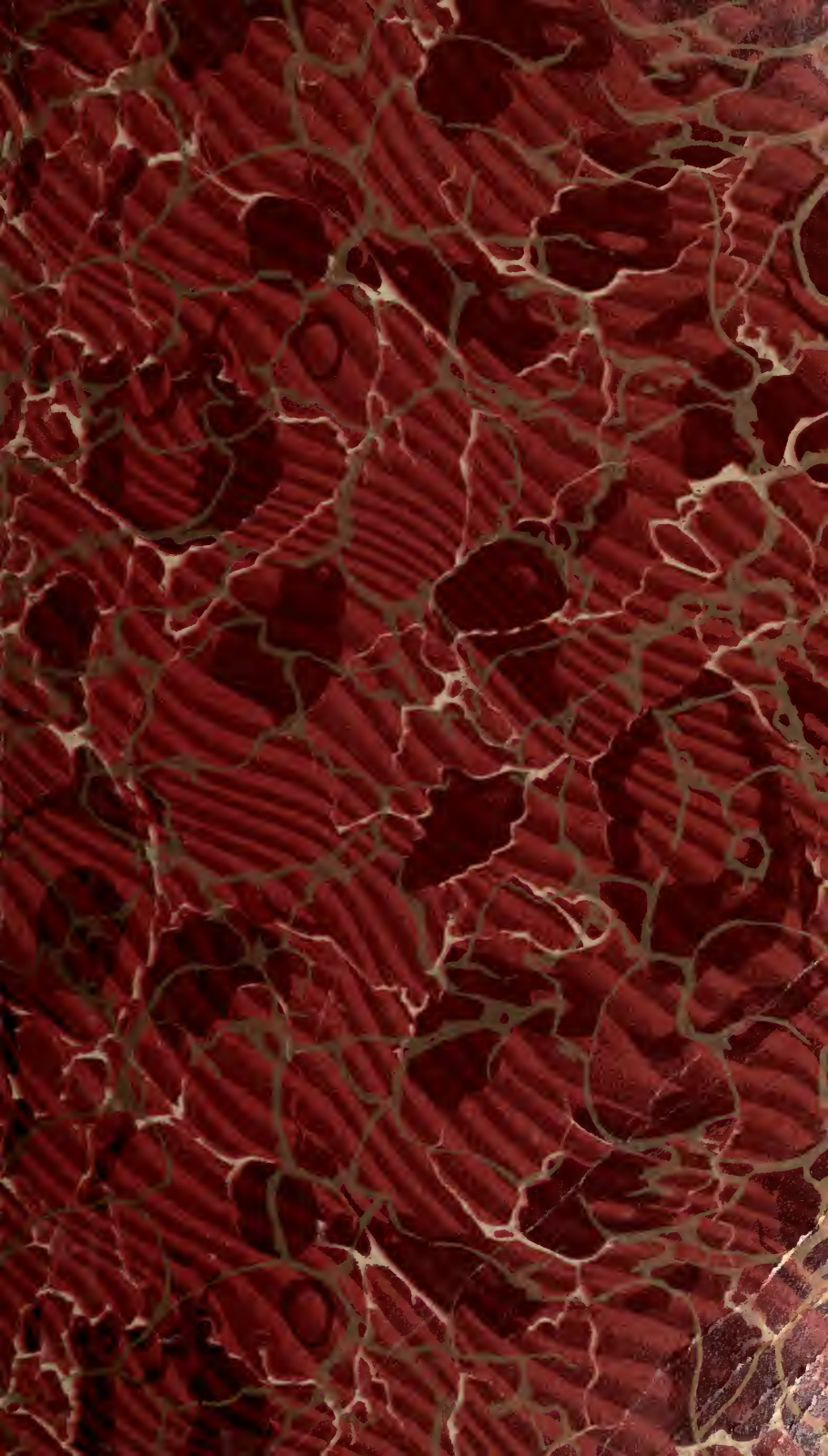


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DIARY

OF

A JOURNEY OVERLAND,

THROUGH THE

MARITIME PROVINCES OF CHINA,

FROM

MANCHAO,

ON THE SOUTH COAST OF HAINAN,

TO CANTON,

IN THE YEARS 1819 AND 1820.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR SIR RICHARD PHILLIPS AND Co.

BRIDE-COURT, BRIDGE-STREET.

1822.

DIARY

A JOURNAL OF OBSERVATIONS

MARITIME PROCEEDINGS OF CHINA

MADEIRA

ON THE NORTH COAST OF BRAZIL


IN 1770

LONDON

PRINTED FOR SIR RICHARD BULLOCK AND CO
IN ST. MARTIN'S LANE

W. LEWIS, PRINTER, 21, FINCH-LANE, CORNHILL.

ADVERTISEMENT.



THE following Pages consist of the popular portion of observations recently made in a Journey overland, through the maritime Provinces of China. The preceding part, as it contains merely nautical and meteorological information, of no interest to the general reader, is omitted.

On the *strict truth* of the present communication let no doubt be entertained; and its value is the more deserving of estimation, as none but those exposed to the opportunity of shipwreck are likely to learn so much of that curious portion of mankind, as is exhibited in the following pages.

It would therefore be tiresome and unnecessary to detail occurrences at sea, and the subsequent matters incidental to mercantile negociation, in which my time was occupied in Cochin-China, and for that reason I beg leave to shew merely what I consider most directly worthy of attention regarding the Hainanese and Chinese.

J. R., *Supercargo.*

APPENDIX

THE following paper is a copy of the original version of the report on the subject of the proposed extension of the franchise to the working classes. It is published in the Appendix to the Report of the Select Committee on the subject of the proposed extension of the franchise to the working classes. It is published in the Appendix to the Report of the Select Committee on the subject of the proposed extension of the franchise to the working classes.

On the subject of the proposed extension of the franchise to the working classes, it is to be observed that the subject is of great importance, and that it is one which has attracted the attention of the public. It is a subject which has been the subject of much discussion, and it is one which has attracted the attention of the public. It is a subject which has been the subject of much discussion, and it is one which has attracted the attention of the public.

It would be desirable to have a more complete and accurate statement of the facts of the case, and of the various arguments which have been advanced in support of the proposed extension of the franchise to the working classes. It is to be observed that the subject is of great importance, and that it is one which has attracted the attention of the public. It is a subject which has been the subject of much discussion, and it is one which has attracted the attention of the public.

J. H. Sturges

JOURNAL
OF
A VOYAGE FROM MACAO,
TOWARDS
TENON, IN COCHIN-CHINA,

§c. §c.

ON the 11th of November, 1819, the *Friendship* sailed from the *Typha*,* with a moderate breeze at N. N. E. and hazy weather. At noon the *Grand Ladrone* bore E. by S., distance five and a-half or six leagues.

* This is a river of China, through which a ship proceeding to the harbour of Macao must pass, there being thirteen feet at low water in the fair track between the *Typha* and the entrance of the harbour, whereas in the more open space between *Kai-kong* and Macao, there are not more than about eleven feet under the same circumstances. Such is the information usually given as to these places, yet the statement of the journal, with singular accuracy, and on it absolute reliance may be reposed, puts the matter in a somewhat different point of view, seriously worth the attention of navigators.

The city of Macao, usually pronounced *Macow*, is called by the Chinese *On-moon*, (moon in Chinese signifies an entrance or pass) and was ceded by that people to the Portuguese towards the close of the sixteenth century. The celebrated *Albuquerque* was the first European who formed the design of opening a communication with China, in consequence of his having met with, at *Malacca*, several vessels of that nation, whose seamen had more politeness and decorum than were at that period to be found among the nobility of Europe.

The information which they gave him concerning the civilization and resources of their country, induced that eminent man to lay the whole before the court of Lisbon; and, immediately after, a squadron was fitted out, in 1517, for the double purpose of peace or war, as the exigencies of occasion might require, a thing which formed the grand feature of every naval expedition at that period. The whole was put under the command of *Ferdinand Andrada*, who was accompanied by *Thomas Ferena*, in quality of ambassador.

“ On their arrival at the entrance of the river of Canton, the fleet was stopped, and only two vessels allowed to pass up the river; on-board of one were the ambassador and commodore. *Andrada* was a man of strict honour; so that he soon gained on the Chinese, notwithstanding their natural aversion to strangers. By his exactness and probity he drew them to trade, and brought them to have great confidence in him; but what had the greatest effect, and might have established the commerce of the Portuguese to the exclusion of all other nations, was his giving notice a little before his departure, that at such a time he meant to sail, and that if any had demands upon

12th.—The first part of these twenty-four hours an increasing breeze, with dark hazy weather, and a high swell from the Eastward. The middle and latter, hard gales with frequent heavy

him, or any of those belonging to him, they might apply and receive satisfaction. This was an instance of probity new to the Chinese, but so agreeable that they made him great professions of friendship, and assured him that they would most willingly trade with his nation, in hopes of meeting always with the like usage: but so fair a prospect did not long continue, and even the first had very nearly proved the last voyage of the Portuguese to China. The commanders of the ships that were left at the mouth of the river, landed and began a trade with the natives; but presuming on their power in India, treated the Chinese with great insolence and iniquity. They brought on shore several pieces of cannon, and then took what they pleased at their own rates, and treated with the pirates for such as they had taken prisoners, of whom they made slaves. The viceroy of the province quickly assembled a great naval force, with which he surrounded the Portuguese squadron, and would infallibly have taken them if a storm had not arisen, which scattered the Chinese fleet, and enabled the Portuguese to return to Malacca with more profit than honour. The ambassador proved the victim of this misconduct; he was confined in prison, where he afterwards died.

“It was many years before the Chinese would admit the Portuguese to trade with them, but at length, they allowed them to send some ships to the island of Sanuam, where they were permitted to erect tents on shore for a short space of time, in which they disposed of their merchandize. At length, towards the close of the sixteenth century, a favourable opportunity offered, not only of restoring their commerce, but of procuring a permanent establishment in China. The pirates committed great ravages on the coast, and having acquired a large force, made themselves masters of the port of Macao, and from thence not only blocked up the port of Canton, but also besieged the city. The Mandarines in their distress had recourse to the Portuguese, whose ships were then at the island of Sanuam. They readily offered their assistance, and not only forced the pirates to raise the siege, but pursued them to Macao, which they took, and where the chief of the pirates was killed. The viceroy having made a report to the emperor of this extraordinary service, he, out of gratitude, published an edict, by which the Portuguese were to have the island of Macao, with the power of forming a settlement, which they gladly accepted. They accordingly built a town and fortified it after the European manner; but the Chinese have effectually provided for their own security, by not allowing them any provisions but what they receive through their means.”—*See Milburne's Oriental Commerce.*

The Portuguese still retain nominal dominion over the island, but the Chinese, who never lose sight of their national interest, and the integrity of the celestial empire, are really the masters of the place, their mandarines exercising magisterial authority as effectually at Macao as at Canton.

According to Mr. Horsburgh, Macao is situated in latitude 22 degrees, 10½ minutes north, and longitude 113 degrees 32 minutes east, or 18 miles eastward of Canton by chronometer reckoning, and twelve miles westward of Grand Ladrone. The town stands on a high peninsula that terminates the island of Macao to the southward, being joined to it by a narrow isthmus on the north side of the town: several miserable erections called forts, appear on the hills which surround the town, but even these neglected buildings, by their contrast with the neat country-houses sprinkled upon the rising grounds, give the whole an entertaining appearance.

These houses are the favourite residence of the principal merchants, who

squalls and constant rain. Latitude per account at noon, 19 degrees 49 minutes north; longitude 112 degrees 38 minutes east. At a quarter before midnight, perceiving the ship's motion to be somewhat heavy and unusual, we sounded the well and found she had sprung a leak, and was nearly half full of water. The two pumps being shortly after choked and rendered useless, we turned all hands to bale with the buckets at the hatchways: finding, however, that the leak gained fast upon us, the sea now breaking fairly over her, we were obliged to relinquish this attempt; and holding a consultation of what was best to be done, it was the general opinion, that to run ashore on the nearest land (in order to save the lives of the crew,) was the most prudent measure that in our present situation could be adopted.

At half-past midnight, the wind veering round to east, bore up, and stood in west for the coast of Hainan, but there was great reason to fear the ship would founder before morning. At one A. M. a perfect hurricane blowing, with frequent violent gusts of cross and unexpected wind, and a tremendous heavy sea, handed the foresail and scudded under bare poles. At two, scudding under the goose wings of the foresail, the ship, though now apparently water-logged, seemed to fly through the water, and the sea was at this time in a complete foam. From the heavy ground swell we conjectured we could not be far from land, but were consequently, in the darkness, apprehensive of striking on some of the shoals or islands that lie to the eastward of Hainan.

At about four A. M. the wind shifted to north, blowing if possible more furious than before; kept her before it due-south: shortly after the mizen-mast went by the board, though there was not a stitch of canvas set upon it. In its fall it knocked me down the after-hatchway, by which I received a severe hurt in the back. At half-past four, we could distinctly hear a sound resembling that of distant thunder, but which we sorrowfully concluded to be the announcement of breakers.

At day-light there came obscurely in view an extensive reef of high rocks right a-head, distant about two miles, with a surf breaking over them more than mast-head high; we, however,

retire thither after the fatigues of business, and enjoy all the pleasures of refined society; but there is little intercourse between the agents of the India Company stationed at this place, and the Portuguese authorities.

The situation is peculiarly pleasant and healthy, and is the more valuable, as being the only settlement which Europeans have in connexion with the Chinese; consequently forming the only accessible point for some articles of commerce, which are productive of greatest profit to the Company, and to private traders. Regarding this particular, further opportunities in the progress of these notes will admit of explanation.

dashed boldly on to meet the fate that awaited us, there being no alternative. The return of morning, so anxiously wished for during the night, only gave us a clearer view of our dangerous and distressing situation.

In this perilous extremity, every exertion was required; we, therefore, cut adrift all the spare spars that were on the upper deck, in order to give every individual a chance of saving his life, though little hopes to this effect could be entertained; indeed, that a life on-board would be saved, appeared almost impossible, unless by the immediate interposition of Providence.

The ship was now evidently sinking by inches, and as she approached this tremendous reef, in order to have a more distinct view of it, I ventured up a few ratlines of the main-shrouds, and perceived a small opening a little on our starboard-bow, about a ship's length wide, formed by two rocks considerably higher than the other portions of the chain, and rising perpendicularly out of the water, resembling two great pillars. I instantly called out to 'port the helm,' just as the sea-cunny,* terrified by the noise of the breakers, was in the act of deserting his station: fortunately the ship answered the helm, and at the moment she got quite close to the danger, she as fortunately rose on a high swell and shot through. On passing the reef thus providentially, we immediately found ourselves in smooth water, and considerably sheltered both from the swell and wind, but expecting the ship to go down every moment. Cast loose and set the reefed foresail, in order to give her fresh way; however, soon after she struck and lay upon her beam-ends, broadside to wind and swell.

The mainmast, foremast, and bowsprit were then cut away, when she righted, and coming round head to wind, forced farther on, striking the ground several times with great violence.

Being at this time nearly the top of high water, but still blowing as hard as ever, and the atmosphere so thick and hazy that we were unable to discover whether we had grounded on a detached shoal or on the main, we could perceive only something like a white sandy beach appearing at intervals through the haze, and encouraged by this we hoisted out the jolly-boat, but she was soon swamped and went to pieces.

At noon we observed many natives coming down towards the vessel; they came off half-way with a seeming intent to board us, but finding the surf too heavy for their craft, returned to the shore, where they appeared anxiously watching the destruction of the vessel.

* *Sea-cunny*, the title of the helmsman, who is rarely a Lascar, usually a European.

We now, for the first time, conjectured ourselves to be on the coast of Hainan, but could form no notion of what treatment we might expect from its inhabitants, who all appeared fully armed.

13th.—At about half-past six A. M., being nearly dead low water, and somewhat more moderate, Captain M. passenger, and Mr. B. chief-officer (volunteering to land in order to run out a hauling line) left the ship, and in the course of a little time reached the shore in safety. Immediately on landing they were surrounded by an armed multitude, and soon disappeared in the crowd, which left us in a most unpleasant state of suspense respecting their subsequent fate. We waited with great anxiety their return until near sunset, when seeing nothing of them or the expected signal, which was eventually to have been made, with a white or red handkerchief according to circumstances, we conjectured they must have been cut off.

As the vessel could not long keep together, we determined at all events to quit her and take our chance: accordingly, at about sunset, having made a few necessary preparations, we bid a final adieu to the ill-fated ship, and resigning ourselves to kind Providence, we plunged into the uncertain element. Here, however, we experienced much greater difficulties than we were at first aware of; this was occasioned by many deep holes in the bottom, into which we were frequently drawn by the eddies, and kept a considerable time under water by the surf, that constantly rolled over us: with respect to myself, the effects of the blow received from the fall of the mizen-mast, were seriously felt and nearly proved fatal. In less than half-an-hour we had the good fortune to gain the beach, with the loss of three Sepoys, who imprudently having lashed the muskets on their backs, were drowned when within a few yards of the shore.

On landing we were agreeably surprised to find that our fears relative to the natives were groundless and premature, as they did not attempt to offer the least violence or molestation; they merely examined our persons to see whether we had carried any small articles from the vessel or not. Soon after we had the pleasure of being joined by Capt. M. and Mr. B. who, it seems, had penetrated a considerable distance into the country, and forgot to make the signal for which we were so anxiously looking.

Being collected together, our first object was to erect some kind of tent, as the weather was extremely cold with constant heavy rain, the wind still blowing very hard. This being effected, our next care was to kindle a fire, which with some difficulty we accomplished with hen-coops, and the spare spars that drifted

from the wreck. Towards midnight our tent was surrounded by upwards of a thousand people, including men, women, and children, who behaved with much propriety and mildness; but, unfortunately, we could not make ourselves understood, though we spoke to them in Chinese, Tonkinese, Cochin-chinese, Cambodian, and most of the other languages of Asia. We then endeavoured by signs to let them know that we were much exhausted by hunger and fatigue, and were in great want of some refreshment; but in this we failed of success, as they either would not, or did not, understand our meaning. We consoled ourselves, however, with the hopes of a refreshing sleep around the fire in our tent, and now committed ourselves to the downy arms of Morpheus.

14th.—About two o'clock this morning we were suddenly alarmed by the report of a great gun from the ship, for which we could not at first well account, on inquiring of the Serang he informed us that several of the Lascars being afraid to venture on-shore had remained on-board, in order to see first what reception we should meet with from the natives; and while he was relating this circumstance they hailed us with a trumpet to say the vessel was going to pieces. We desired them to quit her and come on-shore; their answer was, that they intended doing so as soon as it was daylight. Soon after this occurrence I went down towards the beach, and remained abreast the wreck to see if any thing would drift to the shore, the gale having by this time subsided, and it was now quite moderate, with clear pleasant weather.

The thundering, but distant sound of the same breakers that at first seemed to warn us of our approaching fate, was still distinctly heard; but how different were the emotions it now produced! Feeling myself extremely faint from thirst I went in search of fresh water, and without going far had the good fortune to succeed perfectly to my wishes, having found an ample supply in the hollow of a large rock on the point of land that formed the S. E. part of the little bay where we landed; this proved very cool and more refreshing than the most delicious nectar. Having taken a copious draught, I took a solitary and contemplative station on the top of one of the sandhills immediately abreast the vessel, (which appeared bilged and lying on her starboard beam-ends,) to wait for day-light; while my companions enjoyed deep repose in the tent.

The glorious king of day soon after rising in cloudless majesty dispelled the humid vapours of night, and at the same time, to my astonished view, a prospect of numerous shoals, rocks, and islands, through which we came during the night, without seeing any thing of them, or knowing the dangers we were pass-

ing. The whole coast, as far as the eye could ascertain, was lined by a most dangerous reef of rocks, mostly high out of the water, and extending one league from the shore, so that had we made the land in any other part but exactly where we did, we must all have inevitably perished: indeed, had I not carried the vessel myself by the cabin compass, while scudding before the gale, and consequently knew the course steered, I should have thought it impossible for a ship to come the way we did; even in the finest weather it would appear next to an impossibility. But Providence, that ever watchful eye, looks down with pity on the feeble toils of mortals, and safely lights them through this labyrinth of life: in fact, all circumstances considered, a more extraordinary or more providential escape never, perhaps, was known.

Impressed with those ideas, and a lively sense of gratitude, I retired behind one of the hillocks, and there falling on my knees I returned most sincere and heartfelt thanks to that Omnipotent Being who rules the winds and the seas, and who manifested to us such care and protection in delivering us as it were out of the very jaws of death. A little after sunrise the remainder of the crew left the wreck, and in a short time all reached the shore in safety, with the exception of three Lascars who were drowned in the surf, probably from their being in a state of intoxication.

In the course of this day we obtained from the wreck the following articles, four shirts of linen, one quilted palampore, one red cap, three pair of China shoes, two double-barrelled fowling-pieces, one day and night spyglass, a walking-cane, and some papers wet with salt-water, together with a favourite terrier dog. There drifted likewise to the shore several young pigs, with many chests of brown and white nankeen, which latter we distributed piece by piece among our kind visitants, whose number by this time had increased to at least five thousand of every description; but whose conduct was in a surprising degree forbearing, mild, and decorous, not one ever attempting to carry any article away, unless given them; indeed, we all could not avoid remarking, that we could not expect to experience a similar treatment, were we in the same situation on any part of the coast of England.

15th.—Moderate breezes from the N. E. with clear, pleasant weather. At day-light, having held a consultation together, respecting what was best to be done in our present circumstances, it was unanimously agreed to penetrate into the interior of the country, in order to find out the nearest town, and endeavour by some means or other to get back to Macao, or else obtain a vessel to carry us to the nearest port of India: Accordingly having made the necessary preparations, and packing up our little bag-

gage, we bade an eternal farewell to the unfortunate Friendship; and at 8 A. M. set out in a N. W. direction, being altogether fifty-five in number, including ten Sepoys, a Chinese passenger, and a fifer and drummer. The crew was composed from almost all the nations of Asia, a motley group indeed, and exhibiting a most fantastic and grotesque appearance.

Previously, however, to leaving the beach, we delivered over our tent and the ship to our friendly visitants, who had hitherto refrained from going on-board; but now, as it were from lawful possession, went off by thousands, and began to cut her up in every part, each man being provided with a broad axe, perhaps for the purpose.

During our journey over the sand-hills, with which the country hereabouts is studded, I could not resist the strong impulse I felt of frequently turning round to take a look at the melancholy wreck that contained my instruments, charts, books, and journals, the work and labour of many years: the latter I regret the more, as their loss is irreparable.

Having travelled a few miles over a sandy country, we were agreeably surprised by meeting a number of natives bringing us a quantity of provisions ready cooked, such as rice, fish, &c., which proved a very seasonable supply; and having partaken of this timely repast, we continued our journey as before. In our way we observed several cattle, but could see no villages or houses. At about noon, our progress was very unexpectedly stopped by what we supposed an arm of the sea, six or seven miles broad, and extending nearly east and west as far as the eye could reach, which led us again to think we were on an island detached from the (main) coast of Hainan. This circumstance occasioned no small degree of anxiety and embarrassment, being totally at a loss how to contrive to cross over.

Having remained some time in this unpleasant state of mind, we observed with our glass a number of boats under sail on the opposite side, steering directly towards us. As soon as they arrived within hail, they informed us, in Canton-Chinese, that they were sent by the Governor of *Man-chow* to conduct us thither, which they said was the capital of the province. We embarked accordingly, and in order to drive away all care directed the drum and fife to strike up, which was continued all the way over, producing a very singular and curious effect from the reverberation of the sound, which gave a distinct echo from various points four or five different times, and which dying away produced a variety of the most pleasing modulations, harmonizing at times with inconceivable effect: the people on-shore imagined, as we approached, that we brought with us a number of different musical instruments.

We were informed by our conductors that what we took to be an arm of the sea was only a large lake, called the lake of Mau-chow-sue, in crossing which, the views are highly romantic and picturesque. At half-past 4 P. M. we landed on the other side, and immediately on leaving the boats were surrounded by numbers of the inhabitants, who stared and gazed at us with astonishment and surprise. The country here assumed a very different aspect, being in a high state of cultivation, and appeared very populous.

We continued our journey, and arrived at Man-chow* a little after sunset, having travelled about twenty miles in a N. W. direction from the bay where we landed; during the latter part of the day we passed several towns and villages. Immediately on our arrival we were conducted to the commandant, who interrogated us very particularly relative to the loss of the vessel. Being told that we were obliged to run her on-shore to save our lives, he remarked we were great fools for so doing, and then ordered us to be taken before the governor, who also asked us many questions respecting our shipwreck, and the reason for stranding the vessel. He seemed to entertain doubts about the truth of our story, and frequently insinuated that he suspected we were pirates, and had given him a false account. His suspicions, however, were entirely removed on producing a *gran-chop*† (passport) for the ship *Generous Friends* in the year 1800, which I had saved with care, thinking it might be useful.

* Manchao, as it is called by the Chinese in their jargonous intonation, or Manchow as it is more familiarly pronounced by Europeans, is one of the principal cities of Hainan, and the residence of a Mandarin, who, while in such authority, is styled governor. The island of Hainan is imperfectly known to the inhabitants of the western world hitherto, owing to the close political reserve of the Chinese, who having conquered the country at some very remote period, possessed themselves of the greater part of the island, effectually establishing themselves in undisturbed enjoyment of its great natural advantages. Whatever may have been the character or condition of the aboriginal inhabitants, is at present difficult to say, but from what has been collected from observation, even more recent than what is presented in the foregoing journal, it appears that they have been a peaceful, harmless, and polished people. Some of the harder tribes have established themselves in the interior among the mountains, where they dig and collect the precious minerals with which those places abound, and afterwards barter them with the Chinese, who occupy the coast and all the level country.

In the hands of any commercial power independent of the Chinese, this island would present immense advantages, lying almost in contact with the Chinese continent, and covering the south-eastern side of the bay of Tonquin, the trade to every part and creek in which is exceedingly valuable. It is in extent about 55 leagues in a N. E. and S. Westerly direction, and is about 25 leagues in breadth. Manchow lies in a North latitude.

† Is a term applied to every paper of the government, without which business of any kind cannot be carried on in the ports of China, nor even can

He now appeared quite satisfied, and ordered us all to be ranged before him, that a list of our names might be taken; this was soon done, and we were then called over, each by his respective appellations, in a very correct and distinct manner, and this circumstance, I think, seems to prove that the Chinese have the use of letters combined in some way or other with their symbolical or hieroglyphical characters.* In this interview with the governor our Macao passenger proved extremely useful to us, as he became our interpreter, though they were obliged to procure one for him likewise, as he understood only the Canton dialect, which is totally different from the language spoken here.

His Excellency appeared to be about 65 or 70 years of age, and in his manners he is mild and polite. During the time we remained in the palace, his wives came out into the audience-hall, (sans ceremonie,) and freely viewed us with such apparent amazement, that a person would be inclined to think this people hitherto supposed there were no beings of their own make and form in the world besides themselves: they were handsome in general, some of them beautiful, and in the prime vigour of life. We were, in all probability, the first Europeans they had ever seen.

After being mustered we were conducted to a miao, or joss-house, † as they are vulgarly called, being a pretty large building enclosed by a wall, forming a square of about 150 yards each way. In the upper end of this temple was an idol of gigantic size, placed in a sort of casement considerably raised, and in a sitting posture, with green silk curtains before it. In front of this were two rows of other idols of inferior size, all standing, decreasing in magnitude, the two last being the smallest of all.

In this sacerdotal mansion they informed us we were to reside, until an answer could be received to a letter which the

a pilot take charge of any foreign vessel without one of those documents regularly obtained. The accompanying paper is an original gran-chop, on clearing a ship out of Canton, so recently as the year 1819.

* It seems to be a decided rule with the Chinese to make their mode of writing the only one to be used throughout their empire, as is evident from the late accounts of the people of the Liew-chew Islands, who although possessed of a considerable degree of social refinement, seemed to have no written character, as their communications were all made in Chinese, whilst their own language was totally different. Hence it would appear, that all the people subject to that empire by conquest, such as the Hainanese, are under the necessity of adopting the Chinese character, which they can adapt to express the sounds of their own language, although totally different from that of their masters.—See also the Journal of the 18th November at the end.

† So powerful is the hold of religious ceremony over the Chinese, that besides their public places of worship, every house, nay every ship, junk, and boat, has one dedicated to some favourite tutelary.

governor was about to write to the viceroy at Hawihow, the capital of Hainan, which is under the Chinese government, and forms a part of that great empire. Having entered the city of Man-chow by the southern gate, we passed through the different bazaars, which appeared to be extremely well supplied with a variety of provisions, such as beef, pork, ducks, fowls, geese, fish, rice, fruit, and vegetables in abundance: this proved to us a most agreeable sight, and raised within us very cheering and pleasant sensations.

16th.—The first and second parts of these twenty-four hours, fresh breezes from the N. E. with drizzling rain: the middle and latter, fair. At seven A. M. sent us three and a half Spanish dollars in *sapekas*,* with a small quantity of coarse rice, which we were given to understand was to last us for five days: in the distribution of the above no difference or distinction was observed with respect to rank, the captain and the cook having shared alike. During the day we found ourselves greatly annoyed by the inhabitants of the town, who, to gratify their insatiable curiosity, poured in upon us in such numbers that we had scarcely liberty to move or breathe. The whole square was completely filled with men, women, and children; giving way, however, after an eager examination of our features, every two or three hours to swarms from without, so that a constant ingress and egress was kept up in regular succession from morning till night.

17th.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. and cold weather throughout. A. M. the governor sent for two letters, which, by some means or other, he understood I had in my possession to the address of his majesty the king of Cochin-china; one of them from Lord William Bentinck, and the other from Messrs. Abbott and Maitland. They were accordingly delivered, with the before-mentioned grand-chōp of the ship *Generous Friendship*, with a promise, however, that the letters should not be opened.

Part of this day we were employed in arranging the few remnants that were left, such as wearing apparel, &c. and in the evening distributed them among the idols, (to allow them to dry a little during the night :) and this circumstance, without, however, any previous intention on our part, made the gods cut a very ludicrous appearance indeed; one having a red cap on his head, another a blue jacket, or boat-cloak, thrown over his shoulders, a third, perhaps, had a pair of old shoes hung around his neck, and another was ornamented with a parcel of tin-pots,

* A small copper coin, inscribed with Chinese characters, and having a square hole in the centre for the convenience of passing a number of them upon a string or small bamboo: they are mostly in circulation amongst the lower orders of the people, being of the value of about half of a farthing.

kettles, or empty bottles. The guards themselves, in going the rounds, laughed heartily at observing their deities thus arrayed, which surprised us not a little, as we at first supposed it would have given them much displeasure.

In the course of the day we were informed that sixteen of the people to whom we had given possession of the wreck, were drowned in the ship's hold, soon after they went on-board, in their endeavours to get up part of the cargo. We now understood they were fishermen that inhabited the sea-coast, and whose propriety of conduct has been mentioned before, shewing a striking contrast to the general character of the other nations of Asia.

18th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. A. M. we were sent for by the governor, who wished to call over our names again, to see if the list first made out was correct or not. After being mustered, agreeably to a previous resolution of our own, we delivered up to his excellency all the arms, except the fowling-pieces, that were saved from the vessel, as they would now be of no more use, but rather an incumbrance, as we had been given to understand we should have to travel all the way over land to Canton, a piè, consequently the lighter our baggage the better. They informed us we would remain at Man-chow twenty days longer, until correct accounts could be received respecting a large fleet of Chinese pirates, which they said had for some time past infested the channel that divides Hainan from the west coast of China, so that no vessel durst venture across.

In the course of the day I rambled over the town, to see whatever might be worthy of notice, and afterwards walked round the ramparts to take a prospective view of the surrounding country, which proved to be a beautiful and extensive plain, in the highest state of cultivation, diversified with towns, villages, and hamlets; and bounded to the north-westward by a range of high mountains, one of which forms a very remarkable double peak, considerably higher than the others; the prospect was altogether of that picturesque character which could not fail to please, particularly as our minds were relieved from any direct apprehension for our personal safety.

The walls of this city are about eighteen or twenty feet high, and as many in thickness, built of brick, but without any fossè: the parapet is about four feet high, having numerous embrasures very small, and close together, with a loop-hole between each, for the use of small arms and arrows. They appear to be in very bad repair, and have every mark of great antiquity, being overgrown with brambles, and in many places even trees of considerable magnitude. There were no great guns to be seen, except one or two three-pounders in each gateway, and these

unfit for service, being mounted *a-la-mode de pays*, that is, simply placed upon two large stones or logs of wood, which shews how little these people are acquainted with fortification, or military affairs, such as form the great feature of European warfare.

The gates are four in number, handsomely arched, and placed correspondingly with the cardinal points of the compass. The streets are flagged, but narrow; and the houses, though built with brick and stone, have rather a mean appearance, few of them exceeding one story. This town, however, in point of magnitude at least, must once have been far superior to what it now is, for, at present, fully one-third of it is in ruins. It contains many *Mi-aos*, or temples, several of which are handsome buildings, with tolerable good carving and painting: there are also many triumphal arches, which have been erected to the memory of such as have distinguished themselves by any pious or philanthropic act, tending to the advantage or happiness of their fellow-creatures.

The Hainanese, with respect to their dress, somewhat resemble the Chinese; they are handsomer in general, but not so fair; in this respect, however, the women are an exception. Their religion, like that of the Chinese, is polytheistical and idolatrous, but in language both people differ widely, using, notwithstanding, the same characters, which, in fact, are common to Corea, Japan, Tonkin, Cochin-china, Cambodia, Formosa, and all the other nations on the east-coast of China. I am inclined strongly to think that they have also the use of an alphabet, for otherwise how could they write down so correctly names and sounds they never before heard of?

19th.—Fresh breezes from the N.E. and clear, pleasant weather. Employed mostly in drying some canisters of gunpowder saved from the wreck, and cleaning our fowling-pieces, to be ready for an excursion which we purposed making to-morrow into the country in quest of game, or any thing to make up for our present very scanty pittance, which, not exceeding two pice per day, we find by no means sufficient, notwithstanding the remarkable cheapness of provisions.

This day some of the curious visitors happened to observe me writing, and were so struck with this extraordinary phenomenon, that they instantly went out, and communicated the news to their countrymen, so that in a little time it spread like wild fire through the whole town, and brought such fresh swarms around us, that I was soon obliged to give over and hide my journal.

20th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. At eight, A. M. we set out with our guns, and traversed the country for the space of eight or nine miles, mostly in a new direction, but did not meet

with so much game as we expected: we were, however, fortunate enough to kill several paddy birds, crows, and doves, on which we dined heartily, and thought it all very delicate food. In the course of the day we observed two different kinds of crows, one quite black, and of the same size as those in England; the other equally large, but having a curious white ring round its body.

In this excursion we had a numerous train in our suite, being followed and attended by, I believe, all the boys of the town, who seemed highly pleased and delighted with this, (to them,) novel amusement. Whenever they saw us about to fire, they were at first desirous to offer us a lighted stick, having no idea whatever of fire-locks: they consequently expressed great astonishment at seeing the piece go off without a match, remarking to each other *jou folvo*, i.e. it contains or carries fire in itself; this occasioned many comments among themselves, it being, I fancy, the first instance of the kind they ever saw. It puzzled them likewise not a little to know how it was we brought down several birds at once; for, being totally ignorant of small shot, they imagined our guns were always loaded with ball only.

21st.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. with clear, pleasant weather throughout. P. M. received from his excellency, the governor, the sum of three Spanish dollars in sapekas, which was divided as before; we were then informed we should remain in this place until a chop was obtained from the tsong-tou, or viceroy of Hainan. Being now put to our wit's end from the before-mentioned poor allowance of the government, we began to think of ways and means; and observing that the eagerness of our visitants' curiosity was, as yet, little abated, we thought, therefore, this circumstance might be turned to good account. We accordingly admitted only six or eight at a time, making each previously pay a few sapekas; and after allowing them a certain time to gaze and stare about, we turned those out, and admitted a fresh number, keeping up a constant succession: this proved a profitable employment, and enabled us to live much better than hitherto.

22d.—Winds and weather as days past. This day we amused ourselves in rambling through the suburbs of the city, and walking round the walls or ramparts, whence we enjoyed the truly charming view of the circumjacent country. We found ourselves under no restraint whatever, being freely permitted to go whithersoever we pleased, and return whenever we pleased, without the smallest interruption or hindrance: indeed we met every where with the greatest civility, and even politeness; for this people appeared to be in a high state of civilization, and in their manners were singularly harmless and inoffensive; their extreme curiosity was, however, sometimes disagreeable.

23d.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. and pleasant weather throughout these twenty-four hours. We now began, for the first time, to feel ourselves somewhat at a loss for the want of books, not one having been saved from the wreck. In order to pass away the time to the best advantage, we strolled out into the country in a S. E. direction; and having travelled several miles, met with a beautiful limpid river, which meandering through the country hereabouts, intersects it in a thousand different ways, rolling its crystal stream over a bed of silvery sand and pebbles.

Here we lay down upon kind nature's verdant carpet, and whilst we enjoyed the pleasing rest, in contemplation deep, admired the beauties of the scene, rendered more interesting by the various music of the feathered tribes; and now the striking contrast between our present situation and that on the morning of the 12th instant, forcibly occurred to our minds, and seemed to be somewhat emblematic of mortality and immortality.

“The storms of wintery life are past and o'er,
Then one enlivening spring encircles all.”

24th.—Moderate breezes from the N. E. and cloudy weather. A. M. we were informed we could proceed on our journey in the course of three days more, when a chop for that purpose from the viceroy was expected to arrive.

25th.—Wind and weather as days past. Amused ourselves in strolling through the fields, and lolling under the refreshing shade of tall, spreading trees, in order, *vario sermone*, to kill time, passing the hours away as little unprofitably as possible. In going through the different villages and hamlets that lay in our way, the tender-hearted females never failed to commiserate our misfortune, always concluding their remarks with “*tatong chûne*,” which signifies, “*alas! poor shipwrecked people.*”

The soil hereabouts, as far as we have had an opportunity of seeing, appears to be a rich blackish clay, containing mostly white granite, and producing two crops annually.

26th.—Winds mostly from the northward, with cloudy weather. A. M. received from the governor five days allowance of rice, and three dollars in sapekas. On this occasion we detected our Chinese passenger* (who hitherto acted as interpreter) in

* According to the laws of China, no subject is permitted to leave the country on any account whatever, so that this person must have withdrawn himself without the knowledge of the authorities where he embarked. Even the merchants of that country, who are in the habit of trading to Batavia, and Malacca, are obliged to pay large sums to the Mandarines to secure their connivance; the whole of their foreign trade, as such may be so called,

purloining a large proportion of the rice allowed us, for which he was immediately put into irons, and flogged by the governor's order; but in the course of the day was released, and set at liberty. We were this day informed we should leave Man-chow in five days more.

27th.—Northerly winds and clear pleasant weather throughout. We passed this day in examining the miao and triumphal arches before mentioned: these are of a semicircular form, supported by rows of stone pillars, eighteen or twenty feet high and eighteen inches in diameter, each consisting of one entire piece. In the temples we saw several bells of an enormous size.

28th.—Winds from the N. N. W. with fair weather throughout. A. M. saw a number of soldiers exercised in the presence of two Mandarines,* principal military officers, who were seated, *à leur aise*, in large armed chairs, while an inferior officer called the men by name, to the number of five: these forming into half-moon fired their matchlocks in succession, the first that fired wheeling to the right, loaded his piece and fired again in his turn, thus keeping up a constant discharge, until each man had fired six or eight times. They then wheeled off to the right, when five others were called, and performed as before. They made no use of wads, but threw the powder loose into their pieces, being provided with a bamboo measure for that purpose. They were afterwards called out by twos, and exercised at the sword, spear, and lance, at which they appeared to be very dexterous, defending themselves with shields made of rattans of a circular form and about three feet in diameter: this they made use of to great advantage and evinced much agility. Their match-locks seemed to be rather clumsy, with a very small box; and the soldiers, in the act of firing, bent their bodies forward, so as to rest the elbow on their left knee.

29th.—Moderate breezes from W. N. W. and cloudy weather. A. M. went on a shooting excursion, and in the course of the day met with a variety of birds of beautiful plumage, which are also to be found at Tonquin and Cochin-China, but are not I believe in India. Besides these we saw abundance of snipe, large curlew, plover, and various sorts of doves, of which we

is therefore conducted in a manner absolutely contraband. In the event of misfortune or death happening to persons removing from home contrary to law, no redress or satisfaction to the relatives of the sufferer is to be expected from the interposition of the government, as was the case with those who were butchered lately at Manilla.

* Mandarin, it has been ascertained, is not a word of the Chinese language, but simple Portuguese, derived from the verb *mander*, (which is borrowed from the Latin *mandare*) signifying to command: it is totally unknown among the Chinese, Cochin-chinese, and Tonquinese, and is used only by Europeans; the Chinese term for a person in authority being *Quan*.

killed a good many, to the great surprise and amusement of the inhabitants.

30th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. A. M. were sent for by his excellency the governor, who, having called over our names, informed us himself, that we should certainly set out tomorrow on our journey to Howi-how. We afterwards went into the country with our guns, by way of taking a farewell party: the inhabitants now began to express much regret and concern at our approaching departure.

Dec. 1st.—Northerly winds and clear pleasant weather throughout. At 10 A. M. we received orders to prepare for leaving Man-chow, and accordingly packed up our baggage, and made every thing ready for our final departure. At 11 A. M. the governor sent for us, and at half-past noon, having received five sapekas each, we took leave of his excellency, and set out on our journey, being provided with guides, and a passport for that purpose. We travelled N. N. E. about 36 li, or 12 English miles, along the lake of Man-chow already mentioned; which in some places appears to be separated from the sea by a narrow stripe of land, and is very extensive. At half-past 5 P. M. brought up for the night (halted) at a place appropriated for the use of travellers. In the course of this day's journey we forded several rivers, none of them above five feet deep, and passed through four towns and villages, in which the markets seemed to be abundantly supplied with all sorts of provisions. The country was well cultivated, but low and watery, producing mostly rice and sweet potatoes, extremely populous, and the inhabitants every where very civil, but as curious as those at Man-chow.

The roads in general were bad, and I fancy we must have travelled in the direction of the coast, as we every now and then heard the noise of the surf rolling in on the shore: during the night, at our resting place, it was perfectly audible. During the day I was greatly inconvenienced by a cold unfortunately caught on the beach the first night we landed, the effects of which rendered walking extremely disagreeable and painful; so true it is that misfortunes seldom come alone.

2d.—At day-light we again set out, and continued our journey to the N. by E., with clear pleasant weather; in consequence, however, of being frequently obliged to stop, and rest, and travelling at a slow rate in consequence of indisposition, I was soon left far behind by all my companions, except my faithful little terrier, Jack, who never quitted me for a moment, either day or night.

The country, every mile we advanced, afforded the most agreeable prospects, being covered with towns, villages and hamlets,

ten of which we passed through in the course of the day, and crossed three rivers, but found the roads in general very indifferent, while not a foot of uncultivated ground was to be seen. At a quarter-past four P. M., having travelled twenty-four miles, we arrived at the city of Lock-hoi, and waited on the governor, who ordered us to be conducted to a miao or joss-house for the night. This city is large and populous, and may contain about 83 or 90,000 inhabitants. The walls are in pretty good repair, with four gates standing N. S. E. and W. handsomely arched with cut stone. The ramparts are about 30 feet thick, but we saw no guns mounted. The streets are paved but narrow; and the houses are built of brick: none of them exceed two stories; there are, however, many handsome shops containing various sorts of merchandize.

3d.—At three-quarters past 10 A. M. we departed from the city of Lock-hoi, and travelled nearly N. about 18 miles; at five P. M. arrived at the city of Hoi-thûn, when we waited on the head mandarin, but were informed he was on a party of pleasure at his country residence: at half-past five they conducted us to a joss-house for the night.

In the course of this day's journey we crossed several rivers very rapid but not deep: the country was flat, and in many places was covered with sheets of water, but appeared every where extremely well cultivated. Our line of march led us through four small villages, the roads as yesterday very bad and tiresome. The inhabitants as curious as their countrymen already mentioned, collected from the adjacent places, and stood, as we passed, gazing with features of astonishment and surprise: our double-barrelled guns seemed to attract their notice in a peculiar manner, and they appeared to be very ignorant of the use of fire-arms.

Hoi-thûn is also a walled city, and appears large and populous. The houses are built of red brick, and the streets paved but narrow. To the eastward of the town is a very remarkable large lake, overgrown with rushes, and comes up quite close to the walls.

4th.—Throughout these 24 hours moderate breezes from the N. E. and clear pleasant weather, somewhat cold in the morning and evening. At one P. M. were sent for by the second governor of Hoi-thûn, and at two having received each two sapekas, being provided also with guides and a passport, we set off and travelled about north, a little westerly. At five P. M. we arrived at the town of Zisee, (Ti-see,) where we halted for the night, being as usual conducted to a joss-house, without, however, any thing to sleep upon but the hard pavement, which had now begun to be less uncomfortable from our being accustomed to the accommodation.

In the course of this day's journey we crossed one river in a ferry-boat, and passed through five towns and villages. The country throughout the first part was nearly the same as in the preceding day's route, but the ground in the latter part became higher, all appearing in the highest state of cultivation, and very populous. We met on the road several palanquins and wheel-barrows, which latter are convenient enough, and made use of by the lower classes to travel on: the palanquins are very commodious and spacious, very light, being made of bamboo; they are carried generally by two men, sometimes by four, six, or eight bearers, according to the rank of the traveller.

5th.—At day-light we set out from Ti-see, and continued our journey about N. N. W., through a most beautiful country highly cultivated, and diversified with groves of cocoa and betel-nut trees: the whole was regularly divided into fields and gardens, which gave it all the appearance of European improvement. Its chief production is rice of different kinds, particularly the red, commonly called mountain rice; also yams, sweet potatoes, and many sorts of esculent vegetables not known familiarly to Europeans.

We also saw several miao and triumphal arches,* the latter

* Nothing can give a more exalted idea of the moral improvement of the people of Hainan, than these monuments of departed worth; an honour which appears not confined to rank or fortune, and more decidedly marks their national wisdom, than even their immediate civil or political institutions. There is an application of justice in the principle of law prevailing throughout this vast population, not less admirable than surprising from its efficacy, more especially as it regards its simplicity. That which forms the basis of Christian morality, it appears, has been acted on in China through time difficult of record; the plain and hourly trodden, or trespassed path of reciprocal right, 'do to others as you would wish to be done by,' pervades at least the spirit of their laws, and renders them an orderly and comparatively honest people.

It would seem invidious to bring any other nation into contrast with such a state of society, nor would many, it is apprehended, come off with the laurel of perfection, from such a comparison; but without derogating from the attainment which others may have made in the practice of that system laid down by the divine founder of evangelical truth, it may be asked, in what other country, by what other nation, or to what equal extent have public testimonials of individual worth been raised similar to those here recorded. It is true, that Great Britain, which contains human character and wisdom superlatively great, illumined by science, pure religion, and eminent legislation, has assigned to her poets, orators, politicians, philosophers, mathematicians, philanthropists, and warriors, proud monuments of merit; but whilst these are closeted as it were, those of the people now under notice, however humble in life the meritorious individuals may have been, are placed in situations as conspicuous as those of the proudest of the Romans; and what, moreover, renders this homage of living gratitude more

similar to those at Man-chow; they are architectural monuments intended to perpetuate the memory of persons of either sex, whose virtues have deserved the homage, or grateful recollections of the public. The emperor, on his part, by way of exciting emulation, takes care to preserve whatever may perpetuate in the minds of posterity, a remembrance of the glory of such celebrated characters; while inscriptions on these triumphal tributes to civic virtue, indicate the names and qualities of the distinguished individuals who have acquired this renown.

There are five classes in favour of whom this usage has been adopted. First, persons who have lived a century; the Chinese thinking that without a sober and virtuous life, it is impossible to attain so great an age. Secondly, children who have given proofs of great filial affection. Thirdly, women remarkable for their chastity. Fourthly, mandarins who have governed in the district subject to their authority, with fidelity and justice, so as to gain the love and esteem of the people. Lastly, the persons who have distinguished themselves by rendering signal services to the state, or who have invented or made any thing remarkably contributive to the public welfare: this, it must be observed, is the account they give themselves of these singular structures.

In the latter part of our journey, we passed through a very extensive burying-ground, covered with graves in regular rows, which at a distance had a curious appearance, the earth over

intense is, that by this principle, worth is estimated to its extent and due appreciation, without regard to distinction of rank, age, or sex!

Again, it would be matter worthy of inquiry to ascertain where else are, or have been, monuments of such ostensible show and distinction raised to female chastity? The ingenious author of an article in the Quarterly Review, on the state of female society in ancient Greece, may probably find a parallel, or make a translation, *in his own way*, to touch this admirable fact, in the history of a people so removed from the manners of both former and present times.

It is equally worthy of regard, that these triumphal monuments to moral character, are maintained in constant repair at the expense of the imperial treasury; a measure influenced undoubtedly as much by the feelings of humane and paternal consideration for the emperor of China, as the representative of Heaven is by repute the *Father* of his people, as he is by the controlling influence of a court of Mandarins, who are invested by ancient use with the title of 'the court of Lisson, or of ceremonies;' which like courts of law in countries regulated by just legislation, cannot be violated in its decrees except by intrigue or despotism.

To remark further on this interesting passage would be doing injustice to the writer, whose indefatigable and accurate examination of these curious facts, can only be equalled by the extreme modesty of his narrative. With regard, however, to the leading points of character as they occur, further notice shall be taken, as they may stand corroborated by more advantageous experience.

the grave being thrown up in a conical form; the size and height of these, they told us, denote the rank of the deceased: the greater dimension conveying the idea of comparative superiority. There is a tombstone placed perpendicularly, with an inscription, probably an epitaph, on the east side, a little distance from each spot of interment.

In the course of the day we forded two small rivers, the waters of which were extremely cold; and crossed several bridges of stone and wood: passed also three towns of considerable size, and twelve villages. At sunset we arrived at the city of Thung-ung, having walked about 33 miles, and were, according to custom, conducted to a miao, there to pass the night with their gods and goddesses.

The walls of Thung-ung are in good repair, not very high; the town seems much larger than any of those hitherto on our route: the streets are pretty regular, and uniformly, as the others, paved; this circumstance may perhaps arise from the general flatness of the surface, and is the more remarkable, as no wheeled carriage has come under our observation. This town may contain about 10 or 12,000 houses, which are built nearly after the Chinese manner: the markets are abundantly supplied with all sorts of provisions. Indeed, ever since our departure from Manchow, we found many taverns, or eating-houses, in every town and village, and the like even all along the public road; these people realizing in their practice of alimentary economy, an essential rule of health in these parts, viz. to eat often and well, and of the best; a thing which is so much in the compass of every one, that a person with a little money need never be at a loss in travelling through this country; but in this respect, I stand pledged for the assertion only so far as concerned my observation regarding persons in our circumstances.

There are also horses, palanquins, and wheel-barrows, always to be hired for a mere trifle; but, alas! a man without cash is badly off in any part of the world, let the conveniencies of life be ever so cheap or tangible.

We found the roads this day somewhat better, but by no means regular, or calculated for any thing like heavy carriages; the wheel-barrow, above-mentioned, goes at the rate of about two miles and a-half per hour, and is driven by one man: it has a convenient platform of boards, about four feet by two, on which the traveller sits and places his baggage. In the front are boards fixed in an angular position, against which he bears his back, and lolls, *bien a son aise*.

During our stay at this place, we found ourselves even more than hitherto annoyed by the inhabitants, who following us by

hundreds, nay thousands, stared at us and examined the rags we wore with the greatest manifestation of curiosity and amazement. Had we fallen from the moon, they could scarcely evidence a stronger surprise; even the little terrier was as much an object of wonder as we ourselves, so much so, that they stole him two or three different times; but whenever this happened, we always informed the governor, that unless the dog were produced we would not on any account proceed, and this method had always the desired effect. They admired our double guns very much, and frequently offered to purchase them, but had no idea of giving more than two or three dollars for each.

6th.—Moderate breezes from the N. W. and clear pleasant weather throughout. At half-past five, we were sent for by the governor, who ordered each of us to be paid 30 sapekas, which we were informed was to last for three days. During the time our names were calling over, the governor's wives came into what is called the audience-hall, and there remained without any restraint whatever, in order to gratify their curiosity: they were fine women, very fair, and richly dressed; and all in the prime of life.

At six P. M. we took leave of his excellency, and marched through the town with drum and fife, which attracted such crowds of people, that it was with difficulty we could force our way along the streets, which were completely filled with persons of all ages and sexes. At a little before seven, we arrived at a river, where we embarked in boats, made sail, and steered N. W. by N. and N. W. 40. This river is neither broad nor deep, its greatest breadth not exceeding half-a-mile: during the night we frequently grounded in the boat. The banks are sandy, but the country on both sides is in the highest state of cultivation, and divided into regular fields by hedges and ditches exactly as in England or Ireland.

7th.—Winds and weather as yesterday: at day-light we landed from the boats, and shortly after had a view of the walls and towers of Hush-e-on, which at a distance exhibited a handsome, if not a grand appearance. We travelled a few miles N. W. by W., and at seven A. M. entered the above-mentioned place by the southern gate.

This is a larger town than any we had as yet seen: it is surrounded by a wall forty feet high, built of brick and stone, in good repair; the ramparts are thirty feet thick, and the parapet four feet high. The embrasures seem so very small and close, that, I imagine, they were never intended for the use of cannon: we saw, however, several guns, both of brass and iron, mounted on carriages, which as well as the guns were of a rude and clumsy

make. The gates are very lofty and handsomely arched, having watch-towers, two stories high, over each. The streets are conveniently broad and flagged in most places.

Provisions are here cheap and abundant. A. M. we were conducted to a joss-house, there to remain until farther orders. This miao is of considerable size, surrounded by a wall 15 feet high, and forming a square of about 150 feet in dimension each way, including a garden and small house for the use of the padres (priests) a class of people that always treated us with kindness and attention, frequently sharing with us the offerings made to the idols by the people of rank, consisting chiefly of all sorts of fruit and ready-dressed meat, which is sure to be the best that can be procured, and which always becomes the property of the priest, as soon as the prayers and ceremony of burning paper is over. The place allotted for our abode was a sort of cock-loft, which we were obliged to enter by a small window, with the assistance of a ladder. Thus far the journey had proved, to me at least, extremely painful and disagreeable, from no other cause, however, but that of indisposition.

8th.—Pleasant breezes and clear weather throughout these 24 hours. A. M. strolled round the ramparts of this city, which we found as usual afforded a very pleasant and agreeable promenade, commanding not only an extensive and complete view of the town itself, but also of the surrounding country, which, in regard to cultivation, appeared almost a perfect garden, swarmed with inhabitants. With the assistance of a good glass, we could count 11 towns and villages together with the city of Howi-how to the northward, not far distant; and in the same quarter we had, for the first time, a prospect of old Neptune's watery plains. We observed here also, as in the other large towns, a considerable piece of ground within the walls, appropriated to the cultivation of vegetables, which in this place are in great abundance and perfection, consisting of almost all the different kinds known in Europe. There are, besides, fish-ponds and tanks for watering their gardens, supplying the baths, and various other purposes.

Winds and weather as yesterday. This morning we received 10 sapekas each, and at noon were sent for by the governor of Hush-e-on, who asked us many questions relative to the loss of the *Friendship*, and the number of men that were drowned in landing. We gave him a true and correct statement of the business, notwithstanding the governor of Manchow's injunctions to us to assert the ship was lost at sea, and that we had saved ourselves in the boats. That, doubtless, was done from interested motives, for the morning we went to take leave of him, we saw the ship's knees, timbers, beams, and plank, even down

to the garboard streak, piled up in one corner of his garden. By making it appear that she had foundered far from land, he would, of course, be called to no account whatever by his superiors, the responsibility being, by our declaration to that effect, completely done away. We had besides been informed by the people of Manchow, that immediately after our arrival there, he sent down a number of soldiers to take possession of the wreck, but these met with a stout resistance from the fishermen to whom we had given her over the morning we left the beach; and that he had found it necessary to send an additional force to effect his purpose.

After being all mustered, the governor informed us we would be provided with a chop to cross the channel in the course of three or four days. This was to me most agreeable and pleasing news, as my present state of health would render it impossible for me to proceed farther, at least for some time; indeed even the last two or three journeys were performed with the greatest difficulty and exertion; so much so, that I often thought I should be obliged to remain behind on the road.

During our interview the ladies as usual came out into the hall of audience, *sans mauvaise honte*, in order to gratify a curiosity so peculiar to this people, and particularly to the fair sex: they continued making their private remarks all the time our names were called over, but of this his excellency took no notice. He was pretty far advanced in the vale of years, and the females appeared much more fair than any we had seen to the southward, and were all in the prime vigour of life, but doomed, one would say, alas! to drag out a monotonous existence in seclusion and privations. Thrice happy daughters of Albion! did ye but know your own happiness, born, as ye peculiarly are, amidst blessings and privileges unknown to this and all the nations of Asia.

The houses of the governors, as we have yet seen, are built nearly on the same plan, and after the same manner, some being, however, larger than others. They consist of numerous buildings enclosed by a wall between 12 and 15 feet high, forming generally a square of considerable extent. The portal or entrance is lofty, and arched with brick or stone; with strong double gates or wickets. In each wing is an extensive range of houses for the officers, guards, and musicians, and, in short, servants of every description. In the centre stands the governor's residence, which is composed of several houses close together, erected one immediately behind the other, all communicating by means of large folding-doors. The innermost building is appropriated to the women; and in the rear of all, are gardens, bathing-places, and fish-ponds.

In the front of all is what they call the hall of audience, being a sort of pavilion, at the upper end of which is placed a large arm-chair and a table covered with red silk or satin, and standing on a platform raised about four feet. The edifice is supported by stone pillars 18 or 20 feet high, each consisting of one entire solid piece. Some distance from this stands a dead wall 8 or 10 feet high, and 12 or 14 feet long, on which is painted a variety of birds and other animals, particularly a flying dragon, which seems to be as great a favourite with this people as the tiger was with Tippoo. At each end of this wall is a lion couchant, carved out of white granite, and of an enormous size.

The hall of audience adjoins and communicates with the principal building, by means of very large double doors. Whenever the governor is ready to make his appearance, a small bell, by way of signal, rings, when all the doors are instantly thrown open.

The music then strikes up, and his excellency is seen advancing in style and stateliness, as majestic as can possibly be figured to the imagination: the spectacle is imposing, while he moves to the above-mentioned chair of state.

The principal houses here have gardens and pleasure-grounds attached to them, containing various kinds of trees, which at a distance produce a very pleasing coup d'œil. In the course of the day's ramble I observed two guns mounted on ship's carriages, which were probably taken out of some vessel that had been cast away on the Paracels.

10th.—Light breezes from the N. W., and clear pleasant weather. A. M. received each 10 sapekas, and one day's allowance of rice, which was divided equally among all: we were also informed that we should remain here some time, in consequence of the pirates still infesting the channel, and not at Howihow, as they had given us formerly to understand.

11th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. A. M. went to see the troops of this place perform their military exercise; this took place in a large open space near the walls of the city. They consisted of cavalry, archers, and match-lock men: the two first were armed with bows and arrows; in no respect different from that of the common people, except their caps, which were red, and decorated with silk tassels. The match-lock men had a regular uniform, being a red jacket over a blue one of greater length, and nankeen pantaloons: the lower part of the leg was bound round with a sort of garter; these made a much better appearance than the others; their muskets were about three feet in the barrel, with a very small bore, but the whole very clumsy and heavy.

They began with the archers, who being provided with about a dozen arrows each, were called over by name to a certain number, not exceeding seven. These shot five or six times each at a paper target set up at a distance of about 50 paces, having a bird painted in the centre, which was not often hit. The person who struck any part of the target, immediately went down on the right knee, and received the approbation of the mandarine, or commanding officer, who was seated in an arm-chair, with a long pipe in his mouth; the archer then wheeled round to the left, and was seen no more.

Their bows were about five feet and a half long, and made, I believe, of horn and leather; they were handsome, and appeared strong; for when mustering they formed nearly a complete circle the opposite way. The arrows are made of very light wood, feathered, and armed with a flat piece of iron that resembles the head of a halbert; they are in general from four to four feet and a half long.

The cavalry were next exercised, a preparative signal having been first made by waving a blue silk flag, and seconded by blowing an instrument very like a french-horn: at each time of so doing, one of the horsemen sat out, and galloping at full speed shot an arrow at a target placed a little to his left, with a small bell attached to it, which was frequently hit, but at a short distance, and of the success of the soldier the commanding officer had instant notice by the above simple appendage, the bell invariably announcing the shock received from the arrow. After passing the target they continued to gallop until out of sight, and made their appearance no more.

The match-lock men were then called out by name to the number of six or eight, and fired one after the other at a wooden target, placed at a distance from them of about eighty paces, having battens nailed upon the opposite side, and on these was laid a quantity of lime, in order to determine who did hit, and who missed it: the latter, however, was seldom the case. Each soldier was provided with bamboo measures, ready filled, containing at least double the quantity that would be sufficient were the powder a proper composition, or of good quality.

We observed they always kept the balls ready in their mouths, perhaps for the sake of expedition in loading their pieces; no wads were used, the ball being thrown in loose over the powder. Their balls were very small, not exceeding that of a bullet of the smallest sized pocket-pistol; they seemed, however, to go with great force and precision. In taking aim they did the same as the soldiers at Man-chow, bending their bodies so as to rest the elbow on the left knee.

They make powder at this place, but their method is very

different from that of Europeans; they appeared, however, to be very jealous of the art, and fearful lest strangers should get an insight of the process. This is likewise the case with respect to their bows and arrows; for, whenever we happened to pass through the streets where these things are made, they seemed very unwilling to allow us to examine, or indeed even to look at them.

The forces belonging to Hush-e-on, as they informed us, consist of 2,500 infantry, and 500 cavalry, a proportion of which is exercised daily in the manner above described. It should have been stated, that the cavalry always rode on a sort of furrow, or dry ditch, into which the horses were occasionally led by an inferior officer. On the whole, their contemptible number and mode of exercise appeared to us in a very ludicrous light, somewhat amounting to the effect produced by the masterly description of Cowper's John Gilpin.

12th.—Northerly breezes and clear pleasant weather. This morning received, as usual, 10 sapekas in cash, and one day's allowance of rice. In the course of this day part of the crew, and particularly the Serang,* and a sea cunny, by name *Anthony*, behaved in a very mutinous and disobedient manner, making use of abusive and insolent language to Capt. Ross and his officers, even so far as to menace their lives; which obliged us to keep a regular watch during the night, having all our fowling-pieces loaded; for we were informed by our servants that they had heard these fellows privately declare among themselves that several of us should not see the morning. No attempt however was made, as I imagine the alarm of fire-arms operated rather forcibly on their minds, though this was not the first instance of similar conduct on their parts.

13th.—Moderate breezes, and clear pleasant weather throughout these 24 hours. A. M. received the usual allowance of rice and money, and were informed we should be obliged to remain here 20 days longer, the channel being still much infested with the pirate vessels, which continued their depredations with a large force; in consequence of which, a general embargo had been laid on all the trade of Howi-how by the viceroy of Hainan, residing at that place, and which, as before-mentioned, is the capital of the island, and only nine li, or three miles distant from Hush-e-on. We find the inhabitants here even, if possible, more curious than the people of Man-chow; but this universal propensity we take care, and justifiably so under present circumstances, to turn to good account, taking advantage of the avidity evinced by them to see us, and making them pay for the gratifica-

* Serang—a Lascar who is employed as boatswain.

tion, in the same manner as we did at the former place: necessity, says the adage, is the mother of invention, and we found much benefit from the suggestions of this severe parent of human experience.

14th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. A. M. received cash and rice as usual: this morning our Chinese passenger, Aoong, was sent by us to How-chow, to obtain whatever information he could at the capital: he returned in the afternoon, and informed us that five large junks would sail direct for Macao as soon as the channel became clear and safe; but what time that would be, appeared quite uncertain. He likewise said there was a very large fleet of merchant vessels lying in the river, ready loaded, and bound to the coast of China, but had been detained upwards of six weeks, and prevented from sailing, by the embargo before mentioned.

In the course of this day, while amusing myself on the ramparts, some of the inhabitants happened to observe me making use of a telescope, and requested permission to look through it, which I instantly granted, and at the same time directed them to view the most distant objects in sight: as soon as they had done so, they evinced the strongest sensations of astonishment, and in fact appeared to consider the thing little short of magical effect, so that I have some reason to fear the fame of my telescope will soon spread far and wide, and perhaps induce the governor, or viceroy himself, to request it as a present.

15th.—Pleasant breezes from the N. E., and clear weather throughout. Received money and rice, same as before. This morning I walked out, in order to take a more particular view of the town, and observe what was most remarkable in it. We had not gone far before we lost our way, and continued wandering about for a considerable time: we found the shops well stocked with goods and manufactures of various kinds, and were particularly struck with the degree of perfection at which they had arrived, in the carving, polishing, and mounting of cocoa-nut-shells.

We saw teapots, cups, and saucers; and in fact they seem to convert this kind gift of nature to almost all manner of household uses, forming out of this material various domestic articles of a beautiful jet-black polish, and elegantly ornamented with silver. I was very desirous to make a few little purchases in these articles, but unfortunately was destitute of the necessary means to effect the wished-for exchange.

There are here, as in all the other towns of note, many miao; but with respect to their religious worship, these people are by no means jealous or particular, nor have they at any time manifested the least concern or displeasure at our being present or

even mixing with them during the whole time of their ceremonies and offerings, in the latter of which, it must be acknowledged, we were not a little interested, as they frequently afforded us a hearty repast through the goodness of the priests, who have many times relieved and assisted us in this manner very materially.

Notwithstanding the system of religion among the Hainanese is grossly idolatrous, yet with respect to the existence and attributes of a Supreme Being, they appear to have as correct and just ideas as we ourselves. Their deities, both gods and goddesses, are supposed or elected by the devotional feelings of the people, to preside over every hamlet, village, and town, are as numerous as imagination can conceive; there are several also over the different cities, according to their size: by this means we always knew our approach to the latter from the number of pagodas, placed in the most conspicuous situation, but never far from the towns to which they belonged. Besides these they have their household gods, with a genealogical list of their forefathers for a long period back. Before each of these figures, on a sort of altar, is kept a burning taper, which is never allowed to be extinguished.

With this people filial affection and respect are carried to a degree unknown in other parts of the world: nor do they always terminate as elsewhere with death, these grateful feelings being cultivated with the utmost care, as is evident from the extraordinary veneration they entertain for the memory of the deceased, unceasingly enumerating the records of their virtues: to the same cause may be attributed a curious custom prevalent among them of visiting the tombs of their parents once a-year, in order, as I was informed, to pluck away the weeds and grass from their graves, and freshen with paints of different colours the characters of their epitaphs; this they consider an imperious duty, and accordingly perform the ceremony with much solemnity.

They are in most respects very superstitious, and seldom undertake any business, or venture on a journey, without first consulting the priests for a lucky day: this is determined by means of a certain number of square pieces of bamboo marked with characters on both sides. These are shuffled together in a small bag, and then thrown up into the air by the priest, who observing the characters that are uppermost on falling, refers to a book, and returns a corresponding answer. They sometimes, however, adopt measures as it were to force or trick the fates, by throwing the bamboos until at last a favourable augury is obtained, when they immediately set out on their business with the greatest confidence.

Their police seems excellent throughout every department. The moment the evening gun is fired, which is regularly done at eight o'clock, all the city gates, and those of each street, are immediately shut, and patrols keep watch the whole night, during which time there is no communication whatever between one street and another until day-light, when the morning gun fires : at this time the communication recommences, and the creaking noise of so many gates, opened at the same instant, produces an effect somewhat similar to distant thunder, and to a person not knowing the real cause, it would prove perhaps a little alarming, at least to us it had at first that effect.

It is really pleasing, and not a little surprising, to see such order and regularity in a place so populous ; no such thing as confusion, or disputes of any kind whatsoever ; not even an angry word is to be heard among them, every thing being carried on with such harmonious cordiality ; whilst every transaction is conducted with singular intelligence, ingenuity, and sagacity, it appears altogether divested of the mischievous operation of cunning and duplicity, no overreaching nor falsehood mixing up the materials of dissension.

The price of every article, no matter of what value, is so well regulated, that purchases are frequently made without a word passing between the buyer and seller ; this is properly to be understood with regard to provisions, or where articles of the one sort or quality are exposed for sale. The purchaser throws down the requisite and well understood sum of money agreeable to the quality he requires, the vender counts it over, and gives him the goods, almost without a word. This city, including the suburbs as a total, may contain about 200,000 inhabitants ; and as far as we have had an opportunity of seeing the country, having traversed the whole of its diameter, are confident in asserting our conviction, that scarcely can any people be supposed to enjoy a more happy or contented life, as well from their own natural disposition, as the wisdom and humanity of their governor : indeed, if the system of policy under which they enjoy such singular tranquillity originates in the mind of individuals holding that elevated office, it is impossible to avoid pronouncing such characters truly great, and deservedly eminent.

We made it a general remark, that people of the poorest sort here, are better clothed than the same class of persons even in England. Hitherto we have seen nothing in the shape of a beggar ; how different is the case among the motley nations of Hindostan, famed for the mildness and innocence of their manners ! Should it ever be my misfortune to suffer shipwreck again, I sincerely hope it may not be among those said tender-hearted

and harmless Hindoos, among whom I certainly should not expect so good treatment as I have hitherto experienced from the Hainanese, who, in my opinion, are a very superior people.*

* Calcutta is to the nations of India, what London, properly speaking, is to all the nations of the earth. Whilst to the latter are attracted, by the various concerns of commerce, men from every quarter of the globe, 'the jew and the gentile,' the enterprising and the luxurious, the curious and the covetous, without distinction of privilege save what wealth, or the absolute severity of political caution, creates amidst its immense and artificial population, the metropolis of the British empire in the east presents a group equally diversified, and not less interesting to the sagacious inquirer.

The tasteful and ingenious traveller, Lord Valencia, who declared that city to be 'a city of palaces,' has given a highly animated account of its inhabitants; and perhaps few portions of population could more forcibly attract philosophic observation than that which swarms in the streets and squares of Calcutta. The graceful motion of the pedestrian population, in all the ease of enjoyment, arising from genial temperature, aided by habitual abstemiousness, which forbids the fires of appetite from hurrying the feverish vein, gives to the busy but obedient crowd a certain air of polite and gentle deportment, which cannot fail to strike and prepossess a stranger on the first view, in favour of a people so singularly marked with the most ostensible signs of suavity.

The *Lavaterian* would here find proof to satisfy himself of all the *lines* characteristic of the best movements of the heart, whilst the *Spurtzheimist* would be presented with all the exterior grounds for anticipation of an internal great and copious mind. That neither would be absolutely mistaken can be scarcely doubted. The tall Athenian figure, with all its statuary graces, has here its model, in the wily *sircar*, the preposterous *priest* of *Dourga*, and the lowliest *coolly* of the bearer cast; yet all present a laxity of muscle, which at once distinguishes them, however seemingly large or powerful, from the firmly-built European, nursed in hardier climes. There is scarcely elsewhere to be seen greater intelligence than presents itself in the countenance of the Hindoos, whilst the mildness of the expression which accompanies almost every word and action of theirs is mixed with an overshadowing of sadness, that excites in the mind of a stranger a high degree of interest for these ancient tribes.

In examining, however, more nearly their moral character, the Hindoo appears greatly inferior to the Chinese or Hainanese, especially in all the traits of social virtue. In the higher attainments of philosophy, the Hindoo undoubtedly has given proofs of capacity, which would be incredible; but that their writings support the testimony of history to their renown in abstract researches in science, and metaphysical learning; but there exists, on the other side, tangible evidence of a display of the principles of human wisdom, perhaps not less sublime, perhaps more valuable, as it is calculated more immediately for the benefit of mankind.

In the abstruse speculations of the one, originated a system of polytheism, which has sunk the people into the grossest ignorance of the existence and attributes of the Supreme Being, and laid the foundation of social distinctions subversive of all human right: but on the other hand, the Chinese legislator, most wisely distinguishing divine and moral truth, leaves the question of worship free to every individual, but binds him irremovably to just action towards his fellow-man.—The founder of this code is said to be Fo, or Confucius, be that however as it may, it redounds infinitely to his honour, and the world must ever admire the man who could devise a system of moral influence sufficient to regulate a population of two hundred millions

After strolling about for the matter of three or four hours, without being able to recover our way, we came at last to one of the gates, and so passed out to enjoy a little country air. We

of souls, without any distinction of rank, save what individual talent and merit may obtain, and which never can derive by hereditary succession. The result of both these systems is consequently that the Hindoo is idle, ignorant, and profligate, while the Chinese is industrious, wise, and just.

There is a circumstance intimately associated with interests of the deepest importance in every civilized community, the duty of children to their parents, and the manner in which this duty is performed is very different in India and the Chinese empire. The Chinese almost adores his parent, and places in his hands the power of life or death in case of any act of disobedience, and when the parent dies, it is customary to show every honour and respect to his memory, and an annual visit of august ceremony is paid to the place of interment: it is besides not unusual for many to keep the body of the deceased, well inclosed with spices, in proper and elegant coffins, for several years, in the house where the survivor lives, who pays daily homage to those mortal remains. It may be seen, moreover, that triumphal arches are raised to social merit, among which it should be remembered that such a reward is the first to be conferred on the memory of those who have distinguished themselves by filial affection.

On the contrary, the Hindoo is dead to the interest of every one but his own, and in this respect not even a parent is excepted: the testimony of all who have described the manners of India is perfectly unanimous on this head. Mr. *Grant*, in "Observations on the State of Society among the Asiatic Subjects of Great Britain" has given a masterly sketch of the degraded state of the Hindoo character: he says, "In the interior, and by far the most numerous class of the community, where each man is nearly on a level with his neighbour, the native character appears with less disguise. The passions have a freer range, and new consequences are seen to result from the absence of the primary virtues of society—Discord, hatred, abuse, slanders, injuries, complaints, and litigations, all the effects of selfishness, unrestrained by principle, prevail to a surprising degree. They overspread the land, they come perpetually before all men in authority. The deliberate malice, the falsehood, the calumnies, and the avowed enmity with which the people pursue each other, and sometimes from father to son, offer a very mortifying view of the human character. No stranger can sit down among them without being struck with this temper of malevolent contention and animosity, as a prominent feature in the character of this society. It is seen in every village, the inhabitants live amongst each other in a sort of repulsive state, nay, it enters into almost every family. Seldom is there a household without its internal divisions, and lasting enmities, most commonly too on the score of interest. The women partake of this spirit of discord. Held in slavish subjection by the men, they rise in furious passion against each other, which vent themselves in such loud, virulent, and indecent railings, as are hardly to be heard in any other part of the world."

Similar evidence is given by Mr. W. Ward, the missionary. "Now it is very unfortunate, (he says in his view of the history, literature, and mythology of the Hindoos,) "that in no respect are the Hindoo manners more deficient than in filial obedience, and conjugal fidelity. The Hindoos feel, indeed, a very strong attachment to their children, but they are exceedingly neglectful of early discipline; and hence disobedience to parents is proverbial to a shocking degree. Hindoo lads, especially among the poor, make no hesitation in grossly abusing both father and mother."

walked a little way, and saw the river not far distant, as also the mast-heads of many vessels lying at anchor abreast of Howi-How. The river hereabouts runs nearly E. and W. through a sandy

To this may be added the testimony of an officer of the Bengal army, who returning to Europe, for the recovery of his health, related the following circumstance, among many others, to the writer of this, who was passenger in the same ship. The circumstance has never appeared before, and may be introduced to illustrate as well the horrid superstition as the fatal insensibility which the Hindoos evince regarding social feelings.

“On my way to the station at Gorruckpore, distant from Calcutta about 600 miles, I had an opportunity of witnessing a remarkable instance of existing superstitious inhumanity in India. On the left bank of the Hoogly, one of the main branches of the Ganges, stands the little town of *Chalkidur*, a place about 100 miles from Calcutta, and but little known to Europeans. This place is inhabited by a class of persons existing under circumstances of an extraordinary nature, being individuals literally in a sort of after-life state, having survived exposure on the *Gunga*, and unexpectedly recovered from the sickness which caused them to be placed in that situation.

“In approaching this place, the appearance of the river’s side becomes extremely offensive; being covered with rags, beds, bamboo couches, ashes, and portions of human bones and bodies, which had been imperfectly consumed, besides those which had been but partially covered in the river, and round which were crowded dogs, vultures, and crows, gorging themselves from the disgusting mass. Leaving the boat, I ascended the bank of the river, which is here about 25 feet high; being attracted by the well known sound of the tom-tom, or Hindoo drum, used in the ceremony of burning a widow alive, with the corpse of her husband, which I witnessed in all its detestable ceremony. It was remarkable, that the children of the unfortunate woman, decorated with flowers, danced around the funeral pile, joining in the loud exultation which was made in order to drown the sufferer’s complaint.

“This place, it seems, from the relation of a Bramin who officiated at their abominable rites, is celebrated for the descent of one of their deities, and it is therefore considered the place most fit for exposing the sick, according to the custom of the Bengalese. This practice deprives many a wretch of life, who would otherwise, perhaps, have survived the disease which caused his relatives to take this mode of sending him out of the world; and many, very many, are hurried away in the paroxysms of fever, more from interested motives than even the cares of their murderous superstition.

“The moment the sick person is despaired of, two bearers, or more, in proportion to the rank of the invalid, convey the victim to the water’s edge, with the certain persuasion that, by so doing, they insure his future happiness, and after some senseless ceremonies, he is placed nearly two feet deep in the sacred stream, where if, in the struggles of nature, he happens to plunge deeper and be drowned, or perish under the cruelty of the practice in some other way, the body is afterwards burned by the bram in attendance. Should, however, the miserable sufferer survive that event, which ought to be a source of comfort to himself, and of rejoicing to his friends, it is but the commencement of his misery. Hundreds are every year sacrificed in this barbarous and unfeeling manner. In many instances it would have been better if the miserable beings had perished; but a building, erected near the spot, serves as an hospital, where the wretched outcast finds at least shelter from the severity of the heat, or the drenching rain.

soil: On its northern bank stands a pagoda, about 130 feet high, from which we had a fine prospect of the country around for many miles; but could not descry the coast of China, though the day was clear.

We were, however, able to observe, that Howi-how is situated on a long narrow peninsula, having the before-mentioned river to the south of it, and a very deep bay to the northward, in which were several junks, but one half of it appeared to be dry at low water. There were several forts erected on points that projected a great way out, as well as upon some small islands that lay in the outer part of the bay.

Near this pagoda is a large miao, wherein is a curious female idol, of enormous size, richly gilt, and having fifty-four hands, in each of which is something symbolical, such as an eye, an ear, a hand, or the like, which we were informed were emblematic of the attributes of the goddess.* This pagoda is about twelve or fourteen feet in diameter, and in architecture forms a duodecagon. Its walls are six feet thick; in the centre of the wall are small stone steps, forming an ascending stair, with room just sufficient for one person to ascend, going in a spiral direction; the entrance is through a small round hole in the outside of

"The number of the unfortunate has swelled this asylum into a considerable village, where, by industry, some of them have acquired a little wealth, and give food and employment to their fellow-victims to prevailing and inhuman superstition. The survivor, from the instant of his being consigned to Gunga, is considered dead to all the relations of life, and should his constitution prove superior to his complaint, he nevertheless loses his cast, nor is again received by his family; even the wife of his bosom, the mother of his children, and the children themselves, refusing to admit him again amongst them, or acknowledge even to know him, thinking it a sacrilegious act were they to give their perishing and unhappy parent a morsel of any kind of food. The only resource these wretches therefore have, is to return and reside at the place before-mentioned."

* This image probably corresponds with the Doorga, the goddess of production of the Hindoos, and to an image of Kalec, the goddess of time or of destruction, worshipped formerly in the island of Java, of which many specimens of excellent workmanship are to be seen in the collection of the Asiatic Society at Calcutta. Mr. Ward gives the following as a representation of one of the forms of Doorga.

"*Yoogadya*," (she who existed before the yoogas,* in this calculation of time,) is represented as sitting on a lion, having ten arms. A festival in honour of this goddess is held on the last day of Voishaka, at Ksheera, a village in Burdwan, where many animals are slain, and large quantities of spirituous liquors offered: the goddess, at the time of worship, is taken out of a tank near the temple. It is supposed that not less than 100,000 people assembled at this place on this occasion. Human sacrifices, I am informed, were formerly offered to this goddess!"

* Youga.—The *Surya Siddhanta*, a celebrated work on Astronomy, has it, that 4,320,000 solar years comprehend the four yoogas of their history.

the wall below, about two feet in diameter, and five feet from the ground.

In examining the manners and customs of the Hainanese, or Chinese, which assimilate almost to identity, in religious ceremonies, a very close affinity is observable; but both evidently dissociated widely from those of the ancient Greeks and Romans, although symbolical worship of the virtues is evidently traceable here as well as in those celebrated nations, linked together, as it were, by the parent philosophy of India: how it found its way into so *secluded* a part of the world as China would be as curious as it is difficult to determine; unless, indeed, the Chinese themselves brought it with them from Egypt, having had their origin, perhaps, from that renowned portion of the globe, long the source of learning and science, whence also it had travelled probably into the western world, diffusing itself by degrees through all Europe, and part of Asia.

In Hush-e-on, as well as in all the other large towns, are many courtezans, licensed by the government, and regulated by certain restrictions: they are obliged to reside in a particular part of the town, and wear a kind of bandeau round their hair, as a distinguishing mark by which they may be known from other women; this bandeau usually consists of a piece of ribbon of any colour but yellow, which is the imperial colour, and is prohibited to them as well as all other subjects.

16th.—Northerly breezes, and clear, pleasant weather, somewhat cold in the morning and evening. At a quarter-past four P. M. received a message from the viceroy, requesting me to repair to Howi-how. Taking my spying-glass with me, in order that he might reconnoitre the pirate fleet, said to consist of 250 sail, I set out accordingly, without loss of time, accompanied by Avong, our Chinese passenger, and a soldier as a guide.

In passing through the city, I observed, for the first time, that there is a double wall to the northward for a considerable distance, but it does not extend quite round. We continued to travel on an excellent road, which is flagged all the way from one city to the other: we passed a very handsome bridge built entirely of cut stone, and arrived at Howi-how, about half-past five P. M., and I was conducted to the palace immediately. Here, however, I was obliged to remain for a considerable time, without the honour of an interview, and in a place appropriated for the soldiers and sailors, where I was exceedingly pestered by the importunate curiosity of these people, for about an hour's continuance.

I was, at length, ushered into a large long room, where the viceroy had company, who were sitting at table, drinking wine.

He did not condescend to ask me to take a chair, or partake of their beverage: he asked many silly questions about my telescope and its properties, whether I could see as well with it by day as by night, and was particularly desirous of being informed of what discoveries I might have made in the moon through that medium! I told his highness, mountains and seas very distinct, which seemed to astonish them all very much.

His highness then ordered one of the servants to give me wine to drink, and afterwards shew me the best tavern in the town: he ordered him likewise to pay me two mace, seven to a dollar more or less, (equal to about ten Bombay pice,) to pay the expences, and at the same time compensate me for the trouble he had given. This servant executed the former part of his master's orders with extreme officiousness, pouring the wine himself down my throat, hot as it was, cup after cup, until I was nearly tipsy, and had my mouth scalded into the bargain.

The same person then conducted me to a tavern, but I was followed by such crowds of people that I soon returned, and the viceroy made some apology for having brought me so far; and reverting to my means of gratifying his curiosity, said he would defer looking at the pirates until another opportunity: he then dismissed me with two soldiers to conduct me to Hush-e-on, but it being late, and the night intensely dark, I was not able to make any particular remarks respecting Howi-how. It seems to be a large and populous place, with vast numbers of extensive shops, in which, as is the case in most such places of the Chinese, mechanics and manufacturers are constantly employed in great number.

17th.—Moderate breezes from N. E. and clear delightful weather throughout. In the course of our ramble through the town this day, we were invited to the house of a person who appeared to be of some distinction, where we were entertained with tea, fruit, and sweetmeats; and while we were enjoying this repast, the female part of the family came in to view, from an irresistible desire to gratify themselves in gazing at the fanquis, (white men) as we are called. For this purpose we were detained for a considerable time, they asking many questions relative to the customs and manners of the English nation.

They appeared very much surprised at our informing them, among other things, that in our country, as well as in many other parts of the world, both men and women not only drank and ate together, *sans façon*, but likewise mixed and associated in all entertainments and public amusements. They at length gave us to understand, that a next door neighbour and friend of theirs wished very much to have the pleasure of our company

for a little time; thither we were conducted accordingly by a private door, and met with exactly the same treatment.

From the second place we were conducted to a third, fourth, and fifth family, always by private doors; whence one would conclude that there is a communication between almost all the houses, at least those of a similar class, and that social life is established, therefore, on principles essentially different from those which regulate ours, even more distinctly differing than what European manners do in this respect from those of Turkish or Asiatic characters.

In this manner we had repeated opportunities of indulging the curiosity of the ladies, who were constantly of the domestic party, and appeared to be the principle means of affording us such agreeable entertainment, and from the pleasure they seemed to evince, were evidently influenced to communicate to their acquaintance the like enjoyment. Each family, however, made us a small compensation, which, in our present circumstances, we did not think proper to refuse. Thus were we carried about from house to house, to be stared and gazed at, like so many wild beasts, for several hours!

18th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. This morning I set out for Howi-how, with a view of getting some further information respecting the pirate fleet, and to endeavour to ascertain when we could get away. We arrived at the capital about 10 A. M., and continued strolling through the town for a considerable time; we then went to the custom-house, which is a large building situated on a pier that extends a good way into the deep bay before-mentioned. Here we met a Chinaman who could speak a little broken English; he treated us with tea and sweetmeats, but was not able to give us any satisfactory information relative to what we were most anxious to know.

Howi-how does not appear to be considerably larger than Hash-e-on; its walls are neither so high nor in such good repair, but from every circumstance it seems of greater antiquity. Some of the streets are a mile and a half in length, moderately broad, clean, and in general flagged or paved with large square stones. There are awnings of various colours spread during the heat of the day, which makes it cool and pleasant, otherwise it must be very much the reverse, particularly in the summer season.

This city is very populous, and abundantly supplied with provisions of every kind, which are extremely cheap. Many of the houses are two stories high, particularly along the river side. This place is likewise the principal place of trade; the exports, as far as I have been able to learn, are sugar, betel-nut, coconuts, cocoa-nut oil, salt, and tanned hides: the imports consist

of a great variety of China articles, cotton, furs, English broad-cloth, flints, and opium; all which they receive by way of China.

The junks take in their cargoes and sail hence about the month of May or June for the coast, and the trading-vessels from China arrive here with the last of the N. E. monsoon, and return with the first of the S. W. monsoon: their trade, however, hereabouts, is much and very seriously interrupted by the pirates, of whom the inhabitants are in constant dread and alarm.

These marauders are in such force as to raise their depredations to the highest pitch of daring, frequently effecting a landing, when they plunder and carry off as much as possible, and always a great number of the handsomest women they can find, before a sufficient military force can be collected and brought against them. It sometimes, however, happens, that they are surprised and attacked before they have time to re-embark, and in those cases they are certain to suffer capital punishment: but it is highly worthy of remark, that the power of life and death is not vested in the hands of any subject whatever, save only the viceroy of Quansion, and to this place, or Peking, must all culprits be conducted previous to their execution, if the distance was even 2,000 miles.

It does not appear, from what we could learn, that the Hainanese have any naval force to protect their trade; it is probable that, in this respect, they are entirely dependent on China, which is, doubtless, the country whence they derive their origin. Somehow or other it would appear that there is bad management in that department, by no means exhibiting that order and remarkable regularity which pervade all their civil institutions.

In this city, as well as in Hush-e-on, there are several triumphal arches, or honorary monuments, such as before described, but much larger than any hitherto seen. We observed a large piece of ground, forming nearly a square of four miles each side; it appeared almost completely covered with graves, and we were given to understand that this was the burying-ground common to both cities, extending about north and south, and having the main road passing through; there repose the numerous offspring of many ages. In their funerals they always carry with them to the place of interment, a quantity of victuals, corresponding in costliness to the rank of the deceased, which they distribute to every person passing that way, and we also frequently came in for a share, which, under the existing circumstances of our situation, was by no means unacceptable.

19th.—Pleasant breezes from the N. E. and cloudy weather throughout. A. M. received our usual allowance of rice and

money, which has been regularly paid us since our arrival here, and thus we find sufficient to exist. This morning, while cautiously writing my Journal, I was again observed by some of the curious inhabitants; and the discovery, to my very great annoyance, caused them such surprise and astonishment, as if they had seen *bonâ-fide*, a monkey do the same thing: this circumstance most probably afforded them subsequently a source of laughter and amusement.

20th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. This morning some complaints were made against the disorderly conduct of the seapoys, who going into the bazaars, run off with different articles from the shops without paying for them; in consequence of which, some soldiers were appointed to attend the gates of our joss-house, to prevent the people from going out after gun-fire in the evening, or before gun-fire in the morning: this is, unfortunately for us, by no means the first instance of similar misconduct on the part of our crew, who have long since considered themselves free of all control.

21st.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. and clear, pleasant weather throughout the last 24 hours. This day we were employed in cleaning our fowling-pieces, and making the necessary preparations for an excursion into the country to-morrow morning; but in drying some powder, of which we had saved several canisters, a quantity happened by some means or other to blow up, and unfortunately carried away the posteriors of one of the idols near which it was placed.

On this occasion we found that these gods are simply made of yellow clay and straw, the ends of which appearing behind in his stern frame, which the powder had made as black as ink, made the deity cut a very laughable figure. We were apprehensive that this unforeseen misfortune would be productive of serious consequences, and bring upon us the severest displeasure of the inhabitants; for the present, however, we covered him over the best way we could with an old boat cloak, but at night the guards in going the rounds took it off; we expected immediately a whole broadside of imprecations for our impiety and wickedness, but to our great surprise and satisfaction, the guards themselves, without asking any questions, burst out into a violent fit of laughter, and left us to enjoy a relief we little expected.

In the course of the day, while we were busy about one thing or other, some of the natives contrived to slip off with a canister of glazed powder; and being anxious to know its contents, they applied fire to the soldering. During the time the lead was melting, they had collected round it to the number of twenty or thirty, watching with the greatest curiosity to see what won-

derful matter was so carefully concealed in the canister, when it exploded in the midst of them, with a report equal to that of a six-pounder, which sent them running in all directions, exclaiming that the devil was in the fanquis; fortunately it happened that none of them were much hurt.

22d.—The first part of these 24 hours, foggy weather; the middle and latter, light breezes from the N. E. and cloudy. At day-light we set out on our shooting excursion, and walked for a considerable distance over the burying-ground, in a N. W. direction; then continued our route along the river, until we arrived at the sea-coast. Here we had a view of two white forts, on a low sandy point that forms the S. E. entrance of the river, but could discover nothing of the pirate fleet, or of the coast of China, so that the channel must be wider than it is laid down in the charts.

In the course of the day we killed a great many wild ducks, plovers, and curlews; there were, as usual, a host of followers, who seemed highly amused and greatly astonished at the effects of our fire-arms, the like of which they had never before seen, and which it is probable will be much talked of and long remembered in this country.

23d.—Fresh breezes and dark cloudy weather throughout. This morning we were sent for by the governor, who complained of the irregularities of our people; and desired that in future we would permit only five or six to go into the bazaar at once: for this reason he ordered six soldiers to attend the gates of the joss-house, with positive orders to allow no more than that number to pass out at one time. His excellency then requested to look at our fowling-pieces, and said he would take care of them for us until our departure, which, he said; would be in the course of four or five days more.

24th.—Fresh breezes from the northward, with cloudy weather throughout. This day we received private information, that we should not leave this so soon as the governor mentioned, there being still numerous divisions of the pirate fleet in the channel, waiting, as is reported, to intercept the annual fleet of merchant junks from China: this circumstance, if true, renders our arrival in Canton very precarious, as the viceroy here will not permit us to sail hence, while there is any risk of being taken; and in the event of any unfortunate accident, he would probably become involved in much embarrassment, if not expence and serious inconvenience.

In the course of this day I was sent for by his excellency, who requested to look at and examine my telescope, and having gratified his curiosity, giving me an opportunity at the same time of exhibiting its construction and properties, he carefully

returned it with many compliments on our superior knowledge in the arts and sciences, in which he candidly acknowledged his countrymen greatly inferior to Europeans.

25th.—Moderate breezes from the northward, and pleasant weather, with a cloudless sky both day and night. This morning we waited on the viceroy, and informed him, that if he would be so kind as to furnish us with a vessel, mounted with six or eight guns, we would man her ourselves, and run all risks to cross the channel. We availed ourselves of the same opportunity to represent, that the season was now far advanced, and as we had a long journey to perform, we were apprehensive that we should be obliged to remain in China during the whole monsoon, which could not fail of proving very inconvenient to our professional pursuits. His highness smiled at our request, and said it was highly rash and imprudent, observing that he took more care of us than we did of ourselves. We were then dismissed, a signal for which was his retiring; and thus ended our interview, which as we had anticipated, from our want of success, was little productive of satisfactory result.

26th.—Steady breezes at N. E. and clear pleasant weather throughout the last 24 hours. The mornings and evenings now begin to grow cold, to a degree somewhat uncomfortable, during the night-time; these circumstances excite the greater sense of our misfortune, from reflecting that we are unprovided with the means of ascertaining either the latitude of our situation, or the temperature of the atmosphere. To persons unacquainted with the nature of our unhappy casualty, it might appear strange that we had saved neither books, quadrant, nor thermometer from the wreck, but to those I would submit, that in such a case, the first concern must be such as we had shewn for the preservation of life; and the next, to secure the means of continuing it: for these purposes we swam ashore, after having possessed ourselves of the very few articles of absolute necessity which we brought along with us.

In the course of this day, several mandarines of distinction arrived at Hush-e-on; on which account many royal salutes were fired from the ramparts of the city, and the imperial colours were displayed in different places, which would indicate a general meeting of the officers of state. This conjecture we found correct, as we have been informed that a council has been held to deliberate on some affair of great political importance, with the nature of which we are, however, as yet unacquainted.

Information has just reached us that a number of Cochin-Chinese pirates, lately taken in the Chinese seas, are to form a part of our suite, to be conducted in that way to Canton, where they are to be examined before the viceroy of that province, re-

specting the crime of which they are accused: this circumstance confirms what has been before observed, that no subject throughout the Chinese dominions is invested with the power of life or death, save only the above-mentioned viceroy, who next to the emperor himself, it appears, is in this respect justified by the laws of the country in taking away the life of a fellow human being.

In questions of a criminal nature, all the other governors can try, acquit, or find guilty, but reference is invariably made to one or other of those great personages for a confirmation of the sentence, whatever it may have been; for this purpose the convicted are sent either to Canton or Peking, at the expence of the government, as has been already said. By this means, persons in authority are fundamentally deprived of the power of exercising oppression, cruelty, or tyranny, such as unhappily for the honour of human nature are too apt to accompany the means, which is obvious in most of the other nations of Asia.

27th.—Strong breezes from the northward, and cloudy weather for the most part of the day. This morning we were informed that a junk, which sailed a few days ago from Howi-how, was captured by the pirates in the channel, and that the crew, in order to screen themselves, for their lives were threatened, were compelled to join the pirates.

We also were given to understand that a number of their vessels had approached the coast, near Mantcheon, where they landed a number of men, and carried off much plunder, together with many of the most beautiful young females they could find, for the purpose of concubinage. They say that the number of pirate vessels now amounts to 370 sail, great and small; in fact, they appear to be completely masters of those seas, in consequence of which we shall, in all probability, be obliged to remain here still longer, perhaps for twenty days or a month.

28th.—Light breezes from the eastward, and hazy weather. In the early part of this forenoon, we went to see the Cochinchinese, who are to be companions on our journey to Canton. They are fourteen in number, including men, women, and children, even infants at the breast. They appeared much pleased at meeting with people who could speak to them in their own language. I inquired into the circumstances of their capture by the Hainanese, and was informed by them, that being with their families fishing on the coast of Cochin-China, they were blown off by a sudden squall, which drove them off the land into the gulf of Tonquin.

They further informed us, that in addition to that misfortune, they experienced a more serious calamity with some Hainanese vessels of war; who, mistaking them for pirates, fired into their

boats until they had killed nearly half their number; that they then boarded and took the remainder prisoners. On landing them at Hainan, their captors reported that they were pirates, and claimed the reward offered by government for such services.

These poor people likewise remarked to us, that on their trial, the person who acted as interpreter knew nothing of their language, and they were consequently deprived of the advantages of making themselves understood. They appeared desirous to communicate further particulars respecting their unhappy situation, but the officers of justice, who were observing our conversation for some time with an apparently jealous eye, prevented it by ordering them to retire from the prison gates.

29th.—Northerly winds and hazy weather, with drizzling rain, throughout these 24 hours. In the course of this day's perambulation through the town, we observed several dried snake-skins, and also tyger-skins exposed for sale in many shops: the former is the species known by the name of rock or mountain snake, and, judging from the diameter and length of the skins we saw, those on this island must be of enormous size. When dried and pulverized they are used here for medicinal purposes, and are said to have very valuable and singular properties.

In the afternoon I visited the barracks of the city, which appear sufficiently large for the accommodation of about 3,000 men: it is exclusively adapted for infantry, being inclosed by a wall nearly ten feet high, forming an oblong square. On the right and left hand side of the entrance, are extensive ranges of buildings for the privates; towards the centre are the officers' quarters, being a long line of houses running parallel with the walls that surround the whole, and consist but of one story each. They contain numerous apartments, furnished by the emperor with chairs, tables, and cots to sleep on, but having neither bedding nor curtains.

Behind this last-mentioned row of buildings are gardens, baths; cooking-places, and convenient retiring-places; forming altogether a most commodious residence. Fuel, salt, and cooking utensils, are always provided at the expence of government.

30th.—Light breezes from the N. E. and cloudy weather for the last 24 hours. This day we received information, that it was very probable we would be obliged to remain at this place until the Chinese new year, when it was supposed the pirate fleet would remove to some other quarter, in the event of their not falling in with the expected junks from China, which trade annually, at regular periods, to the port of Ho-i-how, (Howi-how) and for whom we have been thus long waiting.

31st.—Fresh breezes from the eastward, and clear, pleasant

weather for the most part. In our promenade this day, we observed quantities of frogs, snails, and snakes in the markets, exposed for sale; the latter appeared to be the coluber aquaticus: they were alive, in large tubs of water, some of them of a very considerable size. These, it seems, are considered here, as well as in China, very great delicacies, and are so easily obtained, that even the poorer class can enjoy the luxury. With respect to living, the higher classes give entertainments to each other in great splendour and profusion, some of the dishes in variety and costliness almost surpassing credibility.

Jan. 1, 1820.—Light breezes from the N. E. and hazy weather, with drizzling rain at times. In the course of this day, we went to see religious ceremonies performed by several great mandarines in the principal miao, or temples. This is done by one, or two, or more persons, as the case may be, who commence with placing a variety of sweetmeats, and other offerings, on an altar immediately before the largest image; they then kneel and continue praying, for about twenty minutes, to this idol, and afterwards to the smaller one placed on the right and left of the principal. They conclude by burning large sheets of gilt-paper, which, whilst blazing, are thrown into an urn that stands in the entrance of the temple, and the ashes are carefully collected afterwards, but for what purpose, or how finally disposed of, I never could ascertain.

After this they sometimes try their future fortune, in the manner before-mentioned, by shaking together, with a quick, circular motion, in a hollow bamboo, a certain number of sticks, about one inch by two, until a single one drops out of the bamboo. They then refer to a book which corresponds with the characters on each of the sticks, and the coincidence is supposed to be an answer from the deity they worship, and is implicitly received whether propitious or not. Should two or more sticks fly out at once, they are again put into the bamboo and shaken over again until one only comes out.

Notwithstanding these people seem to address their prayers to idols and statues, yet I am strongly inclined to believe, that in reality they direct their adoration mentally to the Supreme Being alone, for they consider their idols as merely emblematic representations of the Divine attributes; and the images which are symbolic of the four elements are the most numerous, being met with in almost every place. At the time of performing their religious rites, they are by no means jealous or particular with respect to the presence of strangers, for they never made the smallest objection to our remaining amongst them during the whole time, but appeared rather pleased at that circumstance.

2d.—Strong breezes from the eastward, with thick hazy wea-

ther and drizzling rain throughout. We amused ourselves this day in examining the arsenals, or places where the various implements of war are manufactured. This inspection met with no interruption from this polite and amiable people, but it gave us a very poor idea, indeed, of their power as a military nation.

3d.—Winds and weather as yesterday. To-day we made a long excursion into the country, in order to pass away time, which now begins to be rather irksome and heavy, being unacquainted with the means of amusement, the chief source of which we have lately been deprived of, that is our guns, which hitherto procured us entertainment as well as profit.

4th.—Moderate breezes from the N. E. and cloudy weather. No occurrence of particular importance this day; we amused ourselves in strolling among the shops, and viewing the different articles exposed for sale.

5th.—Light breezes from the northward, and clear, pleasant weather. This morning were celebrated the nuptials of the viceroy's eldest daughter, styled here the princess of Hainan. The bride and bridegroom were carried in very elegant palanquins, attended by a vast train of mandarines, with a pompous retinue of servants. The procession passed through the principal streets of the town, and the whole was followed by a large body of troops, cavalry and infantry.

The princess was richly dressed, and appeared to be about 17 years of age, handsome, and remarkably fair, but rather stout (corpulent) she was conveyed in a splendid palanquin, preceded by a cortège of ladies carried in the same manner. On this occasion the imperial colours were hoisted on the ramparts; several royal salutes were fired during the day, and a grand public entertainment was given by the viceroy. In the evening a brilliant display of fireworks was exhibited, accompanied with a succession of salutes protracted even till day-light, at which time the company broke up.

In this country marriages are contracted and consummated at the age of maturity and not before, as in India; but the hymeneal contract, as it may be termed, is entirely managed and arranged by the parents on both sides, without reference in any manner to the parties for whom the happiness is intended; thence it usually happens that the young people have no opportunity of seeing one another until the day of their union, and consequently must be ignorant of each others mental or personal endowments, save so far as menial report, which, as may be supposed, consists usually of hyperbolic praise.

This circumstance often produces disappointment, giving rise to want of affection, ultimately succeeded by acts of infidelity,

in which it must be confessed, the wife is commonly the first offender. Though married females, indeed all of the sex, in the higher classes, are kept in a state of seclusion and retirement, not I imagine from motives of jealousy, but a habitude originating in the customs of the country, yet they are frequently allowed to make and receive female visits; but this very liberty they contrive to turn into the means of deceiving their husbands, which is managed with peculiar ingenuity, and the most delicate address.

Even the eunuchs that are employed to replenish their baths afford them another opportunity for the same purpose. In fact, from what I have both seen and heard, I cannot think that the fair sex of Hainan and China are in any degree more virtuous or faithful in the matrimonial state than other nations, however otherwise it may seem to the superficial observer of their local manners and customs: but their peculiar situation claims pity rather than censure, for who can believe that nature ever intended that one man should possess fifty or one hundred wives? The laws of nature are characterized by sublime simplicity, which admits of no such monstrous disproportion. If conjugal fidelity be not always found in a monogamous state, will not the evil be multiplied, at least will not the opportunities be more likely to increase, where domestic associations are more divided or estranged?

6th.—The first part of these twenty-four hours calm; the middle and latter light breezes from N. E., the weather clear and pleasant. This morning we walked over to Howi-how, and there happened to meet with two Chinese who could speak English tolerably well, they were very civil, and informed us, that an admiral with a strong force of war-junks, had been dispatched from China against the pirates, and that he had orders to carry the merchant fleet across the channel. They also told us, that as soon as he arrived we should leave this place for China, but said the time of his arrival here was very uncertain. These persons we found belonged to the custom-house, whither they conducted us, and gave us a treat of tea, sweetmeats, and country wine; they told us they were natives of Canton, where they had resided for many years.

7th.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. and clear pleasant weather. This morning we held a formal and solemn consultation on the circumstances of our situation, and the possibility of our getting away from Hainan unknown to the government. Among various propositions, some were urged for seizing on and taking forcible possession of one of the junks that lay in the river, loaded and ready for sea; but on weighing the consequences of such an attempt we relinquished all idea of the thing.

At length we determined to wait on the mandarine of shipping, whose office is somewhat similar to that of master-attendant in the ports of British India, to inquire and know from him when we were really to get away, and at the same time inform him, that in the event of our not arriving at Canton early in February, we should not be able to get to India for a very long time, as all the ships at that port would have sailed.

After waiting some time at the house of the mandarine, we were informed he was not at home: we then communicated the object of our visit to his head servant, who assured us he would mention the matter to his master when he returned, and that we should have an answer to-morrow.

8th.—Moderate breezes from the N. E. and clear pleasant weather throughout. In the course of this day several of our people being intoxicated with samsu, a pernicious spirit, made from jaggery, (coarse sugar) and also from corn, drank always warm by the better class, began to fight with one another in the square, which soon caused the place to be filled with the natives as spectators. In our endeavours to get them without the gates, one of them struck Mr. B., and then gave him a fair challenge to box; but for his temerity he soon got so sound a drubbing as to convince him how far inferior a Hainanese is to a European in the noble art of self-defence. Although this man was thought a professor in that branch of the fine arts, yet, I fancy, this was the first, and will, probably, be the last, time he will venture upon a similiar experiment.

The poor fellow, however, fought toughly for about 20 minutes before he asked for quarter, and the surrounding multitude never once interfered in the contest, although they evinced great interest as to the result. Shortly after this noisy and tumultuous scene had begun, information having been conveyed to the authorities, two mandarines, officers of police, made their appearance, attended by executioners, as their office is best explained in our language, and also a few soldiers.

Immediately on the entering of these persons a death-like silence took place, as if at that instant not a soul were present, and this contrasted with the previous uproar was certainly very remarkable, such is the deference paid to men in the administration of the laws. As soon as the mandarines were seated in large arm-chairs, brought for that purpose, they inquired gravely into the cause that led to the disturbance, and quickly perceiving that their countryman was in the wrong, ordered him to receive two dozen strokes on the bare breech.

The punishment was inflicted with a flat bamboo, about three inches broad and seven feet long; this was used with both hands, the culprit being held down by four men in such manner

as effectually to prevent his moving either hand or foot. He was then put into what is called a *conju*, which is a heavy board about three feet square, with a hole in the centre for the neck: to this board was attached a label, in large characters, to make more public the crime for which he was punished.

As an example to others, he was placed, accoutred as he was, just without the gates of our residence, under a guard of soldiers. The mandarines then sent for those of our people that had been fighting in the morning, and after a patient hearing of what they could advance in extenuation of their disorderly conduct, they ordered each one dozen bastinadoes *à-la-mode dupays*.

The first who was punished happened to be a Malabar native of Madras; in order, I suppose, to have the sentence mitigated he roared out at every blow, 'Chin, Chin, Mandarin, Chin, Chin,* Mandarin,' which excited loud laughter among the Hainanese, and produced a smile even on the grave countenances of the magistrates.

They addressed themselves to us after the business of flagellation was over, and remarked that, had we behaved like our crew, we should have received exactly similiar treatment, without regard either to rank or person: they also advised us, in a friendly way, not to frequent in future certain parts of the town, alluding probably to the *maisons de plaisir*; they added, moreover, that it was very likely we should leave Hush-e-on before the Chinese new year; † however that may be, I think it certain that the awkward occurrence of this day will tend to expedite our departure, a consequence which will be as agreeable to us, as its probable cause as been unpleasant.

9th.—Moderate breezes from the N. E. with clear weather throughout. We amused ourselves this day in examining the different manufactures of this place, several of which we found of a superior kind indeed, particularly the silk and lute-string.

10th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. The greater part of this day was employed mostly in inspecting several very extensive libraries, some of which contained large collections of books, but none of them were bound. They have no types here in use, but in lieu thereof print from boards of various sizes, on which the characters are cut, and the impression from these is very neat and well defined; in reality executed after our own mode. Their printing in this way must be very tedious, as they are obliged to have a separate board for every third

* An expression of obeisance, *salaam*, of Hindostan.

† A day of great ceremony and rejoicing, visits, and feasting.

page, corresponding with the intended size of the book: this is the Chinese manner of stereotype.

11th.—Light breezes from the N. E. and pleasant clear weather. This morning we happened to have an opportunity of seeing them shoot on the parade-ground what are called the singing arrows. These appear about five feet long, having a hollow, perforated globe attached to the head. They are shot upwards from a common bow, in a vertical direction, and in their ascent and descent produce a very curious and singular sound, somewhat of a musical nature, at first gradually decreasing, and then increasing in strength as the arrow falls to the ground. We had frequently heard similar sounds before, but were hitherto unable to account for its production: we could not, however, discover what actually was the principle on which it was done, unless that during the arrow's flight, a conjecture might be offered, the air rushing through the ball at the perforation, by its reverberation in the hollow within, caused the sounds we heard, and which became weaker on the ear in proportion to its distance.

12th.—Fresh breezes from the eastward, and clear, exceedingly pleasant weather throughout. A. M. we went to see a celebrated academy, of which we had received much interesting intelligence; but were much surprised and seriously disappointed at finding the place without students, which deprived us of the only means which had as yet offered of gaining information as to their mode or system of education. The building was very large and extensive, surrounded by a wall with numerous detached buildings, baths, gardens, and other conveniencies, which argued a superior order of arrangement; but the absence of the most important portion of the institution, made us quite indifferent to many circumstances, which otherwise, perhaps, would have been deemed worthy of remark.

13th.—Having received positive information that we were to set out on our journey to-morrow, we went round and paid a farewell visit to all our friends and acquaintances in Hush-e-on: they appeared much affected, and shewed great regret at our final departure, saying we should never meet again in this world, and this sentiment was generally conveyed with a tenderness of expression and evidence of strong feeling, as could not fail to leave upon any mind the most permanent impression.

Wishing to testify on our side the sense of gratitude we entertained of their kind treatment of us during our stay amongst them, and desirous also to make known the generous hospitality we had experienced in the country, and at the same time to give notice, as generally as possible, of the loss of the Friendship to any Europeans, or others who might from a similar misfortune

hereafter pass this way, we prepared and pasted up, on the walls of our miao, a large sheet of paper, detailing the circumstances, written in four European, and five Asiatic languages, one of which was Chinese, which was perfectly understood by the Hainanese, and with which, doubtless, they were much pleased.

14th.—At day-light we packed up our remnants, and having made the necessary preparations for our march, remained all at home in expectation of further orders. At noon we were sent for by the viceroy, who having called over our names, ordered us to be paid 40 sapekas each, which we were given to understand, was to serve us for four days. We were then permitted to take our leave, and set out for Howi-how, where we arrived at half-past two P. M. At three we passed the river in boats, and in one hour more, embarked on one of the merchant junks that lay at anchor near the embouchure. On crossing the river we were counted over three different times, and as often on going on-board: the crew were equally distributed into five vessels, not one of them being allowed to remain with us.

This day our attention was particularly attracted by an old woman belonging to the miao where we resided; she had followed us, crying bitterly, from Hush-e-on to Hoi-how, and thence even to the water-side; after we had got into the boats, her extraordinary attention to us was still displayed, as we shoved off she kept her eyes anxiously fixed upon us for a considerable time: in fact, a fond mother could scarcely manifest more affection or tenderness at a final separation from her children.

Previous to our departure from Hoi-how, we purchased, according to our means, a large stock of provisions, particularly salted duck-eggs, as a sea-supply: this article of food is here extremely cheap and abundant. The sailors on-board the junk were very civil, and cleared away a berth for us between decks; this vessel may be of about 400 tons burden. As soon as we got on-board, and had leisure to look around, we observed that the fleet was very numerous, the river for a considerable distance being covered with a forest of masts.

From Hui-cheon, we were accompanied by the Cochin-Chinese pirates, (the poor prisoners) all of whom we are told will suffer death on their arrival at Canton. They tell us, with what truth is questionable, that these people are some of the scattered followers and remnants of the rebel army of Cochin-China; who, after a civil war, most likely on their part a struggle of independent spirit, which lasted for 36 years, had been finally subdued or dispersed by the royalists, who, in consequence of this success, immediately after made a conquest of Tonquin, under a pretence that the people of that country had aided and assisted the rebels during the war.

These unfortunate people having, it appears, no other resource, were obliged to become pirates to obtain the means of subsistence; and as the continent was vigilantly closed against all approach, they lived for a long time on different islands, shifting occasionally from one to the other, as their pursuers discovered their retreat, and came latterly towards the coast of Hainan, where several of their boats were captured, as before stated.

The kingdom of Tonquin has been annexed to Cochin-China, and now forms an integral part of that empire: it was invaded and conquered by the king of Cochin-China in 1802.

15th.—At half-past four A. M., it being nearly high water, a gun was fired by the commodore, as a signal for weighing; and in the course of half-an-hour, the whole fleet was in motion. We steered east down the river, in about two fathoms water, with a fresh land-wind: at half-past five, crossed the bar, on which the vessel struck several times; after getting over, we steered out about north-west.

At sun-rise we had a distinct view of the fleet, which being now under all sail, such as it was, afforded a pleasing sight, occupying in the outline a space of many miles in extent. The commodore was the headmost vessel, and occasionally threw out signals to preserve the order of sailing; the regularity of which surprised us not a little, expecting not to see a fleet in this part of the world managed in so uniform a manner. The channel, from the discolouration of the water from the refraction of substances beneath, appeared to be shoal in several places.

At seven A. M. we saw the coast of China, appearing low and sandy, with a reef stretching a long way to the eastward: we could likewise perceive a deep bay, towards which the headmost junks seemed to direct their course. At half-past seven, a handsome round fort came in view, situated on a bluff point of land that formed the N. W. entrance of the bay: shortly after we could perceive the walls of an extensive city, and with our glass distinguish crowds of people on the ramparts. As we neared the land, they appeared to express every demonstration of joy and satisfaction at the arrival of the fleet; which, no doubt, have been for some time past very anxiously expected; doubt and apprehension intermingling their effects with that which invariably accompanies the desire of gain, a passion which in this country, as well as in many others, may be considered one of the most powerful upon the human heart.

At a little after eight, our vessel came-to in the bay of Lou-cheow-van, abreast of the city, at a distance of 60 or 70 yards off shore: the moment the anchor was down, numbers of flat-boats

were dispatched for cargo, which, in general, consisted of sugar, betel-nuts, salt, and tanned-hides.

The city of Lou-cheow-van, where we landed about half-past eight, is situated on the westernmost extreme of the Chinese empire; here the crew joined us, and we found they had been previously provided with guns, besides a guard of soldiers for the Cochin-Chinese prisoners. Those unfortunate men were chained and carried in bamboo cages by four men, but their wives and children were allowed wheel-barrows for their conveyance.

After taking a little refreshment we set out, in number 53 persons, and travelled in a N. W. direction. The country was plain and level, without any hills or mountains; the soil a reddish clay, highly cultivated in continued fields of sugar-canes. The roads were excellent, and shaded by a row of large trees on each side.

At two P. M. we arrived at the city of Ho-i-on, where we remained for the night. In the course of the day we passed through two towns of considerable size, and met on the way several carts and wheel-barrows laden with various sorts of merchandize.

16th.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. and the weather clear and delightful throughout the last 24 hours. At nine A. M. we were sent for by the head mandarine or governor of the province; and being all mustered over, received each 32 sapekas, about four Bombay pice. His excellency moreover condescended to make us a present of four catties of fine black tea; which, as being highly acceptable, was received with becoming acknowledgments.

We then took leave and set out from Ho-i-on, continuing our journey through a fine level country, the soil of which was mostly of a dark reddish colour; the whole was divided into large fields of pasturage and squares of sugar-cane plantations, and the plants in the latter appeared to be rich, and of a superior quality.

In the progress of this day we passed through two large towns, and several villages, and crossed several bridges. The roads in general were good, and we found the shade afforded by the trees highly agreeable and refreshing, particularly during the heat of the day, which from noon till nearly three o'clock was intense.

We met several carts and wheel-barrows loaded with various articles, moving to the N. W.; also many foot-passengers travelling in the same direction. At half-past six P. M. we arrived at the city Lock-oon, where we remained for the night; having walked in the course of this day 90 Chinese li, equal to 30 English miles.

17th. — Winds and weather as yesterday. At four A. M. being fine, clear moon-light, feeling ourselves well refreshed by sleep, we collected our people together by beat of drum, as usual, and having marched through the town, continued our journey through a most beautiful country, of a light, reddish soil, laid out in general into very extensive fields of pasturage.

In the latter part of our journey, which was directed to N. N. W. we crossed an immense paddy-field,* perfectly level, and extending as far as the eye could reach, without the smallest shrub to intercept the view. The crop was about a foot high, of a deep green, which relieved the sight, and rendered the prospect truly pleasing. The road on this extensive plain was formed entirely of large cut stones, raised about four feet, and sufficiently broad for carts and other vehicles to pass.

In the course of this day we passed through one large town, and several villages; also crossed four bridges and one large river. At five P. M. having walked 32 miles, we reached the city of Hock-un, where we halted for the night; but were somewhat surprised to find that our fellow-travellers, the Cochin-Chinese, had got here a considerable time before us: we did not observe them to pass us on the road, so that they must have travelled either with greater expedition, or by a shorter route than we had done.

Hock-un is a city of the second class, situated on the above-mentioned river of the same name: it is populous, and appears to be a rich and trading place, as we saw several vessels of some burden lying abreast the town. Some of the streets are upwards of a mile long; they are broad and clean, with large shops filled with various sorts of goods, among which we noticed soft sugar, tinsel, and artificial flowers. In the centre of the city there stands a pagoda two hundred feet high: in the course of the day we observed several bales of cotton, which from their gunny † and lashing, must no doubt have been imported into Canton from Bombay, whence it was probably re-shipped to this port to supply the wants of the interior.

18th. — Light breezes from the N. E. The weather as before, being uniformly clear and pleasant throughout. At 11 A. M. having procured four wheel-barrows to carry our baggage, we set out and travelled as yesterday, N. N. W. through a vast plain as even and level as a bowling-green, there not being even the smallest hillock to be seen during the whole of this day's journey. After sun-set, this plain had a curious appearance to the view,

* Rice.

† A coarse kind of cloth made of the bark of a tree, and used for covering bales, &c.

presenting a lively picture of a calm night at sea: the horizon equally extensive as the ocean's, and the vast area uninterrupted by a single object to catch the eye, or interrupt the tranquil effect of the scene.

In the course of this day's march we passed through four small villages, and met, as usual, many loaded carts upon the road; also numbers of palanquins, and swarms of pedestrian travellers. At half-past 7 P. M. we arrived at the town of Hoi-hoon, where we remained for the night: our Cochin-chinese companions were lodged in the same house; the men remained outside in their cages, but the women and children were allowed a room to sleep in. Some of these matrons were young and handsome, and, no doubt, liberal of their favours to the soldiers, and we always observed that some of the guards remained with them during the night.

19th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. At half-past six A. M. we departed from Hoi-hoon in company with the Cochin-chinese prisoners, being altogether sixty-nine in number; and marching through the town as usual with drum and fife, attracted multitudes of the inhabitants, who have, in fact, thus far manifested even a greater degree of curiosity, if possible, than the people of Hainan.

On our landing at Lou-cheon-van, it should have been observed, the people swarmed down to the sea-side, and followed us not only through the town, but a considerable way beyond it: in travelling through the country, the labourers used to leave their work, crowding down to the road-side to stare at us as we passed; even the poor Cochin-chinese are to this people objects of wonder and astonishment.

As we approached any of the large towns, the inhabitants have regularly come a considerable distance to meet us, both men, women, and children; and they appear always to have been well-appriized of the exact time of our arrival. We have hitherto, however, observed a striking difference between the Chinese and Hainanese; the former are neither so fair, handsome, nor, in general, so well dressed. In regard to the first circumstance, it is not easy to account for the superiority in point of beauty, unless, indeed, the aborigines of Hainan may have originally sprung from some of the roving tribes of northern Tartars, who, by avoiding intermarriages with Chinese women, have hitherto preserved the original complexion. This question, if applied to the commixture of nations generally, involves a deep and interesting, as well as most important, enquiry; but, it is feared, that it will long be found one of too much difficulty to allow of a satisfactory explanation: how, or when the difference of colour took place among the human species seems to be one of those

grand secrets in the kingdoms of Providence, which the utmost ingenuity of philosophical research will probably never be able to unfold.

After leaving Ho-i-hon we continued our journey through the same great plain, in a north-by-east direction, for about twenty miles, when the country began to assume rather a different appearance, being diversified with hills of a gentle declivity, and laid out into small fields and gardens.

The whole of the continent thus far, may, with great propriety, be considered as one continued and undivided plain of, at least, 100 miles in extent, and consequently about 300 in circumference. Two-thirds of this tract are used for pasturage, and the other is appropriated to the cultivation of rice and sugar-cane. During the latter part of our journey, the soil appeared stony, and not so well cultivated as other places before noticed.

In the course of this day we passed through five small villages, and at three in the afternoon arrived at the city of Suiki, where we rested for the night. This place is reckoned only in the third class: the walls are built of brick, about fifteen feet high, with ramparts and parapets, through which are numerous embrasures very small and close, with loop-holes between, for match-locks, arrows, and the like implements of war; we saw only two or three guns, four-pounders, badly mounted at each gateway.

The houses are neat and clean, and the markets well supplied with provisions of every description. Within the walls are many tanks or ponds, from which circumstance I believe the town derives its name. The country all round is laid out into beautiful fields, producing various sorts of vegetables and fruits, particularly peaches. In the middle of the town stands a lofty pagoda, which can be seen at a great distance when coming from the southward.

Suiki is celebrated for a singular commerce it maintains in female beauties. They are brought hither from the most distant provinces when very young, and are instructed in all the accomplishments of the country, such as music, singing, and dancing. They are also taught and secretly trained to every blandishment and art to please and gratify the voluptuous and sensual appetites, in which this people, particularly the higher ranks, seem to indulge to the extreme of excess, and to a degree of expense scarcely credible. This place, in fact, is considered a grand *dépôt* for wives and concubines, and for these they send or come from the remotest part of the empire.

20th.—Light winds from the eastward, and cloudy weather, with drizzling rain at times. This morning, on beating the *gê-*

nérale to collect the Lascars, we found that several had not come up, and they informed us we could not procure a passport, or leave the place until they had arrived. This precaution had always been strictly observed, in order to prevent any of us remaining behind. After breakfast, I took a walk round the walls, and enjoyed a charming prospect of the surrounding country; which appeared extremely populous and highly cultivated.

21st.—Pleasant breezes from the eastward, and clear weather throughout this day. A little after nine this morning, the remainder of our people having arrived, we waited on the governor, who called over our names, and ordered us to be paid twenty sapekas each, for two days, together with a fresh passport, and guides for the next province. While the former was making out, the ladies, as usual, made their appearance in the audience-hall, to the number of ten or a dozen, to gratify their curiosity in gazing at the fanquis, as they call us: none of these females appeared to be more than nineteen or twenty, whereas his excellency must be upwards of sixty.

At 10 A. M. we took leave, and pursued our march about N. N. E., through a beautiful grassy plain of great extent, perfectly level, and appropriated, as we supposed, for feeding cattle, of which, however, we have not hitherto observed a number corresponding, according to the quantity of land in use for that particular purpose. Here and there were some cultivated patches producing rice and vegetables.

The roads that run through this plain are broad and excellent, nor unlike the mount-road at Madras. For the second part of our journey the land was hilly, and not so well cultivated, but towards the latter part the country resumed its former level and fertile appearance, being covered with rice-fields, and other cultivated enclosures, interspersed with pine and peach-trees.

In the course of the day we passed through two villages, and one large town, as also some resting houses, as they term them, where we sometimes stop to refresh ourselves and crew; for which purpose we have always found them extremely convenient. These houses are to be met with all along the main road, at certain regular distances; they are, in general, extensive and commodious places, built and supported at the emperor's expence, being intended for the use of military officers and others in the imperial service, who have occasion to travel about from one place to another. Near these are three white pyramids erected in the most conspicuous place, to render them distinguishable to travellers a good way off.

Since our arrival on the continent, we found the roads all the way we travelled regularly marked in equal divisions; but, in-

stead of mile-stones as with us, they use here strong posts, each about seven feet long, fixed perpendicularly in the ground, with a broad board nailed across, having characters which denote its exact distance from the principal towns and cities.

There are, likewise, military stations placed at intervals of nine Chinese miles, equal to three English: these are a kind of barrack on a small scale, calculated for a certain number of soldiers, and provided with a watch-tower and flag-staff, whereon they occasionally hoist signals, so that, being all in sight of each other, they can collect together a considerable force, in case of invasion or disturbance, without much loss of time: by the same means they can transmit information telegraphically from the remotest points of the empire, to the capital itself, if necessary.

At three in the afternoon we descried the pagodas of Suck-sung, which place we reached at half-past four, and were immediately conducted to the mandarine, who, after asking some questions, ordered us to be taken to a miao for the night. The city of Suck-sung is pretty large, and may contain about 70,000 inhabitants. It is situated at the foot of an extensive range of hills, on the summit of which its walls run for a considerable distance, and within them are several groves of pine-trees; these, although not very large, have an agreeable effect. There are numerous groves of various other trees also within the walls, besides several tanks and gardens for the production of vegetables, but this seems common to all the large towns and cities that we have seen, both here and at Hainan.

The streets of this town are rather narrow, but clean, and, in general, paved or flagged, with an awning over-head, which renders walking in them during the day-time, when the weather is usually very hot, both cool and pleasant. The markets appeared to be well supplied with provisions of all sorts, such as meat, fish, fruit, and vegetables; the latter are in great perfection, particularly cabbage, turnips, and lettuce, which are as large even as those produced in England or other parts of Europe.

This province is famous for its soft sugar, and a peculiar sort of oil expressed from a nut, which serves the inhabitants for culinary and various other purposes: the nut itself, which in taste and flavour much resembles the filbert of England, is made up in small papers, each containing, perhaps, three dozen, and sold at the rate of one sapeka each. Of these we generally provided ourselves with a good stock, being, from their cheapness, our chief viaticum.

In the great towns of China, people of the same trade and profession live together, and in Suck-sung we saw whole streets inhabited solely by manufacturers and venders of fire-works,

and others who sold and made tinsel: these two articles are exhibited in great quantity, and are probably sent from this place to various parts of the empire.

22d.—Winds and weather as yesterday. At eight this morning we received a visit from the second mandarin, who enquired very particularly respecting the loss of the *Friendship*: he appeared anxious to ascertain whether she had foundered at sea, or was stranded on the coast of Man-chow, and we, of course, candidly afforded him all the information in our power. He then asked several questions relative to the naval and military power of the English, inquiring into their laws, customs, and manners, with singular minuteness. After we had gratified him in these particulars, he took leave in a polite manner, and appeared well-pleased and satisfied with the information he had received.

This visitant seemed to be possessed of sound sense and judgment, as we had an opportunity of observing from the discriminating manner in which he put the several points of his enquiry. After he retired we understood that the head governor was absent on business; in such cases the second always acts in his room, but is considered merely a *locum-tenens*; and matters are so accurately and promptly attended to by the principal, that the second is rarely in authority for any considerable length of time.

The chief is generally styled a mandarine of letters, that is, a professor of Chinese literature and philosophy; but the other is a military mandarine, and commands the forces of the city to which he belongs; from which cause, if it be the capital of a province, the whole forces of that province are under his orders, and on the same principle the chief governor has control over those of all the cities and towns within his jurisdiction, and consequently are, by the laws of China, made subservient to him.

At nine A. M. we were sent for by the same mandarine or deputy-governor, who, finding there were four of the people not yet come up, informed us we could not proceed until they arrived, and then gave us an invitation to dinner, which, of course, we gladly accepted, as it was the first mark of personal respect we had received from the authorities of the country since the period of our unfortunate shipwreck.

We after this took a walk on the ramparts of the town, and from that portion which has been mentioned as running over the hills, we had a prospective view of a fine, level, well cultivated country. From this elevated situation we counted seven towns and villages, at a trifling distance from each other: in the southernmost of these we observed a pagoda nine stories high.

At 2 P. M. having taken such pains regarding our appearing

decent as our circumstances would permit, we waited on the mandarine according to invitation, and were received by him in a very polite and friendly manner. Before dinner he employed the time in asking various questions about Europe, and particularly called upon us for information relative to the British ships of war; such as, their size?—the number of men, and guns they carried?—and if it was true that they had copper bottoms?—how many li they could go in an hour with a fair wind?

When he was told in reply to these questions, that they frequently sail at the rate of 30 and 36 Chinese miles per hour, he appeared much amazed, and thought it scarcely possible. During the whole of this conversation his wives came out with great eagerness to hear the subject of our discourse: indeed, we have invariably found, by experience, that in China, as well as in Hainan, female curiosity far exceeds that passion in the other sex.

At three o'clock we sat down to an elegant and well-dressed dinner, consisting of beef, pork, fowls, and vegetables. During the repast, the governor and his women were highly entertained at the awkward manner in which some of us used the chop-sticks; at last one of the ladies, feeling for their embarrassment, ordered spoons to be brought, which answered as well or better even than knives and forks, as the meat was cut up into small pieces for hash and stews, the favourite dishes of the country.

At four P. M. we took leave of his excellency, and returned to our miao, having enjoyed at least one hearty meal since our shipwreck: at the joss-house we received each ten sapekas with some rice, and fire-wood as an extra allowance. Shortly afterwards they sent to inquire if we of any of the crew had a sufficiency of the latter articles; and that otherwise we should have a farther supply.

23d.—Moderate breeze from the N. E., and cloudy weather for the most part. At nine this morning the four Lascars having come up, we waited on the governor; and having received twenty sapekas each, together with a fresh passport and guides, we set out from Suck-sung, and travelled N. E. through a beautiful and richly cultivated valley, which lies between two chains of hills, distant from each other about an average breadth of two miles and a half.

The scenery throughout this delightful region was interesting from its varying beauties, as at every point of progress some fresh charms of cultivation, or natural embellishments, came in pleasing succession upon the view. In the latter part of our journey, the country became rather barren, nor was the soil well improved; as if the Chinese character, moulded according to the nature of the soil, would not take the pains to turn their ancient

parent out of her path, even for the purpose of improvement; they know the amazing resources of fertility with which their country abounds, and will not, therefore, put themselves to any unnecessary trouble.

In the course of the day we passed through nine villages, also two towns, and crossed one large and handsome bridge. The roads in general were good, and the country more populous than we hitherto observed; crowds of people filled the way to Suck-sung, conveying to that place various articles of native produce for sale.

At half-past four P. M. we arrived at the town of Sun-nong, where we rested for the night. This place, though not walled, is of considerable size, and as I believe is deemed of some importance as a town, comparatively estimated with others which have the appendage of fortifications. Here we saw a great number of travellers who had arrived a little before us, with carts and wheel-barrows laden with goods of various sorts and descriptions: these they lodge in a large public warehouse appropriated for that purpose, and guarded by soldiers during the night.

At this town it would appear that there is a constant concourse of strangers, being as it were a sort of half-way house; and here we remarked a greater number of taverns than usual. One of these particularly attracted our attention: it was only one story high, but in length at least three hundred feet. In the middle of this vast apartment runs a range of tables extending from one end to the other, with benches corresponding on each side; a little remote in the rear are cooking-places and hot-baths, which are used mostly by foot travellers, who, after the fatigue of a long journey, find great relief by bathing the feet only, the effects of which are extremely refreshing.

For the purpose just mentioned, there are people constantly in attendance at the different inns and taverns, whose sole business is to keep a quantity of warm water ready for use, and by this they gained a livelihood. After washing the feet, they apply a little dried salt to the instep, where it is allowed to remain for a few minutes, and this is found to have a very beneficial effect; the charge of all this trouble is very trifling, merely from one to three sapekas: for these pedilaves there are little apartments outside the building.

At these taverns the traveller sits down and calls for what he pleases, but they never give any thing whole or in large quantity. If beef or pork is called for, it is brought in small pieces, on each of which is fixed a certain price which rarely varies: if ducks, fowls, or geese are required, they are brought in the same manner, each being invariably cut into six pieces, wings, legs, breast, and back; the price of these is generally from six to ten sapekas

each. During the dinner, a boy, who acts as waiter, keeps an account of what is expended, and brings a bill afterwards for the same; this is usually very moderate, particularly in cities and towns that are not situated on or near any of the large rivers.

To-day we had the honour of dining with a very large company indeed, at the before-mentioned grand hotel, which was quite full of guests from top to bottom; it was somewhat curious to see so many chop-sticks all in motion at once. The Chinese are famous, and I think justly so, for the excellence and variety of their soups, which are always both highly prized and priced. When our bill was brought, one of the people who sat near observing that we were overcharged, spoke to the attendant very harshly, and taking the money from us, paid him his due, and returned us the remainder.

24th.—Fresh breezes from the north-eastward, with cloudy weather and rain at times. At seven this morning we left Sun-nong, and continued our journey through a country remarkably hilly and rugged: the roads, however, were pretty good, and the vallies appeared to be every-where cultivated, being mostly laid out into small fields, producing the mountain rice, which does not require a watery or swampy soil like the common white kind.

The hills in general were uncultivated, being overgrown with fern and brushwood, which serve as a cover to the retreats of gold and silver pheasants, whose plumage is extremely rich and brilliant, and this circumstance is more remarkable in a wild than a domesticated state. We met on the road numbers of barrows loaded with part of the goods that were imported on the fleet which brought us over from Hainan, and were, as they informed us, on their way to Canton.

In the course of the day we passed through five villages, and two large towns. At a quarter-past one we reached the city of Fat-cheou-ou, having performed a short journey of only 18 miles. On our arrival here we were conducted to the governor, followed, as usual, by legions of Chinese, who, from their numbers, and the heat of the day, caused us the most disagreeable inconvenience. In vain was every effort or manœuvre of ours to avoid their intrusiveness, which nevertheless was the less censurable as they conducted themselves with politeness and propriety, but still they continued to press upon us in all directions, even into the court-yard of the mandarine.

We remained, however, greatly annoyed even there, and wherever else we had occasion to halt, from the want of a prompt attention on the part of the governor's aid-de-camps, in not giving immediate information of our arrival, and no doubt this was done designedly, in order to afford their countrymen an oppor-

tunity of gratifying their insatiable curiosity. At two P. M. they conducted us to a miao, which was appointed our residence for the night.

This town appears to be very ancient, and is situated on the declivity of a hill, part of which is included within its walls, which are about four and half or five miles in circumference; they are in bad condition, which is the case, as has been before observed, with almost all those of the other cities that we had an opportunity of seeing on the continent of China. The streets here are clean, and flagged with red bricks, 18 inches square; these are of a hardness and durability superior perhaps to what are manufactured in any other country whatever: they are also covered from side to side with awnings of various colours, which have a pretty but tawdry effect.

There are here many fishponds and large miao's; provisions are both abundant and cheap as usual, and within the walls there is more cultivated ground, besides numerous gardens, than we have hitherto observed upon our march. In the afternoon we saw several criminals chained in bamboo cages, being on their way to Canton, there to receive the final sentence of condemnation or acquittal, like our unfortunate fellow-travellers, the Cochin-chinese.

25th.—Fresh breezes from the S. E. and cloudy weather throughout. At nine A. M. having received 40 sapekas each, we set out from Fat-chou-ou, and at noon crossed in large flat-bottomed boats the river Suifan-miu, which is perhaps a branch of the Tigris, being large and navigable a long way to the north-eastward.

We continued our route N. by E. on good roads, and through a most picturesque and romantic country, intersected by many small streams. The whole was in the finest state of cultivation, and the scene in every point to which the view was directed, was enlivened by numerous country-houses interspersed here and there. These houses had large gardens attached, which were laid out with a rural taste, that seems peculiar to this people: these houses, we were informed, were the residences of opulent mandarines and merchants, who spend much of their leisure at those peaceful and elegant retreats.

Our steps frequently lingered whilst we were irresistibly detained amidst this delightful scenery, by the various concert of the warbling tribe, which, from the trembling echo in the vallies, produced a highly pleasing effect: the whole was indescribably enchanting, whilst the air around us, far and wide, was richly perfumed by a thousand gratifying odours, teeming from the most elegant variety of herbs and plants, whose beautiful tints rendered the face of the soil superior to the finest car-

pet. The whole frequently brought to my recollection many scenes in my native country, which would not lose by a comparison even with that just described.

In the course of this day we passed through two towns and five villages; we also saw, for the first time, a field of wheat, which we imagined had been transplanted, as the stems were at such equal distances from each other, that they must have used a line in placing the stalks so exactly in regular rows. At two P. M. we arrived at the town of Nam-shing, where they gave us the use of a resting-house, such as have been mentioned before, and may be called imperial choultries.*

The house assigned us for accommodation was very spacious and convenient; the rooms were furnished with cots to sleep on, but there were no beds. The building was so extensive that in a few minutes after entering it we were lost and disappeared from each other; in fact, I believe that if we chose, we might occupy each a separate apartment, although we amounted to 53 in number.

The town of Nam-shing is large and populous, containing, by their own account, 75,000 inhabitants. The streets are pretty broad, and are in general flagged or paved; the shops, being large, give them a handsome appearance. In the markets here we observed a greater abundance of pork than usual; this is an article of which the Chinese are particularly fond, even to a proverb, and indeed it appears to constitute the principal dish of the lower class of people, who, in my opinion, live better in this and every other respect than the same description of persons in any other nation.

* *Choultries*. Buildings similar to these are in use in many parts of India, at the expence of the existing government, as well as for the accommodation of travellers; but as no funds have for a long time been provided for their support, on account of the revolutions continually taking place in that country hitherto, they are in a state little short of decay; as the discipline of the British forces in India, admits not of such accommodation for general purposes, and hence they are now almost exclusively used for the convenience of travellers, but as these are mostly natives of the country, few of the European population, or of respectable character, resort to them, both on account of their want of comfort, there being no furniture whatever, nothing but the bare walls, as also from the increasing filth, which passing visitors of the native tribes have neither the sense of decency nor inclination to remove. At all these places a jemidar, or local officer of commissariat, is stationed, but the duty is in general very defectively discharged: travellers have been known to be compelled to wait the result of delays most injurious and perplexing, whilst these men were exercising their chicanery, to extort exorbitant expence for the accommodations which it was their duty to provide without delay, and yet they have had the impudence, after all that annoyance, to thrust their heads into the palanquin in which the travellers were seated, to demand what they, in Bengal, term *buzas*, an acknowledgment from the donor of favours conferred. The case is far otherwise under Chinese regulation.

26th.—Light breezes from the eastward and cloudy weather throughout. At seven o'clock this morning we set out from Nam-shing, and travelled N. E. by E. twenty miles, then E. N. E. for the remainder of the day. The roads in general were very good, and the country extremely well cultivated, being, for a distance of 19 miles from the town last mentioned, a vast level plain, producing wheat, rice, tobacco, sweet potatoes, and turnips, of a size equal to those in England, but not of so good a flavour. In the afternoon we saw, for the first time, a range of very high mountains, whose peaked summits appeared towering far above the clouds. In the course of this day's journey we passed through two large towns, and six villages, and had several times a sight of the same river we saw at Fat-cheou-ou.

At half-past four in the afternoon we arrived at the city of Cow-the-ow, and were conducted to an imperial choultry for the night. On entering this place we happened to observe several Chinese characters over the arched portal or gateway, and on inquiry we were informed that these were to shew the distance from Peking and the other cities in the empire, which we are told is common to all buildings of the same description, a circumstance which had hitherto escaped our notice.

These imperial choultries, or, as the natives call them, Emperor's houses, have, at a distance, the appearance of little walled towns, and, from their numerous buildings, occupy a considerable extent of ground. They are on the same plan as their barracks, and are furnished with every convenience, such as baths, gardens, commodes, cooking rooms, cooking utensils, and fuel. On all the gates and doors we observed a portrait of two military mandarines, in their war uniform.

The city of Cow-the-ow is large and populous; from careful examination we judge it may contain about the number of 80,000 inhabitants, which estimate includes the suburbs, which are very extensive, and denote the increase of population. There are many shops filled with various sorts of manufactures, which we had not, unfortunately, time to examine with that minuteness which the importance of the matter undoubtedly deserved.

The houses are regular; the streets flagged on each side, and paved in the middle. The town-walls are built of brick, and about thirty feet high; the embrasures are more open than any we have yet seen, being somewhat more convenient for the use of cannon, but their construction in this intent is somewhat doubtful, as nothing as yet has presented itself to give an idea that they ever cannonade an enemy from such an elevation.

Several pieces of ordnance, from four to eighteen pounders, were seen lying in the gates, which, as usual, are four in number, situate correspondingly with the cardinal points. The guns

we remarked, were very badly mounted, so much so, that there is great reason to believe they never used, and perhaps never had occasion to use, machines of this description, otherwise experience alone must have taught them a better method than what seems to belong to their present mode of application.

Some of these cannon were mounted, or, more properly speaking, placed on large logs of wood, others on stone, and some again on a pile of bricks and mortar, somewhat resembling a gun-carriage, but wanting the proper means of confining the gun when fired, as also every requisite for pointing to its effective range. Fortunate indeed is it for the Chinese, that the local situation of their country, together with their internal and singular policy, has hitherto saved it from foreign invasion; but whenever this takes place, it will be an easy conquest: ten thousand British troops, it may be confidently asserted, would effect it with ease, notwithstanding that the population of China is supposed* to exceed by much that of all Europe.

Cow-the-ow is situated on the western bank of a large navigable river, and on the opposite side stands a handsome pagoda, 200 feet high, from the top of which, ascending by spiral steps as before, we had a noble view of the circumjacent country to a very great and gratifying extent.

* That this statement is highly accurate, may be seen from the following comparative view of population, given by Mr. *Bristed*, in his late work, "America and her Resources."

POPULATION, 1817.

	Inhabitants.	Square miles.
All Russia, (including the Asiatic Provinces)	52,000,000	3,650,000
Italy	20,000,000	100,000
France	29,000,000	250,000
Austria	26,000,000	280,000
Turkey	57,000,000	940,000
British Isles	20,000,000	100,000
Spain	14,000,000	150,000
Prussia	11,000,000	96,000
Sweden and Norway	4,500,000	270,000
Denmark	800,000	60,000
United Netherlands	6,000,000	47,000
Switzerland	2,200,000	16,000
Portugal	2,300,000	28,000
Total	244,800,000	5,987,000
China	200,000,000	1,200,000

Whence it may be seen, that if the Asiatic provinces of Russia were left out of the calculation, the remark of the journal here noted will appear even under the comparison made, and that if the number of square miles be taken

27th.—Moderate breezes from the eastward, and cloudy weather. At nine this morning we set out from Cow-the-ow and continued our journey to the N. N. E. and E. N. E. on pretty good roads, and through a level, well-cultivated country. We passed some mountains which appeared very barren, and of a hard, reddish rocky soil; also passed through one town and four villages. At length, having walked 32 miles, we arrived weary and fatigued, about half-past six in the evening, at the town of Ti-see, where we were again conducted to an imperial choultry for the night.

Lodged in the same mansion we found several mandarines and suit, on their way to Tim-pock. These gentlemen amused themselves the whole night at cards, which they love *à la folie*, one party succeeding another in regular rotation. We could not see the smallest signs or symptoms of displeasure or ill-humour amongst them, though they always played for ready money.

After our arrival here we found that some of the Lascars had their feet swelled to an extraordinary size. Our guides adopt a very good plan in order to prevent any of us from losing our way: on the line of march, one of them always accompanies the best walkers; another keeps in the centre, and the third brings up the rear. They receive regularly, from the different governors, written instructions respecting the places to rest at, and the extent of each day's route, with other particulars, to which they must give implicit attention, otherwise their disobedience would subject them to the most severe punishment.

28th.—Fresh breezes from the S. E., and cloudy weather for the most part. Early this morning we left Ti-see and pursued our march to the east and southward for 20 miles on pretty good roads and through a well cultivated country, with some hills in different places exhibiting a gentle declivity. In the latter part we had a distant view of a lofty range of mountains to the north-eastward; and passed likewise some extensive forests of bamboo, which serves the natives for numberless purposes, and may be considered, as well as the cocoa-

into consideration, the population of China exceeds that of Europe by the proportion of five to one. To what cause this extraordinary difference may be attributed is rather difficult to determine, but it is worthy of attention to those who would enter into such a discussion, that it is an invariable rule with a Chinese, whether in his own country, or resident in any of the Malay towns, or in the British, Dutch, or Spanish settlements, to procure a wife at the earliest opportunity, his extreme industry enabling him to provide the means of support; for it is invariably the fact, that wherever a China-man is found, he is there distinguished for his humble and patient perseverance in pursuit of gain.

tree,* among the most useful gifts bestowed by kind Providence on the inhabitants of Asia.

In the course of the day we crossed two rivers, and passed through two towns and five villages. At a quarter after three in the evening we arrived at the town of Fui-ong, and had the honour of sleeping as before in one of his imperial majesty's houses.

* The bamboo serves for almost every domestic purpose; rafters for houses, bedsteads, couches, door-posts, railings, masts for boats, oar-poles, to the end of which are fastened bits of board to serve as paddles, also instruments useful in agriculture, ladders, pillars for the cottage, verandas, hurdles, and an infinite variety of other necessary and convenient uses: even a measure for liquids and rice is called, in Malay, bamboo, and contains three pints and a half of English wine measure; it is formed of a single joint of the stem. The like is also used as a case or cover for fine articles of dress, which are rolled up carefully and afterwards passed into the tube. European masters of ships employ bamboo cases of the same description to preserve their charts, and find them extremely convenient. The bamboo requires scarcely any care in its cultivation, and besides being planted in tops or groves, it serves as a fence to protect other valuable inclosures from injury. Baskets of various kinds and forms, and numerous other articles of furniture, are manufactured from the outer parts of the plant, and the Chinese, it appears, convert it also into palanquins, and other travelling conveyances, besides the uses to which it is applied in the construction of bridges, embankments, mills, and also for punishment and divinations. Innumerable in short are the uses to which this plant, so important to the human economy through the climates of southern Asia, can be converted.

But the most valuable possession of the indolent Indian is the Cocoa-tree. There is scarcely a want of life but may be supplied from one part or the other of this stately inhabitant of the vegetable world. Bread, oil, sugar, cloth, cordage, spirit, are all the produce of this invaluable tree. Its umbrageous top, whilst it gives elegance to the humblest hamlet, affords the most delightful supplies to the table of the luxurious. Long before the nutritive juices of this extraordinary production of nature have brought its fruit to perfection, they become, by being intercepted in the empalement of the flower, materials for the substance called *toddy*, from which arrack is afterwards distilled. This is done by cutting off the flower-stalks, which are usually from a foot to two feet and a half long; and earthen pots, fastened to the precis'd or upper end, are there suspended to receive the toddy, but care must be taken to renew the cuttings, by slicing below the former surface, which is apt to become choaked by the viscosity of the juice during this process; there is some degree of fermentation in the exuded matter, which increases the heat in the flower-stalk, and encourages it to flow more freely: (all the stems of the flower are not appropriated to this purpose, as some are usually reserved for fruit). In the same manner another substance, called mirra, of a more pure and limpid nature, is collected, but this requires greater care and attention, and during its flowing, the quantity must be often removed and the rest allowed to run into fresh vessels to avoid fermentation. It is from this substance the sugar called jaggerly is obtained, from which a fine spirit, if well managed, called by the Chinese *samsu*, is distilled: the difference with regard to the fermentative process may in this respect, perhaps, be thought worthy of notice. In the course of drawing

In the latter part of our journey, whilst crossing the rivers, we observed several water-wheels turned by the current, and as they revolve, empty the water into aqueducts for the purpose of irrigating the adjacent grounds and gardens to a considerable distance. The wheels are simple in their construction, and made mostly of bamboo. Their diameter is about 14 feet; on the outside are boards fixed at a certain distance from each other, on these the water acts and gives them a motion. To the circumference on the outside are attached two or three rows of earthen pots, that empty themselves alternately, and thus keep up a constant stream in the aqueducts.

29th.— Fresh breezes from the N. E. and cold, cloudy weather for the most part. This morning, at half-past six, we set out from Fui-ong, and travelled about eastward on sandy and

these juices from the tree, very little perceptible change takes place in the diminution of its vegetative powers, and the lapse of four or five months, even in the driest years, is thought sufficient to recruit its powers.

The Cocoa-tree is partial to soft, rather loose, alluvial soil, which is neither marshy nor sandy, nor is it found to prosper at a distance much more than 40 miles from the sea, and is proportionally exuberant as it approaches the shore. The average produce of one of these trees, full sized and well grown, may be perhaps 40 or 50 nuts, without deduction of toddy or mirra, in one year, and these are commonly valued at about an English penny each. It is remarkable, that such is the attraction which water has for this plant, that as it overhangs the beach it bends to its favourite element, and if inland and growing near a tank, which is frequently made for the inhabitants of the village, the summit is curiously bowed towards the water, which, as it rises in vapour, is collected by the leaves clustered at the summit, and conveyed along the channels of the lobes to the petioles, and so to every portion of the body, or is shed successively from the extremity of the lobes in drops to nourish the roots. Hence the growth of the plant in favourable situations is rapid, and is a never-failing source of nutritive supply and emolument to the cultivators; the usual duration of the Cocoa-tree is about 60 years, and is capable of producing fruit about the fifth year.

The nut of the cocoa, it is well known, is covered with a large bulky husk, which consists of an outer, softer rind, from which a coarse cloth is said to be manufactured, and a quantity of firmer, fibrous stuff called coir, from which vast quantities of ship's cordage are now manufactured, and is considered nearly equal to hemp in durability and value. The kernel is converted, as may be seen in the journal, into numerous convenient and even elegant articles for domestic use; the centre contains a liquor which, when the fruit is young, is drank with avidity, and possesses much of the properties of toddy, and is convertible to the like use. When the fruit is more advanced in maturity, this liquor is altered by a natural process within the shell, into a consistency and colour nearly the same as milk, but this is too well known, undoubtedly, to require further remark. The oil of the Cocoa-nut is derived from the pulp which lines the shell, and before undergoing its final process is left for a considerable time exposed to the action of the atmosphere, until the watery portion has been evaporated: the oil is then very easily obtained by compression.

very indifferent roads. The country during the first part of our journey was hilly, and appeared not well cultivated, producing chiefly sweet potatoes, and a variety of other vegetables peculiar to the country.

A little after we halted at a tope of bamboos near the roadside, to enjoy as usual a little rest and refreshment; here our guides happening to fall fast asleep, we seized the opportunity and repossessed ourselves of our fowling-pieces, the want of which we have had much reason to regret, as the country every where abounds with hares and game of almost every description.

On our left lay a ridge of craggy mountains, from which descended several streams of perfectly limpid water: one of these forming a rivulet meandered near us, crossing the road in its course, and we were somewhat surprised to find it so hot that a person could not bear to hold his finger in it for more than 10 or 12 minutes. This streamlet was conducted curiously through the middle of a neighbouring resting-house, where the inmates had constructed three commodious baths, with convenient and separate apartments for each; but we could not learn what medicinal qualities they possessed, being at a loss for the means of attempting any analysis of their contents.

We saw several groves of bamboo, very tall and of an uncommon size; we likewise fell in with twelve criminals on their road to Canton, there to be tried for piracy: they were chained like the others in cages about four feet square, formed likewise of bamboo. Several wheelbarrows, and carts loaded with goods, passed us on the road, proceeding, we supposed, to some seaport town not far distant.

In the course of this day we passed through two towns and five villages; several of the latter were surrounded by groves of bamboo, which gave their situation a pleasing, cool, and agreeable appearance, amounting to a degree of neatness quite unusual for such places. At half-past one P. M. we arrived at the city of Tim-pock, and were conducted to a miao for the night.

The joss-house which served as our residence contains a far greater number and variety of images than any other that we have as yet had an opportunity of seeing either in this country or in Hainan. These idols might be about eighty in number, including large and small; scarcely any two of them corresponding either in sex, size, form, or attitude, exhibiting altogether an appearance as fantastic and ludicrous as can well be imagined.

Some of these symbolic figures, weeping bitterly as it were, seemed to shed tears of blood, which trickled down their cheeks, some staggering drunk against the walls, and others lay in sprawling attitudes as if endeavouring to raise themselves after having

fallen : many apparently more sober were enjoying the scene before them ; some again were represented as carrying, or endeavouring to carry, away their intoxicated companions on their backs, and these tumbling together to the ground, in their fall throwing down many of those around them.

Some of the images had the heads of elephants, dogs, and monkeys ; others without any heads were seen in corners in the act of kindling large fires ; whilst others appeared busily employed roasting other gods and goddesses at the same fire, having transfixed them with long spears, which were to serve as spits for that purpose.

In the entrance of the miao, behind the door, stood a white horse, as large as life, ready bridled and saddled ; but the rider having seemingly taken a drop too much, in his attempt to mount had staggered back, and lay with both arms outstretched along the horse's belly. On the opposite side lay his companion, or perhaps servant, in a similar or rather worse situation ; for having fallen flat on the ground, he lay between his horse's hind legs, his head immediately under the tail of the animal, who appeared in the act of performing an office of nature.

What all this incongruous jumble could have been intended to represent, we could not exactly learn ; it seems, however, to retain some remote analogy to these jovial meetings of which mention is made by some of the ancient Greek and Roman writers ; or is, perhaps, a mode of recording the triumph of the Chinese supernaturals over their rival deities or giants, as is related in the accounts of the Hindoo mythology.

Tim-pock is a place of great trade and commercial importance. It is situated on an arm or inlet of the sea, forming two good harbours, an inner and an outer ; the former is rather shoal, and the vessels ground at low water, but being landlocked, and the bottom soft mud, they receive no injury. In both these harbours there were many junks of considerable burden.

The walls of this city form an exact square, and may be about four miles each way ; they are 35 feet high, with ramparts and parapets as usual, but no fosse, which the Chinese seem to consider quite useless. The guns were miserably mounted, *à la Chinoise*.

The houses here are not so good, nor are the streets so clean and regular as those in other places : the bazaars, however, are abundantly supplied with all kinds of provisions, excellent fish of various sorts, also fine vegetables and fruit, such as oranges and peaches, but these articles are found to be much dearer here than in the other towns ; but this circumstance may arise from the approach of the new-year, subsequent to which a ge-

neral cessation of business of every kind takes place. On this account the public markets are to be shut up for several days, so that the people are obliged to purchase and lay in a sufficient stock beforehand.

From Tim-pock a vast quantity of salt is imported into Macoa and Canton. Off the outer harbour are many small islands, which must undoubtedly contribute very much to its shelter and general security.

30th.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. and dark cloudy weather, with drizzling rain. This day we were prevented from proceeding on account of some of our Lascars not having been able to come up, and we were, therefore, detained till their arrival.

In the afternoon I took a walk round the city walls, which are in excellent order, and appear lately to have undergone a general repair. At each gateway the walls are double, and the gates are strengthened with massy plates, or broad bars of iron: these, as usual in all walled towns; are shut at eight o'clock in the evening, and opened again at gun-fire next morning; the gates of each street are also shut and opened in a correspondent manner, as has been already related.

31st.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. with clear, pleasant weather, but sensibly cold in the morning and evening. At 11 A. M., having received 90 sapekas each, together with a new passport and guides, we set out from Tim-pock, and continued our journey about E. N. E. through a country partly hilly, and partly a plain, lying between two rocky, barren mountains.

In the course of the day we passed through three villages, and crossed one salt-water river, having had several times a view of the sea. At half-past three in the afternoon, having walked 22 miles, we arrived at a small town, and were conducted to an imperial house for the night.

This resting-place was the largest and most extensive yet seen, having six separate cooking-houses, and every thing else in proportion. The apartments were very numerous, which gave us reason to suppose, that probably these buildings are intended also for the accommodation of the troops, moving occasionally from one station to another; and in this view of the matter, it may be fairly said that it could conveniently lodge about eight hundred men with their officers.

Feb. 1st.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. with dark, cloudy, cold weather. At day-light we set out and continued our journey about E. N. E. the roads in some places being very good, and in others rather indifferent. The country was hilly, and of a hard, sandy soil, well cultivated, however, in the

vallies; but the high grounds appeared to be laid out mostly in pasturage.

This part of China is very badly supplied with firewood, and the people are obliged to substitute for that purpose, straw, hay, and cow-dung. In the course of this day's route we crossed two bridges and three rivers, in one of which we saw many junks lying at anchor abreast of a large and populous city; we also passed through two towns and seven villages. At half-past three in the afternoon, having travelled 27 miles, we arrived at the town of *Thi-pong*, where we halted for the night at an imperial resting-house, which was by no means so large as the one we occupied yesterday.

2d.—The first part of these 24 hours, fresh breezes and cloudy; the middle and latter, heavy rain, and the weather cold and disagreeable. At a little after day-light we left *Thi-pong*, and at seven A. M. arrived at the town of *Chuck-lone*, which is a large commercial place, situate on the banks of a river, navigable for flat-bottomed boats of a great length and considerable burden.

Chuck-lone may be about two and a half or three miles in extent, but as it has no walls it is not ranked as a city. The streets are paved and clean; the bazaars plentifully stocked; the shops large, numerous, and well stored with various articles of traffic.

At three in the afternoon, the Lascars being embarked in one boat, and ourselves and servants in another, we were tracked a little way down the river against the current; but at seven in the evening the boat stuck fast upon a quick-sand, where she remained for the night, it being, at this time, nearly low water. In the course of the day we shot several very large curlews and plovers, of a beautiful plumage.

3d.—Fresh breezes from the northward, and cold cloudy weather throughout. At two past midnight we made sail, steering about east 20 miles; the water of the river for the greater part of that distance being very brackish. Here we saw myriads of wild ducks, of various species and sizes, of which we shot many, to the great astonishment of the boatmen; they did not, however, express much surprise at seeing a single bird killed, as they supposed we, after the manner of their country, used only a single ball; but when they saw ten or a dozen brought down together, they appeared quite amazed, as they have no idea whatever of small shot or its effects.

At half-past seven in the morning we landed from the boat, and afterwards travelled N. N. E. The first part of our journey lay across a continued swamp, where walking was extremely

tiresome and disagreeable, sinking almost knee-deep every instant in the mud, for the distance of about three miles. The country in the latter part was well cultivated, though hilly, with here and there a few groves of small pines.

In the course of the day we passed through one town and four villages, crossed moreover two fresh-water rivers, and at half-past three afternoon, having walked twenty miles, arrived weary and covered with mud at the city of Yung-cone, and were conducted in the usual manner to a joss-house, there to pass the night.

Here we found ourselves more than at any time heretofore pestered and annoyed by the curious disposition of the inhabitants; who, thronging round us, remained in the miao until quite dark, when we cut short their entertainment by retiring to rest, affording us relief, of which we stood in extreme need.

The little terrier even seems to attract their attention as much as we ourselves; the words fanqui (tanqui) and fancow, which signify foreign people, and foreign dog, are commonly uttered by them as a previous notice to their countrymen, and this is sure to bring crowds to the doors and windows as we pass along, and soon fill the streets with the gazing populace.

4th.—Cold, northerly breezes, with drizzling rain at times. This morning we sauntered over the city-walls, which appear very ancient, and are at present in bad repair; they are about thirty feet high and twenty in thickness. In each gate-way lay a rusty gun, ancient, I fancy, as the walls themselves, and simply laid on the bare ground; so that they may well be considered quite harmless to all, except those who may happen to use them.

Yung-cone is situated in a fertile plain, on the banks of a fine navigable river, along which it extends several miles. The streets in general are narrow, the houses low and mean: there are, however, some large shops which have a handsome appearance. The markets are well supplied with provisions. One third, at least, of the space within the walls is appropriated for gardens, tanks, and fish-ponds: indeed, this place may be set down as one of those great dépôts for fish, which supply the interior with that nutritious article of food; and, what is very remarkable, the fish are always brought alive to market, let the distance be ever so great.

At half-past ten we waited on the governor, but had not the pleasure of seeing his excellency; his women and children, however, came out to see the fan-cow, which they expressed a wish to purchase; but could not think of giving more than one dollar. At three in the afternoon, having received each forty sapekas for two days expenditure, we embarked in boats and went

about three miles, we then came-to, and remained at anchor during the night.

5th.—Moderate breezes from N. E. and dark cold weather, with small rain. At day-light we got under weigh, but were obliged to track the boat ourselves, the boat-people having refused their assistance, though the motives for such conduct are quite unknown to us. The country on each side of the river is level and highly cultivated, producing chiefly wheat, which was in ear, and laid out in extensive fields, some of them containing at least ninety acres.

In the course of this day we passed several villages and limekilns. At three in the afternoon, we came-to abreast of a town on the bank of the river, and there took on-board other guides with a fresh passport; we were then transferred to another boat, in which we lay at anchor for the night.

6th.—Fresh breezes from the N. E. and dark cold weather, throughout these 24 hours. At day-light, we got under weigh, and proceeded about 15 miles, sometimes poling, and at other times hauling the boat along by ropes a-shore. We steered in this manner from N. E. to E. through a most delightful country, covered with fields of wheat as far as ever we could see on either side, and interspersed with several country seats, whose site was peculiarly rural and pleasant. This agreeable prospect was bounded by a chain of mountains which appeared very distant, as it were just rising in the horizon, both to the right and left of us, and from which, most probably, this river derives its origin.

At five in the afternoon, we landed at the city of Yung-tcheow, and waited on the governor, who ordered us to be conducted to a miao for the night. Here the *padrè* had the politeness to give us up his little apartment, with the use of its furniture; a favour that proved to us very convenient and comfortable. The duty of these ecclesiastics is merely to place lighted candles before each of the idols at sunset, and at day-light, every morning, to ring a large bell, the sound of which may be heard at a great distance; and afterwards to offer up prayers and place oblations before these inanimate figures of clay and straw.

It is difficult to say, and philanthropy forbids the idea, whether the blessed influence of our pure and holy religion will ever completely shed its happy light over these dark and pitiable regions of idolatry: still, however, there is great reason to believe, that the conversion of China could be effected with much greater ease than that of Hindostan.

The prejudices of the Chinese do not appear to be so deeply rooted as those of the Hindoo; and that there is ground for this opinion, may be seen from the fact, that in China there is scarcely a ploughboy that cannot both read and write his own language;

which is by no means the case in Hindostan, where this circumstance alone is likely to prove an obstacle not easily removed.*

In China the chief difficulty to be surmounted seems to be the great antipathy and aversion they entertain against innovation of any kind; and some leading mind amongst them has taken advantage of this prejudice, and has left among them, it is said, an ancient prophecy, which, as it is delivered in general terms, is obviously applicable in all circumstances, by the meanest capacity: this says, that "whenever any general change takes place, the subsequent consequences would prove fatal to the empire." It must, nevertheless, be remembered, that the same notions and prejudices once prevailed both in Tonquin and Cochin-China, notwithstanding which a very large proportion of those countries now, to my own personal knowledge, has embraced and professes the christian religion.†

In this digression the contemplative mind is naturally led into profound, or, at least, serious reflections, and asks, why has not the only true and undoubted system of belief on earth made a greater progress than it has hitherto done, after so long a period, and after considerable endeavours to produce that effect? Why has heterodoxy or religious fervour, for particular opinions and speculations, caused such devastation and misery among mankind, polluting the fair face of creation, marring the beautiful work which its Divine Author was pleased with, because he saw "it was good?"

An answer to these questions may appear difficult, and, undoubtedly, the subject admits of a wide field for the display of learning and talent, but of this we may rest perfectly assured, that it has been so ordained for wise and just purposes, though it is in vain to seek after the final design and end, as that would only lead us into a labyrinth of doubt and conjecture, where we must be lost and bewildered in the fruitless search. We should not presume to find fault with what we do not understand; for it would surely be great injustice in any person to condemn, and pronounce useless, a machine because he could not comprehend the variety and complicated operation of its parts.

The city of Yung-tcheow is situated in a fine level plain, on the banks of a river which is neither very deep nor broad. The suburbs are extensive, and contain some large shops; but the streets and houses within the walls are rather indifferent and mean.

7th.—Moderate breezes from the N.E. and clear, pleasant weather throughout. Having received this morning sixty sape-

* See Observations at the end, p. 87.

† Ditto, p. 89.

kas each, with passport and guards, we embarked at eleven A. M. in three separate boats, and steered from E. to N. E. through a charming level country, producing wheat and barley in great abundance, with here and there some fields of sugar-cane and sweet potatoes.

The same range of rugged mountains still on our right and left, to the northward and southward of us, but apparently approximating somewhat more than yesterday. We amused ourselves with our guns as we walked along the river side, while our people relieved the poor boatmen in tracking the boat themselves.

In the course of the day we passed by one town and three villages; likewise several remarkable rocks, nearly perpendicular on all sides, and about 200 feet high, perfectly isolated, and unconnected with any elevated ground whatsoever: besides, the circumjacent country is low, level, alluvial soil, well cultivated.

All those circumstances considered, it is rather difficult to account for the existence of such a phenomenon as these solitary rocks, so remote too from any mountain, unless, perhaps, those prodigious masses of solid stone have been, at some very remote period of time, each the nucleus of a hill, in which case they must have been below the surface of the soil, which being gradually washed down and carried away by the floods, these rocks became denuded, and left exposed in their present situation.

Another conjecture may be offered on this subject, that probably they have been placed, as now seen, by the operation of the same causes that effected the general deluge, when the globe suffered such dreadful disruptions and convulsions, as, according to the Mosaic relation, to shake the very pillars of the earth, and to break up the fountains of the great deep; the truth of this will appear obvious when we consider the nature of that powerful agent which occasioned this memorable catastrophe.

At eight o'clock in the evening, we hauled the boat alongside one of those huge rocks, where we made fast and remained for the night, which being delightfully clear and pleasant, we went upon the margin of the river to enjoy the beauties of the scene, and indulge in unrestrained conversation. A few yards only from our boat stood an ancient pagoda, part of whose walls reached down to the water's edge: here the *tout ensemble* brought to mind the following beautiful and sublime passage:—

As when the moon, refulgent lamp of night,
O'er heaven's clear azure sheds her sacred light,
When not a breath disturbs the deep serene,
And not a cloud o'ercasts the solemn scene;
Around her throne the vivid planets roll,
And stars unnumber'd gild the glowing pole,

O'er the dark trees a yellow verdure shed,
And tip with silver every mountain-head;
Then shine the vales, the rocks in prospect rise,
A flood of glory bursts from all the skies!
The conscious swains, rejoicing in the sight,
Eye the blue vault, and bless the useful light.

8th.—Light breezes from the N. E. and clear pleasant weather throughout. At day-light we hauled out of the cavern, and continued tracking about N. E. by N. the river growing narrower and very shoally, being full of sand-banks, with coarse gravelly bottom. The country each side of us was covered with beautiful, extensive fields of wheat and barley in the healthiest condition, also groves or topes of bamboo and fruit-trees interspersed all over. The same chain of mountains still in sight, but nearer than before.

In the course of the day we passed three towns and five villages, also several lime-kilns, where we observed large quantities of coal, used for the preparation of the carbonate; many of the isolated rocks also came occasionally under our notice as we moved along: of these, several stood close to the river's side, and at a distance had the appearance of grand and magnificent castles, being destitute of every vestige of vegetation, except lichens, with which they appear variously tinted.

These massive monuments of antediluvian stratification are all composed of dense limestone, and numbers of people were employed in breaking off fragments intended for the kilns which were erected for that purpose at a moderate distance. At four P. M. we came to anchor a-breast a very large town, called Thy-wône; here are always provided, for public accommodation, numbers of hireable boats for passage or goods, being remarkably adapted for either purpose.

9th.—Light breezes from the northward, and clear, pleasant, weather. At day-light we left the boat, and passing through the town of Thy-wône, continued our journey about N. N. E. on tolerably good roads, and through a country beautifully varied with hill and dale, all well cultivated, and producing wheat of two kinds, also barley, sweet potatoes, and tobacco; amidst this rich prospect the eye was relieved by luxuriant groves of peach-trees, with several groups of pines interspersed at irregular intervals.

The second part of our route lay across an extensive plain of paddy nearly fit for cutting. The latter proved by far the most tiresome and fatiguing part of our journey hitherto, being over a continued range of very high mountains, over which, however, the cares of cultivation had spread the mantle of plenty from the base to the very summit, but in a manner and with a decoration that seems peculiar to China.

These elevated grounds are cut into stages or terraces, so as to allow the water to run from one to another in gradual succession from top to bottom, a mode of cultivation which must evidently be attended with great labour, and may be fairly considered a striking proof of Chinese industry: indeed, agriculture is more encouraged here than, perhaps, in any other part of the world; so much so, that even the emperor himself confers a dignity on such employment, and, as a stimulus to his subjects, sets a personal example once a year, by ploughing a small furrow, and afterwards throwing into it, with his own hands, a few grains of seed. It is said that all the grandees of the empire are obliged to attend this grand annual ceremony, on which occasion they are enjoined to shew a similar example in their respective provinces and districts.

In the course of this day we passed through four large towns and seven villages. In one of the former we counted ninety fish-ponds, each about thirty feet square, surrounded by trees and a railing of bamboo. We likewise crossed three wooden bridges and three constructed of stone, in every respect like similar works in Europe, and very handsomely arched.

At half-past five in the evening, we halted at a resting-house, the situation of which was truly romantic, and the scenery perfectly picturesque. The building stands in a very deep, green valley, environed on all sides by prodigiously high mountains. In the midst of this valley, by a curious contrivance, runs a stream of pure water, conducted by means of large bamboo tubes in which plugs were fixed at proper intervals to guide the current: in the different apartments through which these conduits passed, there were reservoirs of chunam* in the floor, to serve the purposes of bathing, drinking, or cooking. We found this water really delicious, and it is undoubtedly more pure in this natural state than almost any other, being totally clear of those animalculæ with which the fluid in a state of nature and exposed to the atmosphere is known usually to abound.

In the course of the night, feeling it rather warm and uncomfortable, the room assigned for our sleeping being close and confined, I withdrew from my companions and went out to breathe a purer air, and sat down by a brook near an ancient temple in ruins. Here I enjoyed, uninterruptedly, a scene which surpassed any I had ever before witnessed, impressive from its grandeur, and rendered deeply interesting to my mind from the consideration of my situation, and the images of the past portrayed by busy imagination.

* Lime calcined.

It was at this time a little past twelve o'clock, by my watch, and the full moon having reached her meridian height, flung an indescribable beauty on the objects all around:—the flood of silvery light was not interrupted by a single cloud;—all was silent as death, not a breath of wind to disturb the solemn stillness, save the distant babbling of the rills which, descending from the mountain side, formed the rivulet, whose meanderings through the valley could be partially detected by a broken gleam bursting from the rippling surface.

10th.—Light breezes from the N. E. and clear pleasant weather. At four this morning we set out by moon-light, and continued our harassing journey over lofty, craggy mountains, the road leading generally in a spiral direction over the declivities: in this respect the characteristic love of personal convenience may be seen, as in every purpose of life the Chinese will never court a difficulty, and when it is to be surmounted he always effects it in the easiest manner possible.

At half-past nine we arrived at the city of Sem-hung, where we were shewn a very indifferent place to sleep in, which we instantly rejected, and took possession of a large house that happened to be empty. There we remained about half-an-hour, and were then conducted to a commodious, upper roomed building, which they told us had formerly been a college; this of course became our residence for the night, but on mustering our people, we found that several of the Lascars had remained behind among the mountains.

The walls of this city are at present in bad repair, and appear to be very old: their dimension in height may be about 20 feet, and in breadth between 12 and 14. There are no embrasures, and the loop-holes are, at least, six feet above the ramparts, so that it is difficult to conceive how they can be used for missile weapons, or, according to the notions of warfare generally, for what purpose they had been intended.

11th.—Winds and weather as yesterday. At 10 this morning we waited on the governor, and were offered 28 sapekas for two days supply, which we refused on account of its inadequacy; we were then presented with 40 each, and immediately after left Sem-hung, and proceeded on our journey, travelling from N. to N. E., through a large plain of rice ground, which lay between barren, uncultivated mountains, in some places shewing groves or tops of pine and bamboo.

After passing the above-mentioned plain, the country assumed a rugged, hilly appearance, but the vallies were well cultivated, producing chiefly sweet potatoes, and mountain rice. The latter part of our march was along the banks of a river, which I suppose empties itself into the Tae, or river of Canton. Here we

saw several chop-boats, as they are called, going towards that port, and others of the like description returning from the same place.

In the course of the day we crossed two wooden bridges, one of them nearly half-a-mile in length; and in our line of march passed through three towns and several villages. At five in the afternoon, having walked 20 miles, we arrived at the town of Shake-cow, and slept in an imperial resting-house. This place appears to be pretty large, and is situated on the banks of the river last-mentioned: here we saw many large junks taking in spars of various sizes; and we supposed these articles were destined for the market of Canton, whence they are exported in the regular course of trade to the different ports of India.

12th.—Light northerly winds and cloudy weather. At eight this morning we set out from Shake-cow, and continued our progress to the N. E. in very indifferent roads, which were, in fact, nothing better than footways, the common mode of travelling hereabouts, as the intercourse is chiefly with Canton, seems to be by water, which is probably the longest route, and that may have been one motive for this wise and economical people's sending us overland, particularly as the personal inconvenience to which we were subjected, was a kind of contra account against our expence.

The country was beautifully diversified with plains, mountains, hills, and dales, all in general well cultivated, interspersed too with numerous hamlets and villas, in romantic, and, as it may be most properly expressed, rural situations; the gardens belonging to the latter appeared to be well stocked with roses, lilies, pinks, and various other flowers familiar to the ladies of England.

At noon we halted at an eating-house to take some refreshment, and here we fell in with the Hainanese pugilist; the poor fellow was very glad to see us, and with perfect cordiality, in a manner expressive of friendly disposition, reminded us of his unfortunate experiment in his favourite science, and with much humour depicted his recollection of that occurrence. He informed us that he was on his way to Canton; but, previously to our parting, he insisted on treating each of us to a cup of tcheon-tcheow, commonly called samsu; and our compliance in accepting this compliment, appeared to afford him much gratification.

In the course of this day we passed through eight towns and villages, crossed three rivers and two bridges, and at five in the afternoon, after walking 25 miles, came to the city of Su-hung; a place of considerable importance and extent. Some idea may be collected from the circumstance of its taking us exactly an hour and fifteen minutes to traverse the suburbs only; during

that time we never stopped: indeed we all along considered ourselves in a large town without walls, and were remarking its magnitude, when the city-gates suddenly opened to our view.

We waited on the governor, but were obliged to remain for an hour before we could be admitted to that honour, and the interval was a scene of unceasing annoyance, the multitude surrounding us *en masse*, pestering our patience with their importunate curiosity, and incommoding us with their intrusive pressure; yet the panoramic effect was ludicrous in the extreme, as we were, on our side, as well entertained in surveying their sal-low oval fronts, as they peered with half-closed eyes, the characteristic of Chinese beauty, in astonished gaze upon our motley group.

At half-past six in the evening, we were conducted to a large unoccupied house, which had been, as we supposed, at one time a printing-office; for here lay a vast quantity of wooden-types, (if those clumsy things may merit such an appellation in comparison with ours,) piled up in heaps in the different apartments; there were, besides, numbers of paper-lanterns hung all around the interior of the building.

In the evening, the governor sent a quantity of rice *congey*,* to the valuable amount of one Spanish dollar; and this we were given to understand, was to be divided without distinction, except such as we might ourselves determine on, between the whole of our party; but as distributive justice seems to form the basis of their national polity, this want of personal respect appeared by no means a matter for censure; nor could we hope to receive, at the hands of every person in office, such kindness and actual condescension as we had experienced at Suck-sung.

The city of Su-hung is very populous, and from the number of boats and vessels we saw on the river, must be a place of considerable trade. The walls, as far as we observed, were in good repair, about 30 feet thick, and 35 high, built of brick and stone, but calculated, it would seem, for matchlocks and bows only, there being nothing but loop-holes in the parapet. There were also, as usual, one or two useless old guns in each gateway.

At a distance of about three miles from this capital stand eight very lofty pagodas, erected in the most elevated situation, and about a quarter of a mile from each other: these can be seen a great way off in approaching from the westward. They are in general dedicated to the tutelar gods and goddesses of the

* Water in which rice has been boiled: it is usually presented (to travellers) all over the east, as a mark of polite consideration of their fatigue.

place; but sometimes similar buildings are intended to perpetuate the memory of illustrious characters, particularly such as have distinguished themselves by excellent moral conduct uniformly throughout life, and are usually built near the place of their nativity.*

These edifices are always met with near large towns and cities, and we could easily predetermine the proportionate size of each, by the number of pagodas in its vicinity. The houses of Su-hung are, as usual, built of brick, and mostly two stories high. The bazaars appeared abundantly supplied with all kinds of provisions, such as meat, fish, fruit, and vegetables.

13th.—The first part of these 24 hours moderate breezes from the northward, with cold, cloudy weather; the middle and latter, a strong gale from the eastward, with heavy rain. At one o'clock P. M. having received each 30 sapekas, we left Su-hung, and embarking in three boats, steered east about 45 miles.

The river appeared pretty deep and broad for this distance, and the country each side was much diversified, being partly high uncultivated mountains, and partly fine level plains, producing wheat and barley in abundance. We passed several large towns and villages, also several boats laden with various sorts of goods, and apparently bound to the eastward.

14th.—Fresh breezes from the north-east, and clear but cold weather. At a little after day-light we left the boats, and about eight the same morning arrived at the city of Sam-sui, where we remained for the night in very indifferent quarters. Here we waited on the governor, and in the hall of audience, as it is called, observed a plan of the city painted upon the walls in tolerable neatness of execution.

This city appears to be of great antiquity, and probably has been at some remote period very different from what it is at present, one half of it at least, as we judged, being now in ruins, and the houses that remain appear in a very decayed state. The walls, however, are in pretty good repair, about 20 feet by 14 in dimension, with numerous embrasures and loop-holes for

* What an impressive inducement to moral conduct does this present; operating locally, yet extending, it would appear, throughout this immense population, where within each district and minor circle of society these monuments of worth are continually before the eye; whether the wisdom which devised this incentive to social virtue be common to China and its present dependancies, such as Hainan, or may have been adopted no matter from what other source, it is evidence of a spirit and advancement in civilization much to be admired in nations so remote from what Europeans are taught to consider the refinement and perfection of human polity.

small arms and bows. It has five gates, which is one more than common, but the cause of this particularity was beyond the reach of our inquiry.

Here we saw a large magazine for grain: it was a quadrangular building about 350 feet each way; lined on the outside with plank, and on the whole appeared well adapted for the intended purpose. Such depôts for corn, they tell us, are very common every where, yet except in this instance they have hitherto escaped our notice.

In the course of this day we met several mandarines travelling *bien a leur aise*, in handsome palanquins, made mostly of bamboo, but very light, and extremely convenient, being of various forms and sizes, and calculated for either hot or cold weather. As these gentlemen passed by us we could scarcely refrain from envying them their relative happiness as we contrasted our toilsome march with their buoyant and luxurious posture; and yet as we jogged on with weary steps and slowly, we forbore to indulge that meanest of the passions, particularly as we considered that our painful journey was losing its annoyance as it became shortened by every pace, whilst the hope of soon meeting with friends and countrymen invigorated our exertions.

15th.—Moderate breezes, and cold cloudy weather. At daylight this morning I observed one of the poor Cochin-chinese dead in his prison-cage, though still chained as before, his body quite contracted and bent almost double. Happy unfortunate! thought I; he is relieved, poor wretch, from all his sufferings, which must have been severe, both from his apprehension of an ignominious death,* and his confined situation, ever since our departure from Hush-e-on; for I do not believe that either he or any of the others have been once allowed to quit their bamboo prisons from that period upon any occasion whatever. At one o'clock, P. M., having received each 30 sapekas, we embarked in boats, and continued steering to the eastward; the river being pretty broad, and the country, on each side, level and extremely well cultivated, producing wheat, rice, and barley. In the course of this day we passed many large rafts of pine-spars, likewise numbers of boats of various forms and sizes, some steering eastward, and others going in a contrary direction.

At half-past five in the afternoon we passed Sinam, a town of very great extent, situate on the bank of the river: this place is exceedingly populous, containing, they say, 150,000 inhabi-

* The most ignominious mode by which the punishment of death is inflicted in China, is decapitation; by this operation the head of the criminal is severed from the body by a single blow, with a heavy scimeter,

tants; and, from the number of vessels we saw here loading, it must be a place of great trade and consequence.

The population of China, it would appear, must be known better than that of any other nation, for once a-year every person who is owner of a house is obliged to make out a correct list of his whole household, including wives, children, and servants, male and female; to this list he must write his signature, and affix the instrument, thus attested, to the outside of his door. All these papers are carefully collected, by proper officers appointed by government, and sent round for that purpose to every village, town, and city in the empire.

These documents are afterwards registered at Pekin, in order to ascertain a poll-tax, which is annually paid to the emperor. Most of the houses in Sinam are two stories high, with small balconies painted green, which give them a neat and cheerful appearance.

16th.—Fresh breezes from the north-east, and cold, cloudy weather throughout. We continued steering this day from E. to N. N. W. The country each side was low, level, and in a high state of cultivation, studded, as far as the eye could reach, with towns, villages, and hamlets. The river was of moderate breadth and depth; but the boats and rafts of pine-spars became more numerous every mile we advanced: some of the latter were several hundred yards in length, and frequently extended nearly quite across the river. Many of these spars were large enough for the lower masts of a ship of one thousand tons burden.

At eight this morning we entered the city of Taçon, which is a place of astonishing magnitude and population, and is said to contain one million and half of inhabitants, and this number, however great, does not, in my opinion, appear to be exaggerated. It took us exactly eight hours and thirty minutes to pass through it from W. to E.

The houses of this city are, as usual, built of brick, and are all uniformly two stories high, having neat little balconies, which being mostly filled with flower-pots and evergreens, formed a pleasing *coup d'œil*: many of the houses were furnished with glass windows, and in many other respects bore a strong resemblance to European dwellings.

The streets resounded with the clatter and noise of numerous artificers and mechanics; indeed, the general bustle and activity that prevails in Taçon, clearly denote its being a city of very great trade and commercial importance. I have much reason to regret that want of time prevented us from examining the numerous circumstances worthy of note, but even from the in-

sufficient opportunity we had of making observations, *en passant*, its imports and exports must be very considerable.

Here the river, for many miles, was covered with boats of various descriptions, only a passage in the middle being left open, just sufficient for two boats to go abreast. These boats, or rather floating-houses, were moored in regular tiers; the platforms that project from the head and stern, being firmly lashed together, formed a sort of convenient street, where there might be seen barbers, shoemakers, and various other artizans, each exercising his proper profession or trade.

Some of these boats were of a great length and very capacious, having two or three decks or floors, containing numerous apartments or cabins, painted green, and having glass panes and shades like the venetian, richly gilt, and ornamented on the outside, being, altogether, very elegant and commodious: some of them contained several families, who are constant inhabitants of that sort of dwelling, many of whom, probably, have scarcely ever set foot ashore.

Others of those boats are employed for passage, which seems to be here a favourite mode of travelling; but by far the greater number are occupied by the votaries of Venus, who entertain their visitors with music, singing, and dancing, together with board and lodging for any length of time, at a fixed rate per diem. They frequently move up and down the river for amusement or variety, as well as for the purpose of forming fresh acquaintance, and thus they entertain a numerous party at once, who meet, in this manner, with the greatest ease imaginable; seeming to feel but little of that shame which might be expected to attend such a state of things: but such licentious profligacy generally leads to poverty and ruin, and is considered highly disgraceful in the eyes of the Chinese, who look upon an unmarried person in the most disreputable light.

At half-past four we passed the easternmost skirts or suburbs of Taçon, and at five in the evening had the pleasure to descry the British flag waving proudly over the English factory at Canton. The pleasing sight diffused a general joy and satisfaction; we now consoled ourselves with the hopes of some peace and rest, of which we stood very much in need, for latterly most of us had endured the greatest pain and inconvenience from our limbs becoming both stiff and sore.

At a little before six we landed abreast of the French hong, and waited on Mr. Drummond, the chief supercargo, to report our arrival and the loss of our vessel, and such circumstances of our unfortunate expedition as it was necessary he should be informed of. As we walked towards the English factory, our

motley appearance, and Anglo-Chinese dress, attracted the eyes of every person we met, who, from our grotesque garb, could not refrain from, at least, smiling.

Mr. D. received us in a friendly manner, offering us what money we required to buy ourselves clothes and other necessaries: he ordered the Lascars to be taken care of, and likewise provided for the captain and officers of the ship. As for myself, I preferred living with my friend Mr. Berry, who had the goodness to offer me a room in his house, where every comfort of life was most generously provided.

Since our departure from Manchow, it may be mentioned, by way of recapitulation, *that we passed through two hundred and fifty-six towns and villages, and twenty walled cities.*

Canton, 17th February.

*Observations on the State and Improvement of Education
and Religion in China and India.*

THE necessity of instructing the children of natives in British India has long been felt and acknowledged, from a sense of its important consequences to the interests of Great Britain, in that vast portion of her dominion. The passions of the people there are too firmly riveted by custom, as well as their Pagan superstition, to be eradicated or softened, except by causes totally different from the influence at present exercised over their minds. In order to remove those obstructions to moral civilization, nothing can possibly be more efficacious than education judiciously diffused among the Hindoo population.

Tedious indeed, if not futile, will be every effort to remove their prejudices concerning religion, unless their minds are previously enlightened, by being taught, through the medium of their own language, an acquaintance with the benefits of moral action, and its efficacy with regard to the happiness or misery of mankind. It is first through the operation of self-consideration that the mind of a Hindoo can be swayed; let him, therefore, understand that it is his first interest to obey the great moral law of reciprocal justice, and that in foregoing, accordingly, every opportunity of overreaching his neighbour, he will act most uprightly, and, in the end, more profitably; he will easily fall into the Christian system of well-doing, and, in time, feel inclined to hear and be convinced of the more sublime truths of Revelation. The colleges now erecting in Bengal, and other parts of British India, will meet the second purpose here pointed to, but a more extensive system of education is certainly wanting to produce the effects alluded to in the former. The evidence of that sagacious and minute delineator of the Hindoo character—the Rev. Mr. Ward,—may be allowed in support of the above opinion. The features of the Hindoos are more regular than those of the Burmans, the Chinese, or the Malays; and did they possess all the advantages of European science, they would no doubt rank amongst the most polished nations. Their children are exceedingly precocious, perhaps far more so than European lads of the same age. Their ancient sages, we know, were capable of the deepest researches into the most difficult and abstruse subjects.

The following remarks may not be deemed irrelevant to this subject; they are the words of a writer of taste and sound discrimination. “It were to be wished, (says Major Thorn, *Memoirs of War in India*, from 1803 to 1806,) that since this valuable province (Jagarnaut) has been annexed to our dominions, some measure could be adopted for the correction of these enormities, by converting the tribute exacted from the pilgrims into a *fund*

for the education of the children of the Hindoos, instead of making the same an article of public revenue.

“The plea of prescription and state-policy may, it is true, be urged in many cases to justify the continuance of usages, against which there are insuperable objections; but, in the present instance, the question is whether any lucrative advantages can be taken conscientiously of that which is in every respect detestable, as directly tending to keep the minds of millions in a state of the most deplorable darkness, and to impede the progress of that enlightened morality which is indispensably necessary for the improvement of the numerous tribes who have been fortunate enough to come under our government. So long as the Hindoos remain in this state of mental slavery, it would be preposterous to expect that they would become that elevated order of beings which is desirable for the general good; and yet it deserves inquiry whether men, who are capable of enduring such privations and bodily sufferings in a spirit of gloomy fanaticism, might not, by proper methods of instruction, without any violation of their abstract rights, be exalted in the scale of cultivation.”

And again, in the concluding remarks, the interest which this important subject maintained in the mind of this excellent observer, will appear from his own words: “By pursuing this course the British government will secure a permanent foundation, and become the instrument of spreading the blessings of science and religion among myriads of human beings, who now are strangers to civilized life, regardless of the bonds of social duty, and slaves to superstitious usages that degrade the Lord of the universe into an inexorable tyrant.

“But disposed as the enlightened philanthropist is to co-operate in all judicious measures for the diffusion of knowledge and the alleviation of human suffering, he is aware of the necessity of guiding his liberality with discretion, lest, by imprudent management, he should aggravate the miseries which he is forward to remove, and induce ills of greater magnitude than those which he has been prompted to correct.—In no part of the world is the virtue of prudence more necessary for the direction of government than in India, where the people are naturally tender upon all points connected with their customs and religion.”

It is, therefore, safe to conclude, that to commence civilization among the Hindoos, by attempts to turn them aside from their ancient prejudices, as a step preliminary to success, is evidently beginning at the wrong end, and that the mode of proceeding alluded to is probably the better way of proceeding.

The case, however, is widely different with regard to the conversion of the Chinese to christianity. They are a people generally educated, possessed of much moral information, which is diffused from the seat of government,

by occasional edicts in the name of the emperor, who is looked up to as a being of superior order, but whose paternal regard, shed upon the lowest subject, excites universal love and attachment. When such a sentiment as the following, from the *King section* of the Ta-hio of Confucius, "From Heaven's Son (the emperor) to the commonalty of men alike are all, in renovating the person is the beginning," is admitted by the emperor himself, and forms the basis or part of the national code; it may be well imagined, that a people thus organized, and taught to renovate themselves by the principles of moral wisdom, ought to appear in the eyes of other nations in a very amiable light.

The above quotation is taken from Huttman's translation of that valuable record, which contains the following remarkable passage, immediately succeeding the former, of which it is an illustration: "For his beginning to be disordered and his end governed, is impossible. He that attaches importance to what is unimportant, and he that considers unimportant what is important, is not the great science's possessor."

A people so far advanced in civilization, may be justly considered as fully prepared to receive the communication of divine truths, but it is feared, that the difficulty presenting itself in the words of the journal, just following the interruption of this note,* will ever operate against the introduction of Christianity in that country, until revolution shall have disorganized their present system.

That much difficulty, moreover, exists from other causes, with regard to the plan of converting the Chinese to christianity, may be seen from the following extracts from "a Brief Statement of the Objects of the Anglo-Chinese college at Malacca," being part of the substance of a speech, delivered by the Rev. W. Milne, a missionary, resident at that place, on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of that seminary.

"The vast empire of China, in its natural and moral history, in its chronology and topography, in its laws and jurisprudence, in the peculiarity of its manners and customs, and in the antiquity and singularity of its language, presents, without exaggeration, the amplest field on the face of the globe, for the researches of the naturalist, the historian, the antiquary, and the philosopher.

"Language is the medium by which we become acquainted with many of the most important subjects of which we know any thing. The Chinese language, from the figure and number of its external symbols, from the nice and almost imperceptible shades of sound which mark its pronunciation, from the singularity of its idioms, and from the number of its dialects,

* Vide page 75.

is peculiarly difficult. Though it has been tried in different parts of Europe, it has never been acquired there, even in a tolerable degree. Native books, teachers, and the daily colloquial medium were wanting; nor is it likely that these facilities will be enjoyed there for a long time to come; and perhaps never, but at an expense which the few who possess the spirit of inquiry could sustain.

“ If we for a moment survey the deplorable ignorance, the degrading idolatry, and the multifarious delusions of the people of China, and the islands of this Archipelago; if we reflect that nine-tenths of them have forsaken the true God, and are worshipping gods of wood, stone, and clay; and that the other tenth is involved in the faith of deceits which run deeper than perhaps any that blind the Pagan world,—we must be touched with a sense of their ignorance, guilt, and misery; and feel our obligation to do all in our power to impart to them the knowledge of a better system.

But the most learned and accomplished men, on their first arrival in these countries, labour under great disadvantages, if they have every thing to begin for themselves. They know not how to commence advantageously: this is especially the case with those that study Chinese, inasmuch as, with the exception of habits of application, and the knowledge of universal grammar, they can derive but little benefit from their previous attainments in the languages of the rest. For the Chinese language is formed on principles totally different from those of alphabetic languages; hence every thing is entirely new to the learners; and without some assistance from those who have gone before, their progress must be comparatively slow.

“ But an adequate supply, and constant succession of Christian teachers from Europe or America, is hardly to be expected. The expense is too heavy, the sacrifices too great, and the chances of war might cut off the supply altogether. Nor, indeed, are highly qualified strangers so well adapted for evangelizing the heathen, as less qualified natives are. Hence the necessity of preparing means for the education of Christian natives for the Christian ministry. We cannot doubt but that the principal part of the work of converting the nations to Christ, will be effected by persons born and taught among the people. We are also fully aware of their unfitness for that work, without a course of previous instruction in theology, and the elements of human knowledge. The present institution has, therefore, a special eye to such men. Though small in its beginning, it is hoped, that in the course of time it may increase, be furnished with students of this description, and with the means of imparting to them a competent knowledge of philosophy, sacred literature, theology, and other important and necessary branches.”

To the above extracts, in which the Rev. speaker declaims upon the

“ignorance” of the Chinese, may be subjoined the following remarks by the same gentleman:—

“In China, the school of Confucius, about 500 years before our æra, may be considered the first. The Dynasty Leang, A. D. 500, established five different schools of religion and philosophy: and public literary examinations were instituted about the close of the sixteenth century. Limited indeed has been their range of subjects, and slow their progress in science. Their whole attention has been devoted to classical literature, and to local political economy; yet natural science always receives encomiums from them, and a scholar is ashamed not to know the name and properties of any material substance presented to him.”

It would, it is conceived, be an omission were these notes even closed without a remark or two on the trade which China maintains with other nations. The advancement of this people, whatever may have been their origin, in every useful art of life, places them high in the estimation of every one who studies human character: their figure, complexion, manners, peculiar to themselves, at once mark them as a race distinct from the rest of mankind, and these peculiarities are perpetuated by an ever-watchful attention to ceremony, which is brought not only to a system, but forms a part of the basis of national law: indeed, it is doubtful if this adherence to ceremony be not the term, (*chin*, the salaam of Hindoostan)* by which their country is designated. The bountiful produce of their soil, adapted to every human want, forbids the necessity of seeking aid from other regions, and that circumstance may be ranked among the causes which operate in establishing that seclusive disposition which they are so anxious to maintain. To such a degree is this manifested, that no stranger is suffered voluntarily to reside amongst them, or, if permitted, he is ever watched with the most jealous circumspection.

The case of the gentleman, whose valuable observations are comprised in the preceding journal, is not a solitary one: others of the same kind could be enumerated, when persons who landed on the coast under similar misfortune, have been treated precisely in the same manner, the whole expence of travelling to Canton being, invariably, defrayed by the government. On the same principle they will not allow of intercourse with foreign nations, even their immediate neighbours, as far as has been as yet ascertained, except in the ports of Macao or Canton, and here their commerce is carried on with Europeans ostensibly, as if it were a favour conferred, and not as if the mutual benefits of trade were exchanged.

* It is usual at Canton, with a Chinese who can speak English, to say, “I chin-chin you,” expressively of the most friendly greeting.

In latter years, however, many articles of luxury having been introduced, notwithstanding the severe edicts against the practice, such, for instance, as that regarding the introduction of opium, (*See p. 95.*) considerable changes have taken place, and a more confidential and open intercourse is in the course of being established. It is greatly to be wished, and doubtless the idea must impress itself on every lover of human happiness in the abstract, that a general and liberal spirit should prevail, by which that singular, wise, and excellent people, might be led to know that Europeans seek their acquaintance not merely for the narrow purpose of lucre, but also to impart that philosophic light, which is now so brilliant over the western hemisphere. In all the humbler arts of life, tending to promote social and domestic happiness, the Chinese are eminently advanced; in science, too, their attainments are respectable,—wonderful, indeed, when their remoteness from the range of European refinement is considered; nor does any thing in their extraordinary progress to civilization command attention more than their invincible obstinacy in refusing every thing foreign, as well as their imposing their own customs, language, laws, and regulations, on the other nations, who have been brought within their empire.

It would be out of the scope of this publication, however interesting might be the inquiry, to examine the causes that have led to this singularity of national prejudice: Let it suffice to say, that this immense population is, as it were, one vast family, amongst which nothing can possibly produce discord internally, and if ever such an event take place, it may be attributed, without question, to the operation of causes from without. So tenderly alive to this sentiment is the government, that rigorous measures are constantly in action to guard against the introduction of any thing foreign, under the conviction that all their proper and needful wants have their natural supply within their country; and such is their amazing ingenuity, that, availing themselves of the resources which nature has placed within their reach, scarcely can an article of European manufacture be shewn them, but they will, in a time inconceivably short, produce one in every respect similar. The articles of commerce, which it is superfluous here to enumerate, are multiplying even under the restrictions which now exist; but these are, in a great measure, lost to England, on account of the exclusive patent of the India Company. Whilst that unwise monopoly continues, to the manifest depression of commercial enterprise, and, consequently, of national aggrandisement, other countries are taking advantage of the occasion, and what the company will not allow their compatriots to benefit by, is thrown chiefly into the hands of the Americans, who are now the carriers in the China Trade to almost every country of Europe except Great Britain. It must be obvious, that the maintenance of this absurd and dangerous system

can have but one tendency,—the advancement of a people, who are little inclined to support or promote the interests of England. If good arise, as it does undoubtedly, from an intercourse with China, why, it may be asked, should the carrying-ships of America be allowed to supersede those of England? Can the interests of the company be injured by opening their charter wide enough to permit the passage of British carriers, at least, to the same extent as those of other nations? Let the unchartered ships of England be excluded from British ports, in order to maintain the parliamentary pledge to the company; but let enterprize be, in this respect, free, and the renovating consequences to trade will soon be evident.

The Chinese government, notwithstanding its declared system of seclusion, has frequently evinced a disposition to extend its boundaries; witness the conquest of Hainan, the Liew Cheow Islands, and, more remarkably, the late war carried on aggressively upon the Nepaulese, against whom they sent an immense army, which continued its operations for many years, and at last failed in its object. Frequent attempts have been made by the same people upon the Cochin-Chinese, and other neighbouring nations, but several French officers, it appears, having entered the service of the King of Cochin-China, contributing materially to the efficacy of their awkward warfare, have, hitherto, checked Chinese ambition. In these petty struggles, the interests of Great Britain have been much retarded; were it not for the spirit of mercantile enterprize, which, in spite of French intrigue, continues to hold an intercourse with those valuable regions, little else than geographical notice could be had of their existence. A little incident, however, arising from commercial speculation, misguided; and destitute of political wisdom, has nearly destroyed that confidence which must ever be a bane to maintain a friendly understanding. The matter is related thus, by a gentleman who, for the last 18 years, has been a constant trader to all these parts. “The King of Cochin-China, being at war with the Chinese, requested the English to furnish him with fire-arms, and this engagement was undertaken by some merchants resident in British India, but the supply, consisting of the refuse of military stores, when brought into action were found useless, and serious losses were incurred; in consequence of which, the arms were never paid for, although a frigate was sent to demand it, and the intercourse has been subjected to great restrictions. With care, a settlement might be obtained there.

Ships, and foreign vessels, are obliged to pay port charges, estimated according to their tonnage, to ascertain which; as soon as the anchor is let down an officer, generally of the rank of mandarine, is sent on-board with assistants, and the latter make a rapid measurement, which varies considerably, in regard to the hurry of the occasion, or a convenient compliment to

the cupidity of the person who performs that duty. But, besides the regular charges paid as above, there is one, considered as a present to the emperor, which is invariably added to them, and this must be submitted to without regard to the size of the vessel, so that the American ships, which are generally the smallest in the China trade; have to pay a greater duty, in proportion, than those of Great Britain. The *Windham*, a ship of 900 tons, commanded by Capt. James Nicoll, in 1815, in which year (allowing for difference of time by longitude) she was unfortunately lost upon the Brunswick Rock, was charged port duties, and present to the emperor, 5243 Spanish dollars, which, according to a current value not unfrequently known, especially if procured from a Chinese for bills on London, amounts to somewhat more than £1572 sterling. The present to the emperor is fixed at 2708½ Spanish dollars; an enormous advantage derived to that government from an extensive foreign trade.

c. D. —

Windham, tales $3775,415 \div 72 = 100 = 5243,60$ dollars Spanish, at 6s.

Ship Windham, Captain James Nicoll. February 1815, Canton.

ft.

Length 82,8 }
Breadth 29,6 } + = 2450,88 + 7448 = 1825,415424.

Measurement	1825,415
Present to Emperor	1950,
	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
Tales	3775,415

which, to make into dollars, as 72 candarins are equal to 100 Spanish dollars, divide the above in that proportion, multiplying by 100 (which removes the decimal point two figures more to the right) and making 72 the divisor, when you have 5243,60 Spanish dollars, which, at six shillings, are equal to £1572 4s. 8d. sterling.

(This is taken from Capt. N.'s own memorandum-book, by permission.)

Extracts from the Chinese Criminal Code of Laws.

1. A man who kills another on the suspicion of theft, shall be strangled, according to the law against homicide committed in an affray.
2. A man who fires at another with a musket, and kills him thereby, shall be beheaded, as in cases of wilful murder: if the sufferer is wounded (but not mortally) the offender shall be sent into exile.

3. A man who puts to death a criminal, who had been apprehended and made no resistance, shall be strangled, according to the law against homicide committed in an affray.

4. A man who falsely accuses an innocent person of theft (in cases of greatest criminality) is guilty of a capital offence; in all other cases, the offenders, whether principals or accessories, shall be sent into exile.

5. A man who wounds another unintentionally, shall be tried according to the law respecting blows given in an affray, and the punishment rendered more or less severe, according to the degree of injury sustained.

6. A man who, intoxicated with liquor, commits outrages against the laws, shall be exiled to a desert country, there to remain in a state of servitude.

The foregoing are articles of the laws of the empire of China, according to which judgment is passed on persons offending against them, without allowing of any compromise or extenuation.

This is copied from a printed paper, which the editor of these pages was favoured with by a gentleman long engaged in commerce with China, and whose familiarity with the state of Canton, aided by extreme sagacity of remark, has afforded many valuable instances of the genuine character of that people. No nation can boast a more active or effective police than China, as may be seen from the following circumstance: The master of an American merchant-ship, having gone ashore, the chief officer remained on-deck, keeping a sharp look-out for the thieves, who are there surpassingly expert. Some of these, forming a gang, contrived to get on-board, and the leader, coming unawares, killed the mate, and carried off a large sum in dollars, besides other valuable property, without exciting the least alarm in the ship. The murder was shortly after discovered, and the police, in a time incredibly brief, traced the principal, and brought him to justice, when he was instantly proved guilty, and condemned to the punishment of death. The American captain was invited to witness the execution, when that peculiar law of the country, which demands only one life for that taken, was proved, — the principal of the robbers alone being beheaded, although, according to British law, his accomplices had been equally guilty.

*Official Paper from the Canton Government respecting Opium,
dated April 5, 1820. (See p. 92.)*

YUEN, the viceroy, and Ah, the Hoppo of Canton, hereby issue a proclamation to the Hong merchants, with the contents of which let them make themselves fully acquainted.

Opium is an article, which has long been most strictly prohibited by his imperial majesty's command, and frequent proclamations have been issued against it, which are on record. But the passages on the coast of Canton being very numerous; Macao being the resort of foreigners; and Whampoa being the anchorage for foreign ships, should be more strictly watched and searched.

It is found on record, that during the twentieth year of Keaking, the then viceroy, Tseang, reported to court, and punished the abandoned Macao merchants, Choo-mei-kwa and others, for buying and selling Opium. The emperor's will was then reverently received to this effect:

“When the Portuguese ships arrive at Macao, it is incumbent to search and examine each ship. And let the viceroy widely publish a proclamation, stating, that Opium, being an article produced abroad, and from thence flowing into China: and as every region has its usages and climate proper for itself, and differing from others, the celestial empire does not forbid you people to make and eat Opium, and diffuse the custom in your native place.

“But that Opium should flow into the interior of this country, where vagabonds clandestinely become sunk into the most stupid and besotted state, so as to cut down the powers of nature, and destroy life, is an injury to the manners and minds of men of the greatest magnitude; and therefore Opium is most rigorously prohibited by law.

“Often have imperial edicts been received commanding a search to be made; and it is absolutely impossible to suffer you people to bring it in a smuggling manner, and disperse it by sale.

“Hereafter, when your ships arrive at Macao, they must all and each be searched and examined. If one ship brings Opium, whatever other cargo the said vessel may contain, will all be rejected; and all commercial transactions with her be disallowed. If every vessel brings Opium, then the whole cargo of every vessel will be rejected; and none of the ships be permitted to trade; and the ships, in the state they come, will be driven out, and sent back to their own country.

“As to you people, who live in Macao, since you occupy the territory of the celestial empire, you therefore ought to obey the laws and regulations of the celestial empire.

“If you presume, without public authority, to act and frame rules for yourselves and cherish schemes of approaching near to grasp illicit gains, the laws are prepared to punish; and just as in the case of those who in China clandestinely promulge the (Teenchoo-keau,) religion of Heaven's Lord,* they will assuredly severely punish your crimes, and will not shew any indulgence.

“In this manner (says the emperor,) let an explicit and pointed proclamation be published to the said foreigners, and no doubt they will, every one of them, be afraid and yield implicit obedience, and not dare to oppose the prohibition, and

* The Roman Catholic Religion.

to sell Opium. And hereafter let a true and faithful search be made, as before, and so the source from which the evil springs will be cut off. Respect this."

Former proclamations were published, and stand on record; and since that time, four or five years have elapsed; and it is feared, that remissness may have crept in by length of time.

It is probable, though not certain, that when the Portuguese ships anchor in Macao harbour, there may be avaricious vagabonds who smuggle Opium into the port, and therefore the Macao Weiyuen has been ordered to search very strictly and faithfully.

With respect to Whampoa, it is the anchorage of all the foreign ships, and although I, the viceroy, appoint to each ship an attending officer; and I the hoppo also appoint tide-waiters, who watch the ship on each side, and make due search, which seems as strict a guard as can be kept; still the seamen are not all good men; it is impossible to be surety, that they never connect themselves with native vagabonds, and seize opportunities of smuggling.

Therefore strict orders are given to all the local military stations; to the deputed officer from the custom-house; and to the armed police at Whampoa, to be very strict in searching; and further, confidential soldiers are sent in all directions to search and seize.

Besides these precautions, the Hong merchants are required to promulge to all foreign factory chiefs resident at Macao or Canton our commands to them, to yield implicit obedience to former imperial edicts, which disallow the clandestine introduction of Opium, and which require the sources from which it comes to be cut off.

If they dare to disobey this order, as soon as a discovery is made, the ship concerned will be expelled, and not permitted to trade; and the security merchant will be seized and punished for the crime; if he dares to connive, he will most assuredly be broken, and prosecuted to the utmost, and without mercy.

A Sketch of the National and Religious Character of China.

[From MILNE'S RETROSPECT, printed at Malacca, 1820.]

CHINA is one of the most ancient of nations; and, in regard of territory, riches, and population, the greatest of them all. It was originally a very small state, headed by a chieftain, who exercised feudal powers, similar to those exercised by the heads of feudal states in ancient Europe. It was also characterised by that rude ignorance, which attends a state of very partial civilization. In the times of *Yaou* and *Shun*, (B. C. 2200) China was just emerging from barbarism. A little before their days, the people lived in the savage state. They resided in woods, and in caves, and in holes dug in the ground. They covered themselves with the skins of beasts; they also

formed garments of the leaves of trees, of grass, of reeds, and of feathers. They ate the flesh of animals, with the blood, and the skin, and the hair; all unboiled, unroasted, and undressed.

Their dead often lay unburied; sometimes they were thrown into ditches and marshes; at other times cast, without shroud, coffin, or ceremony, into a hole dug with the end of a stick in the earth, where wolves, insects, &c. devoured them. They were in a state equally barbarous with that in which the Britons lived during the reign of Druidism, before the conquest by Julius Cæsar. As far down as 918 years B. C. there are instances on record, in which beloved ministers, concubines, and slaves, were killed at the death of their prince, to bear him company, and serve him in the other world. They were barbarians in literature, as well as in manners; they could neither read, nor write, nor cypher.

From the days of *Yaou*, the territory of China extended; its population increased; its character improved; and the want of knowledge and invention was felt.

Increasing numbers taught them the necessity of labour; labour, of instruments; and instruments, of skill: these produced some improvements in the more useful arts, the progress of which was for a time secured by necessity, the principle which gave them birth.

In letters, nature itself became their teacher; the first ideas of writing were suggested to them by the impression of the feet of birds on the sand, and the marks on the bodies of shell-fish. Their written character continued for a long period purely hieroglyphic; but, after passing through various changes, suggested partly by convenience, and partly by genius, it gradually lost its original form, and approximated to one better adapted for the purposes of government and literature.

In the earlier ages of China, before her inhabitants were collected into towns, cities, and large associations, along with rusticity of ideas, manners, and virtues, they preserved the ruder vices of savage life; but were not contaminated with the intrigue, the falsehood, the hypocrisy, and the covetousness, which too often attend a more advanced stage of society. Hence, Chinese sages of subsequent times, impressed with the evils which passed under their immediate review, but forgetting those that existed of old, pass the highest encomiums on the ages of antiquity. Even things which were the consequences of ignorance and barbarity, they sometimes mistake for virtues of high character. They seemed to have erroneously imagined, that the vices of their own times, were rather the necessary consequences of progressive civilization, than the native emanations of human depravity, changing their channels according to times, and circumstances: similar misconceptions we find existing in every country.

In the commencement of the Dynasty *Chow*, upwards of a thousand years before Christ, the Chinese states, or clans, amounted to 1800, each of which had its chieftain, who possessed absolute and hereditary power; but they all united in acknowledging the supremacy of the Emperors, whom they honoured as the centre of their union, and the chief of mortals. Under such circumstances, it was impossible that the dull and tiresome monotony of sentiment, customs, and manners, which despotism has since compelled to reign in China, could have prevailed.

The philosophy of *Confucius*, (who lived about 500 years anterior to our era,) though it can hardly be said to have brought his countrymen nearer to God, yet taught them more clearly the theory of human government; and hastened the period when the number of states, already greatly reduced, should be entirely abolished; for, we find, that about 300 years after him, the number was reduced to seven. *Che-hwang-te*, the first emperor of the Dynasty *T'sin*, totally subverted these, amalgamated the whole into one, and erected that gigantic despotism, the great lines of which continue to this hour. The huge machine has been often battered both from without and from within; but its essential parts still hang together.

The wisdom of the ancient sages and rulers of China, formed a code of laws, which, with many defects, possessed also great excellencies. Through the numerous ages in which these laws have existed, they have been executed with various degrees of humanity; sometimes without the oppressive exertion of arbitrary power.

For ages, the arts and sciences, in China, have been stationary: and, from the accounts of the last English embassy, (1816) seem now rather in a retrograde state. The obstinate refusal of the Chinese to improve, is to be viewed rather as arising from the effect of principle, (perhaps I should say prejudice,) and the restraints of arbitrary power, than from the want of genius. For they consider the ancient sages, kings, emperors, and governments, as the prototypes of excellence; and deem a near approximation to the times in which they lived, the highest display of national wisdom and virtue. They are still blindly devoted to antiquity; and possess not that greatness of character, which sees its own defects, and sighs for improvement.

Manchow Tartars now govern China. The milder sons of *Han* could not withstand the arms of the conquering Tartar. The warlike Scythian, who ate the flesh of horses, and drank the milk of cows, was fit for every enterprise. Universal empire alone could sate his restless ambition; and scarce any obstacle could resist his savage prowess. After the reverses attendant on war, continued with various interruptions for several ages, he at length seated himself securely on the throne of China; where he now holds the most prominent place among earthly princes, and assumes to be the head

of them all, "The Son of Heaven"—"The Emperor of all under the starry sky," &c.

It is now 175 years since the *Ta-T'shing* Dynasty (the present one) obtained the government of the whole Chinese dominions. These Tartars united China to their own territory, and thus formed one of the most extensive empires that ever existed. They adopted many of the customs of their newly-acquired subjects; but did not give up those which formed their own national peculiarities. They continued to preserve the great lines of the code of laws, which they found existing in China; while at the same time they imposed others, which were viewed by the conquered as highly disgraceful and oppressive, and the non-compliance with which cost some of them their lives.* The executive government is chiefly filled with Tartars: they affect to view the Chinese with great contempt. They often contemptuously say, "China-men furnish the breasts which we suck." To contend is of no avail: the Chinese must submit, and (as they sometimes express themselves,) "*quietly eat down the insult.*"

Since the union of China to Manchow Tartary, there have been *two national characters* in the empire, of a very opposite kind, affecting each other by a mutual re-action. The ruder qualities of the Tartar have been softened by the more mild and polished ones of the Chinese: the cowardly imbecility and the slow calculating prudence of the Chinese, have been improved by the warlike spirit and elastic activity of the Tartar. The intrigue and deceit of the Chinese, and the rude courage of the Tartar, unite in what may be considered the present national character of China: and, in as far as this union exists, it will render her more formidable to her enemies, than nations at a distance imagine. What cannot be effected by force, may be by fraud, and vice versa. What any one of these singly may not be able to accomplish, the union of both may.

Most of the forms of mythology which make any figure in the page of history, now exist in China; except that their indecent parts, and their direct tendency to injure human life, have been cut off. The idolatry of ancient Canaan, of Egypt, of Greece, of Rome, of Chaldea, and of India, are all to be found here, though with some slight variations. China has her Diana, her Æolus, her Ceres, her Esculapius, her Mars, her Mercury, her Neptune, and her Pluto, as well as the western Pagans had. She has gods celestial, terrestrial, and subterraneous—gods of the hills, of the vallies, of the woods, of the districts, of the family, of the shop, and of the kitchen! she adores the gods who are supposed to preside over the thunder, the rain, the fire; over the grain, over births and deaths, and over the small-pox:

* Vide Morrison's Philological View of China, p. 8.

she worships "the host of heaven, the sun, the moon, and the stars." She also worships the genii of the mountains, rivers, lakes, and seas; together with birds, beasts, and fishes. She addresses prayers, and offers sacrifices, to the spirits of departed kings, sages, heroes, and parents, whether good or bad. Her idols are silver and gold, wood and stone, and clay; carved, or molten, the work of men's hands. Her altars are on the high hills, in the groves, under the green trees; she has set up her idols at the corners of the streets, on the sides of the highways, on the banks of canals, in boats, and in ships. Astrology, divination, geomancy, and necromancy, every where prevail. Spells and charms, every one possesses. They are hung about the neck, or stitched up in one's clothes, or tied to the bed-posts, or written on the door; and few men think their persons, children, shops, boats, or goods, safe without them. The emperors of China, her statesmen, her merchants, her people, and her PHILOSOPHERS also, are all idolaters. For, though many of the learned affect to despise the popular superstitions, and to deride all worship, except that paid to the great and visible objects of nature, Heaven and the Earth; yet their own system is incapable of raising them above that which they affect to contemn; and at the hour of death, finding that some god is necessary, and not knowing the true God, they send for the priests of false gods, to pray for their restoration to health, and for the rest of their spirits after dissolution, and a happy return to the world again. It is remarkable, that the *Yu-kenou*, or sect of the learned, though in health they laugh at the fooleries of the more idolatrous sects; yet generally in sickness, in the prospect of death, and at funerals, employ the HO-CHANG and TAOU-SZE, to offer masses; recite the books; write charms; ring bells; chaunt prayers; and entreat the gods.

The chief systems of philosophy which make any figure in ancient history, are to be found in China; including the doctrine respecting the universe, system of the laws of nature, investigation of the properties of matter, the theory of morals, future retributions, &c. &c., are as follows: The Egyptian doctrine of a principle of matter and spirit, is supposed to have been the same with that which now exists in China, under the denomination of YIN and YANG. But how very inadequate the words "MATTER and SPIRIT," are to express the views which they attach to YIN and YANG, must be evident to every one, who has attentively read the common Chinese philosophical books. In as far as daily and annual occurrences and the productions of nature are supposed to be affected by the action of these two principles, no definition suits them so well as that of a physical HERMAPHRODITE, or a MASCULINE and FEMININE ENERGY IN NATURE. The celestial air is masculine; the terrestrial, feminine; and a conjunction of these, similar to that which takes place in the generation of animals, is supposed to be the

prolific cause of all annual productions and operations, in the celestial and terrestrial regions, and in the vegetable and animal kingdoms. This idea is farther confirmed from the constant recurrence of such terms as these—“Heaven is the FATHER of all things; earth is the MOTHER of all things.” Whether the sodomitical abominations which are known to exist in China, arose from this sexual system of theirs, as similar ones of old did in other countries, is difficult to know with certainty, though it is by no means improbable.

Their doctrine of the LE, a principle which is supposed to pervade all bodies, and without which nothing can be perfected, resembles the “*psallic nature*,” spoken of by some ancient western writers; with this difference, however, that they consider the LE rather as an agent without personality or intelligence, than as an instrument in the hand of the Supreme Being.

Like the Arabian, Egyptian, and Chaldean astrologists, the Chinese consider the visible heavens as a vast volume, in which the intelligent can read the fortunes of individuals, and the fates of nations; hence the prevalence of judicial astrology, which is also powerfully supported by their general ignorance of the true causes of all natural phenomena.

Their system of morals, as explained by the sect of the learned, contains much that is good. Many of the duties of relative life are set forth with as much clearness as could be expected from a people, who know not the true God. But to those who can compare it with the system of christian ethics, contained in the New Testament, it must in all particulars appear defective, and in many exceedingly erroneous; especially if the MOTIVES and ENDS of human actions, and the SPIRIT in which they should be performed, be taken into the account. Some important duties are also entirely left out; and others carried to such extravagant lengths, as render them not only irksome, but oppressive. “The CHUNG-YUNG,” or DUE MEDIUM, of which they boast they most certainly have not attained, nor was it ever attained by any nation on earth, without the aid of divine revelation. That which is really good in their moral system, being without any foundation in the acknowledged authority of a Supreme Lawgiver, and deriving no aid by motives drawn from the hope of a rational and endless happiness, and from the salutary fear of a future punishment, worthy of a holy and righteous Being to inflict, operates very feebly on the mind and conduct. The motives urged for the practice of virtue, and reformation of manners, are commonly drawn from considerations of INTEREST, either to the individual or his ancestors, to family or his sovereign, to his immediate circle of relatives, or his posterity;—either an immediate or remote interest; but almost uniformly of an EARTHLY NATURE.

With regard to future retributions, those of the sect of Confucius profess to know no life to come, but that which their children and posterity shall

enjoy on earth; hence their views rise no higher; in this their fears and hopes seem to terminate.

The elysium of the west, which the followers of *Fuh* look for, is such as the deluded imagination of an Asiatic would naturally paint. Fortified palaces—groves of trees producing gems—pools of fragrant water, yielding the lotus flower, as large as the wheel of a cart—showers of sweet odours, falling on a land, the dust of which is yellow gold—myriads of birds, of the most exquisite plumage, singing on trees of gold, with the most harmonious and ravishing notes, of a hundred thousand kinds, &c. &c.—such is their paradise—but in conformity with the comparative contempt in which the female character is held throughout the east, they exclude all women, as such, from a participation therein.

The sufferings of the TARTARUS, which their terrified imaginations have figured, are represented in pictures, as the punishments in purgatory and Tartarus were exhibited in the Eleusinian and other Heathen mysteries; with this difference, however, that these are exposed to public view,—those were seen by the initiated only. Lakes of blood, into which women who die in childbirth are plunged—red-hot iron-pillars, which the wicked are caused to embrace—devouring lions, tigers, snakes, &c.—mountains stuck all over with knives, on the points of which the condemned are cast down, and seen weltering in gore—cutting out the tongue—strangling—sawing asunder between flaming iron-posts—the condemned creeping into the skins of those animals, in the form of which they are destined to appear again on earth—boiling of the wicked in caldrons—the wheel, or apparatus, by means of which all the operations of the metempsychosis are performed—horned demons, with swords, spears, hatchets, and hooks—wretched mortals alternately shivering with indescribable cold, and burnt to coals with devouring fire,—these, with numberless other such things, are represented with gross and disgusting minuteness. Instead of producing any salutary fear in the mind, they fill the imagination with horrid figures, the real existence of which the better informed surely cannot believe, or which, if believed, must either totally weaken the springs of action, or render those deluded heathens inconceivably wretched even in this life.

Their national pride, and exclusive claim to pre-eminence, derives most powerful support from the vain idea, that their government is formed on the model of nature, and is a transcript of the noblest of its visible parts, viz. the heavens. The form of their cities—the regulation of the palace—the duties of prince and people—the evolutions of their armies—the order of their standards—the make of their chariots—the ascent and descent—the arrangements at their feast—and even the very shape and fashion of their garments, &c. &c. were all anciently, (and still are in a good degree) supposed to bear

a resemblance to something in the visible heavens,—to some star, or constellation,—to some motions, supposed or real—to some grand terrestrial object,—or to some recondite physical principle. They often judge of the intentions of Providence, with regard to the events of war, and the destiny of nations, from appearances in the heavens. Of old, they sent forth their armies—they overturned thrones—they punished oppressors—they seized on territory;—all in obedience, as they supposed, to the aspects of celestial phenomena. If to these erroneous conceptions we join their antiquity, their vast population, their immense riches, their defect in scientific improvements, their want of sound principles, and especially the depravity of the human heart, which they have in common with others, we can hardly wonder at the high and exclusive tone which they assume—or at their extravagant claims to superiority over the nations of the earth.

Female infanticide, which still prevails in China, if it did not originally spring from their doctrine of YIN and YANG, which sets every thing masculine in so exalted, and every thing feminine in so inferior a light, was doubtless greatly increased thereby.

Their general belief in the metempsychosis, and in the inevitable decisions of a numerical fate, prevents the cordial exercise of benevolence and beneficence. Their cold-hearted philosophy, indeed, teaches and applauds the practice of alms-deeds. Charity falls clear, as the dew-drop, from the lips and pens of their sages; but often freezes ere it reach the ground. Even the natural desire which all men, as human beings, feel to assist their fellow-creatures in distress, is greatly weakened in China—often entirely counteracted—by a fear of opposing the will of the gods, who send men back to endure poverty and misery in this world, as a punishment for the crimes of a former life; or by a belief that all efforts which tend to counteract the decrees of fate, are not only fruitless, but wrong; or by a criminal selfishness, hardness of heart, and indifference to other people's happiness, which sometimes allows them even to sit still at ease, and suffer another man, close by, to drown in the waves, or his property to consume in the flames, when a little effort on their part might save both.

Though vice, in all its diversified forms, exists in China, still, perhaps, its external features do not, at first sight, appear so gross as in some other countries. But we are not to conclude from hence, that the degree of it is less than in other parts of the heathen world. For the opinions and customs of all ranks of society, not only furnish sufficient excuse for the commission of many sins against the law of God, but have even raised them to a certain degree of respectability and honour, and hence it becomes very difficult to convince them of the moral turpitude of those evils, in which their parents and their best and wisest men, have, from age to age, indulged. Chinese

manners and customs, are thrown into so regular and digested a form, as that a stranger but superficially acquainted with the language, and real spirit of the Chinese people, seems to see much to praise and comparatively little to blame; while, at the same time, their nation groans under oppression and violence, their courts are filled with bribery and injustice, their markets with cozening and deceit, their houses with concubines; yea, even sodomites—catamites!—their monasteries, with ignorant, indolent, and filthy ascetics, “who,” to use the words of a Chinese writer, “are not worth the down of a feather to society”—her schools and colleges with high-minded, self-sufficient Literati, to whose proud and sophisticated minds the humbling doctrines of the Gospel will be no less obnoxious, than they were to the sarcastic pride of a Celsus!

Sketch of the Chinese Method of Printing.

[By Mr. MILNE.]

TO trace the history and progress of this art in China, would be interesting; but as it is foreign to my present purpose, I shall briefly observe, that in the year of our Lord 935, the subject of printing was introduced to the notice of the emperor Téen Foh. But this was probably an official statement on the subject of printing only; as it does not mark the origin of that invaluable art in China; for, twelve years before, in the seventh year of *T'heen-ching* (i. e. A. D. 923,) this emperor is reproached in the *Kang-keen*, (Kuen 6th, p. 20,) in the following terms: “In the second month [of the 7th year of T'heen-ching,] the *Kew-king*, (i. e. the classical books) were first cut in wooden plates, printed and sold.” The Commentators add: “why is the *selling* of them particularly marked? [Ans.] It is the language of irony, reproaching him as having done what was below the dignity of an emperor, who should rather have given them gratis, or given a licence to individuals to print and sell them for their own benefit. However, the advantage to the learned was considerable, as they were enabled *from that time* to obtain books with more ease. Hence the historian purposely notes this as the *commencement* [of this sort of literary advantages.]” From this we may reasonably infer, that printing existed in China, at least, in the close of the *ninth* century; for it must have taken some years to prove its efficiency, before it either attracted the notice of government, or would have been worth any thing as an Imperial monopoly.

The Chinese have three methods of printing. The first invented, and that which almost universally prevails, is called “*Moh-pan*, or wooden-

plates." It is a species of stereotype, and answers all the ends thereof, as the letters do not require to be distributed and re-composed; but, being once clearly cut, they remain, till either the block be destroyed, or till the characters be so worn down by the ink-brush, as to be illegible.

The second is called *Lah-pan*, i. e. "*wax-plates*," and consists in spreading a coat of wax on a wooden frame, after which, with a graving tool, they cut the characters thereon. This method is rarely adopted, except in cases of haste and urgency; and it differs from the former only in the kind of plate on which the words are engraved. This sort of printing I have not seen practised by the Chinese, nor observed it noticed in any book. The printers employed at Malacca, say, that when an urgent affair occurs, a number of workmen are called in, and a small slip of wood, with space for one, two, or more lines, is given to each, which they cut with great expedition, and when all is finished, join together by small wooden pins; by this means a page, or a sheet, is got up very speedily, like an extra gazette in an English printing-office. This method, they say, is, from its expeditiousness, called *Lah-pan*, and they know nothing of the other.

The third is denominated *Hwo-pan*, "*living plates*," so called from the circumstance of the characters being single, and moveable, as the types used in European printing. *Kang-he*, in 1722, had a great number of these moveable types made of copper, whether *cut* or *cast*, it is not said. The Chinese are not, however, entirely ignorant of *casting*, though they do not use it to any extent. The Imperial seals on the Calendar, are cast with the Chinese character on one half of the face, and the Manchow-Tartar on the other. Copper vessels used in the temples, and bells, have frequently ancient characters, and inscriptions, cast with them. Whether they have ever attempted to cast single characters, or to frame matrices, similar to those which are used in casting types for alphabetic languages, does not appear. These *Hwo-pan*, or moveable types, are commonly made of *wood*. The Canton daily paper, called *Yuen-mun-pao* (i. e. A report from the outer gate of the palace,) containing about 500 words, or monosyllables, is printed with these wooden types, but in so clumsy a manner as to be scarcely legible.

At Macao, in the Missionary department of the College of St. Joseph, I have seen several large cases full of this description of type, with which they print such Roman Catholic books as are wanted for the Missions. In the Anglo-Chinese College Library at Malacca, there is a *Life of the Blessed Virgin* in two, and *the Lives of the Saints* in 26 volumes, 18mo. printed with the wooden type, at the College of St. Joseph; but all that can be said of the printing is, that it is barely legible—a vast difference between it and the other Catholic books, which were executed in the common way,—those of them that were cut at Pekin, in blocks, are elegantly printed. On asking

the priests at St. Joseph's, the reason why they used the moveable type, seeing it was so much inferior in beauty to the other method, they answered, that the persecutions in China had obliged them to adopt this method, as blocks were more cumbersome, and not so easily carried off, or hidden, in cases where the Missionaries were obliged to flee, or where they expected a search to be made by the Mandarines. The copper types look better on the paper than the wooden ones; but the impression is inferior in beauty to that from moderately well executed blocks. A history of the *Loo-choo* Islands, in 4 vols. octavo, compiled by the authority of *Keen-lung*, was printed with copper types; and may be given as an instance of this inferiority, though its execution is by no means bad. The Chinese have no press; but whether the forms are of wooden blocks, waxen plates, or moveable types, they have the same method of printing, or casting off, that is, by means of a dry brush rubbed over the sheet.

The Chinese have six different kinds, or rather six different forms, of the character, each of which has its appropriate name, and all of which are occasionally used in printing. That which, like our *Roman*, prevails most generally, is called *Sung-te*. To write this form of the character, is of itself an employment in China. There are men who learn it on purpose, and devote themselves entirely to the labour of transcribing for the press. Few of the learned can write it: indeed, they rather think it below them to do the work of a mere transcriber. With respect to moveable types, the body of the type being prepared, the character is written *inverted*, on the top: this is a more difficult work than to write for blocks. After this, the type is fixed in a mortise, by means of two small pieces of wood, joined together by a wedge, and then engraved; after which it is taken out, and the face lightly drawn across a whetstone, to take off any rough edge that the carving instrument may have left.

The process of preparing for and printing with the blocks, or in the stereotype way, is as follows: The block, or wooden plate, ought to be of the *Lee*, or *Tsauu* tree, which they describe thus:—"The *Lee* and *Tsauu* are of a fine grain, hard, oily, and shining; of a sourish taste; and what vermin do not soon touch, hence used in printing." The plate is first squared to the size of pages, with the margin at top and bottom; and is in thickness generally about half an inch. They then smooth it on both sides with a joiner's plane; each side contains two pages, or rather, indeed, but one page, according to the Chinese method of reckoning; for they number the *leaves*, not the pages of a book. The surface is then rubbed over with rice, boiled to a paste, or some glutinous substance, which fills up any little indentments, not taken out by the plane; and softens and moistens the face of the board, so that it more easily receives the impression of the character.

The transcriber's work is, first to ascertain the exact size of the page, the number of lines, and of characters in each line; and then to make what they call a *Kih*, or form of lines, horizontal and perpendicular, crossing each other at right angles, and thus leaving a small square for each character—the squares for the same sort of character, are all of equal size, whether the letter be complicated as to strokes, or simple: a letter or character with fifty strokes of the pencil, has no larger space assigned to it than one with barely a single stroke. This makes the page regular and uniform in its appearance, though rather crowded, where many complicated characters follow each other in the same part of the line. The margin is commonly at the top of the page, though not always so.—Marginal notes are written, as with us, in a smaller letter. This form of lines, being regularly drawn out, is sent to the printer, who cuts out all the squares, leaving the lines prominent; and then prints off as many sheets, commonly in *red ink*, as are wanted. The transcriber then, with black ink, writes in the squares from his copy; fills up the sheet; points it; and sends it to the block-cutter, who, before the glutinous matter is dried up from the board, puts the sheet on *inverted*, rubs it with a brush and with his hand, till it sticks very close to the board. He next sets the board in the sun, or before the fire, for a little, after which he rubs off the sheet entirely with his fingers; but not before a clear impression of each character has been communicated. The graving tools are then employed, and all the white part of the board is cut out, while the black, which shews the character, is carefully left. The block being cut, with edged tools of various kinds, the process of printing follows. The block is laid on a table; and a brush made of hair, being dipped in ink, is lightly drawn over the face. The sheets being already prepared, each one is laid on the block, and gently pressed down by the rubbing of a kind of brush, made of the hair of the *Tsung tree*. The sheet is then thrown off; one man will throw off 2000 copies in a day. Chinese paper is very thin, and not generally printed on both sides, though in some particular cases that is also done. In binding, the Chinese fold up the sheet, turning inward that side on which there is no impression. On the middle of the sheet, just where it is folded, the title of the book, the number of the leaves, and of the sections, and also sometimes the subject treated of, are printed, the same as in European books, except that in the latter, they are at the top of the page, whereas here, they are on the front-edge of the leaf; and generally cut so exactly on the place where it is folded, that one, in turning the leaves, sees one half of each character on one side, and the other half on the other. The number of sheets destined to constitute the volume, being laid down and pressed between two boards, on the upper one of which a heavy stone is laid, they are then covered with a sort of coarse paper—not with boards as in Europe;

the back is then cut, after which the volume is stitched, not in our way, but through the whole volume at once, from side to side, a hole having been previously made through it with a small pointed iron instrument. The top and bottom are then cut, and thus the whole process of Chinese type-cutting, printing, and binding, is finished. Though the transcribing, cutting, printing, and binding, form each a distinct occupation, yet they can be all easily united in one person. The first person employed as a Chinese printer by the Mission at Malacca, performed all these himself.

The Chinese type-cutting, which is called *Kih-tzse*, is of two different kinds; the one is denominated *Yang-wan*, i. e., "*masculine letter*." In this the strokes which form the character are carefully left untouched and prominent on the face of the plate and all the other parts cut out, and after printing, the black or *inked* part exhibits the character. This is the common and prevailing kind of letter. The other is called *Yin-wan* i. e. "*feminine letter*;" and is the very reverse of the former: here the strokes which form the character alone are cut out, and all the rest left untouched; hence, after printing, the white or *un-inked* part exhibits the character. This kind of letter is very little used. In the *Commentaries* of books, at the head of the first line of a paragraph, one, two, or three *Yin-wan* characters are sometimes employed, to introduce the subject; or as a head-line; or to mark the nature of the paragraph, whether paraphrastic, explanatory, or critical: or to refer to some highly valued author. This division of the printed character into masculine and feminine, is a further proof of what has already been noticed, respecting the powerful hold which the hermaphrodite principle has of the notions of the Chinese.

The method of printing now described, has existed in China for upwards of 900 years; and has been applied to all the various kinds of composition; to books on politics, on history, on ethics, on philosophy, and on science, whether in poetry or in prose. It has likewise been applied to all dimensions of books, from the *elephant folio* down to the *one hundred and twenty-eights*; to all sizes of letter, from the twenty-lines pica to the diamond; to all kinds of character, whether plain or hieroglyphic, whether the manuscript or printed form; to all sorts of ornaments and borders; and in some cases to foreign languages as well as the native. Of this last there is an example in the *Lung-wie-pe shoo*, a miscellaneous work, consisting of eighty duodecimo volumes: the eight last volumes of this book are devoted to the purposes of general geography, giving very brief sketches of the countries bordering on China, and westward through India, Persia, Arabia, Turkey, Europe, Africa, and the Malay Archipelago, round by Formosa and Corea, to Tartary. In these, besides specimens of the coins, and costumes of various nations, there are exhibited also specimens of *seven* different languages,

both of the character and sounds, among which the Burman, the Sanscrit, the Pali, and the Arabic, may be particularly mentioned. And two of the volumes contain a copious vocabulary of a foreign language, in which the characters are cut in wood, just as the Chinese, and the sounds imperfectly expressed by Chinese characters. Tartar-Chinese and Chinese-Tartar Dictionaries furnish another example of the application of the Chinese method of printing to foreign languages. In the Tartar-Chinese Dictionaries, the words to be defined are Tartar, and the definition is Chinese: in the Chinese-Tartar the reverse takes place, just as in any of our Latin and Greek, and Greek and Latin Dictionaries.

With respect to the *advantages and disadvantages* of the Chinese method of printing, as contrasted with the European, it would require a person more fully acquainted with both, than the writer of this can pretend to be, in order to do perfect justice to the subject, three things must be premised.—That *the Chinese language is essentially different from alphabetic languages*—and that though the European mode of printing alphabetic languages, will here be frequently adverted to, yet it is *the European mode as applied to the Chinese language, in which the contrast is chiefly intended*. And finally, *that the Chinese mode of printing must chiefly be viewed as it exists in China, among the Chinese themselves*—and not as cumbered with the extreme disadvantages under which it appears abroad. Let these three things be kept in mind: how they bear on the subject will appear as we go along.

The *disadvantages* of the Chinese mode of printing with wooden blocks may perhaps be such as the following:—1. It does not seem so well adapted for miscellaneous pieces, and works of an ephemeral kind, (e. g. newspapers, lists of sales, bills, &c.) as the European method, because the expence of preparing a block, say, for an Extra Gazette, which may never be called for after the first impression is struck off, would be just as great as to prepare one for a book of lasting utility, which may be called for in ten or fifteen years hence.

2. It does not appear so well suited for expedition as the European method is. The characters require considerable time in cutting; a hundred and fifty per day being about the number which a good workman can cut, taking the whole year together.—In regard to casting off impressions, there may perhaps be very little difference, except where a press admits of a large form; in that case, the Chinese method, which admits generally of no more than two pages, will be found the slowest. But suppose an European press to admit a form of four pages only, then I conceive there will be scarce any difference, because the European press requires two men to work it, and the Chinese only one; and two Chinese workmen, each printing from a separate block, will, between them, throw off about as many sheets in a day

as the two men at the English press can, supposing both parties equally qualified in regard to skill and strength. But if the European press be wrought by *Europeans*, not by people brought up in India, then in point of speed the advantage will doubtless be in favour of the European method.

3. When printing is extensively carried on in the Chinese method, blocks greatly accumulate and become cumbersome; because, however many inches of letter-press there may be in a book from beginning to end, there must be exactly as many inches of block, so that a book of the size of an octavo Testament, will require a common trunk to contain the blocks, though closely packed up.—In Chinese printing-offices, the blocks are all laid on their edge, on the shelves of a wooden frame like a book-case. In the *Hae-chang-sze* printing-office, there is a vast number piled up on such frames. The blocks of a book of 240 large octavo vols. like the *Tatsing-ye-tung-che*, must require a very large space to contain them. This disadvantage the method has in common with European stereotype. Both sides of the wooden plate are, however, uniformly cut, in order to diminish the number as much as possible.

4. When a very large edition is printed off from the blocks; the face of the character wears down, and it loses in some measure its clearness; hence the page is apt to have a blotted appearance. This is naturally to be expected of wooden plates, however fine the grain of the wood may be, and however durable its quality. The Chinese try to modify this disadvantage by repeatedly drying the blocks, and not suffering the face to soften by being kept long wet with the ink. After printing 2000 or 3000 copies, they gently wash the plate and let it dry.

The permanent clearness of a Chinese impression depends greatly on the quality of the wood of which the plate is made; on the goodness of the type-cutter's work; on the proper tempering of the ink, and on the care of the printer. If, for example, the printer be a clumsy or careless workman, the very first thousand copies will appear blotted, and the blocks will not last any length of time—perhaps they will not bear casting off 6 or 7000 copies without being renewed, or at least repaired. I am not able to say, with certainty, *what number* of copies good blocks will bear to be cast off: our printers there affirm, that *thirty thousand* can be printed from the same plate, if it possess the qualities and advantages above-mentioned. From some that we have used, in the service of the Mission, upwards of *ten thousand* copies have been printed, and they seem perfectly able to bear another edition of the same number, if carefully treated.—Indeed, no printing with moveable metal types that has been executed here, or that we have yet seen from India, equals in beauty the elegant editions of some valuable books printed with blocks at Pekin: but such elegant books are not intended, nor well

fitted, for general dispersion; and, after allowing the very utmost to the block-printing which its most firm supporters could demand, the palm, in regard to a clear and durably legible impression, must undoubtedly be yielded to the metal.

5. The necessity of cutting the same character over and over again, if it should occur a thousand, or five thousand times in the same book; and the inapplicability of the blocks to any work but that one for which they were prepared—are to be esteemed great disadvantages.

6. The Chinese mode of printing is, like their national policy, very unsociable; it is ill suited to sort with that used in other languages. Attempts have been made at different times to combine blocks and types in the same form; but they do not look well; and they must be exceedingly inconvenient, difficult to fit in, and cannot fail to render the execution very tedious. In some works on the Chinese language, published in France, and in Dr. Marshman's *Confucius*, this combination seems to have been attempted; but, it must have been attended with infinite trouble, and, after all, is very inferior and even awkward in its appearance. Since the casting of the Chinese character in India, and the engraving of moulds at Macao, began, the combination is just as easy and beautiful as that of Greek and English—or Latin and Arabic. Here again, the Chinese mode appears to great disadvantage, and the palm must be yielded to the moveable metallic types.

7. To these we may add, that Chinese blocks are of no service when the characters are worn down: whereas metal types, however old, furnish the materials of a new font. They can be recast. Other disadvantages may deserve notice, but these are what have occurred to the writer, as the chief ones.

The *advantages* of the Chinese method of printing with wooden-blocks, when contrasted with the European method as applied to the Chinese language, may be such as the following.

1. It seems suited to the nature of the language. The difference between alphabetic languages, and the language of China is very great. In the former, the number of letters seldom exceeds *forty*, which, being variously combined, can form all the words in the language—while there are more than *forty thousand* in the latter. The preparing of 40,000 matrixes in which to cast these characters is a formidable undertaking; while to cut them in wood appears comparatively easy. But as this part of the subject will be more fully discussed when we come to consider the head of *expense*, I shall dismiss it by remarking, that though a selection of perhaps *ten thousand* characters of most frequent use, may be made, for which to form matrixes, and the herculean task thus greatly abridged; yet the characters in less frequent use, must now and then be employed, if a man write extensively;

and suppose he requires to use any given character only twice in his life, yet for this character he must be at the same cost to provide a matrix, as for one which may be required 5000 times—suppose such a matrix to cost *twenty shillings*; now, for these *twenty shillings* he can have more than *fifteen hundred* characters cut in wood. In this there appears a vast and manifest advantage in the Chinese method. There are no rules, so far as I know, by observing which a man may avoid the necessity of using such a character, but one, and that is by substituting a synonymous character; this may sometimes be done; but in the greater number of instances, the sense would suffer by such a proceeding; for, as the Chinese themselves observe respecting their synonymous characters, “Though they seem alike in meaning, yet there are certain shades of difference; and though in some instances they may be used for each other, yet in very few, with equal justness, clearness, and force.”—The more fully we study Chinese, so much the more will this observation be confined.

2. It possesses all the advantages of European stereotype, except two—durability of the block, and the combining of several pages in a large form for printing. In most other respects the advantages are equal, and in one particular superior, namely, in the ease with which the Chinese block is prepared—in correcting also, I imagine the advantage will be in favour of the Chinese mode.

3. In the Chinese method, all sizes and forms of the character may be cut by the same hand, with nearly equal expedition and cheapness. Suppose a book on science, illustrated by a paraphrase and notes. Here the text would be in a larger letter, the paraphrase in a smaller, and the notes in a third size.—There must be *three* different founts of *types*—to these add the mathematical, astronomical, and physical signs, all of which in the work supposed, would find their place—thus matrixes for three different sorts of signs must be prepared. Here, then, is a combination of *six* kinds of letters and signs, which require to be cast in *six* different kinds of matrixes, and to be arranged in *six* different cases or departments: so many matrixes must be very expensive—and so many cases must require a good deal of room. Turn now to the Chinese method; and you see the same man combine all the three sizes of letter, and all the three sorts of signs in the same page; cut them all with the same instruments; and for about the same price, as if they were all the common letter. The Chinese do not, indeed, use the same signs in scientific books as we do; but from their simplicity (two or three excepted) it would be an easy matter to introduce them; or to substitute other marks equally efficient but more familiar to the Chinese—and to either of which the reasoning here would apply with equal force. This may be extended not only to characters of all sizes, supposing them so many as *twenty*; but likewise to all their diversified *forms*, to the *Chuen, Le, Tān, Hing, Sung,*

Kae-shoo, and other forms, with nearly equal facility. I say *nearly* equal, because there would be really *some* difference both in regard to speed and expense. A very large, or very small size of character, and their less frequently recurring forms, will necessarily make some difference; but not so as to affect the argument at all. Now, if it be considered that for all these, no moulds and matrixes for casting, no cases for arranging of them, (the block-frames excepted) and no particular qualification in setting up, beyond skill of hand in tracing the lines on the copy, are required, there will appear an astonishing advantage on the side of the Chinese method. Whether that may not be counterbalanced by the disadvantages that attend it, must be left to the judgment of the reader.

4. The apparatus necessary for the whole process of Chinese printing, is exceedingly simple. No foundry for casting; no complicated machines for printing and binding; and no heavy-rented house for a printing-office, —are here required. In printing Chinese on a small scale, every instrument necessary for the whole process, (a table and chair excepted) may be carried in the workman's hand, in a tolerably large pocket-handkerchief, and all the work performed in the corner of a cellar, or garret, without noise, and by the labour of one person only. And to carry it on an extensive scale, a common trunk of four feet by two and a half, if well packed, will contain the whole requisite apparatus. The disadvantage of the Chinese *press*, (or rather of their way of casting off sheets, for a press it cannot be properly called) in not admitting to print large forms at once, is, in some measure, counterbalanced by the remarkable simplicity and consequent cheapness of its apparatus.

5. There may be a considerable saving of expense in paper, on the Chinese plan.—Moveable types cannot be kept long standing; an edition of some extent must be printed off at once; if not, the labour of distributing and composing the type several times, must be submitted to. If a large edition be struck off, a considerable sum of money must be at once sunk in paper, and if there be not a rapid demand for the book, the chances are that no small proportion of the copies will be entirely lost. But with the wooden blocks (as with European stereotype,) there need be no more cast off than to serve the immediate demand, and no more paper purchased than the copies require. Thus, neither the out-lay of capital, nor the loss of interest, nor the rent of warehouses, need be incurred. If a hundred copies be wanted, they are cast off. When a second demand for another hundred, or for a thousand, comes, it is served also; and so on through ten or twenty different editions, if the blocks last as long—and at such intervals of time as the circumstances may require, in as much as the blocks once prepared require no further labour.

6. The Chinese method possesses some advantages for security against error, and even for progressive improvement in the style of a book, which

deserve notice. Chinese books, it is true, are often full of typographical errors; but that is entirely owing to the neglect of those who execute, or superintend the execution of them, and not at all incident to the mode itself. For, if the plates be once correct, they remain so through whatever number of editions may be cast off. Let us suppose good plates, well cut, and corrected, to last for twenty years to come (and if well cared for, they will perhaps last this length of time,) and that an edition is cast off every year. The care of the author is exerted to the utmost over the first edition, which he renders correct; but through all the subsequent nineteen editions, no farther attention is required from him. Should he go abroad, the printing of his book, through the given twenty years, will not suffer by his absence. Should he die, it will be the same—the blocks may be left as an inheritance to his children, who though they may not know a single character themselves, have only to hire in by the day, the nearest workman, (as ignorant of letters as they are), and print to supply the present demand, or fifty subsequent ones; and at the distance of twenty years from the author's death, the twentieth edition will be just as correct as the first was. In books of standard value, this is of incalculable importance, as every new edition by moveable types, is in danger of superadding a fresh share of errors.

Miscellaneous Thoughts on the Ultra-ganges India.

[By Mr. MILNE.]

THE Ultra-ganges, or Indo-Chinese nations, may be considered as commencing with Burmah, and stretching eastward along the continent to the isles of Japan, including the Malayan Archipelago, and the vast groups of islands lying between Pulo Penang and Corca. These embrace some of the most populous and interesting countries under heaven. They contain a full third of the human race; and from a variety of considerations, have most urgent claims on the benevolence and commiseration of Missionary Societies. That, in regard to civilization, the best of them are centuries behind the least improved nation in Europe, no one who possesses any knowledge of the history of both, will for an instant deny. Many of the tribes living in the interior parts of the islands, still continue in the wildest state of savage life; while the chief part of the inhabitants of the Archipelago are, in the comparative scale, but semi-barbarians. All the governments of the Ultra-ganges nations are DESPOTISMS; and many of them tyrannical in a very high degree. To exalt and aggrandize privileged orders of men, and keep the people in a low, degrading servitude, ever children in understanding, and the vassals of arbitrary power,—seems the uniform tendency of every native government on this side of India, without the exception of one. Their constitutions seem framed on this principle, and the spirit of their laws tends to this end. In as far as the theory of their governments may be investigated

and reduced to general philosophical principles, and the annual details of the executive power laid open to public view, in so far will this proposition appear confirmed; particular temporary exceptions cannot invalidate it.

LIBERTY, in the European acceptation of the word, is totally unknown under the native governments; therefore Missionaries must not expect it—but should, previously to their coming forth, firmly resolve to bear with patience and peace, all the inconveniences that may arise from living under governments, in their nature the very reverse of those under which they may have been brought up; and under all the various forms of legislative administrations should be prepared “to be subject to the powers that be.” From these causes, vigorous intellect, improved understanding, independence of mind, comprehensiveness of view, and an open unsuspecting frankness of disposition,—are rare things in this part of the world—and still more so where the system of idolatry is of a degrading kind.

The religions of Ultra-ganges India, are three:—the Pagan, the Mahometan, and the Christian. Burmah, Tibet, Siam, Cambodja, Cochin-China, China; and Japan, are overspread with the Buddhistic idolatry, whilst a very considerable portion of the Chinese, and of the people tributary to that empire, is infected with a vain atheistical philosophy, which recognizes no God, and which acknowledges no hereafter. The people, i. e. the great mass, “all worship the work of their own hands.” Various other forms of idolatry, not yet clearly described, are found to exist in the interior of some of the islands, where human sacrifices are offered. The early prevalence of Hindooism on Java, Sumatra, &c. and the traces of which remain to this day, has been fully proved by Sir Stamford Raffles, in his large and interesting history of Java—and from whose pen the public wait for something new respecting the island now under his government.

The MAHOMETAN faith prevails, more or less, in the chief countries of Ultra-Ganges India; has entirely spread over some of the Malay countries; and runs along the coast of most of the Archipelagian Isles—even that of Borneo and the Celebes. In some places it has a strong ecclesiastical establishment, which will not be easily overthrown. Several versions of the Koran, or part thereof, have been made, three of which we have heard of—viz. one into the Chinese, one into the Malay, and one into the Maccassar language. In those copies read in the mosques, the Arabic fills one column of the page, and the translation into the vernacular tongue, the other. It is highly probable that the Koran, or parts thereof, and the ritual of Islamism, have been rendered into various other languages of eastern India, though we have not obtained certain information respecting such versions.

THE END.

