



EXTRAORDINARY.

BATAVIA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1812.

CALCUTTA GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY OCTOBER 4, 1812.

College of Fort William, SEPTEMBER 30, 1812.

PUBLIC DISPUTATION.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE LORD MINISTO, GOVERNOR GENERAL AND VISITOR OF THE COLLEGE OF FORT WILLIAM, having appointed Wednesday the 30th September, for a Public Disputation in the Asiatic Languages, to be held in conformity with the Statutes of the College, the President and Members of the College Council, the Officers, Professors and Students of the College, met at ten o'clock at the Government House, where the Members of the Supreme Council, and many of the Civil and Military Officers at the Presidency, with others of the principal European Inhabitants of Calcutta, and many respectable Natives were also assembled.

As soon as THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE VISITOR had taken his Seat, the Public Disputations commenced in the following Order:

FIRST. BENGALIEE. Position.—The Bengalee is the purest of those Languages which are derived from the Sanskrit. Respondent, G. Richardson, First Opponent, P. M. Wynch, Second Opponent, J. Russell, Moderator, M. Compton, Esq.

SECOND. PERSIAN. Position.—The Hindoostanee being merely a colloquial Language, is not so much an object of critical acquirment as the Persian. Respondent, J. Russell, First Opponent, P. M. Wynch, Second Opponent, J. Drew, Moderator, M. Compton, Esq.

THIRD. HINDOOSTANEE. Position.—The Hindoostanee is the Language of most intercourse for the purpose of colloquial intercourse in Hindoostan. Respondent, P. M. Wynch, First Opponent, J. Russell, Second Opponent, Ensign HAUGHTON, Moderator, Capt. J. W. TAYLOR. When the Disputations were concluded, the President of the College Council presented to THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE VISITOR, the several Students of the College, who were entitled under Statute VIII, to receive Degrees of Honor; as well as, successively, the Students who, at the Examinations held in the months of September, December and June last, and had been found qualified to enter upon the Public Service; and had consequently obtained permission from THE VISITOR to quit the College, under the rule contained in Section II, Regulation III, 1807. The President read the Certificate granted by the Council of the College to each Student, in pursuance of the above Statute, specifying the proficiency which he had made in the prescribed Studies of the College, and also the general tenor of his conduct, with the amount, if any, of the Debt contracted by him during the period of his attachment to the College.

When the certificates had been read, THE VISITOR presented to each Student, entitled to receive a Degree of Honor, the usual Diploma inscribed on Vellum, and at the same time expressed the satisfaction which he felt in conferring it.

After the Prizes and Honorary Rewards had been distributed, THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE VISITOR delivered the following discourse:

GENTLEMEN OF THE COLLEGE OF FORT WILLIAM.

The last time I had the honour of addressing you from this chair, a change had taken place in the period of the Disputations, which by the necessity of comparing unequal portions of the time, tended considerably to disconcert the parallel which had usually been drawn between the two immediately preceding years. A long absence on the public Service has since intervened, and has unavoidably withdrawn me from a personal application to the Office of Visitor. These combined causes would make it extremely difficult at the present anniversary, to pursue with the accustomed particularity a comparison of the two last academical years, supported by such assiduous observation and authentic proofs, as could alone sanction the solemn publication of statements and opinions which might affect, on one hand, the character of the Institution itself,

and on the other touch the reputation and feelings of so many meritorious competitors for public esteem.

Under these circumstances, I do not propose to dwell as minutely on this branch of my subject as former practice might seem to countenance, but to prevent only a general and cursory view of the two periods, induced, indeed, principally to treat that topic even superficially, first, by the desire to rectify by a clear enunciation of facts that might otherwise escape our notice, an estimate of the period just closed, more unfavourable than is, in truth, warranted by full and correct information; and next by the grateful impulse of my most welcome duties: those, I mean of performing the homage due to merit already established; and by that act of open justice, prompting, perhaps, the emulation of those who have yet to maintain the contest, and to make good their title to future reputation and applause.

The first singularity of the present year that attracts our notice, is the apparently reduced number of Students furnished by the College to the public service; the annual examination which closes the year, presenting indeed, only seven Civil Servants of this Presidency, or little more than one-third of the average number.

We are considering, however, in this place, not the acquisitions of the service of Bengal, but the productive powers of the College; and under this point of view, every Student who has attained the prescribed qualifications, whatever his profession may be, and to what extent his commission may attach him, contributes his name and the reputation he may have acquired, to the sum of those results by which the capacity of our institution to fulfil its important ends may be measured.

Upon this principle we are to include in the produce of the year, Mr. John Russell, of the civil establishment of Fort St. George, who will be found, as I proceed, to have added not only the unit of his name to our qualified list, but to have brought a rich accession of credit and reputation to our School, of which he will ever rank amongst the most eminent and distinguished ornaments.

We have a similar right to take credit in the report of qualified Students in the present year, for the proficiency of Ensign Haughton, in Persian and Hindoostanee, which has been such as would have entitled him, if he had been a regular Student, to quit College and enter on the public service, with great distinction, acquired in a very short period of study. I shall have occasion to speak more particularly of this gentleman's rare, and signal merit under other heads of my discourse. I mention him now, only for the purpose of adding his name, as upon considerations nearly similar, I have done that of Mr. J. Russell, to those regular Students of this College, who have been reported at the late Annual Examination, qualified for the public service.

With these additions, the number is now nine; to which I refrain from adding the name of Mr. Francis Russell, who has attained the prescribed proficiency under friendly and domestic tuition, and has been permitted, under very peculiar circumstances, to pass in two Languages although absent from College, and to enter on the service, upon satisfactory certificates, and proofs of qualification. I do not, however, in appreciating the fruit of the present season, claim the accession of Mr. F. Russell to the civil service of Bengal, as imputable to the College of Fort William, because the proficiency evinced by this gentleman, although amply testified and ascertained, and although it will be found recorded on the proceedings of the proper period, was not obtained under the instruction of this institution.

In addition, however, to the number already established, of nine proficient, the present season has a distinct claim to an equal number whose names do not appear in the latest return, but who, having shewn themselves qualified in one Language, at the preceding annual Examination have been since permitted to quit College, on evincing an adequate proficiency in a second language, at the quarterly Examinations of September and December, 1811. This indulgence had not been granted on former occasions, and if the old rule had not been departed from, every one of those gentlemen would have remained with us to pass at the late annual examination, and would, therefore, now stand upon its list of proficient Students. The academical year is without doubt entitled, for these reasons, to their names and numbers, and it is equally obvious,

that the credit of the College cannot be impaired, but must, on the contrary be enhanced, by these gentlemen's attainment of full proficiency at a period even earlier, than that which would have placed them regularly on the qualified roll of the year.

The aggregate number, then, of Students who have attained proficiency in two Languages since the preceding annual Examination, is eighteen.

This is superior, by one to the corresponding list of the year 1809; inferior, only by one, to 1810, which embraced a period of eighteen months; and inferior by two, to the year 1811, which sent forth twenty Students to the service, a number composed, however, of several who had been detained not less than four years in College, for the attainment of that degree of proficiency, which was at length accepted as sufficient to justify their release.

Upon a fair consideration, therefore, of this part of the subject, I have the satisfaction to rank the present year upon a footing much more advantageous than the Annual Examination, if considered singly, would shew, and such as to afford no ungratifying result in its relation to former and recent periods.

I shall close this branch of the Annual Report, by reciting the names of the Students who have been adjudged by the College Council qualified in two Languages, marking at the same time, the dates of their admission, which will shew the periods of their studies, together with the ranks in which the final Examination placed them in their respective Languages and Classes.

Table with 3 columns: Name, Date of Admission, and Rank/Class. Includes names like P. M. Wynch, G. Richardson, J. Russell, etc.

I could have wished that the usage of the College Council had admitted of Mr. J. Russell, and Ensign Haughton's being classed in the rank to which their acquirements would have entitled them, if they had been regular members of the College. But the justice due to these gentlemen, will be attained by noticing, although separately, both the short periods of their attendance, and the degrees of proficiency which they acquired.

Mr. J. Russell, then, was admitted in November 1811; and it appears in the classification of Gentlemen on whom Degrees of Honour have been conferred for their high proficiency in the Languages to which their studies had been directed, as well as from the annual reports of the Professors and Examiners, that Mr. Russell stands at the head of the College Roll for the present year.

In Persian, he ranks the first, that is to say, immediately above Mr. Wynch, and he is second in Hindoostanee, having Mr. Wynch alone immediately before him.

Ensign Haughton was permitted to attend Lectures at College so lately as March of the present year; and the progress he has made has been the fruit of only three months application. His preparation at Barasat, before the abolition of that institution, cannot be thought to have given him any advantage over those who had the benefit of a full course of study at Hertford College; or if he brought in reality a better stock of Oriental Scholarship from Barasat, than his fellow Students at Fort William had imported from Hertford, he will only have strengthened his claim to the credit of application and talents by acquiring that description of knowledge in

a situation, where, notwithstanding every advantage that could be afforded in the learning, capacity, diligence and high characters of those who presided, and who taught, a discouraging experience of several years, had proved such examples of successful study to have been extremely rare.

Ensign Haughton, then, by three months attendance at the College of Fort William, placed himself fourth in Persian, that is to say, next but one to Messrs. Russell and Wynch, with the intervention alone of Mr. Drew, who had the advantage, however, of an earlier commencement of his Studies.

In Hindoostanee, Ensign Haughton stands third in rank, immediately next to the two distinguished names of Wynch and Russell, who bear the principal honours of the present year.

In order to complete the report of Students entering on the public Service in the present season, I shall annex to this discourse a return of those who having passed as already noticed in a second Language, in two quarterly examinations, that is to say, seven in September and two in December, of 1811, were then permitted to quit College.

It will follow in natural order to state in this place the academical honours bestowed on the present occasion.

Degrees of Honour, which are the appointed rewards of high proficiency in the Languages for which they are specifically awarded, have been conferred upon the six following Students:—

- 1. J. Russell, 2. P. M. Wynch, 3. P. M. Wynch, 4. J. Russell, 5. G. Richardson, 6. C. Morley.

The following Prizes have been distributed for proficiency in the several Languages, and for Writing:—

- PERSIAN: Russell, 1st Prize and a Medal; Wynch, 2d do. and a do.; Drew, A Medal. HINDOOSTANEE: Wynch, 1st Prize and a Medal; Russell, 2d do. and a do.; Haughton, A Medal. BENGALIEE: Richardson, 1st Prize and a Medal; Morley, A Medal. PERSIAN WRITING: Russell, 1st Prize and a Medal; Boddam, A Medal. NAGREE WRITING: Haughton, 1st Prize and a Medal; Hyde, A Medal. BENGALIEE WRITING: Richardson, 1st Prize and a Medal; Hyde, A Medal.

It is to be observed only here, that I have had the satisfaction of presenting Degrees of Honor to Mr. J. Russell and Mr. Wynch, in two Languages, the Persian and the Hindoostanee. And to Mr. G. Richardson and Mr. Morley, in Bengalee.

The next criterion of merit to which I would advert is that of rapid progress in study; and I am happy to claim, in its due proportion for the present period, that unquestionable proof of united application and talents.

To substantiate that title, it might be sufficient to observe, that of nine Gentlemen, who have been found to possess such proficiency in two Languages, as has been esteemed a sufficient qualification for public trust and the duties of Office, four have attended the studies of this College only seven months, from November 1811, to June 1812; and one less than half, even of that short period.

The four first are Mr. J. Russell, Mr. Wynch, Mr. G. Richardson, and Mr. Swetenham. The fifth is Ensign Haughton, who between March and June of the present year, has won a high rank in Persian and Hindoostanee, and has commenced with equal ardour, the more rare, and I presume, the more difficult study of Sanskrit.

One instance alone, is in truth, now left on the roll of the current year, of an admission so early as 1809. With that exception the Students now remaining in College, who have not landed recently in the ships of this season, are all either of the year 1811, or of the latter months of the preceding year 1810: a considerable proportion, therefore, have not completed one year's study, and the rest have attended the College little more than eighteen months.



The united testimonies of the learned Professors, the Examiners, and the College Council, appear to leave no doubt concerning the qualifications of those whose competence has been declared at the late examination; and we have already seen that their proficiency had in general been accomplished in short periods of study. In addition to these favourable views, the remark which I have just made on the present state of the College with regard to the standing of the Students, seems to confirm the hope, that the period which under the present combined systems of instruction at home and in India, may suffice to mature the younger servants of the Company, for the performance of the earlier duties of the service, has been sensibly abridged in comparison with former times.

From hence we are naturally led to an enquiry extremely interesting to the character of our College, concerning the probable cause of the apparent improvement; because, although the assignment of the period between the arrival of young men in Bengal, and their entering on the career of their profession, must be ascribed in itself to beneficial change, yet the ultimate effect, and the final advantage or disadvantage to be expected from it, will, I think, be found to depend in a great degree, on the means by which it may have been brought about.

If the preparatory instruction supplied in England should be such as to shorten materially the remainder of the course which is to be completed here, the improvement will, I think, be solid.

If general and general improvement of arduous and consistent industry should be observable in the Classes of Fort William, so far as the quicker attainment of proficiency might be ascribed to so excellent and laudable a cause, the prospect would be smiling and full of promise.

On the other hand, if the proficiency of the present period, though truly such as to justify the report of sufficient qualification for the first and subordinate stages of official life, were yet of a lower quality and degree than in some earlier and brighter æras of our Collegiate annals, we should only have lost in distance what we have gained in time, and the result would be better calculated to humble and discourage us, than to furnish matter of present pride or future hope.

I am earnestly desirous to find myself warranted in ascribing on authentic and well ascertained grounds, the shortening of our studies at Fort William, to the foundation that has been laid at Hertford; and thinking as I do, that quicker attainment of the required proficiency has been somewhat more general than could be adequately accounted for by individual superiority of talents and exertion, I am in truth inclined to indulge the gratifying sentiment, that we may reasonably ascribe to the previous studies of Hertford, a salutary operation in producing an effect so desirable.

As I am not without apprehension, that such investigation as it has been hitherto practicable to institute on this important point, may not have afforded evidence as strong and satisfactory as were to be desired, of any considerable progress made in oriental knowledge and acquirements, by the pupils of Hertford College, previous to their arrival in Bengal.

On the 31st August 1811, the College Council passed the following order:—

“College of Fort William,  
“31st August 1811.

“With a view to ascertain whether the Students admitted to the College of Fort William, have acquired any, and what knowledge of the Asiatic Languages at the College of Hertford, or elsewhere, before their admission.

“Ordered, that in future when Students are admitted to the Professors, whose Classes they may join, make a special Report of the progress which each Student may appear to have made in the Language taught in the Class; and that such Report be transmitted to the Secretary for the information of the College Council.”

The first, and only return that has been made by the Professors to that order, is dated the 12th June 1812, and comprises the names of sixteen Students, admitted into this College from August to December 1811. It is not necessary to read this Report, nor to advert by name to the individuals who were the subject of it. It will be enough to observe, that of the sixteen only four appear to have attained even an elementary and very moderate acquaintance with any of the Asiatic Languages.

Three of these have, since their admission, stood high in the studies of this College, and have been declared in seven months, qualified for the Service. These are Mr. Wynch, Mr. George Richardson, and Mr. Swetenham; the two first of whom have also obtained Degrees of Honor and Medals of Merit.

The remaining thirteen of the number reported upon, have not yet passed in two Languages. That these Gentlemen have not attained the required proficiency, in the short space of their studies at Fort William, is by no means matter of discredit or reproach; while on the contrary, the sudden proficiency of the three already named, in the same period, is, no doubt, a most gratifying argument of individual application and talents beyond the ordinary measure of those united merits. It may seem difficult, on this state of the

facts, to pronounce with much confidence, on the degree of influence which may securely be attributed to Hertford College, in the subsequent progress at Fort William.

Those who have advanced most rapidly here, had also profited most in their preparatory studies. This coincidence seems justly imputable to the merit of personal exertion. On the other hand, when we observe the largest stock of knowledge transplanted from Hertford, to have also produced the quickest growth and richest fruit in India, we cannot but acknowledge the same coincidence between the success of the first culture and the early fertility that has followed.

We must, I believe, in truth, confess, that the investigation commenced under the order of the College Council of the 31st of August 1811, is yet too recent, and has furnished too slender a stock of facts and observations to afford any confident or precise conclusion. All that can be said to result from the enquiry in its present early stage may perhaps resolve itself into these two propositions. That the progress made at Hertford in the Asiatic Languages has been hitherto inconsiderable; but that even in its present state, this imperfect introduction to those difficult studies, has had an undoubted and perceptible influence in accelerating the labours of this College, and advancing the term of proficiency required for the service of India.

I have grounded the cautious, as well as the favourable side of this compound opinion, upon the report of the 12th June 1812, already adverted to, as the only document yet existing on the question. I am happy, however, to have received from authority to which implicit credit is due, such an account of the qualifications brought to this College by a certain number of the pupils of Hertford, since the date of the report just referred to, as may justly raise our estimate of the previous acquirements in England, and improve our expectations of benefit from that preparation in the higher cultivation of the same Languages in Bengal.

I should, indeed, be gratified by some fair and maintainable ground for disputing, at least the exclusive efficiency of the School in England in accelerating the studies of India, by a claim for this College of some participation in the improvement, from a general augmentation of ardour and intensity in the Academical labours of Fort William.

Excellence, indeed, we possess, to grace the anniversary we are now celebrating, the lustre of which would not fade before the brightness of the best periods which have preceded.

The distinguished names of Russell and of Wynch—of Wynch and Russell, challenging alternate and scarcely assignable precedence, straining in the emulous race with each other alone, at a long interval from the worthiest and the fleetest of their followers, must rank in our annals with the Soutchys, the Birds, and the Mackenzies, and associate their own period with the renown of other times.

I have already recorded the rapidity of Haughton, and the merit of other names, who have well maintained the honour of the year.

I have already absolved, too, from discredit, those who have required a period more nearly proportioned to the usual powers of study, to accomplish the proposed proficiency.

It is not, therefore, upon any ostensible result of the late Examination, that I find myself constrained, unwillingly to avow some general apprehension, that the warm and powerful spirit of emulation, and the inviolable union of constancy and ardour in the generous pursuit of fame, and the yet nobler aim of excellence, which we have seen with a sort of wonder achieving prodigies in past years, may have somewhat abated, and contemplating the past and present in one view, that the tone and energy of study may have dropt in later years, to a standard somewhat inferior.

With this less welcome view of the subject is connected an important question, concerning the scale of perfection which the higher classes now attain, compared with other periods.

On this I have no official information to guide me, or to support any judgment which I may have formed on the general aspect of affairs. I observe in some of the documents, the proficiency of particular Students lately examined, placed upon a level with the most proficient of the year 1811; but it would have required a favourable comparison with yet earlier periods, to remove from my mind all the uneasiness on this fundamental point.

It is, indeed, with profound concern, and not without some painful humiliation, that as Visitor of this College, I have, in a spirit higher than that of pride, and in the accents of truth herself, sacred alike when she chides and when she praises to admit, upon authority to which I am compelled to defer, but which I need neither quote nor record, that the scale of oriental knowledge and acquirement, attained by those who now quit the College, and even affording a title to the higher academical honours and rewards, has fallen sensibly, both in kind and degree, below the standard of former proficiency.

If these apprehensions should not be entirely without foundation, it should be the object of our first and constant solicitude, to detect, if possible, the causes of a change so much to be lamented.

The only alteration that has taken place in the regulations of the College, applicable to the present question, has been, the in-

dulgence granted to proficient in one Language only at the annual Examination, of passing in a second, and thus qualified, of quitting College, at any quarterly Examination; before the end of the succeeding year.

This measure was adopted by His Excellency the late Visitor during my absence, upon the principles of considerate justice, which governed all his actions.

A qualification for the service being understood to consist in a competent knowledge of two oriental languages, it might reasonably be thought indifferent, whether that qualification were attained at the anniversary of a particular solemnity, or during any intervening quarter, and if so, it might appear a hardship on the qualified Student to be detained longer from his profession than the interests of the service are admitted to require.

If this principle, however, were perfectly correct, it would extend to consequences, either unobserved, or not intended, for it would embrace, equally, all cases of imperfect proficiency, which might approach sufficiently to a competent knowledge of two Languages, though not attained in either at the annual Examination, to afford a fair prospect of the requisite proficiency being soon accomplished. Such cases would indeed, appear to me more favourable to the indulgence in question than the former, since it would afford the prospect of competence in two Languages at once, and more particularly at the time when it would be most desirable, that is to say, when the Student is transferred to the service, which is thought to require that double accomplishment. To pass on the contrary in one Language at one Examination, and in another at a subsequent period, leaves the possibility of the first being neglected and forgotten, while the Student's application is directed exclusively to the second, and produces a probability that he will carry into the service a proficiency in one alone.

I confess, that, sympathizing with the equitable motives of His Excellency the Vice President, and of the College Council, in establishing the regulation of which I now speak, I am yet inclined to entertain some doubt of its tendency to advance the general interests of learning; and I am somewhat apprehensive, that by presenting a constant facility to be released upon easy terms, that is to say, by the cultivation of one Language at a time, from the restraints of College, the love of perfection, and of the higher attainments of literary study, may be too much counteracted by the perpetual solicitation of opportunity, and of inducements never wanting, to escape from labour and confinement with the shortest admissible measure of acquirement.

I am disposed to think that when the Student is found at any annual Examination, deficient even in that minor proficiency which is deemed requisite as a mere qualification for service, he will not have attained at the end of the ensuing academical year a higher standard of knowledge than, though perhaps not indispensable, would nevertheless, be always desirable.

Yet according, as I do, with some of the principles upon which the new rule was founded; and revering the authority from which it flowed, I should incline to a further experience of that system, under such modifications as might diminish its possible inconvenience.

In that view I should propose to limit the intermediate release of the half qualified Student, to the second quarterly Examination of the academical year; being well assured, that if not qualified at either the annual or half yearly Term, he will not in two additional quarters have misapplied his time and application, by attaining a greater portion of literary knowledge than it will be convenient and satisfactory to himself to possess.

To that modification of this indulgence I should esteem it important to add, that whenever he should claim his release from College, the Student should be examined and declared competent in both Languages, that is to say, in the Language in which his proficiency had been formerly certified, and in the second, in which he had been pronounced deficient.

Under a regulation so framed the Student will on one hand, bring his full qualification into the service, and on the other, will in no case be detained more than one Term, or the short period of three Months in College, after he could have had an opportunity of evincing at any quarterly examination, a perfect title to quit it.

I have considered attentively the annual return of attendance and absence from Lecture in the several Languages, and I have much pleasure in expressing my general satisfaction with the conduct of the Students under that head.

I am aware that private study may in some instances supply the place of a regular attendance at College; but I have reason to apprehend, that this irregularity will oftener indicate a general relaxation of study than application at home. Habits of close study are repugnant to many natural propensities of youth, and being, for that age, a condition somewhat compulsory and violent, it requires to be maintained by modes of life in some sort artificial, calculated to counteract, by the obligation of uniform rule, a perpetual tendency to the indulgences of repose or pleasure. Nothing can be more conducive to that end,

than a strict adherence to method and regularity in the distribution of time. Whoever trusts his progress in knowledge to the occasional invitations of taste and inclination, whatever his natural Love of science, and whatever the constitutional stimulus and activity of his mind may be, will have to regret the unprofitable lapse of many empty and barren hours in every day, days in every week, weeks in every year, and will have to lament in the review of time, many blank and unoccupied portions of life, which will have left, in their unperceived flight, neither the memory of enjoyment, nor any surviving trace of improvement to attest their existence.

Let not any one, therefore, conscious either of a desire of knowledge, or of capacity to acquire it, scorn the useful aid of settled, and it were well if they were thought, inviolable plans and hours of study. There are, indeed, several advantages in the attendance upon Academical Classes. The allotted hour is at least secured; society in study enlivens it, and above all, emulation and competition enliven and quicken labour, at home for preparation, and in the hour of trial, for victory. The business of the Class too, not only stimulates, but directs, and helps to methodize, private research and exercise; I will venture in a word to say, that, perhaps with some singular exceptions, he who attends the public hour of instruction most faithfully, will be found also to ply his studies with the greatest constancy and success in his chamber.

I am the more fortified in these sentiments, from observing in the annual document already adverted to, that the Gentlemen, whose attainments have been most conspicuous in the year, are those also whose attendance has been most regular at College. Of this remark I am tempted to offer the examples which the return affords.

Mr. Wynch has not absented himself from lectures in Persian a single day without an adequate cause, and with such a cause, only four.

Mr. Swetenham has been absent from the same Lectures but one day without, and one with unavoidable impediment.

Mr. Haughton one day without cause, and three with.

From the Hindoostanee class, Mr. Russell has not been absented himself a single day without cause, and only twice from unavoidable impediment.

Mr. Wynch's attendance on this Lecture has been marked precisely by the same extraordinary punctuality as Mr. Russell's.

Mr. Swetenham was still more fortunate in being unavoidably prevented only a single day from attendance, and like the other two, having missed no other Lecture.

Mr. Richardson did not absent himself once without cause, but appears to have been prevented eleven days by some adequate cause, principally, no doubt, by sickness.

Mr. Haughton was not voluntarily absent from a single Lecture, and only from three for adequate causes.

I might upon this topic gratify myself still further by reciting the names of a considerable number of other Students, the regularity of whose attendance has been conspicuous, and would in itself deserve commendation; but as their progress, although without the imputation of slowness, has not entirely kept pace with the few distinguished names, in whom I have shewn that the union of punctuality and eminence has been exemplified, I reserve the praise of exactness for the others, to a period, when I am confident, I shall be enabled to join to it that of proficiency, which they also will have proved, in their turns, to be the attendant of regularity and discipline in their pursuit of knowledge.

It is at the same time with regret that I must withhold this commendation from a few, whose great and blameable neglect of so important and obvious a duty has not passed unobserved, although I refrain from names, and will require much amendment, of which I can only indulge the earnest hope, to restore to the objects of this censure, the esteem which was given to their youth upon credit, and which I trust they will feel their honour concerned in redeeming, during the present year.

The return of debts shewing their amount at the latest date, does not appear to call for much remark.

It is at least a negative satisfaction to observe, that they have in no instance increased since the last enquiry; and I derive more positive pleasure from the reflexion, warranted by the declarations, as far as their fidelity may be relied upon, that, although in a few instances, the expenditure appears to have exceeded the income of the Student in a greater proportion, than can be thought, by any means necessary or desirable; this report does not, however, present upon the whole, such a view of pecuniary embarrassment, as to afford any uneasy apprehension of difficulty and dependence at the Student's first entrance into the world.

I am at the same time highly and cordially gratified to notice no less than seven of the number entirely free from debt, and a considerable majority of the whole, whose burdens of that description are of so moderate an amount, as to afford an argument of laudable regularity in their past conduct, and a confident expectation of their starting in life free from pecuniary entanglement; exempt, therefore, from the many humiliations and sorrows, which have been known to shake the high principles of minds, born pure and up-



to depress the character and talents; weigh upon the fortunes, and finally break the heart and spirits, where they could not subdue the independence or the probity, of estimable men, who have felt themselves through life, the victims of a few short forgotten months of inexperienced and inconsiderate youth.

Anxious to avert calamities of which, like many other great and fatal evils, the first seeds are often, scarcely perceptible, the Honourable Court of Directors, watching with parental vigilance over the happiness, not less than the faculties and acquirements of their novitiate Servants, have thought it expedient for the public good and kind to their young friends, to awaken their earliest attention to this important point, and to enforce admonition by a penal sanction.

I shall close, therefore, my own observations on this subject, by reading an extract from the letter of the Honourable Court, to the Governor General in Council, under date the 22d May 1811.

"We cannot but regret that, any of our Servants should incur debts at all, especially these at College where the Allowances are sufficiently ample to provide for all their reasonable wants, and where the time of our Servants should be employed in qualifying themselves to discharge the active duties of the service, for which they ought to be employed in preparing themselves, and not wasted in expensive indulgencies incompatible with their situation and duties."

"We must therefore call your particular attention to this subject, and with a view in future to put an entire stop to a practice as ruinous to the individual engaged in it as injurious to the Company's Service, we direct that it be promulgated and fully acted upon, that no writer who has contracted debts which he is unable to discharge, shall be eligible to fill any situation of trust and responsibility; for it is self-evident that a young man entering into public employ, embarrassed in his circumstances, and indebted perhaps to a native in a considerable sum of money, cannot be equally independent with him who commences his career in life free from such incumbrances."

I have the wonted gratification of closing this report of the College, and its labours for the year 1811-12, by congratulating that Institution on the continued advantages, which it has ever, but at no period more than the present, enjoyed, in the distinguished, I may say, in some instances, illustrious talents, knowledge, and applications of its Professors, and in the zeal, assiduity, and intelligence of all its Officers.

It remains, only, to notice such transactions within the year, as may be deemed interesting, either by their application to the success and reputation of this College, or to the advancement of Oriental Literature in general.

The first object which commands our attention, is the solicitude expressed by the Honourable Court of Directors in its general wisdom and zeal for the promotion of useful learning, to encourage the application of Students to the Sanskrit language. These sentiments are conveyed in the 4th and 5th paragraphs, of their general letter to the Governor General in Council, under date the 22d May 1811, already mentioned.

The Honourable Court regrets that no Gentleman should have presented himself for examination in a Language, the cultivation of which they justly deem so fundamentally and so universally important in Oriental Philology; and they direct this Government to promote the study of Sanskrit by proper rewards and distinctions.

This Language is still cultivated but by few. The Honourable Court will, however, have the satisfaction of observing, that the acknowledged talents of one gentleman, who is a servant of the Company on the establishment of this Presidency, and a regular member of the College, (I speak of Mr. Chastelay,) are directed, along with the study of two other Languages, to the attainments of the Sanskrit; and that ensign Haughton, whose name and reputation have challenged an honourable place in the classes of his period, has pointed his quick and powerful labours into the same channel. To these I am tempted a little beyond the formal bounds of this discourse, to add the names of Mr. Hobhouse, and Ensign Ayton of the Bengal Establishment, who since the termination of the year which we are now commemorating, have enrolled themselves in the growing list of Sanskrit Students.

The Government and the College Council, in furtherance of the judicious design of the Honourable Court, have, in addition to the former inducements held out to Students at College in the Sanskrit language, appointed a reward of Books, for proficiency in that study,

and measures have been adopted by Government, for the encouragement of more mature study both in the Arabic and Sanskrit languages, by the Civil Servants of the Company, after they shall have quitted College. These have been communicated to the public in the Calcutta Gazette of the 28th May 1812, and it is, therefore, unnecessary to repeat them here, in precise terms; but they substantially consist in a reward of 5000 Sicca Rupees to such gentlemen of the Civil service of Bengal, as after having quitted College, shall afford the required proofs of proficiency in either of the two Tongues of Arabic and Sanskrit.

It is peculiarly fitting on the occasion of this solemnity, to acknowledge a flattering testimony of regard offered by the learned and illustrious University of Oxford to the College of Fort William, by an extensive present to its Library of valuable Books, printed at the Clarendon Press, which has been answered, with respect and gratitude, by presenting to the University, a considerable collection of Oriental Books from this College.

I touch with real gratification on this friendly and liberal intercourse between these two learned bodies, unequal as they are in antiquity of origin, in extent, resources, and celebrity; because while it does honour to both institutions, it displays at once an amiable and encouraging view of co-operation and harmony in pursuits supremely interesting to the improvement and happiness of the human race.

Dr. Hunter, at the call of more active and professional duties, had already withdrawn himself from the functions of Secretary to the College Council, before the last anniversary. The occasion still felt for his useful services in the important scene on which he now acts, has produced his resignation of the office he held in the College of Fort William.

How much Dr. Hunter contributed by science and literature, as well as by the able and assiduous discharge of his peculiar office, to the credit and success of this institution, it is unnecessary for me to say.

The College Council has already attested, on its own records, the sentiments of respect and esteem, which his character, endowments, and conduct were sure to inspire, wherever they were most closely and intimately observed.

The separation, however, of Dr. Hunter from the College, may perhaps be thought susceptible of some compensation, when it is considered, that the Island & Territories of Java, to which his professional duties have for the present attached him, open an extensive field of interesting enquiry in many branches of knowledge, and in some, peculiarly connected with Oriental Philology. I can speak with personal knowledge of the ardour with which Dr. Hunter looked forward to a career of investigation so novel, and of the alacrity with which he threw himself into the pursuit before him. Many whom I address are too well acquainted with the persevering application of his inquisitive and discerning mind to objects worthy of its research, to doubt of the profitable and valuable result which we are entitled to expect from the enquiries in which Dr. Hunter is now engaged.

In these liberal pursuits we possess also the zealous and indefatigable aid of Lieut. Colonel Mackenzie, Chief Engineer of the Madras Establishment, whose signal and extraordinary powers of collecting, preserving, and digesting useful and interesting information, in every branch of knowledge, but more particularly in researches connected with the history, antiquities, religion, manners and occupations of the countries submitted to his observations, have been well proved and attested in the Deccan and Carnatic.

Mr. Horsfield, a native of the United States of America, deeply conversant in Natural Knowledge, has already collected great stores of information, during a residence of several years, in Java, under the patronage, and, indeed, in the service of the late Dutch Government of the Island. This able observer and respectable gentleman, has transferred to the British Government, the stores of knowledge already collected, and has engaged his future labours in the same philosophical pursuits, under our protection. Much has been already obtained, and much is to be hoped with confidence, from the talents and industry of this gentleman, as well as from the acquaintance with his subject, and the peculiar habits of research which he has already formed in Java; while these and every other liberal investigation, are animated by the personal taste, as well as a just sense of every duty which becomes his public station, with which the Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Raffles, a name already mentioned with merited honour in former discourses of your Visitors, stimulates, and in some sort, prompts and directs

the search of learned and ingenious men after knowledge in all its departments.

With these objects under our view, it is impossible to exclude from our minds, the painful recollection of a loss sustained by this College, by the votaries of Eastern learning, and I will not refrain from adding, by the lovers of genius, and of worth, yet more estimable than all other endowments, in the premature and lamented death of Dr. Leyden. It is not required, it would not be fitting in this place, to repress entirely the sentiments with which this event has filled every bosom capable of appreciating, and when appreciated, of honouring alive, and deploring in the grave, an example of excellence, intellectual and moral, so rare and eminent. I must restrain, however, even the justifiable effusion of public regret, heightened as it is, by private sorrow, on this mournful theme, not for the poverty of the subject, or the coldness of affection, but for their abundance and excess.

To speak of all that Dr. Leyden had already performed, especially in the prosecution of Asiatic learning; to compute the treasures which his incomparable genius, urging and sustaining his invincible powers of mental labour, presented the fair promise of acquiring and accumulating, would be to relate a history of the short but full and memorable life he was allowed to live, and to expatiate into yet more ample, but, now, visionary fields of active, elaborate, and in his hands they would have proved, fruitful researches, which he had himself projected, and seemed once, appointed to accomplish. To give scope on the other hand, to the profound feeling, which would dictate the sorrowful tribute due to a memory so revered, is more than I am willing to trust to the strong, but disabling sensibilities of real grief.

Let me, therefore, confine myself to remarking the aggravation which seemed to enhance our loss by the peculiar moment and occasion of his death.

I need not remind those who hear me, of the zeal he had long nourished, for exploring, if I may use that phrase, the Philology of the more Eastern regions of Asia; of the first steps he had already made in the prosecution of that purpose, by the construction and diffusion of Vocabularies, but above all, by methodizing and reducing into system, the classification of the various Languages spoken on the continent, intermediate between India and China, the various kingdoms and districts of which, as they recede from each of those extreme points, appear, with some relation to their local approximation, or to historical affinities, gradually to have blended and assimilated their respective languages, into compound dialects, partaking of both the distinct and primitive Tongues.

In like manner, Dr. Leyden proposed to establish some principle, already, perhaps, conceived in his mind, but to be verified as he proceeded, for governing his investigation of the numerous Tongues and dialects of the Eastern Archipelago.

When public events opportunely opened to him the prospect of pursuing these favourite projects of science, in person, on the very field of his enquiries, and with every advantage and facility that auspicious fortune could provide, it is not difficult to conceive both the interest and the hope, with which those who witnessed his ardour, and approved its object, contemplated the promising issue of these ingenuous labours. Those grateful sentiments, alas! are now to be supplied by regret at the sudden and total disappointment of his extensive and vigorous design, by sorrow for the man, and by veneration for the genius and virtues which now sleep on the very theatre of their intended energies.

To this just, and sitting where I do, this authorized tribute to the literary merits of Dr. Leyden, I must yet add a personal testimony, prompted by personal experience, to virtues of a higher class, neither connected strictly with the talents and toils of a Student, nor so uniformly the companions of learned reputation as it would be natural, perhaps, to wish and to expect. But I speak it in the presence of many who can attest it with myself, that founder as he was of his own fortunes and reputation, and climbing by many laborious steps, from the lowest stage of social life to an eminence which many cannot even maintain, though placed yet higher by their birth; no man, whatever his condition or degree might be, ever possessed a mind so entirely exempt from every sordid passion, so negligent of fortune and all its grovelling pursuits, in a word so entirely disinterested, nor ever owned a spirit more firmly and nobly independent. I speak of these things with some knowledge, and wish to record a competent testimony to the fact, that within

my experience, Dr. Leyden never in any instance, solicited an object of personal interest, nor, as I believe, ever interrupted his higher pursuits to waste a moment's thought on these minor cares. Whatever trust, or advancement may at some periods have improved his personal situation, have been, without exception, tendered, and in a manner thrust upon his acceptance, unsolicited, uncontrived, and unexpected. To this exemption from capidity was allied every generous virtue, worthy of those smiles of fortune which he disdain'd to court; and amongst many estimable features of his character, an ardent love of justice, and a vehement abhorrence of oppression, were not less prominent, than the other high qualities I have already described.

I am sensible that I have wandered beyond the allotted bounds of this address, and that I shall appear, perhaps, to abuse a public function, by its application to the indulgence of private feeling. But we are all interested here in the reputation of Dr. Leyden, upon whose title to our remembrance, a sad and solemn seal has been affixed; nor shall we be disposed, in the unrestrained praise of his talents, to grudge a moment to the simple attestation of his virtues.

For myself, I own, that I snatch the favourable occasion to leave on your records, my solemn avowal of personal and affectionate attachment to the memory of Dr. Leyden. Sentiments of warm regard were awakened at an early period of our acquaintance, and confirmed by a near and intimate observation of his extraordinary character and endowments; nor need I be ashamed to acknowledge that they may perhaps have been heightened by the influence of a narrower feeling, yet such as better and more eminent men than myself, have never blushed to own.

The place of Dr. Leyden's birth, is separated from those paternal fields, for which, as such, nature has planted in mine, as in every other human breast, a partial, and almost pious affection; they are separated but by a narrow stream, in praise of which, the muse first smiled upon his dawning, but a dull and vigorous genius. Already warmed then by well placed friendship and respect, why should I disown another interest in the celebrity of him, who by his birth, by his earliest song, by the talents of his manhood, by his virtues and his death, has done honour to our native stream and the land it waters.

*"Ornamentum regionis meae"*  
If I have allowed to these sentiments more than their due proportion of your time, let this be my excuse, and let it be indulgently accepted, for in truth, I can scarcely profess repentance when I review the motives of my offence.

I must beg yet a few moments, to speak of the creditable spirit of enterprize, and zeal for knowledge and improvement, which induced Lieutenant Lockett, to undertake a journey into Persia and Arabia, for the primary purpose of acquiring a more perfect knowledge of the Persian and Arabic Languages, in the countries where they are spoken. He has executed that laudable plan under circumstances of some difficulty, not altogether exempt from hazard; and in the prosecution of his spirited design, besides the execution of his first purpose, his travels have brought him personally and intimately acquainted with countries and objects, furnishing much interesting information, of which there is reason to hope for an early communication to the public, and from which the learned world may confidently anticipate valuable instruction and entertainment.

It has been necessary for the purpose of brevity to reserve an account of the learned Works composed or published by Authors, European and Native, connected with the College, for an Appendix to this Discourse. For this reason, as well as because the works in which Lieutenant Lockett is engaged, are not completed, and will fall more correctly under future notice. I shall content myself at present with commending the judicious and enterprising path which Lieutenant Lockett has pursued in search of knowledge and improvement, and with welcoming his return, with honour, to a station suited to his liberal genius, and to a society, of which he has always been, and I trust, will long continue a distinguished Member.

For similar motives, I confine myself, in speaking of the learned productions of the year, to say, that they are highly creditable, in number and quality, to the period that claims them, and cannot fail of giving renown to the Authors, as well as contributing to the satisfaction and reputation of this learned body."



# APPENDIX.

List of Students who have been deemed qualified to enter on the Public Service since last Annual Examination, shewing the places held by them in the different Classes on quitting College.

	When left College.	
1.—Lieut. Young, ....	4th Term 1811,	First in Arabic, and First in Persian.
2.—J. Russell, .....	2d Term 1812,	First in Persian, and Second in Hindoostanee.
3.—P. M. Wynch, ....	.... Ditto, ....	First in Hindoostanee, and Second in Persian.
4.—C. Carter, .....	4th Term 1812,	First in Hindoostanee, and Fifth in Bengalee, at last Annual Examination.
5.—C. Morley, .....	2d Term 1812,	Second in Bengalee, and Fifth in Hindoostanee.
6.—J. Drew, .....	.... Ditto, ....	Third in Persian, and Fourth in Hindoostanee.
7.—R. Lewin, .....	3d Term 1811,	First in Bengalee, at last Annual Examination.
8.—J. P. Ward, .....	.... Ditto, ....	Seventh in Persian, at the last Examination.
9.—G. Richardson, ....	2d Term 1812,	Second in Hindoostanee, and Seventh in Bengalee, at last Annual Examination.
10.—C. J. Middleton, ..	3d Term 1811,	First in Bengalee, and Tenth in Hindoostanee.
11.—E. J. Smith, .....	2d Term 1812,	Second in Persian, and Ninth in Bengalee, at last Annual Examination.
12.—C. Macsween, ...	3d Term 1811,	Fifth in Persian, and Tenth in Hindoostanee, at last annual Examination.
13.—H. Swetenham, ....	2d Term 1812,	Sixth in Persian, and Seventh in Hindoostanee.
14.—R. Saunders, .....	3d Term 1811,	Fifth in Persian, and Twelfth in Hindoostanee, at last annual Examination.
15.—W. Petrie, ... ..	2d Term 1812,	Eighth in Hindoostanee, and Ninth in Bengalee.
16.—H. Middleton, ....	4th Term 1811,	Second in Persian, and Twenty-third in Hindoostanee, at last annual Examination.
17.—D. Scott, .....	3d Term 1811,	Sixth in Persian, and Twenty-second in Hindoostanee, at last annual Examination.
18.—J. S. Boldero, ....	.... Ditto, ....	Fourth in Persian, and Twenty-fourth in Hindoostanee, at last annual Examination.

## APPENDIX.

Catalogue of Literary Works, the publication of which has been encouraged by Government, at the recommendation of the Council of the College of Fort William, since the period of the Disputation held in 1811.

1. The Travels of Abutalib, in the original Persian. This Work (which is already known to the English Reader, of Hertford College,) contains a minute account of the Author's voyage to Europe in 1795; his Travels in England and Ireland; and his route through France and the Turkish and Persian dominions, on his return to India in 1803; with a description of the most remarkable places and things which attracted his notice; and remarks upon the manners and disposition of the inhabitants; written in a spirit of sincerity and candor, and calculated, notwithstanding many errors (such as were to be expected from a stranger, & an Asiatic) to convey to his countrymen, an advantageous notion of the European character. It may be useful also, to the Student of the Language, familiarizing him with terms applicable to the expression of European ideas in an Asiatic Tongue.

2. *Ikhwan-ool-Safa*; in the Original Arabic; a celebrated and well known Work; noticed upon the occasion of the publication of a Hindoostanee Version of it, in a former Discourse on the 15th September 1810. The Original is used in the College for a Class Book for beginners in the study of Arabic; a use to which it is considered to be particularly well adapted.

3. A Volume of Letters in the Arabic Language, prepared to be printed and published as a Formulary of Correspondence; by Sheekh Ahmed, a learned native of Arabia, who is attached to the Arabic Department of the College. Formularies of Persian Correspondence have been found useful and are numerous; and an Arabic work on a like plan may be expected to be of similar utility.

4. An Alphabetical Dictionary, Sanscrit and English, by Mr. H. H. Wilson, being a Translation of a Compilation by Raghunani Pandit, from the most celebrated Vocabularies of the Language; carefully collated by the Translator with the authorities cited; and corrected and enlarged by the addition of the Sanscrit roots and primitives, and by other natural improvements. An Alphabetical Dictionary of the Language has long been much wanted: hitherto no other progress had been made towards it, besides providing materials for the Work, which however may be now expected to be completed by the industry and perseverance of the gentleman who has undertaken it.

5. *Bara-masa, or Dustoor-ool Hind*, a poem in Hindoostanee; the composition of Mirza Kauzem Alee, of the Hindoostanee Department; descriptive of the manners and customs of the natives of India, and their various occupations during the different months in the year. Original Works in Hindoostanee are rare, and most of the publications, which have received encouragement, have been Translations from other Languages. Besides the merit of originality, and that of conveying in-

struction in the language, this Poem has the further advantage of communicating information concerning the peculiar habits of the people.

6. A Translation into Persian of the *Kitab-ool-Junayid* and *Kitab-ool-Hoodood*; or Chapters on Offences against the Person; and on specific Punishments; from the *Kutaw-ool-Atumgeeree*; with a Tract on the law of *Yazeer*, or discretionary Punishment; by Nujm-ood-deen, Head Causee. These treatises comprise the most important parts of the Mohammedan Criminal Law; and will be highly useful to those who are engaged in the study of the Law, as to those who are entrusted with the administration of it.

7. *Mitucharâ*, comprising the text of *Yagnavalkya*, and commentary of *Vijyanet swara*; a celebrated Work on Hindu Law, in the Original Sanscrit. So much of this Work as relates to Inheritance has been translated and recently published by Mr. Colebrooke.

8. The Institutes of Menu, with the gloss of Calluca, in the Original Sanscrit, edited by Baboo Ram Pandit. This is a work of the highest authority as a system of Hindoo Law, and is well known from the English Version of the late Sir William Jones.

This and the publication last noticed, will be of great use to the Students of the Sanskrit Language and of Hindu Law.

The following Works mentioned in the Discourse of the Acting Visitor at the Public Disputation of 1811, have been since completed.

- 1.—An Arabic Miscellany.
- 2.—The *Nojoom-ool-Foorkan*.
- 3.—The *Sekunder Numa*.
- 4.—The *Siddhanta Ganmudi*, a Sanskrit Grammar.
- 5.—The Poetical Works of Meer Turkee.
- 6.—An English and Hindoostanee Naval Dictionary.
- 7.—An Orya and English Vocabulary.
- 8.—The 1st Volume of the *Shah Namah*.

Rewards have been granted by the College Council for the following Manuscript Works by learned Natives, deposited in the College Library.

1. A Dictionary of the Telinga Language, by Woordra Pandit. It is the first Dictionary of that Language that has been prepared; and though not perfect, is considered calculated to be of great service to any person who shall undertake one on a larger scale.
2. *Kooliat i Tupish*; the Poetical Works of Mirza Jaun, a living poet.
3. An Hindoostanee Translation by Mohammed Alee, of the *Shamshêe Khaneh*; an abridgement of the *Shah Namah* in prose. The Translation is reported faithful, and the style pure; and is considered to be an excellent Class Book for the Students of the College.
4. A Translation into Hindoostanee of the *Tareekh Nadree*, by Meer Hyder Buksh. The original of this Work is well known;

the Translation adds to the small number of grave compositions in Prose in the Hindoostanee Language.

5. A Translation into Hindoostanee of the *Gur Gookhun*, by Bense Narain; a Work, recommended as well adapted for the use of beginners in that Language.

6. A Translation of the Hinduee Story Teller, into the Penjabee Language. The original is a well known Class Book, published by Dr. Gilchrist for the use of the College.

7. The Hindoostanee and Persian Inflections, by Dr. Gilchrist, translated into the Penjabee Language, by Dyapoozee Gosain.

By order of the Council of the College.

A. LOCKETT,  
Secretary College Council.

## BATAVIA.

By a friend at Banca, we have been informed of the following desperate attempt on the lives of two of the Officers stationed at Palembang, an imperfect account of which reached this place some time ago.

"A most daring attempt was made a short time ago to assassinate Lieutenants Pearson and Frankman, who are on duty at Palembang—these two Gentlemen were walking together in the middle of the day, and close to one of the guards, when a Malay very well dressed, walked up to Mr. Pearson, and immediately made a stab at his breast; fortunately for Mr. P. the point of the Kreese struck upon the key of his writing desk, which was suspended round his neck by a riband, and he fell back from the blow, when this desperate wretch made an attack on Mr. F.—the first blow he gave; that gentleman fell, and the assassin made four other stabs at him—at this time the guard came up, and immediately dispatched the Malay.—I am happy to say; however, that Mr. F. is perfectly recovered from his wounds."

## SOURABAYA DIVISION.

ARRIVAL.]—Nov. 29.—Brig. *Lingen*, E. Kapsenburg, from Panaroean.—Sundries.

DEPARTURES.]—H. C. brig *Fox*, H. Brown, for Amboyna.

Dec. 3.—Ship *Good Hope*, Napier, for Amboyna.—Rice, on account of Government.

Do. 5.—Brig *Good Hope*, C. Domingo, for Samanap.—Sundries.

## Asiatic Mirror, Sept. 16, 1812.

The Lady Castlereagh completes her cargo at Madras, and sails thence direct for Europe.

The Marquis Wellesley, Captain Le Blanc, left Madras for Bengal, on the 28th ultimo. She received a pilot in Balasore Roads on the 3th current; but from the weather that succeeded she did not reach Diamond Harbour till Sunday last. The Marquis Wellesley is in excellent order, and did not sustain the slightest damage from the late severe weather. It is thought expedient however, that she should go into dock, in order to have a part of her copper replaced. As she can be completely ready for sea in the course of a few weeks, it is supposed that the Wellesley will be added to the fleet expected to be dispatched hence direct for Europe, about the end of November or beginning of December.

Passengers, who have returned to Bengal, per Marquis Wellesley.

From Bencoolen.—Major Farby, Bengal Engineers, and Lieutenant Davis, 2d Native Infantry.

From Madras.—Lieutenant Paul, 5th Native Infantry.

We understand that the Honorable Company's extra ship *Tigris*, Captain Macdougall, has received orders to prepare for an immediate return to Europe; and it is expected that she will be dispatched for England, early in the ensuing month.

The Court of Ava we understand had sent orders to the provincial Government of Rangoon, to entreat Captain Canning to remain, and to embark on his proposed visit to the Court. These entreaties were accompanied with warm professions of friendship; and we may add, as far as present appearances can justify the conclusion, that the good understanding between the British Government and the Court of Ava is not likely to suffer the slightest interruption or abatement.

We are much concerned to hear that many serious accidents have occurred to the shipping in Balasore Roads, and the entrance of the River Hooghly, during the late tempestuous weather. The following account of disasters came to hand yesterday.

The Honorable Company's sloop of war *Malabar*, Captain Maxfield, having on board Captain Canning, British Envoy to the Court of Ava, sailed from Rangoon on the 16th ultimo, in company with the *Amboyna*, on their return for Calcutta. In the early part of the passage, they met calms and light winds, which continued till they approached Balasore

Roads, when they encountered the late heavy gale. Having received a pilot on board, on the 12th current, they came to anchor in the Roads, in the hope of riding out the gale; the top-masts were struck, the main yard lowered down; and as the gale continued to increase, the guns were thrown overboard, and every other measure adopted that could tend to relieve the ship, but notwithstanding all that could be done, such was the extreme violence of the gale, that she lost all her anchors, and drifted under the guidance of the winds and currents. In this situation little hope remained either of the safety of the ship or of the preservation of those on board.—During this trying time, the utmost order and regularity prevailed on board. Captain Maxfield, though exhausted by incessant exertion, continued constantly on deck, prepared to take advantage of any circumstance that might arise in their behalf; and the men, animated by the example of their Commander and Officers, were calm and undismayed, and gave a prompt and exact obedience to orders. In this way they remained till early on Sunday morning, when land was seen in the direction in which the ship was drifting; the land was soon ascertained to be Saugor Island, and the ship most providentially passing up between the Eastern Sea Reef and Saugor Sand, ran aground on Sunday afternoon, on the soft, muddy shore at Kedgeree, from which she will be floated off without further damage than what she has already sustained.

The Honorable Company's Ship *Amboyna*, in company with the *Malabar*, took her pilot on board the 12th current; and soon afterwards parted company;—serious apprehensions were excited for her fate, and of the people on board. By an account received yesterday afternoon, a dismasted ship which drove on shore on the South part of Saugor, supposed to be the *Amboyna*. If this supposition be realized, all the persons on board will we trust be saved.

Captain Maxfield of the *Malabar*, saw early in the gale, two large ships, one of which had lost all her masts; and the other had only her mizen mast standing.

A large ship was also seen from the *Malabar*, at anchor on the 12th current, between False Point and Point Palmiras. It is feared from the violence and direction of the gale on Sunday morning, that this ship has been driven on shore and lost.

The *Huzoon Shaw*, a large valuable Arab ship, outward bound, was driven on shore and wrecked at Saugor; all the crew, and a part of the cargo it is hoped may be saved.

A report was received yesterday afternoon from Saugor, stating that the Arab ship *Fatty Isram* was wrecked on the *Gaspar Sand*—a few only of her crew saved.

We seriously dread that the accounts yet to be received, will add various other losses to this melancholy catalogue.

The Honorable Company's Ship *Earl St. Vincent*, lying in Saugor Roads, bound to Madras, lost several anchors during the late storm; and as no anchors are procurable from a nearer point than Calcutta, she must wait several days till a supply can be received from hence.

The utmost exertions have been employed in the Master Attendant's Department, to afford prompt and efficient relief to the shipping that have suffered from the late gale. The Officers of the Honorable Company's Ships at Diamond Harbour, have been directed to afford every assistance to the *Malabar* sloop of war; at the same time the Officers and Men of the Honorable Company's Cruisers *Thetis* and *Vestal*, have been ordered to proceed to the *Malabar*. The *Shore*, buoy-vessel, has been dispatched with anchors and cables, and two anchors have been sent by the most expeditious conveyance to the *Earl St. Vincent*. The Active bark, the brig *Lion* and the lively cutter, have been ordered to Saugor, for general service;—added to which, the *Hastings*, *Hooghly*, *Udny*, and Guide pilot vessels, are aiding the ships at Saugor;—four other pilot vessels are on the cruising ground, and one only remains unemployed, namely the *Dundas*, at present lying off Calcutta, dismantled.

The *Friendship*, Captain Napier, sails to-day for the Mauritius and the Cape of Good Hope. Passengers per *Friendship*:—

To the MAURITIUS.—Claud Monckton, Esq. of the Civil Service.

To the CAPE.—Mrs. Bird, Shearman Bird, Esq. and Shearman Bird, junior, Esq.

GAZETTE DE L'ISLE MAURICE,  
MERCREDI, 10UR 5, 1812.

## GOVERNMENT ORDER.

His Excellency has been pleased to appoint a committee to consist of the following gentlemen to meet on the 5th of the ensuing month to take into consideration and to report to His Excellency the Governor the expediency of establishing a Bank in these colonies.

A Barry, Esquire, Chief Secretary; President.

T. Webster, Esq. Act. Fice-}

Treasurer, } Members.

Ch. Stokes, Esq. and

D. Power, Esq. and

Ch. Telfair, Esq. for Bourbon. }

Port Louis, Isle Mauritius, 23d July, 1812.

By order, F. ROSSI,  
Deputy Secretary to Government.

PRINTED BY A. H. HUBBARD,  
Molenvliet.