

## Bibliography Prince Alexis Soltykoff

Article on the various editions of Voyages dans l'Inde and other titles.

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### Voyages dans l'Inde

#### Folio edition

This work by Soltykoff, describing his two voyages to India, appeared in several octavo editions with small differences per edition during the period of 1848 up till 1853.

Around 1850 a folio edition was published as well under the same title, however, with the plates only and on a much larger format. Originally from 1849 onwards single sheets were issued and sold apparently, sometimes measuring as large as approx. 90 x 70 cm. An unknown number of these sheets survive to the present day, reflecting their high value.

Then those 36 plates were published in one tome with a title page but with no further text, while the size of the sheets apparently was standardized to approx. 87 x (at least) 57 cm <sup>a)</sup>.

Possibly prince Soltykoff wanted it to accompany the text as already published in 'Lettres sur l'Inde', although that volume was illustrated for the greater part with the same plates, though much smaller and done by other engravers.

There are two variants of the title page of the folio edition; one with only the name of Auguste Bry as the printer of the plates, which reads:

*Imp. Par Auguste Bry, G<sup>de</sup> Médaille d'Or de S.M. l'Empereur de Russie*

And another variant with above the line with the name of the printer an extra line with the text:

*Paris, H. Gache, Editeur, Rue de la Victoire, 66*

Also the plates as printed by Auguste Bry have different imprints <sup>b)</sup> under the plates, either:

Variant 1) *Imprimé par Auguste Bry, à Paris* , or

Variant 2) *Imp. Par Auguste Bry, G<sup>de</sup> Médaille d'Or de S.M. l'Empereur de Russie*

The name of the engravers are printed on the left side of the plates as quoted below:

L.H. de Rudder who engraved 30 plates, A.F. Girard who engraved 5 plates <sup>c)</sup>, while one plate was done by those two together <sup>d)</sup>.

*Lith. Par De Rudder d'après le Dessin du Prince A. Soltykoff* or

*Lith. par de Rudder d'après le dessin du Prince A. Soltykoff* or

*De Rudder Lith. d'après le Dessin du Prince A. Soltykoff* or

*De Rudder Lith. d'après le dessin du Prince A. Soltykoff*

Or

*Girard lith. D'après le dessin du Prince A. Soltykoff.*

OR

*Lith. par Girard et De Rudder d'après le dessin du Prince A. Soltykoff*

And sometimes in the middle the name of the publisher:

*Paris, Gache éditeur*

All plates bear a number (1 ~ 36) above the top right corner, however, apparently an extreme small number of these plates have been printed with the imprint at the top side matching those in "Lettres sur l'Inde", like for instance our copy of *Une rue de Lahore* which has the imprint: "N°. 20" on the top left side and "Page 210" on the top right side

- a) The size of the Robert & Maria Travis copy; Sotheby's, their sale May 26<sup>th</sup> 2005, lot # 262. The size of the copy auctioned by Joigny Enchères, their sale January 12<sup>th</sup> 2025, lot # 158 is described as 87 x 64 cm.
- b) There are no plates that were printed with both imprints. For instance the plate captioned "Village Bengali des Bords du Gange" only exists in variant 1, while the plate with the caption "Une Rue de Lahore" only exists in variant 2.
- c) The captions under these five plates by Girard read:

<i>Une Pagode a Madura</i>	(12)
<i>Temple Rustique aux environs de Simla</i>	(25)
<i>Aux environs de Tchini Gong</i>	(27)
<i>Déota ou Temple Payen. Vallée de Canaour</i>	(28)
<i>Bords de l'Indus, à Saccar-Baccar</i>	(31)

The numbers in brackets are the plate nrs. in the top right corner above the plates.

- d) The caption under this plate read:  
*Interieur du Couvent Condgeveram*

## Octavo editions



'Village de Gatiganawa'. Plate no. 7 from "Voyages dans l'Inde". Engravers Trayer (left – C&L, 2nd issue) and Cupper (right – all other issues). Size in both cases 133 x 102 mm.

The octavo publication of "Voyages dans l'Inde" appeared in three editions. At first the Amyot edition of 1848, under the title "Lettres sur l'Inde" and published in one volume. Subsequently around 1850 it was published by Curmer & Lecou under the revised title "Voyages dans l'Inde" in two volumes, marked "deuxième édition" on both title pages. The last of the three editions is the one by Garnier Frères, published simultaneously with the C&L edition, or slightly later, but with two volumes in one and marked "troisième édition" on a single title page and with the pages numbered consecutively.

Of the latter two editions there are two different issues each; several plates were re-engraved by other lithographers. The differences can be found in the table given at the end of this article.

In my copy of "Lettres sur l'Inde" someone (likely Léon de Wailly himself) has written in pencil on the half title page:

*Revue & corrigées par Mr. Léon de Wailly à Paris.*

On the text pages of this volume some corrections have been made in pencil too, which have been implemented in the editions as published by Curmer & Lecou and by Garnier Frères.

I have divided the editions by L. Curmer and V. Lecou (C&L) as well as the editions by Garnier Frères (Garnier) in first and second issues. This division is based on the names of the engravers of the plates.

After the publication of the folio edition of “Voyages dans l’Inde”, for the greater part drawn on stone by De Rudder, apparently Trayer, who had lithographed all plates for “Voyage en Perse”, first published in 1851, was commissioned to do the work for the publication of “Habitants de l’Inde” by the Parisian publisher H. Gache.

There is no year of publication of this book, but it definitely was published before May 1853.<sup>{1}</sup>

In what I define as the first octavo issue of “Voyages dans l’Inde” there are no plates done by Trayer, however, in what I define as the second issue there are several plates done by Trayer. Possibly prince Saltykov requested Trayer to redo some of the plates of the octavo edition.

It leaves us with the very interesting issue of the years of publication of the C&L and Garnier editions. Both variants of the C&L edition have the imprint *Deuxième édition*, whereas both variants of the Garnier editions have the imprint *Troisième édition*.

There are no copies in institutional libraries worldwide of a first edition by C&L, neither are there any auction records of a first edition. So it seems logical to assume that the 1848 Amyot edition of “Lettres sur l’Inde” was considered to be the first edition of “Voyages dans l’Inde”, though it has 32 plates only.

Consequently the C&L editions are marked as a second edition and the Garnier editions as a third edition. But when were they published? The Amyot edition has the imprint ‘1848’<sup>{2}</sup> on the title page; the C&L editions are dated 1850 on the title pages printed in gold and 1851 on the common letterpress title pages, while the Garnier Frères editions are undated.

Generally it is assumed that part of the C&L edition, first issue, possibly was published in 1850, given the date on the extra title page with the text printed in gold and without the text *deuxième édition*, only found in a few of the copies. Most likely the second issue was published in 1851 as well.

The main difference between the two editions is that the C&L editions were published in two volumes sometimes bound as one (Vol. I, pp. 227; Vol. II pp. 267), while the Garnier editions were published in one volume only (pp. 456).

Some of the copies published by C&L, bound as one, appeared in an ornate binding, while a few of the copies by Garnier were bound in a matching luxurious binding.

There can be no doubt that the publishers worked in close collaboration.

For the Garnier editions the years of publication, viz. 1853, 1854 and 1858 are often given both by auction houses and dealers, though without any reference.

Given the use of the bindings and more importantly the sequence of the various issues where it concerns the plates done by Trayer *possibly these editions were published simultaneously* or in quick succession. Likely also at different prices.

There are some peculiar deviations, however.

The plate numbered 6 in the table here below ('Ceylan entre Colombo et Kandy'), has been redone by Trayer only in the second C&L issue, however, with a different title ('Villageois Cingalis'), as well as the plate numbered 7 with a slightly amended title as well <sup>{3}</sup>, while the plate numbered 33 ('Achat d'Armes a Delhi') in the first issue by Garnier was done by Cupper, while in all other cases the stones done by De Rudder were used.

<sup>{1}</sup> The copy auctioned by Christies at their London sale of 21 September 2000, lot no. 382, bears a gift inscription by Soltykoff dated April 14th, 1853.

<sup>{2}</sup> The British Library has a copy of this book, acquired in 1852, with the title page dated 1848 and a cover sheet dated 1849. So possibly the book was published first in 1849.

<sup>{3}</sup> Caption of plate 7, first issue reads:

*Village de Gatiganawa a neuf milles de Kandy a Ceylan habité par les Rodias, exilés du tems (sic!) des Rois de Kandy.*

The caption of the second issue reads:

*Village de Gatiganawa a 9 milles de Kandy a Ceylan habité par les Rodias, exilés du temps des Rois de Kandy.*

## **Typeface**

The typeface of a printed sheet or book means the size of the printed area.

The typeface of the various editions is as follows:

Lettres sur l'Inde	152 x 86 mm
Voyages dans l'Inde, C&L, first issue	166 x 95 mm
Voyages dans l'Inde, C&L, second issue	166 x 95 mm
Voyages dans l'Inde, Garnier, first issue	173 x 99 mm
Voyages dans l'Inde, Garnier, second issue	173 x 99 mm

## **Title pages**

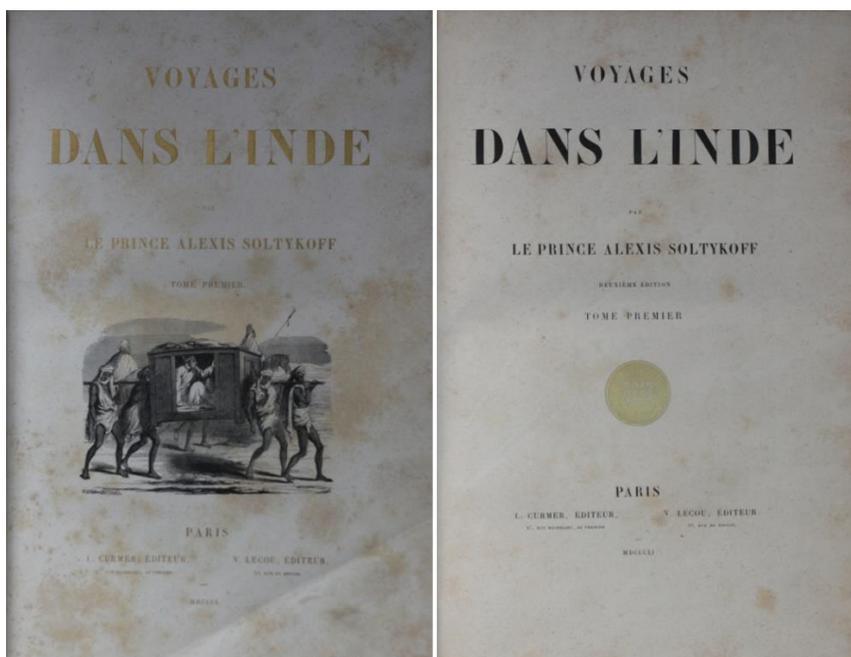
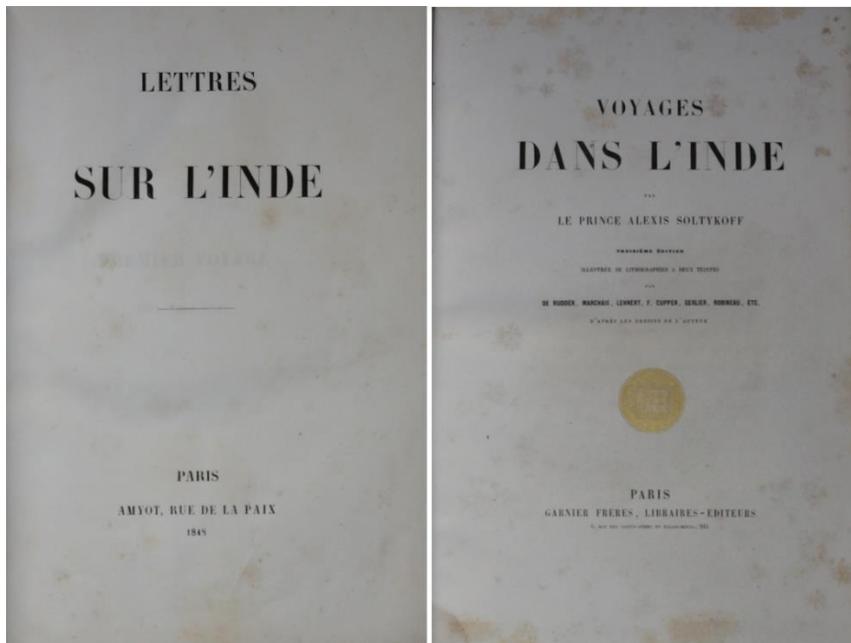
All four different title pages are shown here below.

The printed title page of the first and second issue by Curmer & Lecou are fully identical as are the title pages of the first and the second issue by Garnier Frères.

Below above left the title page of “Lettres sur l’Inde” and above right the title page of the editions published by Garnier Frères.

There under the title page with the text in gilt dated 1850 by Curmer & Lecou on the left and the letterpress title page on the right.

On the title page with the text in gilt, a woodcut vignette is printed, matching plate nr. 19: *Voyage en Poste dans les Plaines du Pandjab entre Loudiana et Omritsar.*



## Lithographs

List of lithographs, followed by the initial of the name of the engraver:

C = Cupper  
 G = Gerlier  
 L = Lehnert  
 M = Marchais  
 Ro = Robineau  
 Ru = De Rudder  
 T = Trayer  
 W = Walter

	Amyot	C&L 1st issue	C&L 2nd issue	Garnier 1st issue	Garnier 2nd issue
1 Route entre Colombo et Kandy. Ceylon.	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
	99x155				
2 Ballet Dramatique. { <sup>1</sup> }	G	G	T	G	T
	99x155		128x179		
3 Offrande d'un Chef Kandien a un Temple de Bouddha aux environs de Kandy (Ceylan).	L	L	T	L	T
	100x159		122x197		
4 Prêtres de Boudha Cingalis a Kandy (Ceylan).	C	C	C	C	C
	125x100				
5 Fete de la Lune a Ceylan.	C	C	C	C	C
	103x141				
6 Ceylan entre Colombo.	Ro	Ro	T	Ro	Ro
	155x99		175x125		
7 Village de Gatiganawa a neuf milles de Kandy a Ceylan habité par les Rodias, exilés du tems des Rois de Kandy.	C	C	T	C	C
	132x103		132x102		

8 Procession religieuse dans les Galeries du Convent de Ramisseram pres Ceylan.	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
	98x139				
9 Procession a Madras.	C	C	Anon	Anon	Anon
	107x140		107x140		
10 Condjeveram, Ville Sainte dans le Karnatik aux environs de Madras, lieu de Pélerinage des Indous.	C	Anon	Anon	Anon	Anon
	101x140	101x140			
11 Intérieur du Convent de Condgeveram, a 40 milles de Madras.	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
	100x155				
12 Une Pagode a Madura.	L	L	T	L	T
	100x159		140x196		
13 Éléphants du Radja de Travancore. Travandrum.	C	C	C	C	C
	94x139				
14 Procession de la Déesse Kali.	C	C	C	C	C
	96x139				
15 Les Bords du Gange, près de Calcutta.	G	Anon	Anon	Anon	Anon
	102x158				
16 Environs de Calcutta.	W	W	W	W	W
	101x159				
17 Village Bengali des Bords du Gange.	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
	99x155				
18 Principale Rue de Luknow, Capitale du Royaume D'Aoude.	W	W	W	W	W
	102x158				
19 Voyage en Poste dans les Plaines du Pandjab entre Loudiana et Omritsar.	L	L	L	L	L
	101x159				

20 Une Rue de Lahore.	Ru 100x133	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru
21 Schir Sing Roi du Pandjab et sa suite allant a la chasse aux environs de Lahore.	L  102x157	L	L	L	L
22 Schir Sing revenant d'une Revue de Troupes aux environs D'Omritsar.	L  101x160	L	L	L	L
23 Habitation Européenne a Simla.	Ru 111x85	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru
24 Forêt de Mahassou près de Simla	NA  100x146	M	M	M	M
25 Danse Cachemirienne près de Simla.	NA  123x172	M	M	M	M
26 Temple Rustique aux environs de Simla, dans L'Himalaya près de la Cascade appelée l'Alpini	G  156x98	G	G	G	G
27 Vallée du Kanaour dans l'Himalaya aux environs de Tchini Gong.	C  96x157	C	C	C	C
28 Déota ou Temple Payen. Vallée du Kanaour.	C  158x94	C	C	C	C
29 Aux environs de Tchini Gong.	NA  96x157	C	C	C	C
30 Cortège du Grand Mogol, à Delhi.	NA  100x139	M	M	M	M
31 Bords de L'Indus a Saccar Baccar. Le Matin.	G	G	G	G	G

		96x155				
32 Chasse aux Éléphants dans la Forêt de Karnigal.	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru
		111x140				
33 La Cour du Roi de Gwalior.	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru
	90X143					
34 Achat d'Armes a Delhi.	Ru	Ru	Ru	C	Ru	
		95x134		95x140		
35 Arbre Banian sur la Lisière du Paria Djungle.	C	C	C	C	C	C
	85x140					
36 Arbre Bahnian dans le Paria Djungle.	C	C	C	C	C	C
	100x139					

Under the initial of the engraver's name the size of the print. Always Height x Width in millimeters.

The plates marked "NA" under Amyot are the four plates that were not published in "Lettres sur l'Inde".

{1} In one of my two copies of 'Lettres sur l'Inde' this plate is without a caption. The space is blank.

## Other works by Soltykoff

### Voyage en Perse.

1. The first edition was published in 1851 by L. Curmer & V. Lecou.  
Collation: preliminary blank, gilt title page, half title, frontispiece, title page, Introduction, pp. 1 ~ 132, Table, Table (list of chapters <sup>{1}</sup>), Liste des planches, Liste des planches, p. 140 (continuation of the list of plates, final (blank) page with vignette on the verso side, trailing blank.  
Illustrated with 20 lithographed plates hors texte, all protected with a blank. All plates drawn on the stone by Trayer and printed by Plista.

<sup>{1}</sup> List of chapters:

Introduction  
La Caucase  
De Tiflis à l'Arax  
De Miana à Téhéran  
Téhéran

[Binding of my copy: Luxurious full polychrome binding without titles and with a rebab player on front and backboard.]

2. There appears not to have been published a second edition There are neither copies in institutional libraries worldwide, nor auction or dealer records.  
Possibly Curmer & Lecou had intended to or agreed upon a same cooperation with Garnier frères as they had done with their publication of “Voyages dans l'Inde”.
3. The third edition was published in 1854 by Victor Lecou.  
Collation: preliminary blank, half title, frontispiece, title page, Introduction, pp. 3 ~ 155, (1), Table, Table (list of chapters <sup>{2}</sup>), Liste des planches, Liste des planches <sup>{3}</sup>, p. 164 (continuation of the list of plates, final (blank) page with vignette on the verso side, 2 trailing blanks.  
Illustrated with 20 lithographed plates hors texte, all protected with a blank.

<sup>{2}</sup> List of chapters:

Introduction  
La Caucase  
De Tiflis à l'Arax  
De l'Arax à Tablis  
De Miana à Téhéran  
Téhéran  
Première audience  
Le Baïram  
Deuxième audience

Départ de Téhéran

{3} List of plates:

Entrée de l'ambassade de Perse à Saint-Pétersbourg  
Prince circassien  
Environs de Vladikavkaze  
Tiflis  
Le monastère d'Etsch-Miadzine  
Aux approches de Nakhitschevan  
Danse nocturne à Miana  
Aspect de l'Irac  
Le bazar de Zendjan  
Hadji-Mohammad à Saint-Pétersbourg  
Femmes persanes  
Le bazar de Gazbine  
Arrivée à Téhéran  
Téhéran  
Nassr-Eddin-Mirza, héritier du trône  
Le premier ministre sortant de chez le roi  
Fiction (*This plate not in the first edition*)  
Réalité (*This plate not in the first edition*)  
Mirza-Naïbi-Saltana  
Le roi allant se promener  
Le roi de Perse, Mohamed-Schah  
Retour de Téhéran à Saint-Pétersbourg

All plates drawn on the stone by Trayer and printed by Plista.

[Binding of my copy: blindstamped publisher's cloth with a gilt decorated spine divided in six compartments by five raised bands with the titles in the second compartment.]

**Habitants de l'Inde dessinés d'après Nature par le Prince Alexis Soltykoff, lithographiés à deux teintes par J. Trayer.**

Paris: Félix Malteste et Cie for H. Gache, (n.d. but not after april 1853 <sup>{4}</sup>). Only edition.

Paper covered boards, the upper board covered with a vignette depicting a group of people in a garden which is fully identical, text and vignette, to the title page, folio, 523 x 353 mm; 42 duo-tone lithographs, each accompanied by one leaf of descriptive letterpress and preceded by the list of plates

The captions under the plates are as follows:

1. Frontispiece
2. Femmes Malabare
3. Rodias
4. Femmes de Bombay
5. Femmes de Bombay
6. Femmes du radja de Kourg
7. Fille du radja de Kourg
8. Serviteurs Musulmans
9. Danseuses
10. Zémindar
11. Todha
12. Todhas
13. Todhas
14. Chef de Thugs
15. Porteur
16. Porteur
17. Fakir
18. Fakir
19. Fakirs
20. Fakir
21. Fakir
22. Fakir
23. Bhisti
24. Masaltchis
25. Khedmetgars
26. Masaltchi
27. Musulmans d'Ambala
28. Musulman de Chazadpore
29. Paharis de Himalaya
30. Paharis de Himalaya
31. Paharis de Himalaya
32. Paharis de Himalaya
33. Seigneurs indien
34. Habitants de Kychengheur
35. Fakirs
36. Fakirs
37. Le Roi de Gwalior
38. Maha-Radja-Hindou-Rao-Bahadour
39. Nana-Pounoar
40. Madhou-Rao-Phaïkieah
41. Appa-Bholiah-Marhatta-Sardar
42. Nègre et Arabe

All plates drawn on the stone by J. Trayer and printed by Plista.

<sup>{4}</sup> The copy auctioned by Christies at their London sale of 21 September 2000, lot no. 382, bears a gift inscription by Soltykoff dated April 14th, 1853.

### **Indian scenes and characters from drawings made on the spot.**

Published by Smith, Elder & Co., London, 1858

Extra lithographic title page printed in gold and black with a vignette (The gardens at Amber, near Jaipur).

Fifteen plates plus accompanying descriptive text. The list of plates and the names of the engravers are as follows:

Caption	Engraver
1. Sikh Chieftans	De Rudder
2. Hunting Leopards ready for the chase	De Rudder
3. View of the Palace of Jaypore	De Rudder
4. Harem Carriage of the King of Delhi	De Rudder
5. Festival of the Goddess Dourga at Calcutta	De Rudder
6. Cavalcade of Sikh chieftains on Elephants	De Rudder
7. House and Gardens, Bomnbay	De Rudder
8. Arab and Negro in the service of the Guickwar	De Rudder
9. Fakeers	De Rudder
10. A Fakeer of Rajpootana	J. Trayer
11. Dance of Nautch Girls	De Rudder
12. The King of Gwalior and some of his Courtiers	J. Trayer
13. Mountaineers of the Himalaya	J. Trayer
14. The Maha-Raja-Hindoo-Rao-Bahadoor	J. Trayer
15. Fishers on the Coast of Coromandel	De Rudder

Plates 8 and 9, “Negro and Arab” and “Fakeers” originally were done by Trayer for “Habitants de l’Inde” and were redrawn here on the stone by De Rudder.. The four plates done here by Trayer were originally published in “Habitants de l’Inde” as well.

The large vignette on the title page was engraved by J. Trayer and was used as well for the title page and cover of “Habitants de l’Inde.

### **Souvenirs de l’Inde**

Subtitled respectively:

“24 sujets par le Prince Alexis Soltykoff”, of which there is a copy in the Library of Congress, and  
“25 sujets par le Prince Alexis Soltykoff”, of which there is a copy in the Institut de France.

I have no bibliographical data available.