

The moment she entered, the door was closed; the fire was put to the combustibles, which instantly flamed, and immense quantities of dried wood and other matters were thrown upon it. This last part of the ceremony was accompanied with the shouts of the multitude, who now became numerous, and the whole seemed a mass of confused rejoicing. For my part I felt myself actuated by very different sentiments: the event that I had been witness to, was such, that the minutest circumstances attending it could not be erased from my memory; and when the melancholy which had overwhelmed me had somewhat abated, I made a drawing of the subject, and from a picture since painted the annexed plate was engraved.

In other parts of India, as the Carnatic, this dreadful custom is accompanied in the execution of it with still greater horror. It is asserted that they dig a pit, in which is deposited a large quantity of combustible matter which is set on fire, and the body being let down, the victim throws herself into the flaming