

Narrative of discovery and adventure in Africa, from the earliest ages to the present time ; with illustrations of the geology, mineralogy, and

zoology

Robert Jameson



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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1831 Excerpt: ...Bello proceeded to steps unworthy of a prince and a man of honour. He demanded a sight of the letter which Clapperton was conveying to the king of Bomou; and when this was of course refused, he seized it by violence. Lander was induced by false pretences to bring the baggage from Kano to Sackatoo, when forcible possession was taken of the six muskets. The Captain loudly exclaimed against these proceedings, declaring them to amount to the basest robbery, to a breach of all faith, and to be the worst actions of which any man could be guilty. This was rather strong language to be used to a sovereign, especially to one who could at any moment have cut off his head; and the minister even dropped hints as if matters might come to that issue, though, in point of fact, the government did not proceed to any personal violence. But, from other causes, the career of this spirited and hitherto successful traveller was now drawing to a close. The strong constitution of Clapperton had till this period enabled him to resist all the baneful influences of an African climate. He had recovered, though perhaps not completely, from the effects of the rash exposure which had proved fatal to his two companions; but he had, when overcome with heat and fatigue, in hunting at Magaria, lain down on a damp spot in the open air, and was soon after seized with dysentery, which continued to assume more alarming symptoms. Indeed, after the seizure of the letter to the sultan of Borhou, he was never seen to smile, and in his sleep was heard addressing loud reproaches to the Arabs. Unable to rise from bed, and deserted by all his African friends, who saw him no longer a favourite at court, he was watched with tender care by his faithful servant Richard Lander, who devoted his whole time to a ...

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