

# MEMOIR

OF

THE LATE

## DAVID SCOTT, ESQ.

AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, ON THE NORTH-  
EAST FRONTIER OF BENGAL,

AND

COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE AND CIRCUIT IN ASSAM,

&c. &c. &c.

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circumstances. Of course I watch Mr. S. very narrowly, and not the slightest symptom can pass unnoticed. Query—If disease really exists, by the plan now in practice, I am shortening Mr. Scott's days ; if those days are made much more comfortable to his feeling, am I justified ? Most sincerely hoping that my next will be as favourable as the present one, with compliments to Mrs. Lamb,

I am,

My dear Sir,

Your's much obliged,

HENRY L. BEADON.

P. S. Should any thing in the smallest degree unfavourable occur, you shall be immediately informed of it.

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No. 8.

*Mr. Scott to Mr. Lamb, Singamaree, 8th May.*

MY DEAR LAMB,

I HAVE given so many contradictory accounts of the state of my health, that I have now delayed writing to you, until I might ascertain whether the amendment that took place after the despatch of my last letter, was likely to prove at all permanent. Since the 16th ultimo, I have not had a bad night, nor any starting of consequence ; but, at the same time, I do not think that the palpitation is much, if at all, abated ; nor is there any alteration in the thrilling (I fancy) *purring* sensation, with which it is attended. I have been taking bitters and alteratives, and living well ; going out also to shoot, occasionally, from which I have not experienced any bad consequences. Nevertheless, there is not so great an abatement of the

chief symptom, as I experienced about the time I was at *Naraingong*.—Many thanks for the drawings, and the promised oat seed. I never saw this lizard—in color it resembles the biskopra, but the latter has a shorter tail, and is considered (I believe without foundation) poisonous by the natives. We had a tremendous storm of hail a few days ago; which, if it extended so far, must, I fear, have greatly injured your coffee crop. I collected a sufficient quantity of the stones to enable me to ascertain the rate at which ice melts; and the result leaves no doubt as to the feasibility of supplying Calcutta from Churra Poonjee. The contents of a small bucket, weighing about 14lbs., and not exceeding eight or nine inches in diameter, took about 40 hours to melt, so that a mass of — in every direction would not be entirely consumed in less than about a month; and, as the voyage might, by proper means, be performed in fifteen days, a sufficient portion of every cargo would reach the presidency. We have been shooting tigers and rhinoceroses, or, rather, shooting *at* the latter; having seen six the day before yesterday, and failed in killing even one. With best regards to the Ladies,

I am, Your's very sincerely,

D. SCOTT.

P. S. I have not ventured to take (moogdur\*) exercise yet, but have rode a good deal, slowly, without any inconvenience.

D. S.

\* This is an exercise common in India. It consists in throwing the arms (with a short and very heavy club in each hand) successively over the head and opposite shoulders. Its object is to expand and strengthen the chest and arms.—Ed.