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HAND BOOK

FOR

INDIA AND EGYPT,

COMPRISEING

THE NARRATIVE OF A JOURNEY FROM

CALCUTTA TO ENGLAND,

BY WAY OF

THE RIVER GANGES, THE NORTH WEST OF HINDOSTAN,
THE HIMALAYAS, THE RIVERS SUTLEDGE AND
INDUS, BOMBAY AND EGYPT;

AND

HINTS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF PASSENGERS BY THAT AND
OTHER OVERLAND ROUTES TO THE

THREE PRESIDENCIES

OF

INDIA.

LONDON:


1841.
LONDON:
E. VARTY, PRINTER, 27, CAMOMILE STREET, BISHOPSGATE.
DEDICATION.

To Mrs. ———

My Dear Friend,

The existence of this Work is owing to your suggestion that I should take notes during my journey to and from India; and to no one can I therefore more consistently dedicate it than to yourself—though, at the same time, I could wish it were worthy of the honor I thus take the liberty of conferring upon it. Whatever may be its fate, my best thanks are, at all events, due to you, inasmuch as the occupation has caused me to pass many hours agreeably, which would otherwise have hung most heavily on my hands, especially during my long and solitary voyage on the Sutledge and Indus rivers. With all regard and esteem,

Believe me very faithfully yours,

THE AUTHOR.

London, 20th June, 1841.
The Author of this little work is at a loss for a better title for it than that of "Hand Book," since it does not claim to rank with books of travels, but is intended as a companion to those who pass along the same route, and who will have the benefit of the Author's experience. Being no votary of the dolce-far-niente, and disliking the change from an active mercantile life to that of an idle tourist, he adopted the sensible suggestion of a friend, and noted his observations upon the scenes he passed, and his impressions during the journey, in which, besides finding a complete resource against ennui, he collected some volumes of notes. From these records he has extracted the contents of the following pages, in the hope that they may be useful to future travellers. He was further impelled to make them public by recollecting that he was the first party to take the route from Calcutta to England therein described, and by considering that he has practically shown how much may be seen in little
more than four months,—that is, in less time than the dull voyage by sea frequently occupies. He has found that, in this short period, the most interesting part of India, including the three Presidencies, may be visited; the wonders of Agra and Delhi surveyed; a month passed among the sublime scenery of the Himalayas; hundreds of miles of the celebrated rivers Ganges, Jumna, Sutledge, Indus, and Nile may be traversed, and a passing glance at Egypt obtained. He would likewise hope that the few hints he has appended to the details of his journey may be found serviceable to all proceeding to the far east, wherever may be their ultimate destination.
CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

RIVER TRAVELLING IN INDIA.

Pinnaces, budgerows, bholeos and dingheys—Supplies for a river voyage—Mode of proceeding against the current—Time allowed to military men for reaching the various stations on the river—Amusements within reach during the progress—Advice as to cook-boats, &c.—Recent introduction of steamers—Astonishment of the natives thereat—Necessity for others besides those of the government—Captain Johnston's general superintendence—Manner of disposing of the tonnage and sums generally realized—Advantages derived by Government—Agents at the various stations—Descriptions of the tug and the flat—How manned—Pay of the commander, &c.—Coal depots—Stations for delivering packages—Duration of stoppages—Cost of the vessels—Quantity of cargo carried—Change in their names by order of the Court of Directors—Regulations with regard to engaging a passage—Number, expense, and measurement of the different classes of cabins—Extent of Baggage allowed—Hours of refectation on board—Tariff of charges—Rules as to servants—The pilotage system—Passage money not returned in case of accidents—Rapidity of the downward passage...
CHAPTER II.

CALCUTTA TO ALLAHABAD.

CHAPTER III.

DAWK TRAVELLING IN INDIA.

Military marching—Slow rate of travelling by dawk—Manner of applying for bearers and post-office regulations—Gratuities to men—The Mussauljees and their torches—The fatigue experienced in the first instance—Necessity for bearers being well drilled—Care requisite in the choice of a palankeen—Annoyances experienced in the event of its breaking—Articles to accompany the traveller—Stoppages on the road—Letters of introduction—Mofussil hospitality; ex. gr. that of Mr. G. R. Clerk—Dawk bungalows and the rules in force thereat—Hints regarding petarrahs and banghies—Precautions to exclude snakes from the palankeen—Private dawks—Reduced charges by them—General rules—Manner of conveying the letter post in India
Sanctity of Allahabad—Its population and commerce—The fort—

CHAPTER V.

AGRA TO THE FOOT OF THE HIMALAYAS.

Departure from Agra—Hattrass—Its turbulent population—Coel—Allyghur—The fort—Mr. Neave—House of Monsieur Perron—Distant
view of Delhi—River Hindon—Entrance to the city—Situation of cantonments—Mr. Metcalfe's house and park—The late Mr. William Fraser and his murderer—Nadir Shah and the peacock throne—Modern Delhi and its seven gates—St. James's Church—Colonel Skinner—His house and mosque—Cemeteries—Chowk—Jumma Musjeed—Palace—'The Elysium'—Jey Singh's observatory—The Feroze Lat—Presentation to the Emperor—Magnificent ruins of Ancient Delhi—Tombs of Humayoon and Zufder Jung—TogluKabad—Cootub Minar—Antiquities at its base—Exploits of divers—Shawls, scarfs, jewellery, and medallions—Agra and Delhi newspapers—The Madrissa—The beggars of Delhi—Mode of disposing of property—The Maharajah Hindu Rao—Route from Delhi to Kurnaul—Paneeput and the bloody contests it has witnessed—Kurnaul—Its cantonments—View of the distant Himalayas—Termination of the British Territory—Seamgurb, Azumabad and the other stations to Umballa—Mr. G. R. Clerk—Umballa to Bahr—Alteration in the mode of travelling—Pinjore Hills—Lively scene at Bahr—Proposed hotel there

CHAPTER VI.

SIMLA AND THE HIMALAYAS GENERALLY.

CONTENTS.

—The Girree river—Mutteana—The Richah—Altenah—Nagkanda—
Ride to, and ascent of, the mountain Huttoo—Magnificent view there­
from—Shikarries—Kotghur—Rampore—Capt. Patrick Gerard . . . 122

CHAPTER VII.

SIMLA TO FEROZEPORE.

Alarming reports—State of the country—Descent to the plains—
Stages between Bahr and Loodianna—Mr. G. R. Clerk—Mornda—
Loodianna—Old bed of the Sutledge—Sir C. M. Wade's Garden—
Cantonments—Bazaar—Fickleness of fortune in the relative positions
of Shah Soojah ool Moolkh and Dost Mahommed Khan—Junction
of the Beas and Sutledge—Stages between Loodianna and Ferozepore
—Ferozepore—Meeting of Lord Auckland and Runjeet Singh—Hon.
Capt. Osborne—Capt. Lawrence—Dust, &c. of Ferozepore—Its cli­
mate—Former lawless state—Anglo-Punjaubee Island—Immensely
tall grass—Tiger shooting—Black Partridge—Dilemma of an elephant
—Expenditure of camels—Instructions preparatory to the descent of
the Sutledge—Full details of the boats plying on the river. . . . . 152

CHAPTER VIII.

THE RIVER SUTLEDGE.

Supplies necessary for the river voyage—Few marks of Interest—
Incorrectness of the maps—Sinuosities of the stream—Distances and
strength of current—Sand banks—Manners and customs of the boat­
men—Comparison between Panjaubee and Hindooostanee villages
—Native estimates of distance—Paucity of cultivation—Fall of banks
—Commerce—Alligators and waterfowl—Jungle and tamarisk shrubs
—Barren scenery—Mountains of Soliman—Ferry-boats—Extraor­
dinary manner of crossing the river—Junction with the Chenab—
Persian water-wheels—Thermometrical observations—Architectural
objects—Bhawulpore . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 167
CHAPTER IX.

THE RIVER INDUS.

CHAPTER X.

MOUTH OF THE INDUS TO BOMBAY.


CHAPTER XI.

BOMBAY TO SUEZ.

Dock-yard—Auckland—Sesostris—Parell and its many eminent occupants—Esplanade—Statue of Lord Cornwallis—Elphinstone College—Town Hall, Library, Museum, Bazaars, Shops—Reference made to Miss E. Roberts' work for details of the Western Presidency—Total want of good hotels—The Victoria—Change required with regard to Cadets—Caves of Elephanta—Bunder—Merchandise—Fort—Colaba and Mazagon—Their houses and gardens—Language—Parsees—Rules established for the engagement of passages in the Company's armed steamers, with instructions to passengers, &c. &c.—Advice relative thereto—Insufficiency of cabins—Arrival of the mails and departure of the Cleopatra from Bombay—Paucity of passengers in consequence of the unsettled state of Egypt—The ladies of the party—Captain Webb—Kisseen point on the coast of Arabia—Cape Aden—Winds and weather during the voyage—Aden from the bay—Vessels of war in the harbour—Semiramis—Coal-hulk—Seedies from Zanzibar—Mortality among them—Captain Haines and the Semiramis—Journey to the town—Narrow pass—Turkish wall—Fortifications—Garrison—Increase of population—Sultan's palace—Bazaar—Miscellaneous obser-
CHAPTER XII.

SUEZ TO ENGLAND.

Reports of Incursions of Bedouin Arabs in the desert—Thanks due to Mehemet Ali from every English traveller—Escort granted by the Pasha—Wretchedness of Suez—Wagborn’s hotel and arrangements preferable to Hill’s—Saint’s tomb outside Suez—Monuments to deceased travellers—Unnecessary stoppage at Suez—Departure of the caravan—Its motley appearance—Modes of traversing the desert—Exaggeration of the danger—The various stations—Want of accommodation, and bad arrangements thereat—Distances from Suez to Cairo—Scenery and incidents of the route—Advice to travellers—Approach to Cairo—City of tombs—Different views of the pyramids—The City of Cairo—Noble donkeys—Citadel and Pasha’s palace—Magnificent view from the terrace—Superb mosque—Joseph’s well—Sultan Hassan’s tomb—Female slave market—Gardens of Shoubra—Bazaars—Money changers—Currency of Egypt—Boulac—Steamer Jack-o-Lantern—Description of her—Peninsular Company’s Steamer Lotus—Course of the Nile—Strength of current—Scenery—Fouah—Atfè—Remarks upon the passage by the Nile—Mahmoudieh canal—Description of the boats and mode of navi-
 CONTENTS.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A.

DISTANCE TABLES.

No. 1. Page
Names of 184 places on the river between Calcutta and Cawnpore, and their exact distances from them as well as from each other . . 279

No. 2.
Distances from Calcutta to Cawnpore by the Sunderbunds . . . 283

No. 3.
Distances from Calcutta to Loodianna by the new line of road . . 284

No. 4.
Distances from Calcutta to Loodianna by Bancoora, Hazareebaugh Benares, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Mynpoorie, Allygurh, Delhi, and Kurnaul . . . . . . . 287

No. 5.
Distances of all the military stations on the Bengal Presidency from each other . . . 290
CONTENTS.

No. 6.
Distances from Calcutta to every principal place in India . . . . 313

No. 7.
Distances from Madras to every principal place in India . . , . 143

No. 8.
Distances from Bombay to every principal place in India . . . 316

APPENDIX B.
DETAILS OF EXPENSES OF THE AUTHOR'S JOURNEY FROM CALCUTTA TO ENGLAND . . . . . . . . . 317

APPENDIX C.
OTHER OVERLAND ROUTES AND GENERAL INFORMATION FOR TRAVELLERS.

Calcutta or Madras, by sea, to Cosseir or Suez, without touching at Bombay—Calcutta or Madras to Bombay by land—Agra to Bombay—Delhi to Bombay—Differences between English and Arab ships—Sea Voyage from Bombay to Madras and Calcutta—Route from Cosseir to Luxor across the desert—Mr. Hogg's description thereof—Mr. Carmichael Smyth's route from Cosseir to Luxor—Hints to travellers by Messrs. Smyth, Hogg, Blackburn, and Wight—Mr. Wight's description of the journey down the Nile to Cairo—Description of the route from Cairo to Alexandria across the desert, as well as via Rosetta and the Delta by land—Antiquities of Egypt from various authorities—Capt. Crawford's
CONTENTS

---

notes of a journey up the Nile from Cairo—English and Arabic vocabulary—Hill & Co's Tariff of charges for conveyances across the desert and by steam boats on the Nile—Regulations at the Malta Lazaretto and expense of living there—Details of Malta, and advice to persons landing and stopping thereat—The various routes from Paris to Marseilles, with distances and costs of transit—Regulations, &c. of the French Steamers—Particulars of the Peninsular Company's Steamers—Description of the Steamer "Oriental" and of those on the Bombay side of Suez

---

APPENDIX D.

OUTFIT AND SEA VOYAGE TO INDIA.

Advice as to the choice of a Ship and Cabin—Outfit—Articles usually recommended which are deemed unnecessary, and requisite articles which are frequently omitted to be taken—The fittings-up of a Cabin—Advice regarding the Hindoostanee language and books generally—Lessons in Navigation recommended—Ports of departure—Madeira—Canaries—Cape de Verds—Table of Trade Winds—Crossing the line—Trinidad—Martin Vas—Cape of Good Hope—Ceylon—Desultory observations addressed to parties who are making their first sea-voyage as to ships and navigation generally

---

APPENDIX E.

MADRAS.

APPENDIX F.

CALCUTTA.