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978-1-108-04643-5 - A Review of the Financial Situation of the East India Company in 1824

Henry St George Tucker

Cambridge University Press

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### **A Review of the Financial Situation of the East India Company in 1824**

Henry St George Tucker (1772–1851) sailed to India in 1786 and worked in a number of administrative posts before becoming a director of the East India Company in 1826. He wrote this book following the publication of an essay by French economist Jean-Baptiste Say (1767–1832) which suggested that British possession of territories in India was a burden to the mother country. Tucker's aim with this work was to give an accurate report of the finances of the East India Company in order to show Say's claim to be false. First published in 1825, this book contains an analysis of the company's sources of revenue and gives the details of revenue raised from opium, salt, stamps and land taxes. It includes information on the revenue raised from different territories and finally concludes with an overview of the company's general finances, thus providing valuable data for the study of colonial economics.

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IN 1824.

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By HENRY ST. GEORGE TUCKER, ESQ.

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L O N D O N :  
PRINTED FOR KINGSBURY, PARBURY, AND ALLEN,  
LEADENHALL STREET.

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TO  
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
**GEORGE CANNING,**  
*§c. §c. §c.*

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SIR:

As the Friend of India, and as the Minister and Friend of your Country, I presume to address to you the following Essay; not merely for the purpose of paying a just tribute of respect, but with the view of calling your attention to a question, which deeply affects the interests and well-being of the Agricultural Population of British India; and which may, eventually, affect the tranquillity and security of our Possessions in the East.

If I have not mistaken your character, the prospect of doing a public good, or of averting an impending evil, would recommend

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mend any question to your best attention ; but, associated as you have been in the Administration of India, the People of that Country may be considered to have particular claims upon you ; and I may be permitted to add, that, by exerting your influence to promote the prosperity of this remote, but valuable dependency, you will consult the best interests of the Empire at large, and thus discharge the sacred duty imposed on you as a Minister of the Crown.

I have the honour to be,

With great respect,

SIR,

Your obedient humble servant,

H. ST. G. TUCKER.

*Upper Portland Place,*

*March 1825.*

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#### ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following pages were intended to form part of a larger work ; but, as the undertaking originally contemplated could not have been completed for a considerable time ; and as the subject which these pages embrace is of more immediate interest ; I have been induced to submit to the Public the present Essay, detached from other matter. And if I should have succeeded in exhibiting a distinct Analysis of the Accounts of the East-India Company, and in giving a just delineation of the Financial Situation of that body, I may indulge the hope that I shall have performed no unacceptable service.