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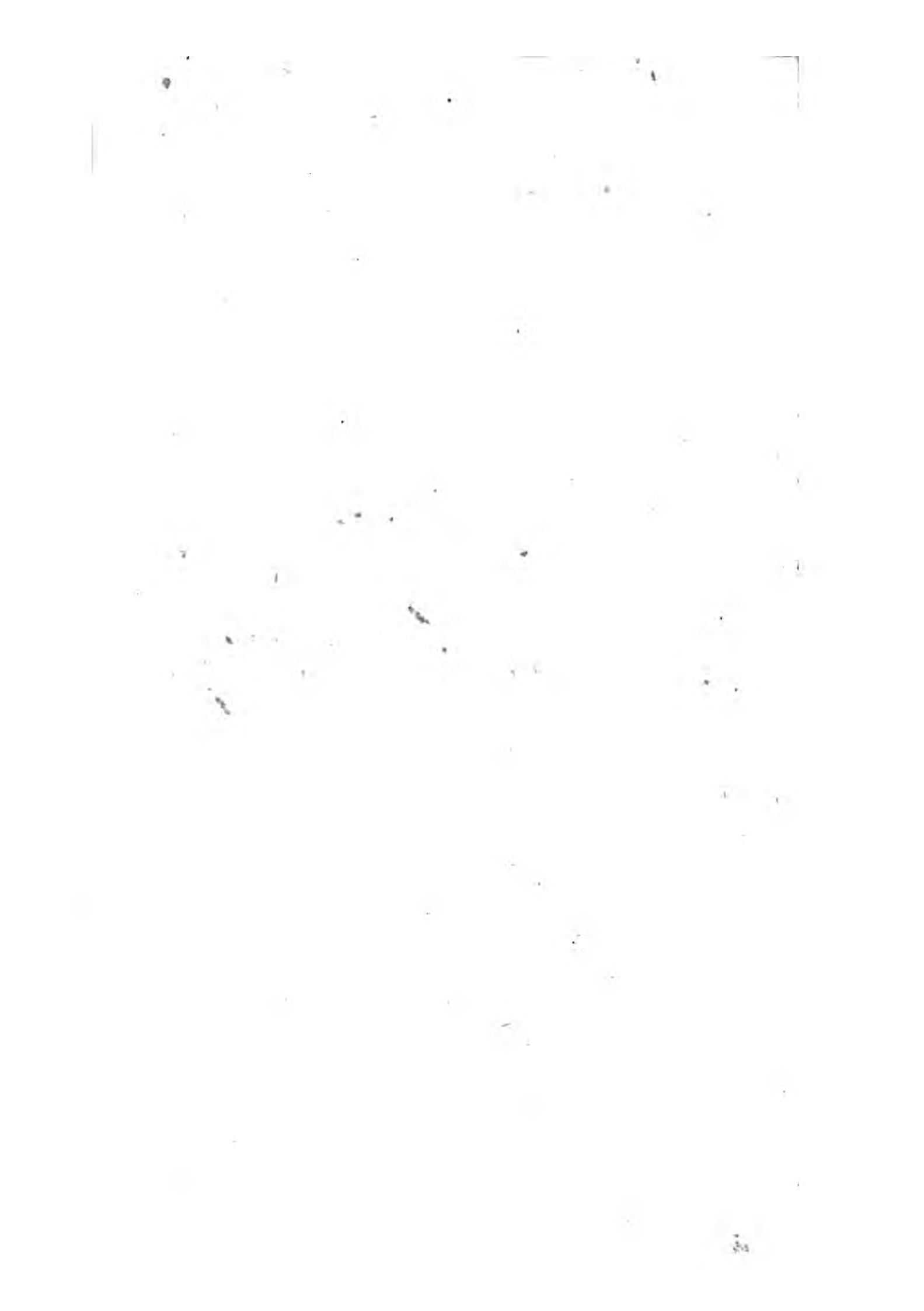
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Moisier William
December: 1829



Travels
in the
Interior Districts of
AFRICA.

Performed in the Years 1795. 1796. & 1797.

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MUNGO PARK.

With an Account
of his Subsequent Mission to that Country
in 1805.

A new Edition, Abridged.

IN TWO VOLUMES.



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PARK'S
TRAVELS IN AFRICA.

CHAP. XXI.



Notions of Mandingoes respecting the earth and heavenly bodies.
Their religious opinions. Diseases, and method of cure. Funeral ceremonies. Amusements. Arts. Manufactures, &c.

THE Negroes, in general, as well as the Mandingoes, have no other method of dividing time, than by the computation of *ruiny seasons*, which serve, in some measure, to denote the years. These are divided into moons, the days are computed by suns, and these again are subdivided into morning, mid-day, and evening, dividing it still into smaller portions, if neces-

sary, by pointing to the sun's place in the heavens.

They consider it as unnecessary to address their Creator, except on the first appearance of the new moon, which they suppose to be then created, when they pronounce a short prayer in a kind of whisper, concealing their faces till it be concluded, at which time each individual spits in his hands, and rubs them over his face. They consider the last quarter of the moon to be an inauspicious period for beginning a journey or any important business whatever. They pay little regard to the stars; they consider an eclipse of the sun or moon as brought about by means of witchcraft; and the terms astronomy and magic are viewed as of synonymous import.

Their notions of geography are equally puerile: they imagine that the world is an extended plain, the termination of which no eye can discover; it being, they say, overhung with clouds and darkness. This erroneous idea respecting the figure of the earth entertained by negroes, need create no astonishment, since vast numbers in Britain itself, consider the earth as an extended plain, which might be corrected by a number of very simple observations. When a ship departs from the land, we could never lose sight of any part of her as far as the eye could reach, were the earth an

extended plain, since, upon this supposition, she would only be diminished in magnitude in proportion to her distance from us; but this is not the case: we first lose sight of her hull, the masts then gradually disappear, and last of all, they go entirely out of our view. This is owing to the figure of the earth, which is nearly in the form of a ball.

They describe the sea as a large river of salt water, on the farther shore of which is situated a country called Tobaudodoo, "The Land of the White People." At a distance from Tobaudodoo, they describe another country, which they suppose is inhabited by cannibals of gigantic size; this country they call "The Land where the Slaves are sold." But of all countries in the world, their own appears to them to be the best, and their own people the happiest.

The inhabitants of some countries are found to be in the possession of sentiments and ideas the very reverse of these. Such as are under the influence of political disaffection and discontent, always imagine that any other country upon earth is much better and happier than their own, and hence they are perpetually at work to subvert the government and constitution of the country of which they are the unworthy natives. Sentiments such as these brought about the French revolution; and such

will be the result of similar opinions in every age and country, if not instantly crushed the very moment they appear.

Some of the religious opinions of the Negroes are not unworthy of attention. The belief of one Supreme Being, and a future state of rewards and punishments is universal among them. But, except on the appearance of a new moon, they do not think it necessary to offer up prayers and supplications to the Deity. They view him as the creator and preserver of all things; but consider him as a Being so remote, and of so exalted a nature, that it is idle to imagine the feeble supplications of wretched mortals can reverse the decrees, and change the purposes, of unerring wisdom. If they are asked for what reason they pray at the new moon; they answer because their fathers did so before them. The concerns of this world they believe are committed by the Almighty to the superintendance and direction of subordinate spirits, over whom they suppose that certain magical ceremonies have great influence. A white fowl suspended to the branch of a particular tree, a snake's head, or a few handfuls of fruit, are offerings to deprecate the displeasure of these tutelary agents. They seldom make religious opinions the subject of conversation; and, when interrogated concerning their ideas of a future state, they shorten

the discussion by saying, "No man knows any thing about it."

The Mandingoes seldom attain extreme old age. At forty, most of them become grey-headed, and covered with wrinkles. They calculate the years of their lives by the number of rainy seasons, and distinguish each year by a particular name, founded on some remarkable occurrence which happened in that year. Thus they say, "the Year of the War;—The Year Gadoo was plundered;—and Mr. Park is of opinion that the year 1796 will long be distinguished by the name of—The Year the White Man passed."

Their diseases are but few in number; their simple diet, and active mode of life, preserve them from many disorders. Fevers and fluxes are the most fatal. On the first attack of a fever, when the patient complains of cold, he is frequently placed in a sort of vapour bath; this is done by spreading branches of the *nuclea orientalis* upon hot wood embers, and laying the patient upon them, wrapped up in a large cotton cloth; water is then sprinkled upon the branches, which, descending to the hot embers, soon covers the patient with a cloud of vapour, in which he is allowed to remain until the embers are almost extinguished. This practice produces a profuse perspiration, and wonderfully relieves the sufferer. For the dysentery

they use the bark of different trees reduced to powder, and mixed with the patient's food. The other diseases prevalent are, the yaws, the elephantiasis, and a leprosy of the very worst kind. This first appears in many rough spots on the body, which finally settle upon the hands or feet, where the skin becomes withered, and cracks in many places. At length the ends of the fingers swell and ulcerate; the discharge is acrid and fetid; the nails drop off; and the bones of the fingers become carious, and separate at the joints. In this manner the disease continues to spread until the patient often loses all his fingers and toes, and frequently his hands and feet. This leprosy the negroes call "The incurable malady." The *Guinea-worm* is also very common in certain places, as also glands on the neck. The simple gonorrhœa sometimes has appeared in the interior, but never the confirmed lues.

The Negroes are better surgeons than physicians; they are successful in their management of fractures and dislocations, and their splinters and bandages are simple, and easily removed. The patient is laid upon a soft mat, and the fractured limb is frequently bathed with cold water. All abscesses they open with the actual cautery, and the dressings are composed of soft leaves, shea-butter, or cow's dung. Towards the coast, where European lancets can

be procured, they practise phlebotomy; and, in cases of local inflammation, a curious sort of cupping is practised. This operation is performed by making incisions in the part, and applying to it a bullock's horn with a small hole in the end; the operator then takes a piece of bees wax in his mouth, and, putting his lips on the hole, extracts the air from the horn; and, by a dextrous use of his tongue, stops up the hole with wax. When a person of consequence dies, the relations and neighbours meet together and manifest their sorrow by loud howlings. A bullock or goat is killed for such persons as assist at the funeral, which generally takes place in the evening of the day on which the party died. The negroes have an appropriate burial-place, and frequently dig the grave in the floor of the deceased's hut, or in the shade of a favourite tree. The body is dressed in white cotton, and wrapped up in a mat. It is carried to the grave in the dusk of the evening by the relations. If the grave be without the walls of the town, a number of prickly bushes are laid upon it to prevent the wolves from digging up the body. Mr. Park never saw a grave covered with a stone, nor did he perceive any attempt to perpetuate, by any kind of monument, the memory of the deceased.

Their musical instruments are the koonting, a sort of guitar, with three strings. The kor-ro is a large harp, with eighteen strings. The simbling, a small harp, with seven strings. The balafou, an instrument composed of twenty pieces of hard wood of different lengths, with the shells of gourds underneath, to increase the sound. The tantang, a drum, open at the lower end; the tabala, a large drum, used to spread an alarm. Besides these, they make use of small flutes, bow-strings, elephants' teeth, and bells; and at their dances and concerts, clapping of hands appears to constitute a necessary part of the chorus. They have a taste for poetry. Their poets consist of two classes; the most numerous are the singing-men. Some of these are to be found in every town. They sing extempore songs in honour of their chief men or other persons, who are willing to give, "solid pudding for empty praise." A nobler part of their office is to recite the historical events of their country; hence in war they accompany the soldiers to the field of battle, in order that, by reciting the great deeds of their ancestors, they may awaken in them a spirit of glorious emulation. The other class of poets are devotees of the Mahometan faith, who travel about the country singing devout hymns, and performing religious ceremonies. The diet of the negroes is

various in different districts. In general, the people of free condition breakfast about day-break upon gruel made of meal and water, with a little of the fruit of the tamarind to give it an acid taste. About two o'clock in the afternoon, a sort of hasty-pudding, with a little shea-butter, is the common meal, but the supper constitutes the principal repast, and is seldom ready before midnight. This consists almost universally of kouskous, with a small portion of animal food or shea-butter, mixed with it. In eating they use the right hand only. The beverage of the pagan negroes is beer and mead, of each of which they often drink to excess. The Mahometan converts drink nothing but water. The natives, of all descriptions, take snuff and smoke tobacco; their pipes are made of wood, with an earthen bowl of curious workmanship; but in the interior countries, the greatest of all luxuries is salt. It would appear strange to an European to see a child suck a piece of rock-salt as if it were sugar; this is frequent in Africa; but the poorer sort of inhabitants are so rarely indulged with this precious article, that to say, "a man eats salt to his victuals," is to say he is a *rich man*. The negroes are in general very industrious; they are employed in the labours of the field, in fishing, or in hunting; their weapons are bows and arrows; they are very dextrous

marksmen, and will hit a lizard on a tree, or any other small object, at an amazing distance.

The women spin cotton with a distaff; the thread is not fine but well twisted, and makes a very durable cloth. The weaving is performed by the men; the loom is made exactly on European principles; but so small and narrow, that a web is seldom more than four inches broad. The shuttle is of the common construction. The women dye this cloth of a rich and lasting blue colour, by the following simple process: The leaves of the indigo, when fresh gathered, are pounded in a wooden mortar, and mixed in a large earthen jar with a strong ley of wood-ashes, and chamber-ley is sometimes added; the cloth is steeped in this mixture, and allowed to remain until it has acquired the proper shade. The colour is very beautiful, with a fine purple gloss, and equal to the best European or Indian blue. This cloth is cut into various pieces, and sewed into garments with needles of the natives own making. The only appropriate and peculiar trades among the negroes are the manufactures of leather and iron; they tan and dress leather with very great expedition, by steeping the hide first in a mixture of wood-ashes and water until it parts with the hair; and afterwards, by using the pounded leaves of a tree, called goo, as an astringent.

They are at great pains to render the hide as soft and pliant as possible, by rubbing it frequently with their hands, and beating it upon a stone. The hides of bullocks are converted chiefly into sandals, and therefore require less care in dressing than the skins of sheep and goats, which are used for covering quivers and saphies and in making sheaths for swords and knives, belts, pockets, &c. Their skins are commonly dyed of red or yellow colour; the red by means of millet-stalks reduced to powder; and the yellow by the root of a plant.

The manufactures in iron are not numerous, There was a melting furnace near Kamalia, a circular tower of clay about ten feet high and three feet in diameter, surrounded in two places with withes, to prevent the clay from cracking and falling to pieces by the violence of the heat. Round the lower part, on a level with the ground, were made seven openings, into each of which were placed three tubes of clay; and the openings again plastered up in such a manner, that no air could enter the furnace but through the tubes; by the opening and shutting of which they regulate the fire. These tubes were formed by plastering a mixture of clay and grass round a smooth roller of wood, which, as soon as the clay began to harden, was withdrawn, and the tube left to dry in the sun. The iron-stone was very heavy, of a dull

red colour, with greyish specks: it was broken into pieces about the size of an hen's egg. A bundle of dry wood was first put into the furnace, and covered with a considerable quantity of charcoal, which was brought ready burnt from the woods. Over this was laid a stratum of iron-stone, and then another of charcoal, and so on, until the furnace was quite full. The fire was applied through one of the tubes, and blown for some time with bellows made of goat's skin. The operation went on very slowly at first, and it was some hours before the flame appeared above the surface; but after this, it burnt with great violence all the first night, and the people who attended put in at times more charcoal. On the day following, the fire was not fierce; and on the second night, some of the tubes were withdrawn, and the air allowed to have freer access to the furnace; but the heat was still very great, and a blueish flame arose some feet above the top of the furnace. On the third day from the commencement of the operation, all the tubes were taken out, the ends of many of them being vitrified with heat; but the metal was not removed until some days afterwards, when the whole was perfectly cool. Part of the furnace was then taken down, and the iron appeared in the form of a large irregular mass, with pieces of charcoal adhering to it; it was sonorous, and when any portion of it

was broken off, the fracture exhibited a granulated appearance, like broken steel. This iron, or rather steel, is formed into various instruments; by being repeatedly heated in a forge, the heat of which is urged by a pair of double bellows of a simple construction, being made of two goat's skins, the tubes from which unite before they enter the forge, and supply a very constant and a very regular blast; the hammer, forceps, and anvil, are all very simple; and the workmanship is not destitute of merit. Most of the African blacksmiths are also acquainted with the method of smelting gold, in which process they use an alkaline salt, obtained from a ley of burnt corn-stalks, evaporated to dryness. They likewise draw the gold into wire, and form it into a variety of ornaments; some of which are executed with considerable taste and ingenuity. The natives also make very beautiful baskets, hats, and other articles, for use and ornament, from rushes, which they stain of different colours; and they also contrive to cover their calabashes with interwoven cane, dyed in the same manner. In all these laborious occupations, the master and his slaves work together, without any distinction of superiority.

Europeans who have visited the coast, generally represent the negroes as an indolent slothful race; but the opinion seems to have been adopted in haste, without any just foundation.

as is manifest from the above detail. The negro inhabits a fertile country, which, with very little labour, returns him an ample produce. He exerts, with great diligence, that degree of labour which is necessary to procure him the necessary supply of food, but has no inducement to exert a greater degree of labour. He cannot dispose of his superfluous produce in a profitable manner, because in a country where each rears his food, there are no purchasers; or if any be inclined to purchase a particular kind of food, he seldom has any other thing than a different kind of food to offer in return. Whatever quantity of food, or of any other article, an European can produce by his labour, he can always easily dispose of the superfluous quantity for some other thing, either necessary or agreeable. In such a case, there must be no end of the exertions of an European, because there can be no end of human wants, real or imaginary; and he can seldom make a market to dispose of his superfluous produce. The negro, when he has provided for a certain period, perhaps for a year, his necessary subsistence and clothing, thinks of no farther exertion, because he has not yet learned to tease himself with artificial wants, and he can seldom find a market for his superfluous produce. The Europeans who have visited this part of Africa, have beheld the consequences of the

negro's situation; but they have been unable, or unwilling to penetrate into the motive of what they beheld; and without considering that the negroes have scarcely any motive to an active life, they have, without hesitation, pronounced them an indolent race. Mr. Park by no means concurs in this opinion, for he assures us that, when it is necessary, no people make greater exertions than the negroes.

CHAP. XXII.



OF AFRICAN SLAVERY.

MR. PARK was informed that the slaves in Africa constitute nearly three-fourths of the whole population, who demand no other recompense for their labour than food and raiment, the treatment they receive being either barbarous or humane, according to the tempers and dispositions of the people by whom they are employed. Such of them as are domesticated, by being born in their master's house, experience more lenity and indulgence than such as are bought with money, and are only subject to moderate correction; nor is it in the power of their masters to sell them without a public trial. Those miserable creatures, however, who are purchased with money, or prisoners of war, may be treated at the pleasure of their masters, or sold to a foreigner without any ceremony. They have regular markets

established for this barbarous traffic, to which Europeans repair, to buy their fellow-creatures like horses or cattle. It is to be hoped, however, that the gradual abolition of a trade which disgraces humanity, will ameliorate the condition of these unhappy Africans; for if no civilized country in Europe will become purchasers, the traffic *must* cease.

The wars of Africa are of two kinds: the first are openly avowed and previously declared; the other species of African warfare arises from a sort of hereditary feud, which the inhabitants of one nation or district bear towards another. No immediate cause of hostility is assigned, or notice of attack given; but the inhabitants watch every opportunity to plunder and distress the objects of their animosity by predatory incursions. Wars of this description are generally conducted with great secrecy, and these plundering excursions always produce speedy retaliation. War is certainly the most general and productive source of slavery; and the desolations of war often produce the second cause of slavery, famine; in which case a free man becomes a slave to avoid a greater calamity. During a great scarcity, which lasted for three years in the countries of the Gambia, great numbers of people became slaves. Many freemen came to Dr. Laidley, then resident there, and earnestly begged to be put upon

his slave chain, to save them from perishing with hunger. Insolvency is another grand cause of slavery.

Mr. Park thinks that this, more frequently than any other crime, reduced free negroes to that state. It might be supposed that, in a country where almost every one may support himself by the produce of the soil, few would be exposed to the hazard of insolvency, or tempted to contract debts which they are unable to pay. Trade, however, has introduced this source of misery into Africa, as well as into more civilized countries. A free negro, who is perhaps weary of the toil of cultivating the ground, forms the desire of becoming rich by a more compendious method. He procures from some negro trader, but more frequently from the Europeans upon the coast, a quantity of goods, which he is to sell on his own account, in a distant market, and of which, at a fixed time, he is to pay the price. In this way some of them, more lucky than their fellows, may gain a considerable sum; but many of them fail in the completion of the bargain, and such conditions are generally made as in a great measure insure the failure, especially when their transactions are with sly Europeans.

When a negro takes up goods on credit from any of the Europeans on the coast, and does not make payment at the time appointed, the

European is authorized, by the laws of the country to seize on the debtor himself, if he can find him, or, if he cannot be found, on any person of his family, or in the last resort, on any native of the same kingdom. The person thus seized is detained while his friends are sent in quest of the debtor; when he is found, a meeting is called of the chief people of the place, and the debtor is compelled to ransom his friend, by fulfilling his engagements; if he be unable to do this, his person is immediately secured, and he is sent down to the coast, and the other released; if the debtor cannot be found, the person seized on is obliged to pay double the amount of the debt, or is himself sold into slavery. The fourth cause of slavery is the committing of crimes, for which slavery is deemed a punishment. The only offences of this class, are murder, adultery, and witchcraft. In cases of murder, the nearest relation of the deceased has it in his power either to kill the offender with his own hand, or sell him into slavery. When adultery occurs, it is generally left to the option of the person injured, either to sell the culprit or accept a ransom for him, equivalent to the injury sustained. By witchcraft, is chiefly meant the administering of poison. Mr. Park is of opinion, that the discontinuance of the traffic in slaves would neither be so extensive or beneficial as many

well intentioned and worthy persons fondly imagine.

In this opinion we can by no means join issue with Mr. Park. The frequency of national wars, and the still greater frequency of plundering expeditions; the famines which these wars often produce, and which frequently force mothers to dispose of their offspring to protract a miserable existence; the temptations held out to negroes to engage in an unprofitable speculation, and the many imaginary crimes which profligate masters are tempted to impute to their domestic slaves, in order to reduce them to the state of slaves for sale, are surely real evils of the greatest magnitude, for the extirpation or diminution of which every benevolent heart must devoutly wish.

Whether this passage contains Mr. Park's own opinion, or whether it was dictated by a respect for the opinions of some of those under whose inspection his narrative was offered to the public, it may be easily inferred, that the beneficial effects of the abolition of the traffic in slaves with Europeans may, in some degree, be calculated by the mischiefs which that traffic has evidently produced, and which it continues to aggravate.

But though it were granted, in opposition to the most evident proofs, that the abolition of the slave trade with Europeans would produce

no beneficial effects to the negroes in Africa, it would still be wrong to conclude, that such an abolition would be productive of no beneficial effects. The negroes in Africa, are not the only human beings on whom this trade entails many miseries. The negroes who are carried to the West-Indies, experience their full share of them; and to abolish the misery of so many thousands of the human race, or at least to prevent other thousands from being carried to similar sufferings, is surely an object of very considerable consequence. To take from the Europeans in the West-Indies the opportunity of debasing their own natures, by domineering with unbridled cruelty over their defenceless slaves; to remove from a nation, in other respects humane and polished, the disgrace of trading in their own species, are surely objects of some importance. The abolition of the slave trade, therefore, must be productive of many beneficial effects, not only to the negroes in Africa, but to the negroes in the West-Indies, to the Europeans in the West-Indies, and to the nation whose regard to humanity and justice has induced it to put an end to so nefarious a commerce.

CHAP. XXIII.



Of gold-dust, and the manner in which it is collected. Of Ivory.
Mode of hunting the Elephant.

GOLD is found in small grains through every part of Manding, as well as in other districts of the interior of Africa, but it never occurs in veins, imbedded in quantities of sand or clay. The grains are about the size of peas. Those who please themselves by extending a few particular facts into an universal law of nature, have sometimes assured us, that gold is not found any where but in mountainous and barren regions. Nor are they without what they consider a reason for this circumstance; nature, in their opinion, having refused other commodities to the regions in which it has placed so precious a metal. But though gold be precious in the sight of an European or Asiatic merchant, or rather in the sight of any merchant, it is not necessarily precious in the sight of na-

ture. Such tribes as are still in a state of nature, and have no knowledge except what she can furnish, place gold in a very inferior department of their scale of excellence. The natives of the South Sea islands, reckon the common necessities of life, and even iron itself, much more valuable than gold.

Nature, in the establishment of its laws, could not have regard to a maxim far from being universally true. In that part of Africa which Mr. Park visited, gold is found in many districts; and though these be in general hilly, yet they are neither mountainous nor barren. The hills are scarcely more than small eminences; the country every where produces the necessities of life in abundance; and it is capable of being made to produce them still more plentifully. The districts in this part of Africa where gold is produced most abundantly, are Manding, and the territory named Jallonkadoo.

Mr. Park was informed that this latter district, where gold was most plentiful, was near a town named Boori. This district has many hills, but is far from being distinguished by barrenness. The town of Boori itself is remarkable, as being almost the only place where the Moors from the desert, and the negroes from the coast, meet with salt, that commodity which in Africa is so highly valuable. The distance which they carry the salt, in the different di-

rections, renders the price of both kinds nearly equal. They both exchange this salt for gold.

In Manding, where Mr. Park had the best opportunity of learning the manner in which gold was procured, he had reason to suppose that it is never found in the matrix, or vein; but this is not wonderful, for it does not appear that the negroes ever search for it in the hills, which must contain the veins, or even near the head of the streams, which wash it down into the plain. It is always found in clay or sand, in the bottom of the streams which descend from the hills; and is generally in very small pieces, from the size of the head of a pin to that of a pea. The gold when in this state is named by the Mandingoes *sanoo munko*, gold powder, or gold dust. It is sometimes found, however, in pieces of a larger size, and Mr. Park informs us, that while he remained at Kamalia, a woman and her daughter found two pieces of gold, one of which weighed five, and the other three drams, worth together about four pounds sterling, at the rate of two pence per grain.

About the end of harvest, which usually happens in the beginning of December, at the subsiding of the streams, a day is proclaimed by the Mansa, on which the women are to begin "gold washing," who therefore attend at the time appointed, with spades for digging the sand, calabashes for washing the ore, and some

quills for containing it in its purified state, which are all the implements necessary for the purpose. On the morning of their departure, a bullock is killed for the first day's entertainment, and a number of prayers and charms are used to ensure success; for a failure on that day is thought a bad omen. The washing the sand of the streams, is by far the easiest way of obtaining the gold-dust. While some of the party are busied in washing the sands, others employ themselves further up the torrent, where the rapidity of the stream has carried away the sand, clay, &c. and left nothing but pebbles. The search among these is an unpleasant task; women sometimes have had the skin worn off the tops of their fingers in this employment; sometimes, however, they find pieces of gold that amply repay them for their trouble.

The manner of separating the gold from the sand is very simple, and frequently performed by the women. The operation is as follows: A portion of sand or clay is put into a large calabash and mixed with a sufficient quantity of water. The women whose office it is, then shake the calabash in such a manner as mixes the sand and water together, and gives the whole a rotatory motion; at first gently, but afterwards quicker, until a small portion of sand and water, at every revolution, flies over the brim of the calabash. The sand thus separated is

only the coarsest particles, mixed with a little muddy water. After the operation has been continued for some time, the sand is allowed to subside, and the water poured off; a portion of coarse sand which is now uppermost in the calabash, is removed by the hand, and fresh water being added, the operation is repeated, until the water comes off almost pure. The woman now takes a second calabash, and shakes the sand and water gently from the one to the other, reserving that portion of sand which is next the bottom of the calabash, and which is most likely to contain the gold. This small quantity is mixed with some pure water, and being moved about in the calabash, is carefully examined. If a few particles of gold are picked out, the contents of the other calabash are examined in the same manner; but in general she is well contented if three or four grains are obtained from the contents of both calabashes. The gold-dust is kept in quills stopped up with cotton, and the washers are fond of displaying a number of these quills in their hair. Part of this gold is converted into ornaments for the women: they are massy and convenient, particularly the ear-rings, which are commonly so heavy as to pull down and lacerate the lobe of the ear, to avoid which they are supported by a thong of red leather which passes over the crown of the head from one ear to the other. When a lady of conse-

quence is in full dress, her gold ornaments may be worth altogether from fifty to eighty pounds sterling. But by far the greatest proportion of gold is exchanged to the Moors for salt and other commodities. The value of salt in Africa is very great. One slab, about two feet and a half in length, fourteen inches in breadth, and two inches in thickness, will sometimes sell for about two pounds ten shillings sterling, and from one pound fifteen shillings to two pounds may be considered as the common price. The negroes weigh the gold in small balances which they always carry about them. They make no difference, in point of value, between gold-dust and wrought gold.

Nothing creates greater surprise among the negroes than the eagerness displayed by Europeans to procure elephant's teeth. They know something of the value of gold, and they conceive that slaves may be intended to be eaten, but they can scarcely comprehend any purpose for which ivory is particularly adapted. Knives with ivory handles, have indeed been sometimes shewn to them, as well as combs; but these are not sufficient to remove their doubts. They think it astonishing why men should fit out large vessels, and venture their lives so far from home, in order to procure ivory for handles to knives, when the very wood of the ship in which they sail, would answer the purpose

equally well. African elephants are said not to be so docile as those of Asia; but if they have not been tamed, this is no conclusive argument that they cannot be so, as the Africans have no temptations sufficiently powerful to induce them to make the attempt. Elephants are very numerous in the interior of Africa, but they appear to be a distinct species from those found in Asia. The greater part of the ivory sold in the Gambia and Senegal rivers, is brought from the interior; scattered teeth are frequently picked up in the woods, and travellers are very diligent in looking for them. It is a common practice with the elephant to thrust his teeth under the roots of such shrubs and bushes as grow in the more dry and elevated parts of the country, where the soil is shallow. These bushes he easily overturns, and feeds on the roots, which are in general more tender and juicy than the hard woody branches of the foliage; but when the teeth are partly decayed by age, and the roots more firmly fixed, the greater exertions of the animal frequently cause them to break short. The elephant-hunters seldom go out singly; a party of four or five join together, and having each furnished himself with powder and ball, and a quantity of corn-meal in a leather bag sufficient for five or six days provisions, they enter the most unfrequented parts of the wood, and exa-

mine with great care every thing that can lead to a discovery of the elephants. When they discover a herd of elephants, they follow them at a distance, until they perceive some one stray from the rest, and come into such a situation as to be fired at with advantage. The hunters then approach with great caution, creeping among the high grass, until they have got near enough to be sure of their aim; they then discharge all their pieces at once, and throw themselves on their faces on the grass. The wounded elephant immediately applies his trunk to the different wounds, but being unable to extract the balls, and seeing no one near him, he becomes quite furious and runs about among the bushes, until, by fatigue and loss of blood, he has exhausted himself, and affords the hunters an opportunity of firing at him again, by which he is generally brought to the ground. The skin is now taken off and extended on the ground with pegs to dry, and such parts of the flesh as are most esteemed are cut up into thin slices, and dried in the sun, to serve for provisions on some future occasion. The teeth are struck out with a light hatchet, which the hunters always carry along with them, not only for that purpose, but also to enable them to cut down such trees as contain honey; for, besides their provisions, they feed upon elephant's flesh and wild honey. The

ivory is seldom brought down to the coast by the hunters themselves. They dispose of it annually to the itinerant merchants, who come from the coast with arms and ammunition to purchase this valuable commodity. The quantity of ivory collected in this part of Africa is not so great, nor are the teeth in general so large, as in the country nearer the line; few of them weigh more than eighty or one hundred pounds; and upon an average, a bar of European merchandize, or two shillings sterling, may be reckoned as the price of a pound of ivory.

It appears, therefore, that the most valuable articles of African commerce are gold and ivory, which may still be continued without any reproach to human nature. Among the native produce, of which great quantities might be afforded, are grain of all kinds, cotton, indigo, and tobacco. These, were there a demand for them, might be reared in almost any quantity whatever; yet even these are not the only commodities which might be furnished by this part of the globe. Almost every thing brought from the East and West Indies, might be furnished with advantage by the continent of Africa. The Senegal, the Gambia, and the Niger, with their numerous branches, offer resources for inland navigation, superior to those of most countries; and such in general is the fertility

of the soil as to hold out every encouragement to the hand of industry. The progress of cultivation would improve the atmosphere; and a country so much dreaded by Europeans as destructive of health, might become salubrious as well as fertile.

The total abolition of the slave trade does not of consequence include the annihilation of all African commerce, since the articles which it might furnish in abundance, are among the most important which any country can afford. Were Europeans to enquire with as much eagerness for these commodities as they have formerly done for slaves, the necessary quantity would soon be furnished by the negroes. They, no doubt, possess the desire of wealth, in common with all men, and this would stimulate their industry, while Europeans would at length be obliged to confess, though perhaps with reluctance, that the man who has a black skin is not inferior to him who has a white one, either by nature, or from necessity.

It has been said that the negroes have remained stationary for many ages, from which it is ignorantly concluded that they are incapable of improvement. The abominable traffic of dealing in human flesh has hitherto precluded all improvement, and encouraged them as much as possible to continue unimproved. The slave-merchant found that it was his interest

to discourage all improvement, to prevent the cultivation of the country, or the production of any thing of real utility. That his detestable interest lay in the destruction of all civil and political rights; in depredation and war; in the existence of famine, with the perpetration of every crime; in prosecutions for imaginary offences; and finally in the prevention of all that can ennoble, and in the promotion of all that is degrading, to human nature. Had we never heard of the slave trade;—had it not once been the disgrace of our own country, we should have found it impossible to believe that such a monster as a slave-merchant ever existed. That detestable traffic has been a formidable obstruction to the spread of Revelation; for the ideas entertained by negroes respecting Christians must have been horrible indeed. From the practice of buying men and women like cattle and sheep, the transition was extremely natural, that it was for the purpose of eating them; and indeed, the one, in the sight of Heaven would have been no more criminal than the other, whatever a delicate palate may imagine to the contrary.

The value of European commodities in Manding is far from being uniform, frequently varying, according to the supply which has been brought from the coast, a circumstance which depends in some measure on the state of the

country, the apprehensions of war frequently preventing the merchants from entering a particular district. Little gold-dust is conveyed to the coast, the price of European merchandize having been formerly paid in slaves, which we trust is now at an end. When Mr. Park was at Kamalia, the value of a slave was from nine to twelve minkallies, that is, from four pounds ten shillings to six pounds. The value of several European commodities, at the same time was nearly as follows :

	£.	s.	d.
A gun flint,	0	0	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
A leaf of tobacco,	0	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
A charge of gun-powder,...	0	0	6
A cutlass,	0	10	0
A musket,	1	10	0

The produce of the country was then valued as follows :

A day's common provisions,	0	1	3
A chicken,.....	0	1	8
A sheep,.....	0	5	0
A bulloek,	0	10	0
A horse,.....	7	0	0

CHAP. XXIV.



Transactions at Kamalia. Arabic MSS. in use among the Mahometan negroes. Fast of Rhamadan. Mr. Park sets out in the Caravan.

THE schoolmaster, Fankooma, with whom Mr. Park was left at Kamalia, was a man of amiable manners, of a mild and gentle disposition, a stranger to the rigid intolerance of the Mahometan religion. A large portion of his time was devoted to literary pursuits, and the instruction of youth was at once his pleasure and employment. His scholars consisted of seventeen boys and two girls; the tasks assigned to the former were recited at night, around a large fire, while the latter were instructed during the day. Independent of the Koran, the library of this tutor contained a valuable collection of manuscripts, which he either borrowed from priests in the vicinity, or purchased from

the Moors who were engaged in commerce. We are assured, on the authority of Mr. Park, that the negroes are in possession of the Pentateuch in the Arabic tongue, which they very much esteem, a good slave being considered as the just price of a single copy. It is also said that a version of the Psalms, Zabora Dawidi, and one of the prophecies of Isaiah, Singeeli la Isa, are to be met with in the country. It is probable in all these copies, there are interpolations of some of the peculiar tenets of Mahomet; from these manuscripts the negroes are well acquainted with the account of our first parents, the death of Abel, the deluge, &c. To hear these circumstances detailed by negroes, whom Mr. Park has supposed to be entirely ignorant of them, naturally excited his astonishment; but the wonder of the negroes was equal at least, to his own, when they perceived that these things were understood by *him* also. The native Africans have no doubt exalted ideas of the power of Europeans; but all of them, especially such as have embraced the Mahometan faith, have formed no favourable opinion of their religious knowledge. Though the coast of Africa has been visited for upwards of two centuries by Europeans, the negroes remain totally ignorant of the first principles of Christianity, the professors of which they consider as the enemies of religion; and such are

the impressions which the slave trade has made upon their minds, that they regard all white men as a race of ferocious cannibals, who possess nothing enviable, but their power of doing mischief. When any scholar has read through the Koran, and repeated a certain number of public prayers, a feast is prepared by the schoolmaster, and the scholar undergoes an examination. When the abilities of the pupil have been sufficiently tried, the last page of the Koran is put into his hand, and he is desired to read it aloud; after the boy has finished this lesson, he presses the paper against his forehead, and pronounces the word *amen*, upon which all the priests present rise and shake him by the hand, and confer on him the title of *bushreen*. When this is completed, his parents are informed he has finished his education, and that it is incumbent on them to redeem their son, by giving to the schoolmaster a slave, or the price of a slave in exchange; which is always done if the parents can afford it; if not, the boy remains the domestic slave of the schoolmaster, until he can, by his own industry, collect goods sufficient to ransom himself.

January 24, Karfa returned to Kamalia with a number of people, and thirteen prime slaves whom he had purchased. He likewise brought with him a young girl, whom he had married as

his fourth wife, and had given her parents three prime slaves for her. She was kindly received at the door by his other wives, who conducted their new acquaintance and co-partner into one of the best huts, which they had caused to be swept and white-washed on purpose to receive her. Karfa generously presented Mr. Park with a new garment and trowsers, such as are commonly worn.

The slaves which Karfa had brought with him were all prisoners of war. Eleven of them confessed to Mr. Park that they had been slaves from their infancy; but the other two refused to give any account of their former condition. They were all very inquisitive, and first viewed the traveller with looks of horror, and repeatedly asked if his countrymen were cannibals. Mr. Park told them they were employed in cultivating the land: but they would not believe him, and one of them putting his hand upon the ground, said, with great simplicity, "Have you really got such ground as this to set your feet upon?" The slaves were secured by putting the right leg of one and the left of the other into the same pair of fetters. By supporting the fetters with a string, they can walk, though very slowly. Every four slaves are fastened together by their necks, with a strong rope of twisted thongs, and in the night an additional pair of fetters is put on their hands,

and sometimes a light iron chain passed round their necks. Such of them as evince signs of discontent, are secured by a thick billet of wood, with a smooth notch made on one side of it; the ancle of the slave is bolted to the smooth part by means of a strong iron staple, one prong of which passes on each side of the ancle. In other respects, the treatment of the slaves is not cruel. They are led out in their fetters every morning to the shade of a tamarind tree, where they are encouraged to play at games of hazard, and sing diverting songs to keep up their spirits. In the evening their irons are examined, and their hand-fetters put on; after which they are conducted to their huts, and guarded for the night. The fast of Rhamadan was observed with great strictness by all the bushreens or priests. Mr. Park, in compliance with their customs, voluntarily fasted three days. During the fast, the schoolmaster read religious lessons from a large folio volume, the author of which was an Arab, of the name of Sheiffa. In the evening, such of the women as were Mahometans assembled, and said their prayers publicly at the Misura. They were all dressed in white, and went through the different prostrations with becoming solemnity. During the whole of the fast, the negroes behaved with great meekness and humility. When the fast was ended, the priests assembled to watch for the appearance

of the new moon, but the evening being cloudy, they were for some time disappointed; on a sudden, this delightful object showed her sharp horns from behind a cloud, and was welcomed with the clapping of hands, beating of drums, firing of muskets, and other marks of rejoicing.

April 19, Mr. Park departed from Kamalia with the coffle, or caravan of slaves. The number of travellers amounted to seventy-three, among whom were six singing-men. Most of the inhabitants of the town followed the caravan for near half a mile, some of them crying, others shaking hands with their relations; and when it had gained a rising ground, all the people in the caravan were ordered to sit down in one place, with their faces towards the west; and the town's people were desired to sit down in another place, with their faces towards Kamalia. The schoolmaster then, with the assistance of two others, having taken their places between the two parties, pronounced a long and solemn prayer; after which they walked three times round the caravan, making an impression on the ground with the end of their spears, and muttering something by way of charm. When this ceremony was ended, all the travellers rose up, and without taking a formal farewell of their friends, proceeded forwards. As many of the slaves had remained for years in irons, the sud-

den exercise of walking quick, occasioned spasmodic contractions of their legs; hence it was found necessary to take two of them from the rope, and allow them to walk slowly until they arrived at Maraboo; from thence they continued their route to Bala, and on the 20th proceeded to Worumbay, and on the 21st entered the Jallonka Wilderness. Here the caravan rested for a time, while every one partook of some meal, and drank a little water; after which they went on until they arrived at the river Kokora, where the caravan halted. This is called the dangerous river, on account of the number of crocodiles with which it abounds, and the danger of being carried past the ford by the force of the stream in the rainy season. In the afternoon they crossed two small branches of this river. About sun-set they came in sight of Kintyakooro, a considerable town, nearly square, situated in the middle of a large and well-cultivated plain. During this day's travel, two women and a girl, belonging to a Slatee of Bala, were so much fatigued that they could not keep up with the caravan; they were severely whipped, and dragged along, until they were both affected with vomiting, by which it was discovered that they had eaten clay. They were permitted to lie down and rest in the woods, and they did not arrive at the town until past midnight.

On approaching this town, great etiquette was observed; five or six singing-men were in front, followed by the other free people; then came the slaves, fastened by a rope round their necks, four of them to a rope, and a man with a spear between each four: after them came the domestic slaves; and in the rear the women of free condition, wives of the Slatees, &c. In this manner they proceeded until they came within an hundred yards of the gate, when the singing men began a loud song, well calculated to flatter the vanity of the inhabitants. When they entered the town, they proceeded to the Ben-tary, or Town-house, where the people gathered round them to hear their history. This was related publicly by two of the singing-men. When this history was ended, the governor of the town gave them a small present, and each traveller was accommodated with lodging and provision for the night.

CHAP. XXV.



The caravan crosses the wilderness. Miserable fate of a female slave. Remarkable conduct of the King of the Jaloffs.

ON the morning of the 22d April, the caravan departed from Kintyakooro, and the next morning entered the Jallonka wilderness. Before they entered the wilderness, they passed the ruins of two towns, which the Foulahs had lately plundered and burnt. The fire, in Mr. Park's opinion, must have been very intense, since he saw several fragments of the walls of the huts partially vitrified. A short time afterwards they passed the Wonda, a river of larger size than the Kokoro. The stream appeared to be very muddy, a circumstance which Karfa affirmed to proceed from the great number of fish. This was not improbable, for the fish were, in reality, uncommonly numerous. Mr. Park was of opinion, that the water had both the taste and smell of fish.

No sooner had they passed this river than Karfa, who, from superior interest in the caravan, assumed the command in a great measure, gave orders that in future, each should remain in the place assigned him, while their journey lasted. This travelling order was rather different from that observed in the procession. The young men and guides went first; the women and slaves followed; and last of all came the freemen and merchants. Their progress was now very rapid, and they passed over a country which had no other feature of a desert but that it was destitute of human inhabitants. It was fertile, and the surface rising into many inequalities, was very beautiful. The whole was covered with trees of different kinds, and game of various sorts was plentiful. When the evening approached, they stopped for some time at a small stream called Co-meissang, in which our traveller bathed himself. The heat, and the friction of his clothes while walking, had blistered his neck and arms. The bathing, however, and the coolness of the evening, greatly diminished the inflammation.

After they left the river, they proceeded only about three miles, before they stopped where they were to remain during the night, which was in a thick part of the wood, where they kindled a fire, and each prepared his bed in the best way he could. Karfa caused a few branches

to be cut for a bed to Mr. Park, according to whose account they had travelled about thirty miles, and though much fatigued, no one was heard to murmur. Their supper consisted of kouskous, which they had brought along with them, and which they moistened with boiling water. The slaves were fettered, and the whole lay down to sleep. They were often disturbed by the howling of wild beasts, and were constantly teased by a great number of small brown ants.

The Mahometan part of the company said their prayers before sun-rise, and the greater part of the people of free condition partook of a kind of gruel. A portion of this was also given to many of the slaves, who appeared to be much exhausted. A female slave belonging to Karfa, on this occasion, seemed to be very stubborn, and refused to partake of any refreshment. They set forward as soon as the sun arose, and soon left the pleasant region to which they had hitherto travelled. The country assumed a wild aspect, and was so rocky as greatly to bruise Mr. Park's feet. Such, indeed, were his sufferings, that for some time he was afraid he would not be able to keep pace with the company. He soon perceived, however, that many of them were still more fatigued than himself, in a particular manner, the female who had refused refreshment in the morning. She com-

plained of pain in her legs, and seemed scarcely able to move. Her burden was given to another, and she was ordered to keep in the most advanced part of the company; when the caravan proceeded, till they arrived at the brink of a rivulet. Here the attention of the people was attracted by a bee-hive, in the hollow of a tree, from which they endeavoured to extract the honey, without adverting to the dangers of such an attempt. An astonishing swarm rushed instantly from the hive, attacking the plunderers in every direction; and as Mr. Park had the good fortune to take the first alarm, he was the only person who escaped unhurt. While the people were eagerly employed in extracting the stings which they had received in consequence of their temerity, the wretched female was amissing, whose progress had been retarded by her sufferings; and as in the general consternation thus excited, a number of the slaves had forgotten their bundles, it became necessary to go back in search of them; to effect this fire was set to the grass; and the wind driving the fire furiously along, the party pushed the smoke, and returned with their bundles and the female slave. She was very much exhausted, and had crept to the stream, in hopes to defend herself from the bees, by throwing water over her body; but this proved ineffectual, for she was stung in the most dreadful manner. When the stings

had been picked out, she was washed with water, and rubbed with bruised leaves; but the wretched woman refused to proceed any farther, declaring she would rather die than walk another step. As entreaties and threats were used in vain, the whip was at length applied, and after bearing patiently a few strokes, she started up, and walked with tolerable expedition for four or five hours longer, when she made an attempt to run away from the caravan, but was so weak that she fell down in the grass. Though she was unable to rise, the whip was a second time applied, but without effect; upon which Karfa ordered her to be placed upon the ass which carried the dry provisions, but she could not sit erect; and the ass being very refractory, it was found to be impracticable to carry her forward in that manner. The merchants were unwilling to abandon her; they therefore made a sort of litter upon Bamboo canes, on which she was placed, and tied on it with slips of bark. The litter was carried on the heads of two slaves, one walking before the other, and they were followed by two others who relieved them occasionally.

The poor slave became so ill that her limbs were stiff, and she could neither walk or stand; she was therefore fastened on the ass, by having her hands tied under the ass's neck, and her feet under his belly; but the ass was so

very unruly, that he would not proceed with the load, and threw the slave off, by which one of her legs was much bruised. Every effort proving ineffectual, the general cry was, Kang-tegi, "Cut her throat, cut her throat." Mr. Park, willing to avoid so horrible a spectacle, proceeded on, but was soon informed a more dismal fate attended this poor unfortunate child of woe, for the barbarians left her on the road, where undoubtedly she soon perished, or was probably devoured by wild beasts.

Nealee's fate impressed a gloomy sensation upon every one in the company, and such was the impression which it made upon the school-master, that he fasted the whole of the ensuing day. Continuing their journey in silence, they passed the Furkoomah, a river as large as the Wonda. They travelled with great expedition, each being apprehensive that his own fate might be similar to that of the unfortunate Nealee. Mr. Park could not, with the greatest difficulty, keep pace with the rest, though to travel with more ease, he threw away his spear, and every thing which could encumber him. They saw a large herd of elephants during the day, but they suffered the caravan to pass without molestation. At the approach of evening, they halted near a thicket of bamboos, in the hope of finding water; but as they were disappointed, they proceeded about four miles, and

then halted during the night at a small stream. Mr. Park supposes that this day they travelled about twenty-six miles.

They again set forward on the morning of the 26th April, and many of the company now began to feel the effects of excessive fatigue. Two of the scholars complained of violent pains in their limbs, and the feet of one of the slaves were so much blistered and inflamed, that he walked with difficulty and pain. It was necessary, however, to hurry forward, and they continued to travel with unabated celerity. To increase the difficulty of proceeding they were under the necessity of ascending a steep and rocky hill, and they did not reach the level ground on the opposite side till two in the afternoon. They soon after crossed a river of considerable magnitude, the name of which was Boki, and its waters ran upon a bed of smooth whinstone.

Passing a road about a mile to the westward of the river, which leads to Gadou, they could perceive the late traces of a number of horses. Apprehensive they might belong to a troop of robbers, who might pursue them by the tracks of their feet, the company were ordered to disperse, and to take different roads through the grass and bushes. They soon after passed a ridge of hills, and arriving at a well called

Calling Qui, or the White Sand Well, they continued in its vicinity during the night.

Early next morning they resumed their journey, and as they hoped to be able to reach a town before the approach of night, they travelled with much alacrity, and were the less sensible of their fatigue. A great part of the way was encumbered with thickets of bamboos. Reaching a river named Nunkole, about two in the afternoon, each of them received a small quantity of meal, which they moistened with the water of the river, according to a superstitious notion. They continued their journey, and in about two hours they reached a small Jalonka village, named Soo Seetee. Nothing could be more agreeable to the people, who had travelled five days, without having seen any human habitation; and during that time it was the opinion of Mr. Park that they had travelled rather more than one hundred miles.

They very soon found, however, that their cause of joy was by no means so great as they had at first imagined it to be. It was not without the utmost difficulty that they procured lodgings; and they were assured by the chief man of the place, that they must not expect to be furnished with provisions. A scarcity had long prevailed, which the late harvest had not entirely removed. The inhabitants of the village had subsisted twenty-nine days without

having tasted corn. Their only food during that period, had consisted of a yellow powder, found in the pods of a species of mimosa. Perceiving that it was in vain to expect any relief in this place, the people of the caravan had recourse to their own dry provisions, which were not yet exhausted. They prepared for supper a considerable quantity of kouskous, and they invited several of the villagers to partake with them. Notwithstanding this kindness, one of them seized a boy belonging to the schoolmaster, as he lay asleep under the *bentang-tree*, and carried him away, in order to make him a slave. The boy awaked before he was carried to a great distance, and immediately raised a violent outcry. The villager hearing that the boy belonged to the schoolmaster, the place of whose nativity was only three days journey from this village, and despairing of being able to conceal his theft, stripped the boy, and permitted him to return.

April 28th, the caravan arrived at an un-walled town called Manna; the inhabitants of which were employed in collecting the fruit of the nitta-trees, which are very numerous in this neighbourhood. The pods are long and narrow, and contain a few black seeds, inclosed in a fine mealy powder; the meal itself is of a bright yellow colour, resembling flour of sulphur, and has a sweet and mucilaginous taste;

when eaten by itself it is clammy, but when mixed with milk or water, it constitutes a very pleasant and nourishing article of diet.

The Jallonkas are governed by a number of petty chiefs, who are independent of each other. The chief of Manna, with a number of his people, accompanied the travellers across the banks of the Basing, a principal branch of the Senegal, over a bridge of a singular construction. The river at this place is smooth and deep, and has very little current. Two tall trees, when tied together by the tops, are sufficiently long to reach from one side to the other, the roots resting upon the rocks, and the tops floating in the waters. When a few trees have been placed in this direction, they are covered with dry bamboos, so as to form a floating bridge, with a sloping gangway at each end, where the trees rest upon the rocks. This bridge is carried away every year by the swelling of the river in the rainy season, and is constantly rebuilt by the inhabitants of Manna, who on that account expect a small tribute from every passenger. On entering the town, a freeman and three slaves were found to be missing, but at eleven o'clock at night they returned.

The language of the inhabitants of Manna is the same with that spoken in the extensive region of Jallonka. In the opinion of Mr. Park, many of the words of this language resemble

those of the Mandingo; but the negroes, who are perhaps more proper judges, reckon them altogether different. Our traveller, as a specimen of it, gives the following numerals.

One,	<i>Kidding.</i>
Two,	<i>Fidding.</i>
Three,	<i>Sarra.</i>
Four,	<i>Nani.</i>
Five,	<i>Sooloo.</i>
Six,	<i>Seni.</i>
Seven,	<i>Sooloo ma Fidding.</i>
Eight,	<i>Sooloo ma Sarra.</i>
Nine,	<i>Sooloo ma Mani.</i>
Ten,	<i>Nuff.</i>

May 3, they arrived at a village near Malacotta, where the schoolmaster's elder brother resided; a messenger was dispatched to him, and he immediately came; the interview was most affecting; as they had not seen each other for nine years. They reached Malacotta in the evening. It is an unwall'd town; the huts are made of split cane twisted into a sort of wicker-work, and plastered over with mud. Here they make very good soap, by boiling ground nuts in water, and then adding a layer of wood and ashes. They also manufacture excellent iron.

A party of the town's people brought information concerning a war between Almami Ab-

dulkader, king of Foota Torra, and Damel, king of the Jaloffs. The king of Foota Torra had sent an embassy to Damel, to induce him to turn Mahometan. The ambassador had an audience of Damel, laid two knives before him, and addressed him thus: "With this knife," said he, "Abdulkader will condescend to shave the head of Damel, if he will embrace the Mahometan faith; and with this other knife Abdulkader will cut the throat of Damel, if he refuses to embrace it;—take your choice." Damel coolly answered, he had no choice to make; he neither chose the one nor the other. In the course of the war that ensued, the vain-glorious Abdulkader was taken captive. When the royal prisoner was brought before Damel, that magnanimous prince addressed him as follows: "Abdulkader, answer me this question: If the chance of war had placed me in your situation, and you in mine, how would you have acted?" "I would have thrust my spear into your heart," replied Abdulkader, "and I know that a similar fate awaits me." "Not so," said Damel; "my spear is indeed red with the blood of your subjects killed in battle, and I could now give it a deeper stain by dipping it in your own; but this would not build up my town, nor bring to life the thousands who fell in the woods. I will not therefore kill you in cold blood, but I will retain you as my slave, until I perceive

that your presence in your own kingdom will be no longer dangerous to your neighbours, and then I will consider of the proper way of disposing of you." Abdulkader was accordingly retained, and worked as a slave for three months; at the end of which period Damel restored him to his dominions.

This story, Mr. Park observes, he can scarcely expect to be believed; but he assures us that, as to himself, he entertained no doubt of its truth, and he heard it from the negroes, as well as from the Europeans on the Gambia. He was informed of it by the French at Goree, and the same story was confirmed by nine slaves, who were taken prisoners in the engagement with Abdulkader, and who afterwards accompanied Mr. Park in his voyage to the West-Indies.

CHAP. XXVI.



The caravan proceeds to Konkadoo. A matrimonial case. Passes through Medina. Mr. Park arrives at Pisania. Takes his passage in an American ship, and returns to England.

HAVING continued four days at Malacotta, on the 7th of May the caravan crossed a branch of the Senegal, known by the name of the "Honey river," from whence they proceeded to the town of Bentigala, which is surrounded with walls, and arrived at Dindikoo in two days after. On the 12th they crossed the river Faleme, being hospitably entertained at Medina by a Mandingo merchant, to whom the village entirely belonged, whose meals were prepared in pewter dishes, from a predilection for European customs, and his houses were constructed after the English model.

They arrived at Baniserile the next day. One of the Slatees was a native of this place. This man invited Mr. Park to his house, at the gate of which his friends met him with strong expressions of joy ; shaking hands, embracing, singing and dancing, before him. As soon as he had seated himself on a mat by the threshold of his door, a young woman, (his intended bride) brought a little water in a calabash, and kneeling down before him, desired him to wash his hands ; when he had done this, the girl, with a tear of joy sparkling in her eye, drank the water ; this being considered as the greatest proof of her fidelity and love.

May 16th, they reached a large town called Kirwani, near which are several smelting furnaces, where the people manufactured a considerable quantity of iron. The valley in which this town is situated is well cultivated, being completely cleared of trees, to the distance of a mile on every side. The inhabitants discovered evident proofs of activity and industry, and had made such advances in practical agriculture, as to collect manure for the amelioration of the soil ; a practice similar to which, Mr. Park had not observed in any other part of Africa. The activity of the inhabitants was not confined to agriculture, for they were well acquainted with several other arts. Departing from hence, they entered the Tenda Wilderness, and reached a

walled town called Tambacunda. Here a palaver was held on account of the conduct of one of the Slatees in the caravan, who had formerly married a woman of this town; she had borne him two children, but he afterwards went to Manding, and remained there eight years without sending any account of himself to his deserted wife; who seeing no prospect of his return, had at the end of three years, married another man, to whom she had likewise borne two children. The Slatee claimed his wife, but the second husband would not give her up. The determination of the assembly was, that the wife should make her choice, and live with which she chose. The lady was dubious as to making up her mind; but Mr. Park suspected that "*first love*" would carry the day.

They left Tambacunda on the morning of the 26th of May, and Karfa soon after remarked that no shea-trees were found farther to the westward. When Mr. Park left Manding, he had brought with him the flowers and leaves of this tree, but as they were greatly damaged by being carried so far, he resolved to procure a fresh supply in this place. The shea-tree, in the opinion of Mr. Park, may, from the apparent similarity of its fruit, be ranked under the natural order of *Sapotæ*; and it is not unlike the *madhuca-tree*, described in the first volume of the Asiatic Researches.

In the prosecution of their journey, they arrived about one o'clock, P. M. in the vicinity of a walled town named Sibikillin; but such was the character of its inhabitants for theft, and the want of hospitality, that they did not deem it prudent to enter it. They next day journeyed through a country abounding in rocks, and every where exhibiting a wild appearance. The surface was irregular, and wild beasts were plentiful. They frequently crossed small rivers, in which were abundance of fish. After travelling till, by the nature of the country, they were very much fatigued, they arrived about sunset at a village named Koomboo in the vicinity of which they saw the ruins of a large town which, during the late war, had been totally destroyed. The inhabitants of this village, like those of the villages which they had formerly passed, were generally supposed to be inhospitable and dishonest, and consequently they did not enter it. As rain was expected, they erected slight huts for their accommodation.

Leaving the vicinity of Koomboo on the 28th of May, they travelled only seven miles till they arrived at a Foulah village, where they remained during the night. They next day passed a branch of the Gambia, known by the name of Neola Koba, and soon arrived at a district so well inhabited, that it had the appearance of an assemblage of towns. The whole

district is known by the name of Tenda, though each town has its own particular appellation. They lodged at one of the towns called Koba Tenda, and as they were soon to pass the wilderness called the Simbani Woods, they remained in the same place during the following day, in order to procure provisions.

On the evening of the 30th, they arrived at Jallacotta, a town of considerable size, but much exposed to the depredations of the Foulahs, who approach it unawares from Bonda, and often succeed in carrying away some of the inhabitants or their cattle. A short time before the arrival of the caravan, the Foulahs had succeeded in carrying away a number of cattle, after which they returned, but were repulsed, and one of them was made a prisoner.

A slave, belonging to one of the singing-men, had been much fatigued for several days, and he was now found to be totally unable to proceed. His owner, therefore, proposed to exchange him for a young girl belonging to one of the inhabitants of this town. The girl remained ignorant of her fate till she had come, along with the other inhabitants, to see the departure of the caravan. Her master then took her by the hand, and delivered her to the singing-man, which change in her situation was so unexpected, as to excite such agonies in her mind as

can scarcely be conceived. In a state of despair she took leave of her former companions, when the rope was fastened round her neck, and she was forced to proceed to a scene of misery, the horrors of which even imagination itself could not possibly paint.

In a short time after they had left Jallacotta, they came to a plain, abounding with *ciboa-trees*, and soon after they passed a river called Nerico, which is a branch of the Gambia. The stream at this time was inconsiderable; but it is so deep and rapid during the rainy season, as to be dangerous to travellers. No sooner had the caravan passed the stream, than the bards commenced a song, congratulating the company on having arrived in the west country, *the Land of the Setting Sun*.

The country in this place is level, the soil consisting of clay and sand. It rained violently during the remainder of the day, and in order to shelter themselves from it, each person covered his head with the leaf of a *ciboa-tree*, which was so large as to protect the whole body.

The ensuing night was spent under a tree, near the ruins of a village, and next day having passed a stream called Noulico, about two in the afternoon, Mr. Park saw the Gambia, a sight which imparted the most unfeigned joy. The Gambia is navigable in this place, but our

traveller was informed, that at a small distance lower it is so shallow as to be easily passed on foot. The northern bank is here occupied by a morass, so extensive as to require a whole day to pass it, and so dangerous as frequently to occasion the loss of those who enter it. The soil in general is clay, and the morass is known by the name of Toombi Toorila.

As they continued their journey, they met, in the afternoon, a man and two women carrying bundles of cotton cloth upon their heads, proceeding to Dentila, to exchange their cloth for iron, which in every place near the Gambia is extremely scarce. About sun-set, they arrived at a village called Seesukunda, belonging to the kingdom of Wooli. The nitta-trees were plentiful in the vicinity, and each of the slaves carried with him a bundle of the fruit; but the inhabitants would not allow them to bring it within the village, on the authority of a proverb, that some singular calamity would happen them, if they fed on the fruit of the nitta-trees, and abandoned the cultivation of grain. This proverb implies, that among the inhabitants of Wooli, agriculture affords a more steady and regular supply of provisions, than in some other parts of Africa.

They left Seesukunda on the 2d of June, and during their progress they passed many villages. They were very much fatigued, but

were not permitted to halt till four, when they reached Baraconda, where they remained one day.

Leaving Baraconda on the 4th, they in a short time reached Medina, the chief city of the kingdom of Woolli. Mr. Park in his journey eastwards, had visited the city in December, 1795, and at that time had experienced a very kindly reception from the king, on which account he would have waited on the monarch, but Karfa was unwilling that the company should halt. Mr. Park could therefore do no more than inquire at the officer to whom the customs were paid, respecting the welfare of the aged sovereign and was very much grieved to learn that he was dangerously ill. He sent word to his old benefactor, that he was returned in safety, and expressed his gratitude for the good offices which he had experienced when he visited Medina on a former occasion.

Without halting at Medina, they continued their journey, and in a short time reached Kootakunda, a small village at no great distance to the west, where they remained during the night. They reached Jindey next day, where Mr. Park had taken his leave of Dr. Laidley about eighteen months before. As they concluded, from the information which they received upon the road, that there was little or no demand for slaves upon the coast

Mr. Park recommended it to Karfa to remain with his slaves in this place, till the demand for them should increase. This advice met the approbation of Karfa and accordingly he hired huts for their accommodation, and a piece of ground on which they were to raise provisions for their support. Mr. Park made preparations to set out by himself for Pisania, which was at no great distance.

June 12th, Mr. Park visited his friend Dr. Laidley, who received him as one risen from the dead. Mr. Park resumed his English dress, and had his venerable beard shaved off, to the exceeding regret of Karfa, which, he said, had changed him from a man into a boy; but surveyed him in his British apparel with great delight.

Mr. Park amply recompensed the good negro, which caused him to say that his journey had indeed been prosperous. Karfa, observing the evident superiority of Europeans in the arts of civilized life, would often exclaim, with a sigh, "Black men are nothing!"

On the 14th of June Mr. Park parted from this amiable African, and embarked on the 17th on board an American ship, bound for Charlestown. The vessel narrowly escaped shipwreck, and got into St. John's harbour with great difficulty. He took his passage home from that place in the Chesterfield packet, and arrived at

Falmouth on the 23d November, after an absence from England of two years and seven months. During this time he had explored a greater part of the continent of Africa than any European had done before his time; and although he failed in the completion of his original design, yet he performed such important services, as justly entitles him to the admiration and gratitude of his country.

END OF THE FIRST JOURNEY.

SOME ACCOUNT
OF
Mr. PARK'S SECOND JOURNEY
INTO THE
INTERIOR OF AFRICA;

Founded on the most authentic information which we have been able to procure, as well as the most recent which has yet reached Britain.



MANKIND appear to be so constituted by nature, that those details which make us acquainted with the genuine character of a traveller, highly distinguished for his courage and intrepidity, with every other requisite for the proper management of a daring enterprize, seldom fail to arrest our attention by the anxiety which they create; by their amusing, as well as important information, and the interest we feel in every thing in which the traveller is concerned. There may be exceptions to this, as well as to almost

every general rule, yet such travels as those of the indefatigable Mr. Park, while the pleasing manner in which they are related, cannot fail to entertain even the unlettered multitude, they must engage the attention and applause of the most enlightened, from the magnitude and importance of their object. The mere abstract ideas of courage and intrepidity, of fortitude and patience, cannot expect to excite any high degree of the attention of discernment, where no object worthy of their exertions can readily be discovered; but they become interesting indeed, when their manifest design is to increase our mercantile prosperity, by opening new sources both for exports and imports; to enlarge our geographical acquaintance with the terraqueous globe, and point out the best means of diffusing the principles of theological and moral science through the benighted regions of the earth.

In order to increase our knowledge of human nature, it is both profitable and necessary to contrast barbarism with refinement and civilization, by which means we become acquainted with the various passions of the human mind, and their different modifications; so that the knowledge we acquire of ourselves is very much augmented, when we come to learn that others are much the same as we are, and that the shades of difference are rather accidental than essential to man. The more we know of human nature in

general, (and this is to be found in the interesting travels of such a man as Mr. Park, who to his intrepidity added the greatest skill in observation,) the more are our prejudices diminished, and the less we are disposed to ridicule the peculiar manners and dispositions of remote countries, well knowing that other nations may retort upon us, and consider our own as justly ridiculous. The reading of well written and important travels must have a powerful tendency to do away the narrowness of mind which is too frequently implied in the invidious distinctions of Scotsman and Englishman, and induce us to consider ourselves as natives of the universe, who have a right by nature to live where we please. All men, in our estimation, thus become subjects of the same benevolent Being, whose dominions are unlimited, and we view them all as equally participating with ourselves in the bounties of his providence, endowed with kindred spirits, even although different constitutions may seem to be indicated by a vast diversity of manners.

Before the memorable period at which Columbus complimented Europe with a new world, such a discovery as he made never entered into the mind of man to conceive. Asia, Africa, and Europe circumscribed the views of man; the productions of which engaged the attention of the natural historian, and the inhabitants of

these countries, whether barbarous or civilized, had their actions transmitted to posterity by the glowing verses of the poet, or the faithful page of the impartial historian. Prior to the time of Columbus, there were no other countries than those already mentioned, on which the geographer could exercise his powers of delineation; there were no other rational beings known to the philosopher, the actions of whom he might have the opportunity of contemplating, and of enlarging his knowledge of human nature, by an investigation of the constitution of their minds, from an acquaintance with their deportment. Materials for this purpose were placed by Columbus within the reach of the philosopher, and it is but doing him justice to admit, that he has made a proper use of them. By these means also, our knowledge of astronomy may be said to be enlarged; for when the sun, in his western declination, very soon eludes our observation, we are assured that his departing from our hemisphere, is not to remain dormant till he again rises in his majesty in the east, but that he is constantly shining on some quarter of the globe, as the earth revolves on her axis. An idea like this must enlarge our conceptions of the wisdom and goodness of the Supreme Being, who has fixed the regular succession of day and night, whilst the vulgar notions which are generally entertained of this subject, represent

the God of universal nature as actuated by a fond partiality.

The discovery of the new world, a name which has very properly been given to the American continent, arrested the attention of all Europe, turning the minds of men to the pursuit of new objects, in consequence of which our commerce has been very much enlarged, and the light of science and religion has been diffused over a country, which before that eventful period was extremely deficient in both, if not totally ignorant. Since effects of such a beneficial and highly interesting nature may result from new discoveries, it ceases to be a matter of wonder or astonishment, that men in every age of the world, and in almost every country, should have appeared willing to hazard their lives, with every thing which we can hold dear upon earth, in the prosecution of such arduous, of such perilous undertakings. To men of this description, on whom nature has bestowed an assemblage of rare and distinguished qualifications, it must afford no small degree of encouragement to think, that their writings are perused with a degree of enthusiastic avidity by all the genuine friends of the human race, and that to them the philosopher, the merchant, the statesman, and even the poet, are not ashamed to confess themselves indebted.

It may be said of travels in general, that they

are by no means destitute of utility, as vast numbers are pleased and delighted with the perusal of them; they have sometimes the merit of instructing even such as are otherwise well informed; and very seldom are they found destitute of this valuable qualification, that they inseparably unite together our pleasure and advantage; thus giving a most emphatic signification to the words of Horace: *Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci*; which may be thus freely translated:—he has accomplished every object, who blends the pleasing with the profitable. The advantages already mentioned, and many more of a similar nature, which it would be no difficult matter to enumerate, are the natural results of travels which are well related by the authors of them; and among men of this description, we trust it will be readily admitted, that Mr. Park holds a very distinguished place. In almost every page, we find abundant reason for admiring his uncommon fortitude and bravery in facing every danger, however frightful to ordinary intellects; his unwearied perseverance, which nothing could vanquish, and the magnanimity of his resolutions, which rode triumphant over all opposition. These qualifications fitted him in an eminent degree for his perilous undertaking; but even these derived their chief value and importance from his most attentive

and skilful observation of the manners and customs of the people through whose territories he passed; and perhaps the man does not exist who can withhold that tribute of praise which is so justly due to the patience he exerted, in his tedious and hazardous journey to that river, to ascertain the source of which was the grand object of his wishes, and that of his countrymen. Yet we believe it will be granted, that even the astonishing dangers he encountered previous to his arrival at the river, were exceeded by those which, at a subsequent period, he had the singular good fortune, in the course of providence, completely to overcome.

Carrying these ideas along with us, it is next to impossible not to enter deeply into the feelings of our celebrated traveller, when he first came to the majestic Niger, which he had long sought after, the smooth surface of which glittered to the morning sun, flowing gently from the west towards the east. While he allayed his thirst by drinking freely of its waters, he offered up a tribute of gratitude to the supreme Ruler of the universe, for having so far crowned his labours in a successful manner. But when we reflect on his past toils and fatigues, and the critical situation in which he was then placed, our anxiety for his preservation could rather wish him in his native country, than behold him prosecuting such a hazardous journey

afresh. We have always had occasion to admire his enterprising character, whose patience never once failed him, although so frequently required to put it to the severest test. In the midst of the greatest dangers which any human being ever encountered, he was a most careful and attentive observer of the country over which he travelled; of the fashions and customs of the people, to the curious investigation of whom he was frequently obliged to submit, however painful and disagreeable. He makes mention, with a philosophical tranquillity, of the ferocious dispositions by which his destruction was every moment threatened. The same manly fortitude was characteristic of his whole deportment; the same invincible perseverance; a curiosity not like that of a child, but highly commendable, as it had in view the most interesting and momentous objects. This curiosity led him to the minute examination of those peculiarities which were the discriminating marks of different tribes and nations; and, above all, his ardent desire that his exertions might be of singular advantage to others, was invariably uppermost in his mind. Had he courted, or rushed upon dangers with inveterate obstinacy and fool-hardiness, there can be no doubt that he would have fallen a sacrifice to his temerity, like all his predecessors. Had he endeavoured to carry any thing with a high hand, among ferocious

and uncultivated savages, he would have demonstrated his total incapacity for such a perilous undertaking, and Britain would have been for ever deprived of that valuable information which his cautious prudence enabled him to procure.

It was a fortunate circumstance that he had it in his power to return to his native country, after being absent from it about two years and seven months, during which inconsiderable period he was enabled to explore a large portion of the African continent, which we have every reason to conclude had never been visited by any native of Europe prior to his time; and it may with truth be affirmed, that the dangers he surmounted were greatly superior to those of any other traveller. The services which he rendered to his country were of such a kind, and generally considered of such magnitude and importance, as to merit the attention of his countrymen. It is a fact of the utmost notoriety, that no man ever acquired a larger share of public fame and applause by the printing of his travels, and we trust it will not be considered as an instance of too fond a partiality, should we assert, that no traveller ever better deserved it. We have not forgotten the insinuations of malice and envy; that Park was never in Africa, but obtained his materials from the information of others; an assertion as completely

fraught with absurdity, as if a man should start up and maintain, that Newton's *Principia* was composed by the apostle Peter. Who these *others* were, it is impossible to determine, but we may expect to find them out on the discovery of the philosopher's stone.

Completely adapted to the arduous undertaking, as his natural and acquired endowments unquestionably were, and which of course we cannot cease to admire, perhaps the most wonderful part of his character, as it commands our veneration and esteem, is, that he again fully resolved to visit that country in which his life had been so frequently brought into the most imminent danger, partly owing to the trying nature of the climate, and partly to the savage character of the inhabitants. It would by no means have excited our surprise, had he formed the resolution of never visiting that country any more, by simply adverting to the unexampled dangers he had escaped, the uncommon fatigue he had undergone, and the unprecedented difficulties with which he had so frequently to struggle. So extensive was the fame he had acquired as the most intelligent and intrepid traveller, that he might have been induced, from this consideration, to spend the remainder of his days in tranquillity and ease, his repose and reputation having been purchased at so dear a rate. But all these considerations were

insufficient to repress his ardour for making new discoveries, and enlarging his knowledge of the African continent. The intreaties of his acquaintances and relatives, and the recollection of his former dangers, could not alter his resolutions.

Those who are in any measure acquainted with his character and fitness for such an undertaking, must admit, that he was qualified to form the justest notions of the numerous advantages to be derived by the geographer and the merchant, from more extensive information relative to the situation, productions, and extent of that country, which it was the grand object of his mission to explore. When we turn our attention for a single moment to the gross ignorance and barbarity of the inhabitants, we cannot help concluding that he has been, and if in life, still may be, the means of opening an ample field for the dissemination of the light of science, in order to polish, and the knowledge of genuine religion to inform, to reform, and instruct such an extensive portion of the human race, who have an undeniable claim to our pity and compassion. Every native of Britain must be anxious to know whether Mr. Park be dead or alive, although the mournful event seems to have been believed by the British Government as far back as the year 1808, when the House of Commons in a committee of sup-

ply, voted £3,236. 10s. to the widow of Mr. Park, according to agreement, said to be lost in his travels to explore the interior of Africa. The father of Mr. Anderson, who accompanied our traveller, also received the sum of £1,585.

Mr. Mungo Park, accompanied by Messrs. Scott and Anderson, sailed from Portsmouth in the *Eugenia* frigate, for Africa, with instructions to attempt to penetrate into the interior of that country as far as the city of Tombuctoo. This frigate, along with the *Crescent* transport under convoy, reached Goree on the coast of Africa, on the 28th of March, 1805. It was stated that these vessels sailed with Mungo Park, Esq. the celebrated African traveller, who was about to penetrate should he find it practicable, into the interior of the country. It appears that on their passage they made some short stay on the island of St. Jago, where our traveller is reported to have made a purchase of forty-four asses for his journey; and on the 6th of April the *Crescent* was to take her departure from Goree, up the river Gambia with that gentleman and fifty soldiers who were to accompany him. Having proceeded as far up that river as possible, Mr. Park and his suite were to be landed, and the *Crescent* was to return to Goree, when it was expected she would sail for England along with the *Eugenia* frigate, about the latter end of the same month.

According to information received about the beginning of August following, Mr. Park, together with Messrs. Scott and Anderson, reached Kayay, on the river Gambia, about the 14th of April, from which place they were to proceed, in the course of a few days, into the interior of Africa, in order to accomplish the business for which they were commissioned, which without all doubt must have been of a very extensive and interesting nature. The heat at that time was so excessive, that the thermometer invariably stood at more than a hundred degrees, even in the shade, or ten degrees above the heat of the human blood; and it was as high as ninety-two, three hours after sunset. It is mentioned, however, as a fortunate circumstance, that even this intense heat did not deprive any of the party of their accustomed good health, and they lost only one man out of the fifty which they had received from the African corps at Goree, notwithstanding they had been upwards of fourteen days on the river, and it is affirmed that this man had been very much indisposed, previous to their leaving the island.

In little more than a year after Mr. Park's arrival in Africa, news were received from Charlestown of the unfortunate death of our celebrated traveller. The writer of this dis-

agreeable information takes notice of the ample supplies which were afforded him by the British Government, in order to make his second tour through the interior of Africa of the highest importance to mankind. Mention is likewise made of his having arrived in safety at Goree, in a British ship of war, in the month of March, 1805, after which he ascended the Gambia with about forty attendants, who were furnished with portable canoes, and every other necessary, to make their travels both easy and expeditious. This news monger goes on to observe that Mr. Park had then penetrated into the interior about fifteen hundred miles to a place called Sego, described by him in his former book of travels. Sickness and death had carried off all his attendants but three, who being carried by the king of the place into every part of the city, which is walled in, and considered as the largest in Africa, and being shewn every curiosity which it afforded, had, by that monarch, been cruelly murdered. This information is said to have been furnished by a gentleman lately from the Rio Pongus, who received it from traders between the interior and the coast, who, in his estimation, were deserving of credit. That Mr. Park might have perished about the time here specified, is no doubt within the limits of possibility, but it will certainly be allowed to be highly improbable,

that he should have travelled one thousand five hundred miles; that the news of his death should have been brought the same distance to the coast by travelling caravans, whose occasional business on the road obliges them to move slowly; that such information should have been conveyed from thence to America, and finally from America to Britain in little more than a year. It is worthy of observation that this report, in one short month after it got into currency, was declared to be wholly unfounded. No such account had then reached the British Government, and Sir Joseph Banks, with other gentlemen who were personally acquainted with Mr. Park, and very much interested in the success of his mission, were of opinion that it was nothing more than a revival of the old report respecting the death of some of the soldiers and carpenters, but very much exaggerated.

In the harvest of 1806, some information respecting Mr. Park was obtained from Goree. One of his guides brought a letter from him, which was written from Sansanding on the river Niger, to the eastward of Segou, which unfortunately confirmed the death of Mr. Anderson, together with Mr. Scott, the artist, and that none were then in existence but Mr. Park himself, Lieutenant Martin, and three soldiers belonging to the African corps. Our traveller at

that time had made a discovery, that the Niger unites its waters with those of the Congo, which empties itself into the Southern Atlantic Ocean; and, in order to explore the same, he had procured a canoe from the king of Bambarra, in which he had proceeded a considerable way farther before he was left by the guide, at which time he entertained the most sanguine expectations of soon reaching the coast. A report by a Mandingo sometime after this, was said to be of rather an unpleasant nature; but as no credit was given to it, the hopes of his being alive were still entertained. The guide by whom this information was conveyed to Goree, affirmed in the most positive manner, that he saw Mr. Park to the eastward of Sansanding, after the date of the letter; and also maintained that there was an English ship on the river Gambia, containing letters from Mr. Park, directed to his Majesty's secretary of state for the foreign department.

According to accounts which were received from Mr. Jackson, of Mogadore, Mr. Park arrived at Kabra, the port of Tombuctoo, on the river Niger, in a boat manned by Christians, where he remained at anchor for a day, and afterwards returned to Jinnie against the stream. The report from Charlestown appeared to be highly improbable, and destitute of any foundation, as we have formerly considered it, and there-

fore hopes were still indulged that the celebrated traveller might return once more to his native country, to enjoy the rewards so deservedly belonging to his indefatigable labours, and to communicate to the public his interesting discoveries, which must not only be of incalculable value to men of science, but also to the commercial interests of Great Britain. It ought to be remembered that Mr. Jackson was in correspondence with the principal men of Tombuctoo, and probably possessed much better information concerning that interesting region of the interior of Africa than any other native of Europe.

Accounts which bore date the month of August, 1808, were received by Mr. James G. Jackson, professor of the Arabic and African languages, by a caravan, which accomplished the journey across the desert from Tombuctoo to Morocco in one hundred and five days. According to the common computation of fifteen miles to a day's journey, this makes the distance from Tombuctoo to Morocco to be one thousand five hundred and seventy-five miles. Mr. Park's interpreter to the Sultan of Soudon knew nothing with certainty respecting his death; for although a variety of depredations had been committed in the vicinity of Tombuctoo, by those Arabs who are distinguished by the names of Tuarick and Brabeesh, it does

not necessarily follow from this circumstance, that Mr. Park fell a sacrifice to their outrageous deportment. There is but one thing which at first view seems to afford the colour of a probability to the report of his death, which is, that some time previous to the period just now mentioned, a fort on the river Niger had been stormed, and every Christian found in it had suffered the most cruel and barbarous death. Of the deadly antipathy of the Mahometans against the disciples of Jesus Christ, no doubt can be entertained; but it has been fully ascertained that Mr. Park was not in the neighbourhood of the Niger when that event took place.

A letter made its appearance in the Glasgow Courier, towards the end of the year 1808, and as the information it contains respecting our intrepid and indefatigable countryman is of considerable importance, we trust our readers will excuse us, if we give it in detail.

“ Having seen, in many of the late newspapers, paragraphs respecting the uncertainty of the fate of that enterprising traveller Mungo Park, and particularly one in your paper of Tuesday the 18th instant, (October, 1808,) wherein his death is very much doubted, I beg leave to communicate to you circumstances which have come to my knowledge during a residence of twenty months at and about Go-

ree. The last letters that were received from Mr. Park and his companions, were dated the 10th of November, 1805, if I recollect right, from some place in the neighbourhood of Sego. One was from Mr. Park to Dr. Heddle, the garrison surgeon at Goree, in which he states being kindly received by the natives who recognised him; the diseases that had swept off almost all his followers; and concludes with stating the numbers left alive, I think six or eight out of forty-five that started, and saying, from the inquiries I have been enabled to make, I think you may expect me on the coast in about three months. The other is dated the next day, and is from Lieutenant Martin of the Royal African corps (who commanded the detachment accompanying Mr. Park) to Mr. M'Gaw, assistant surgeon of the corps also at Goree. The letter is written in a strain of great spirit, ridiculing the dangers and privations to which they have been exposed, mentions the names of the survivors, and concludes thus: From what Mr. Park has been enabled to learn, he is convinced that the long-sought Niger is the Congo; and he says you may expect us on the coast in three months.—The survivors then were the gentlemen who composed the heads of the expedition, and one or two of the African corps; not one of whom had reached the coast when I left it in October

1806, although Mr. Park, whenever he left any sick man at a native house, promised them two slaves value on their delivering such a man to a white factory. Shortly after these letters were received, an account came down the Gambia, by a slatee, or travelling slave-dealer, of Mr. Park and his companions being put to death at Sego, by Mansong the king. A similar account was also brought down the Rio Pongus, (a river three days journey from Sierra Leone) and both accounts agreed with regard to circumstances, and the cause, which was stated to be the intrigues of the Moorish traders, jealous of their mercantile interests, if the whites should find a passage to the interior. Your paper stated that a fort on the Niger had been stormed, and Christians found in it were put to death. As to a fort on the Niger, I do not imagine such a thing to be in existence, and you may depend upon it, that Mr. Park and his companions were the only Christians who have reached that river for many years. Had I not at present trespassed so far on your time and patience, I would endeavour to offer such remarks on the subject as many inquiries and local advantages gave me an opportunity of making, which might tend to throw the least light on so interesting a subject.

I am, Sir, &c.

(Signed) T. M. B. R. M."

Two years after the date of the above, or in the month of March, 1810, vessels came from Goree and Sierra Leone, and from the information thus obtained, considerable hopes were entertained respecting the celebrated traveller, Mr. Park, being alive at that time. The ship *Favourite* of London, commanded by Captain Trueman, arrived at Plymouth from Goree. Before the departure of that vessel, information had been received at Senegal by a native of the Mandingo country, who accompanied Mr. Park as far into the interior as Sego and Sansanding, that in the month of January he was in the land of the living. The governor of Senegal, Colonel Maxwell, in consequence of this information, had given directions that a decked boat should be immediately fitted out to proceed up the river Senegal, for the purpose of granting assistance to Mr. Park in his unwearied exertions in exploring the African continent. This account was farther confirmed by the contents of a letter, bearing date the month of March, 1810, received from Dr. Douglas by a vessel from Sierra Leone. The Doctor thus writes.

“ Permit me to lay before you some information respecting Mr. Mungo Park, which I was favoured with from an intelligent Mahomedan, whom I met at Goree, and who had acted as a guide to Mr. Park, from the time of

his landing on the continent of Africa to his embarkation on the river Niger. He states, that the king of Segou had shewn much favour to Mr. Park, and that the report of assassination there was untrue. He had passed far along the Niger without any molestation whatever from the natives. My informant could not recollect the date of his embarkation on the Niger, but thinks it must be about three years ago (that is, in 1807). Mr. Park had taken four months provisions for himself and two followers, with whom he intended to proceed to the eastward, and onwards as far as the Red Sea. Some travellers who had fallen in with this guide, informed him, that, about two or three months after Mr. Park's embarkation, he had been severely scorched in his breast by the bursting of a gun while firing at some birds; but that he passed Tombuctoo in the night by water."

In confirmation of the above, perhaps it may not be improper to subjoin the following extract from the fourth report of the African Institution. "Before the directors quit this subject, they think it right to advert to a communication which has been made to them by Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, the commandant of Senegal, respecting the celebrated traveller Mungo Park, in a letter dated on the 28th of

January, 1810, which contains the following passage.

“ I avail myself of an opportunity, by way of Guernsey, to communicate to you the intelligence of the arrival in this colony of the black man named Isaaco, the guide who conducted Mr. Mungo Park to Sansanding, and whose schoolmaster, who resides there, furnished Mr. Park with a guide to take him to Kassina. This person appears convinced that Mr. Mungo Park is not dead; he says, if it was the case, he certainly should have heard of it; not having heard of him, he supposed he had returned to England.

“ To ascertain the certainty of the fate of our intrepid countryman, I have engaged Isaaco to go in search of him, and have furnished him with a present for Mansong, the king of Bambarra, and also with means to defray his travelling expences; and have promised him a thousand dollars if he finds Mr. Park. He has instructions to proceed without delay to Sego; to present to Mansong the present he has for him, and to beg of him to aid him in his researches. If he cannot procure any certain intelligence of him at Sego, he is to continue his journey to Sansanding, to find out the guide who conducted Mr. Park to Kassina. If there he cannot gain satisfactory inform-

ation, he is to endeavour to proceed to Tombuctoo and Kassina.

“Isaaco has promised to make every exertion to fulfil the object of his mission, and to use his utmost ability to gain correct information of the celebrated traveller.”

Full six months after the date of the above intelligence, the same gentleman (Colonel Maxwell) became possessed of information which is in substance as follows: “A gentleman of the name of Laporte, belonging to the island of Goree, had, in the course of his travels or in the prosecution of his business, been informed by a Toucaloor, that he had actually seen Mr. Park in a village, the name of which had unfortunately escaped the memory of Mr. Laporte. Our celebrated traveller was then very well, but entirely alone, having lost every one of his companions; that it was his design to return to the coast by Galam to Senegal, that being a shorter route from where he then was, than to return by the Gambia. If he really was in existence at the time specified, and seen by the Toucaloor, it is probable that he formed the resolution on account of the disturbed state of the upper part of the Gambia arising from the desolations of war. It were sincerely to be wished that Mr. Laporte had been much more inquisitive respecting Mr. Park. He had with him another inhabitant of Goree, who

was in possession of many more particulars, being acquainted with the language of the Toucaloor, but he had not returned from the Gambia."

The black man already mentioned, returned to the coast, after an absence of twenty months, and we are sorry to say that his accounts respecting Mr. Park are very far from being favourable, as will too evidently appear from his journal. We do not pretend to lay the whole of it before our readers, on account of its dryness and prolixity, and as having too much the appearance of a nautical log-book.

He left Senegal on Sunday, the 22d day of the moon Tabasky, or 7th of January, 1810, and came to an anchor at the foot of the bar, which he and his companions passed next morning, where they were in danger of perishing. When they reached Goree on the 24th, Isaaco found that some of his effects had been stolen from him, which he notified to the commandant of Goree, and observed that he designed to postpone his voyage till the recovery of his goods, which were very soon returned when the arm of power interposed in his behalf. He continued five days with Mr. Robert Ainsley with whom the reader is long ago acquainted, and who, at the desire of the Governor, presented him with one horse, one ass, and twenty bars of beads. Having left this gentleman,

he went to a village of the king of Cataba to pay his respects, previously sending forward his people and baggage to Giammalocoto. When he was introduced to Cataba, he made him a present of a musket and a string of amber, which the sovereign distributed among his attendants.

After a great variety of trivial circumstances, which are detailed in the journal with the disagreeable sameness already mentioned, he reached Montogu, where his family had resided before the army of Bambarra made inroads into the country, and staid in it about forty-six days. Here, and in other places, he disposed of as much of his property as he could not carry along with him, and set out for Moundoundon, where the chief killed a sheep for him, and in return for which he gave him a bottle of powder, estimated worth five bars. At Baniscrilla, he found the king of Bondou with the Bambarra army, to whom he paid his respects, giving him ten bottles of powder, thirteen grains of amber, two grains of coral, and a handsome tin box. To his first valet he gave one pagne, or piece of cloth, which the natives employ in their dresses; to his goldsmith four pagnes; and to the chief of the village two bottles of powder.

On his arrival at Debbou, his friend Saloumou gave him two sheep, for which he present-

ed him with two bottles of powder, and was informed that his friend would conduct him to Segou, if he thought proper, to which he readily assented giving his wife ten pagnes, in order to support her till he should return. Saloumou having got ready for their journey, they next morning departed from Debbou, and crossing the Faleme, stopped on the other side at a village also called Debbou. Here they purchased two sheep and some corn, the latter of which they converted into kouskous and took their departure early on Monday, the first day of Raky Gammon, or 4th of May, 1810, reaching about noon the village of Diggichoucoumee, the residence of the king of Bondou, where they continued four days, and killed two sheep. They next arrived at Sabcouria, the last village of Bondou to the north, passing on to Saint Joseph, the Fort of Galam, where they remained five days. The reason of this delay is truly ludicrous, and therefore we shall give it in the words of Isaaco himself. "I was forced to stay there so long on account of a palaver I had with the family of one of my wives, who opposed her on going on the voyage with me; I was divorced, and she had to give me what she had received at our marriage, which is the law among us Mahomedans. I received one bullock and four sheep. I gave the chief Enchoumana fourteen bars in amber and powder; one

bottle and a half of powder to the people, with two bars of amber, and two bottles of powder and twenty flints to the chief of Galam.

“We departed early, and crossing two small rivulets, we reached Moussala at noon, where we slept. The chief treated us very kindly, to whom I gave thirty loads of powder and two flints. We set out from this place early next morning, and reached Tamboucana on the river Senegal, where I beheld a Moor in the possession of a very fine mare, which I purchased with the goods that were returned me in my palaver at Dramana. There the king of Bambarra had erected a large fort. We crossed the Senegal at Settoucoule on the Moorish side where I purchased one sheep, took up my lodgings for a night, and was well treated.

“We departed early next morning, stopped at Coulou about nine in the morning, where we found only women, as the men had all followed the army of Bambarra. At Challimancouna, I was well received by the chief, who killed a bullock for our entertainment, and I gave him one bottle of powder. Having departed from this place before day-break, we arrived at Medina, where I was obliged to stay twelve days, to wait the return of one of my fellow-travellers; but not hearing any thing of him, I sent a man in search of him, as he was in possession of my mare and a musket, which arti-

cles the messenger was fortunate enough to bring back. I was well treated by the chief, and the people of the village, who gave me five sheep, and received in return one bottle of powder, with a bar and half, and I bought from them a sheep. From my departure from Montogou this completed three moons. Early next morning we departed, and crossed the river Kirgout, which abounds with alligators and hippopotami, and we arrived at Cougnacary about noon, which was formerly the capital of the kingdom of Casso, but then occupied by people of Bambarra. We received one sheep, for which I gave one bottle of powder and five flints. We lodged here during the night, and early next morning went round, and again crossed the Kirgout. At noon we came to Camatingue, after we had crossed five rivers and remained there two days, receiving a bullock and a sheep from the Seracoolies, residing in Casso. To the chief I gave a bottle of powder and ten grains of amber, and here one of my slaves was redeemed, for whom I received another in exchange. Here too I met the king of Bambarra's messenger, to whom I gave half a bottle of powder. We departed early in the morning, crossed the Garry between two rocks, and arrived at Lambatara about noon, where we slept. All the way we were surrounded by mountains and rocks, and next day having pro-

cured some water, we commenced our journey, and had to ascend some high mountains, on the top of one of which we were attacked by an immense swarm of bees, so that the people and beasts of burden were scattered, and the stung animals threw every thing off their backs. One of the asses was actually stifled by the bees getting into his nostrils, and one of my men was nearly dead from the same cause, whom I found it extremely difficult to restore to his wonted animation. We slept at the foot of this mountain, under a monkey-bread tree.

“ We set out early the next morning, and met on the road one of the king of Bambarra's messengers, who had been sent after me. We halted, and sat down together under a tree, and he informed me that his master sent him to let me know that if he met me at Cougnacary, he was to procure me plenty of provisions, and keep me there to rest myself; but as he had met me on the road, and a long way past Cougnacary, he would conduct me to the first village, procure me some provisions, where I might stop to rest myself, to which I agreed. On my arrival at Jyggiting Yalla, I told the messenger my design of sending some person to the king to inform his majesty of my being in his dominions, and near him. I accordingly sent my friend Saloumou to Giocha, where the king resided. I desired him, on his arrival at

Giocha, to go to Sabila, the chief of the king's slaves, and a confidant of his; to give him thirteen grains of amber, a pair of scissars, a snuff-box, and one looking-glass, telling him that I sent those things as a present, and acquaint him with my arrival. After this man's departure, I sent another messenger, desiring him to go to Giocha, and try to see my old friend Allasana-Bociara, one of the king of Sego's messengers, who were sent with the authority of ambassadors, and let him know that I send him this piece of silver, and that grain of amber, requesting him not to leave Giocha till I have seen him.

“Having dispatched these two messengers without the knowledge of each other, the king's messenger came in the evening, informing me that he was going away, but would leave orders at the first village he came to, to receive me well, and furnish me with provisions and every assistance, where I was to wait for further orders. In the course of the night the chief man of the village sent a messenger to his son, with orders to stop me. The young man said that he was desired to let me have provisions, but to detain me where I was. I made answer, that if I staid where I was, I and my whole family would perish with hunger and thirst; and that I would most assuredly go on, unless

stopped by force. I made speedy preparations, and instantly departed.

“ We arrived at Maribougou about noon, where I was desired to stop, and the chief sent me to his brother to take up lodgings, which were refused me, and I took shelter under a large monkey-bread tree, where I was again desired to stop. I declared I could not possibly comply, as water was scarce, and my company numerous. The people were desired not to take any till I was served, that I might have no excuse; and I accordingly embraced this opportunity of giving drink to all my people and cattle, and filling the skins. Being about to depart from thence, my two messengers arrived from Giocha, and one of them informed me he had seen Sabila, to whom he had delivered my message and present. This man observed that he perceived I wished to be his friend, to which he had no objections; and the other messenger told me, that the king of Sego's ambassador would not by any means leave Giocha till he saw me, according to my desire. I had a merchant in my caravan, whom I met at Dramana, who came from Senegal, and had some friends in the village, by whom he was requested to separate his goods from mine, as I was in very great danger of being plundered. I considered that something disagreeable was planning against me, in consequence of which

I obliged the merchant to separate his goods from mine, as I should have been extremely sorry to allow him to suffer upon my account. I and my people took our station against a tree, well armed, with two double-barrelled guns and a musket in good order, and well loaded, and waited with patience for what might happen.

“While I continued in this state of defence, a messenger arrived from the king, the same person whom I met at first, who observed that as I complained of the want of water, he would conduct me to another village. We departed accordingly, and reached Wassaba, at which place the messenger shewed me where my destined lodgings were to be, and where my goods would be in perfect safety. He then desired that my people should be separated from me, in order to disperse them in the village, that the chance of plundering me might be the greater, to which I urged the most powerful objections. I went with my people, baggage, &c. into the middle of the yard of the house which was appropriated for my lodgings, where I remained.

“Here I had a visit from the chief of the village, who desired me to grant my people to go and fetch me a bullock. The king’s messenger took him aside, and spoke a short time to him. When the messenger saw me settle in the yard, and apparently inclined to spend

the evening there, he left me and departed. When I was well assured that he was gone, I sent another man to Giocha, with orders to go to Madiguïjou Marabou, by whom I would be introduced to Sabila; and when once there, to give Sabila seven grains of amber, and desire him to go and inform the king, that wherever I went, I met some of his people who stopped me from place to place, and my design was positively to go to him, and to beg of Sabila to procure what I requested. Next day my courier returned, and informed me that Sabila said the king's pleasure was, that I should continue in my present situation, and next day come to see the king, with which I complied.

“The king next day sent a messenger with orders to conduct me to him. I quitted my family and baggage, taking with me three horsemen and four footmen, and departed with the messenger. Prior to this, I had sent a man before me with five grains of the largest amber, with instructions to wait for me at Giocha. On Tuesday, at three in the afternoon, we reached the back of the village, and the man I had sent before was waiting for us, who told me in a whisper that we were betrayed where I was going; and not by any means to let the king know that I was going to Sego, as our lives depended upon it. My answer was, that he well knew I was sent by the governor

of Senegal to Segou, to which place I was under the absolute necessity of urging my way, unless I should be prevented by death or violence. I then entered the village, and went straight to the door of the sovereign, followed by his messenger. Here I alighted, when the messenger found it expedient that I should wait at the door, and he went in to receive the orders of his majesty. He instantly came back, and informed me that the king was sleeping; the guard took possession of my people and me, and lodged us in the guard-room. At that period it was about the setting of the sun, and not one of my friends, acquaintances, or relatives, paid me a visit. I then began to think seriously what was to be done. A woman, by profession a ballad-singer, was the only person who came to administer any comfort to me in my distressing situation. When this woman left me, she went instantly to the ambassadors of Segou, to whom she uttered a well-known expression as indicative of the most extreme sorrow: 'Oh me, oh me, my back is broke.' The ambassadors were naturally induced to ask her the reason why she uttered these expressions, and her answer was, because our friend Isaaco is here, and they are going to kill him. Sabila being possessed of no ordinary share of power, and I having received no intelligence from him, I sent my boy to Madiguijou, requesting

that he would introduce him to Sablia, to whom he had a present of five grains of amber. Not being too well protected, I sent another person to my landlord, where I constantly dwelt when I passed in this village, paying him my compliments, and expressing my astonishment that I had not been favoured with a sight of him since my arrival. I received for answer, that he was happy to learn I was in good health, and so near him, but that no person had given him the slightest intimation of my arrival. This I considered as a proof of his fear to meddle with me while in the hands of the king. I sent the merchant during the night, who at Mari-bougou had been advised to detach his goods from mine, for the sake of avoiding any dangerous consequences, to the ambassadors of Segou, to give them information of my being in this place.

“ Perceiving the carelessness and indifference of the guards, I went to my landlord, whose influence with the sovereign was not altogether destroyed, and gave him a necklace belonging to one of my wives, nine grains of amber, and seven grains of coral. I next went to Madiguijou, and informed him that I was sent on a mission to the king of Segou with some papers, to crave his assistance and protection in my search after a white man, who went long ago into the interior of the country. To Sabi-

la I communicated the same information, and then went back to the guard-house, and lay down to sleep; but my slumbers were disturbed by an uneasy mind, and when I awoke, I found all the guards had retired.

“ I then rose and went to take the air, returning to take some repose, but could not. I heard the feet of different horsemen in the street, who were going, I apprehend, to the house of Sabila. In the morning, at an early hour, I sent another messenger to the ambassadors, in order to acquaint them with the critical situation in which I stood, as I learned that they were to proceed towards Sego, and leave me behind. They were anxious to know why I did not follow the same route which I had done on a former occasion; and to this my reply was, that as I understood the two kingdoms to be in terms of amity and peace, I never apprehended that it would be attended with any danger to travel through this part. I also mentioned the circumstance that Mr. Park had promised Mansong a present; and the white man not appearing, the governor of Senegal had entrusted this present to me for Mansong, of which I was now the bearer. Since they had determined to go without me, they might do so if they had a mind; and whether I should be released or die, the information would arrive at Sego in good time. They sent to Tiguing Co-

roba the following message: "We have heard that Isaaco our friend is at Giocha, the bearer of a present to Dacha, (king of Segó) which Mr. Park had promised to Mansong the father of Dacha: That Mr. Park not returning in time to his native country, his friends had appointed Isaaco to be the bearer of that present which is with him now, and is destined for Segó, to our master the king. In case Isaaco wishes to go back, we beg you will let him do so; but if he wishes to go on, on his mission to Segó, we also beg and hope you will give him all assistance, and some trusty persons to conduct him to Segó.

"Then came Massatan Wague, a Marabou, who informed me what I have mentioned above, and how I had been arrested with the view of destroying me, and taking from me all I possessed. That Sabila had been the means of my effecting my escape from danger, and of saving my life. Next morning my landlord went to the king, to beg that he might take me to his lodgings, to which his majesty agreed. He instantly came and took me with my people to his house. The king addressed Sabila, and observed with a nod, "Here is the business;" to which Sabila made answer; "This is our old friend, and is a good man." The king turned to me and said, "No, here is your box, and keep it; what else you have brought in my

country I shall keep; you may return to the place you first started from, and travel on your mission by the same road you travelled first, with the white man; but your goods, and every thing else you have with you I shall keep. I know what you have is destined to the king of Sego." I replied, "that I might have travelled by other roads, and you would never have heard of me; but in my way I heard you lived in peace and friendship with the king of Sego; I therefore thought that I might with security travel through your country." He stopped me, saying, "what I have said to you is enough."

"I left the house with a part of his slaves, went to my lodgings, and instantly completed the amount of sixty bars in powder, amber, &c. I took the horse which Mr. Robert Ainsley had bought for me, three ducks, and the tin box which he refused. All these things I collected, and went with my landlord, offering them as presents to the king, of which he accepted. In his presence I gave to Sabila one bottle of powder, and a snuff-box to the king's singer. On seeing these presents, the king told me he would lend me somebody who might conduct me to Sego. I replied that I could not go so soon, because if I did, whoever would see me would think I deserted from him, and I therefore thought proper to stay where I was, and

rest myself awhile. The king said to Sabila, "you see Isaaco appears to be a courageous man; if he had been of a weak-spirited mind, he would have run away, and left his things in my hands." I returned home, and spent the remainder of the day and the night.

"I departed in the morning with my people to Wassaba, for the purpose of fetching my family and goods, where I continued two days, being under much uneasiness of mind, and apprehensive that something was plotting against me; and having too much reason to dread this, from the few words I picked up at different times, I returned to Giocha, presented myself to his majesty, and declared that prior to my quitting his dominions, I deemed it proper to come and swear fidelity and friendship to him, and that whenever I should go or return from Senegal to Segó, I would always pass through his country, and do myself the honour of waiting upon him. At the same time I wished that his majesty would swear to protect and treat me well, and prove himself my friend, even admitting that he should be in a state of hostility with the king of Segó. Upon this he sent for Chiaman, the eldest son of the royal family, who swore to this effect, both in his own, and in the name of his father, and I swore to do in my turn as I have mentioned above.

“ I remained in the village till next morning, during which time I wrote a prayer to a man who gave me a bullock, which I carried to Wassaba, where I slept, and next morning had the bullock killed. The brother of Chiaman sent for me, on whom I waited, after sending away my goods and family by another road. The young prince presented me with an ass laden with kouskous, in order to help me on my journey, for which I gave him a piece of fine white baft, five bottles of powder, two looking-glasses, and two snuff-boxes. He then took his leave, and the same day I went to Giocha to bid farewell to his majesty, requesting that he would be pleased to grant me the promised conductor, who gave me a person of the name of Mouroucouro, and at my departure he shook me by the hand, saying, “ Isaaco, I bear you no malice now, but did so once, because you conducted white men to Sego, and never passed here to let me have something from them, while every other person shared of their generosity.” I took leave of him and went to the village of Chiaman, where I found my family and goods in safety. Here I continued two days, and Chiaman killed a bullock, for which I gave him one pagne, a bottle of powder, twenty flints, and a bar of scarlet cloth.

Having now an extensive forest before me, which I was obliged to cross, I hired four men

in order to conduct me, departing next morning, and crossing a small river. About noon, we made our entry into the forest, and came to a large muddy pond, where the hogs could not pass with safety; but a superior road was pointed out to us by our guides, which we crossed with facility. As we proceeded on our journey, we found a little before sun-set, a large land-turtle, which we killed, and passed the night at a place where there had been formerly a village. The four men whom I formerly mentioned as having hired for guides, discovered an inclination to return, being afraid to proceed any further. Such was my disappointment at this unexpected conduct, that I could not conceal my anger, and declared that I would much rather go back than be left in such a dismal forest. They pointed out a road, which they said I was to follow straight on, turning neither to the right hand nor the left, and I would soon come to an inhabited village. I found it prudent to make a virtue of necessity, and therefore permitted them to return back again, after giving them, as more than an equivalent for all the services they had rendered me, half a bottle of powder and ten flints.

“I went on, and found the road which the king of Sego's army had taken about nine years ago, and a little farther on we came to a small pond, where we determined to allay our thirst,

and remained during the greater part of the day, and passed the approaching night under a tree. In the morning we prosecuted our journey after the necessary repose, and about noon we reached the lakes of Chinchare and Tirinn, which, notwithstanding the duration of the dry season and the sultry heat, are never destitute of water, and at them the king's army always halts for some time. We proceeded onward immediately after dinner, and reached another lake about five in the afternoon, and at night we reached the village of Giangounte, where we continued during five days, as one of my people was suddenly indisposed. We got a small quantity of provisions the first night, and next day they slew for us a bullock; and here I considered it as a duty binding upon me to return thanks to Almighty God for my escape. The king's people came on the third day, to whom the village gave a bullock and a sheep, which I slaughtered with my own hands, and received for my share a quarter of each. This village is surrounded by a mud wall, well fortified, and I am fully of opinion that it is completely secured against any hostile attack. One of my hogs being extremely fat and of an extraordinary bulk, I found it impracticable to carry it any farther. I accordingly told the chief of the village to take charge of the hog, and convey it to the king his master, which he

refused to do, not choosing to take charge, he said, of an unknown animal, and the responsibility which might be attached to him for taking care of it to his master. I replied that I could carry it no farther, and would therefore leave it with him, which he might dispose of as he thought proper. The village belonged to his master, and the hog likewise, and I was fully convinced that he would take proper care of it.

“ We departed from this place early in the morning, and reached Fabougou about noon. We proceeded about noon to Giongoey, where we arrived about sun-set, and remained for two days. We continued our journey early in the morning, and about ten o'clock we reached Wattere. We went off immediately, and in the evening came to a large open field, attended with very great danger for travellers, because the Moors made it frequently their route, in consequence of which we were under the necessity of travelling both night and day.”

It would be no gratification to our readers to give any farther detail of the journal of Isaaco, the singularity of which is rather tedious and prolix, and more especially as he was not successful in accomplishing the object of his mission. It is, however, a very interesting point, to present the public with an abstract of a short journal by Amadi Fatouma, the very guide whom Isaaco had, on a former occasion, recom-

mended to Mr. Park. The concluding words of Isaaco, however, are memorable, and worthy of being recorded, as they are highly expressive of his anxiety to obtain every possible information respecting the intrepid explorer of the interior of Africa, and of the honourable sentiments which pervaded his breast, as to the grand object of his mission.

“ At the house of Alihou in Medina,” says Isaaco, “ I found Amadi Fatouma, the very guide I had recommended to Mr. Park, and who went with him on his voyage from Sansanding. I sent for him; he came immediately. I demanded of him a faithful account of what had happened to Mr. Park. On seeing me, and hearing me mention Mr. Park, he began to weep, and his first words were, *they are all dead*. I said, I am come to see after you, and intended to look every way for you, to know the truth from your own mouth, how they died. He said that they were lost for ever, and it was useless to make any farther inquiry after them; for to look after what was irrecoverably lost, was losing time to no purpose. I told him I was going back to Sansanding, and requested he would come the next day there to meet me, to which he agreed. I went to Sansanding and slept there; next day I sent back the canoe to Impebara. Amadi Fatouma came at the appointed time to meet

me, being the 21st day of the moon, or the 4th of October, 1810. I desired he would let me know what passed to his knowledge concerning Mr. Park." The result of this anxious inquiry, so truly honourable to the feelings and fidelity of Isaaco, is contained in the following epitome of Fatouma's journal.

"We departed from Sansanding in a canoe, on the 27th day of the moon, and went in two days to Sellee (or Silla,) where the first journey of Mr. Park terminated, and where he bought a slave to assist him in the navigation of the canoe. The company consisted of Mr. Park, Martin, three other white men, three slaves, and myself as guide and interpreter. We reached Jinne in two days, and after presenting the chief with a piece of baft, we went forward. As we passed by Sibby, three canoes came after us, armed with pikes, lances, bows and arrows, but they were entirely destitute of fire arms. As no doubt could be entertained of their hostile designs, we desired them to return, but without success, and were under the necessity of driving them away by force of arms. After passing Kabra three canoes came up, in order to oppose our progress, and these likewise we were obliged to repel by force. On passing by Tombuctoo, we were again attacked by three canoes, which we obliged to retire, after killing a considerable number of the crew, and as we

went past Gouroumo, we were under the necessity of treating no fewer than seven canoes in a similar manner. Sickness deprived us of one white man, and we were reduced to eight hands; but we were each of us possessed of fifteen muskets, constantly in good order, and in readiness for action. When we passed a village, the name of which I do not recollect, the residence of king Gotoijege, no fewer than sixty canoes came in pursuit of us, for which we proved more than a match, and we killed a vast number of the men on board of them. Beholding the dreadful carnage which our fire arms had occasioned, I laid hold of Mr. Martyn's hand, and exclaimed, 'let us cease firing, for we have killed too many already;' upon which he attempted to take my life, but he was prevented by the interposition of Mr. Park. We next met a very formidable army on one side of the river, composed of the Poul nation, without beasts of any kind in their train; but as we went forward on the opposite side of the river, we fortunately met with no opposition from them.

“ We struck upon a rock as we advanced, and the canoe was nearly overset by a hippopotamus, which we fired at, and drove it away. With much trouble and material damage we got off the canoe, and came to anchor before Kaffo, where we spent the day. Prior to our de-

parture from Sansanding, we had laid in an abundant stock of provisions, both salted and fresh, of every description, by means of which we were enabled to proceed without halting at any place, which put it in our power to avoid accidents as much as possible. The canoe was of sufficient burden to contain an hundred and twenty men. Three canoes from Kaffo came in pursuit of us, which we repulsed, and I was sent on shore to procure some milk. One of the natives made an attempt to kill me; but Mr. Park beholding what was going forward, stopped two canoes which had come to our people to sell provisions, telling those on board that if they either did me any injury, or detained me a prisoner, he would kill every one of them, and carry their canoes away. As the people on shore were apprehensive of Mr. Park's design, they sent me off in another canoe, and the people of consequence were set at liberty, and buying provisions from them, we gave them a few presents.

“ Soon after we departed, twenty canoes came after us from the same place, and when they approached, they cried out, ‘ Amadi Fatouma, how can you pass through our country without giving us any thing! Acquainting Mr. Park with what they said, he gave them a few grains of amber, after which they went peaceably away. We brought to before Carnasse, and

gave a piece of baft to the chief, and afterwards anchored before Gourmon. Mr. Park sending me on shore with forty thousand kowries, in order to purchase provisions, such as rice, onions, fowls, milk, &c. and we took our departure late in the evening. A canoe came after us by order of the chief, in order to inform us that a very large army was encamped on the top of a lofty mountain, waiting for us; and that of course it would be the most prudent plan for us to turn back, or be much upon our guard. On receiving this information we instantly came to an anchor, where we spent the day, and the ensuing night. Having to pass the mountain already mentioned, we had a full view of the army, which was composed of Moors, with a number of horses and camels, but they were destitute of fire arms. They said nothing to us and we went quietly forward, entering the country of Houssa, and came to an anchor. Here Mr. Park said, 'Now, Amadi, you are at the end of your journey; I engaged you to conduct me here; you are going to leave me, but before you go, you must give me the names of the necessaries of life in the language of the countries through which I am going to pass,' to which I most readily agreed, and we spent two days together about it, without attempting to land.

I was next morning sent on shore with a musket and sabre to the chief of the village, and three pieces of white baft for distribution. To the chief I gave his present; to Alhagi I gave one piece of baft, to Alhagi-biron another, and a third to a person whose name I do not recollect; but they were all natives of Marabou. From the chief I received a bullock, a sheep, three jars of honey, and four loads of rice. From Mr. Park I received seven thousand kowries to purchase provisions, who desired me to go to the chief, and make him a present of five silver rings, some powder and flints, and inform him that these things were given by the white men for his majesty, who were taking leave of him previous to their departure. When the chief received these things he inquired if the white men had any design of returning. This being told to Mr. Park, he replied that he could not return any more. Mr. Park had paid me for my voyage before we left Sansanding, and I told him, 'I agreed to carry you into the kingdom of Houssa; we were now in Houssa, I have fulfilled my engagements with you; I am therefore going to leave you here and return.'

"Mr. Park departed next day, being Saturday, and I slept in the village of Yaour. I next morning went to the king to pay my respects, where I found two men who had come on horseback, sent by the chief of Yaour, to tell the

king that the white men went away, without leaving any thing for him, notwithstanding they were possessed of considerable property. Their declaration was, 'this Amadi Fatouma is a bad man, and has likewise made a fool of us both.' The king instantly commanded me to be put into irons, which was done accordingly, and every thing I possessed was taken from me. Some were for taking my life, and some for preserving it. Early next morning the king sent an army to a village called Boussa, near the margin of the river, with a rock which extends from side to side, and there is only one opening, which serves as a passage for the water, and the current of consequences is very strong. The army posted itself on the top of this opening, which Mr. Park endeavoured to pass when he was assailed with lances, pikes, arrows, and stones. He defended himself for a considerable time; two of his slaves were killed at the stern of the canoe; every thing in it was thrown into the river, and they continued firing; but being overpowered by numbers and excessive fatigue, and finding it impossible to keep up against the current, with no hope of escaping, Mr. Park laid hold of one of the white men, and plunged into the river; Martyn did the same, and they were drowned in attempting to escape. The only slave remaining in the boat, seeing the natives continue to throw weapons

incessantly at the canoe, stood up and exclaimed, 'Stop throwing now, you see nothing in the canoe, and nobody but myself, therefore cease. Take me and the canoe, but do not kill me.' They took possession both of the man and canoe, and brought them to the king.

Poor Amadi Fatouma was kept in chains three months, at the end of which time the king gave him his liberty, in consequence of which he went immediately to the slave taken in the canoe, who informed him in what manner Mr. Park and all of them had perished. He farther inquired if nothing had been found in the canoe after it was taken, to which he replied that nothing was left in the canoe but himself and a sword belt, which article it seems he kept to himself, and made of it a girth to his horse.

There is one passage in Amadi's journal which has struck us forcibly, and we presume it has not escaped the observation of our readers. Mr. Park was asked, through the medium of Amadi as interpreter, by the chief of Yaour, if he meant to return, and the reply of Mr. Park was, that he could not return any more. This induced the villain of a chief to keep back the present which was committed to his charge for the king, consisting of five silver rings, with some powder and flints; and to prevent defection, Amadi was accused to his Majesty in the manner related, and thrown into irons, when

the army was sent to intercept our unfortunate traveller, who perished in his attempt to escape.

We shall next present our readers with so much of Mr. Park's own journal of his second attempt to penetrate the interior of Africa, as reached the coast in safety, and was transmitted to Britain.

He and his attendants took their departure from Kayee on the morning of the 27th of April, 1805, at which time they were honoured with a salute from the guns of the *Crescent*, the *Washington*, and the vessel of Mr. Ainsley. The day was remarkably hot, and their journey was extremely troublesome and tardy, as some of their asses had been unaccustomed to carry burdens. Mr. Park, and those who were in the rear with him, took the road to Jonkonda, where they arrived at one o'clock; but as they did not find Lieutenant Martyn nor any of the men who were in front, it was concluded that they had gone by New Jeremy, in consequence of which they hired a guide, and continued their route to Lamain, which they reached at four in the afternoon, and Lieutenant Martyn with his party about an hour afterwards. They unloaded the asses under a large Bentang tree on the east side of the town, and the Slatee came to pay his respects to our traveller, requesting that he would remove the asses and baggage to some other tree; for if he and his

company slept under that one, they would be all dead before morning. They took his advice, slept comfortably under the tree, and next morning at the break of day they set out for Pisania, which they reached at the going down of the sun, receiving accommodations at the house of Mr. Ainsley, where they remained till the 4th of May, and then set forward on their journey. The asses and burdens were all marked and numbered; and a certain number of each was assigned to each of the six messes, into which Mr. Park had divided the soldiers. They were also subdivided among the individuals belonging to each mess, by which means every man could tell at a glance the ass and the load which belonged to him. A certain large mark was likewise put upon each ass, in order to prevent them from being stolen by the natives; and the marks were such as not to be capable of being either washed or clipt off without detection. Mr. Scott and one of the people of Isaaco, for the most part went in the front; Lieutenant Martyn, with his men, had their station in the centre; and Mr. Park, with his friend Mr. Anderson, brought up the rear.

Mr. Ainsley saw them past Tendacunda; and their march proved excessively fatiguing, as many of the asses were rather overloaded, notwithstanding they had been obliged to leave

behind them about five hundred weight of rice. Some of these animals lay down upon the road, and others threw off their bundles, so that they could only reach Samee at the approach of night, a distance of no more than eight miles. Mr. Park went to pay his respects to the Slatee, whom he found very much intoxicated; yet when our traveller offered him a jug of rum as a present, he refused to take any fewer than ten, but was at last prevailed with, after considerable difficulty, to accept of two. Their journey on the 5th of May was extremely fatiguing, as several of the stubborn animals refused to proceed, which made it necessary to put their loads on the horses. They purchased a bullock at Jindey, where they halted on the 6th, being apprehensive that if they endeavoured to march on, some of their loads would of necessity be left in the woods.

They left Jindey on the 7th; but the asses were so much fatigued, that they were under the necessity of hiring other three, in order to get forward the baggage. They travelled on the north side of the Wallia creek till about noon, when they crossed it near Kootakunda, swimming the asses over; and the soldiers waded over with the bundles on their heads, by the assistance of the negroes. On the 8th, they purchased two asses at Tabajang for ten bars of amber, and ten of coral each, covering

the India bafts with skins, in order to prevent them from being injured by the rain. On the 9th, the king of Jamberoo's son came to pay his respects to Mr. Park; and on the 10th our traveller paid the people who assisted in driving the asses, as he perceived that the expence far exceeded any advantage which could be derived from their services, and that day he committed the driving entirely to the soldiers. They left Tabajang at the rising of the sun, making a short and easy journey to Tatticonda, where the son of the former king of Woolli came to meet Mr. Park. From him our traveller understood that their journey was viewed with a considerable degree of jealousy by the Slatees and Sierra-Woolis, who had their residence about Madina. At this capital of the kingdom of Woolli they arrived on the 11th about noon, unloading their asses under a tree without the gates of the town; and it was five o'clock before Mr. Park was favoured with an audience by the king, to whom he presented a pair of pistols mounted with silver, ten bars of amber, and the same number of coral. He surveyed the present for a considerable time with apparent indifference, and at last told Mr. Park that he would not accept of it, assigning as the reason, that a much superior present had been given to the king of Kattaba. Our traveller found it impossible to convince him of the con-

trary, and he was under the necessity of adding to the present already mentioned, fifteen dollars, ten bars of coral, and as many bars of amber, before he would accept of it; and, in addition to the whole, he begged that a blanket might be given him, to defend him from the rain, which was likewise granted.

The whole of the asses were loaded on the 12th of May, as soon as daylight appeared, and, by permission of the king, they departed at the rising of the sun. They reached Bambacoë at half-past ten o'clock, where they purchased two asses, and a bullock for the soldiers. This place they left on the morning of the 13th, at a very early hour, and about ten o'clock they arrived at Kanipe, a village built without any regularity. It seems the people had obtained information that they were obliged to purchase water at Madina; and in the hope of obtaining a similar market, almost the whole women of the place had drained the water from the wells. The soldiers in vain endeavoured to come in for a share, the camp-kettles being by no means so well adapted to the drawing of water as the calabashes of the women; and they were of course obliged to return without water, under the sneers and sarcasms of the females thus employed.

Mr. Park was informed that about two miles to the southward of the town there was a pool of water; and that the women might desist from their behaviour, he put a man on each of the horses, whom he dispatched to the pool, to procure as much water as would cook their rice, and in the afternoon the whole of the asses were sent to the same place to be watered. Some of the soldiers in the evening endeavoured to procure water from the large well in the vicinity of the town, and by this stratagem they proved successful. One of them let fall his canteen into the well, as if it had been by accident, when his companions fastened a rope round him, lowering him down to the bottom, where he filled the whole of the kettles, which was no small mortification to the females, as they fully expected to have their necks and heads decorated by the sale of what they had drawn, with small amber and beads.

They halted at Koussai on the 14th, which is about four miles to the eastward of Kanipe, or Seesekunda, as it was formerly denominated. One of the soldiers having gathered some of the fruit of the Nitta-trees, began to eat them, when the chief of the village made his appearance, and in a violent rage endeavoured to take them from him; but as he found this was not to be done, he drew a knife, and with a stern

countenance desired them to put on their loads, and depart from the village as fast as possible. Seeing that all his threats were turned into ridicule, he became more peaceable; and when Mr. Park informed him that they were ignorant of any such restraint, promising for the future not to eat any more of them, he allowed that the act itself was of no great importance, had it not been done in presence of the women. He observed that famine had been frequently experienced, owing to the want of rain, and at such times the fruit of the Nitta was their sole dependence, when it might be opened with impunity; but that in order to prevent women and children from making an improper use of this supply, a *toong* was put upon the Nittas, till the approach of famine. The word *toong*, it seems, is expressive of any thing sealed up by the power of magic.

Here they made a purchase of two asses; and as they entered the Simbani woods, Isaaco was afraid of being attacked by some of the people of Bondou, there being at that period a sanguinary war between two brothers, who were disputing about the right of succession.

On the 15th, they departed from Koussai; and as they entered the woods, Isaaco laid a black ram across the road, the throat of which he cut, after he had said over it a prayer of considerable length, which he regarded as a

very essential point, in order to insure success, and the flesh was distributed among the slaves at Koussai, that they might have an interest in their prayers.

They travelled for five miles through a country abounding with wood, after which they came to a level plain, in which very little wood was to be met with. Here they took notice of some hundreds of a species of antelope of a dark colour, and white mouth, to which the natives give the name of *Da qui*, and they are almost as large as a bullock. They arrived on the banks of the Gambia at half past ten o'clock, stopping during the heat of the day under a large tree, to which the Africans give the name of Teelee Corra, the same under which Mr. Park formerly stopped when returning from the interior.

The Gambia at that place is only one hundred yards broad; and, contrary to the expectation of Mr. Park, he found it has a regular tide, rising four inches by the shore. It swarms with crocodiles, thirteen of which Mr. Park counted along the shore, and three hippopotami, the latter of which feed only during the night, and seldom leave the river during the day; they walk on the bottom of the river, and little more is seen of them above water than their heads.

While employed in unloading the asses, one of the soldiers of the name of John Walters, fell down in a fit, and died in an hour after. The negroes belonging to their guide began to the digging of a well, having previously lighted a fire to drive away the bees, which were swarming round the place in quest of water. In a short time they found a sufficient quantity of water for cooking their suppers, and in the course of the night they obtained enough to supply both the horses and asses. About three o'clock, John Walters was buried; and in remembrance of him they gave the place the designation of Walters's Well, from which they departed on the 16th, as soon as daylight appeared, and at half past eight o'clock arrived at the Neaulico. It was nearly dry at that season, and only yielded a little water in particular hollow places, which abound with fish. The negroes of Isaaco caught many of them with their hands, and with bunches of grass employed as a net to frighten the fish into a narrow space. Mr. Park considered one of them as a new genus. They halted for the night at Manjalli Tabba Cotta, the ruins of a village, where they found plenty of water.

They left Manjalli on the 17th May, and reached Bray, the name of a watering place, after a very fatiguing march of twelve miles. Mr. Park endeavoured to take the meridional

altitude of the sun, by a back observation with Troughton's pocket sextant, and after examining his fall and rise with the utmost care, he was persuaded that there is nothing more requisite than a steady hand and proper attention, to perform it with all possible accuracy. This he considered as a most seasonable relief to him, as he had been formerly plagued watching the passage of the fixed stars, and frequently fell asleep when they were upon the meridian. They left Bray at three in the afternoon, taking as much water with them as they possibly could, it being their design to rest at Nillindingcorro till the moon should rise; but as there was no water, their guide continued the march to the river Nerico, at which they arrived about eight o'clock, both men and beasts, being very much fatigued. On the 18th, the people were employed during the whole morning in transporting the baggage and asses across the river; and all being very much exhausted, Mr. Park thought proper to halt on the east side of the river till the afternoon, as an opportunity would thus be afforded to the soldiers to wash their clothes. The breadth of the Nerico is sixty feet, the depth four feet, and it runs at the rate of two miles an hour. At two o'clock, P. M. the heat of the stream was at the astonishing height of 94° of Fahrenheit's scale.

They left the Nerico about half past three o'clock on the 18th of May, and at sunset they reached Jallacotta, the first town of Tenda, from which place to Simbuni in Bondou, is two days travel. They stopped at this place during the 19th, in order to procure corn, and refresh the asses, buying a considerable quantity of onions, which they thought an improvement on their rice, as rendering it more palatable. They left Jallacotta on the 20th, and passed the village of Maheena, near which are the ruins of another village of the same name, from which it would appear that the population of Tenda is greatly diminished. About eight o'clock, they arrived at Tambico, where, as the inhabitants had very few cattle, they could not procure a bullock. There is a town of considerable extent called *Bady*, about half a mile from this place, the chief of which bears the name of Faranba, and is in some degree independent. He charges extravagant duties from the coffles, amounting to ten bars of gunpowder for the load of every ass.

They acquainted the Faranba with their arrival, who sent his son with twenty-six armed men and a multitude of people, to receive their donation, which consisted of ten bars of amber. This being refused, Mr. Park went in person with five bars of coral additional, and this also was rejected. It was not difficult to learn, from

the number of armed men, and the insolent nature of their deportment, that there was little prospect of an amicable adjustment. Mr. Park wrote an intimation to Lieutenant Martyn to have the soldiers in readiness for action in a moment's notice. Isaaco was ordered to inform the Faranba that they had readily been permitted to pass through the dominions of Kataba and Woolli, and that if he did not grant them the same permission, they could return to Jallacotta, and thus attempt to find another road.

In this stage of the altercation, the son of Faranba had gone to Bady with the coral and amber, and Mr. Park's people were making preparations for returning to Jallacotta early next morning, when the horse of their guide was seized by some of Faranba's people, and carried away, while the boy was in the act of watering him at the well. Isaaco went to Bady to know the reason of such conduct, who was likewise seized, and his double-barrelled gun and sword taken from him, besides being fastened to a tree, and subjected to flagellation. The boy was put in irons, and people were sent to Tambico for another horse, the property of an old man, who was going to Dentila along with Mr. Park's company. The resolution adopted by our traveller was, to attack them in open day, if they persisted in refusing to liberate the guide, which would have a much

more decisive effect than any skirmishes by night. Two people were sent to Jallacotta, to acquaint the Dooty with the treatment they had experienced from Faranba.

Their guide was liberated on the 21st, at an early hour in the morning, and sent back, and about ten o'clock, Mr. Park was informed by a number of Faranba's people, that he was far from disposed to quarrel, yet was not willing to allow a coffle to pass without paying the tribute which custom had sanctioned; but if he would carry to Bady such articles as he designed to give, an amicable settlement would be the result. Considering the treatment which his guide had met with, Mr. Park told them that they could not expect him to go alone, and therefore if he complied, he was determined to have an escort of twenty or thirty men. As this did not appear to meet their approbation, it was proposed that the horse, &c. should be fetched half way between the two villages, and there delivered on the receipt of the goods. Mr. Park paid at different times to the amount of one hundred and six bars, which was scarcely a third of what would have been exacted from a coffle of Negroes.

They halted at Jeningalla on the 22d, in order to purchase corn for the asses. The distance between this place and the next water being very considerable, they resolved to travel

by the light of the moon, and therefore they departed from Jeningalla on the 23d, at two in the morning, and by eight o'clock came to Nealo Koba, but resumed their journey at two in the afternoon, and at the setting of the sun they reached a small Foulah village, very much exhausted, as they had travelled that day full twenty-eight miles. On the 24th, they halted at Mansafara, no more than four miles to the eastward of the Foulah village. This place consists of three towns, contiguous to each other, near which there is an extensive pool of water. In crossing the Samkara woods, they bought some corn for the asses, and a bullock for the people. To the south-east they observed much lightning, accompanied with thunder, and therefore adopted the precaution of covering the bundles with grass. One of their best asses was killed by a wolf during the night, not above twenty yards from the place where Mr. Park and Mr. Anderson slept.

They left Mansafara on the 25th, and entered the Tenda Wilderness, and passed the ruins of Koba, about four miles to the east, where Mr. Park had slept when he first travelled through the interior of this vast continent. The town was laid in ruins by the people of Bondou about two years before, and the Bentang tree was destroyed by fire. About ten o'clock they passed a stream which very much resembled

the Neaulico, falling into the Gambia, and soon after got a view of the first range of hills, running from S. S. W. to N. N. E. and halted at Sootéetabba about half past eleven, an excellent watering place, only a short mile from the hills. Leaving this place after the heat of the day, they crossed the first range of hills, when Mr. Park and his friend Mr. Anderson, ascended to the top of one of them; and as the prospect all around was so extensive and amazingly grand, Mr. Park conferred upon it the name of *Panorama Hill*. The top of it has much the appearance of a sugar-loaf, abounding with wolf-holes. It was, in the estimation of Mr. Park, uncommonly pleasing to travel across the hill, although the ascent was very difficult for the asses. They came in the evening into a romantic vale, where they found abundance of water, as it was a remote branch of Nealo Koba. The pools abounded with fish, but the depth of the water rendered it impracticable to catch them with the hand. The ruins of the village of Doofroo, destroyed by the people of Dentilla, are in the vicinity of the stream. Here Mr. Park watched for an eclipse of the first satellite of Jupiter, but unfortunately the planet was hid from him by clouds. He frequently ascertained the latitude by an altitude of the sun, no specimens of which we have thought proper to produce, because the gene-

rality of those who read books of travels for amusement, could feel little interest in astronomical calculations, and more especially, because one uniform blunder runs through the whole of them, which we will by no means ascribe to Mr. Park, whose knowledge gave the highest satisfaction to the African Institution, but to the ignorance of his editor. To shew that this charge is not the result of ill nature, but of science and investigation, we shall give a single instance of this blundering calculation, accompanied with a correct statement of the process, that the reader, if he has but the use of his eyes, may perceive the difference at a single glance.

False Calculation.

Mer. Alt. Tambico	166° .. 56' .. 0"
Diam.	0 .. 0 .. 32
	167 .. 0 .. 28
	83 .. 0 .. 44
Zenith Distance	6 .. 16 .. 0
Distance	20 .. 9 .. 0
	Latitude 13 .. 53 .. 0

True Calculation.

Meridian Altitude at Tambico	166° .. 56' .. 0''
Diameter ...	0 .. 32 .. 0
	<hr/>
$\frac{1}{2}$	167 .. 28 .. 0
	<hr/>
	83 .. 44 .. 0
	<hr/>
Zenith Distance	6 .. 16 .. 0
Declination	20 .. 9 .. 0
	<hr/>
Latitude	13 .. 53 .. 0
	<hr/>

It is the zenith distance added to, or subtracted from the *Declinations* (not the distance,) which gives the latitude required. Having given this as a specimen of the system of book-making, we go on with the narrative.

On the 26th at the approach of day, they ascended from the plain of Doofroo, and traversed a rugged country till about ten o'clock, at which time they met a coffle on its way to the Gambia, in order to redeem a person who had been apprehended for a debt, and if not ransomed in the course of a few months, was to be sold as a slave. Here they made no stay, on account of the want of water, but continued their route, although two of the soldiers, from fatigue and distress, began to lag behind. The

rest of the coffle continued to go on, and arrived at Bee Creek at half-past twelve, from which place an ass and two negroes were sent back to assist the two soldiers with coming up with the rest. Having unloaded the asses at the creek, some of the people belonging to Isaaco instantly began to search for honey, and had the misfortune to rouse the vengeance of a large swarm of bees, in the vicinity of the place where the coffle had stopped. The bees assailed both man and beast in prodigious numbers at the same time; but it was a fortunate circumstance that most of the asses were at liberty, and galloped along the valley with all the speed which they were capable of exerting. The people and horses, however, were severely stung, which made the latter scamper away in every direction. A fire had been kindled for the purpose of cooking, which being now totally abandoned spread with rapidity, setting the bamboos on fire, from which the baggage narrowly escaped being consumed. The bees for at least for half an hour put an end to their journey. They became less troublesome in the evening, and as they could then venture abroad with some degree of safety, in order to collect their cattle, they found that many of them were severely stung and swelled about the head. Three asses were missing, one died in the evening, one next morning, and they were under the necessity of

leaving one at Sibikillin, in addition to which their guide lost his horse, and numbers of the people were severely stung about the hands and face.

They set forward on the 28th at day-break, and descended into a valley about three miles to the eastward of Sibikillin, where Mr. Park saw the first shea trees, from which the vegetable butter is obtained, some of them loaded with fruit, but not yet in a state of maturity. They reached Badoo about eleven o'clock, which is a village consisting of three hundred huts; and a little to the northward there is another of the same name, which the people distinguish from each other by the additional epithets of Sansanding and Sansanba. The governor of each demands custom or tribute to a very great amount from every cofle, and should it be refused, they unite together for the purpose of plundering. As Mr. Park deemed it the more adviseable plan to adjust matters amicably, if at all possible, he gave him the following articles during the day.

To Amar, the king's younger brother, amber, 10 bars—coral, 5.

To the king of Sansanding, amber, 10 bars—coral, 5—scarlet, 5—barralooloo, 5,—two mirrors—2 scarlet—5 amber, 6 bars.

To the king of Sansanba, amber, 10 bars coral, 5—scarlet, 5—barralooloo, 5 bars.

To different people, grandees, 20 bars, in all 98.

Bought a bullock for 12, and a sheep for 5 bars.

They left Badoo in the evening of the 29th of May, and went to Tambacunda, about four miles farther east. The river Gambia is no more than four miles distant from Badoo, in a southern direction. From the summit of a hill in the vicinity of the town, Mr. Scott and Mr. Anderson had a delightful view of it. The course of the river is from the S. E. to Badoo, after which it turns towards the S. It is here known by the name of *Ba Dema*, or the river which is *always a river*, meaning thereby that it never dries. It is five days journey between Badoo, and Laby in Foota Jalla.

After purchasing two asses, they departed from Tambacunda, on the 30th, and entered the woods, travelling with all possible expedition till eleven o'clock, till they arrived at Fatafing, a watering place, where they found some dirty water of a green colour, and of such a bad quality, that nothing but dire necessity could have induced them to drink of it. They stopped here till past two o'clock, when they prosecuted their journey, and reached *Tabba Gee* as darkness approached, where they could find no water. A few drops of rain fell before their arrival. At the dawn of day they departed

from this place, and passed a large piece of quartz a few miles to the eastward, called *Ta Kooro* by the natives, that is, the stone of the traveller, which every passenger lifts up, and turns round. It is quite smooth by wearing it in this manner, and the iron rock on which it rests is worn hollow, in consequence of this continued motion. They stopped at Mambari during the heat of the day, where is a small village, which was then but lately built, as the former one had been destroyed many years before by the ravages of war. In the afternoon they prosecuted their journey, and passed the dry bed of a torrent course towards the Gambia, four miles to the eastward. The road was very rocky, and they beheld abundance of white quartz both in small pieces and detached lumps. They travelled till it was quite dark, which compelled them to stop during the night at a place where they could procure no water, so essentially necessary in those sultry regions, and this circumstance obliged them to sleep without any supper.

They continued their journey on the 1st of June, as soon as day-light began to dawn, and reached Julifunda about ten o'clock. It is a considerable place, and was built by people who formerly obtained goods in abundance from European merchants on the Gambia, Rio Nunez, and Kajaaka; the road to Bambarra from these

places frequently leading through this town, when the horrors of war made it hazardous or impracticable to pursue any other route. The people who trade on credit are denominated *Juli*, to distinguish them from the *Slatee*, who carries on business by virtue of his own capital. At a former period, there were no inhabitants in Julifunda, but *Sonninkees*; but the king of Foota Jalla, having commenced hostilities against them, compelled them to embrace the religion of Mahomet, as the only condition on which he would grant them peace. According to the estimate of Mr. Park, this town, including the suburbs, may contain about two thousand people.

The guard was dispatched in the evening to the chief, who is called *Mansa Kussan* and who is regarded as one of the most avaricious chiefs to be met with in any country through which they had already passed. He received some amber and scarlet as a present and was informed that Mr. Park designed to remain at Julifunda for a day in order to purchase rice, some of which, and a quantity of corn he bought on the 2d of June, presenting *Mansa Kussan* with some amber, coral, and scarlet, with which he was apparently satisfied, and gave them a bullock in return, even putting up prayers for Mr. Park's safety, to whom he declared that he would employ every exertion to get them

forward. They purchased an ass for twenty bars of amber, and at four o'clock began to load the whole of the animals, departing for Baniserile. The coffle being on their way, Mr. Park and Mr. Anderson were left alone, as the guide had been sent to Mansa Kussan to acquaint him with their departure. The guide returned with this information, that if Mansa Kussan did not receive ten bars of every commodity in their possession, he would not suffer them to penetrate any farther into the country; and if they dared to prosecute their journey in defiance of this declaration, he would employ all his efforts to have them plundered in the woods.

This avaricious and menacing declaration made Mr. Park bring back the people and the asses, considering it as by far the best method to attempt to settle the business in an amicable manner. Being almost persuaded that he would not have employed such language, had he not calculated on the cordial co-operation of some other towns in his attacks upon us, Mr. Park sent him by the guide some more scarlet and amber, not being disposed to go alone into the town, as he learned that the king intended to detain him, and make him pay sweetly for his ransom. Mansa Kussan seized the money paid for the ass in the hands of the seller; and what still more convinced our traveller of

his evil intentions, the ass was seized, and to be kept till the determination of the palaver. From first to last it cost Mr. Park not fewer than one hundred and ninety-one bars of different kinds of merchandize, before he could proceed on his journey.

The king's brothers having assured Mr. Park that nothing more would be exacted of him, he prepared for his journey; but what was his astonishment when the king's brothers and the guide informed him on their return, that he must send ten bars of gunpowder and ten flints. This exhausted Mr. Park's patience entirely, and he now assumed a menacing attitude, declaring that he would not give him a single charge of powder, nor a flint; and if he persisted in refusing to let him pass, he would proceed without asking his leave; and should his people obstruct their progress, they would do every thing in their power to defend themselves. He was again importuned to send what was demanded, to which he replied, that the spirit of Europeans would rather submit to be plundered by a band of robbers, than have their goods extorted from them by avarice, tyranny, and oppression. From this interesting transaction, it would appear that Africans grow more reasonable in their requests when opposed by a manly, firm, and undaunted spirit, for the king was at length pleased to say

that he was satisfied; and, what above all was matter of astonishment to Mr. Park, sent word that he was coming in the afternoon to pay them a friendly visit, which he did accordingly, attended by a number of parasites and singing women. He offered him a few Cola nuts, which Mr. Park desired the guide to take and eat.

Early in the morning of the 4th of June, they departed, and after passing the village of Earcella, rendered memorable by its grove of large *Sitta* trees, they arrived about one o'clock at Banesirile, and halted under a tree in the vicinity of the wells. As this was the anniversary of his Britannic Majesty's birth-day, they pitched one of the tents, purchased a bullock and a calf in order to treat the soldiers; in the afternoon Mr. Park had them drawn up, when they fired and endeavoured to make it as much a day of festivity as their circumstances would allow. They were indeed obliged, from the circumscribed nature of their finances, to drink his Majesty's health in *water* from their canteens; they had the consolation to think that few of his subjects indulged, with more cordiality, the most ardent wishes for the continuation of his life, and the happiness and prosperity of his reign.

Baniserile is a Mahometan town, the chief of which, who is called Fodi Braheima, is pos-

essed of more friendly dispositions than Mr. Park ever met with, at least in those inhospitable regions, to whom he gave a copy of the New Testament in the Arabic language, which appeared to give him the highest satisfaction. The 5th of this month was devoted to the purchase of rice, as it was currently reported that there was to the eastward a great scarcity of that important article of food. Mr. Park bought the rice here, as well as at Julifunda, with small amber, and found that, notwithstanding the existence of a scarcity bordering upon famine, he could procure a pound of good rice for one bead of amber, valued at two-pence sterling. He purchased as much as would laden three asses, and next day made a purchase of two loads more, the total amount being estimated at 750 pounds of rice. They departed early in the morning of the 7th, and as the carpenter was very weak, they appointed two soldiers to remain with, and aid him in mounting, as well as to lead the ass upon which he was to ride. They came to the brow of a hill about four miles to the eastward of Baniserile, from which they enjoyed a very extensive prospect, and soon after crossed the bed of a stream running towards the *Faleme* river, known by the name of *Samakoo*, from the herds of elephants that wash in it during the rains. Their foot-marks and fresh dung were frequently to be observed,

and the roaring of a lion was heard at no great distance. The asses travelled with very great difficulty and uneasiness, which was supposed to have been occasioned by their eating fresh grass. This circumstance obliged them to load the horses, and they halted about noon at a large pool of water, known by the name of *Jananga*.

From the time at which they crossed the Samakoo, till where they halted, they were entirely deprived of any vestige of a road, the guide being rather apprehensive that, as there was a war carrying on but a little to the southward, in consequence of which the people were in arms, some of the fatigued asses in the rear might by them be cut off. They continued their journey in the afternoon, still travelling without the advantage of any road, and that too over a wild and rocky country. They were under the necessity of leaving two asses on the road, and loading all the horses, and they did not arrive at the watering-place till it was quite dark, and they were prevented from wandering from each other by the occasional discharge of musketry.

On the 8th of June, at an early hour, they resumed their march, and came to the brow of a hill about two miles to the eastward, from the top of which they could easily discern the course of the river Faleme, by the range of

green trees with which the borders of it were decorated. The carpenter was so distressed, as to be totally unable to maintain an upright posture, and frequently threw himself from the ass, under the serious wish that he might be left to expire. They obliged two of the soldiers to carry him by force, and hold him upright on the ass. They reached Madina about noon, and made a stop by the margin of the Faleme river, which, during that season, is rather discoloured by the rain, but by no means swelled to any sensible degree. Its general course, according to the account of the natives, is from the S. E. and the distance from its source is computed to be about six days journey. At this place the bed of the river is rocky, except at the place where it is commonly crossed, where it is a composition of sand and gravel. There are in it abundance of fish, and some of them so large, that they had the appearance, when they leaped and plunged, of being between sixty and seventy pounds weight. The stream runs with the velocity of about four miles an hour.

They got over the whole of the bundles in the afternoon, to the opposite bank, a work which occasioned very much fatigue to the soldiers. After every thing was got over, Mr. Park found the carpenter still weaker than ever, and apparently near his end. He there-

fore thought proper to leave him at Madina till the morning of the ensuing day. A hut was hired for him at the next village, for six bars of amber, and the Dooty received four, with an earnest request to cause some of his people to assist the soldier in burying him, should he die during the night. There being very much the appearance of rain, they slept upon the top of the bundles, reserving the other tent for the soldiers. They were visited by a heavy tornado, with much thunder and lightning.

On the 9th of June, the soldier who had been left behind, to take all possible care of the distressed carpenter, returned with the information of his having died at eight o'clock the preceding night, and that, by the help of the negroes, he had been interred in the place where the people of the village were accustomed to bury their dead. Here they bought corn for the asses, and a large bullock for the people, as also an ass. They went into the village in the evening, presenting the Dooty with six bars, and requesting that a guide might be granted them to Shondro, to which he very readily agreed. There were five of the soldiers who did not take the benefit of shelter in the tent, but continued under a tree during the rain, which occasioned them to complain much of head-ache, and great uneasiness in the stomach. They continued in this valetudina-

rian state during the 10th, and the coffle departed at the rising of the sun, having had numbers of their canteens stolen from them during the night. They carried forward along with them an extensive skin full of water, it being altogether uncertain whether they might have the good fortune to find any upon the road. They resumed their journey at half past three o'clock, travelling over a soil of hard rock towards the mountains, and many of their asses were very much fatigued. The front of the coffle arrived at Shrono about the setting of the sun; but as Mr. Park was in the rear, he had to place one of the sick men upon his own horse, contributing his assistance to the driving of the asses. They halted at a little distance from the town under a tree, and before they could pitch one of the tents, were overtaken by a heavy tornado, which completely drenched them in water. In attempting to fix one of the tents to a branch of the tree, Mr. Park had his hat blown from his head, and irrecoverably lost. The ground was covered with water to the depth of three inches, and they were overtaken by another tornado about two o'clock in the morning.

The first tornado, which took place when they arrived, had a very sudden effect upon the health of the soldiers, and proved, in the emphatic language of Mr. Park himself, the

beginning of sorrow. He flattered himself, that he would reach the Niger with a comparatively trifling loss, as only two men had been sick of the dysentery, one of whom recovered on the march, and the other in all probability would have recovered, had he not been wet by the rain at Baneserile. The rainy season had by this time set fairly in, and Mr. Park trembled to recollect that he had as yet accomplished only one half of his journey. Very soon after the commencement of the rain, a number of the soldiers were seized with vomiting; some fell asleep, and assumed the appearance of being half intoxicated. Our traveller himself felt a strong propensity to sleep, and actually did so upon the wet ground, in spite of every exertion to keep himself awake. The soldiers fell asleep upon the wet bundles, twelve of whom were sick upon the 11th of June, when Mr. Park waited upon the Dooty, and presented him with five bars of amber, and two of beads, desiring he would permit him to inspect the gold mines, which he understood were in the neighbourhood, and to this he agreed.

He went in the afternoon to pay his respects to a brother of Karfa Taura's, who was in the possession of a very ample collection of books in the Arabic tongue, his happiness being increased by Mr. Park's adding an Arabic New Testament to the number. On the 12th, they

departed from Shrondo early in the morning; and as the invalids were quite incapable of walking, Mr. Park gave them all the horses, and every ass that could be spared. They slowly travelled along the foot of the Konkodoo mountains, which are very steep, being from eighty to two or three hundred feet high. About noon they arrived at Dindikoo, at which time there was a tornado which came on with such rapidity, that they were under the necessity of carrying their bundles into the huts of the natives, which was the first time the coffee entered into a town since their departure from the Gambia. When the rain ceased, Mr. Park accompanied Mr. Anderson, to view the gold pits in the vicinity of the town, which are dug in a similar manner with those at Shrondo; and notches in the side of the pit serve as a ladder by which to descend. The gravel is extremely coarse, some stones of it being larger than a man's head, and vast numbers of them superior in magnitude to a man's hand, lying round the mouths of the pits. In their vicinity there is a stream of water, and as the banks had been scraped away in order to wash for gold, our traveller could perceive a stratum of earth and stones about ten feet in thickness, under which was a stratum of two feet of ferruginous pebbles, about the size of a pigeon's egg, and a yellow rusty-coloured sand and earth, un-

der which again there was a stratum of coarse white clay.

On the morning of the 13th, they departed from Dindikoo, when all the horses and spare asses were employed in the conveyance of the sick, which was a work of extreme difficulty, the number of drivers being thus very much diminished. Ten of the loaded asses, with their drivers, took a different route, and as Mr. Anderson and Mr. Scott were with them, they fired their muskets, on perceiving that the guide was leading them in a road, where no traces of the feet-marks of these animals were to be met with. The firing was answered, and Mr. Park sent a serjeant to their assistance. They came up in about half an hour, having gone about three miles too much to the right. About one o'clock they reached a village nearly abandoned by its inhabitants, where the coffee had halted by a stream to the eastward of it. They grew very uneasy about their situation, half of the people being either sick of a fever, or incapable of using much exertion, and fatigued in driving the asses. Mr. Park here found to his great mortification, that the ass was not come up which carried his telescope, and several other articles of considerable moment. Mr. Anderson, the serjeant, and guide, rode back about five miles in quest of it; but after an absence of several hours they returned

unsuccessful. The Dooty was presented with five bars of amber, requesting that if he heard any information respecting the ass, to send it forward, and he should be rewarded for his trouble. The loads were then put upon the asses, and a part of the cofle had commenced their journey, when one of the Dooty's sons informed Mr. Park that he had seen the ass, and conveyed it to the village. The person by whom it was found received twenty bars, and the Dooty ten bars. Our traveller mounted the load on his own horse, and drove it before him. He did not arrive at Fankia till seven o'clock having to walk very slowly, with the view of encouraging three soldiers to come on, who had fallen behind, and were very much inclined to lie down under every tree they passed. Fankia is a small village, four miles N. W. from Benlingalla. Here they departed from Mr. Park's former route, and came not near it any more till they arrived at the Niger. Here our traveller stopped for a short time, to give some rest to the sick, as they had to ascend a steep hill in its vicinity. Corn was bought for the asses, and abundance of fowls for such as were in distress. They left Fankia on the 15th, and the men still continued very distressed, some of them being affected with a slight delirium. About a mile N. E. of this village is the passage called Toombinjeena, in

the Tambaoura mountains, the ascent to which is extremely rocky, yet the perpendicular of the steepest place would not much exceed three hundred feet. As the asses were heavy laden, in order to spare as many of them as possible for the conveyance of the sick, it was with considerable difficulty that they got the loads up the hill. The number of asses was greater than that of the drivers, which presented a terrible scene of confusion in this rocky staircase. Loaded asses tumbled over the rocks, distressed soldiers unable to walk, and black men pilfering as fast as possible. They set forward, after getting up the loads and the asses, and arrived at the pleasant village of Toombin, about two miles from the hill. When the loads were inspected, it was found that the natives had stolen seven pistols, two great coats, and one knapsack, independent of several small articles of less value. Horses were sent back for two sick soldiers who were unable to ride by themselves, and were therefore left at the steep. They pitched the tent, and did what they could to shelter the baggage from the rain.

They departed from Toombin on the 16th, and no sooner were the people and the asses away, than the good old schoolmaster came up, of whom Mr. Park has made mention in his former travels. He received information on the preceding night, that the explorer of Africa

was with the company, which induced him to travel the whole night in order to see him. As the company were on their way, Mr. Park informed him that he hoped he would go with him to the place where they meant to halt, that he might receive some reward for his past kindness. They recovered three of the pistols which had been stolen from them, with one of the great coats, and then prosecuted their journey. About a mile to the eastward of the village, they found poor Hinton, one of the sick men, who rode upon Mr. Anderson's horse, lying under a tree, and the horse feeding at a little distance from him. The pistols had been stolen from the holsters by some of the natives, and Mr. Park's coat-case fastened behind the saddle, was robbed of a string of coral, the whole of the amber and beads which it contained, and one barraloolo. Fortunately for him, they did not consider his pocket sextant as of any value, nor his artificial horizon, which were both in the same place. After Mr. Park left Hinton, he came up to other two distressed men lying in the shade of a tree, one of whom was mounted on his own horse, and the other on Mr. Anderson's. They arrived at the village of Serimanna about half past twelve o'clock. A horse was sent back for Hinton in the cool of the evening, and he was brought to the village tied upon the horse, from his total inabi-

lity to sit upright. The worthy schoolmaster received, as a compensation for past favours, five bars of scarlet, one barraloolo, ten bars of beads, fourteen of amber, and two dollars, with which he was inexpressibly charmed. He also received a copy of the New Testament in the Arabic tongue, which he promised to peruse with attention.

As it appeared on the 17th that Hinton was worse, and Sparks delirious, they were committed to the care of the Dooty of the village, who received beads and amber of sufficient value to defray the expenses of their provisions for some time, if they lived, or to defray their funeral charges, if they died. Should they recover, he pledged himself to join them to the first coffle travelling to the river Gambia. From Serimanna they reached Fajemmia in two hours, which, though only a small village is fortified by a lofty wall. The chief, who gives name to the village, formerly lived at Faramba to the eastward, but lately came to Fajemmia, leaving his people and slaves behind him. It seems to be an invariable maxim, that the duties which travellers have to pay, is always in proportion to the power and mischievous disposition of the chiefs; such as were paid at Fajemmia were of course very high. Mr. Park paid one hundred and forty-nine bars, a soldier's musket, a pair of handsome pistols, an

elegant sword, a great coat, and one hundred gun flints.

Mr. Park was extremely well pleased to get the palaver brought to such a conclusion; for he long insisted on having four bottles of gun-powder for each ass, which it would have been extremely difficult, and next to impossible to comply with, and as the greater part of the troops then alive were upon the sick list, they could have made but a feeble opposition, had they come to an open rupture. The palaver with Fajemmia was not brought to a conclusion till the morning of the 19th, during which, and the preceding day, with that which followed it, Mr. Park laboured under great sickness, although he made an exertion to sit up a part of the day, and was incapable of attending the marketing of fowls, corn, and milk. Mr. Anderson therefore made a purchase of these articles in his stead, and waited on the cattle. Lieutenant Martyn, the serjeant, corporal, and one half of the privates were sick of a fever. They boiled a camp-kettle every day after leaving Dindikoo, full of strong decoction of Cinchona, or Peruvian bark. They made a purchase of three asses, and hired the guide's people to drive four asses in addition to the two which they drove already, being six in all, for one hundred and twenty bars.

Mr. Anderson and one of the soldiers on the 18th went back to Serimanna, to see the two men who had been left there, in order to ascertain whether it would be practicable to get them carried forward. They returned on the 19th, and gave intimation that they were both alive, but in such a valetudinarian state as to be incapable of being moved, and they themselves discovered the greatest anxiety to remain where they were, which they considered as their only chance of recovery. Having loaded the asses on the 20th, one of the soldiers named old Rowe, was incapable of riding. They paid ten bars of amber for him, and measured eighteen day's rice for his support, to one of the best men in the village, who, they were assured, would take all possible care of him. Soon after they quitted Fajemma, a thunder-storm commenced, and by the time they had travelled four miles, they were overtaken by a tornado, which wetted many of the loads, and made the roads extremely slippery. About noon they came to a village called Nealakkalla which was almost deserted. The ass carrying the spare clothing had not as yet arrived, and as many of the men were extremely ill provided, especially with shoes, Mr. Park sent two men back for a few miles in order to discover it. The company became uneasy about them, since they did not return about

sun-set. They fired several muskets, but obtained no answer. These men did not arrive on the 21st, but the coffle proceeded forward in order to cross the river, and Mr. Scott received orders to fire a musket when all the company had got over. It was agreed on by Mr. Park and Mr. Anderson, that they would remain at Nealakalla till noon, in the hope of hearing something respecting the two men. They came about eleven o'clock, having found the ass and load so near Fajemmia, that they went there and slept in the same hut with old Rowe, who, they observed, was in a fair way of recovery, and sufficiently pleased with his situation, which he considered as snug and comfortable. They set forward, and crossed the river about a mile to the N. E. of the village, at a place where its course meets with interruption from a bed of whinstone rock, which changes the stream into a number of small cataracts. The people conveyed over the loads upon their heads, while Mr. Park and Mr. Anderson stepped across from one rock to another without wetting their feet.

The people having finished their breakfast, the whole coffle set forward, and about two miles E. came to a deep and narrow creek, where they found a stream of muddy water, which having crossed with some difficulty, they were for giving it the designation of *Vi-*

negar Creek. About four o'clock they passed the village of Boontoonkoon, pleasantly situated at the foot of a rocky hill. They halted for the night about two miles east of this, at the village of Doogicotta, where the cultivation of the soil is carried to a great extent, and with much difficulty they kept the animals from the corn. They were visited by a tornado during the night. They halted on the 22d till about ten o'clock, as the atmosphere portended abundance of rain. One of the carpenters whose name was William Roberts, who had laboured under sickness ever since they left Fajemmia, declared that it was not in his power to proceed any farther, willingly subscribing a note that he was left behind them with his own consent. They passed a village about four miles to the eastward, and travelled on the ascent near the course of a river during the greater part of the day. They enjoyed a delightful prospect of a lofty, square rocky hill, known by the name of *Kullallie*, which they had never lost sight of since they left Fajemmia. It is on all sides wholly inaccessible, the summit of which is green and level. The natives are of opinion, that there is a lake on the top of it and during the rainy season they frequently walk around the foot of the precipices picking up large turtles which at that time tumble over, and are killed by the fall.

Early in the morning of the 23d they resumed their journey; and after traversing a level country for about two hours, bounded on either hand by lofty precipices, we reached the village of Kimbia. Mr. Park happened to be in the rear, bringing forward some asses which had thrown off their loads; and when he approached the village, every thing wore the aspect of hostility. The cause of the tumult originated from the love of money. The people of the village had been informed that white men were to pass; that they were in great bodily distress, and therefore in no situation to make any resistance, or defend the immense wealth of which they were possessed. In consequence of this persuasion, when part of the cofle passed the village, the people sallied forth, insisting on turning back the asses, under the pretext that the cofle could not pass till the Dooty thought proper to permit. One of them laid hold on the bridle of the serjeant's horse, in order to convey it to the village, but when he cocked his pistol and presented it, he instantly quitted his hold. Others drove away the asses with their loads, and every thing assumed the appearance of anarchy and confusion. The soldiers deliberately loaded their pieces with ball, and fixed their bayonets, which, when the people of the village observed, they began to hesitate, and the soldiers drove

the asses across the bed of a torrent, and then returned, leaving a competent number to be the guardians of the asses.

The natives assembled under a tree by the gate of the village, where Mr. Park found the Dooty and Isaaco in the heat of altercation. On investigating the cause of the tumult, Isaaco said, that the villagers had attempted to deprive the asses of their loads; on which Mr. Park turned to the Dooty and said, "where are the people who can presume to make such an attempt?" In answer to this interrogation he replied by pointing to about thirty people armed with bows and arrows, which made our traveller laugh heartily, and ask if it was really his opinion that such men could fight? adding that if he was anxious to make the experiment, they had no more to do than attempt to take one of the loads from the asses. They now appeared to be convinced that they had made a ridiculous attempt; and Mr. Park was desired by the Dooty to order the cofle to proceed. As it was uncertain whether some of the sick might not be obliged to return this way, our traveller judged it the more prudent course to endeavour to part upon a friendly footing, which pointed out the expediency of making the Dooty a present of four bars of amber, informing him at the same time, that they did not come with any hostile intention,

but that if any person whatever would assault them, they would undoubtedly defend themselves to the last.

They then continued their route, and descended into a rocky valley about half a mile to the eastward, and many of the asses fell as they went down the steep. They reached *Sullo* about the middle of the day, which is a village without walls at the foot of a hill. The horse of Lieutenant Martyn died soon after they stopped, which was a providential circumstance to the people of *Sullo*, who cut him up like a bullock, and the distribution of his carcase was not effected without *blows*, such a luxury is horse flesh esteemed by this people. They left *Sullo* on the 24th, travelling through a country which Mr. Park considered as inexpressibly beautiful. They passed one place which had so much the appearance of a Gothic abbey in ruins, that they stopped and examined it for some time before they could be persuaded that the niches, windows, and ruined staircase were so many different portions of natural rock. A faithful description of the place, our traveller thought, would be regarded as fabulous.

They passed a hill composed of one huge mass of red granite, without so much as a detached stone, or a single blade of grass, the like of which Mr. Park never before had seen. During their travels they saw a number of vil-

lages in highly romantic situations, in the crescents which were formed by the rocky precipices, the medium height of which is from one to five or six hundred feet perpendicular. The whole country lying between *Ba-fing* and *Balee* is grand and rugged, beyond the power of description. They arrived at *Secoba* about noon, the Dooty of which was a younger brother of *Fajemmia's*, whom Mr. Park presented with goods to the amount of fifty bars;—a present so highly gratifying, that he tendered his personal services to go with them, and see that they were not imposed upon or defrauded by the canoe people at *Ba Fing*. They halted at *Secoba* for the purpose of refreshing the sick, where abundance of milk and fowls was procured for them. They left this place on the 26th, the Dooty being along with them, and numbers of his people. Three of the Dooty's friends were hired as guides to *Kandy*, in that district of *Fooladoo* which is known by the name of *Gangaran*. They came to the village of *Konkromo*, about seven miles east of *Secoba*, where they pitched their tents by the side of a river; but as the day was too far advanced before they could come to terms with the canoe people, and as it would have been impracticable to convey all the luggage over, they resolved to wait till the ensuing morning, when they paid fifty bars to the canoe people to convey across the

river all their baggage and cattle, and the Dooty was presented with some beads. Four canoes were provided for this purpose, and Mr. Anderson, with six men in arms, were sent over to receive the baggage from the canoes, and convey them into the tents. The asses were obliged to swim over, one on each side of a canoe, while two boys held them by the ears.

Here Mr. Park had an opportunity of seeing the people's mode of smelting gold. Isaaco had made a purchase of some as he came through Konkodoo, and here it was manufactured for him into a large ring. The smith had a crucible of common red clay, which had been dried in the sun, into which he introduced the gold, without any flux whatever, under and over which he put a quantity of charcoal, and blew the fire up with the common double bellows of the country, soon producing such a degree of heat as brought the gold into fusion. A small furrow was then made in the ground, into which the melted metal was poured; on its cooling it was taken out, heated again, and hammered into the form of a square bar. It was again subjected to heat, and twisted into a kind of a screw, by means of two pair of pincers; after which the workman lengthened out the ends, and turned them up, so as to form a ring, which was both massy and precious.

When the baggage and cattle were all transported across the river, Mr. Park sent over the men, embarking himself in the last canoe. He found it difficult to balance it, although it contained only three people, exclusive of the rower. Mr. Park had just landed when he saw the canoe with the three soldiers pushing off from the opposite bank. It very soon overset, and although the natives swam in to their assistance, J. Cartwright had the misfortune to be drowned. The natives, on diving, recovered two of the muskets, and the body of Cartwright which they put into the canoe, and conveyed it over. Mr. Park adopted every means recommended by the Humane Society in cases of suspended animation, but without the desired effect. He was interred in the evening on the bank of the river.

The Ba-fing at this place is very large and navigable, and was swelled at that season about two feet, flowing at the rate of three miles an hour. We are informed that the people of this place are a community of thieves, who attempted to steal a number of the loads; and one of them was detected in the act of carrying away the bundle containing the whole of the medicines. The noise of hippopotami in the river prevented them from sleeping, as they came close to the bank, and continued blowing and snorting during the whole of the night. Ha-

ving, on the 28th of June, purchased an ass for four minkallies of gold, and a horse for forty-five bars, they continued their route about seven o'clock. At the end of four miles the ass they had purchased lay down, and as it was not possible to raise him, the load was taken off, and he was left behind. At eleven o'clock they crossed a stream resembling that of a mill, running towards the north, on the east side of which they halted, and discovered that an ass with a load of beads had not come up. The soldier who drove it without the knowledge of any person, went in search of it, and in a short time the ass with its load were found in the woods. A serjeant on one of the horses was dispatched in search of Bloore, who drove the ass with the load of beads. He rode back to Sankaree, without obtaining any intelligence respecting him, from which it was concluded that he had lost the path. The serjeant found one of the sick soldiers, named Walter, who had wandered from the track, and lain down among the bushes, till he was discovered by some of the natives, who received ten bars of amber for their attention, and were also requested to search for Bloore.

The asses were collected for marching in the afternoon, and they had considerable difficulty in finding the horses, and the serjeant's could not be found after the most attentive search.

As it was to no purpose to wait for Bloore, the asses were loaded, and they continued their journey. By the time they had travelled four miles, Walter, the sick man formerly mentioned, became so extremely weak, that he could not sit on the ass and was therefore fastened on, and held in an upright posture; but he every moment grew weaker and weaker, and at last expired. Two of the soldiers with their bayonets, and Mr. Park himself with his sword, dug Walter's grave in the inhospitable desert, and a few branches were the only laurels that decorated the tomb of the brave. They did not overtake the cofle till they had stopped for the night, in the vicinity of a pool of water, shaded with palm-trees. Mr. Park was informed that two of the soldiers were not arrived; Baron had been seen about a mile from the halting place, and the other, whose name was Hill, it was conjectured, would be about four miles in the rear. Two muskets were fired every fifteen minutes; one of them was to call their attention, and the other, which was fired about half a minute after the first, was to point out the direction in which the company were proceeding. Hill came up about half past seven, who had no other direction but the report of the muskets. Some lights were observed in the woods about eleven o'clock, and people making a noise, and in a short time

five came up, bringing Bloore with them, the person who had gone in search of the ass. He went back as far as the Black River, which he crossed, making signs to the people respecting the ass and the load. Not comprehending his meaning, they concluded that the coffle had been attacked, from which he himself had run away. They consequently came along with him in the hope of booty, or, at all events, obtain some reward for bringing the man back in safety. They received ten bars of amber, and were told that if they found Baron, they should have ten bars more.

Muskets were fired for him on the 29th, by the dawn of day; and as there could be no doubt that he had wandered from the track of the asses, they were loaded about half-past six and departed, it being in vain to search for him in such an extensive wilderness. They travelled twelve miles without halting, being anxious to reach a watering place; but when they were within two miles of it, Bloore sat down under the shadow of a tree, and when requested to proceed, he said he felt himself very much fatigued, but would follow them after he cooled. Mr. Park assured him that the watering-place was only at a little distance, and conjured him by all means not to fall asleep. At half past four o'clock, there being no signs of Bloore, a serjeant was sent to bring him forward on one

of the horses; but after the most diligent search he was not to be found. Mr. Park and three more went to look for him, and as it was dark, they gathered a large bundle of dry grass, of which they took a handful at a time, and kept up a constant light, with a view to terrify the lions, with which the woods abound. When they reached the tree where he lay, they kindled a fire, beheld the spot where he had pressed down the grass, and distinct marks of his feet. They went along the pathway to the westward, carefully examining for the traces of his feet, supposing it highly probable that he might have mistaken the direction, and gone west instead of east, but no traces could they find. They fired several muskets, shouted, and set fire to the grass; returned to the tree, and searched every where around it, but could perceive no blood nor the footsteps of any wild beast. They fired other six muskets, and as farther search was altogether in vain, they returned to the tents. One of the people of Isacco had killed an antelope in the evening, which was an abundant supply to the whole. During the night they were very much troubled with wolves.

In the morning of the 30th, at an early hour, they prosecuted their journey, and descended into a fertile plain. They discovered vast numbers of monkeys on the rocks, and reached

Kandy very much fatigued, after a journey of ten miles. On the 1st of July the skin of the antelope was employed as a covering for a load of beads; and a bundle containing the whole of their *seed beads* was carried off in the night, to recover which every possible search was made, but without success. Being short of rice, and none to be procured at Kandy, they pushed on with as much expedition as possible; but the people were so completely depressed with sickness, that the asses and baggage were not to be trusted without proper drivers, on which account the asses were divided among the healthy men. They went forward on the 2d, when other two of the soldiers became sick of the fever. Having travelled about three miles one of the soldiers, whose name was Roger M'Millan, became so delirious, that he could not be brought forward: he was therefore left at the village of Sanjeekotta. This necessity imposed on Mr. Park gave him very much uneasiness, as he was a man who had grown old in the service of his country, having been thirty-one years a soldier, twelve times a corporal, and nine times a serjeant, but his sacrificing so constantly to Bacchus always turned him back again to the ranks.

They were very much fatigued when they arrived at Koena, which was about three o'clock, and Mr. Park felt himself extremely

sick, as he had lifted up and again loaded several of the asses during their journey. There was a severe tornado about seven o'clock, which extinguished the watch fire, and compelled the whole to crowd into the tents. As soon as its violence abated, a peculiar kind of growling was heard, having some resemblance to that of a wild boar, of which there seemed to be more than one, and they went round the cattle. Two muskets were fired, in order to make them preserve their distance; but as they still kept growling, a bunch of withered grass was collected, and Mr. Park, with Lieutenant Martyn, went in search of the animals, which at last they found to be two young lions, and the natives declared that without care and vigilance they would undoubtedly destroy some of the cattle during the night. One of them, in fact, endeavoured to lay hold on one of the asses about midnight, which terrified the rest to such a degree, that they broke the ropes by which they were bound, and rushed at full speed among the ropes of the tent. They were followed by the two lions, who came so very near, that the sentry made a cut at one of them with his sword, being afraid to fire, lest he should kill any of the asses.

On the 3d, they took their departure from Koena, and stopped at Koombandi during the heat of the day, which is about six miles dis-

tant. At this place the guides hired by Mr. Park were to return, whom he bargained with to carry back the knapsack of M'Millan, with some amber and beads to buy provisions for him. By three people, however, who had come from Sanjeekotto early in the morning, and had two asses for sale, they were informed that M'Millan died during the night, whom the natives buried in a corn field in the vicinity of the town. The asses were purchased from them, to assist in carrying forward the sick. At the setting of the sun they reached Fonilla, a small town on the banks of the Wonda, called *Ba Woolima* at this place; near its source it has the name of *Ba qui*, and the middle of its course is denominated *Wonda*. It had swelled about two feet at that time, owing to the rains which fell to the southward, and was extremely muddy.

On the 4th, they agreed with the canoe people for sixty bars, to transport the cattle and baggage across the river, and as there was but a single canoe, the day was far spent before the business could be accomplished. Isaaco exerted himself very much in pushing the asses into the water, and shoving along the canoe; but being apprehensive that the whole could not be conveyed over in the course of the day, he went farther down, attempting to drive six asses across at once, where the water was not so deep.

About the middle of the river, a crocodile rose up close to him, laying hold of his left thigh, and pulling him under water. With the most astonishing presence of mind, he groped for the animal's head, thrusting his finger into its eye, the pain of which forced it to let go its hold. The crocodile returned, and seized him by the other thigh, pulling him under water, as he had done before, and Isaaco thrust his fingers into its eyes with so much violence, that it again quitted its hold, rose to the surface, and tumbled about as in a state of stupidity. When Mr. Park got over, he found poor Isaaco very much lacerated in both his thighs. The wound on the left thigh was four inches long, the other not quite so large, but very deep. Our traveller drew the lips of the wounds together with pieces of adhesive plaster, secured by means of rollers, and being at no great distance from a village, he judged it prudent to go on before his wounds became painful.

With much difficulty the asses were loaded on the 5th, but the spare asses were too few in number to accommodate the sick. Mr. Park, at this time, found his situation truly distressing. Had he gone forward to Keminoom without Isaaco, he was sure to be involved in considerable difficulties, as the sons of Keminoom were reputed the greatest thieves and profligates he could meet with in his whole route.

To wait the recovery of Isaaco, an event which was extremely doubtful, would bring him to the season when the rains become violent, and there was not another person in whom he could confide; and above all, they had no more remaining than rice for two days, a scarcity of which was prevalent in the country. He resolved to remain three days, to examine the state of Isaaco's wounds, and in the interim he sent two men to Serrecorra, with an ass and three strings of amber, to buy rice. All the people, on the 6th, were either sick, or remarkably weak, with the exception of a single individual. All the milk was purchased that could be found, and a camp-kettle full of strong decoction of bark was boiled every day. The wounds of Isaaco were dressed on the 7th, and presented a favourable appearance; and on the 8th, their impatience was great for the return of the men who had been sent to purchase rice, as by this time they were on very short allowance; but next day they returned with a supply of 123 pounds of good rice, which was a seasonable relief.

From Sabooseera, or Mallaboo, they continued their journey towards the W. and N. W. till the middle of the day, when they reached Keminoom, which is walled and fortified in the strongest manner ever seen by Mr. Park in Africa. They pitched their tents under a tree

near the Ba-lee, which runs with great rapidity, and is broken into a number of small cataracts. Mr. Park went on the morning of the 12th, along with Isaaco, and waited upon Keminoom, or Mansa Numma, as he was sometimes denominated, and took with him one hundred bars of goods, consisting of amber, beads, scarlet, balls, flints, &c. besides a soldier's musket, pair of handsome pistols, mounted with silver, all which he sent back, and Mr. Park was under the necessity of adding several other articles before he would accept of them, as well as a present to his brother, consisting of 43 bars. Such of the soldiers as enjoyed any measure of health were dressed in their regimentals, and, at the desire of Numma, were marched into the town, where they performed some of their military evolutions, and fired.

On the 13th, they were extremely anxious to depart, as they found that the people were universally thieves, superior for this quality and impudence to any people with whom they had the smallest intercourse. There seems but one way of accounting for this, viz. that Mansa Numma was the reputed father of more than thirty children, who regard themselves as vastly superior to the common people, and consequently presume to treat every person with contempt, from whom they pilfer in the most avowed manner. There are great numbers of

human bones by the side of the river, which made Mr. Park inquire the reason, who was told that Numma constantly inflicts capital punishments with his own hands, and that these were the bones of criminals. It was matter of sorrow to our traveller to find that capital punishments never extended to the descendants of the king, neither real nor reputed.

They struck the tents and loaded the asses on the 14th, at the dawning of the day, when the people of the town gathered round them in multitudes. During their stay in this place, they had stolen from them four great coats, a large bundle of beads, a musket, a pair of pistols, with a number of other articles. Though the king's son was with them as a protector, before they advanced a musket shot from the town, one of the town's people carried away a bag with some articles in it belonging to one of the soldiers. The king's son, Mr. Park, and Lieutenant Martyn went in pursuit of him, whom they were fortunate enough to overtake and recover the bag; but before they reached the coffee, another had abstracted a musket, which was fastened to one of the loads.

As they proceeded on their journey, they were kept by these means in a state of perpetual dread; and Mr. Park was not without his apprehensions that such unexampled impudence in the art of stealing, might provoke some of

the soldiers to run them through the body with their bayonets. As our traveller held his musket carelessly in his hand, two of the sons of Numma came up to him, and one of them begged of him that he might be favoured with a pinch of snuff. Being destitute of any suspicious ideas respecting two such personages, whom he had repeatedly seen with the king, Mr. Park turned round to assure him that this was a luxury of which he made no manner of use; at which instant the other came behind him, snatched the musket out of his hand, and ran off with the utmost speed. He (Mr. Park) immediately dismounted and pursued him with his sword, giving it in charge to Mr. Anderson to take care of his horse. This gentleman got within musket-shot of the robber, having entrusted the horse to the care of some of the people; but on discovering it to be Numma's son, he rather hesitated about shooting him, and called to Mr. Park if he might fire. This our traveller did not hear, in consequence of which the thief made his escape among the rocks; and on Mr. Park's returning to his horse, he found that his great coat had been carried off by the other hopeful branch of the royal family.

He went to acquaint the king's son, who had been hired as a guide, with these disagreeable circumstances, wishing to know in what manner he should conduct himself, if any of the

people ventured to steal from the baggage. He received for answer, that he might most assuredly shoot with impunity, any person who dared to steal any thing from the baggage, after what had happened. Countenanced by such authority, he ordered the soldiers who were near himself to load their muskets, and have every thing in readiness for the destruction of such abominable depredators. The sky was overcast with clouds, and they were overtaken by a heavy tornado when about five miles from the town. While the rain continued, another son of Numma seized and made off with a musket and sword, which belonged to one of the soldiers. They halted among the rocks and put off the loads, which were extremely wet, turning the asses to feed, and cooking a quantity of rice, although it rained incessantly. One of the negro boys called to them that three people were driving away the asses, who were instantly followed. They took refuge among the rocks without accomplishing their purpose, although the feet of three of them were untied, and a fourth was made fast to a bush. The asses were collected, and they began to load, during which one of them strayed a little from the rest, and, to Mr. Park's astonishment, a man sprung from among the rocks, unloaded the ass, and began with great deliberation to cut it open with his knife; but before any person could lay

hold of him, he quitted the bundle, and fled away among the rocks. He was fired at by Mr. Scott and one of the soldiers, but they unfortunately missed him. The men were ordered to shoot the very first person who should abstract any thing from the baggage.

They proceeded on their journey in the morning of the 15th, when Mr. Park went on slowly in the rear. When they reached the lands under cultivation around the village of Ganaboo, they came up to one of the soldiers, by whom they were informed that a person in the habit of a slave had sprung from among the bushes, and immediately taken his musket and knapsack which were made fast on the top of the load. The soldier struggled hard with the robber for his musket, which he succeeded in wrenching from him, when the plunderer dropt the knapsack, and endeavoured to escape; but when he perceived the soldier aiming it at him, being afraid that he was to be instantly put to death, he threw himself on the ground, and roared out in the most lamentable manner. The soldier took a steady aim, but his piece unluckily flashed in the pan, on beholding which the slave started from the ground, and took refuge among the bushes.

Ganaboo is a small village, but walled round, about ten miles E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. from Maniakorro. This place they left on the 16th, but the soldiers and

asses were so much fatigued, that the coffle were under the necessity of halting at Ballandoo during the night. They had here the most tremendous storm of thunder and lightning Mr. Park had ever known. He seemed to be so convinced that the tent would be struck by the lightning, that he went to a considerable distance to avoid the explosion of the gunpowder. They left Ballandoo on the 17th at eight o'clock, and about the middle of the day they reached *Seransang*. All the horses were loaded, and Mr. Park's fell down under his burden, which obliged him to sit by him till an ass was sent from the halting place. *Seransang* is a town very much scattered, but at the same time populous, and the land around it is cleared to a considerable distance. One of their best asses was stolen during the night. They left this place on the 18th, after shifting the loads, to have the horses at liberty, in order to prevent the plundering of thieves. Before they had travelled much more than a mile two people of a suspicious appearance came up, one of them walking slowly in the rear, while the other marched on, apparently in very great haste. Mr. Anderson was desired to keep a watchful eye on the person in the rear; while Mr. Park rode forward at such a pace as just to keep the other in his sight. At a turn of the road he was concealed by the bushes, and availed himself of this op-

portunity to make off with a great coat from a load which was under the care of the sick man. Mr. Park luckily got a view of him as he ran away among the bushes, and galloping in such a direction as to get before him, he came so very near that he sprang into some thick bushes, out and in of which he was hunted for some time, but always kept in view. At last he took shelter close by the trunk of a tree, and as Mr. Park seemed convinced he would lose him, if he permitted this opportunity to pass unimproved, he accordingly fired, and dropping his musket on the pommel of his saddle he instantly drew out a pistol, declaring that if he attempted to move he would that instant blow out his brains. "Do not kill me, white man," he cried out, "I cannot run from you; you have broken my leg." Mr. Park then perceived the blood streaming down his leg, and when his cloth was pulled up, it was perceived that the ball had passed through his leg about two inches below the knee. He ascended a little way up the tree, its ascent being easy, and constantly exclaimed in a lamentable manner, "do not kill me." When the people belonging to the coffle heard the shot, many of them came running up, among whom was the guide appointed by Keminoom, who declared that the thief should be instantly shot without which Mr. Park, he said, would not fulfil the

orders of his master, who had strictly ordered him to shoot every person detected in the act of pilfering. This our traveller with some difficulty prevented, and was glad to have recovered the great coat, leaving the thief among the branches of the tree, to feel the smart of the punishment which had been already inflicted.

They met with no farther molestation till about three o'clock in the afternoon, when they experienced the effects of another tornado. One of the sick men fell behind during the rain, who was seized by four thieves, and deprived of his jacket. He followed them at a distance, and when they came up to Mr. Anderson, he called out to shoot one of them, as they had deprived him of his jacket. Mr. Park at the time had his pocket-handkerchief over the lock of his gun, to defend the priming from the rain, which, when they observed him remove, one of them drew the jacket from under his cloak, and placed it on one of the asses. Mr. Anderson went after them on horseback, and Mr. Park on foot kept as near him as possible, his own horse being loaded. Having gone after them about three miles, they went into the woods; and as the forementioned gentlemen were not without their suspicions that they designed to return and plunder some of the fatigued asses in the rear of the coffle, Mr. Park and Mr. Scott returned and found that one of the soldiers had

lost his knapsack, and another his jacket; but from their account it appeared that the robbers were not the same as the former.

On the 19th they purchased an ass for the one that was stolen, after which they left Nummaboo, a village surrounded with walls, and prosecuted their journey. About eleven o'clock a tornado made the baggage completely wet and the ground so slippery, that walking or riding became extremely difficult, so that two of the asses were unable to proceed, which made their loads be transferred to the horses, and they were left behind. About noon it was discovered that other two of the asses were unfit for the journey, and people were hired to carry forward their bundles, with a boy to drive the asses when freed from their loads. At half-past twelve they saw the ruins of another town, where two of the sick were lying under a tree, and refused to rise; but they were afterwards stripped by the negroes, and on the following morning they came naked to the tents. Soon after this an ass was found lying on the road, and unable to proceed any farther, which made them put a part of his burden on Mr. Park's horse, already sufficiently loaded, and carried a knapsack himself. The remainder was carried by the soldier, who drove the ass before him.

After one o'clock they reached the banks of the Ba Woolima, which is a narrow river, not exceeding sixty feet in breadth; but the violent rains had swelled it to the depth of twenty feet at the very place where they intended to cross. Their first attempt was to fell a tree on the margin of the river, of such a height that by its fall it might reach entirely across the river, and thus form a temporary bridge; but as if fate had conspired against them, after felling no fewer than four, they unfortunately fell in such a direction as to be of no service. The tops of one of them, it is true, reached the opposite shore; but such was the rapidity of the current, that it was swept away. In this manner were they disappointed and fatigued till the going down of the sun, after which they abandoned the enterprise as altogether hopeless.

The passage of the river was the grand object in view, to accomplish which it was absolutely necessary to devise some scheme or other, and that too without loss of time. Mr. Park proposed the construction of a raft to be pulled from side to side; but the Mandingoes were clearly of opinion that a bridge alone could answer the purpose on the present occasion, which they affirmed they could construct by two o'clock. Mr. Park with the carpenters began to make a raft; but after the logs were

cut into proper lengths a sufficient number of men were not to be found who had escaped the ravages of sickness and distress, to convey them to the water side, in consequence of which the idea was given up, and the bridge proposed by the negroes became their sole dependence, which, according to Mr. Park, was constructed in the following manner. A straight pole was cut to sound the depth of the river, with notches cut on it to indicate the depth at different distances from the shore. Two straight trees were next cut, and their tops fastened together in the securest manner with slips of bark. By the help of two men these were launched across the stream, with a rope on the opposite side, and their roots were as firmly secured, by means of ropes, to the roots of the trees on either side of the river. They planted a range of forked sticks standing upright, along the upper side of these trees, which were accurately cut to the lengths on the sounding pole. These upright forks supported two other trees, which were fastened as the first, but which, like them, were not allowed to sink into the water, but by means of the forks were kept about a foot above the surface of the water. Another range was placed a little farther up the stream, which likewise supported two trees fastened as already mentioned, and the whole was finished with cross sticks. The two trees which were first

laid across, and permitted to sink in the water, served to prevent the stream from carrying off the fork whose roots had a sloping direction down the stream; whilst at the same time the weight of the current kept the roots firm of those which were placed up the stream.

As the people were so sickly, Mr. Park hired the negroes to carry the baggage over, and swim over the asses. The baggage was placed on the rocks on the east side or bank of the river, but the valetudinarian state of Mr. Park's people made it impracticable for them to carry it up the bank. In this situation the people of Isaaco were hired to perform this part of the task, and give their assistance in loading the asses. About half-past ten o'clock they found Mr. Scott lying by the side of the path, and so completely overcome with sickness, that he was incapable of walking, and soon after Lieutenant Martyn lay down in a similar state. Mr. Park's horses being loaded, and himself, as usual, walking on foot, and driving an ass, he could contribute nothing to their aid. A little before twelve he came in sight of the town of Mareena, and was happy to perceive two of Isaaco's people coming with two asses, to ease the horses of their burdens which were in the rear. They were sent back for Mr. Scott and Lieutenant Martyn, with whom they proceeded to the town. Some of the people who

had crossed the river along with the coffle, informed the people of Mareena of the treatment they experienced in their passage from Maniakorro to the Ba Woolima, which district is called Kissi; and likewise that the coffle was a Dommulafong, a thing sent to be eaten, or in plain English, *air game* for any person who thought proper to seize it. The inhabitants of Mareena were determined to come in for a share, and therefore stole five of the asses in the night time, but found themselves very much disappointed next morning, when they learned that, instead of proceeding to Bangassi, they resolved to send forward a messenger to inform the king of the cruel treatment which the coffle had experienced. Three of the stolen asses were returned, and about noon the whole of them were loaded, while two young men were hired to carry forward two trunks, the load of one of the stolen asses. Bangassi is only six miles from Mareena, a large town, and fortified in a manner similar to Maniakorro, but it is four or five times larger. They pitched their tents under a tree to the eastward of the town.

Serenummo the king, on the 23d, sent them a present of a fine bullock and two large calabashes of sweet milk, with the two asses which the people of Mareena had stolen, in consideration of which he received one hundred and

seventeen bars of goods, with Mr. Anderson's sword and pistols. The king's son received ten bars, and thirty more were distributed among generous benefactors. The town is extensive and populous, and even more strongly fortified than Manikorro itself. They found the king sitting in a kind of shade, with only a few friends around him, as orders were given not to permit any person to enter it. He enquired if Mr. Park was the identical white man who passed through the country some time ago, and what motives could influence him to return, with many other questions of a similar nature, to all which he received proper answers. Mr. Park told him it was not his design to purchase gold or slaves; that he came not to rob any man of his money or his trade, but to spend what he had, for the truth of which he could appeal to all those who ever had any transactions with him on this, or any former occasion. He declared it to be his design to travel through his kingdom in a quiet, peaceable, and inoffensive manner, into the kingdom of Bambarra; and that as an indication of the esteem which he bore for his majesty's name and character, he had brought with him a few articles which his guide would present. Upon this Isaaco spread out the articles on the floor, on which the king looked at them with an air of indifference peculiar to Africans, when

they survey any thing which they never beheld before. However much they may admire them, it is their invariable policy never to seem astonished. The king informed Mr. Park that he should have liberty to pass, and he would commit the charge of the coffle to his son till they arrived at Sego; but he could not be ready before the expiration of a few days. Mr. Park intimated that he was extremely impatient to be in Bambarra, as his people were sick, on which account he would deem it a favour to appoint him a guide. It seems it was previously known to our traveller, that the king's son intended to go to Sego with the annual tribute, amounting to about three hundred menkallis of gold, (£187. 10s. sterling;) but the whole of this not being collected, was the cause of the delay, which deficiency would probably be made up by the sale of the goods with which Mr. Park had presented him.

On the 25th they purchased two asses for fifty-six bars of amber, and during their stay they had an abundant supply of milk upon moderate terms. Every morning Mr. Park bought two camp kettles full for the use of the men in distress, thereby hoping to recruit them before they proceeded towards the Niger; but they still continued sick and destitute of spirit. Corporal Powal died during the night, and was buried on the morning of the 26th, at which

time he had two dollars and a half in his pocket, for which Mr. Park became responsible. The morning of the 27th being rainy, they did not leave Bangassi till about nine o'clock, where they left a sick man of the name of M'Inelli, giving ten bars of amber to the Dooty to procure him provisions and lodgings. Soon after they departed from the town, three soldiers lay down under a tree, and declared they could proceed no farther. Their names were *Frair*, *Thomson*, and *Hercules*. A little farther on, James Trott, a carpenter, who came from Portsmouth, having been seized with the fever, refused to proceed, whose ass Mr. Park drove forward, requesting him to return to Bangassi. Our traveller himself was at this time extremely sick and faint, as he had to drive his own horse, which was laden with rice, as well as an ass which carried the pit saws. They arrived at an eminence from which our traveller had a distinct view of some mountains in the direction of E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. and a firm persuasion that their southern base is washed by the Niger made him forget his fever, and think of nothing during the whole way but how he might pass their blue summits.

They arrived at Nummasoolo about two o'clock, which at one period was a large town, but by the horrid ravages of recent war, nearly three-fourths of it were then in ruins. Be-

fore they could properly pitch their tents, such a torrent of rain rushed from the heavens, that both men and bundles were drenched in water, which was a very serious calamity, as many of their articles were of a perishable nature. They had a most uncomfortable night, lying in wet clothes upon the ground, which was of course in the same situation. During the night they were much troubled by a lion, on which the sentry fired his piece, but the darkness of the night made it impossible for him to take a proper aim. The whole of the affrighted asses pulled up the pins by which they were fastened, and betook themselves in a body as near the men as possible. The Dooty's son informed them that the sick man formerly mentioned had returned to his father's house, and he was anxious to know what was to be done respecting them. Mr. Park said that he wished above all things that the people should be taken care of, and gave him ten bars of amber for the intelligence he had brought. He also entrusted him with three strings of amber of forty bars each, to be entirely disposed of for the benefit of the distressed soldiers. He was also informed that should any of them recover, if he sent a fit person with them to Bambakoo, he should be rewarded with an Indian baft, or ten bars of scarlet, to which latter article he gave the preference.

The clothes of the men left behind were, on the 29th July, divided among the rest, as these were articles of which they stood very much in need, and as the nights by this time were both cold and damp. Five dollars were found in the knapsack of James Trott, for which Mr. Park held himself responsible. The rice was spread out to dry, having been heated by the rain, and very much damaged. By the information of some people from the east, they learned that a stream upon the road which was frequently dry, was so much swelled by the late rains as to be impassable by the asses, on which account they halted during the day, for the purpose of drying the different articles.

They departed from Nummosoolo on the 30th, and were obliged to leave William Allen sick behind them, paying the Dooty for him as on former occasions of a similar nature. Mr. Park was very much grieved at his separation from this man, as he was of a cheerful and facetious disposition, and was in the habit of beguiling the night watches by the songs of their native country. On the same day, when five miles E. of Nummosoolo, they passed the stream already mentioned, its course being towards the S. E. the water of which had considerably subsided, being then only eighteen inches deep, but its current was very rapid, in which many of the asses fell, and wetted the bundles; and

it also rained for two hours during the march. They passed through an opening in a ridge of hills, and with the exception of two places, they found the road tolerably good. They were informed at Surtaboo, that the front of the coflee had proceeded to a village about four miles farther on; but the asses in the rear were very much fatigued, and often falling prostrate with their burdens, Mr. Park considered it as the most prudent step to halt till some fresh asses could be sent to their aid.

At this place they had not stopped above an hour, when three of the people belonging to Isaaco came back with two asses, with the assistance of which they reached Sobee at seven o'clock. They passed on the road the last of the St. Jago asses, the whole forty having either died, or been left on the road, at different places. During the night one of the people of Sobee endeavoured to steal a soldier's musket, some of them being placed against a tree close to the tent. Under this tree Lieutenant Martyn was sleeping, but having heard some person moving the muskets, and perceiving that it was a negro, he snatched up one of them, and fired at the thief, while in the act of running away with one of the muskets. It could not be ascertained whether the ball hit him or not, but he instantly dropped the musket, which was found

in the morning along with the pouch and bayonet.

On the 1st of August at an early hour in the morning, they bought an ass for a pistol, a baft, and a Mandingo cloth, and departed at seven o'clock. On the east of the town there was another stream, the direction of which bore S. S. W. and of such a depth, that it was necessary to transport the whole of the baggage on men's heads. As they were surrounded by thieves on all hands during this conveyance, Isaaco struck two of the soldiers, which had nearly cost him his life, as one of them aimed a thrust at him with his bayonet, when Mr. Anderson interposed; and as Isacco was severely reprimanded by Mr. Park for his rashness and imprudence, he set off in a *pet* along with his people, leaving the coffee to find their way over the river in the best manner they could. This obliged Mr. Park to hire four people to carry over the loads, while he stood sentry in person over the thieves. The asses swam over, and the expence of the whole amounted only to one string of amber. The asses being loaded on the other side, they began their journey, and reached Balanding at the going down of the sun, from which they departed on the 3d, and halted at Balandoo, a village surrounded with walls, where they purchased two sheep for a barraloolo, and next day prosecuted their jour-

ney; when Lawrence Cahill fell behind, having complained of sickness for some days before, and a person was hired to drive his ass, he himself being desired to come on at his leisure. They crossed a stream running S. E. where they experienced much trouble, as the banks were both steep and slippery. Four of the soldiers were unable to attend to their asses, and as Mr. Scott was sick, he rode Mr. Park's horse, himself driving one of the asses. The men were so extremely weak, that when their loads happened to fall off, they were wholly incapable of lifting them up. During the course of the march, Mr. Park assisted in loading thirteen asses. About three o'clock, they came to Koolikoori, which is a town partly walled in, but the greatest number of the huts were without the walls. The rain commenced as soon as the tents were pitched, and continued without intermission during the whole of the night. They had no time to cook, and the watch-fire was prevented from burning by the rain, in consequence of which one of the asses was destroyed by the wolves.

On the night of the 7th August, one of their asses was stolen, and as his load must have been left behind if he could not be recovered, Isaaco's people went in search of him, having traced the marks of his feet to a considerable distance. He gave them the most positive or-

ders to shoot the thief, if they came up with him in the woods, follow him to some town, and demand the ass from the Dooty; and to return as quickly as possible, should he refuse.

The people of the coffle spent the day in drying such articles as were wet, and in cleaning ten pairs of ornamented pistols with shea-butter. They likewise dried the looking-glasses, which were very much damaged, and in the afternoon they sent two of the natives to a town in the vicinity with different articles, to purchase corn and rice, with which they returned on the 8th, about noon; but the quantity they had procured was scarcely sufficient for their sustenance a day. The people of Isaaco came up with the ass nearly about the same time, which they found at Balandoo; but although they did not apprehend the thief, they were made acquainted with his name, which Isaaco said he would write to his friend at Bangassi, that he might inform Serinummo of the circumstance. Michael May, a soldier, died during the night, and was interred on the morning of the 9th, about the dawn of day. The Ba Woolli is nearly of the same size with one of the same name which they formerly crossed; it was apparently very deep, and flowed at the rate of about five miles an hour. Here they found a very good canoe, of sufficient ca-

capacity to convey over at once the loads of four asses. As there was every indication of rain, three men were sent over with one of the tents, which was pitched on the east about half a mile from the river, as the ground in the immediate vicinity of the bank was rather marshy. People were hired to convey down the bundles, and put them on board the canoe, while others received them on the opposite side, and conveyed them up the bank, so that the soldiers had nothing to move, as they were exceedingly weak.

When the bundles were carried up to the tent, it was discovered that all the rice in their possession did not exceed the consumption of a single day; and as none could be procured where they were at that time, necessity required that they should march for Bambarra early in the morning, the distance, according to the best information, not exceeding fifteen miles. William Ashton, on the 10th, declared that he could travel no farther, but there being no place at which to leave him, he was advised to make an effort to come on, however slowly, till he arrived at some place where food might be procured. They set forward about eight o'clock, travelling with great expedition, and without stopping, till four in the afternoon, when the front of the cofle arrived at *Dababoo*, a village in the kingdom of Bambarra.

Here many of the soldiers were found sitting, and Mr. Anderson lying under a bush, to all appearance dying. No rice could here be obtained, and they were only able to procure a solitary fowl. They bought a small bullock of the Moorish breed, for one barraloolo; and having procured some corn, had it cleaned and dressed for the people in the room of rice. Isaaco's people were hired in the morning of the 11th, to return and bring up the loads of the soldiers who had stopped at the side of the stream, all of which arrived in the course of the day; but during the two last marches they lost four men, whose names were *Cox*, *Cahill*, *Bird*, and *Ashton*. Mr. Anderson was still in a perilous condition, being incapable of walking, or even of sitting upright, but Mr. Scott was very much recovered. It rained during the whole morning of the 12th, but about eleven A.M. the sky began to clear up, in consequence of which they loaded the asses. At half-past twelve o'clock, Mr. Anderson declared that he could ride no farther, upon which Mr. Park dismounted him, and laid him under the shade of a bush, sitting down beside his distressed friend. About half-past two, he made another effort to proceed; but before he had accomplished one hundred yards, his friend had to take him down again, and again lay him in the shade. Mr. Park now abandoned all hopes of

being able to get him forward, at least till the cool of the evening. About half past five, as it sprung up a fine refreshing breeze, from the S. W. Mr. Anderson proposed to make another effort, who was accordingly placed on Mr. Park's horse, our traveller again leading him on at a smart pace, in the hope of reaching Koomikoomi before the darkness approached. At this time they came into a valley where was a small stream of water, but the ascent on the opposite side was through a singular kind of broken ground, which Mr. Park had no where seen but in Africa. There are no traces of vegetation upon it, except on the original of the level, and among the dreadful fissures he totally lost sight of the footsteps of the asses that marched on before. Finding no egress, he led the horse up a very steep place, hoping that there he might find the traces of their feet; but unluckily the ground was all broken in a similar manner as far as the eye could trace it; and in a short time the cofle reached a fissure or ravine which they could not pass, and this induced them to halt till the morning. Here they came up with Jonas Watkins, one of the sick, with whose assistance Mr. Park kindled a fire; Mr. Anderson was wrapped up in his cloak, and laid down beside it, and our traveller watched his friend the whole of the night, to feed the fire with fuel when it began to decay,

and to guard themselves against the attacks of the lions, which they knew were at no great distance from them. They were joined by two more of the sick about two o'clock in the morning; Mr. Anderson had a comfortable sleep during the night, and by day-break on the 13th August, having discovered the footmarks of the asses, they likewise found Mr. Scott, and three more of the invalids. They had likewise lost their way, and slept for the night about half a mile farther east. The cofle arrived at Koomikoomi about ten o'clock, A. M. a village without walls, but environed with corn fields of considerable extent.

Jonas Watkins died on the morning of the 14th, and was immediately buried; but they still remained at this village, anxiously wishing to see the termination or crisis of the fever under which Mr. Anderson laboured, sending forward two loaded asses to Doombila, which were to return empty in the evening, in order to assist in conveying the rest of the baggage on the ensuing morning. The negroes have a common observation among them, no doubt the result of experience, that the rain ceases for about eleven days, when the Indian corn is in blossom, for which Mr. Park gave an astronomical reason, namely, that it depends on the approach of the sun to the zenith of the place; and he found by observation that the sun was

then no more than seventy-one miles to the northward of them. They were in latitude $13^{\circ} 16' 29''$ N. and consequently the sun's declination was $14^{\circ} 17' 29''$ N. for $14^{\circ} 17' 29'' - 71'$, or $1^{\circ} 11' = 13^{\circ} 16' 29''$.

On the 15th, they slung a cloak in the form of a hammock under a straight stick, into which Mr. Anderson was conveyed, and carried on the heads of two men, other two following after, to relieve them by turns. Mr. Scott was very much distressed with head-ache and sickness, for whom one of the soldiers saddled Mr. Anderson's horse; and after Mr. Park had seen him mount, giving him his canteen full of water, he rode on to watch the conduct of four negroes whom he had hired to carry loads upon their heads; for as they were utter strangers to him, and as that part of the country in particular abounded with the most systematic of thieves, he was apprehensive that they might carry off the bundles. He found every thing to his satisfaction; and with such expedition did they travel, that they arrived at Doombila in four hours and a half, although the distance cannot be less than sixteen miles, nearly due south. It rained incessantly during the whole of the afternoon, and the whole of the sick men did not come up till it was dark.

When Mr. Park entered the town, he was overjoyed to find his old friend *Karfa Taura*,

of whom we find mention made in his former travels. This worthy man heard when at Boori, that a coffle of white people were to pass through Fooladoo for Bambarra, conducted by a person of the name of Park, who spoke the Mandingo. This information he received in the evening, and left his own house on the following morning, determined to see our traveller, if possible, at Bambakoo, the distance being six day's travel. He came to Bambakoo with three slaves, in order to assist Mr. Park in getting forward to Segó; but finding that he was not arrived, he went forward to meet him, whom he instantly knew, and Mr. Park's satisfaction on beholding such a friend may be readily conjectured. On the 17th, they stopped at Doombila, with the view of drying the baggage, and hoping that Mr. Scott in the interim might probably come up; the four negroes who had carried Mr. Anderson being requested on their return to make all diligent search for him, and should he be able to ride, they were promised a handsome reward for bringing him to the coffle. As they could hear no accounts of him, they left Doombila on the 18th, at seven o'clock; but the asses were extremely weak. Mr. Park was soon obliged to put a load upon his own horse, and only one of the soldiers remained qualified to drive an ass. Mr. Anderson's bearers brought him forward early in the morning of the 19th,



when the asses were immediately loaded, and they departed from Toniba. They continued to ascend the mountains to the south of this place till three o'clock, when they reached the summit of the ridge by which the Niger is divided from the distant branches of the Senegal; Mr. Park went on a little before, and when he reached the brow of the hill, he once more saw the Niger rolling its stream along the plain.

After a march accompanied with so much fatigue and uneasiness, it will readily be believed that the sight of such a river was a source of inexpressible pleasure, as it promised a termination, or at least a diminution of all their toils. But when Mr. Park called to mind that three-fourths of the troops had died on the march, and that in addition to the weakly state of the survivors, no carpenters remained to build the boats, in which our traveller designed to prosecute his discoveries, it will readily be supposed that his prospects were gloomy; yet he felt particular pleasure on reflecting, that he had conducted a party of Europeans with immense baggage, through an extent of country exceeding five hundred miles, without coming to any serious misunderstanding with the natives. This journey served to demonstrate, that merchandize to any amount may be conveyed from the Gambia to the Niger,

without the least hazard of being robbed by the natives; and that if this journey be performed in the dry season, it is generally calculated that the loss actually sustained will not exceed, at the highest computation, four men out of fifty. The wolves during the night carried off two large bundles of cloth from the door of the tent to a considerable distance, where they greedily devoured the skins by which they were covered, and departed. They received as a present a bullock from the Dooty, which was in the afternoon, and it was made fast to the tree close to the tent, where all the asses were tied. The wolves tore its bowels out as soon as the darkness approached, notwithstanding he was within ten yards of the tent door, where all of them were sitting. The wolves in this place are unquestionably the largest and most ferocious they had ever seen.

Early on the 22d, the whole of the bundles were put on the asses, and conveyed to the place where they meant to embark, which is a village known by the name of Bossradoo, about a mile and a half to the eastward of Bamba-koo. The current runs at the rate of nearly five miles an hour, which hurried them along without the trouble of rowing, any farther than what was requisite to keep the canoe in its proper course. The river is fully an English mile across, but it is almost twice that breadth

near the rapids, which appear to be formed by the river passing through a ridge of hill in a S. E. direction: they are numerous, and correspond with the jutting angles of the hills. There are three more distinguished than the rest, where the breaking of the water in the middle of the river is accompanied with a great noise. During the afternoon they passed by two of the greatest, and three smaller ones; and on one of the islands in the middle of the river they beheld a large elephant, of a red clay colour, having black legs. Mr. Park then laboured under a severe dysentery, else from his proximity he would have aimed a shot at him. The canoe men were afraid that three hippopotami, which made their appearance above water, would attempt to follow them, and upset the canoes; but it was known to Mr. Park, that the firing of a musket will at all times frighten these huge uncouth animals away. The manner in which they blow up the water is exactly similar to that of a whale.

They passed the third rapid on the 23d August, by the dawn of day, and arrived at Maraboo about nine o'clock. Their guide soon found a large passage hut where they might deposit their baggage, by the payment of a stone of small amber for each load. Mr. Martyn arrived in the evening, and the whole of

the people, with the exception of two, came forward next day. On the 25th, Mr. Park paid Isaaco goods to the full amount of the value of two principal slaves, being the reward which was stipulated at their original agreement. He likewise gave him a number of other articles, observing that when the palaver should be terminated at Segó, he would then have all the asses and horses as a reward for his trouble.

It was the wish of Mr. Park to put a final period as soon as possible to the malicious insinuations of the Mahometans and Moors, and therefore he determined to send forward Isaaco to the town of Segó with the whole of the articles intended for Mansong, which were extremely valuable. The dysentery still continuing with unabated vigour, ever since he reached Marraboo, in consequence of which he felt his strength to be rapidly on the decline, Mr. Park put himself under a course of mercury, which he took to such excess, that it affected his mouth in such a manner as to render him incapable either of speaking or sleeping for six successive days. It brought on a salivation, and thus put an immediate stop to the dysentery, a disease which had proved fatal to so many of the soldiers.

There is no wood in the vicinity of this place which is proper for building canoes; the best is near Kankanee, on an extensive branch of

the Niger, which is navigable, from whence come nearly the whole of the canoes of Bambarra, many of which are constructed of mahogany. Some unfavourable accounts were constantly brought by those who travelled to Sego, such as that Isaaco had been slain by the hand of Mansong, which he determined should be the fate of all the white people who might come to Bambarra; but the arrival of Bookari, who was the singing man of Mansong, who brought six canoes with him, dissipated all their fears. He informed them that he was sent by Mansong, to carry themselves and their baggage to Sego; that the king was highly delighted with the presents which were brought to him by Isaaco, but he wished their arrival to take place before he would accept of them. They did not embark till the 12th, and left Marraboo about three o'clock. They travelled with much pleasure during the whole of the 13th of September, and nothing appeared to them more beautiful and picturesque than the views of this vast river, (the Niger) which at times was so smooth and transparent as a mirror, and sometimes ruffled by a gentle breeze, but constantly carrying them along at the rate of nearly seven miles an hour. They halted at Deena during the night, a Somoni village on the south bank of it, and their baggage was wetted by a tornado. The greater part of the people

slept in the canoe, to defend their property against the attacks of plunderers.

They left Deena on the 14th at an early hour, and reached Yamina a little before five o'clock in the afternoon, where they stopped during the 15th in order to purchase kowries. Next day they left Yamina, and came to Samee in the evening, where their baggage was landed, and Bookari went on to Sego, to acquaint Mansong with their arrival. Isaaco arrived from Sego in a canoe about two o'clock in the morning of the 19th of September, bringing with him the whole of the articles which had been sent to Mansong, who desired them to be taken to Samee, to which place he would send a person to receive them from Mr. Park's own hand. On the 22d, Modibinne, and four more of the friends of Mansong, came in a canoe, the first of whom inquired of our traveller what had brought him into Bambarra, presenting him at the same time with a fat bullock, of a milk-white colour, which Mansong had sent him.

To the question formerly mentioned as put by Modibinne, Mr. Park made answer: "I am the white man, who, nine years ago, came into Bambarra. I then came to Sego, and requested Mansong's permission to pass to the eastward; he not only permitted me to pass, but presented me with five thousand kowries

to purchase provisions on the road ; for you all know that the Moors had robbed me of my goods. This generous conduct of Mansong towards me, has made his name much respected in the land of the white people. The king of that country has sent me again into Bambarra ; and if Mansong is inclined to protect me, and you who are here sitting, wish to befriend me, I will inform you of the real object of my coming into your country.

“ You all know that the white people are a trading people ; and that all the articles of value, which the Moors and the people of Jinnie bring to Sego, are made by us. If you speak of a *good gun* ; who made it ? the *white people*. If you speak of a good pistol, or sword, or piece of scarlet, or baft, or beads, or gun-powder ; who made them ? the *white people*. We sell them to the Moors ; the Moors bring them to Tombuctoo, where they sell them at a *higher rate*. The people of Tombuctoo sell them to the people of Jinnie at a still higher price ; and the people of Jinnie sell them to you. Now the king of the white people wishes to find out a way by which we may bring our own merchandize to you, and sell every thing at a much cheaper rate than you now have them. For this purpose, if Mansong will permit me to pass, I propose sailing down the Joliba to the place where it mixes with the salt water ; and

if I find no rocks or danger in the way, the white men's small vessels will come up and trade at Sego, if Mansong wishes it. What I have now spoken, I hope and trust you will not mention to any person, except Mansong and his son; for if the Moors should hear of it, I shall certainly be murdered before I reach the salt water."

Modibinne answered, "We have heard what you have spoken. Your journey is a good one, and may God prosper you in it; Mansong will protect you. We will carry your words to Mansong this afternoon, and to-morrow we will bring you his answer." Isaaco shewed them the various articles which were intended for Mansong and his son. A tureen, in particular, gave them the highest satisfaction, as did also the double-barrelled guns, and in fact every thing was far superior to any thing of a similar nature which they ever had the opportunity of observing. Every thing designed for Mansong and his son being laid out, Mr. Park made an ample present of scarlet cloth to Modibinne, and each of the grandees, who informed him that their monarch wished them to examine the baggage. "Such of the bundles as are covered with skin, we will not open; you will tell us what is in them, and that will be sufficient." Mr. Park said he was in possession of nothing but what was necessary for the

procuring of provisions, and that he would be extremely happy if they would decline opening the bundles. Still, however, they persevered in their determination, when our traveller ordered them to be brought out, concealing, however, all the coral and good amber.

The loads being inspected, Mr. Park inquired of Modibinne what he thought of the baggage? If he had seen any more silver tureens, or double-barrelled guns? His answer was, that he had seen nothing that was *bad*, and nothing but what was absolutely requisite for the procuring of provisions, which he would faithfully report to his master. They went off to Segou, but without the present for Mansong, till they had learned his answer; with which they returned on the 25th of September, and it was to the following purport: "Mansong says he will protect you; that a road is open for you every where, as far as his hand extends. If you wish to go to the east, no man shall harm you from Segou till you pass Tombuctoo. If you wish to go to the west you may travel through Fooladoo and Manding, through Kason and Bondou; the name of Mansong's stranger will be a sufficient protection for you. If you wish to build your boats at Samee or Segou, at Sansanding or Jinnie, name the town, and Mansong will convey you thither." He terminated his address by observing, that Man-

song wished him to sell four of the blunderbusses, three swords, a violin, which belonged to Mr. Scott, and some Birmingham bead necklaces, which above all things gave the highest satisfaction; that he had sent them a bullock, and his son another, with a fine sheep. Mr. Park told Modibinne that the friendship of Mansong was of much greater value than the articles which he had mentioned, and that the acceptance of them by Mansong would be a source of unfeigned satisfaction.

Sansanding was chosen as the most proper place for fitting out a canoe, because Mansong had never expressed a wish to see Mr. Park, and because he could there live in a more quiet state than at Sege, as well as free from the importunity of beggars. The population of Sansanding is estimated at 11,000. It is destitute of public buildings, with the exception of the mosques, two of which are far from being inelegant, notwithstanding they are constructed with mud. The market-place is a capacious square, and the various articles of merchandize are exposed to sale on stalls, which are covered with mats, in order to shelter them from the sun. The market is very much frequented from morning till night; on some of the stalls there is nothing but beads; on others, indigo in balls; on others, wood ashes; and on others they found cloth from Houssa and Jin-

nie. On one stall there were some small pieces of antimony; sulphur on another; while a third was decorated with rings and bracelets. In the houses which front the square, the public can purchase scarlet, amber, silks from Morocco, and tobacco, which has the appearance of being the produce of the Levant, and is brought thither by the way of Tombuctoo. The salt market is next to this, which occupies a corner of the square. The price of a slab of salt is 8000 kowries, and Mr. Park assures us that as good and fat meat is here sold every day as any to be met with in the markets of England, which have been long celebrated as producing the very best meat.

As the last journal of Mr. Park, which has ever reached Britain, terminates here, we shall consider ourselves as having fulfilled our engagements with the public, if we here bring it to a close. No official documents from Mr. Park, beyond Sansanding, have ever reached Britain, and we have already detailed the substance of Isaaco's journal, as well as that of Amadi Fatouma, from which the latest and most melancholy accounts may be gathered. Whether he be yet in life or not, is purely problematical, although many well-informed individuals are of opinion that he is yet alive, and only prevented from returning to his native

country, by being reduced to a state of servitude. Be that as it may, we leave for the present a man who has no equal in the rank of enterprising discovery, and proceed to give a concise biographical sketch of his life, as a conclusion to the whole. We are well aware that accounts of this description are generally given at the commencement of every work ; but from the abstract nature of the thing itself, there is nothing which can point out the impropriety of either affixing or prefixing his life. To this let it be added, by way of farther exculpation ; we waited with the most anxious solicitude for still farther accounts from him ; but there being no likelihood of our being put in the possession of any such information, we proceed to draw our labours to a conclusion, by a short biographical sketch of our author's life.

SKETCH OF MR. PARK'S LIFE.

Mr. MUNGO PARK was born on the 10th of September, 1771, at Fowlshiels, a farm which was occupied by his father, under the Duke of Buccleugh, on the banks of the Yarrow, and at no great distance from the town of Selkirk. His father, who was also named Mungo, was a respectable yeoman of Ettrick forest. Mr. Park was the seventh child, and third son of the family, consisting of not fewer than thirteen children, of whom eight arrived at the years of discretion. Prior to the birth of our author, the father for a series of years had practised farming with success on the estate of Fowlshiels, where he breathed his last in the year 1792, at the advanced age of 77, and consequently he must have been born in the year 1715, the period of the first rebellion in favour of the house of Stewart. His attention to the education of his children was constant and unremitting; and although he was far from ranking among the sons of opulence, he took a private tutor into his house, to assist in their speedy instruction. He had the consolation to behold, before his decease, the greater part of

his family respectably settled in life, and was an eye-witness of their prosperity. Mr. Park, after receiving the elements of education in his father's house, was sent to the grammar school of Selkirk, where he continued for a number of years. A thirst for reading had distinguished him from a child, and he paid unwearied attention to the school, in consequence of which he had invariably the honour of being at the head of his class. He was silent, studious, and thoughtful, even when a child, of an ardent, adventurous turn of mind, by which he was characterised through life.

His father intended him for the church, and his studious habits, as well as the serious turn of his mind, seemed to point out that as an extremely proper profession; but his own fixed resolution was to prosecute the study of medicine, and his father did not think proper to thwart his designs. Our traveller was accordingly bound apprentice, at the age of 15, to Mr. Thomas Anderson, a surgeon of respectability in the town of Selkirk, where he continued for three years, not forgetting at the same time his classical studies, and likewise attending the grammar school as opportunity answered. He left Mr. Anderson in the year 1789, to commence his studies at the university of Edinburgh, attending the customary lectures during three winters.

We find nothing particular mentioned respecting his life in the capacity of a student, only there is reason to believe that his assiduous application there was the same as at school, for he became distinguished among his contemporaries. During the summer vacations he turned his attention much to the study of botany, to which he had a natural attachment; and having about this time accompanied his brother-in-law, Mr. James Dickson, to the Highlands, who was an eminent botanist, it contributed greatly to his improvement in that pleasing science. His studies being completed at Edinburgh, Mr. Park went up to London in quest of some medical situation, in which he was very much assisted by his friend Mr. Dickson, who by his instrumentality was introduced to Sir Joseph Banks, and the powerful interest of that gentleman procured him the situation of assistant surgeon on board of the Worcester East Indiaman. From this time Mr. Park enjoyed the patronage and steady friendship of Sir Joseph Banks, from which many interesting advantages were derived, and which had a strong influence on the events of his after life.

In virtue of this appointment, which was obtained through the channel already mentioned, he sailed for the East Indies in the month of February, 1792; and after sailing to Bencoolen,

in the island of Sumatra, he returned to England the ensuing year. He seems to have improved this voyage as a man of science, for he made numerous observations, and collected a number of specimens, both in botany and natural history. Some of these constituted the subject of a memoir, which he transmitted to the Linæan Society, and it was some time afterwards printed in their Transactions. It is not known whether he resolved to continue as a surgeon in the service of the company after his return home; but new prospects opened before him, and a scene more agreeable to his taste and feelings, was exhibited to his ambition.

Some years before this, a few individuals of eminence and distinction had formed an Association, for the purpose of making discoveries in the interior of Africa. Some of the leading facts respecting the northern part of that vast continent had been, in the course of a few years, investigated by them in a clearer manner than geographers had hitherto done; they had ascertained the characteristic differences of the chief tribes; their relations in a commercial point of view; the routes taken by the large caravans; how extensively the Mahometan religion was diffused, and that of consequence the Arabic was the prevailing language. They were likewise employing every exertion to discover the course of the Niger; to trace, with

the assistance of Major Rennel, the main geographical outlines of Northern Africa, and endeavouring to procure the most correct information respecting Tombuctoo, a chief city of the interior, and one of the greatest in Africa with regard to commerce.

During these researches, the Association had employed a number of persons well qualified for such arduous undertakings. Some of these were known to have perished, either by the intense heat of the climate, or the hands of the natives. Information had been recently obtained of Major Houghton's death, who was sent to explore the course of the Niger, and endeavoured to go as far as Tombuctoo and Houssa. The Association found it a difficult matter to supply the place of Major Houghton; and published their readiness to give an ample compensation to any qualified person who should be inclined to take upon him such an arduous enterprise.

This naturally drew the attention of Mr. Park, as he enjoyed the friendship of Sir Joseph Banks, by whom he had been kindly received when he returned from the East Indies, and with whom he frequently conversed. Sir Joseph was a very active member of the Association and from his zeal to promote the interest of science, was earnest in his attempts to find a person properly qualified for travelling

in search of the Niger. Park's former studies had not led him to the particular investigation of geography; but he was remarkably fond of travelling; in the very prime of life, with a vigorous constitution, and in some measure acquainted with the nature of hot climates. In a new country he could indulge his taste for natural history, and he perceived the honour which would result from important discoveries in the geography of Africa. Having made himself master of all that was required by the Association; he instantly made a tender of his services; and after some inquiry into his abilities for the undertaking, the offer was accepted with the greatest readiness.

Between his return from India, and his departure for Africa, which was a period of two years, he resided in London or its vicinity, except a short visit to Scotland, being either engaged in study, or the company of the learned. Having got his last instructions from the Association, he set sail from Portsmouth on the 22d of May, 1795, on board of an African trader called the Endeavour, bound for the river Gambia, which he reached on the 21st of June, and landed at Jillifree, a small town near the mouth of that river.

It were superfluous to detail here the route of Mr. Park, the unexampled difficulties he encountered, or the distress and hardships to

which he was subjected, previously to his arrival at Sejo, where he first came in sight of the Niger, and afterwards ascertained the important fact that the course of that river is from the west to the east. These, with all the particulars of his homeward route, are correctly detailed in the preceding sheets. On the 10th of June he returned to Pisanía, from which he had been absent eighteen months; and on the 15th he embarked in a slave ship bound for America, but which by adverse weather was driven into Antigua. He sailed thence on November 24, and after an absence of two years and seven months, he arrived at Falmouth on the 22d of the following month.

Mr. Park's arrival was hailed with triumphant joy by the African Association, and indeed by the public at large. The first account of his journey was given to the public in an abstract drawn up by Mr. Bryan Edwards, accompanied by an important geographical Memoir by Major Rennel; but the full detail of his Travels, at the previous solicitation of the African Association was leisurely prepared by himself, and published for his own behoof, in the spring of the year 1799. For the purposes of leisure and retirement in the arrangement of his papers, he went down to Scotland, and lived at Fowlshiels with his mother and family during the summer and autumn of 1798. In the end of the year he returned to London.

The applause with which his work was received and the permanent reputation which it has obtained are well known. Two impressions were rapidly sold off; several editions have since been published; and it is still considered as a popular and standard work. In one respect, however, it has given umbrage, and not altogether without foundation: we allude to the cool manner in which he has spoken of the abolition of the slave trade. This we shall briefly endeavour to explain. It is well known that Mr. Bryan Edwards, the editor of the first Abstract of Mr. Park's Travels, and ever afterwards his intimate friend and adviser, was the proprietor of considerable estates in the West-Indies, the strenuous and eloquent supporter in Parliament of the rights, as they are called, of the Colonists against the measures of the Abolitionists, and was at the same time an active and leading member of the African Association. The influence which a person of such importance to his future views would naturally have over the counsels of Park, is easily conceived, as well as the weight of an opinion given either way in the discussion of that great national question by one who has seen so much of the African slave trade. It is besides well known to Mr. Park's family and friends, that he always expressed himself inimical to that inhuman traffic. Viewing altogether the different circumstances of the case, we feel no difficulty in draw-

ing the conclusion, that the short opinion given relating to that subject was not the opinion of the reputed author.

While his work was preparing for the press, Government, having conceived the plan of exploring the interior of New-Holland, made repeated offers to Mr. Park for putting it in execution. It is unknown even to his family by what motives he was guided in the refusal of these offers.

Mr. Park having now begun to think of settling himself for life, returned to Scotland in the summer of 1799, and in the same year married the eldest daughter of Mr. Anderson of Selkirk, with whom he had served his apprenticeship. The profits derived from his publication, and the liberal compensation he had received from the African Association, rendered his mind easy, and his future views for a long while unsettled. At length, however, he commenced practice as a surgeon at Peebles in October, 1801. In the pursuit of the duties of his avocation he was assiduous and attentive; but his former habits and his naturally romantic cast of disposition tended gradually to alienate his inclination from the constant routine of unvarying duties—his thoughts were still turned on Africa. At length, soon after the signature of the preliminary articles of peace with France in October, 1801, he received a letter

from Sir Joseph Banks, acquainting him, that in consequence of the peace, the Association would certainly revive their project of sending a mission to Africa; adding, that in case Government should enter into the plan, Park would certainly be recommended as the person proper to be employed for carrying it into execution. In the autumn of 1803, in consequence of a letter from Lord Hobart, principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, he again went up to London; where he was made acquainted with the nature of an expedition to Africa, then about to take place. Although he returned to Scotland for the avowed purpose of consulting his friends, yet from the time of his interview with Lord Hobart, his determination was taken; the object of his ambition appeared now within his grasp; he announced his acceptance of the proposal, and again left Scotland in December, 1803. The sailing of the expedition, however, was from time to time delayed; and at length on the retirement of Mr. Addington and his friends from the administration, it was suddenly countermanded till the decision of Lord Camden, the successor to Lord Hobart in office, should be known in that respect.

Mr. Park, having been informed at the Colonial-office, that the expedition could not possibly sail before September, spent the interme-

diate time in Scotland in improving himself in the practice of taking astronomical observations; and in acquiring a knowledge of the Arabic language. In the latter of these he was assisted by a native of Mogadore, who had acted as the interpreter of Elfi Bey, and whom Park had brought with him from London.

Early in September, Mr. Park received the orders of Earl Camden to repair to London. Having hastily settled his affairs, he left Scotland for the last time. Soon after his arrival at the Colonial-office, he was requested to give his opinion in writing, as to the plan of the expedition, and all other matters connected with it; and the paper which he gave in furnished the basis of his future instructions. It had the entire approbation of Lord Camden, who after settling the amount of the compensation he was to receive, and a provision for his family in the event of his not being heard of after a certain period, recommended Mr. Park to Major Rennell, to obtain his opinion on the particulars stated in his Memoir. After all things were adjusted, it was finally settled that the expedition should consist of Park, his brother-in-law Mr. Anderson, next to him in authority, and Mr. Scott, who was to act as draughtsman, with a few boat-builders and artificers—these to be joined at Goree by 30 or 40 soldiers of the African corps, and some negroes. It only re-

mains to state, that after two months of unexpected delay, Mr. Park, with his company sailed from Portsmouth in the Crescent transport, arrived at the Cape Verd islands in March, and reached Goree in April. His journal furnishes the particulars of his future route and destination.

FINIS.





