

COIR, in the *Manufactures*, the Asiatic name of a strong vegetable fibre, prepared from the husks of the cocoa-nut, and much used in the East Indies in the manufacture of cables and cordage. Dr. William Roxburgh, a corresponding member of the Society of Arts, London, residing at Celeutia, in 1801, transmitted to that learned body, the detail of his experiments on hemp, and twenty other different sorts of vegetable fibre, with the view of ascertaining their relative strength, when white, when tanned, and when tarred; these will be found in the 22d volume of their Transactions. In 1806, the same ingenious gentleman transmitted to the society the results of his further experiments, on the above mentioned 21 vegetable fibres, in the three states above named, both when fresh, and after 116 days maceration in water, during the hot season; these were for ascertaining the effects of tanning and tarring ropes made of these substances, both as the same affected their strength at first, and preserved them from decay by wet. See Transf. Soc. Arts xxiv. 147.