

AN  
ACCOUNT  
OF  
TRAVELS  
INTO THE  
*INTERIOR OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.*

IN WHICH IS CONSIDERED,  
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TO THE DIFFERENT EUROPEAN  
POWERS, AS A NAVAL AND MILITARY STATION; AS A POINT OF SECURITY  
TO OUR INDIAN TRADE AND SETTLEMENTS DURING A WAR, AND  
AS A TERRITORIAL ACQUISITION AND COMMERCIAL  
EMPORIUM IN TIME OF PEACE:

WITH  
*A STATISTICAL SKETCH OF THE WHOLE COLONY;  
COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC DOCUMENTS.*

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By JOHN BARROW, Esq.

LATE SECRETARY TO THE EARL OF MACARTNEY, AUDITOR-GENERAL OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS  
AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, AND SECRETARY TO LIEUTENANT-GENERAL  
FRANCIS DUNDAS DURING HIS GOVERNMENT THERE.

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VOLUME THE SECOND,  
*ILLUSTRATED WITH SEVERAL ENGRAVINGS.*

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Dutch name of *sea-cow* is equally improper as their ancient appellation of hippopotamus or river-horse. The river rhinosceros would be a more appropriate name than any other, although it has no horns upon its nose, which obtained for the land animal the appellation of the *nose-horn*, ρινὸν κέρασ. With the natural history and habits of this extraordinary amphibious animal (if I may be allowed to call it so), we are very imperfectly acquainted; nor have I seen any figure that conveys an accurate representation of its character, shape, and magnitude, except in a drawing made from nature by Mr. Daniell, from which a print will appear in his intended publication. Nor do I know of any good figure of the African rhinosceros, which is altogether different from that of India covered with its hide of mail. The skin of the two-horned rhinosceros is comparatively smooth, and has none of the folds so remarkable in that of the one-horned species; but it is so thick that the Dutch boors cut out of it their largest *sambocs* or horse-rods, which, if well prepared, are better than those of the hippopotamus, and transparent as amber. The head of this animal is very remarkable. Not only the horns sit upon the nose, but the eyes also are placed in it, being directly under the root of the larger horn; and they are so minute, that one would suppose them of little use to so huge a creature. But nature, always provident, has remedied this seeming inconvenience by placing them in projecting sockets, in which they turn in all directions like those of the little camelion. Had the eye been placed in the usual part of the face, just below the projecting forehead, which is very large, the visual rays would have embraced only about 180 degrees, or half of the horizon; whereas, in their present position, they

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have

have a much greater scope, being able, I should suppose, without any motion of the head, to sweep from 260 to 270 degrees. Of two varieties of this animal Mr. Daniell has made excellent drawings, in one of which the upper horn is almost as large as the lower, and is pointed towards it.

Having collected the forces that had been stationed along the banks of the Great Fish River, we set out upon our return to Algoa Bay. On approaching the Sunday River, and perceiving that the Kaffers had made no preparations for departing, it was thought advisable to renew the message to their chief Congo. In the mean time the troops and the waggons proceeded on their march. After waiting some time the messenger returned without being able to speak to the chief. Whatever reluctance Congo had discovered to quit the station he had taken up among the colonists, it never entered into our calculations that he would be rash and imprudent enough to commence an attack against a large body of regular troops. Such, however, was the step he chose to take, at the instigation, as we afterwards found, of some of the rebel boors, who had fled amongst his people, in preference of appearing before the General in Bruyntjes Hoogté. Just as we came up with the main body a sudden alarm was raised in the rear. A Hottentot driver of one of the waggons was killed by a hassagai that had been thrown at him by some person posted in ambush. Kaffers began to appear in great numbers on all the heights, collecting, apparently, with a view to attack us; and several were observed close upon us lurking in the bushes. Being at this awkward juncture in a narrow defile, choaked almost with brushwood, and surrounded with Kaffers,

we

tains, on the Cape side, as far as the mouth of the Olifants River. These divisions are,

1. *The Droefdy of Stellenbosch.*
2. *Jonker's Hoeck.*
3. *Bange Hoeck.*
4. *Klapmutz.*
5. *Bottelary's Gebergte.*
6. *Saxenberg's Gebergte.*
7. *Eerste River.*
8. *Hottentot's Holland.*
9. *Moddergat.*
10. *Drakenstein* and its environs, consisting of
  - a. *Little Drakenstein.*
  - b. *Fransche Hoeck.*
  - c. *Paarl Village.*
  - d. *Dall Josephat.*
  - e. *Waagen Maaker's Valley.*
  - f. *Groeneberg.*
11. *Pardeberg.*
12. *Riebeck's Casteel.*
13. *East Zwartland.*
14. *Four-and-twenty Rivers.*
15. *Piquetberg.*
16. *Olifants' River.*

The transmontane divisions are,

17. *The Biedouw.*
18. *Onder Bokkeveld.*

19. *Han-*

10. *Kamnaasie* is a rough hilly tract of country surrounding a high mountain so called, situate between the Olifant's River and the Kange Kloof. The inhabitants are comparatively poor and few.

11. *Lange Kloof* is the long pass which has been particularly noticed in the second chapter.

12. *Sitfikamma* commences at Plettenberg's Bay, and continues along the sea-coast to the Camtoos River. It is chiefly covered with impenetrable forests, on the east of which, however, there are extensive plains equally good for the cultivation of grain and the grazing of cattle. No direct road has yet been made through the forests along the sea-coast, so as to be passable by waggons, but the inhabitants are obliged to go round by the Lange Kloof. They bring little to the Cape market on their annual visit, except salted butter and soap. In the forests of Sitfikamma are elephants, buffaloes, and rhinosceroses; and on the plains the large *bartebeest* and *koodoo* antelopes, besides an abundance of small game.

The population and produce of Zwellendam, as ascertained by the Opgaaff, taken on oath in the year 1798, are as follows:

*Population.*