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Travels in Northern Greece

William Martin Leake (1777–1860) was a British military officer and classical scholar specialising in reconstructing the topography of ancient cities. He was a founding member of the Royal Geographical Society and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1815. After his retirement in 1815, he devoted the rest of his life to topographical and classical studies. These volumes, first published in 1835, contain Leake's account of his four extensive journeys across northern Greece between 1804 and 1810. Using the form of a travelogue, Leake discusses contemporary Greek and Turkish culture and provides detailed descriptions of ancient archaeological sites and geography. Leake's precise observations and detailed descriptions were influential in shaping the study of classical topography, with these volumes providing valuable information for the ancient sites and contemporary culture of the region. Volume 1 contains two journeys undertaken in Macedonia, Illyria and Thessaly in 1804 and 1805.

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Travels in Northern Greece

VOLUME 1

WILLIAM MARTIN LEAKE



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TRAVELS
IN
NORTHERN GREECE.

BY
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IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

LONDON:
J. RODWELL, NEW BOND STREET.

1835.

P R E F A C E.

ALTHOUGH the Four Journeys in Northern Greece which form the subject of these Volumes, are not strictly consecutive, in order of time, to the two Journeys, which constituted my “ Travels in the Moréa,” the present Work is in all other respects a continuation of the former, on the same plan ; and the Preface of those volumes will equally apply to these.

If the diurnal record of the traveller be not always the form of narrative most agreeable to the reader, it is, or ought to be, more faithful than any other, and consequently more useful to those who visit the countries described, especially when those countries have been little explored. That form, therefore, has been continued in these volumes, though the length of time which has elapsed since the Journeys were undertaken has justified the omission of many observations, which would now

appear trifling, and may have given to those which are left no more interesting character than that of a memoir in aid of history, serving also to exemplify manners and language, in which little or no change has yet been effected by the new political state of a part of Greece.

Ancient history and geography having been the Author's chief objects, their illustration occupies a large portion of the work ; and, in consequence of its *form*, the remarks upon them are introduced, I must confess, with little observance of order or connexion. The only remedy for this inevitable defect was a copious Index. The opinions on those subjects were generally formed upon the spot, on a careful examination of the ancient testimonies, by means of portable editions of the works which more particularly treat of Greece, or by extracts from others, made previously to the several journeys. It has indeed happened occasionally, that a new light has been thrown upon such questions by authorities of less frequent occurrence, to which I had no access when in Greece ; but in these cases I have not thought it necessary to refer to the circumstance when citing the author, as it has no

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PREFACE.

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effect upon the conclusion, and cannot be of any interest to the reader.

The general map appended to these Volumes has been constructed like that which accompanied my “Travels in the Moréa,” from the measurement of a great number of angles with the sextant or theodolite from every eligible station, which was accessible to me, no opportunity having been omitted of obtaining a complete triangle, when circumstances admitted of it. In applying these geometrical observations, I have had the benefit of some valuable information from John Hawkins, Esquire, of Bignor Park, in Sussex, who has had the kindness to communicate to me some important angles measured by him from the summits of the mountains *Ossa* and *Pelium*, and from two other stations in the eastern part of *Thessaly*. The coast-line has throughout been copied or corrected from the Admiralty surveys, executed under the direction of Captains Smyth and Copeland, of the Royal Navy, of which those made under the orders of the latter officer are still unpublished. For this assistance I am indebted to His Majesty’s Hydrographer, Captain Beaufort.

In the interior country, the Journal will sufficiently distinguish the parts examined by me, from those in which the defects of distant or partial observations could be supplied only by such oral information as can be gathered from an ignorant and uneducated people. It is scarcely necessary to add, that in these parts the map is to be considered only as a first approximation.

Many circumstances of no public interest have retarded the appearance of these volumes, far beyond my wish and intention. The delay, however, has afforded me the means of marking on the map the boundary-line, which, *for the present*, forms the continental frontier of liberated Greece.

LONDON,
December, 1835.

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DIRECTIONS FOR BINDING.

The Maps, Plans, and Inscriptions to be arranged at the end of the Four Volumes, as follows:—

AT THE END OF VOL. I.

The general Map of Northern Greece.
Plan of *Nicopolis*.
Plan of Suli.
Inscriptions—Plates I. II. III.

AT THE END OF VOL. II.

Plan of *Thermopylæ*.
Map of *Bœotia*.
Plan of *Plataea*.
Plan of *Delphi*.
Inscriptions—Plates from IV. to XXIII. inclusive.

AT THE END OF VOL. III.

Map of *Ithaca*.
Map of *Macedonia, Pæonia, &c.*
Inscriptions—Plates from XXIV. to XXXIII. inclusive.

AT THE END OF VOL. IV.

Plan of *Thebes*.
Inscriptions—Plates from XXXIV. to XLIV. inclusive.

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ERRATA, VOL. I.

- Page 9, note, for Roman read Romaic
 — 49, line 15, &c. for Velágrada read Velégrada
 — 108, line 2, 25. p. 111, l. 5. for Fídhari read Fidharo or Fidhári, Φιδάρος or Φιδάριον
 — 112, note 2, line 27, for Κοιλά Kilá read Κοίλα, Kila
 — 189, line 6, for North-west read West
 — 202, — 15, for Postikiús read Kostakiús
 — 303, — 17, for φιαρτώμενα read φωρτωμένα
 — 425, — 16, for Voidóna read Voióna
 — 432, note 1, for Τξιγότη read Τξιγιότη
 — 457, line 7, for Θανμάκου read Θανμακοῦ. In the note, last line, *dele* 17.

ERRATA, VOL. II.

- Page 95, line 11, for passing read seen
 — 95, note 1, for δράκων read δράκων
 — 422, note 1, last line, for S. 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ E. read S. 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ E.
 — 436, line 7, for 6°. North of West read 6°. West of North
 — 438, — 25, for opening read ridge
 — 476, — 22, for a narrow valley of the Kanavári read the narrow, &c.

ERRATA, VOL. III.

- Page 42, line 2, for ten read six
 — 68, — 2, the word "narrowest" belongs to the end of the next line
 — 89, — 13, for could be decyphered read could not be decyphered
 — 136, note 2, for μυλάρια read μουλάρια
 — 210, line 15, p. 211, l. 27, p. 212, l. 16, 23, for Megabyzus read Megabazus
 — 313, note, col. 1, line 11, for Dyrhachio, Clodiana 31, read Dyrhachio Clodiana 41
 — 350, note, for 'Ραψάνη read 'Ράψανι
 — 454, line 27, for Lydias read Axius
 — 463, note 2, for Diodor. l. 19. read Diodor. l. 16.
 — 505, line 23, after Babíni, Makherá and Khrysovítzi, lying in that order from
 for South-East to North-West read from North to South
 — 511, in the last line, after the monastery read of Lygovítzi

ERRATA, VOL. IV.

- Page 21, note 2, supply the words Μαχάρας ἐπόσης before the verses of the inscription cited from Meletius, the reference to whose work ought to be ii. 290, not ii. 250
 — 167, lines 17, 18, for the name of the district and of many of the villages, read only the names of many of the villages
 — 167, line 19, *dele* great
 — 179, — 7, for the shore on either side read the shore to the Eastward
 — 348, — 9, after Cassander read by whom they were speedily retaken
 — 365, — 12, for in a line with Férsala read in the road to Férsala
 — 400, — 1 of the note, being part of note 1 of p. 399, for Αισωσίδα read Αισωσιδα
 — 435, — 28, for valley read village
 Index, page 1, line penult. for 252 read 257.