

monuments of European Botany and Zoology; but neither my inquiries, nor those of other collectors, who have liberally communicated the fruits of their collection, nor the previous researches of Sir William J. Fox, have yet discovered all the plants and animals, for which the names are mentioned by the Commentaries on the *Antiquities* and even in regard to those which have been seen by us, a serious error remains in the nomenclature of the Commentaries themselves as is proved by the circumstance of their frequent disagreement. It must be therefore understood that the correspondence of the generic names with the generic and specific names in Natural History is to many instances doubtful. When the uncertainty is great, it has usually been expressed; but errors may exist where none have been previously

It is necessary to state to the reader that many of the plants and animals mentioned (especially birds) have not been described in any work yet published. Of such the names have been taken from the manuscripts of Mr. Roxburgh and Dr. L.

Having explained the plan and design of this edition of the *Antiquities*, I have only further to state, that the delay which has taken place since it was commenced (more than six years) has been partly occasioned by my distance from the press (the work being printed by Mr. Carey at Serampore) and partly by avocations which have retarded the progress of collating the different copies of the text and comparing them: as also the labour of which may be judged by those who have been engaged in similar undertakings.

• The Manuscripts, E. Roxburgh and W. Hunter, and Mr. William Carey.

Calcutta, December, 1807.

H. T. COLLEBROOK.