

himself from the increase of the trade, were pointed out in a favorable manner. All the merchants of Lus are of opinion, that the commerce would be considerably enlarged if security were afforded to the trader, and of this there can be little doubt, for cloth and other articles of European manufacture are in great request throughout Beloochistan, and the supply is not at present adequate to the demand.

Formerly the commerce of Lus was much more valuable than it is at present, and a large portion was sent by the Kelat route to the northern provinces of Hindoostan; within the last forty years it has from various causes gradually declined. In 1808 Soonmemy was taken, and plundered by the Joasmy pirates, and for some years the merchants were afraid to send goods there; the port was just beginning to recover from this blow, when the Ameers of Sinde issued strict orders to the merchants of Kurachee to discontinue their practice of importing goods to any of the ports of Lus under the severest penalties, and this measure, which at once took away half the trade of the place, completed what the pirates had begun. In the meantime the trade with the northern provinces had ceased entirely, for they had become so unsettled that the Patan merchants, who are the great carriers in that part of the world, ceased to come to Kelat for goods, and as they afterwards found the route from Upper Sinde much the safest, they resorted to it in preference, and have since obtained the small supply of goods they require from the merchants of that kingdom. Before the trade of Lus had suffered from the causes above mentioned, its value is said to have been five times greater than it is at present, and it was also much more lucrative to the merchant, for at that period goods of European manufacture sold for double the price that is now obtained for them.

T. G. CARLOSS,

1st February, 1838.

Lieutenant, Indian Navy.

ART. III.—*On three new species of Musk (Moschus) inhabiting the Hemalayan districts.*

To the Editor of the Journal, Asiatic Society.

SIR,—Several years ago I called the attention of Dr. Abel to some remarkable, and apparently permanent distinctions of colour characterising the Musks, or Musk Deer of the Cis- and Trans-Hemalayan regions. These I subsequently inserted in my amended catalogue of *Mammalia*, under the specific names of *Leucogaster*, *Chrysogaster*, and *Saturatus*, but without giving specific characters, owing to my conti-

nued inability to establish the species upon a more solid basis than that of distinction of colour. The partial investigations which I have been enabled to make, strongly favour, however, the supposition that the superficial diagnostics are supported by others of more importance in the form of the crania, and in the structure and position of the musk pod. And, though I am still unable distinctly to expound these latter differences, I think it may stimulate curiosity to indicate summarily the three presumed species as marked by their diversities of colour, in the hope that attention may be thence drawn to the structural peculiarities which I believe to exist in the skulls, and in the musk bags.

1st. Species, *Moschus chrysogaster*, nobis. Bright sepia brown sprinkled with golden red ; orbital region, lining, and base of ears, whole body below, and insides of the limbs, rich golden red or orange ; a black-brown patch on the buttocks posteally ; limbs below their central flexures fulvescent.

2nd. Species, *Leucogaster*, nobis. Body above, and the limbs deeper brown sprinkled with fulvous : below the head, neck, and belly, together with the insides of the ears, and the orbits, hoary white.

3rd. Species, *Saturatus*, nobis. Throughout saturate dusky brown, somewhat paler below : chin only, and lining of the ears pale and hoary.

Drawings of the above animals were transmitted to London, through the Society, in May 1836.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

B. H. HODGSON.

Nepal, April 15, 1839.

ART. IV.—On *Isinglass* in *Polynemus sele*, Buch., a species which is very common in the Estuaries of the Ganges. By J. McCLELLAND, Assistant Surgeon.

There are nine species of *Polynemi*, or Paradise fishes, enumerated by authors, and although they are all pretty well described, I am not aware of any more valuable property being known regarding them than their excellence as an article of food, of which we have a familiar instance at this season in the *Pol. paradiseus*, or Mango-fish, *Tupsi Muchi* of the Bengalese.

Buchanan has five species in his work on Gangetic Fishes, but three of these are small, and probably varieties only of the *Tupsi* ; two of them however, are of great size, and so common in the estuary of the Hoogly that I have seen numerous hackeries, or bullock carts, conveying them to the Calcutta bazar, during the cold season. They are not



Secretaries, The Acting. 1840. "Art. III.—on Three New Species of Musk (Moschus) Inhabiting the Hemalayan Districts." *The journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* 8(87), 202–203.

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