

**DAYS IN THE
EAST: A POEM**

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Days in the East: A Poem by James Henry Burke

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JAMES HENRY BURKE

**DAYS IN THE
EAST: A POEM**

DAYS IN THE EAST.

A Poem.

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OF MARBLE HILL:

LIEUTENANT BOMBAY ENGINEERS; MEMBER OF THE
BOMBAY BRANCH ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

LONDON:

SMITH, ELDER AND CO., CORNHILL.

1842.

ANS 2483

PREFACE.

IN the following Cantos is attempted to be portrayed the departure from home, voyage to India, and subsequent career, of an officer in the East India Company's army. As far as India is concerned, the scene is laid in one or two, only, of its Western Provinces. The whole has been thrown into a style much resembling personal narrative, such an arrangement having been found convenient, if not indispensable; and was almost entirely composed upon the homeward voyage of the author from that peninsula. Ill health, contracted when actively employed in the jungles of that country, was the cause of his returning. Should this specimen please, he may perhaps be induced to continue and conclude the sub-

PREFACE.

ject, in as condensed a manner as possible: should it not, too much has been already written.

Anxious for much indulgence, as sensible of many imperfections, these stanzas are submitted to the ordeal of, I trust, a "gentle public."

J. H. B.

July 2, 1842.

DAYS IN THE EAST.

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CANTO I.  
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CANTO I.

I.

THERE is an isle by Nature blest,
There is an isle by Nature deemed
As she is fertile to be free ;
Washed by the dark Atlantic wave—
Alike that wave she shares not rest,
But seems the same eternally ;
On her all glorious has beamed
Enough of talent worlds to save,
Yet is she still in misery.

II.

Such is the land from whence my lone one sprung,
For he was born there, and he owned her sire,
From childhood had he with deep rapture hung
Upon the thrilling numbers of her lyre ;