

BARLOW'S JOURNAL

OF HIS LIFE AT SEA IN KING'S SHIPS,
EAST & WEST INDIAMEN & OTHER
MERCHANTMEN FROM 1659 TO 1703.

TRANSCRIBED FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT BY

BASIL LUBBOCK

WITH 3 COLOURED ILLUSTRATIONS AND 21 COASTLINE DRAWINGS

VOLUME II



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Islands, they intended to touch at Madras to put off their gold, which they had taken at "Acheine", for their cargo of rice, gold passing for ten or fifteen per cent more there than at Bengal.

But meeting with much small winds and calms, being the time of the year about the changing of the monsoons or winds, they were afraid of losing their passage to Bengal, if they let slip time to try for "Madaras"; so away they steered for the coast of "Orixo".¹

And the first land we made was called the Highland of "Pundy", then we steered along the shore, meeting with a ship come from Persia, belonging to the Company, named the *Welfare*, Captain Willdey commander, and the next day with two interlopers, ships that traded into India without the Company's consent, one being named ye *Lulmey Castle*, the other *Constantenopell*.

And the next day we came up with the point of land called Cape "Pallmyeras", and the next day into Balasor Road, a deep bay and shoal water, ships riding in eight fathom and almost out of sight of shore; there we found another Company's ship, named the *Harbert*, Captain Udall commander.

Staying there two days, our ship being not so great, we sailed away over the flats and sands called the "Bracas" and entered the great river of Ganges, intending to go up to a place called "Hugley", which was above a hundred miles up that river.

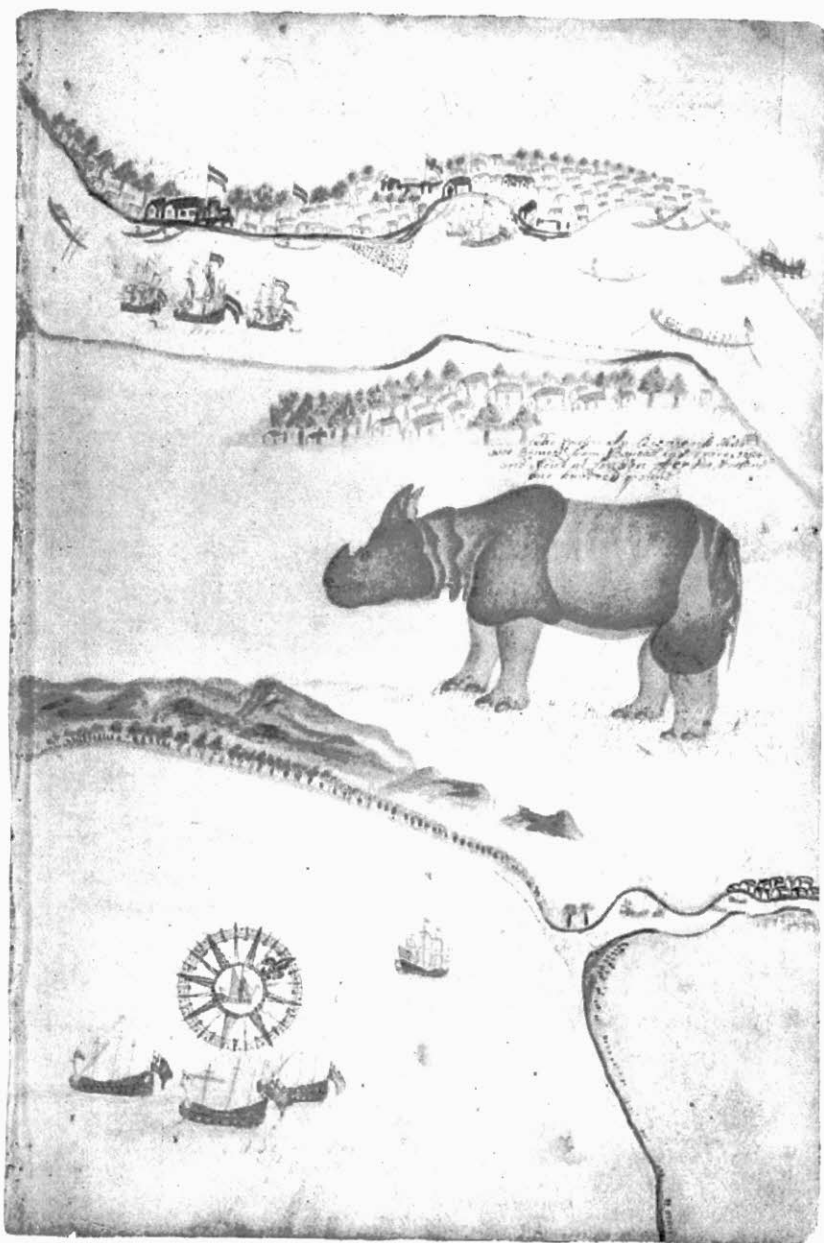
And coming thirty miles short, we met with the "freshes" so strong against us that we could go no further till they were abated, for always at the turning of the monsoons out of the north there cometh such "freshes" out of the inland country.

And laying the ship up in a creek, we, most of us, went up to "Hugley" in boats, being two or three days in going up against the stream.

And coming up thither about the latter end of September, we found three of the Company's ships, named the *Prudent Mary*, the *Hare*, and the *Kent*, the *Welfare* likewise coming up thither.

So I, going to the Company's factory, made my case known to the chief agent, he telling me he thought I was much wronged and that he would do me what kindness he could; and indeed I was proffered to be

¹ Orissa.



"The Maner and the Situation of the Towne of Hugley, lying upon the Bankes of the River Ganges, Beangalle, in the Kingdom of the Great Mogul in the East Indies in the Lattitude nerest 23 degreis North."

(also)

"The Emblem of a Risnosaross, that was brought from Bangall in ye yeare 1684 and sould at London for two thousand one hundred pound."

a master of a ship if I would stay in the country, but having a wife and children in England I was willing to come home, although it was my chance, passenger.

Barlow tells his story to the Chief Factor.

But staying there about ten or twelve days, there was one of the Company's ships there, named the *Kent*, whose commander was dead eight months before, being come from the Island of Formosa and Batavia and then to Bengal, laden with Japan copper, which was then commanded by the chief mate, he having another chief mate likewise : but the agent, calling a council and taking it into consideration, caused that chief mate to be dismissed as coming but out in the aforesaid ship as gunner's mate, and by consultation thought it not safe to have charge of the ship if the other commander should die or the like. So I was put in by the agent as chief mate, the ship being bound for England, which, as it fell out, was better than I expected, although I had twenty-five shillings the month less than I had in the ship I came out in, but it was better than going home a passenger without any employment at all, so I thanked the agent for his care.

Barlow is given the chief mate's post in the "Kent".

This town is inhabited by the subjects of the Great Mogul, it being a place of great trade, but mostly with the English and Dutch, the English paying three per cent Custom to the Great Mogul and the Dutch five : but of late they sought to have the English pay as much as the Dutch, it causing some difference between the Company and country people.

The people are black and tawny, and the commodities mostly silks and cottons, cloth of all sorts, very fine, and commonly cheapest of any place in the East Indies, it being the best place for a ship to gain her cargo.

The commodities of Hoogli.

There is much good sugar made here, much rice and other grain, much tamarisk, and up in the inland country I have heard it reported by them that have bought, good wheat for sixpence the English bushel, and fowls, as hens and cocks, sometimes for the value of a penny the piece.

In this country are bred the great beasts called the "rinosarus", and many wild and cruel tigers, it being a very level country and full of woods and rivers.

The great beast called "rinosarus".

And much salt petre is made up at a place called "Patna", which is three hundred miles within land.

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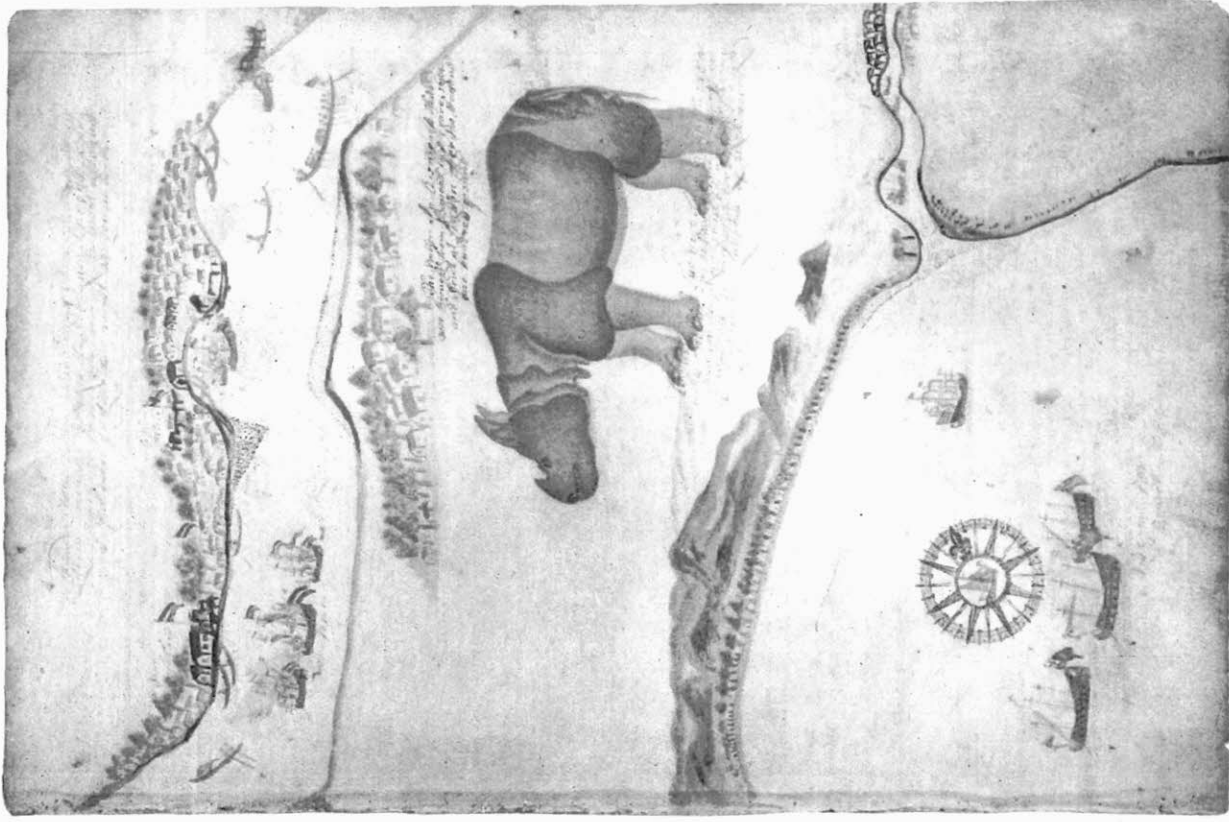
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