emperors, and sown there. The groves and fashion of the ground, as well as the fruit-trees, and a large stone wall about them, indicate the place to have been once a garden, and it is called to this time *Bejum-ke Baug*, or the *Queen's Garden*.

On my arrival at Patna, on the 2d of January 1778, I luckily met with a gentleman named Kerr, celebrated for his skill in botanical researches, who told me that the above-mentioned tree was of the species classed in the Linnæan system under the name of *Adansonia*, a description of which is to be found in the sixth edition of his *Genera Plantarum*, printed at Stockholm 1764, p. 352.

V. *Account of a Banian Tree in the Province of Babar.*
By Colonel IRONSIDE*.

NEAR *Manjee*, a small town at the confluence of the *Devab* (or *Gogra*) and the *Ganges*, about twenty miles west of the city of Patna, there is a remarkably large tree, called a *bur* or *banian tree*, which has the quality of extending its branches, in a horizontal direction, to a considerable distance from its stem; and of then dropping leafless fibres, or scions, to the ground, which there catch hold of the earth, take root, embody, grow thick, and serve either to support the protracted branches, or, by a farther vegetation, to compose a second trunk. From these branches other arms again spring out, fall down, enter the ground, grow up again, and constitute a third stem, and so on. From the opposite pretty high bank of the *Ganges*, and at the distance of near eight miles, we perceived this tree of a pyramidical shape, with an easy spreading slope from its summit to the extremity of its lower branches, and mistook it at first for a small hill: we had no quadrant to measure its height; but the middle or principal stem is considerably higher, I think, than the highest elm, or other tree, I ever saw in England. The fol-

* From the *Oriental Collections*, Vol. I.

lowing comprife some other of its dimenfions, which were taken with a cord of a given length :—

	Yards.	Feet.
Diameter of the branches from north to fouth	121, or	363
Diameter of ditto from eaft to weft	- 125, or	375
Circumference of the fhadow of the extreme branches, taken at the meridian	- 372, or	1116
Circumference of the feveral bodies or ftems, taken by carrying the cord round the outermoft trunks	- - - 307, or	921

The feveral trunks may amount to fifty or fixty.

N. B. The dropping fibres fhoot down from the knots or joints of the boughs.

This tree, as well as the *peepel*, and many other large trees in India, is a creeper. It is often feen to fpring round other trees, particularly round every fpecies of the palm. The date, or palmyra, growing through the centre of a banian tree, looks extremely grand; and yet none of the European landscape painters, who have delineated views of this country, have introduced this characteriftic object into their pieces. I have frequently obferved it alfo fhooting from old walls, and running along them. In the infide of a large brick-wall it lined the whole circumference of the internal fpace of it, and thus actually became a tree turned infide out.

Under the tree fat a *fakir*, or devotee. He had been there twenty-five years; but he did not continue under the tree throughout the year, his vow obliging him to lie, during the four coldeft months, up to his neck in the Ganges; and to fit, during the four hotteft months, clofe to a large fire.