

seems to me, contradicts such an origin; without being easily reconcilable thereto. The entire book might be worth translating, at some future period; for though the *Jaina* legendary history is as much beclouded with metaphor, and fiction, as the *Brahmanical*; yet, from a comparison of the two, facts may be selected which could not be received on the evidence of either one of the parties.

Prof. WILSON'S notice of this book (Des. Cat. vol. 1, p. 152) is as follows :

“ VI. CHATURVINSATI PURĀNA.

“ *Tamul Language and Character, Palm-leaves.*

“ An account of various sovereigns, peculiar to the legendary history of the *Jainas*, who flourished contemporaneously with the twenty-four *Jainas*, as *Vidyādhara*, *Mahābala*, *Vajrabāhu*, *Vajragarbha*, *Nābhi*, *Vrishabha*, *Bharata*, *Anukampana*, *Sripāla*, *Samudravijaya*, *Srishena*, &c. In three books, by VIRASOMA SURI.”

The statement of this book being in the Tamil language and character must have been an oversight of Prof. WILSON'S assistant. It is a *Prakrit* (or unpolished Sanskrit) work of the kind sometimes denominated (by natives of other provinces than the Tamil district), the Tamil *Grant'ha*; the term *grant'ha* not then denoting merely a *book*, but a *Prakrit* work, both in letters and language.

Conclusion.

In this report I have not included all the works that have been the subject of examination, collation and restoration during the brief period of two months, to which it refers; but only so many as would suffice to form a primary volume of restored documents; of which moreover, I could get the abstracts written over from my rough notes in sufficient time; and the preparation of an abstract, forms to me, not the least laborious part of the duty. Such MSS. as for the present lie over, I purpose to include within a following statement.

II.—On the Revolution of the Seasons. By the Rev. ROBERT EVEREST.

(Continued from vol. VI, p. 308.)

When my last paper upon this subject was in hand I was in hopes of receiving additional lists of the prices of corn from different parts of the country, which might enable me to trace the average line of variation throughout the last century with a considerable degree of regula-

city. In this I have been so far disappointed, that the lists received have been very few, and not above two of them extending more than 25 years back. That the data which they, together with those already in my possession, afforded, should be insufficient to give results regular, or nearly regular, was no more than experience with the most recent period (from 1835 to 1806) led me to believe. But there are some farther impediments to extending the investigation beyond 1806 which must be particularly noticed. 1st. Many of the lists do not extend beyond 1812; only 12 out of 30 reach to 1792, and only 5 to 1750. Each of these lists has a particular mean dependent upon local circumstances, and the cessation of it affects the general average. The only way to obviate this source of error, would be to reduce each list to a common mean, the labour of which would be very great. 2ndly. No registers of the prices of corn for this period have been kept with a view of ensuring accuracy; consequently the lists have been filled up from the best information that could be procured, such as the private memoranda of individuals, merchants, and others: of course the more distant the time the more scanty and uncertain those data would become, and we can hardly believe but that many of the results they furnish must be, in a degree, erroneous. 3rdly. Previous to the year 1806 great part of the country was still in its age of chivalry; at one time subject to the passage of numerous armies, sacking, plundering and devastating; at another to the forays of bands of knights-errant. Besides this, the different governments often took the corn dealer under their paternal care, and he was made to sell as the caprice of a tyrant, or the clamours of an unthinking people, obliged him.

All this being premised we have now to state what the actual result of an examination of the lists has been. The lists which formed the N. W. line in a previous paper were not increased in number, but separated into two divisions, according as the places from which they came were situated nearer, either to *Dehli*, or to *Lodiana*.—The average was taken of each division, and, as in the former case, the difference between the maximum and minimum from 1750 to 1835 was divided in 1000 parts. The *Benares* line remained the same as before.—The *Bengal* line was increased by a list from *Calcutta* taken from the 12th vol. of the *Asiatic Researches*. The last, or southern line (*Jubbulpore*, *Indore*, and *Bhopal*), was increased by the addition of a line from *Dundwala* in the *Panjáb*. The average of the five lines was then taken and the general line traced out in the manner described in the former paper. I have before mentioned the notion that a complete revolu-

tion took place in 56 years, or three cycles. In pursuance of this idea it was intended to described the first 56 years, beginning with 1835, and then to place in a line above them the next 56 years beginning with 1779—so that their parallelism, or the contrary, might be more easily detected. This has been done (see below) for the first 21 years of each period, viz. from 1835 to 1815 both inclusive, and from 1779 to 1759, both inclusive ; and it will, I think, hardly be denied that some degree of parallelism does exist between them. In the 35 last years of each period, from 1815 to 1780, and from 1759 to 1723 the irregularities were too great to allow their being placed in a similar manner.—But I have traced out the variations from 1815 to 1780 (see the thin continuous line in the plate from 1815 to 1780), and it will be observed that the principal maxima run thus, 1815, 1806, 1796, 1787.

Now we must consider that it is only by taking an average of different cycles that we can get rid of the effect of such disturbing causes as are only temporary—say, for instance, the inroad of an army, or the decrease of the population. The average therefore of the four cycles 1815 to 1796, 1796 to 1779, 1759 to 1741, and 1741 to 1723, was taken, and this average is represented by the dotted line from 1815 to 1796, and from 1796 to 1779. It appears to be nearly regular, and probably succeeding observations may enable us to make it more correct. The dotted line from 1815 to 1835 represents the average of the two periods, 1815 to 1835, and 1759 to 1779.

Since writing my last paper I have also received a list of corn prices from the *Cape of Good Hope* from 1835 to 1812, and another from *Bickanír* in the desert for the same period. These prices have been added to those of *Dundwala* in the *Panjáb* for the same years and from the average a line has been traced similar to that of fig. 2, Plate, (Journal, No. 64.)

This long and tedious investigation was entered into in the hope that certain useful results might be obtained, and the results that have been obtained do make it highly probable that there is a certain degree of regularity in the revolution of the seasons. If the number of rain-gauges in different parts of the country should be greatly increased, and the prices of corn accurately registered, may we not hope that something more definite may be established, even so far as to enable us to fix the variation which may be due to each particular locality. Nay more, if certain combinations of light, heat, and moisture be conditions essential to every kind of animal and vegetable existence, may we not conjecture that other productions than corn are affected by peculiar

seasons, and that we only need numerous, and long-continued observations, to know when those peculiarities are likely to recur ?

P. S. Arguing from what has been to what will be, we might join the two dotted lines in the plate for a conjectural line, the first year of which would be 1836. It would, however, first be necessary to correct the latter part. The two lines of which it is composed 1775, 1779, and 1831, 1835, are both erroneous, as indications of the seasons ; the first in a considerable degree, the latter less so. To illustrate this I have added the line of the Calcutta rain-guage, 1823, 1835, which may be compared with the lines in the plate, Journal, No. 64, and I have other data, which I will arrange and bring forward at a future opportunity.

TABLE I.

Average price of Corn in Northern India, during 4 Lunar Cycles.

Year.																			
1815	448	362	340	361	364	354	298	253	360	365	355	278	428	455	429	459			
Year, 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	ys.
1815	448	362	340	361	364	354	298	253	360	365	355	278	428	455	429	459	496	614	591
1796	764	639	529	449	409	404	424	423	445	485	427	230	193	300	233	221	311	345	..
1758	326	366	408	360	318	387	259	385	435	326	280	265	273	175	139	137	163	200	..
1740	194	161	170	232	210	216	201	224	226	208	179	205	154	174	235	214	216
Ga. } Av. } for } 1Cy. }		432	382	362	350	325	340	345	321	366	346	310	244	262	276	259	258	296	386

N. B. These numbers were taken from the average of the five principal lines mentioned in the paper, the whole variation in each case having been previously divided into 1000 parts.

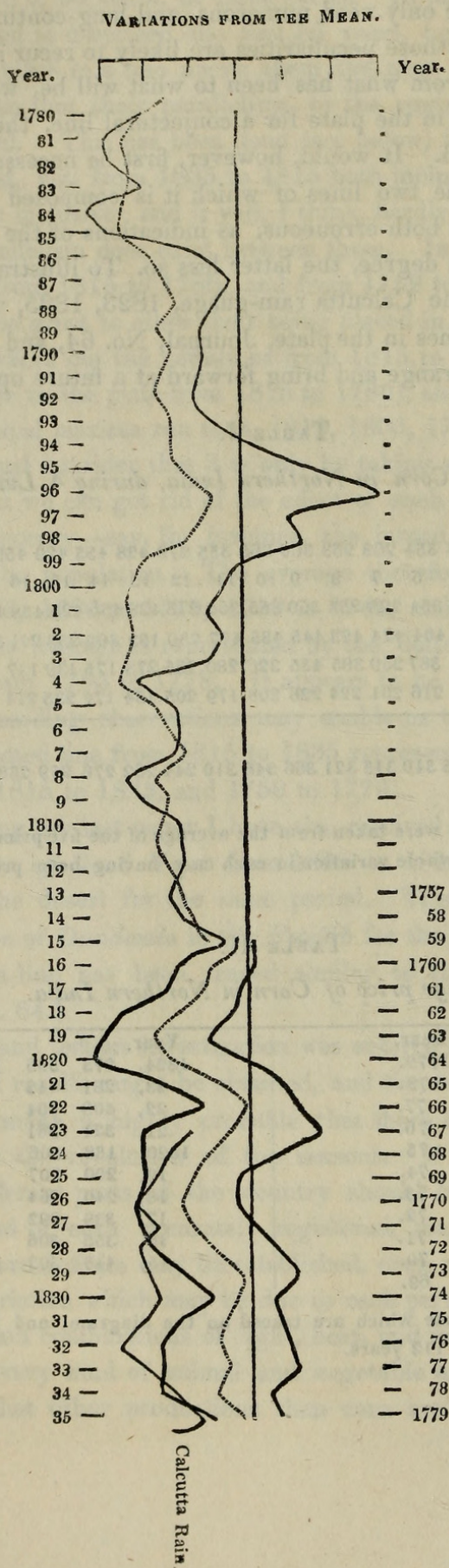
TABLE II.

Average price of Corn in Northern India.

Year.			Year.			Year.			Year.		
1835,	404	345	1779.			1824,	273	356	1768.		
34,	306	334	78.			23,	281	442	67.		
33,	312	397	77.			22,	409	404	66.		
32,	312	382	76.			21,	321	361	65.		
31,	341	358	75.			1820,	188	306	64.		
1830,	413	340	74.			19,	200	207	63.		
29,	359	395	73.			18,	240	264	62.		
28,	309	340	72.			17,	339	292	61.		
27,	267	306	71.			16,	355	306	60.		
26,	259	267	70.			15,	448	303	1759.		
25,	285	275	69.								

These two lines are those which are traced on the diagram, and together make up a period of 6 cycles or 112 years.

Diagram of the Variations in the price of grain, from 1757 to 1835, and of the Rain at Calcutta, from 1823 to 1835.



The thin continuous line represents the variations in the price of corn, from 1780 to 1815.
The dotted line represents the average variation of four lunar cycles, viz. from 1815 to 1780, and from 1759 to 1723.

The upper thick continuous line represents the variations in the price of corn, 1815 to 1835.
The low thick continuous line represents the variations in the price of corn, from 1759 to 1779.
The dotted line represents the average between them.
The thin continuous line represents the variations in the amount of rain at Calcutta.



Everest, Robert. 1838. "II.—On the Revolution of the Seasons." *The journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* 7(75), 192–196.

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