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XVI. *An Account of some Sculptures in the Cave Temples of Ellora.* By Captain ROBERT MELVILLE GRINDLAY, M.R.A.S. Accompanied by Plates.

Read Dec. 6, 1828.

THE accompanying drawings of some of the sculptures in the cave temples of Ellora were made in the year 1813; since which time, until very recently, they have been in the possession of the Honourable Lady Hood (now Mrs. Stewart Mackenzie), for whom they were executed: and I have availed myself of that lady's permission to make them public through the medium of the Royal Asiatic Society.

The superiority of these sculptures is universally acknowledged by all who have visited these stupendous excavations, as well as their antiquity over perhaps any other building now existing in India.

The magnificence of design, the justness of proportion, and the surpassing richness of ornament displayed in these shrines, have been already too well described by Mr. Erskine* to require any further mention here.

The four drawings represent the following subjects:

No. 1. MÁHÁDÉVA, DACSHA, and NANDA.

No. 2. BHADRA, or VÍRA BHADRA.

No. 3. JAYAD RATHA, called also DYTÁSUR SIVA. SIVA having obtained the chariot of SURYA, or the sun, is in pursuit of the demon TRIPURA.

No. 4. BHAIRAVA or BHYRU.

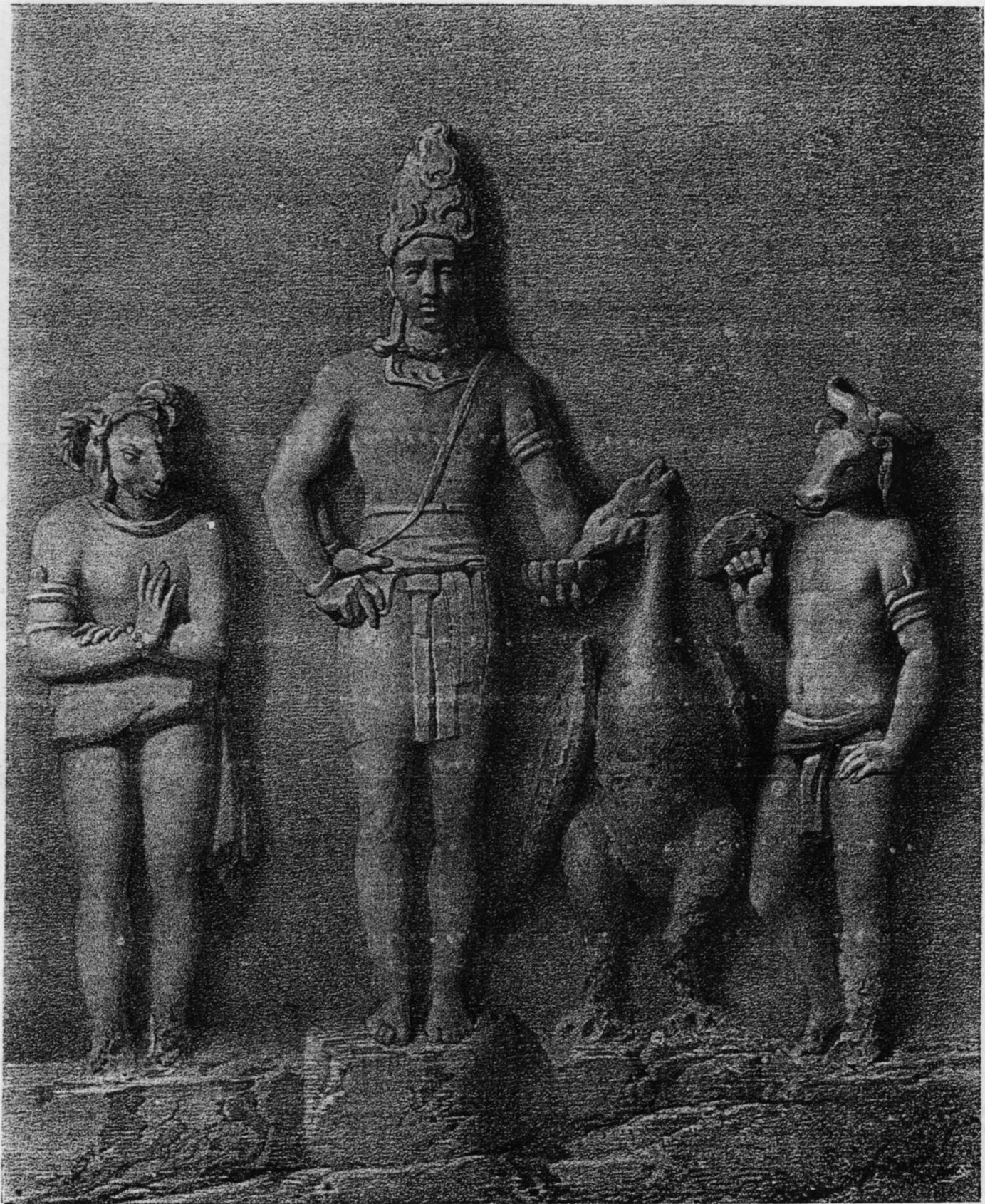
It may be proper to remark, that these figures are as nearly as possible fac-similes of the outlines made on the spot with the most scrupulous regard to accuracy of form and proportion, by a hand too unpractised to lend either embellishment or correction to the objects portrayed.

These figures will probably be received as evidence that the art of sculpture formerly existed in India in a much higher state of perfection

* In the first volume of the Transactions of the Bombay Literary Society.

than is generally supposed; and this assumption is further confirmed by an arm from one of the colossal figures at Elephanta, now in the possession of Sir Charles Forbes, Bart. M.P., which is considered by artists to indicate a highly refined taste in sculpture.

The figures, as well as the ornamental sculpture at Ellora, are, however, of superior execution to those at Elephanta.



Goblet del.

L. Haghe lithog.

MÂHÂDÊVA, DACSHA AND NANDA,
Sculptured figures in the Cave Temple of Koutas, at Ellora.
Drawn by Capt. G. M. Brindley, 1813 for the Hon^{ble} Lady Hood.
Lithographed for the Royal Asiatic Society by W. Day, 27 Gate St^h.



Osbert del.

B H A D R A .

*A Sculptured Figure in one of the Cave Temples of Citorat.
Drawn by Capt. R. M. Brendlay 1813, for the Hon. the Lady Harcourt.
Lithographed for the Royal Asiatic Society by W. Dill at the Press.*



Goblet del.

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JÄYÄD-RAT'HAN

*A. Sculptured figure in the Cave Temple of Khyllus at Elloral.
 Drawn by Capt. R. M. Brindley, 1813 for the Hon^{ble} Lady Bount.
 Lithographed for the Royal Asiatic Society by W. Day, 17, Grace Str^t*



BHAI RAVA

The Sculptured Figure in the Cave Temple of Koylas, at Ellora

Drawn by Capt. W. M. Smith, 1813, for the Hon^{ble} Lady Hood.

Engraved by W. Day, 17, Gate Street.