ture. The Sooloos, from the great number of the Chinese that are among them, have learned from them the art of gardening ; and they ingraft and improve their fruits.

Wild elephants are to be found in the woods ; which is a remarkable circumstance, considering that the island is small and populous. Spotted deer, goats, and black cattle, are also abundant. Wild hogs abound, and do much mischief ; but the natives have few sheep. They have, how ever, a good breed of horses, which are trained to trot, but not to gallop. After harvest the inhabitants hunt both the elephants and the wild hogs, with a view to destroy them.

The island of Sooloo was formerly the centre of an extensive trade, and was frequented by ships from Japan, which imported silver, amber, silks, chests, cabinets, and other curiosities made of fragrant woods, besides great quantities of silks and porcelain from China. It was also visited by vessels from Java, Sumatra, Ceylon, and the coast of Coromandel, with valuable cargoes. This trade has greatly declined. The intercourse with China is now confined to two junks, which arrive annually from Amoy with cargoes of brass salvers, iron, sugarcandy, raw silk, black nankeen, white linen of a strong fabric, china ware, flowered silks, besides tea, cutlery and other hard ware, brass wire, gongs, beads of all colours, little swan-shot, fireworks, &c. In return they export to China biche de mer, black and white wax, pearl-oyster shells, bird-nests, and tortoiseshell ; also a seaweed used as gum or glue, and other articles, such as Carooang oil, clovebark, black wood, ratans, sago, various barks for dyeing, cassia, pepper, native camphire, sandalwood, curious shells for grottoes, pearls, and spices. These islands are also occasionally visited by country ships, which import articles of European manufacture, such as brasiery, cutlery, cloth, gunpowder, firearms, manufactures in glass, iron, opium, piece-goods, saltpetre, shot, swords, tin ware, watches, sugar, tobacco, &c. From Borneo are imported sago, biche de mer, cowries, and tortoiseshell. Rice is imported from Magindanao, and is paid for with Chinese goods. Cotton manufactures from Celebes complete the list of imports. There is a famous pearl-fishery at Sooloo and the neighbouring islands.

These islands are governed by a hereditary prince or sultan, whose power is, however, counterbalanced by the nobles. The Sooloos seldom venture from home in their own vessels, except for the purpose of predatory excursions to make slaves among the Philippine Islands. They are warlike in their habits, though they depend less on firearms than on the lance, sword, and dagger, in the use of which they are very dexterous. The inhabitants have reached a higher stage of civilization than is generally attained in the Asiatic islands. The women are not strictly confined, as in many Mahommedan countries. In their houses are domesticated many Philippine and some Spanish slaves, who are purchased from the Illanos and Magindanese cruisers. Not withstanding their boasted civilization, murder is a crime extremely common among them, and occurs on the least provocation. In 1800 they treacherously assassinated the captain of a country ship, and his boat’s crew ; and afterwards made an attack on the ship, but were repulsed.

Of the early history of these islanders little is known. They assert, that they once formed a part of an ancient Bornean empire, founded by the Chinese. But the Magindanese assert that they were formerly subject to them. From the period when the Spaniards obtained possession of the Philippines, they have been engaged in a constant warfare with the Sooloos, but with little advantage to them selves, being always repelled in their attempts to obtain possession of these islands.

SOONDA, a town and district of Hindustan, in the pro vince of North Canara. The district, which is small, is situated between the 14th and 15th degrees of north lati tude, above the Western Ghauts. Formerly the country

was well cultivated, and produced fine timber and pepper, betel nut, cardamoms, and plantains. Towards the eastern division of the country, the great object of agriculture is rice. Having been the seat of war between Hyder and the Mahrattas, it was greatly wasted by the former in 1763, and its rajah compelled to fly for protection to Goa ; on which occasion he surrendered the whole of his territory below the Ghauts for a stipulated pension. In 1799 the Soonda district became the property of the British, with whom it remains. The capital, of the same name, was formerly an extensive and populous town, and was defended by strong fortifications, which were levelled by Hyder, who also nearly destroyed the town. Long. 74. 58. E. Lat. 14. 34. N.

SOONDIA, a town of Hindustan, in the province of Sinde, situated on the Indus, on the route from Tatta to Hyderabad. Lat. 24. 58. N.

SOONEL, a town of Hindustan, in the province of Mal wah, belonging to the Mahrattas, 60 miles south by east from Kotah. It is regularly built, with streets at right angles, and is of considerable extent. Long. 76. 5. E. Lat. 24. 21. N.

SOONERGONG, or Sunergong, a town of Bengal, situated on one of the branches of the Brahmapootra. It was once a large city, the provincial capital of the eastern division of Bengal, and famous for its manufactures of mus lin and other fine cottons. It is now reduced to a mere village, principally inhabited by weavers, and the city of Dacca has risen on its downfall. Long. 90. 43. E. Lat. 23. 39. N.

SOONGUR, a town of Hindustan, in the province of Gujerat, 39 miles east by south from Surat. Long. 73. 38. E. Lat. 21. 8. N.

SOONPUT, a small town of Hindustan, in the province of Delhi. To the north is a handsome mausoleum of Khizer Khan, an Afghan nobleman of the family of Shere Shah. The adjacent country was greatly benefited by the canal dug by AIy Merdan Khan. Orders have been given by the British government to repair the canal, which will aid the country to recover from the desolate state in which it has been for some years past. Long. 76. 53. E. Lat. 29. N.

SOONTABURDAR, in the East Indies, an attendant, who carries a silver bludgeon in his hand, about two or three feet long, and runs before the palanquin. He is inferior to the chubdar ; the propriety of an Indian newaury requiring two soontaburdars for every chubdar in the train. The chubdar proclaims the approach of visitors, &c. He generally carries a large silver staff about five feet long in his hands ; and among the nabobs he proclaims their praises aloud as he runs before their palanquins.

SOOPOOR, a town of Hindustan, in the Rajpoot territories, province of Ajmeer. It is the capital of a small principality, and is 65 miles northeast from Kotah. Long. 76. 45. E. Lat. 25. 43. N.

SOOROOTOO Isle, a small island in the Eastern Seas, situated off the western coast of Borneo, and separated from the island of Carimatia by a narrow strait, through which a ship might run if compelled by necessity. Long. 108. 40. E. Lat. 1.45. S.

SOOROPOOR, a town of Hindustan, in the province of Bejapoor, situated on the Krishna river, nearly 130 miles southwest from Hyderabad. Long. 77. E. Lat. 16.15. N.

SOORY, a town of Bengal, district of Birbhoom, 50 miles southwest from M∞rshedabad. Long. 87. 32. E. Let. 23. 54. N.

SOOSNEER, a considerable town of Hindustan, in the province of Malwah, 57 miles north-north-east from Oojain. Long. 76. 10. E. Lat. 23. 55. N.

SOOSOQ, a small town on the west coast of Sumatra, where pepper is sometimes exchanged for gold dust. Long. 97. 10. E. Lat. 3. 45. N.

SOOSOOHOONAN, a district in the island of Java, on the south coast, formerly extending to the north coast, and