

The publications of Prince Alexis Soltykoff: A bibliographical study

A study of the editions, issues, illustrations, lithographers and publication history of Soltykoff's works on India and Persia.

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Introduction

This article provides a bibliographical analysis of both the editions and issues of the works by and after Prince Alexis Soltykoff with regard to his travels in 19th century India and Persia, now Iran. It covers the only folio and the various octavo editions of “Voyages dans l’Inde”, “Habitants de l’Inde”, “Indian Scenes and Characters”, “Souvenirs de l’Inde”, “Voyage en Perse”, and “Voyages dans l’Inde et en Perse”.

The study is based principally on the examination of surviving copies, supplemented by institutional catalogue records, auction records and contemporary documentary evidence. The evidence indicates that several of Soltykoff's publications exist in bibliographically significant variants that are not adequately distinguished in existing catalogue records. This is particularly apparent in the octavo editions of *Voyages dans l’Inde*, where replacement of the lithographic stones done by Trayer distinguish two identifiable issues of both the Curmer & Lecou and Garnier Frères editions.

The terminology used in this article follows the conventions below:

1. Edition: a distinct publication, identified by a separate title-page imprint or a stated edition number (e.g., “deuxième édition”).
2. Issue: a variant within an edition, distinguished by changes to several plates (e.g., re-engraving by a different lithographer) that occurred during or after the initial production run, without a new title-page imprint. The definition “issue” is used as the replacement of specific plates occurs in both the Curmer & Lecou and Garnier Frères editions.

The first/second issue distinction for the Curmer & Lecou and Garnier Frères octavo editions of “Voyages dans l’Inde” is based on the substitution of certain plates: in the second issue of each, several plates were re-engraved by Trayer, replacing the original engravers. This criterion provides evidence of sequential production but does not, as such, prove the temporal order of issue. It, however, will be made clear that the issues with the plates by Trayer should be considered second issues.

Evidence is drawn from the following sources, indicated where applicable:

1. Direct examination of copies in the author’s possession.
2. Institutional catalogue records (WorldCat, British Library, Library of Congress, Institut de France).

3. Auction records (Sotheby's, Christie's, Joigny Enchères).
4. Primary documentary sources (e.g., the diaries of Giacomo Meyerbeer).

If the result is a matter of deduction, it is not presented as evidence.

Findings about editions

1. *Lettres sur l'Inde* is regarded as the first edition of *Voyages dans l'Inde*.
2. The C&L & Lecou edition exists in two identifiable plate issues.
3. The Garnier Frères edition likewise exists in two plate issues.
4. Trayer's replacement lithographs provide evidence of production sequence.
5. *Voyage en Perse* exists in identifiable first and third editions.

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 ^{1} 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.

It is unlikely that the printing of the plates on folio format was done on a commercial basis, despite the later publication in book form by H. Gache.

Only a portion of the plates bear the name of the publisher. It seems reasonable to assume that Auguste Bry was commissioned by Soltykoff to have these plates lithographed and printed. This opinion is shared by Christie's. ^{2}

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 57 cm ^{3}.

Probably 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^{de} 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 ^{4} under the plates, either:

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

Variant 2) *Imp. Par Auguste Bry, G^{de} 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 ^{5}, while one plate was done by those two together ^{6}.

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

^{1} The entry in the diaries of Giacomo Meyerbeer on December 14th, 1849 reads:
(The diaries of Giacomo Meyerbeer, Volume 2; London, Associated University Presses, 2001, p. 381.)

Friday 14 December. Intendant-General von Küstner from Berlin called on me. Conference with Scribe about the plan for a new grand opera. Visit from Léon de Wailly, who showed me the beautiful lithographs that Prince Soltikoff has published of his Indian journey. In the evening worked further on the orchestral arrangement of the organ part.

Although usually 1850 is given as date of publication for the folio edition of “Voyages dans l’Inde”, it seems highly unlikely that De Wailly showed Meyerbeer the lithographs as already published in “Lettres sur l’Inde” in 1848. So we must assume that he showed Meyerbeer (part of) the lithographs for the folio edition. As the two variants of the title page of the folio edition are undated, possibly all 36 plates were first published in book form in 1850 indeed.

As Auguste Bry was a printer and not a publisher and as several of the folio plates lack the name of H. Gache, the publisher of the complete folio edition, this as well is an indication that Prince Soltykoff commissioned the work to Auguste Bry.

^{2} Christie’s. Part of their comments for lot nr. 221, their sales of October 5th 1999:
He made two trips to India and published several works on his travels and experiences. He was deeply eccentric and his wealth allowed him the luxury of lavish publication standards and afforded him the liberty to write as he found.

^{3} The size of the Robert & Maria Travis copy; Sotheby’s, their sale May 26th 2005, lot # 262 with their description: *large folio (867 x 570mm)*.
The size of the copy auctioned by Joigny Enchères, their sale January 12th 2025, lot # 158 is described as 87 x 64 cm.

{4} 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.

{5} 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.

{6} The caption under this plate read:
Interieur du Couvent Condgeveram (11)

Octavo editions



‘Village de Gatiganawa’. Plate no. 7 from “Voyages dans l’Inde”. Engravers Trayer (left – Curmer & Lecou, 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 Curmer & Lecou 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:

Revues & 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 as well as the editions by Garnier Frères 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.^{7}

In what I define as the first octavo issue of “Voyages dans l’Inde” there are no plates done by Trayer, the plates from “Lettres sur l’Inde” were used, however, in what I define as the second issue there are several plates done by Trayer. Possibly Prince Soltykoff himself requested Trayer to redo some of the plates of the octavo edition, considering his involvement in his publications as already mentioned discussing the folio edition.

This raises the very interesting issue of the years of publication of the Curmer & Lecou and Garnier Frères editions. Both variants of the Curmer & Lecou edition have the imprint *Deuxième édition*, whereas both variants of the Garnier Frères editions have the imprint *Troisième édition*.

At 31st August 2026 according to WorldCat there are no copies in institutional libraries worldwide of a first edition by Curmer & Lecou, neither are there any auction records of a first edition. The same applies to the Garnier Frères edition, but now both for a first- or a second 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”. Apart from the corrections made by Léon de Wailly, the text is the same as that of “Voyages dans l’Inde”, though it has 32 plates only

Consequently the Curmer & Lecou editions are marked as a second edition and the Garnier Frères editions as a third edition. But when were they published? The Amyot edition has the imprint '1848' ^{8} on the title page; the Curmer & Lecou 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.

Sometimes, both by auction houses and dealers, it is mentioned in their description that part of the Curmer & Lecou edition 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. WorldCat only lists copies with the date of 1851.

The main difference between the two editions is that the Curmer & Lecou editions were published in two volumes sometimes bound as one, while the Garnier Frères editions were published in one volume only.

Collation of the octavo editions is as follows:

Collation of the Amyot edition of *Lettres sur l'Inde*:

3 blanks; half title with on the reverse side the text: *Typographie Dondey-Dupré, rue Saint-Louis 46, au Marais.*; titlepage; page with text: *PREMIER VOYAGE / 1841, 1842, 1843*; pp. 1-375; map with routes; 3 blanks.

Collation of the Amyot edition of *Lettres sur l'Inde* with corrections by Léon de Wailly:

Blank; page with text: *PREMIER VOYAGE / 1841, 1842, 1843*; half title with on the reverse side the text: *Typographie Dondey-Dupré, rue Saint-Louis 46, au Marais.*; titlepage; pp. 1-375; map with routes; blank.

Collation Curmer & Lecou octavo editions, first and second issue:

Vol. I: blank; gilt title page dated 1850; half title with on the reverse side the text: *Imprimerie Bénard et Comp. succ. Lacrampe, Rue Damiette, 2*; frontispiece; blank; titlepage dated 1851; page with text: *PREMIER VOYAGE / 1841, 1842, 1843*; map with routes; pp. 1-227; leaf with vignette on reverse side; blank.

Vol. II: blank; gilt title page dated 1850; half title with on the reverse side the text: *Imprimerie Bénard et Comp., succ. Lacrampe, Rue Damiette, 2*; frontispiece; blank; titlepage dated 1851; page with text: *PREMIER VOYAGE / 1841, 1842, 1843 / (suite,) / SECOND VOYAGE / 1845, 1846.*; pp. 1-267; leaf with vignette on reverse side; blank.

Collation Garnier Frères octavo edition, first issue:

2 blanks; half title with on the reverse side the text: Paris – Imp. Simon Baçon et Comp., Rue d'Erfurth. 1.; leaf with vignette on reverse side; plate nr. 27 'Vallée du Kanaour' as frontispiece; titlepage; map with routes; page with text: *PREMIER VOYAGE*; pp. 3-451; leaf with vignette on recto side; pp. 455/456 with Classement des gravures (plate index); blank.

Collation Garnier Frères octavo edition, second issue:

Blank; half title with on the reverse side the text: Paris – Imp. Simon Baçon et Comp., Rue d'Erfurth. 1.; leaf with vignette on reverse side; titlepage; map with routes; page with text: *PREMIER VOYAGE*; pp. 3-451; leaf with vignette on recto side; pp. 455/456 with Classement des gravures (plate index); blank.

All six copies of which the collation is given above are in the author's collection. Not only are there differences in the number of trailing and final blanks, but also in the sequence certain pages have been bound. Hence collation primarily should focus on completeness, as there may be small differences between copies.

Some of the copies published by Curmer & Lecou, bound as one, appeared in an ornate binding, while a few of the copies by Garnier Frères were bound in a matching luxurious binding. The evidence, bindings and the subsequent numbering of the editions, suggests that the publishers worked in close collaboration.

For the Garnier Frères 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 below ('Ceylan entre Colombo et Kandy'), has been redone by Trayer only in the second Curmer & Lecou issue, however, with a different title ('Villageois Cingalis'), as well as the plate numbered 7 with a slightly amended title as well ^{9}, while the plate numbered 34 ('Achat d'Armes a Delhi') in the first issue by Garnier Frères was done by Cupper, while in all other cases the stones done by De Rudder were used.

^{7} The copy auctioned by Christie's at their London sale of 21 September 2000, lot no. 382, bears a gift inscription by Soltykoff dated April 14th, 1853.

^{8} The British Library has a copy of this book, acquired in 1852, with the title page dated 1848 and a publisher's cover sheet dated 1849. So possibly the book was published first in 1849.

^{9} 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 the various editions is as follows:

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

Title pages

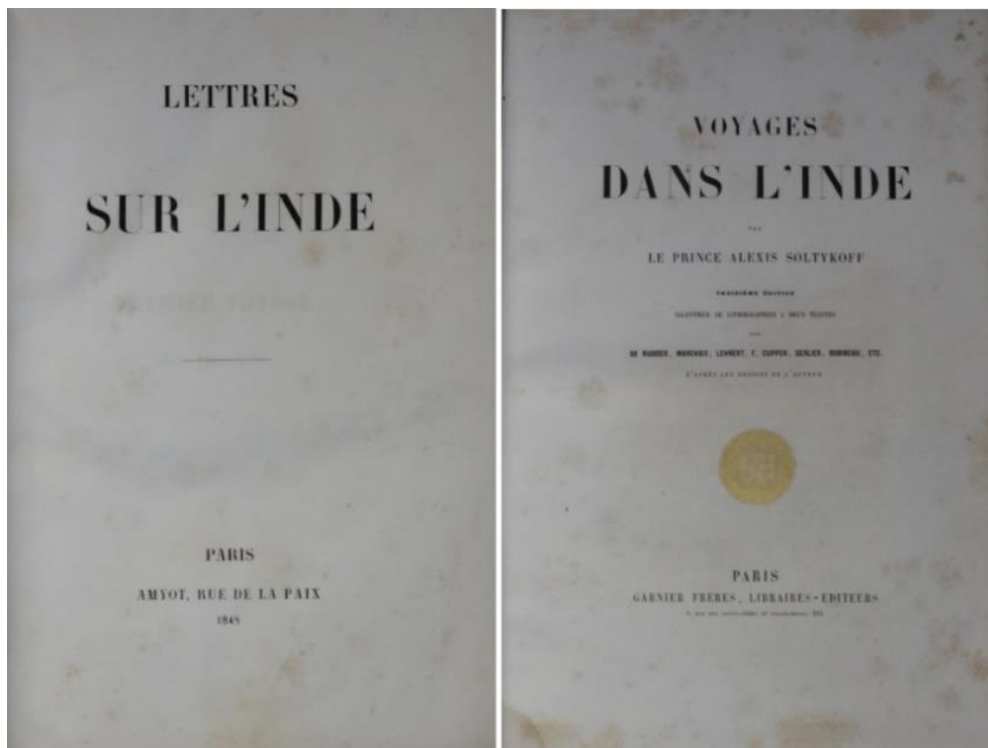
All four different title pages are shown below.

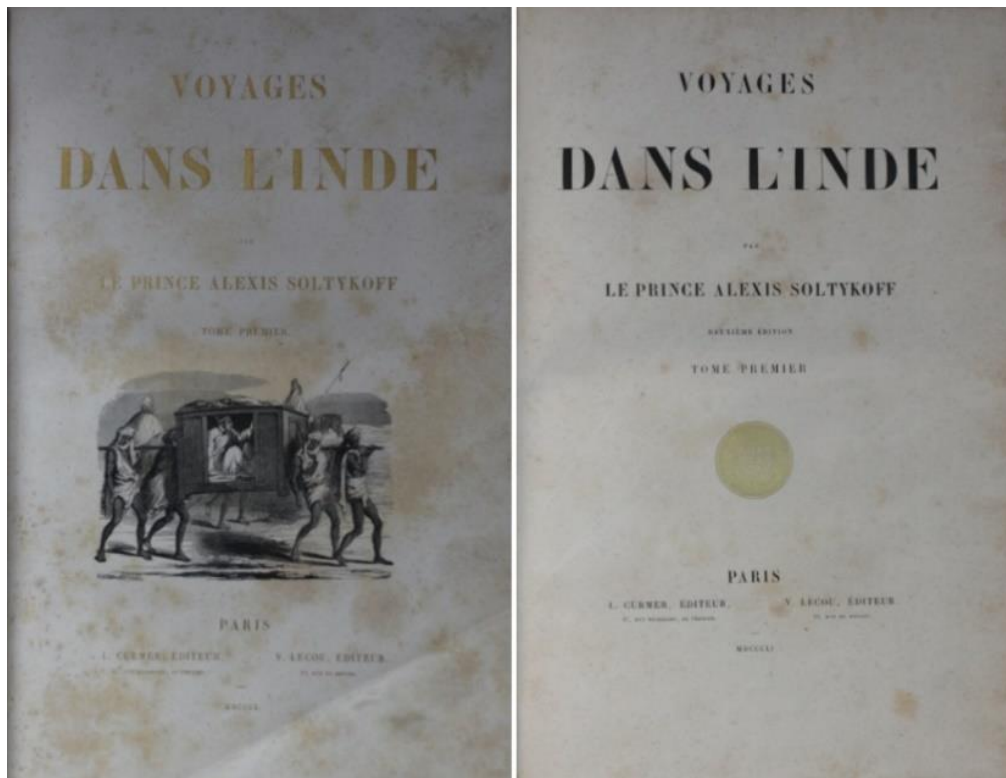
The printed title page of the first and second issue by Curmer & Lecou are fully identical as are the title pages of the first and the second issue by Garnier Frères.

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 in the octavo editions, followed by the initial of the name of the engraver. Curmer & Lecou has been abbreviated into C&L.

C = Cupper

G = Gerlier

L = Lehnert

M = Marchais

Ro = Robineau

Ru = De Rudder

T = Trayer

W = Walter

Anon = anonymous. The name of the engraver is not printed below the plate.

	Amyot	C&L 1st issue	C&L 2nd issue	Garnier 1st issue	Garnier 2nd issue
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1 Route entre Colombo et Kandy. Ceylon.	Ro 99x155	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
2 Ballet Dramatique. ^{10}	G 99x155	G	T 128x179	G	T
3 Offrande d'un Chef Kandien a un Temple de Bouddha aux environs de Kandy (Ceylan).	L 100x159	L	T 122x197	L	T
4 Prêtres de Boudha Cingalis a Kandy (Ceylan).	C 125x100	C	C	C	C
5 Fete de la Lune a Ceylan.	C 103x141	C	C	C	C
6 Ceylan entre Colombo.	Ro 155x99	Ro	T 175x125	Ro	Ro
7 Village de Gatiganawa a neuf milles de Kandy a Ceylan habité par les Rodias, exilés du tems des Rois de Kandy.	C 132x103	C	T 132x102	C	C
8 Procession religieuse dans les Galeries du Convent de Ramisseram pres Ceylan.	Ro 98x139	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
9 Procession a Madras.	C 107x140	C	Anon 107x140	Anon	Anon
10 Condjeveram, Ville Sainte dans le Karnatik aux environs de Madras, lieu de Pèlerinage des Indous.	C 101x140	Anon 101x140	Anon	Anon	Anon
11 Intérieur du Couvent de Condgeveram, a 40 milles de Madras.	Ro 100x155	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
12 Une Pagode a Madura.	L 100x159	L	T	L	T

	Amyot	C&L 1st issue	C&L 2nd issue	Garnier 1st issue	Garnier 2nd issue
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
13 Éléphants du Radja de Travancore. Travandrum.	C 94x139	C	C	C	C
14 Procession de la Déesse Kali.	C 96x139	C	C	C	C
15 Les Bords du Gange, près de Calcutta.	G 102x158	Anon 102x158	Anon	Anon	Anon
16 Environs de Calcutta.	W 101x159	W	W	W	W
17 Village Bengali des Bords du Gange.	Ro 99x155	Ro	Ro	Ro	Ro
18 Principale Rue de Luknow, Capitale du Royaume D'Aoude.	W 102x158	W	W	W	W
19 Voyage en Poste dans les Plaines du Pandjab entre Loudiana et Omritsar.	L 101x159	L	L	L	L
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	M 100x146	M	M	M

	Amyot	C&L 1st issue	C&L 2nd issue	Garnier 1st issue	Garnier 2nd issue
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
25 Danse Cachemirienne près de Simla.	NA	M 123x172	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	C 96x157	C	C	C
30 Cortège du Grand Mogol, à Delhi.	NA	M 100x139	M	M	M
31 Bords de L'Indus a Saccar Baccar. Le Matin.	G 96x155	G	G	G	G
32 Chasse aux Éléphants dans la Forêt de Karnigal.	Ru	Ru 111x140	Ru	Ru	Ru
33 La Cour du Roi de Gwalior.	Ru 90x143	Ru	Ru	Ru	Ru
34 Achat d'Armes a Delhi.	Ru	Ru 95x134	Ru	C 95x140	Ru
35 Arbre Banian sur la Lisière du Paria Djungle.	C 85x140	C	C	C	C
36 Arbre Bahnian dans le Paria Djungle.	C 100x139	C	C	C	C

Under the initial of the engraver's name the size of the print. Always Height x Width in the initial of the engraver's name the size of the print. Always Height x Width in millimeters.
The measurements of the various editions and issues are taken from my own examined copies.

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

^{10} 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 on India

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 14th april 1853 ^{11}). Only edition. ^{12}

No other edition mentioned in the *Bulletin du Bouquiniste* untill 1865, well after the death of Prince Soltykoff in 1859.

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, size 523 x 353 mm ^{13}; 42 duo-tone lithographs, each followed by one leaf of descriptive letterpress and preceded by the list of plates.

Grässe VI, page 433 mentions a price of FRF. 105 for this work.

The captions above the plates with the number of text pages in brackets followed by the size of the plate area (HxW in mm) ^{13}, without caption and imprints, are as follows:

1. Frontispiece	(1)	379x268
2. Femme Malabare	(1)	379x267
3. Rodias	(2)	369x264
4. Femmes de Bombay	(1)	355x257
5. Femmes de Bombay	(1)	376x277
6. Femme du radja de Kourg	(2)	376x272
7. Fille du radja de Kourg	(2)	355x261
8. Serviteurs Musulmans	(1)	330x268
9. Danseuses	(1)	323x258
10. Zémindar	(1)	358x275
11. Todha	(1)	375x251
12. Todhas	(1)	351x269
13. Todhas	(1)	356x271
14. Chef de Thugs	(2)	294x228
15. Porteur	(1)	367x264
16. Porteur	(2)	357x240
17. Fakir	(1)	352x223
18. Fakir	(1)	290x234
19. Fakirs	(1)	366x267
20. Fakir	(1)	284x229
21. Fakir	(1)	364x245
22. Fakir	(2)	302x234
23. Bhisti	(1)	358x246
24. Masaltchis	(1)	380x275
25. Khedmetgars	(1)	365x257

26. Masaltchi	(1)	316x243
27. Musulmans d'Ambala	(1)	392x266
28. Musulman de Chazadpore	(1)	392x266
29. Paharis de Himalaya	(1)	359x261
30. Paharis de Himalaya	(1)	379x288
31. Paharis de Himalaya	(1)	360x275
32. Paharis de Himalaya	(1)	383x292
33. Seigneurs Sindiens	(1)	358x264
34. Habitants de Kychengheur	(1)	365x278
35. Fakirs	(1)	368x268
36. Fakirs	(1)	371x281
37. Le Roi de Gwalior	(2)	369x289
38. Maha-Radja-Hindou-Rao-Bahadour	(2)	376x264
39. Nana-Pounoar	(1)	365x264
40. Madhou-Rao-Phaïkieah	(1)	362x263
41. Appa-Bholiah-Marhatta-Sardar	(1)	375x264
42. Nègre et Arabe	(1)	379x263

Plate imprints are as follows:

Upper right : the number of the plate

Bottom left : P^{ce}. A. Soltykoff del

Bottom middle: Paris – Imp Plista, r des Lions s^t Paul 8.

Bottom right : J. Trayer lith

Below these imprints in the middle: Paris H. Gache éditeur, rue de la Victoire 66.

The (first) text page has the number in the middle above the text: “ N^o 1. ”, “ N^o 2. ”, etc.

{11} The copy auctioned by Christie's at their London sale of 21 September 2000, lot no. 382, bears a gift inscription by Soltykoff dated April 14th, 1853.

{12} No other edition mentioned in the *Bulletin du Bouquiniste* up till 1865, well after the death of Prince Soltykoff in 1859. Apparently, after still having one or more copies in stock more than a decade after its publication, it was time to reduce the price as quoted by Grasse, as it is listed in 1865 on page 371 under nr. 2772 by “A. Aubry, Libraire à Paris” for FRF 28 only, mentioning the original price of FRF 105 (See illustration below).

A. AUBRY, LIBRAIRE, A PARIS.		374
2769. PINELLI. Istoria romana incisa all' acqua forte da Bartholomeo Pinelli, Romano. L'anno 1818 e 1819. Roma, in-fol. oblong, dem.-rel. mar. rou.		30 »
Recueil de 101 planches gravées représentant les principaux faits de l'histoire romaine.		
2770. ROFFENEL (A.). Nouveau voyage dans le pays des nègres, suivi d'Etudes sur la colonie du Sénégal et de documents historiques, géographiques et scientifiques. Paris, Chaix, 1856, 2 vol. gr. in-8, br. Orné de nombr. figures et carte.		7 »
2771. SAVOIE. Sabaudia antiquæ tabula geographica, a Albano Beaumont. 1802, gr. in-fol., br. 23 planches de monuments antiques, inscriptions et une carte.		6 50
2772. SOLTYSKOFF. Habitants de l'Inde, dessinés d'après nature par le prince Soltykoff, lithographiés à deux teintes par J. Trayer. Paris, in-fol., dem.-rel. Orné de 42 planches lithogr. sur fonds teintés.		28 »
Publié à 105 francs.		

{13} The size(s) taken from my copy.

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 Chieftains	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, Bombay	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.

Souvenirs de l'Inde – 24 sujets

No.	Caption	Name engraver
1 [1]	Route entre Colombo et Kandy. Ceylon.	F ^d Robineau
2 [2]	Ballet Dramatique.	Gerlier
3 [4]	Prêtres de Boudha Cingalis a Kandy (Ceylan).	F. Cupper
4 [3]	Offrande d'un Chef Kandien a un Temple de Bouddha aux environs de Kandy (Ceylan).	Lehnert
5 [6]	Ceylan entre Colombo.	E. Robineau
6 [7]	Village de Gatiganawa a neuf milles de Kandy a Ceylan habité par les Rodias, exilés du tems des Rois de Kandy.	F. Cupper
7 [10]	Condjeveram, Ville Sainte dans le Karnatik aux environs de Madras, lieu de Pélerinage des Indous.	F. Cupper
8 [5]	Fete de la Lune a Ceylan.	F. Cupper
9 [9]	Procession religieuse a Madras.	F. Cupper
10 [11]	Intérieur du Convent de Condjeveram, a 40 milles de Madras.	F. Robineau
11 [13]	Éléphants du Radja de Travancore. Travandrum.	F. Cupper
12 [14]	Procession de la Déesse Kali.	F. Cupper
13 [15]	Les Bords du Gange, près de Calcutta.	Gerlier
14 [16]	Environs de Calcutta.	Walter
15 [17]	Village Bengali des Bords du Gange.	F ^d Robineau
16 [19]	Voyage en Poste dans les Plaines du Pandjab entre Loudiana et Omritsar.	Lehnert
17 [21]	Sehir Sing Roi du Pandjab et sa suite allant a la chasse aux environs de Lahore.	J.F. Lehnert
18 [22]	Schir Sing revenant d'une Revue de Troupes aux environs D'Omritsar.	Lehnert
19 [23]	Habitation Européenne a Simla.	H. De Rudder
20 [26]	Temple Rustique aux environs de Simla, dans L'Himalaya près de la Cascade appelée l'Alpini.	Gerlier
21 [28]	Déota ou Temple Payen. Vallée du Kanaour.	Gerlier
22 [34]	Achat d'Armes a Delhi.	H. De Rudder
23 [35]	Arbre Banian sur la Lisière du Paria Djungle.	F. Cupper
24 [36]	Arbre Bahnian dans le Paria Djungle.	F. Cupper

Note 1) The numbers in [] are the numbers taken from the octavo editions of “Voyages dans l'Inde”.

Note 2) The names of the engravers above are explicitly as per the imprints under the plates, for instance: F^d Robineau, F. Robineau & E. Robineau or Lehnert & J.F. Lehnert.

Note 3) The caption under plate 17 reads: “Sehir Sing” instead of “Schir Sing”

Souvenirs de l'Inde – 25 sujets

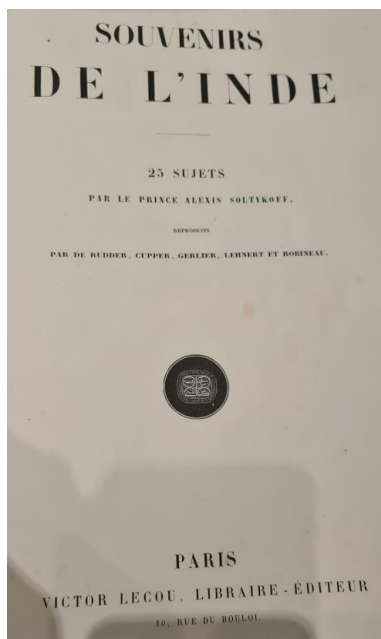
There is a copy in the library of the Institut de France with their shelf number 058538828.
It can be found on WorldCat under number 1243893650.

I was able to obtain only the library record of the Institut de France:

Identifiant pérenne de la notice : <https://www.sudoc.fr/058538828>

Type(s) de contenu (modes de consultation) : Texte

Titre	: Souvenirs de l'Inde, 25 sujets / Alexis Soltykoff
Auteur(s)	: Soltykoff, Alexis (1806-1859 ; Prince). Auteur
Date(s)	: [S.D.]
Langue(s)	: Français
Pays	: France
Editeur(s)	: Paris : Victor Lecou libraire-éditeur, [s.d.]
Description	: [25] pl. ; 34 cm
Notes	: Cartonnage d'éditeur
Origine de la notice	: OCLC
Liens externes WorldCat	: 1243893650



Books on Iran

Voyage en Perse.

1. The first edition was published in 1851 ^{14} 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 ^{15}), 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, each protected with a blank. Three plates (Arrivée à Téhéran; Nassr-Eddin-Mirza; Le premier ministre sortant de chez le roi;) drawn on the stone by Émile Beau and printed by Auguste Bry, while the other 17 plates were done by Trayer and printed by Plista.

^{14} Sometimes the work is described as having been published first in 1850, however, neither in institutional libraries, nor by auction houses or dealers copies are known to exist with a title page dated 1850. However, in the first edition copy of the BnF there is a red stamp below the year MDCCCLI reading “1850”.

^{15} List of chapters:
Introduction
La Caucase
De Tiflis à l’Arax
De Miana à Téhéran
Téhéran

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

2. There appears not to have been published a second edition. At 31st August 2026 WorldCat reveals no copies in institutional libraries and no auction or dealer records can be traced. 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 ^{16}), Liste des planches, Liste des planches ^{17}, p. 164 (continuation of the list of plates, final (blank) page with vignette on the verso side, 2 trailing blanks.
Illustrated with 22 lithographed plates hors texte, all protected with a blank.

^{16} List of chapters:
Introduction
La Caucase
De Tiflis à l’Arax
De l’Arax à Tabris

De Miana à Téhéran
Téhéran
Première audience
Le Baïram
Deuxième audience
Départ de Téhéran

{17} List of plates:	Size in mm (HxW)
-----	-----
Entrée de l'ambassade de Perse à Saint-Pétersbourg	136x220
Prince circassien	140x194
Environs de Vladikavkaze	142x224
Tiflis	139x222
Le monastère d'Utsch-Miadzine {18 a}	278x146
Aux approches de Nakhitschevan	133x222
Danse nocturne à Miana	140x199
Aspect de l'Irac	142x229
Le bazar de Zendjan	132x230
Hadji Mohammad à Saint-Pétersbourg {18 b}	141x295
Femmes persanes	135x225
Le bazar de Gazbine	137x219
Arrivée à Téhéran	132x181
Téhéran	137x214
Nassr-Eddin-Mirza {18 c}	126x192
Le premier ministre sortant de chez le roi	145x205
Fiction (<i>This plate not in the first edition</i>)	147x182
Réalité (<i>This plate not in the first edition</i>)	146x201
Mirza Naïbi-Saltana {18 d}	186x139
Le roi allant se promener	139x219
Le roi de Perse {18 e}	171x140
Retour de Téhéran à Saint-Pétersbourg	149x219

All plates drawn on the stone by Trayer and printed by Plista. The size of the plates taken from my copy.

{18} In the "Liste des planches" these plates have slightly different titles as follows:

- {18 a} Le monastère d'Etsch-Miadzine
- {18 b} Hadji-Mohammad à Saint-Pétersbourg
- {18 c} Nassr-Eddin-Mirza, héritier du trône
- {18 d} Mirza-Naïbi-Saltana
- {18 e} Le roi de Perse, Mohamed-Schah

[Binding of this 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.]

Voyages dans l'Inde et en Perse

Published by V. Lecou, Paris, 1853.

A publication with the map of India engraved by Ch. Walter and printed by Auguste Bry as frontispiece.

Octavo, 2 blanks, half title with printer's name (Plon Frères) on verso, title page, map, pp. 1~382, table of contents, (1), 8 (ads), 3~16 (ads).

Apart from the map with the routes as followed by the author in India no other illustrations.

Voyages dans l'Inde et en Perse

Published by Garnier Frères, Paris, 1858.

A publication with the map of India engraved by Ch. Walter and printed by Auguste Bry as frontispiece.

Octavo, 2 blanks, map, title page, pp. 1~382, table of contents.

Apart from the map with the routes as followed by the author in India no other illustrations.

Conclusion

This study has brought to light several aspects of the books by Prince Alexis Soltykoff hitherto overlooked by institutional libraries, auction houses and dealers.

Examples are, amongst others, the octavo editions describing Prince Soltykoff's voyages to India. It has been made clear that:

- "Lettres sur l'Inde", published by Amyot in 1848 is to be considered the first illustrated text edition of "Voyages dans l'Inde";
- Léon de Wailly made a few corrections which were implemented in the Curmer & Lecou edition, published under the altered title "Voyages dans l'Inde".
- the Curmer & Lecou editions of "Voyages dans l'Inde", published in two volumes, bear the inscription "deuxième édition" (second edition) because it is the same book as "Lettres sur l'Inde". There do not exist copies with a title page of a first edition;
- the Garnier Frères editions of "Voyages dans l'Inde", published in one volume, bear the inscription "troisième édition" (third edition). Textually it is the same book as the one published by Curmer & Lecou. There do not exist copies either with a title page of a first edition or with a title page of a second edition;
- that there exist two issues of the editions by both Curmer & Lecou and Garnier Frères, where some of the plates were re-engraved;
- the plates for the folio edition of "Voyages dans l'Inde", at least for a part, already were printed in 1849;
- one or more plates of the folio format exist in two variants where it concerns the imprints above the plate;
- some plates of "Habitants de l'Inde" were published for the second time in "Indian scenes and characters".
- it is unlikely that a second edition of "Voyage en Perse" ever was published;
- there are textual differences between the first and third edition of "Voyage en Perse";
- plates were added to the third edition of "Voyage en Perse".