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AN
HISTORICAL
DISQUISITION

CONCERNING
The Knowledge which the *Ancients* had of
INDIA;

AND THE
PROGRESS of TRADE with that COUNTRY
prior to the Discovery of the Passage to it by the
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

With an APPENDIX,
CONTAINING
Observations on the Civil Policy—the Laws and Judicial Proceedings—
the Arts—the Sciences—and Religious Institutions,
of the *INDIANS*.

By WILLIAM ROBERTSON, D.D. F.R.S. Ed.
PRINCIPAL OF THE UNIVERSITY, AND HISTORIOGRAPHER
TO HIS MAJESTY FOR SCOTLAND.

L O N D O N:
PRINTED FOR A. STRAHAN, AND T. CADELL IN THE STRAND;
AND E. BALFOUR AT EDINBURGH.
M DCC XCI.

CHARLES CAMERON

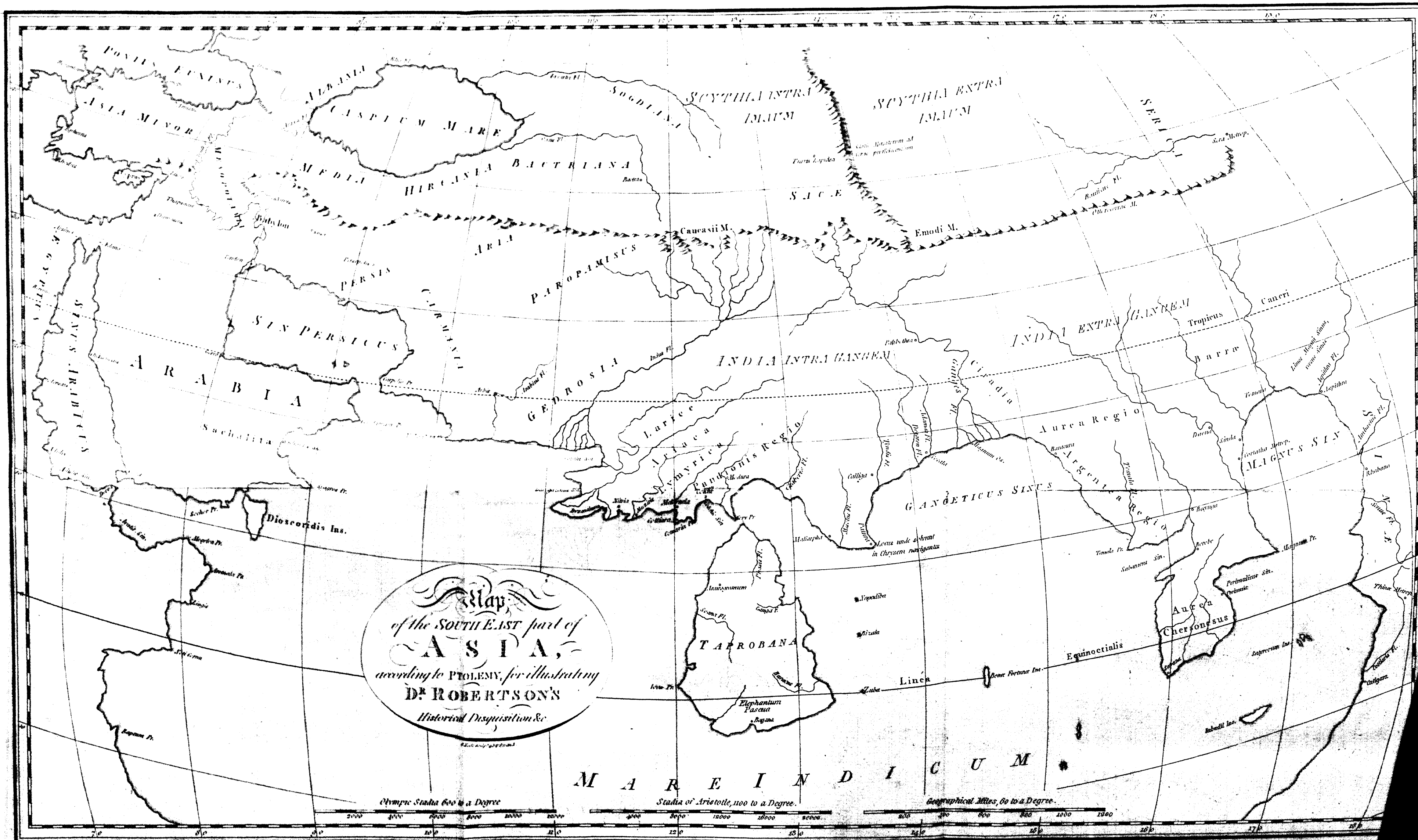
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A N

HISTORICAL DISQUISITION

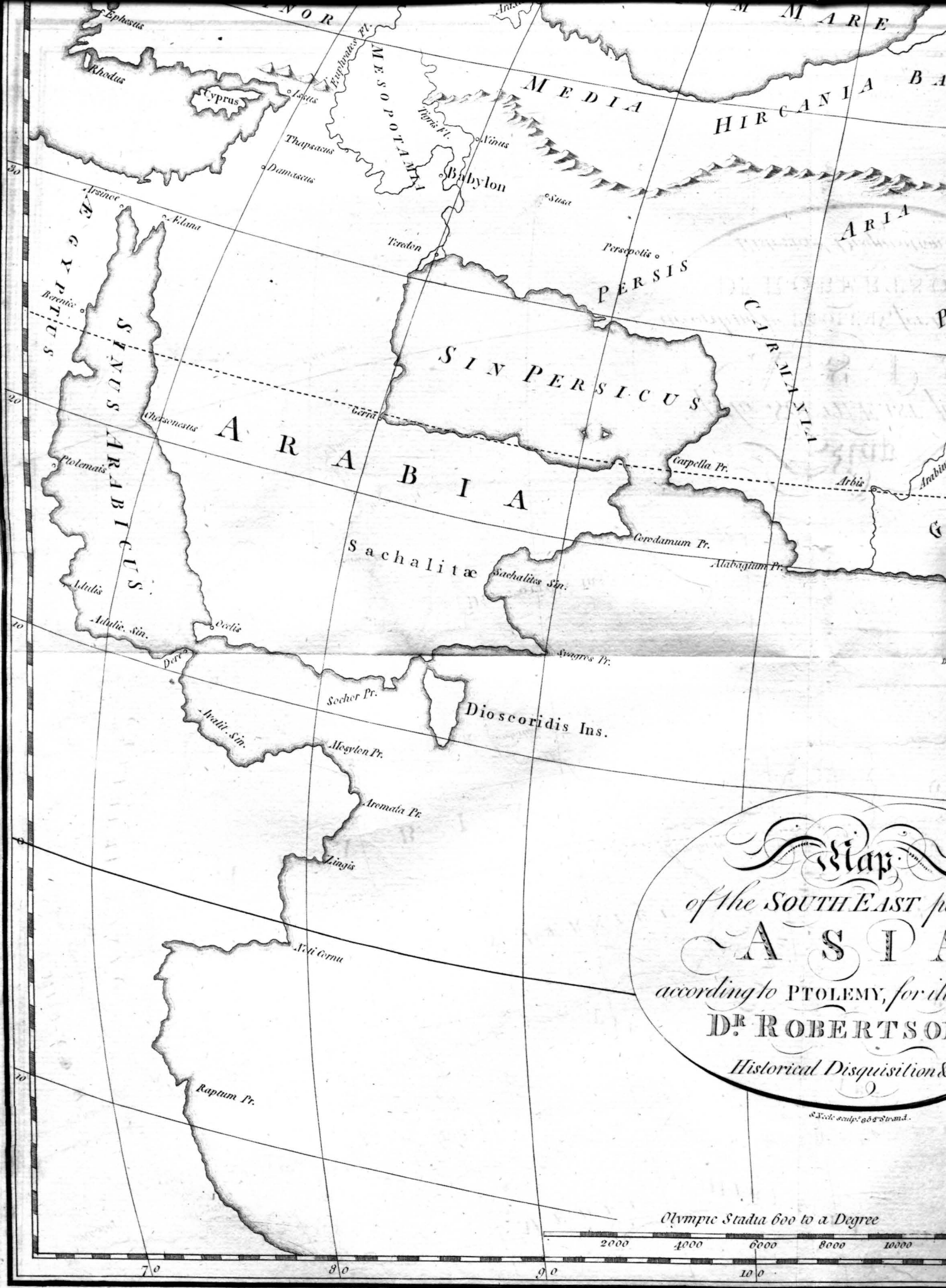
CONCERNING

A N C I E N T I N D I A.



Slap
of the SOUTH EAST part of
ASIA,
according to PTOLEMY, for illustrating
Dr ROBERTSON'S
Historical Disquisition &c

Olympic Stadia 600 to a Degree. Stadia of Aristotle, 1000 to a Degree. Geographical Miles, 60 to a Degree.



Map
of the SOUTH EAST
of ASIA
according to PTOLEMY, for the
use of
DR. ROBERTSON
Historical Disquisition &c

Scale 600 Olympic Stadia to a Degree

Olympic Stadia 600 to a Degree

2000 4000 6000 8000 10000

70 80 90 100



Map
of the *SOUTH EAST* part of
ASIA,
according to *PTOLEMY*, for illustrating
DR ROBERTSON'S
Historical Disquisition &c.



SCYTHIA EXTRA
IMAUM

Statio Mercatorum ad
Seras proficiscentium

SERRA

Sera Metrop.

Baulisus Fl.

Parvata M.

Emodi M.

INDIA EXTRA GANGEM

Cancra

Tropicus

Barrae

Linos Magni Sinus,
vetus Sinus

Aspidha Fl.

Aspidha

Tomara

Aurea Regio

Daena

Sinda

Cortatha Metrop.

MAGNUS SINUS

Ambaras Fl.

Rhabana

Sinus Fl.

Thina Metrop.

Sera Fl.

ANGEM

Pataliputra

Ganges Fl.

Ciradia

Alinda Fl.

Dacra Fl.

Alagum Os.

Barakara

Timala Fl.

Timala Pr.

Sabana Sin.

Boynga

Berebe

Magnam Pr.

Perimulicus Sin.

Primula

Aurea
Chersonesus

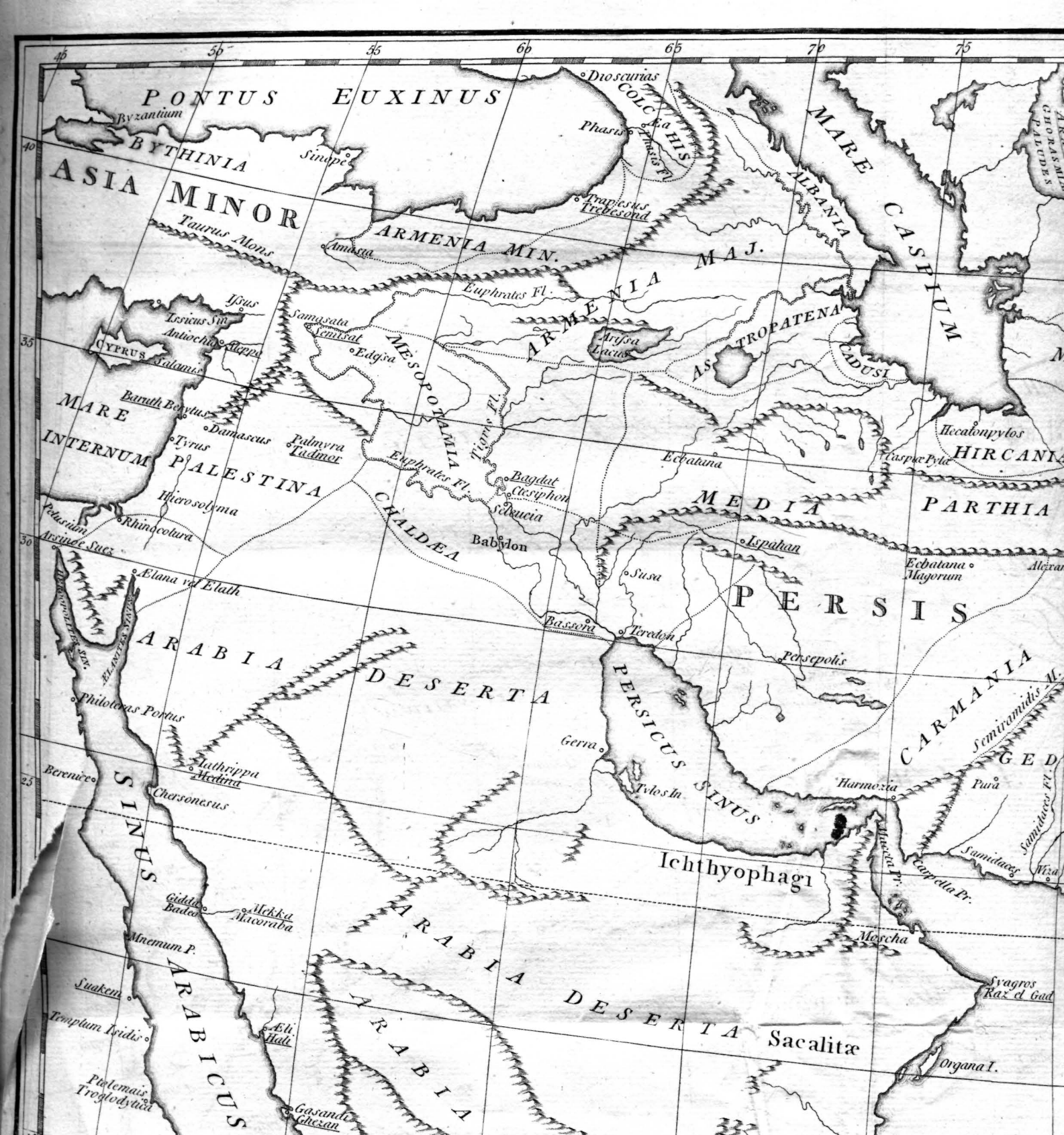
Equinoctialis

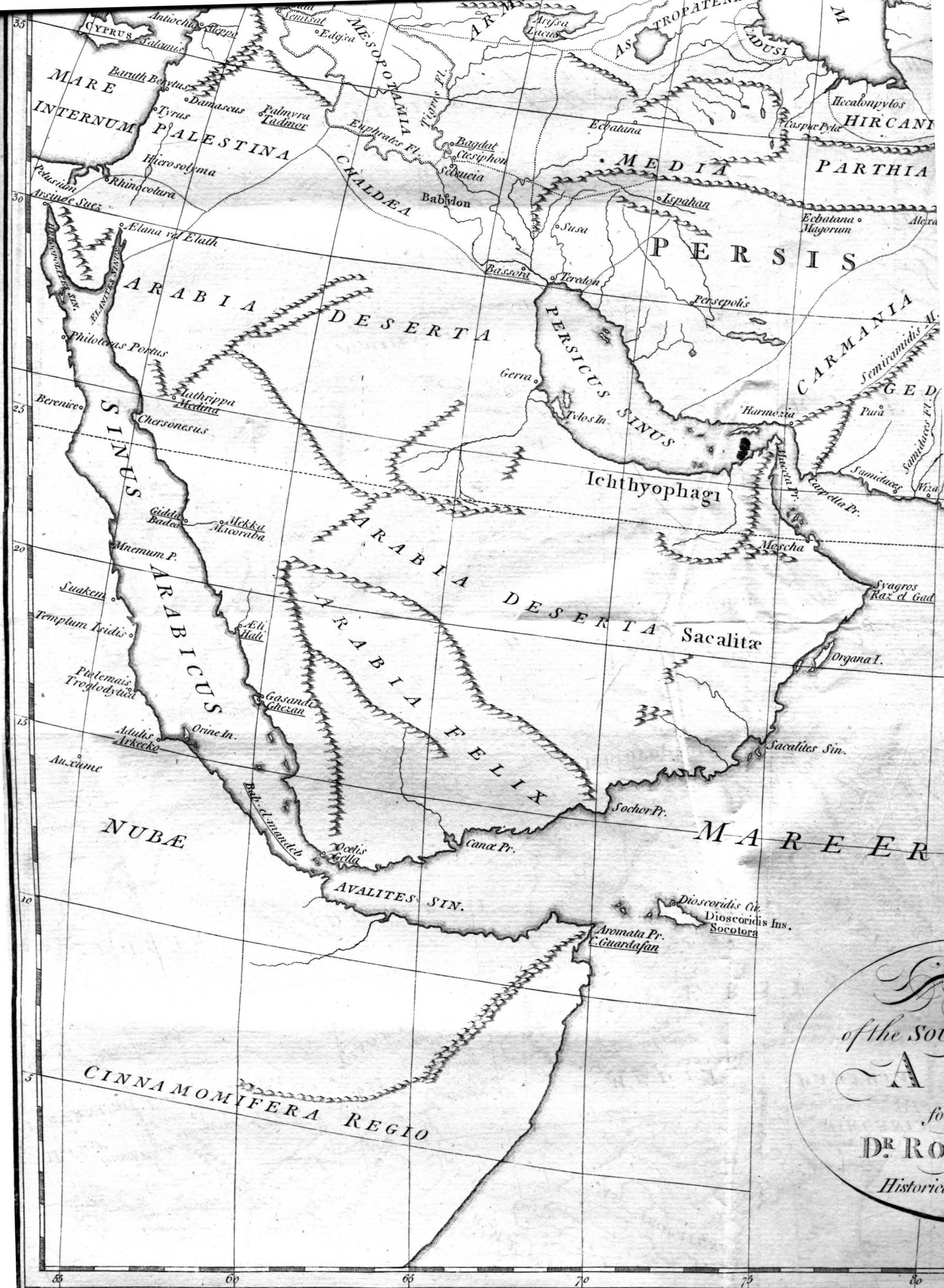
Sayrerum Ins.

Locus unde solvunt
in Chrysem navigantes

Nagadiba

Bizala



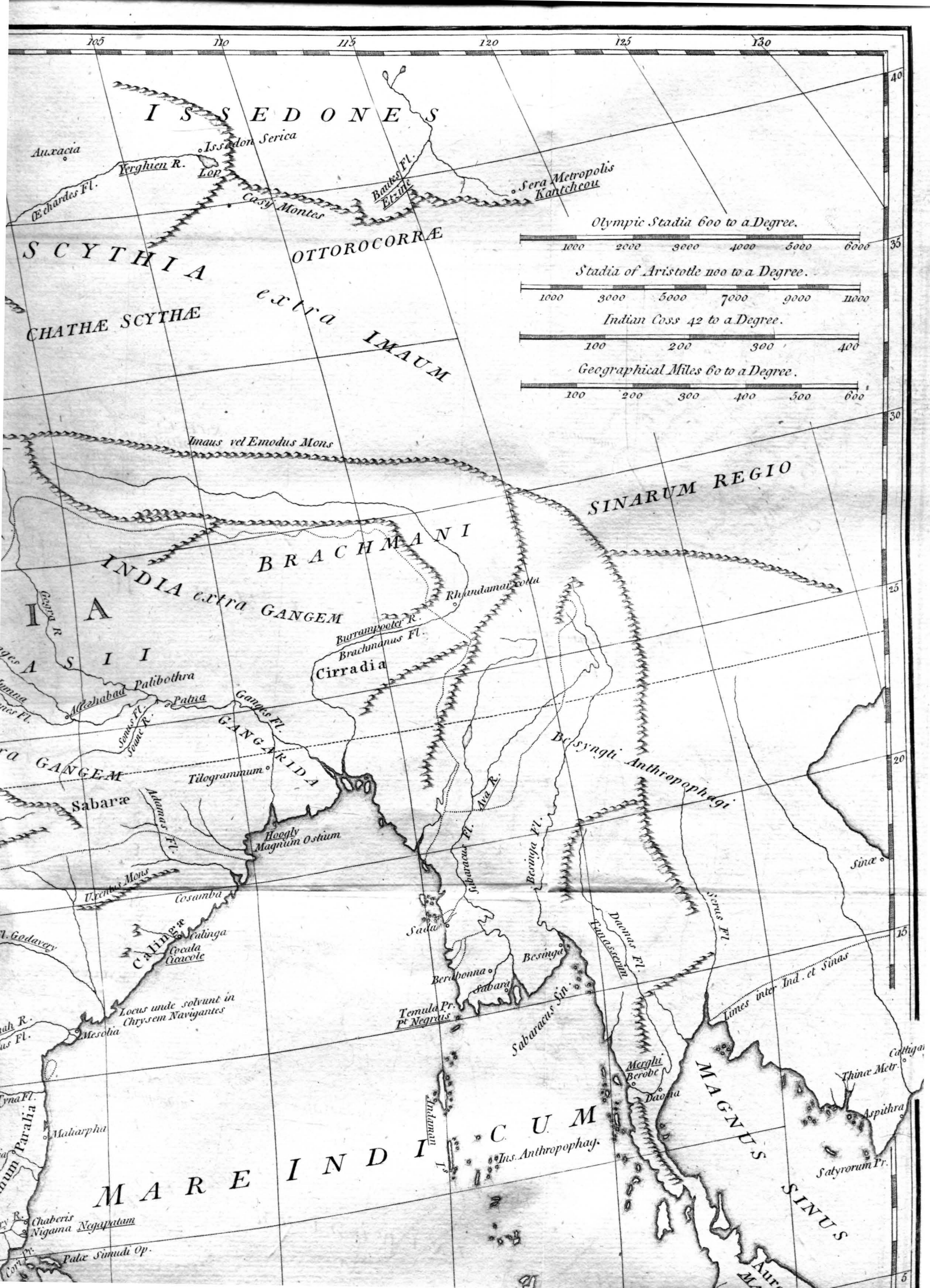


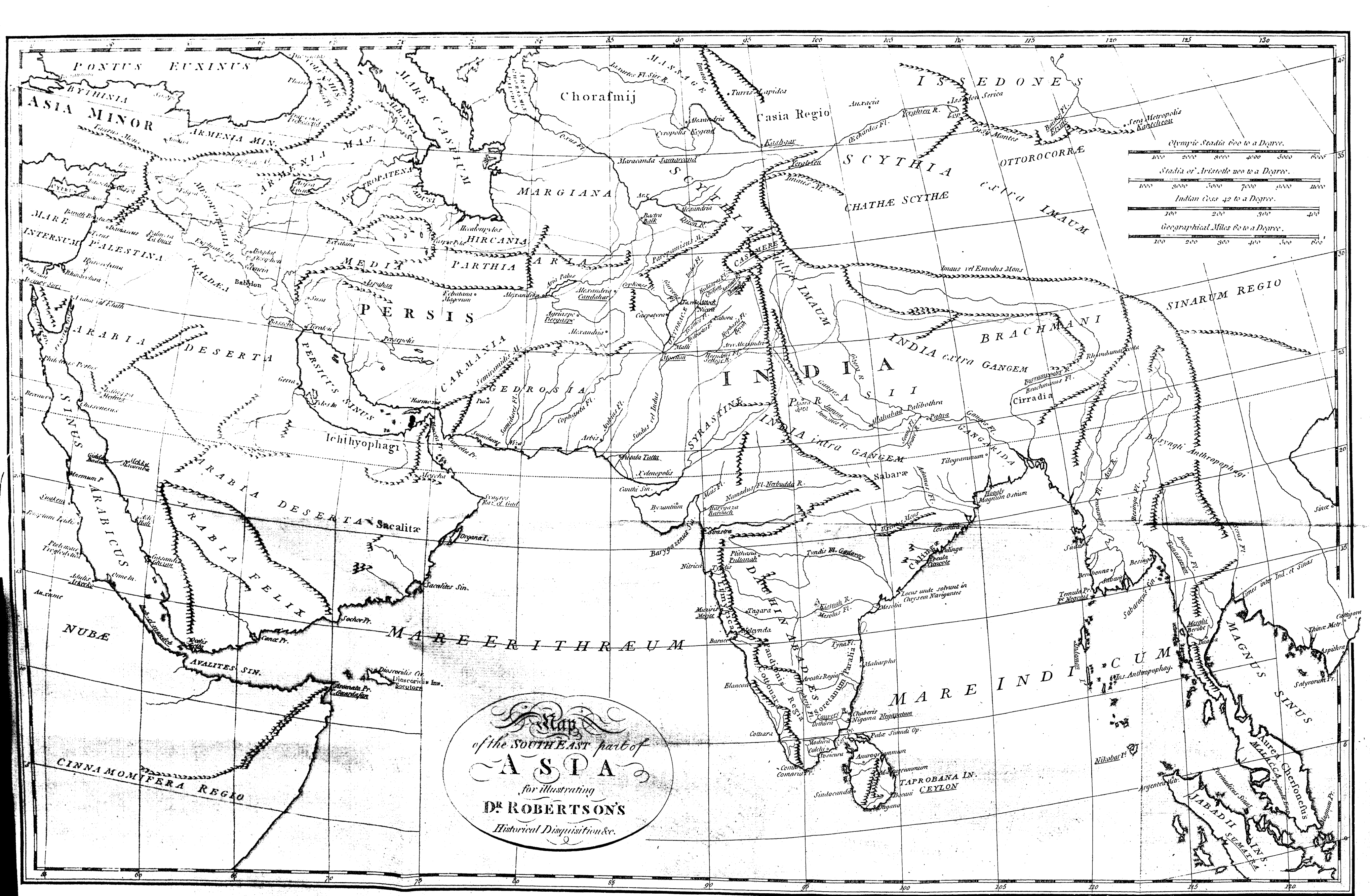
CYPRUS Salamis
Antiochia Ptolemaea
Barruth Beyluth
Tyrrhus
Damascus
Palmyra
Tadmor
Hierosolyma
Rhincolura
Petusium
Arsinec Sus
Elana val Elath
Philotas Portus
Berenice
Chersonesus
Gidda
Badeo
Mnemum P.
Suaken
Templum Iridis
Ptolemais
Trogodytia
Adulis
Arkecho
Auzume
Nubæ
CINNAMOMIFERA REGIO
Mesopotamia
Euphrates Fl.
Tigris Fl.
Bagdat
Ctesiphon
Seleucia
Babylon
Susa
Basora
Tiraden
Persia
Ecbatana
Ispahan
Persepolis
Gerna
Tylos In.
Ichthyophagi
Mescha
Sagres
Raz el Gad
Organa I.
Sacaliter Sin.
Socher Pr.
Canæ Pr.
Doxis
Gella
Avalites Sin.
Arabia Deserta
Arabia Felix
Arabicus Sinus
Persicus Sinus
Carmania
Semiramidis M.
Pura
Samilaces
Wisa
Cappella Pr.
Maceda Pr.
Harmozia
Ecbatana
Magorum
Alera
Hircania
Hecatonpylos
Caspice Pylo
Asiatica
Tropaten
Cadusi
Arifsa
Lacus
Armenia
Edgisa
Sensat
Sensat

of the South
A
for
DR RO
Historic









Map
of the Southeast part of
ASIA
for illustrating
Dr. ROBERTSON'S
Historical Disquisition &c.

A N
H I S T O R I C A L
D I S Q U I S I T I O N

CONCERNING

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I N D I A;

AND THE

PROGRESS of TRADE with that COUNTRY
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P R E F A C E.

THE perusal of Major Rennell's Memoir for illustrating his Map of Indostan, one of the most valuable geographical treatises that has appeared in any age or country, gave rise to the following work: ~~It suggested to me the idea of examining~~ more fully than I had done in the Introductory Book to my History of America, into the knowledge which the Ancients had of India, and of considering what is certain, what is obscure, and what is fabulous, in the accounts of that country which they have handed down to us. In undertaking this inquiry, I had originally no other object than my own amusement and instruction:

But in carrying it on, and consulting with care the authors of antiquity, some facts, hitherto unobserved, and many which had not been examined with proper attention, occurred; new views opened; my ideas gradually extended and became more interesting; until, at length, I imagined that the result of my researches might prove amusing and instructive to others, by exhibiting such a view of the various modes in which intercourse with India had been carried on from the earliest times, as might shew how much that great branch of commerce has contributed, in every age, to increase the wealth and power of the nations which possessed it.

THUS the Historical Disquisition which I now lay before the Reader was begun and completed. What degree of merit it possesses, the Public must determine. My grateful recollection of the favourable manner in which my other works have been received, naturally increases the solicitude with which I wait for its decision concerning this which I now publish.

WHEN