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Being which preserves, destroys, and creates." The second implies, "That only being, which is neither male nor female." The third announces, "The true Being." These collective terms simply affirm, that *one unknown true Being is the Creator, Preserver, and Destroyer of the Universe.*

METEOROLOGY OF MADRAS.

[The following Table of Observations is the production of John Chamier, Esq. who resided for a considerable time on the coast of Coromandel.—*Edit.*]

FORT ST. GEORGE, or Madras, on the coast of Coromandel, in the East Indies, is situated in lat. 13° 4' North, and in long. 80° 33' East. The walls of the fortifications are within a few yards of the sea, and the beach is nearly South and North; of course, whenever the wind is to eastward of North or South, it blows from the sea.

The thermometer from which the annexed observations were made, was placed in a room moderately exposed to the weather. The house fronting S. E. distant about a mile, in a strait line, from the sea.

The state of the thermometer is marked at sunrise in the morning, at noon, and at midnight, although it sometimes happened that the observation was made an hour later or sooner than the time marked.

It must also be noted, that there was another thermometer (made by Ramsden,) in the same room, which was more exposed to the land-winds than the one from which the observations were made; it, from that reason, was sometimes a degree or more higher than the other, which was placed at a small distance from it.

Height of the Thermometer at Madras.
(From the Diary of J. Chamier, Esq.)

Month.	*Medium.*	*Greatest Heat.*		*Extreme difference.*
January..	75 1	79 7	69 3	10 4
February..	76 6	82 0	70 6	11 4
March....	80 5	85 7	74 0	11 7
April.....	83 2	86 7	77 7	12 6
May.....	84 7	92 2	78 3	13 9
June.....	85 9	94 3	81 7	12 6
July.....	84 1	91 0	79 0	12 0
August...	82 9	89 2	77 8	11 4
September	82 9	89 5	78 0	11 5
October..	80 9	87 3	74 0	13 3
November	77 8	83 0	72 3	10 7
December.	77 1	81 3	73 0	8 3
General Medium	80 9	87 1	75 5	11 6

Hence, by the Diary, it appears, the medium height of the thermometer, at Madras, is 80. 9.; the general greatest height 87. 1.; and the least, 75. 5.; the extreme difference 11⅔.

This table was constructed from near four thousand observations, made in an interval of between three and four years.

In finding the medium height, the extremes were not compared by the medium of all the observations taken.

SOME ACCOUNT OF POOLO PENANG, OR PRINCE OF WALES'S ISLAND.

PRINCE OF WALES'S ISLAND, called by the natives Pulo or Poolo Penang, from a Malay word signifying Areca-nut and Betel, lies on the fifth parallel of north latitude, and in 100 deg. 20 min. 15 sec. (George-town) of east longitude, at the entrance of the straits of Malacca.

It is somewhat in the shape of an oblong square, about sixteen miles in length, and from six to eight in breadth, distant between two and three miles from the Malay shore.

It was given to Capt. Light by the King of Queda, and first settled in 1786. The greater part of the island is occupied by a lofty irregular ridge of mountains (running in the direction of the island, north and south), the northern extremity of which, is by far the highest; and here they have a signal house, and several bungalows erected.

The whole of this ridge is covered with a forest of trees of immense size, and between its eastern base and the sea,

ing the coast of Queda, there is a vel slip of land, from two to four miles breadth, and ten or twelve miles long. his is well cultivated and laid out in ardens, plantations of pepper, betel, eca, cocoa-nut trees, &c. intersected all directions with pleasant carriage ads, whose sides are lined with a va- ety of shrubs and trees that are in per- tual verdure. The whole of this space interspersed with villas and bungalows, here the Europeans occasionally retire enjoy the country air, as a relaxation ter business in town.

On the north-eastern point of this slip f land are situated Fort Cornwallis and eorge-town, called by the natives Tan- ong Painaique.

This island may contain European ettlers and their dependants, Malays, umatrans, Chinese, &c.... 11,000 souls. Of itinerants..... 1,000 do.

Total..... 12,000

Abundance and great variety of excel- ent fish are caught in every direction ound the island, which, from the salu- rity of its air, is justly esteemed the Montpelier of India.

Coups-de-soleil are seldom experienced in this settlement, although the Euro- peans walk and ride about at all times of the day, completely exposed to a vertical sun.

In short, as soon as the wet docks are established on Poolo Jaraja (a small island between Penang and the main), this will be the most beautiful, healthy, and flourishing settlement in the East Indies.

From the dawn of day, until the sun has emerged above the high mountains of Queda, and even for some time after this period, Penang rivals any thing that has been fabled of the Elysian fields.

The dews which have fallen in the course of the night, and by remaining on the trees, shrubs, and flowers, have be- come impregnated with their odours, early in the morning begin to exhale, and fill the air with the most delightful per- fumes; while the European inhabitants, taking advantage of this pleasant season for exercise, crowd the roads (some in carriages, some on horseback, and others on foot), till the sun getting to some height above the mountains of Queda, becomes so powerful as to drive them into their bungalows, to enjoy a good breakfast with a keen appetite.

A small party of us having obtained permission to occupy the Convalescent Bungalow on the mountain, for the pur- pose of breathing a cooler and purer air, we repaired thither early in March.

The distance from the town to that part of the base of the mountain where the path commences, is about five miles, and from thence to the summit, better than three.

The pathway, which is not more than eight or ten feet wide, is cut with incre- dible labour, through a forest of im- mensely tall trees, whose umbrageous foliage uniting above, excludes, except at some particular turnings, the least glimpse of the heavens, involving one, all the way up, in pensive gloom.

It frequently winds along the brinks of yawning and frightful precipices, at the bottoms of which one shudders to behold huge trunks of trees rived and fractured, while precipitating themselves down the craggy and steep descent.

Steep and rugged as this path is, the little Sumatran horses mount it with great safety; the ladies, however, are generally carried up in a kind of sedan chair, borne on the shoulders of some stout Malays.

After a tiresome ascent of two or three hours, we gained the summit; and were amply rewarded for our labour by the most extensive and beautifully variegated prospect we had ever seen in India.

The eye ranges over a beautiful plain, laid out in pepper plantations, gardens, groves of the cocoa-nut, betel, areca, and various other trees, checkered throughout with handsome villas and bungalows, in- tersected by pleasant carriage-roads, and watered with meandering rills, that flow from the mountain's side, clear as the crystal.

Here may be seen standing in perfect peace and amity with each other, the Hindoo temple and pagoda; the Chinese josshouse; the Christian chapel, and va- rious other places of worship; every one enjoying the unmolested exercise of his religion.

From hence, the eye stretches over the beautiful strait that separates the island from the main; and whose glassy surface reflects the faint images of the clouds

bove, and lofty mountains that tower on each of its sides.

The thermometer at the bungalows, generally ranges from 70 to 80 degrees; sometimes at night, however, it stands as low as sixty-two degrees; and indeed, so cold did we feel it, that we generally slept with a blanket over us; a very rare occurrence within six degrees of the equator.

As soon as it gets dark on this mountain, there arises on every side, a singular concert of birds and insects, which deprived us of sleep for the first night or two. Far above the rest, the trumpeter (a very curious animal about an inch in length), saluted our ears regularly for a few hours after sunset, with a sound so strong, that the first time I heard it, I actually thought a party of dragoons were approaching the bungalows, nor could I be persuaded for some time, that such a diminutive creature could possibly possess organs capable of emitting such a tremendously loud note.

Deer of a very curious species, are sometimes, though rarely, found in the woods of this island; but lions, tigers, and other ferocious animals, are unknown. A tiger did once swim across from the Queda shore, and made for the mountains here, but was shot soon after his landing; he was supposed to be the only one that ever was on the island. Birds of the most beautiful plumage, are seen on almost every branch of a tree, through this island; but nature has been so very bountiful in cloathing them with her most gaudy liveries, that she has thought proper to make a drawback, by depriving them of the melodious tones which so often charm us in birds of a more homely exterior.

There is, however, one small bird on this island (whose name I forget), which perches among the leaves of the tall areca tree, and sings mornings and evenings, in a style far superior to that of any bird I have seen between the tropics.

The Argus pheasant is found in this island, but they are generally brought over dried, from the Malay coast, where they abound, and are here sold for a dollar each.

With respect to the domestic animals, they are but few; and those brought from the neighbouring parts: horses from Pedir, on the coast of Sumatra; buffaloes from Queda; and sheep, &c. from Bengal.

The buffaloes are brought over from the opposite coast, in a very curious manner; six or eight of them being collected together on the beach, thongs of leather, or pieces of rattan, are passed in at one nostril and out at the other, then made fast to the sides and stern of the boat, which is pushed off from the shore, and the buffaloes driven into the water along with it; these thongs, or rattans, keeping their noses above water, and assisting them in swimming, until they gain the opposite shore, unless seized on their passage by the alligator.

The buffalo often becomes a most dangerous animal when enraged by the heat of the sun, or any other cause. At these periods the animal rushes furiously upon any thing in its way, and dashes into the houses, upsetting and breaking through all obstructions, as it is possessed of great muscular strength, and runs about with impetuous velocity, there is no mode of subduing it, but by killing the animal with spears or shot.

A large one lately made a desperate sally through George-town, while the gentlemen of the settlement fired on him in all directions, from their verendahs; at length he rushed through the governor's kitchen, upsetting the cook and all his utensils; but what was still worse, a ball from a rifle, aimed at the furious buffalo, unfortunately struck the poor harmless cook; and between the fright occasioned by the animal, and the idea of being shot to boot, he very nearly died.

As these creatures have very little hair on their bodies, they are utterly unable to bear the scorching rays of the sun towards mid-day; at these times, therefore, they betake themselves to every pool and puddle in the neighbourhood, rolling themselves in the mud, and then lying with their nostrils just above water, until the fervency of the atmosphere has somewhat abated. On coming out from their cool retreats, they are the most uncouth and disgusting objects imaginable, having a coat of clay an inch or two in thickness, which, in a few minutes, is hardened by the sun into a crust that defends their hides from his powerful rays during the remainder of the day.

They are the only animals used in la-our; their flesh is tolerably good, and excrescence that grows on the top of eir shoulders called a hump, when salt-l and well preserved (especially in Ben-al), is esteemed excellent eating; in ort, it is the most useful animal in dia.

Alligators are very common round the ores of this island, rendering it very nsafe to bathe on any part of the coast. nakes of an immense size have likewise een found here by the early settlers, but re now very rare. Bandicotes (a species f large rat) are extremely numerous on he island, and do a great deal of mis-hief, as does likewise the white rat. It s astonishing what effects these very mall insects are capable of producing; hey will destroy the interior parts of the eams and rafters in houses; leaving a hin external shell of solid wood, that ompletely deceives the eye, and lulls nto a false security the unsuspecting lodger, who frequently sees with astonish-ment the whole fabric come tumbling to the ground without any apparent cause, or perhaps is himself involved in its ruins!

When these dangerous insects find their way on board ships it becomes a very se-rious concern; as no one can tell where they may be making their destructive bur-rows, perhaps through the thin plank that separates the whole crew from eternity!

In these cases there is no method of destroying them, but by sinking the ves-sel in shallow water for some days, until they are all drowned.

The principal useful trees, shrubs, and plants, on this island, are those that bear the cocoa-nut, areca-nut, pepper, and betel. The cocoa-nut tree is raised by burying the nut (stript of its fibrous root) at some depth in the ground; and it is very singular that the stem is nearly as thick when it makes its appearance above ground, as it ever becomes afterwards, though it sometimes rises to the height of fifty or sixty feet.

The areca-tree makes a very handsome appearance; its branches are small, but its leaves are very beautiful, forming a round tuft at the top of the trunk, which grows as strait as an arrow to the height of twenty-five or thirty feet. The shell which contains the fruit is about the size of a wall-nut, and of a yellowish reed colour outside, and rough within; when ripe it is astringent, and not unpleasant to the taste.

It is needless to say how much this nut (when mixed with leaves of the betel and chunam) is used in chewing by all classes of the natives. This composition is call-ed Pinang (whence the name of the island), and though it has an agreeable flavour, it gives the mouths of the na-tives, who use it, a most diabolical ap-pearance, rendering what few straggling teeth they have as black as jet; while their disgusting chops seem as gory as if they had been mangling a piece of raw flesh.

The pepper-plant is a shrub whose root is small, fibrous, and flexible; it rises into a stem which requires a tree or prop to support it; its wood has the same sort of knots as the vine, and when dry it ex-actly resembles the vine branch. The leaves which have a strong smell and pun-gent taste, are of an oval shape, but they diminish towards the extremity, and end in a point. From the flower buds, which are white, and sometimes placed in the middle, sometimes at the extremities of the branches, are produced small bunches resembling those of the currant tree; each of these contains from twenty to thirty corns of pepper; they are com-monly gathered in October, and exposed to the sun seven or eight days. The fruit, which was green at first, and afterwards red, when stripped of its covering, as-sumes the appearance it has when we see it; it is not sown, but planted; a great nicety is required in the choice of the shoots; it produces no fruit till the end of three years, but bears so plentifully the three succeeding years, that some plants yield six or seven pounds of pepper in that period. The bark then begins to shrink, and in twelve years time it ceases bearing.

The culture of pepper is not difficult; it is sufficient to plant it in a rich soil, and carefully to pull up the weeds that grow in great abundance round its roots, es-pecially the three first years. As the sun is highly necessary to the growth of the pepper plant, when it is ready to bear, the trees that support it must be lopped, to prevent their shade from injuring the fruit.

The betel is a species of this genus. It is a climbing and creeping plant like ivy; and its leaves a good deal resemble those of the citron, though they are longer and narrower at the extremity. It grows in all parts of India, but thrives best in moist places; the natives cultivate it as we do the vine, placing props for it to run and climb upon; and it is a common practice to plant it against the tree that bears the areca nut.

Fruits are plentiful on this beautiful island; the pine-apple grows wild, while shaddocks, plantains, jack-fruit, oranges, lemons, &c. are reared with the greatest ease.

Though Prince of Wales's Island exports very little of its own productions, except pepper and wood, yet there is a very considerable trade carried on here, from its being in a central situation between India, China, and the Eastern Islands.

The merchants take advantage of the fleets passing and repassing, to export to China, &c. opium, betel, pepper, tin, rattans, and various other articles which they have already collected; and for which they receive either dollars, or the productions of China, and the Eastern Isles, which they afterwards ship off to India, or send home to Europe, whichever they may find most advantageous.

ON THE TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR, THE SEA, ANIMALS, &c. WITHIN THE TROPICS.

(From the Journal of Science, &c.)

Extract of a Letter from John Davy, M.D. F.R.S. to Sir Humphry Davy.

Cape Town, May 18, 1816.

Between England and the Cape, I found the sea water, in different latitudes and longitudes, nearly of the same specific gravity; the greatest difference has not exceeded one or two per cent.

Thus water taken up in the English Channel, into which a considerable quantity of fresh water from rivers is discharged, was of specific gravity 1077, and that under the Line, no more than 1087, so that the assertion contained in many chemical works, respecting the greatly increased density and saltness of the sea within the tropics, is quite unfounded. Whether there be any difference of composition I shall ascertain at my leisure, on my arrival at Ceylon, by examination of the numerous specimens of salt-water which I have carefully preserved for analysis.

The temperature of the atmosphere and of the ocean, was a subject to which I paid, during the whole voyage, much and minute attention, and at every part of the twenty-four hours. All the results I obtained were almost such as might have been anticipated, by reasoning on the principles of natural philosophy. For instance, the little difference of temperature, at a great distance from land, during the day and night, not exceeding two degrees. The temperature of the air being greatest exactly at noon, and the temperature of the water at its maximum, about two hours after; the heat under the line with a vertical sun, not exceeding 82°, and that of the water being nearly equally great; for instance 80° or 81°: the rare occurrence of dew, the great humidity of the atmosphere, &c.

These circumstances, I need not point out to you, throw considerable light on the established fact of the great salubrity of sea-voyaging, and its excellency as a remedy for pulmonary affections; the great purity of the air, in which not a particle of dust floats, or the minutest insect moves, likewise must be noticed, not to dwell upon the gentle exercise of the body.

The temperature of the human body has also occupied my attention; and the observations I have made seem to me interesting, and particularly how long exposure to predisposes to febrile affection, by augmenting the temperature of the system; I must barely state my results without further comments.

In Europe the average temperature of the human body is 98°. In most on board, it was no higher out of the tropic; under the line it had increased one