

THE
ASIATIC JOURNAL

AND *monthly register*

MONTHLY REGISTER

FOR



British India and its Dependencies.

CONTAINING

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VOL. II.

FROM JUNE TO DECEMBER 1816.

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1816.

an old and respectable Armenian merchant, who resided forty-six years at that Settlement, esteemed by all who had the honour of his acquaintance, and has left a circle of relations and friends, to deplore his irreparable loss.

March 16, Mrs. G. M. Pereyra, aged twenty-five years, after a long and painful illness, which she bore with becoming fortitude.

March 15, at St. Thomas's Mount, aged 50 years, Mr. Francis Johnson.

March 16, at Myrtle Grove, the residence of her son, Edward Gordon, Esq. and in the 60th year of her age, Mrs. L. A. Gordon, relict of the late William Gordon, Esq. surgeon on this establishment.

BOMBAY.

APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Wm. Ashburner Morgan, Registrar to the Vice Admiralty Court at Bombay, is appointed to succeed the late Mr. J. Stephenson, as Company's Solicitor at that Presidency; Mr. Hungerford at present holds the latter situation.

By the death of Mr. Stephenson, the office of Registrar to the Archdeaconry of Bombay becomes vacant; it is in the patronage of the Bishop of Calcutta.

Sir John Malcolm goes out in the Charles Mill, Captain Christopher, direct to Madras; she is expected to sail daily.

DEATHS.

June 28, on board the Albion, on his passage from Calcutta to England, for the recovery of his health, first Lieut. Thos. Richardson, of the Bombay Marine.

In Camp, near Chittore in Waugur, Feb. 17, after a long illness, Lieut. James Steele, of the Hon. Compa. y's regt. of Bombay E. Inf.

CEYLON.

April 3.—On Thursday morning last, his Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Colonel Young, R.A. Mr. Sutherland, secretary for the Kandian Provinces, Doctor High, dep. inspector of hospitals, Major Hardy, dep. quarter master gen. and A. D. C., left Colombo on a tour through the Kandian provinces.—His Excellency enters the three Caries by the route of Avisahawelle, and from thence turning to the right crosses by a pass into the fertile province of Saffragam, and skirting along the base of Adam's Peak, visits Battugdera and Ballamgodde, and from the latter place passing over the Idalgashena mountain into the lofty table land of Ouwah, inspects the British post at Badula. From this station, his Excellency proposes to return to Colombo by the way of Kandy.

On the 1st his Excellency was at Battugdera, much pleased with the fertile appearance of the province, and the demonstration of attachment to the British government exhibited by the inhabitants.

Saffragam abounds in Areka coffee, pepper, cardomoms and wax. The luxuriance of the soil, and the exuberance of vegetation, are said to exceed every thing of the kind the party had before observed, great exertions are making to open the roads, and in the course of a few years, it is hoped that few natural obstacles will exist to oppose that free commercial intercourse with the interior of this island, which will tend so greatly to increase its general prosperity.

BIRTHS.

At Colombo, the lady of Captain Cleather, H. M. S. 3d Ceylon regt. Dep. Judge Advocate, of a daughter.

At Colombo, the Honourable Mrs. Rodney, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

At Colombo, Feb. 7, of a liver complaint, Lieut. Chambers, 18th regt. Nat. Inf.

At Colombo, March 3, aged 64 years, Jacob Burmand, Esq. late Assenior merchant, in the Dutch East-India Service, universally regretted; this gentleman arrived in Ceylon in the year 1778, as a junior merchant, and was shortly appointed as Chief of the Batticaloa District, and subsequently, on account of his superior local knowledge, to the high office of *Desaave* of Jaffnapatam.

At Colombo, March 11, Mr. Frans De Bruin, aged 46 years and 7 months, formerly Head Printer at the Government Press.

MAURITIUS.

MARRIAGE.

Jan. 18, Mr. Jean Rappardette, to Mrs. Marie Sydonie Lehouq Santassan, (divorced Douglas).

DEATHS.

At Port Louis, Feb. 16, Philip, the infant son of Lieut. Barlow, H. M. 93d regt. aged 2 years and 3 months.

At Port Louis, Nov. 26, Mr. Samuel Chambers, formerly Foreman of the late Mauritius Government press.

At this Port, Jan. 13, aged 65 years, after a course of lingering illness, sustained with equanimity and Christian fortitude, Henry F. Greville, Esq. Assistant Treasurer and Accountant General.

JAVA.

A dreadful fire recently occurred at Passarawang, which in its rapid progress destroyed, within an hour, from ninety to a hundred houses. It was occasioned by a thief, who entered a house inhabited by a Javanese and his wife, having excavated a hole under the threshold of the door. The inhabitants being awoke, a conflict ensued between the thief and the man, whilst the poor woman retreated into an inner apartment. The noise soon assembled the neighbours, but with the timidity that characterises the Javanese, they did not venture to enter the dwelling to afford the necessary assistance. The man being thus left alone, maintained a conflict for some time, in which he wounded his antagonist, but receiving himself a wound in the groin, was unable to effect his escape. The robber perceiving the house to be surrounded by armed people, and that his retreat was impracticable, locked the door in the inside and set fire to the roof, which being composed of combustible materials soon communicated to the whole building, and involved the adjacent houses in flames. The poor woman, by cutting a hole through the wall, contrived to get out, but was dreadfully burnt, and is still in a dangerous condition. The robber, it would appear, preferred self-immolation to delivering himself up, and was found the next morning, amidst the ruins, seated in a large water-jar, burnt to death, with both his legs and one

consumed. Thus, by the despatch of one individual, have nearly a hundred families been deprived of their roofs, and have lost the greater part of their little property, which but for the voluntary exertions of the inhabitants, and to the fortunate circumstance of wind subsiding at the moment, might have extended to the whole town.

The volcanic mountain, on the Island of Umbawa, named Tomboro, an account of the awful eruption of which is published in our Journal, has been so much reduced by the enormous quantity ejected in its late convulsion, as to have assumed the form of table land—instead of the peak, for which it was formerly remarkable.

A Chinese trading junk belonging to Batavia, which she left in January last on a voyage to the West Coast and Batavia, on her return, and lying at anchor in the harbour of Pulo Dua on the West Coast, when she was attacked on the 1st of July by three piratical boats, containing nineteen Malays. The Nakhoda and part of the crew were on shore at the time, and there being but nine remaining in charge of the junk, the pirates succeeded in capturing her, after having killed three of the crew, and compelled the remainder, half of whom were wounded, to jump overboard and swim for their lives. They then took possession of a chest containing 11,000 dollars, the proceeds of the voyage, and immediately dispatched them in one of their boats to Sinkil, a port near to Pulo Dua. The unfortunate Nakhoda subsequently gained possession of his vessel with the aid of another junk which came in, after a contest, in which five of the pirates were killed, and the remainder put to flight,—and he has since returned to his port. It was ascertained that the pirates were from Sinkil, and headed by a relative of the Rajah of that place, whither he supposed intelligence of the amount of the treasure on board must have been carried, as the junk had been lying at Pulo Dua for six days previous to the attack.

As a large trading prow, laden with attans was on her way from Batavia to Batra (on the east coast of Sumatra, about one hundred miles to the southward) to Batavia, she was hailed early in the morning by three large canoes and two boats, who demanded of the Nakhoda a supply of rice, and inquired if he had pepper or tin on board. Upon being told the nature of the cargo, they immediately commenced an attack with blunderbusses, and other fire-arms, which was returned by the crew of the vessel;—when a spark unhappily communicated to a jar containing their powder, (about four gantons in quantity) it exploded

whilst the Nakhoda was close by it; he immediately jumped overboard and was picked up by the crew, who took to their canoe, abandoning the prow to the piratical enemy. Upon their arrival here, the wretched Nakhoda was instantly conveyed to the hospital, but died very shortly after, having been so dreadfully burnt, that in several parts the skin was literally blown from his body by the violence of the explosion.

A large Java prow, bound to Batavia from Malacca, was attacked and sunk near Salangore, by two large pirate prows and four or five smaller ones, commanded, it is said, by some men of Rhio. The pirates, after taking the Javanese prisoners put the Nakhoda ashore on one of the Sambelong Islands, which is uninhabited, where he was two days afterwards discovered by a Malay fisherman, who conveyed him to Perah.

"During the progress, in 1815, of the Lieut.-Governor to the Eastward," says a correspondent, "His Excellency elevated several of the natives to additional rank, and was himself present at the installation of the Pambambahan, at Sumanap, which diffused universal joy. The greatest part of the population of the district was assembled on the occasion, and the ceremony took place amidst the firing of artillery and the reiterated plaudits of the multitude.

"The son of the Sultan of Madura has been declared heir apparent of that country, and obtained the title of Pangerang Ali Patty.

"The son of the Adi Patty of Grisace has been appointed Tumlungong, and eventually to succeed. The son of the late Tumlungong of Sedayo, (whose hospitality every traveller must recollect) has been confirmed regent, and we have likewise been informed that his Excellency conferred the additional rank of Adi Patty on the Tumlungongs of Banghill and Besooke, sons of the present regent of Laasum, a Javanese nobleman much distinguished by his abilities, who was presented by General Daendels with the ribbon of the order of knighthood established by King Louis, in testimony of the great services performed by him for the government."

From the log-book of the Dispatch, it appears that on the night of the 11th of April 1815, the explosions of the Tomboro Mountain were distinctly heard, like the discharge of heavy cannon, at the distance of seven degrees to the Eastward of Bima. Capt. Fenn informs us that the floats of timber and pumice-stone were so considerable along the coast of Flores, that it was with great difficulty the ship could at times make any progress through the water; and the hulk of some of the spars was so great, that she must have