

of a lady well known on this Continent—Miss Sedgwick. The publishers, on the part of the lady, have disclaimed it. We have had an opportunity of glancing over the contents of the book, and feel pleasure in stating that it is one which, to the young, whose minds and intellects are not yet fully expanded, a perusal of it may or must be highly useful.

CABOOL; BEING A PERSONAL NARRATIVE OF A JOURNEY TO, AND RESIDENCE IN THAT CITY, IN THE YEARS 1836, '37 AND '38—BY LIEUT. COL. SIR ALEXANDER BURNES.

THE untimely fate of the gifted author of this volume has given to it an interest, melancholy though it be, much deeper and far more general than it would otherwise have possessed. This interest has been heightened by the tragic events and terrible incidents of which the Afghan country has since been the theatre. It is also curious and instructive, as showing how unexpectedly the blow must have fallen, which brought the voice of weeping to so many homes, and aroused the burning indignation of a mighty people, and a powerful Empire.

In looking over the volume, the reader cannot fail to note the buoyant spirit of the author, and the pleasant fancies which had their birth-place in his mind. Neither can he avoid contrasting them with the character of the elements in which he moved, and the rancorous feelings which must have reigned paramount among the people by whom he was surrounded, during the years spent in the peaceful pursuits of the objects of his mission. Sir Alexander was sent to Cabool in 1836, as the chief of an embassy, which, in addition, to its political duties, was expected to make a full and general enquiry into the character of the people, and the condition of the remote country into which they were instructed to penetrate. No better choice could have been made, than that which fell on Sir Alexander, who, from habit and education, was thoroughly qualified to perform either of the duties which had been assigned to him. Lieutenant Wood, one of his companions, surveyed the Indus, and followed the Oxus to its source, and published a separate account of that interesting journey. Being confined to one location, Sir Alexander could not follow the bent of his inclinations, and personally examine into the antiquities, peculiarities, and curiosities of the country; but he rested not in his determination to acquire every kind of information which was calculated either to be of use to the Government, or of interest to the people of his native land. Unfortunately, his life was destroyed at the very hour when his services were most necessary; and the shedding of his blood was but the prelude to the still more terrible tragedy which followed.

Coming so soon after the stunning intelligence, the book has naturally created a deeper sensation than was to be expected from its contents, which are not of an exciting nature, being confined to the depicting of domestic scenes and personal incidents, interspersed with pictures of oriental manners, which are painted with ease and grace, and brought before the eye with a life-like vividness, which only the pencil of the master can produce.

This is the second work of which Sir Alexander was the author. The first, entitled "Travels into Bokhara," was a much more laboured production than this appears to be. It treated, to a considerable extent, of the same country, which Sir Alexander had formerly visited. It was, however, a work upon which the author had expended much time and a vast quantity of labour, with a view of conveying generally to the public mind the stores of information of which he had become possessed through much privation and no little toil. The present work affords a contrast to the former one, being, as we have before remarked, altogether of a lighter and more amusing character, though by no means devoid of valuable and solid information for those who take an interest in our Eastern Empire.

WE have been favoured with a Journal kept during a march in India, by an Officer in the service of Her Majesty, which we shall have much pleasure in laying before the readers of the *Garland*, in our next number. Every thing connected with our Eastern Empire has acquired a new interest from the melancholy events which have recently taken place in that country, and though it does not refer to these occurrences, we are satisfied that the Journal from the interesting route which its author followed, and the graphic descriptions of scenery it contains, will be extremely well received. The author is a young Officer intimately connected with one whose contributions have at all times formed one of the chief attractions of the *Garland*, by whom we have been furnished with a copy for publication.