

A PEEP
INTO TOORKISTHAN.

BY
CAPTAIN ROLLO BURSLEM,
THIRTEENTH PRINCE ALBERT'S LIGHT INFANTRY.

LONDON:
PELHAM RICHARDSON, 23, CORNHILL.

1846.

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PELHAM RICHARDSON, PRINTER, 23, CORNHILL.

TO THE
RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF CARNARVON,
HIGHCLERE CASTLE.

MY LORD,

HAVING received your Lordship's permission to dedicate to you this my first essay as an Author, I beg to tender my best acknowledgements for the honour, and for the interest you have so kindly expressed in the success of the following pages. Under such favourable auspices a successful result may be confidently anticipated by

Your Lordship's

Obliged and obedient servant,

ROLLO BURSLEM.

HAREWOOD LODGE,
HAMPSHIRE.

TO THE READER.

THE following pages are literally what they profess to be, a record of a few weeks snatched from a soldier's life in Affghanistān, and spent in travels through a region which few Europeans have ever visited before. The notes from which it is compiled were written on the desert mountains of Central Asia, with very little opportunity, as will be easily supposed, for study or polish. Under these circumstances, it can hardly be necessary to deprecate the criticism of the reader. Composition is not one of the acquirements usually expected of a soldier. What is looked for in his narrative is not elegance, but plainness. He sees more than other people, but he studies less, and the strangeness of his story must make up for the want of ornament. I can