

For the period of two years, for 1832 and 1833, in which there has been a King's Regiment in Agra, the average proportion of deaths to strength per cent is,

Officers	
Men	1.91
Women	1.45
Children.....	8.92

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) W. R. BURKE,

Inspect. Gen. Hospitals H. Majesty's Forces in India.

ART. VIII.—*Observations on the Burmese and Munipoor Varnish Tree, "Melanorrhœa usitata," which has lately blossomed in the Honorable Company's Botanic Garden. By N. WALLICH, M.D.*

When I published my account of this tree in 1830,* I had only met with it in fruit, and was obliged to confine the description of the flower to what could be gathered from a few decayed and not very perfect samples in my possession. The generic character was chiefly derived from specimens of another species, *Melanorrhœa glabra*,† a native of the coast of Tenasserim. As I have recently had a tree of *M. usitata* in flower in this garden, I am able to furnish the following details, accompanied by a lithographic sketch of a flowering panicle, from a drawing made by one of the painters of the establishment.

The individual tree to which I allude is one among several which were raised from Munipoor seeds presented by Mr. George Swinton. The seeds were sown in July 1827, and began germinating exactly a fortnight afterward. About the same period some seeds that had been procured from Martaban, being more fresh, sprang up seven days after being put into the ground. The tree which has blossomed is the largest among the seventeen individuals which we at present possess. It measures in height about 22 feet, with a clean stem of seven feet, having a circumference near the base of 14 inches. It has not many branches, and is now very scantily furnished with leaves. It began opening its flowers on the 20th of January last, and continued nearly one whole month in flower. There are at present a small number of fruits on the tree, which I expect will ripen in the course of next month.

* *Plantæ Asiat. Rar.* 1. p. 9. tab. 11 and 12.

† *Ibid* 3. p. 50 ab. 283.



Melanorrhoea visitata Wall.



Wallich, N. 1840. "Art. VIII.—Observations on the Burmese and Munipoor Varnish Tree, "Melanorrhoea Usitata, " which has Lately Blossomed in the Honorable Company—s Botanic Garden." *The journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* 8(85), 70–71.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/123736>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/367058>

Holding Institution

Natural History Museum Library, London

Sponsored by

Natural History Museum Library, London

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.