

of Africa by Cyrene and the Oases; to the conquest in Ethiopia and Arabia Felix under Ptolemy Euergetes: to the maritime trade with the whole of the western peninsula of India, from the Gulf of Barygaza (Guzerat and Cambay), along the shores of Canara and Malabar (Malayavara, a territory of Malaya), to the Brahminical sanctuaries of the promontory of Comorin (Kumari),* and to the large island of Ceylon (Lanka in the Ramayana, and known to the cotemporaries of Alexander as Taprobane, a corruption of the native name).† Nearchus had already materially contributed to the advance of nautical knowledge by his laborious five months' voyage along the coasts of Gedrosia and Caramania (between Pattala, at the mouths of the Indus, and the Euphrates).

Alexander's companions were not ignorant of the existence of the monsoons, by which navigation was so greatly favored between the eastern coasts of Africa and the northern and western parts of India. After having spent ten months in navigating the Indus, between Nicæa on the Hydaspes and Pattala, with a view of opening the river to a universal traffic, Nearchus hastened, at the beginning of October (Ol. 113, 3), to sail from Stura, at the mouth of the Indus, since he knew that his passage would be favored by the northeast and east monsoons to the Persian Gulf along the coasts running in the same parallel of latitude. The knowledge of this remarkable local law of the direction of the winds subsequently imboldened navigators to attempt to sail from Océfis, on the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, across the open sea to Muzeris (south of Mangolar), the great Malabar emporium of trade, to which products from the eastern shores of the Indian peninsula, and even gold from the distant Chryse (Borneo?), were brought by inland trade. The honor of having first applied the new system of Indian navigation is ascribed to an otherwise unknown seaman named Hippalus, but considerable doubt is attached to the age in which he lived.‡

* See Lassen, *Indische Alterthumskunde*, bd. i., s. 107, 153-158.

† A corruption of *Tāmbapanni*. This Pali form sounds in Sanscrit *Tāmrāparni*. The Greek form *Taprobane* gives half the Sanscrit (*Tāmbra*, *Tabro*) and half the Pali. (Lassen, *op. cit.*, s. 201. Compare Lassen, *Diss. de Taprobane Insula*, p. 19.) The Laccadives (*lakke* for *lakscha*, and *dive* for *dwīpa*, one hundred thousand islands), as well as the Maldives (*Malayadiba*, islands of Malabar), were known to Alexandrian mariners.

‡ Hippalus is not generally supposed to have lived earlier than the time of Claudius; but this view is improbable, even though under the first Lagides, a great portion of the Indian products were only procured in Arabian markets. The southwest mousoon was, moreover