

Enigma.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR, Having sent you two Solutions to Enigmas, which appeared in your Journal, I now beg leave (in my turn) to send an Enigma, and will thank you to give it a place.

Your's obediently,

Calcutta, March, 11, 1822.

VORTEX.

My first does at Routs and Operas assist,
My second is found in the full flowing Bowl;
My third is discovered in absolute Mist,
My fourth is an inmate in every Hole,
My whole is a substantive known to the Fair,
'Tis common to all, and produc'd every where.

Gas Lights.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR, Notwithstanding the subject of the Gas-lights having already been brightly expatiated on by ILLUMINATUS, he has so superficially spoken of their comparative advantages that I think the following remarks would prove not unacceptable to those who study economy. If you concur in this opinion, you will oblige me by placing these lights in some dark corner of your JOURNAL if such a place can be found.

The recent philosophical publications speak from experiments made on Oil Gas, in these terms:—It is perfectly free from that suffocating smell which accompanies Coal Gas, occasioned by sulphur or other matters which are contained in the Coal, and by which the Oil is uncontaminated. It excels every other light in brilliancy, except that produced by a pure Olefiant Gas, which can never come into general use owing to its being so expensive. It gives a double illuminating power compared to Coal Gas, at one-fourth the expense of Coconut oil when used with a common lamp, and one-eighteenth of that of wax candle. These are advantages well worth consideration, and for the introduction of them into this country we are indebted, as ILLUMINATUS justly observes, to Mr. TOULMIN, who certainly ought to be entitled to as much praise as Mr. MURDOCH for first (in 1798) applying the light of Gas to economical purposes by lighting up the Soho Foundry;—for the inflammability of Gas was undoubtedly known long before that epoch.

I think it but justice to Mr. TOULMIN to avail myself of this opportunity of stating that he has (and I believe he is the only person) also succeeded in making in this country all those acids the transportation of which by water has so frequently proved fatal to Ships and their Crews. May we not justly conclude, as to a great number of those vessels which have never been heard of after their departure from port, that they have been burnt at Sea by the breaking of some vessel containing Sulphuric Acid or some other of these active inflammable Agents?

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

Calcutta, March 27, 1822.

J. C.

P. S.—Let me add by way of Postscript, that what SCUM CUTIQUE says of Gas Lights having been so far introduced into Calcutta before now, is not much to the purpose. No body ever doubted that it was as possible to produce them in Calcutta as in London; but who first produced them here successfully, so that they might be applied with advantage to economical purposes?—I say Mr. TOULMIN. It is no doubt true, that many years ago Mr. John Duckitt, a man of great talents and ingenuity, made Gas at a considerable expense; but neither he nor any other ever before succeeded in manufacturing it here, so as to be of any practical utility—the only merit in the case; and the failure of other attempts only adds to the merit of that which has succeeded.

As to lighting up a Palkee with Gas or any such paltry concern, your Correspondent might as well think of employing it to illuminate the tail of a Fire-Fly. It is calculated for higher and more important purposes.

J. C.

Query in Book-keeping.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

If any of your numerous Readers would, through the medium of your useful publication, scientifically solve the following Query in Book-keeping, it will be considered a desideratum:—

A Dealer about to admit a Partner, is desirous, preparatory to closing his books, to take an account of Stock. It is requested to know, at what rate the articles composing it, are to be valued?

Every treatise on Book-keeping which I have consulted, directs, "the Stock on hand to be valued at prime cost." The practice which obtains in this city, is at variance with this precept;—since that practice values Stock at the average prices at which articles composing it, have been sold during the year, while Accountants to Native Dealers are known to take auction prices as a standard, after deducting commission.

A STUDENT.

Death of a Large Rhinoceros.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Should you consider the following relation of an occurrence which has lately taken place, calculated to interest any of your readers, you will be happy, I am sure, to promote their amusement by giving it insertion in your JOURNAL.

A party of Gentlemen, a few days back, took the Field, in pursuit of Tygers, Buffaloes, Samat, and Hog Deer, Chokoor, and Black Partridge &c. &c. besides Hog-Hunting on the confines of the Districts of Rajeshahye and Dinagepore, near the banks of the Mohamody. With the exception of the Tyger only, several of the above Game were daily killed in a sportsman-like stile.

The party had not been long out before they received the joyful tidings of a Rhinoceros, supposed to be of an uncommonly large size, by the terrified inhabitants of several villages, whose apprehensions had been excited in an unusual degree by the fierceness of the animal, evinced by his killing four or five Ponies and committing other acts of depredation.—It being determined to pursue him, every exertion which keen sportsmen could practise, was soon employed to discover him—After many fruitless attempts, the exertions of the party were rewarded, and their labours recompensed by the sight of this immense animal, on the 13th instant, whose dimensions I subjoin—His bold and determined aspect, and stately figure as he retreated slowly before the Elephants, appearing to disdain that rapid flight which could indicate fear, and charging with fierceness when closely pressed, combined to afford excellent sport. Intimation of his discovery being given, every member of the party joined in the pursuit, and quickly closing round, his fate was soon sealed.

The dimensions of this male Rhinoceros, killed in the neighbourhood of Anarpore, Zillah Dinagepore, ascertained by accurate measurement, were as follows:

Length from the nose to the extremity of the tail, fifteen feet ten inches. Tail measuring only fifteen inches.—Circumference of the body, fourteen feet eight inches.—Height seven feet five inches.—Weight of the heart, twenty eight pounds.—Thirty teeth; two tusks.—Length of the horn on his nose, twenty-one inches.—Supposed weight of the head four maunds, or three hundred and thirty-six pounds.

This animal is supposed to have strayed from the Morung Hills. It is proposed to send his head to England.

We have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

(Signed) B. H. B. A. M. B. T.

Rajeshahye, March 21, 1822.