

THE
EAST INDIA
GAZETTEER ;

CONTAINING

Particular Descriptions

OF THE

EMPIRES, KINGDOMS, PRINCIPALITIES, PROVINCES, CITIES, TOWNS,
DISTRICTS, FORTRESSES, HARBOURS, RIVERS, LAKES, &c.

OF

HINDOSTAN,

AND THE ADJACENT COUNTRIES,

INDIA BEYOND THE GANGES,

AND THE

Eastern Archipelago ;

TOGETHER WITH

SKETCHES OF THE MANNERS, CUSTOMS, INSTITUTIONS, AGRICUL-
TURE, COMMERCE, MANUFACTURES,
REVENUES, POPULATION, CASTES, RELIGION, HISTORY, &c.

OF THEIR

VARIOUS INHABITANTS.

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LUCKYPOOR, (*Lakshmipur*).—A town in the province of Bengal, district of Tipperah, situated a few miles inland from the east bank of the Megna, with which it communicates by a small river. Lat. $22^{\circ}.56'$. N. Long. $90^{\circ}.43'$. E. Baftas and other coarse cotton goods of an excellent and substantial fabric are manufactured in this neighbourhood, which is also very fertile and productive, being on the whole one of the cheapest places in the Company's dominions.

The River Megna near to this expands to a breadth exceeding 10 miles, and during the height of the rains, when the shoaly islands are submerged, appears more like an inland sea of fresh water in motion than a river. In 1763 it rose six feet above its usual level, and occasioned an inundation that swept away the houses, cattle, and inhabitants of a whole district.

LUCKNOW, (*Lakshmanavati*).—A district in the Nabob of Oude's territories, adjacent to the city of Lucknow, and situated between the 26th and 27th degrees of north latitude. The land here is generally flat and sandy, and, after a storm, is covered with puddles of water. Near to Bengermow the country is more pleasing, being tolerably well cultivated and slightly undulated. Wheat and barley are the principal crops, and the district is covered with clumps of mango trees. Over the small river Sye is a bridge of 15 arches, an excellent specimen of Mahomedan architecture; and it is besides watered by the Ganges, the Goggrah, and the Goomty.

The towns in this division of Oude are mostly built of brick, with ruins far more extensive than the inhabited part; and there still remains the debris of many extensive cities, the vestiges of which are only to be traced by large mounts of brick dust. From this district are procured many of the best recruits for the British Sepoy corps, the natives being more robust, and of a more martial dispo-

sition than the Bengalese. By Abul Fazel, in 1582, it is described as follows:

“Sircar Lucknow, containing 55 mahals; measurement, 3,307,426 beegahs; revenue, 80,716,120 dams; seyurghal, 4,572,566 dams.” (*Lord Valentia, Tennant, Abul Fazel, &c.*)

LUCKNOW.—A city in the province of Oude, of which it is the capital and residence of the Nabob. Lat. $26^{\circ}.51'$. N. Long. $80^{\circ}.55'$. E. This town stands on the south side of the Goomty, which is navigable for boats of a common size at all seasons of the year, and falls into the Ganges between Benares and Gazypoor. The streets where the lower classes reside are sunk 10 or 12 feet below the surface, and are so narrow that two carts cannot pass, being likewise filthy in the extreme. The different palaces of the nabob, the great mosques, and burying places, display considerable splendour, having gilt roofs and architecture loaded with ornaments.

On the death of the Nabob Sujah ud Dowlah, in 1774, the late Nabob Asoph ud Dowlah removed the seat of government to this place from Fyzabad, the former capital. The bankers and men of property accompanied the court; and Lucknow, in a very few years, became one of the largest and richest towns in Hindostan, while its predecessor decayed with a proportionate rapidity. In 1800 the population was estimated to exceed 300,000; but it probably has since diminished, on account of the decreasing splendour of the nabob's court, and consequent limited expenditure.

Among the curiosities in this neighbourhood is Constantia, the residence of the late General Martin, which is said to have cost 150,000l. sterling. To the house is annexed a very noble garden and extensive mango clump; but the country around is a barren sand and dead flat. On his decease the furniture was sold, and the girandoles and mirrors now adorn the government house in Calcutta.

The nabob has also a menagerie, in which variety or utility has not been so much attended to as the oddities of nature. The rhinoceros is the most remarkable animal in this collection. Near to the stables a very large breed of Gujrat bullocks is kept, the introduction of which among the peasants generally would be of infinite advantage to a country, where the draught cattle are so small and weak as in the Oude province.

The body of the late Asoph ud Dowlah lies interred in a religious sepulchre, lighted by a vast number of wax tapers, and having the grave strewed with flowers and gilt paper. At one side is a censer, with various perfumes; on the other, his sword and waistband; and opposite to his head lies his turban, and a copy of the Koran. The grave is covered with rich bread of barley, from Mecca; and verses from the Koran are chanted day and night. Lucknow is mentioned by Abul Fazel as being a town of considerable note during the reign of Acher. It stands about 650 miles, travelling distance by the nearest road, from Calcutta; and from hence to where the Ganges joins the ocean all is one vast plain. Travelling distance from Delhi, 280; from Agra, 202; and from Benares, 189 miles. (*Tennant, Lord Valentia, Rennel, &c.*)

LUCONIA ISLE, (*Luzon*). — The largest of the Philippines.—See LUZON.

LUDEHAUNAH.—A town on the northern frontier of the Delhi province, situated on the banks of the Sutuleje River, 180 miles N. N. W. from the city of Delhi, and 120 S. E. from Lahore. Lat. $30^{\circ} 53'$ N. Long. $75^{\circ} 32'$ E. The climate at this place is excessively cold for four or five months of the year; and, in the summer season, extremely hot, with hot winds, both seasons being in extremes. The rains are abundant. Ludehaundah is the most remote military station to the north west which the British possess in India, a detachment having been

established here in 1808 to coerce the adjacent Seik chiefs.

LUMGHANAT.—An Afghan district in the province of Cabul, situated about the 34th degree of north latitude, and extending along the south side of the Kameh, or Cabul River. The chief towns are Jelalabad and Irjah. Lumghanat, with the adjoining district of Kameh, appears to be the region described by Dr. Leyden in the 11th volume of the Asiatic Researches, under the appellation of Ningarhar. When invaded by Sebuctaghi, in A.D. 997, this was a Hindoo district; and it still retains a peculiar dialect, named the Lumghanee.

LUNAWARA, (*Lavanavara, a Salt Region*).—A town in the province of Gujrat, district of Gudara, 65 miles E. by N. from Ahmedabad. Lat. $23^{\circ} 5'$ N. Long. $73^{\circ} 46'$ E. On the 14th of November, 1803, a treaty was concluded with the rajah by the British government, which liberated him from the tribute he had before paid to Dowlet Row Sindia. In consideration of this benefit he engaged to support a body of troops for the defence of their own dominions; and, in case of necessity, to assist the British, whose enemies he considered as his own.

LUZON ISLE, (*or Luconia*).—The largest of the Philippine Islands, on which stands Manilla, the metropolis. This island is situated between the 13th and 19th degrees of north latitude, and extends from the 120th to the 124th degrees of east longitude. It is of a very irregular form, but may be estimated at 400 miles in length, by 115 the average breadth.

The greater part of this island is mountainous, being intersected from north to south by an immense chain, from which diverge various ramifications that spread over the whole island; in some places forming detached mountains, like insulated cones, in the midst of extensive plains. The whole of this elevated region, occupying a great part of the interior,