of gilt paper, which they set on fire, and hold over the meat. That is succeeded by strings of small crackers, hanging to the end of a cane, which are lighted and made to crack over the meat. The repast is then placed before the idol, or Joth, as it is called, (a term which means a deity) and after a repetition of obeisances, they conclude with a joyous dinner, exhilarated by plenty of spirits, which are always boiled in small pewter or copper vessels before they are taken.

On the first of March it is usual, according to ancient custom, for dramatic pieces to be performed on stages in the principal street of

the different towns throughout the empire, for the amusement of the poor people, who are not able to purchase those pleasures. This beneficent act continues for a succession of several days, at the expense of the Emperor; so that every morning and evening, during this period, the lower classes of his subjects enjoy a favourite pleasure without cost, and bless the hand that bestows it on them.

Of the knowledge of medicine among the Chinese I can say no more, than that I was witness, in one instance, to a skilful application of it, in the case of John Stewart, a servant of Capt. Mackintosh, who, on our return from Jehol, had been seized with the dysentery, which increased so much on the road, that at Waunchoyeng, there were no hopes entertained of his being able to leave that place. Whether it arose from the desire of the patient, or was suggested by any person in the suite, I know not, but a Chinese physician was called to his assistance; when the man's case was explained to him by Mr. Plumb, in the presence of Sir George Staunton. The physician remained a considerable time with his patient, and sent him a medicine, which removed the complaint, and restored him to health.

The people are, in general, of an healthy appearance: it is very rare, indeed, to see persons marked with the small-pox; and, except in the sea-ports of Macao and Canton, several of the disorders unfortunately so frequent in Europe, are not known in China.

The caxee is the only current coin in China: any other species of money is absolutely forbidden, and is made of a white metal of about the size of our farthing, with a small square hole driven through the middle, for the purpose of running them on a string to be composed into candereens and maces: but although the terms candereen and mace are employed to certify a certain quantity of caxees, there are no coins in the country which bear

that specific value ; so that, in fact, they are only imaginary denominations, like our pounds, &c.

The comparative estimation of the caxee with British money cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy, as it bears no sterling value even in that country ; every province having its particular caxee, which is not current in any other. In the province of Pekin a Spanish dollar will produce, in exchange, from five hundred to five hundred and eighty caxees, according to the weight of the dollar, which the Chinese prove by a small steel-yard like ours in England ; though they sometimes employ scales. In the province of Hoang-tchew the dollar obtains from seven hundred to seven hundred and fifty caxees ; in other places it will find a still more various exchange.

I cannot conclude this volume without paying a tribute of respectful veneration to the great and illustrious, the wise and beneficent Sovereign of China ; who, in a long reign of near sixty years, has, by the general voice of his people, never ceased to watch over and increase their happiness and prosperity. Of the manner in which he administers justice, and gives protection to the meanest of his subjects, the following anecdote, which I heard frequently in the country, is an affecting example :

A merchant of the city of Nankin had, with equal industry and integrity, acquired a considerable fortune, which awakened the rapacious spirit of the vice-roy of that province : on the pretence, therefore, of its being too rapidly accumulated, he gave some intimations of his design to make a seizure of it. The merchant, who had a numerous family, hoped to baffle the oppressive avarice that menaced him, by dividing his possessions among his children, and depending upon them for support.

But the spirit of injustice, when strengthened by power, is not easily thwarted in its designs; the vice-roy, therefore, sent the children to the army, seized on their property, and left the father to beg his bread. His tears and humble petitions were fruitless; the tyrannical officer, this vile vicegerent of a beneficent sovereign, disdained to bestow the smallest relief on the man he had reduced to ruin; so that, exasperated by the oppression of the minister, the merchant, at length, determined to throw himself at the feet of the sovereign, to obtain redress, or die in his presence.

With this design he begged his way to Peking; and, having surmounted all the difficulties of a long and painful journey, he at length arrived at the Imperial residence; and, having prepared a petition that contained a faithful statement of his injuries, he waited with patience in an outer court till the Emperor should pass to attend the council. But the poverty of his appearance had almost frustrated his hopes; and the attendant mandarins were about to chastise his intrusion, when the attention of the Emperor was attracted by the bustle which the poor man's resistance occasioned: at this moment he held forth a paper, which his Imperial Majesty ordered to be brought to his palanquin; and, having perused its contents, commanded the petitioner to follow him.

It so happened, that the vice-roy of Nankin was attending his annual duty in the council: the Emperor, therefore, charged him with the crime stated in the poor man's petition, and commanded him to make his defence: but, conscious of his guilt, and amazed at the unexpected discovery, his agitations, his looks, and his silence, condemned him. The Emperor then addressed the assembled council on the subject of the vice-roy's crime, and concluded his harangue with ordering the head of his tyrannical officer to be instantly brought him on the point of a sabre. The command was obeyed; and while the poor old man was wondering on his knees at the extraordinary event of the moment,

moment, the Emperor addressed him in the following manner: Look, said he, on the awful and bleeding example before you, and as I now appoint you his successor, and name you vice-roy of the province of Nankin, let his fate instruct you to fulfil the duties of your high and important office with justice and moderation.

A P P E N D I X:

CONTAINING AN

ACCOUNT OF THE TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

S Q U A D R O N

DURING THE ABSENCE OF THE

E M B A S S Y,

Till their Return on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion, at Wampoa.

A P P E N D I X.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion, in the Yellow Sea.

- M**ODERATE and cloudy. A. M. killed a bullock, weight 341lbs. got all the baggage into the junks, with foldiers, mechanics, servants, botanists, &c. At half-past eight the Ambassador went on board the brigantine Clarence, manned the ship, and saluted him with 19 guns, and three cheers, as did the Hindostan. 1793.
August.
Monday 5.
- Ditto weather. Adam Bradshaw, a light dragoon, departed this life, and his body committed to the deep. A. M. washed the lower and orlop decks, fumigated the ship with devils, washed the sides and beams with vinegar. Tuesday 6.
- Light breezes and cloudy. People employed occasionally. A. M. killed a bullock, weight 282lbs. sail-makers repairing main-top-sail. Wednes-
day 7.
- Ditto weather. At 9 P. M. the Clarence anchored, and brought the Jackall's men on board. At half-past four weighed and made sail, founded in 7 and 9 fathoms water. At noon killed a bullock, weight 301lbs. Hindostan and Clarence in company. Thursday 8.
- Moderate and cloudy. P. M. served tobacco, founded from 15 to 17 fathoms water, observed several small meteors in the air. At 6 A. M. saw a junk steering S. E. killed a bullock, weight 323lbs. saw the land bearing south-east. Friday 9.
- Light breezes and clear. P. M. at sun set, extremes of Meatow islands from S. E. to E. by N. 5 or 6 leagues distant. A. M. killed 2 bullocks, weighed 400lbs. At 8 the high land of Tangangfoe N. E. by E. 3 or 4 leagues. At noon came to with the coasting anchor in 10 fathoms water—soft mud. Saturday 10.
At anchor off
the high land
of Tangang-
foe.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion.

1793.
August.
Sunday 11. Moderate and hazy. At half-past noon the Hindostan came to. At 6 weighed: at 9 made the anchoring signal with a gun, and came to with the coasting anchor in 9 fathoms water, Meatow islands from N. E. by E. to east: killed a bullock, weight 290lbs. At 5 A. M. weighed and made sail. At 7 shoaled our water from 9 to $\frac{1}{2}$ 7. $\frac{1}{4}$ 7. and $\frac{1}{2}$ 4 fathoms water. At 8 came to in 7 fathoms water, Meatow island from N. by W. to E. by N. At half-past 9 weighed.
- Monday 12. Light airs and squally. At half-past 3 P. M. came to with the coasting anchor in 21 fathoms water, Tangangfoe town, S. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. killed a bullock, weight 287lbs. A. M. received a present of provisions and vegetables. Sailed the Clarence.
- Tuesday 13. Light breezes and cloudy. P. M. received several hogs, sheep, &c. At 7 weighed sounded from 21 to 16 fathoms water, tacked occasionally, washed the lower and orlop decks, and the sick birth with vinegar. At noon the Hindostan in company.
- Wednesday 14. Light airs, inclinable to calm. P. M. 3 made sail. At 7 shortened sail and came to in 11 fathoms water with the coasting anchor, easternmost of Meatow islands. North, a low rocky point S. S. E. 3 or 4 miles. At 7 weighed and made sail. At noon the Clarence joined us.
- Thursday 15. Light breezes and cloudy. P. M. tacked occasionally. At half-past 6 shortened sail and came to with the coasting anchor in 9 fathoms water, cape Cheatow E. by S. Departed this life Philip Payne, seaman. At 5 A. M. committed his body to the deep, weighed and tacked occasionally.
- Friday 16. Moderate and cloudy. P. M. at 2 came to with the coasting anchor in 7 fathoms water, cape Cheatow N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. A. M. at 7 the Clarence weighed and made sail to sound. At 9 we weighed, soundings from $\frac{1}{4}$ 4 to $\frac{1}{2}$ 5 fathoms water, cape Cheatow N. by W. Employed occasionally.
- Saturday 17. Light airs. P. M. tacked occasionally. At half-past 6 the westernmost point of the land E. N. E.—the easternmost of Coon Coon Sheen islands N. W. by N. tacked every 2 hours. A. M. hove to and abifted

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, Yellow Sea.

1794.

- | | |
|--|---|
| hoisted in the launch, killed a bullock, weight 289lbs. Hindostan and Clarence in company. | August. |
| Light airs. At 4 P. M. in 1st reef top-sails extremes of the land to the easterward S. E. by E. A. M. founded from $\frac{1}{2}$ 13 to 16 fathoms water. At 7 tacked, founded in 16 fathoms water. Hindostan and Clarence in company. | Sunday 18. |
| Light breezes and cloudy. P. M. sent the yawl to found to what appeared to us shoal, but proved to be the reflections of the clouds. At 6 extremes of the land from S. E. by E. to W. by S. distant 3 leagues, tacked occasionally, and founded in 30 fathoms water. A. M. killed a bullock, weight 280lbs. washed lower and orlop decks. Hindostan and Clarence in company. | Monday 19.
The Continent S. S. W. distant 7 leagues. |
| Ditto weather, with a south-east swell. P. M. at 3 squally. At 5 light airs, saw the land from S. by W. to S. W. by W. 6 or 7 leagues. At midnight calm. At 4 A. M. light airs, with a S. E. swell. At 6 cape Chanton, S. S. W. 19 fathoms water. Employed occasionally. | Tuesday 20.
Mandarin's Cap. N. W. by N. 37° 19' N. |
| Light airs, with a south-east swell. P. M. at three squally. At 4 cape Chanton N. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. founded in 16 fathoms water. At midnight clear. A. M. employed occasionally. | Wednesday 21. |
| Moderate and clear. P. M. saw a whale, and at half-past 9 an eclipse of the moon, which continued to half-past 12, never being more than two-thirds eclipsed, by which we calculated our longitude to be 122 deg. 41 min. east of Greenwich.* | Thursday 22. |
| Light breezes and clear. P. M. at 2 founded in 22 fathoms water. At midnight founded in 20 fathoms water. At 4 A. M. founded in 19 fathoms water. At 6 made sail, and at 8 founded in 20 fathoms water. | Friday 23. |

* It appears evident from this observation, that those historians who have treated of China were very imperfect in their geographical estimates; as Peking, which is considerably to the eastward of that coast where the observation was taken, is only stated at 116 degrees of east longitude; so that the difference is almost 7 degrees; a cogent proof of their ignorance relative to the interior history of this empire.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, off China.

1793.
 August.
 Saturday 24. Light breezes and clear. Tried the current and found it set N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. 2 miles; at 8 cloudy, at midnight no bottom, at 3 A. M. made fail, washed the lower and orlop decks, Hindostan and Clarence in company.
- Sunday 25. Moderate and clear. P. M. Made fail; at midnight departed this life Robert Chambers, cooper, at 2 A. M. committed the body to the deep. At 6 saw the land bearing from S. by E. to S. S. W. at 7 squally, at 9 Clarence island 6 or 7 miles bearing S. by E. at noon sounded in 20 fathoms.
- Monday 26. Moderate and cloudy. At 5 P. M. extremes of Jackall's island from west to W. N. W. At 6 departed this life Wm. Bell, seaman; at 9 committed the body to the deep. Lion island W. Blunt Peak island W. by S. in 7 fathoms water.
- Whelps
 S. S. W.
 Buffalo's
 Nose N. W.
- Tuesday 27. Fresh breezes with rain. At 1 P. M. came to with the coasting anchor in 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms. Buffalo's Nose S. S. E. Truman's island S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. At 5 out launch, at 6 the cutter with Mr. Whitman went on an embassy to Chufan. A. M. Frequent gusts of wind.
- Off Tree-a-top island.
- Wednesday 28. Fresh breezes and squally, with rain. People employed occasionally.
- Thursday 29. Squally, with rain. Departed this life Mr. Wm. Cox, 4th Lieutenant, sent the body on shore to be buried. A. M. Arrived the Clarence.
- Friday 30. Ditto weather. At 2 P. M. weighed, turning through Goff's Passage; at 7 anchored in 11 fathoms, Kitto N. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. At 5 A. M. weighed, at half past 7 anchored in 10 fathoms, Kitto Point N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. Read Mr. Ormanny's commission as 4th Lieutenant, and Mr. Warren's as acting to the ship's company.
- At anchor off Kitto's point.
- Saturday 31. Ditto weather. Employed occasionally; sent the cutter to sound, and washed the decks.
- September.
 Sunday 1. Moderate and cloudy. A. M. Half-past 4 weighed, working into Chufan harbour, at 11 came to with the coasting anchor in 9 fathoms; carried out a kedge with 4 hawsers to warp the ship into the anchoring place; at half-past 11 weighed. Employed warping.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, off China.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Fresh breezes and squally, with rain at times. Employed warping to the kedje; at 2 came to with the best bower in 6 fathoms, moored ship a cable each way, best bower to the N. N. E. small bower S. S. W. center of the hill at the east end of Chufan town N. E. by E. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. A. M. Light breezes and fair; loosed fails to dry. Employed rounding the small bower cable.</p> | <p>1793.
September.
Monday 2.</p> |
| <p>Light breezes and cloudy. P. M. Sent down royal masts and rigging: unbent the fails, and unrove the running rigging. A. M. Sent down top-gallant masts. Received water.</p> | <p>Tuesday 3.
At anchor in
Chufan har-
bour.</p> |
| <p>Light breezes and fair. Employed overhauling the rigging; at 6 A. M. sent the sick on shore; struck yards and top-masts, shipped fore and main top-masts.</p> | <p>Wednesday 4.</p> |
| <p>Light breezes and cloudy. Employed over-hauling the top-mast rigging; received a bullock on board.</p> | <p>Thursday 5.</p> |
| <p>Ditto weather, with lightning in the S. W. People fitting the rigging afresh. A. M. Launch watering, killed a bullock 20: lbs. Departed this life Richard Welsh, seaman; committed his body to the deep.</p> | <p>Friday 6.</p> |
| <p>Moderate and cloudy. Employed about the top-mast rigging; received 2 bullocks and 105 pumpkins. A. M. Employed as before; killed a bullock 204lbs. washed lower and orlop decks.</p> | <p>Saturday 7.</p> |
| <p>Moderate and fair. Employed about the rigging; killed a bullock 236lbs. A. M. Yawl watering; received a bullock and 4 goats. Punished John Francis, seaman, with 12 lashes, for theft.</p> | <p>Sunday 8.</p> |
| <p>Light breezes and cloudy. A. M. Received water per launch; rigged the top-mast, killed a bullock and 4 goats, 291lbs. received water per launch and 2 bullocks.</p> | <p>Monday 9.</p> |
| <p>Moderate and cloudy, with heavy rain. A. M. Light winds and fair. People about the rigging and blacking the yards, caulking over the side, launch watering; killed 2 bullocks 395lbs.</p> | <p>Tuesday 10.</p> |
| <p>Light airs and cloudy. Employed overhauling the rigging. A. M. Roused up the best bower cable and stowed staves under it. Departed this life Stephen Pounce, seaman; interred the body.</p> | <p>Wednes-
day 11.</p> |
| <p>Moderate and cloudy, with heavy rain. Employed as necessary. A. M. Launch and yawls watering.</p> | <p>Thursday 12.</p> |

Moderate

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, in Chusan Harbour.

1793.
 {
 September.
 Friday 13. Moderate breezes with rain. Employed as before, launch and yawls watering. A. M. Employed clearing the after-hold and rattling the top-mast rigging. Saluted a mandarin with 3 guns.
- Saturday 14. Ditto weather. P. M. Employed in the after-hold; saluted a mandarin with 3 guns, and a superior one with 7. A. M. Punished Henry Morris, seaman, with 12 lashes, for drunkenness.
- Sunday 15. Light breezes and cloudy. Arrived the Endeavour brig. A. M. The Endeavour saluted with 7 guns, returned 5; received water, employed starting it; swayed up the lower yards, fidded top-gallant and royal masts, rattled the lower rigging, received bread from the Hindostan.
- Monday 16. Moderate breezes. Employed watering.
- Tuesday 17. Light winds and cloudy. P. M. Received bread from the Hindostan. A. M. Sent the launch to the Jackall's assistance, she being on shore without the harbour. Employed shifting the coals and rattling the rigging. Fired 21 lower-deck guns being the Emperor of China's birth-day; killed a bullock and 4 goats.
- Wednes-
 day 18. Moderate and cloudy. Launch assisting the Jackall; at midnight fresh breezes and squally, with violent peals of thunder and fierce flashes of lightning; struck the royal masts, secured the pumps and magazines. A. M. Yawls watering.
- Thursday 19. Ditto weather. Yawls watering; got royal masts upon deck, struck yards, top-masts and top-gallant masts. A. M. People employed occasionally, received from the Hindostan beef and pork.
- Friday 20. Light breezes and clear. Employed in the after-hold; caulkers on the larboard side; received on board beef from the Hindostan, and water per launch.
- Saturday 21. Ditto weather. Employed stowing the after-hold; launch and yawls watering, received from the Hindostan beef and pork. A. M. Received from ditto beef, oatmeal, and flour; cooper repairing the heads of the casks. Scraped the larboard side.
- Sunday 22. Light breezes and cloudy. Employed stowing away provisions, coopers as before. A. M. Cleared haufe, launch watering.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, in Chusan Harbour.

- Light breezes and cloudy. Caulkers as before. A. M. Punished Jeremiah Harrington, seaman, with 12 lashes for insolence. Coopers and caulkers as before; launch and yawls watering. Received bread from the Hindostan. 1793.
September.
Monday 23.
- Ditto weather. Caulkers on the larboard side; received peas from the Hindostan; received water. Painters about the stern. A. M. Received pork, beef, oatmeal, and flour, from the Hindostan. Tuesday 24.
- Fresh gales and squally. People and painters as before. A. M. Employed scraping the sides; received 4 bullocks, killed 2, weight 426lbs. Wednesday 5.
- Ditto weather. People and painters as before. A. M. Received rum from the Hindostan; received water on board. Thursday 26.
- Moderate and fair. Received beef and pork from the Hindostan, painters about the sides, caulkers and sail-makers employed, people in the hold, received a bullock, killed 2, weight 432lbs. A. M. Received from the Hindostan beef, pork, fuet, and vinegar. Launch and yawls watering. Friday 27.
- Ditto weather. Painters as before; sail makers repairing the Clarence's sails; received pease, oatmeal, and flour from the Hindostan. A. M. Received vinegar, beef, and pork from the Hindostan, and water per yawls. Saturday 28.
- Fresh breezes and cloudy. P. M. Completed the holds; received 3 bullocks, killed 2, weight 371lbs. received from the Hindostan beef, pork, fuet, and vinegar. A. M. Yawls watering. Sunday 29.
- Ditto weather. Gunners painting the guns. A. M. Carpenters repairing the launch on shore, people pointing the ends of the cables, received bread from the Hindostan, served vinegar to the people. Monday 30.
- Moderate and fair. Gunners as before, carpenters repairing the launch; killed 2 bullocks, 311 lbs. set up the fore and main rigging. A. M. Sail-makers as before. October.
Tuesday 1.
- Moderate and cloudy, with rain. Received 8 bullocks, 16 goats, and 700 bundles of wood, saluted a mandarin with 7 guns, received wood Wednesday 2.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, in Chusan Harbour.

1793.
October.
- Thursday 3. wood from the Hindostan. A. M. Coopers shaking empty casks ; yawls watering ; killed 2 bullocks, 367lbs.
- Friday 4. Ditto weather. Carpenters repairing the launch ; killed 2 bullocks 305lbs. coopers as before. A. M. Received 2 bullocks, scraped lower gun-deck, yawls watering.
- Saturday 5. Fresh breezes and cloudy. Carpenters lining the lower deck ports and repairing the launch, cleared haufe, received water, killed 2 bullocks weight 307lbs.
- Sunday 6. Weather as before. Employed working up junk, carpenters as before, caulkers caulking the launch's bottom. A. M. Rain. Employed working up junk ; killed 2 bullocks, 300lbs. received water per yawls.
- Monday 7. Ditto weather. Carpenters, caulkers, and sail-makers as before ; received water per yawls, killed a bullock, 241lbs. A. M. Received on board a bullock ; cleared haufe.
- Tuesday 8. Moderate and fair. Caulkers on lower-gun deck ; received 4 bullocks. A. M. received water per yawls ; washed and smoked lower gun-deck, carpenters repairing the launch, sail-makers repairing the foresail, caulkers on board the Clarence, killed 2 bullocks, 431lbs.
- Wednesday 9. Ditto weather. Caulkers and sail-makers as before ; received 2 bullocks, killed 1, weight 273lbs. A. M. Employed watering, furveyed the gunner's stores, the sick returned on board.
- Thursday 10. Light breezes and fair. Carpenters lining lower deck ports. A. M. Swayed up top-masts, lower yards, and top-gallant masts. Sail-makers as before ; killed a bullock, 228lbs.
- Friday 11. Weather as before. Employed setting up the top-mast rigging, coopers repairing banacoos, received water per yawls. A. M. Cleared haufe ; killed 2 bullocks, 240lbs.
- Friday 11. Ditto weather. P. M. Sent a party to bring off the launch. A. M. Rove the running rigging and bent the sails ; sail-makers making hammocks, received wood, killed a bullock 215lbs. yawls watering.

Moderate

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, in Chusan Harbour.

- Moderate and fair. P. M. Received 2 bullocks and 4 goats; killed 2 bullocks, 479lbs. The grand mandarin paid us a visit; saluted him with 7 guns on his coming on board and leaving the ship: manned ship at his passing. A. M. Employed getting ready for sea. 1793.
October.
Saturday 10.
- Ditto weather. Received 4 bullocks and 8 goats. A. M. unmoored ship; employed watering; at 11 weighed the small bower, and shifted 2 cables length further down, and came to in 6 fathoms: received 2 bullocks, and killed one of them, weight 228lbs. Sailed the Endeavour and Jackall. Sunday 11.
- Light breezes and cloudy. Received wood and 2 bullocks, killed 1, weight 293lbs. sail-makers as before: departed this life Thomas Addison, seaman; interred the body. Monday 12.
- Moderate and cloudy. Cruisers on the main deck. A. M. killed a bullock, weight 234lbs. Tuesday 13.
- Light breezes and fair. Sent 10 invalids on board the Hindostan. A. M. Punished Thomas Lock, seaman, with 12 lashes, for riotous behaviour. Wednesday 14.
- Moderate and clear. Saluted a mandarin with 7 guns, returned the Hindostan's salute with 9; at 5 weighed, found the anchor stock gone; half-past 5 came to with the coasting anchor in 19 fathoms, Deer Island N. by W. A. M. Half-past 9 weighed, turning towards Kitto point; carpenters employed making an anchor stock. Thursday 15.
- Moderate and clear. P. M. At 3 running through Goff's Passage; at 4 saluted a mandarin with 4 guns on his leaving the ship; half-past 5 came to with the coasting anchor in 7 fathoms, Buffaloe's Nose S. W. by W. hoisted in the launch, killed 2 bullocks 462lbs. A. M. At half-past 6 weighed and made sail, Clarence in company; at noon Patchcock island N. W. 4 N. 7 or 8 miles. Friday 16.
- Fresh breeze and cloudy. Half-past noon entered of Hefan islands from N. W. by W. to S. W. by S. at 6 in 2d reefs, at 10 in 3d reefs, at noon the Clarence in company. Saturday 17.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, off China.

1793.
 October.
 Sunday 20. Fresh breezes and cloudy. P. M. At 2 out 3d and 2d reefs; strong breezes, at 9 in 3d reefs. A. M. Killed a bullock, 224lbs. at 9 lowered the top-fails to keep the Clarence a-head; sail-makers making a covering for the pinnace: at noon Clarence in company.
- Monday 21. Fresh breezes. P. M. At 2 hoisted the top-fails, at 6 spoke the Clarence, at 5 A. M. out 3d reefs, at 10 saw 6 junks, at noon several junks in sight; carpenters stocking the best bower anchor, Clarence in company.
- Tuesday 22. Fresh breezes and cloudy. P. M. At 5 out 2d reefs. A. M. At 6 saw Pedro Blanco N. by E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. at noon the west end of the great Lama N. by W. east end N. E. by N. armourers at the forge.
- Wednesday 23. Ditto weather. P. M. At 4 the body of the island of Tarlow Chow N. N. W. shortened sail, and came to with the coasting anchor in 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; sent the Clarence to Macao. A. M. At 9 weighed and made sail; at noon came to with the coasting anchor in 8 fathoms, Tarlow Chow N. by E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. Macao town W. N. W. 7 or 8 miles.
- At anchor off Macao, among the Ladrões.
- Thursday 24. Ditto weather. Yawls watering. A. M. Gunners stretching breeching stuff, coopers repairing banacoos.
- Friday 25. Ditto weather. Yawls watering. A. M. Squally; coopers as before.
- Saturday 26. Fresh breezes and cloudy. Yawls watering. sail-makers making coats for the masts. A. M. Yawls as before, shewed our colours to a ship in the offing, cleared the boatswain's store-room.
- Sunday 27. Fresh breezes and fair. Yawls watering. A. M. Employed occasionally.
- Monday 28. Light breezes and pleasant weather. P. M. The Clarence anchored close to us; passed us the Washington, American ship. A. M. Sail-makers covering man-ropes, and other jobs.
- Tuesday 29. Ditto weather. Yawls watering; at 8 failed the Clarence for Macao. A. M. At 6 weighed, found the stock of the coasting anchor gone, made sail, half-past 9 shortened sail and came to with the best bower in 10 fathoms, Tarlow Chow N. W. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. Sam Coke N. W.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion, off the Ladrões.

- N. W. & N. carpenters fitting a new anchor stock, a fwell, E. S. E. At noon weighed and made sail, sail-makers as before.
- Light breezes and pleasant weather. Half-past 12 found the fore-top-mast, sprung down top-gallant-yard and mast upon deck, shortened sail. At 4 came to with the best bower in 10 fathoms water, Tarlow Chow E. N. E. down fore-top-mast, sent the pinnace and yawl on service, carpenters fising the fore-top-mast, and cutting another fid hole, washed lower gun-deck.
- Fresh breezes and foggy. Carpenters as before, swayed the fore-top-mast and end, and flatted the top-mast rigging. A. M. Fidded the top-mast, and set up the rigging, carpenters making a coasting anchor stock, the boats returned on board, anchored a schooner with hands for us.
- Ditto weather. Swayed up the fore-yard. A. M. Swayed up top-gallant-masts, carpenters as before, sail-makers repairing the main-sail.
- Moderate and fair. P. M. At 4 arrived a ship from the N. N. E. which shewed French colours, sent the boats after her, cut the best bower cable, and made sail, fired a shot to bring her to. At 6 she run into the Typer, hauled our wind to port, tacked occasionally: at half-past 7 came to with the coasting anchor in 5 fathoms water, Macao town W. by N. 3 miles, Tarlow Chow S. E. 7 or 8 miles: at 9 the boats returned. A. M. At 5 sent an officer to Macao. Departed this life Stephen Smart, quarter-master: at 8 committed the body to the deep: half-past 9 weighed and made sail, turning towards the buoy of the best bower, coopers packing empty staves.
- Moderate and fair. P. M. At half-past noon shortened sail and came to with the coasting anchor in our old birth; employed creeping for the end of the best bower cable, and getting it entered hove short on it. A. M. hove up the best bower. Half-past 8 weighed the coasting anchor and made sail; washed lower and orlop decks. At noon the body of Tarlow Chow, E. by S. 6 miles.

1793.

October.

Wednes-
day 30.
Off Macao,
among the
Ladrões.

Thursday 31.

November.
Friday 1.

Saturday's.

Sunday 2.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion, off the Ladrões.

1793.
November.
Monday 4. Light airs and cloudy. At 5 after ears S. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. 6 miles. A. M. At 9 fresh breezes and cloudy: split the fore-sail, clewed it up to repair, rove double sheets and proper tacks.
- Tuesday 5. Ditto weather. At 6 Pedro Blanco, N. N. E. 5 leagues. A. M. At 3 in 2d reefs. At 9 split the main-top-sail, clewed it up to repair. Half-past 7 tacked down top-gallant-yards, carried away the mizen-top-sail-yards, unbent the sail, sheeted home main-top-sail. At noon got up a jury mizen-top-sail-yard, and set the sail. Carpenters making a mizen-top-sail-yard.
- Wednesday 6. Moderate and cloudy. P. M. unbent the fore-sail, and bent another; founded in 23 fathoms water. At midnight in 3d reefs, and furled mizen-top-sail. At 3 A. M. set the mizen-top-sail; sail-makers making a new main-top-sail out of two sprit-sail courses. Half-past 10 tacked out 3d reefs. At noon got up a proper mizen-top-sail-yard. Pedro Blanco, E. S. E. 7 miles.
- Thursday 7. Ditto weather. P. M. unbent the mizen to repair, sail-makers as before, and repairing the fore-sail. A. M. tacked occasionally.
- Friday 8. Fresh breezes and cloudy. P. M. At 8 more moderate, out 2d reefs. At midnight tacked. A. M. carried away the jib-stay and hall-yards, spliced them: carpenters making a machine to make rope with.
- Saturday 9. Ditto weather. P. M. At 4 unbent the new fore-sail, and bent the old one. At 2 A. M. carried away the jib-tack, repaired ditto. At 5 carried away the main-top-gallant-sheet, spliced ditto, employed making rope.
- Sunday 10. Ditto weather. P. M. At 6 in 2d reefs: at 7 found the fore-top-mast sprung 5 feet above the cap, in 3d reef fore-top-sail, down fore-top-gallant-yard and mast. A. M. strong gales, down main and mizen-top-gallant-yards: at 4 in 4th reef fore-top-sail: at noon squally, furled the mizen-top-sail.
- Monday 11. Fresh gales and cloudy. P. M. At 4 wore ship: at 6 strong gales and hazy, with a heavy sea, handed fore-top-sail: at 8 heavy gales, handed main-top-sail, split the main-sail, set main-stay-sail, and handed part of the main-sail, the remainder having blown from the yard:

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion, off the Ladrões.

1793.
November.

yard: at 9 set main-top-fail: at half-past 9 set mizen-top-fail: at A. M. split main-top-fail, furled it, balanced and set mizen: at 3 set storm, fore and mizen-stay-fail: at 6 split main-stay-fail, hauled it down to repair: at half-past 8 set fore-top-fail, close reefed, unbent main-top-fail, and sent it down: at noon a heavy sea.

Tuesday 12.

Fresh gales and cloudy. P. M. At 2 unbent the remainder of the main-fail, bent another main-top-fail, and set it close reefed. At 6 furled the fore-fail, bent another main-fail, and furled it. A. M. At 5 out 4th and 3d reefs fore-top-fail, and 3d reef main-top-fail, set mizen-top-fail, saw the land N. W. by W. loofed courses. At 8 found the main-top-mast sprung in the cap, out 2d reef mizen-top-fail. At noon the east end of the Great Lama, E. N. E. Asses Ears W. S. W. swayed up fore-top-gallant-mast.

Light breezes and fair. P. M. At 4 out all reefs: at 7 shortened fail and came to with the coasting anchor in 16 fathoms water, Cockerpow N. W. by W. A. M. At 9 weighed and made fail: at 11 in 2 reefs, tacked ship. At noon the Grand Ladrone, W. by E. a heavy swell.

Wednesday 13.

Fresh breezes and clear. At 1 came to with the coasting anchor in 13 fathoms water, the Grand Lama, W. S. W. A. M. At 6 weighed and made fail: at 10 shortened fail and came to with the coasting anchor in 7½ fathoms water, Tarlow Chow, N. N. E.

Thursday 14.

Ditto weather. P. M. At 4 weighed and made fail; at half-past 4 came to with the coasting anchor in 7 fathoms water, Sam Coke, E. ½ S. A. M. Half-past 6 weighed and stood into Sam Coke. At 7 came to with the coasting anchor in 6 ¼ fathoms water, Sam Coke, E. S. E. 1 mile, got fore and main-top-gallant-masts upon decks: yawls watering.

Friday 15.

Fresh breezes and hazy with rain. Sent the main-top-mast down, and another up; carpenters making a fore-top-mast out of the old main one, sent down the fore-top-mast, and cut it up, it being unserviceable in its proper use. A. M. Fiddled main-top-mast, and swayed up the yard: employed making rope.

Saturday 16.

Fresh

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion, off Macao.

1793.
 November.
 Sunday 17. Fresh breezes with rain. Carpenters converting the main-top-mast into a fore one. A. M. Arrived the Clarence.
- Monday 18. Moderate and cloudy. Dried sails, yawls watering, swayed up top-gallant-masts, and set up the rigging: yawls watering.
- Tuesday 19. Moderate and hazy. P. M. Yawls as before, carpenters repairing the Clarence boat, sail-makers repairing the fore-sail, people making rope, sailed the Clarence. A. M. Rove new fore and main-top-sail-braces: yawls watering.
- Wednes-
 day 20. Fresh breezes and fair. P. M. At 5 loosed and hoisted top-sails, fired 4 shot to bring to a vessel in shore, she shewed English colours, sent a boat on board her. A. M. Mustered at quarters, found the ship driving, dropt the best bower, carpenters repairing the yawl.
- Thursday 21. Fresh breezes and cloudy. P. M. At 1 fired a shot and brought to a brig under American colours, sent an officer to examine her papers, and found she belonged to the isle of France, named the Emilla, Dumist and Roufell, merchants on the said island, last from the N. W. coast of America, with 271 fur skins on board; detained her as a prize, sent a petty officer and 7 men to take charge of her. At half-past 1 weighed the best bower. A. M. At 5 the prize fired 3 musquets, sent a boat on board her, found her driving, secured her with hawsers, &c. At 8 found our ship driving, dropt our best bower; the yawl that was astern of the prize was lost, the officer brought her stern on board.
- Friday 22. Fresh breezes. P. M. At 4 hove up the best bower, employed making rope. A. M. Found the ship driving, dropt the best bower. Half-past 7 struck top-gallant-masts, made the hawser, the prize was riding by fast to the ship through the gun-room-port forward.
- Saturday 23. Fresh gales and cloudy. P. M. Employed working up junk: at 5 anchored the Clarence. A. M. The Clarence drove, with 3 anchors, a-head: sail-makers repairing the fore-sail.
- Sunday 24. Fresh breezes and clear. Sail-makers repairing the main-sail, the Clarence weighed her anchors, sent her under the lee of Tatlow Chow for shelter. A. M. Mustered at quarters.

Fresh

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship the Lion, off Macao.

- Fresh breezes and clear. People employed occasionally. A. M. Weighed the best bower, and parted the coasting cable, let go the small bower, yawl, and pinnace creeping for the end of the cable. Cast off the Prize. 1793
November.
Monday 25.
- Moderate and clear. Received 9 seamen and a boy from the Clarence; yawl and pinnace as before; sail-makers repairing courses. Departed this life Thomas Steward, seaman. A. M. Committed the body of the deceased to the deep. Tuesday 26.
- Ditto weather. P. M. Yawls and pinnace as before, creeping for the end of the cable, which they got; employed securing it. A. M. Sailed the Prize brig for the Typer, to land the prisoners at Macao. Wednes-
day 27.
- Light breezes and fair. P. M. At 5 hove up the best bower, and warped the ship to the coasting anchor, got the end of the cable on board, and weighed the anchor, made sail. At half-past 5 came to with the best bower in 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms water, Sam Coke, E. by S. 2 miles. A. M. Yawls watering, bent the coasting cable, the inner end to the anchor, washed below. Arrived the Emilla. Thursday 28.
- Moderate and cloudy. P. M. At 3 weighed and stood in for the watering island, but falling little, wind came to again with the best bower in 5 fathoms water, Sam Coke, E. by S. sail-makers repairing the courses. A. M. Yawls watering. Friday 29.
- Fresh breezes and cloudy. P. M. At 3 weighed and stood nearer to Sam Coke. At 4 came to with the best bower in 6 fathoms water, body of Sam Coke, E. by S. 1 mile. A. M. Stayed the masts, and set up the rigging. Saturday 30.
- Fresh breezes and cloudy. Small boats watering, sail-makers repairing courses. A. M. Caulkers about the water ways. December.
Sunday 1.
- Ditto weather. Employed occasionally. A. M. Employed knotting yards and making rope, sail-makers repairing main-top-sail. People employed occasionally. Monday 2.
- Fresh breezes and cloudy. Small boats watering the Clarence. A. M. Hoisted out the launch, sent a kedge anchor and hawser on board the Prize; carpenters repairing the pinnace. Tuesday 3.

Moderate

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, off Bocca Tigris.

with the best bower in 6 fathoms water, veered $\frac{1}{2}$ a cable the entrance of Bocca Tigris, N. N. W.

1793.
December.

Fine weather. At 3 P. M. weighed and made sail, tacked occasionally. Saturday 14.

At 7 in tacking touched the ground, run the after guns forward, hoisted out the boats to tow, sent a boat to sound round the ship. Half-past 7 the Clarence anchored on our larboard bow, carried out a hawser to her, and hove on it, but finding her anchors came home, sent down royal and top-gallant-yards and royal masts on decks, struck top-gallant-masts, furled the sails, barred the ports in fore and aft, stocked the coasting anchor, and bent the stream cable to it, when a-ground the body of Langute, S. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ west, the north easternmost of Sama Chow islands, N. by W. the south westernmost W. S. W. at dead low water having 15 feet the ship heeled to port.

A. M. Employed starting water, carried out the coasting anchor to the S. E. and hove a strain, but could not move her; started more water. Half-past 11 the Clarence weighed and anchored on our larboard, killed 5 bullocks, weight 640lbs.

Light breezes and pleasant weather. P. M. The Clarence hauled alongside and received our small bower anchor and 2 cables, slip the end from the hawse, and took it in at the larboard stern port. Half-past 3 the Clarence hauled off and laid the anchor to the eastward, hove taut: at $\frac{1}{2}$ flood slip the stream, and hove off to the eastward in 6 fathoms water. A. M. Fiddled top-gallant and royal masts, swayed up the yards, Clarence weighing the coasting anchor. Sunday 15.

Light breezes and fine weather. Hauled the Clarence alongside and took the coasting anchor from her. A. M. At 7 weighed and made sail, half-past came to with the best bower in 5 fathoms water, moored ship, the north fort at the entrance of Bocca Tigris, N. south fort N. W. by N. a small rocky island at the entrance, N. N. W. received 1733lbs. of beef. Monday 16.

Ditto weather. Punished Francis Otto, seaman, with 12 lashes, for theft, exercised great guns, sail-makers making a quarter-deck awning. Tuesday 17.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, in Wampoa River.

- Light breezes and clear. P. M. Employed occasionally. A. M. Read Mr. Ommaney's commission from the Lords of the Admiralty as 5th Lieutenant, but as Lieut. Cox's commission was vacant, Capt. Gower ordered him to act as 4th; read the order, and Mr. Tippet's acting order as 5th, likewise Mr. Warren's as 6th, also the articles of war, and Capt. Gower's orders to the ship's company: washed decks, arrived the Glatton. 1793.
December.
Tuesday 24.
- Weather as before. People employed occasionally. A. M. Received 715lbs. of fresh beef: at noon part of the soldiers that attended the Ambassador to Pekin returned on board. Wednesday
25.
- Ditto weather. P. M. and A. M. Carpenters fixing spare cabbins under the half deck. Thursday 26.
- Light breezes and hazy. P. M. Employed occasionally. A. M. People making rope; came along-side several country boats with the Ambassador's baggage, and 13 chests of presents for the ship's company from the Emperor of China. Friday 27.
- Moderate and cloudy. P. M. Received water; employed stowing the Ambassador's wine; punished Peter Ashton and Richard Cur, seamen, with 12 lashes each, for disobedience of orders; Richard Manning, Wm. Tipple, Robert Edwards, and John Hogan, seamen, with 12 lashes each, for disobedience and drunkenness. Saturday 28.
- Light breezes and hazy. Employed stowing the after-hold. A. M. Received 595lbs. fresh beef. Sunday 29.
- Ditto weather. P. M. Manned ship for his Excellency Viscount Macartney, as did the Hindostan and Clarence: his Excellency was cheered by all the ships as he passed; at 2 he came on board, at 5 he left the ship. A. M. Employed fleetening the rigging: punished James Hervey and John Evans, seamen, with 12 lashes each, for disobedience of orders. Monday 30.
- Light breezes and fair. Employed setting up rigging, and in the after-hold: cleared hause; sent 13 casks of beef and 7 of pork on board the Hindostan. A. M. Arrived the Lord Walsingham from England: sent 30 casks of beef and 25 of pork on board the Warley: employed in the hold. Tuesday 31.

Remarks on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion, in Whampoa River.

- 1764.^a
 January.
- Thursday 2. Light breezes and fair. Employed in the hold: sent 13 casks of beef and 7 of Pork on board the Hindostan.
- Friday 3. Moderate and cloudy. P. M. Employed as before. A. M. Carpenters nailing battin in the hold to stow staves over: coopers setting up casks.
- Saturday 4. Fresh breezes and fair. P. M. Employed in the holds: fell over-board and was drowned Alexander Ramsay, seaman. A. M. Employed in the hold.
- Sunday 5. Light airs and clear. Arrived the Hawke and Exeter from England. A. M. People employed occasionally; arrived the Henry Dundas from England.
- Monday 6. Ditto weather. People as necessary; received a boat load of water, arrived a Spanish ship, received a top-mast from the Ceres Indiaman. A. M. Employed in the after-hold, washed lower gun-deck.
- Tuesday 7. Light breezes and fair. Employed in the after-hold: coopers repairing banacoes: punished Ralph Pilkinton, dragoon, with 12 lashes, for disobedience of orders, riotous behaviour, and drunkenness.
- Wednesday 8. Moderate and cloudy. Received 3064lbs. of bread and some of the Ambassador's baggage. A. M. Bent sails, punished Henry Nicholls and John Smith, seamen, with 12 lashes each, for theft, and Benjamin Addison, marine, with 12 lashes, for insolence.
- Thursday 9. Ditto weather. Employed as necessary. A. M. Employed getting the baggage belonging to the Ambassador and suite on board: received on board wood.
- Friday 10. Light breezes and fair. Manned ship and saluted Lord Macartney with 15 guns on his coming on board, his suite likewise embarked; employed getting in the baggage. A. M. Cleared haufe, and unmoored ship; at 11 weighed the small bower, and dropt a little lower down the river, and came to with the small bower; received 1600lbs. of fresh beef.

GLOSSARY

OF

CHINESE WORDS.

CHINESE.	ENGLISH.
Tongau - - - - -	Sugar.
Pytong - - - - -	Ditto, moist.
Pyntong - - - - -	Sugar-candy.
Swee - - - - -	Water.
Lyang swee - - - - -	Ditto, cold.
Kiefwee - - - - -	Ditto, hot.
Pyn swee - - - - -	Ditto, ice.
Man-toa - - - - -	Bread.
Tchau - - - - -	Tea.
Ttchau-woo - - - - -	Tea-pot.
Tchee-tanna (<i>in the northern pro-</i> <i>vinces</i>) - - - - -	} Eggs.
Kee-tanna (<i>in the southern pro-</i> <i>vinces</i>) - - - - -	
Yien - - - - -	Tobacco.
Yien-die - - - - -	Tobacco-pipe.
Jee-au - - - - -	Fowls.
Yaut-zau - - - - -	Ducks.
Ly-fau (<i>in the northern provinces</i>)	Rice.
Faun-na	Rice.

GLOSSARY.

CHINESE.	ENGLISH.
Faun-na (<i>in those about Hontchew</i> <i>province</i>) - - - - -	Rice.
Mee (<i>southern provinces</i>) - - -	Ditto.
Joo-au - - - - -	Wine.
Samtchoo, <i>or</i> Sowtchoo - - -	Spirits.
Yeu-oa - - - - -	Fish.
Loa-boo - - - - -	Turnips.
Chutz-yau - - - - -	Pepper.
Jishimau - - - - -	To ask the name of a thing or place.
Chou-au - - - - -	Good.
Boo-chou - - - - -	Bad.
Yinna - - - - -	Salt.
Poit-zie - - - - -	General term for greens.
Tannau - - - - -	Coals.
Yoong - - - - -	A hawk.
Pyeng - - - - -	Soldier.
Pyng - - - - -	Ice.
Quoitau - - - - -	Chop-sticks for eating with.
Laatchoo - - - - -	Candle.
Tchooa - - - - -	Light.
Tzou-shia - - - - -	Shoes, <i>in general</i> .
Chow-chow - - - - -	Victuals <i>or</i> meat.
Chec-fanna - - - - -	To eat meats.
Kowaa - - - - -	To broil.
Mann, Mann - - - - -	Stop <i>or</i> wait.
Lobb, Lobb - - - - -	Joining <i>or</i> coition.
Tziu - - - - -	Paper.
Josh - - - - -	God <i>or</i> Deity.
Chinchin - - - - -	To supplicate <i>or</i> pray.
Youwafs - - - - -	Furnace.
Too-paa - - - - -	A pagoda.
Tong-joo - - - - -	A sweet spirit like rum-shrub.

Chop-

To

GLOSSARY.

CHINESE.	ENGLISH.
Chop-chop - - - - -	To make haste.
Fookee - - - - -	Man.
Fookee-lou - - - - -	Good-morrow, Sir.
Niodzaa - - - - -	Milk.
Hoong - - - - -	Cheese.
Toudzaa - - - - -	Knife.
Ickoochop - - - - -	Very best.
Icko - - - - -	One.
Liaungko - - - - -	Two.
Suangko - - - - -	Three.
Soocko - - - - -	Four.
Oocko - - - - -	Five.
Leowcko - - - - -	Six.
Shicko - - - - -	Seven.
Packo - - - - -	Eight.
Jowcko - - - - -	Nine.
Sheego - - - - -	Ten.
Sooce - - - - -	Sleep.
Hongjoo - - - - -	Red wine.
Tchau-wanna - - - - -	A tea-cup.
Jeebau - - - - -	2½ cubits, or 1 yard.
Tyshaufuee - - - - -	Bed.
Mceoulaa - - - - -	Have not or cannot.

FINIS.



BOOKS Printed for J. DEBRET T,
Opposite BURLINGTON-HOUSE, PICCADILLY.

This Day is published,

NUMBER X. of the PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES, which completes the FIRST VOLUME of the PRESENT SESSION,

Revised and collated with the Notes of several Members,

THE PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER; or, the History of the Proceedings and Debates of LORDS and COMMONS; containing an Account of the most interesting Speeches and Motions, authentic Copies of all important Letters and Papers laid before either House during the PRESENT SESSION.

* * The Editors flatter themselves that these Debates, which they have the honour to present to the Public, will fully prove the earnest desire they entertain to act up to the very distinguished Patronage they have so long experienced. They hazard little in the opinion, that the question involved in them, is of the first interest and importance; and, it is presumed, they will not hazard less, in expressing their most sanguine hopes, that from the copiousness of Detail, the Fidelity of Argument, and the Accuracy of Expression, with which they are given, they will afford a very superior gratification to the Public Mind.

This Work was originally undertaken at the desire of several Persons of distinguished abilities and rank, from whose communication and patronage it has derived peculiar advantages. The favourable reception it has met with during the four last and present Parliaments, while it demands the most grateful acknowledgments of the Editors, encourages them to prosecute a continuation of the same, during the present Session. For this purpose they beg leave again to solicit the assistance of their former Friends, and every other Gentleman. A strict attention will be paid to all their commands and favours; nor will any assiduity or care be wanting to preserve that truth and accuracy, for which this Work has hitherto been distinguished.

Numbers XI. and XII. will be published in a few Days.

The PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER of the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Sessions of the PRESENT PARLIAMENT, from 1790 to 1794, in twelve volumes, octavo, Price 5l. 14s. 6d. half bound and lettered.

The PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER, from the General Election in 1780, to the Dissolution of Parliament in 1784, in fourteen volumes, Price 5l. 5s. half bound and lettered.

The PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER, from the General Election in 1784, to the Dissolution of Parliament in 1790, in thirteen volumes. Price 6l. 4s. half bound and lettered.

The DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS of BOTH HOUSES of PARLIAMENT, from the year 1743, to the year 1774. Printed uniformly to bind with the Parliamentary Register. In seven large volumes, 8vo. Price 2l. 12s. 6d. half bound and lettered.

A COLLECTION OF STATE PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE WAR AGAINST FRANCE now carrying on by GREAT-BRITAIN, and the several other EUROPEAN POWERS; containing Authentic Copies of

••	Treaties,	Declarations,	Parliamentary Papers,
	Conventions,	Memorials,	London Gazette Accounts of
	Proclamations,	Remonstrances,	the War, &c. &c. &c.
	Manifestoes,	Official Letters,	

Many of which have never before been published in England.

The Second Part in one large volume, octavo. Price 10s. 6d. in boards.

The first volume of this Work contains every valuable STATE PAPER relative to the present War, to the year 1794. Price 10s. 6d. in boards.

* * In this Work will be found some important STATE PAPERS never before published, and many which appear now for the first time in English.—To all political Men, but to Members of Parliament in particular, this Book will be found peculiarly interesting, as it contains the whole of those Documents which it is probable will be referred to in the Debates of either House, or in any other Discussions respecting the present War.

The WORKS of JOHN HALL STEVENSON, Esq. containing Crazy Tales, Fables for Grown Gentlemen, Lyric Epistles, Pastoral Cordial, Pastoral Puke, Macarony Fables, Lyric Consolations, Moral Tales, Monkish Epitaphs, Essay on the King's Friends, &c. &c. including several POEMS, now first printed from the ORIGINAL MSS. with NOTES, and a PREFACE by the Editor; illustrated with a View of Crazy Castle, and the Constellation, engraved by Milton; elegantly printed in three volumes, small octavo. Price 12s. in boards.