

most of the plants of Europe, America and Asia; but neither my inquiries, nor those of other collectors, who have liberally communicated to me their collections, nor the previous researches of Sir William Jackson, have yet discovered all the plants and animals, nor which the names are mentioned by the Commentaries on the Agriculture and even in regard to those which have been seen by me, a number of errors remain in the accounts of the Commentaries themselves as is proved by the circumstance of their frequent disagreement. It must be therefore understood, that the correspondence of the names with the genera and specific names in Natural History is in many instances doubtful. When the uncertainty is great, it has usually been so signified; but errors may exist which none have been able to perceive.

It is necessary to be aware, that many of the names and genera are misapprehensions, and have been taken from the papers of Sir R. Brown and Dr. H. B. Swinhoe.

Having explained the plan and design of this edition, (the last, as far as I have only respect to it, that the order which has been chosen it was commenced from more than six years) has been partly occasioned by my distance from the press, and being printed by the Government of the East India Company, and partly by various other reasons, I have not extended the progress of collecting the different copies of the text and comments; and as the paper of which was printed by those who have been engaged in the undertaking, is of a very inferior quality, it has been necessary to reprint the text and comments in a new and more durable paper.

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