

A Journey to the Source of the River Oxus,

BY THE INDUS, KABUL, AND BADAKHSHAN.

By CAPT. JOHN WOOD,

Indian Navy.

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"Having already more than once had occasion to refer to Captain Wood, we will briefly state that he accompanied Alexander Burnes in his mission to Cabool, and afterwards performed one of the most remarkable journeys ever undertaken in Central Asia. He made a survey of the Indus, from its mouth to Attock. At Kalabagh, the point where the Indus escapes from the Salt Range, he found it impossible to stem the current. Undaunted by the difficulty, he landed and went by forced marches to Attock; thence, descending the river, he completed his survey amidst the falls and rapids. After reaching Cabool, he crossed the mountains to Khunduz, and was eventually the first European, after Marco Polo and Benedict Goës, who ever reached the Bam-i-dunya, or Roof of the World. Thus in 1838 Wood discovered the source of the Oxus, on the margin of the Pamir Steppe, and for this splendid achievement he was rewarded with the Patron's gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society. Captain Wood's narrative presents the most brilliant confirmation in detail of Marco Polo's descriptions."—*Quarterly Review*.

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