

utmost Efforts to bring back his Troops to the Charge.

Himself
taken with
his Wives
and Gran-
dees,

While this passed upon the Right, the *Mogul*, surrounded by *Rajas* and *Ragipous*, who had sworn rather to fall every Man of them, than to abandon him, supported his Fortune with a little better Grace. But seeing himself surrounded on all sides, and not willing to expose so many brave Men to certain Death, he sent to inform *Kouli Kan*, that he was ready to surrender at Discretion; that he only begged of him to let the Battle cease, and to pardon those who still continued upon the Defensive, but who were all willing to lay down their Arms. This Message disarmed the Fury of the *Schah*, who gave that Moment such good Orders, that instantly there was a Suspension of the Combat; during which the *Mogul*, with all his Women, rode up to the *Schah*, and submitted to his Mercy. All that remained of the *Indian* Troops had their Arms taken from them: Their Camp, and all their Riches, fell into the Hands of the *Persians*. As to the Elephants, they had never been untied from the Place where they stood, their Conductors having abandoned them at the Signal of the Engagement.

How *Kou-
li Kan*
treats him

This Action happened near a Village called *Corbaal*, twenty-five Leagues from *Thom-à-bat*, on the 22d of February 1739. *Kouli Kan* at the first would not see *Mahmet-Cha*, for fear (as was reasonably thought) of augmenting his Affliction, by the Presence of his Conqueror. He had him conducted into a magnificent Tent, and gave him a Guard; which,

which, at the same time that it did him Honour, prevented his Escape. He likewise secured the greatest Part of the *Omrabs*, or *Grandees*, and endeavoured to gain over the *Rajas*. Some of the Former very soon forgot their antient Master, and engaged in the Conqueror's Interest: Nor were there even wanting those who advised this Hero to rid his Hands of *Mahmet-Gha*, or to shut him up for Life, and to unite the two Empires of *Indostan* and *Persia*: But *Kouli Kan* rejected all these Counsels.

It is impossible to compute the Value of The Vic- the Booty, which the *Persians* made in the torsets out *Mogul's* Camp: Camels were loaded with for *Deli*. the very Jewels and ready Coin that they found there. *Kouli Kan* having got these collected together, and taken the greatest Part of them into his own Hands, resolved to pay a Visit to *Deli*, the Capital of *Indostan*; and, as soon as his Troops were a little recovered from their Fatigues, set out for that purpose.

Mahmet-Gha, during the Journey, was carried in a sort of Prison, placed upon the Back of an Elephant. In this Vehicle the Prisoner lies upon his Back, and can neither see nor speak to any Body. His Wives were carried in the same Manner; and as for the captive *Omrabs*, they were convey'd in Litters, or Sedans.

Deli, *Dehli*, or *Dilli*, which the *Indians* likewise call *Sjah Ibaen-à-bat*, that is, the Situation of that City, Royal Residence or Colony of *Gha-John*, is named in Latin *Dellium* by Father *Riccioli*. It is situated in 78 Degrees 20 Minutes Longi-

Longitude, and in the Latitude of 28 Degrees 25 Minutes North.

New Deli. Writers distinguish two *Deli's*, the Old and the New, of which the latter was built by *Cha-Jehan* the Father of *Aureng-Zeb*, (1) at the beginning of the preceding Century. It joins to Old *Deli*, and was denominated by its Founder *Cha-Jehan-Abad*, which the *Indians* pronounce, as before-mentioned, *Jhoen-à-bat*. His Design was to make it the Capital of his Empire, in the room of *Agra*, where he found the Heats too excessive. The Ruins of the old City furnished Materials for building the New, which stands in a level champain Country, upon the Banks of a River called *Gemma*. It runs along only on one side of that River, in such manner as to form a kind of Bow, or Crescent, and, except next to the Water, is every where surrounded with Walls. These Walls are of Brick, without Ditches, and flanked only with round Towers in the antient Manner, at the Distance of an hundred Paces from each other; with a Rampart of Earth behind all of 4 or 5 Foot thick. If we include with *Deli* a very long Suburb, which extends towards *Labor*, and alone seems like a regular Town with three or four Suburbs, we shall find it inhabited for above a League in a strait Line. But the Circumference of the whole Place, including Gardens and vacant Spaces, is almost incredible.

(1) See *Bernier's Voyages*, and *Martiniere's Dictionary*.

The Citadel, in which stands the Seraglio and other Royal Apartments, is built in a Semi-circle facing the River ; yet not so close to the Banks but that there is an extensive gravelly Area between, where the Elephants are daily taught their Exercise, and where the Troops of the *Omrahs* and *Rajas* are frequently reviewed in Presence of the Emperor, who on that Occasion looks out at one of the Windows of his Palace. The Walls of this Fortress, like those of the City, are flanked with round Towers in the antient Manner, built partly of Brick, and partly of a red Stone that nearly resembles Marble. They are somewhat higher, stronger, and thicker than those of the Town, towards which are pointed from them several Field Pieces, to awe the Inhabitants. A beautiful Moat, lined with hewn Stone, and full of Water and Fish, surrounds it entirely, except fronting the River ; and without the Moat extends all around a very spacious and verdant Garden, which in all Seasons of the Year is full of Flowers and blooming Shrubs. This Garden is again encompassed with the Royal Square, into which open the two principal Gates of the Citadel, that lead into the two capital Streets of the whole City. In this vast Opening are erected the Tents of the *Rajas*, who are in the Emperor's Pay, and wait there to perform their Office of mounting Guard once a Week. The *Omrahs* have Barracks, and do Duty in the Fortifications. Early in the Morning they bring out upon this Square the King's Horses, which are kept in a prodigious long Stable

near adjacent. The same Place serves for the Market of several sorts of Commodities, and the Rendezvous of an infinite Number of Quacks and Jugglers.

Chief
Streets.

The two chief Streets in *Deli*, that is, those which run strait from the two Gates of the Citadel and the great Square, are about 25 or 30 Paces broad, and extend in length as far as a good Eye can carry; but that which leads to the Gate of *Labor* is much the longest of the two. With regard to the Buildings, these Streets are every where much alike, and consist in Front of two long Ranges of Piazzas, without any Apartments over them. These Arcades are usually separated by thin Partitions, which make them into so many open Shops, in which Artisans work, Bankers transact their Affairs, and Tradesmen dispose of their Commodities. At Night they shut up their respective Goods in Ware-houses, which lie at the Back of every Arch, and where they are kept till Morning under Lock and Key. Over these Magazines, and quite behind the Arcades, are raised the Dwelling-houses of the Tradesmen, which appear pretty enough towards the Street, and are in fact very commodious and airy. The Top of each Arch serves for an Area before the ~~House~~ *House*, where the Inhabitants come to look down in the Street, and where they sometimes lie and sleep. But these handsome Houses are not always contiguous like the Arcades, there being many of the Ware-houses that have only a small Apartment a-top or on one Side of them, which is not seen in the Street;

the

the Masters of the Shops having their Dwelling-houses elsewhere, to which they retire in the Evening.

There are five other Streets in *Deli* that resemble the above described two, but are neither so long nor so strait; and these are every where crossed by an infinite Number of small ones. In these the petty *Omrahs*, the Lawyers, and the Magistrates, have their Houses promiscuously with private Persons. Very few of them are entirely of Brick or Stone, and much the greatest Number have only earthen Walls, with thatch'd Roofs, Courts before, and Gardens behind. Their Inside is agreeable enough, because, over and above their gay Furniture, you see a Range of long hard Canes, that support the Straw Covering, and are equally strong and beautiful; and the Walls are plaistered with a very fine white Sort of Lime.

As to the Inside of the Citadel, which incloses several Royal Buildings besides the Seraglio, there is nothing remarkable at the Entrance but two Stone Elephants, which stand on the two Sides of the Gates. The Statue of *Jemel*, the Famous *Raja* of *Chitor*, Statues, is upon one of them, and that of *Polta* his Brother upon the other. These were the Men, who with their Mother, a Woman of astonishing Spirit, gave the most extraordinary Proofs of Valour in the Sieges that they sustained against *Akbar*, and chose rather to be killed in sallying forth than to surrender. It was in regard to this surprising Bravery, that their Enemies themselves thought them worthy

worthy of having Statues erected to their Memory.

Streets
within the
Citadel.

After you have passed this Gate, which is one of the two above-mentioned, you come into a pretty large Street, which is divided in the Middle by a Canal of running Water. On each Side of this Street there is an Elevation of 5 or 6 Foot high, and four broad, and behind it a Row of close Arcades, resembling a long Gate-way. Upon this Elevation sit all the Clerks, Comptrollers, and other Officers, where they perform the Business of their Function, without being incommoded by the People and Horses that pass below in the Street. The Water of the Canal expands itself all over the Seraglio, and then making two Streams falls into the Moat and fills it. Another Canal, that runs under Covert 5 or 6 Leagues, brings this Water out of the main River, and was conducted with much Labour and Expence cross the Country, and even amid Rocks, which in many Places they were obliged to cut thro'.

When you enter the Citadel by the other Gate, you come likewise to a broad long Street, that has, like the former, its Divans or Elevations on the Sides, with Shops above instead of Arcades. This is properly a *Besar* or Market, which is very convenient during the rainy and sultry Seasons, because being vaulted all over, with Openings at top to let in the Light, it defends against all the Inclemencies of Weather.

Besides these two large Streets, there are a great Number of small ones on the Right and Left, which lead to the Apartments where
the

the *Omrabs* keep Guard. These are very magnificent Buildings, and have nothing of the Appearance of Guard-houses. You see besides many other Divans and Tents erected in different Places, which are the Offices or Compting-houses of Men in Posts. Likewise many spacious Halls, whither all sorts of Mechanicks repair in the Morning, work Mechanicks there all Day, and in the Evening go home to their Houses; every one leading an easy, tranquil Life, without aspiring above that Rank or Condition he was born in. Thus one Family are all Taylors, another all Shoemakers by Descent, and not one among them marries but to a Daughter of the same Profession. This Rule is religiously observed, not only among the *Pagans*, who are obliged to it by their Law, but with very few Exceptions among the *Mahometans* themselves.

Beyond all these Apartments, you come at The *Am-* last to the *Amkas*, a sort of Royal Structure. *kas*, or It is a large square Court, surrounded with Place of Arcades, without any Building upon them. Audience. The Arches are separated from each other by a Wall, with a small Postern that makes a Passage thro' them all. Over the great Gate, that is in the Middle of one of the Sides of this Square, there is a large Divan next to the Court, called *Nagur Kanay*. This is the Rendez-vous of the Trumpets, Haut-bois, and Drums, which play together in Concert at certain Hours, both by Day and Night. Over-against this Gate, and beyond all the Court, there is a large and magnificent Hall, supported by several Ranks of Pillars, which, as the Cicling, are all neatly painted as well and

and gilt. This Hall is spacious and lofty, and opens on the three Sides that lead into the Court. In the Middle of the other Wall, which separates it from the great Seraglio, there is an Opening like a kind of Window, very broad and high, and so far from the Ground that you cannot reach the Bottom of it with your Hand. Here it is that the King, or Emperor of the *Moguls*, appears seated upon his Throne, with his Sons by the Sides of him, and several Eunuchs standing near, some of whom drive away the Flies with Peacocks Tails, and others give him fresh Air with large Fans. At some Distance below, all the *Omrahs*, all the *Rajas*, and the Embassadors of Foreign Princes, stand around him upon a Divan, inclosed with a Silver Balustrade; their Eyes cast down, and their Hands across upon their Stomachs. Lower still are the *Manebdars*, who also stand in the same Posture; and beyond them, spread over all the Hall and the Court, a vast Croud of People of all Ranks. Here his Majesty about Noon every Day gives Audience to his People in general; from whence the Hall received the Name of *Amkas*, which signifies the common Place of Audience.

The *Mogul's* Diversions at the Time of Audience.

This Ceremony lasts about an Hour and an half; during which Time, the Monarch diverts himself with looking at some of the finest Horses in his Stables, and several Elephants, who are brought out, and walked before him. The Elephants have their Bodies clean washed, and painted Black, except that two large Streaks of Red descend from the top of the Head to the Trunk, where they

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they unite. They are also covered, on this Occasion, with an embroidered Cloth, from each Side of which hangs down a Silver Bell, and the End of a large Silver Chain, to which the Bell is fastened, and which passes over the Creature's Back. The Tails of Cows, which are brought from *Great Thibet*, and are extremely white and dear, stick out from their Ears like large Whiskers; and two small Elephants, well dressed, walk by the Side of each large one, as if to wait on him. When these vast Colossuses come before the King, the Conductor, who sits on the Shoulders of each with a large Iron Hook in his Hand, pricks his Beast, and by kicking him makes him bend one Knee, lift up his Trunk in the Air, and set up a sort of Howl, which the People take for a Salutation of his Majesty.

What serves for a Throne at this Ceremony is a small Bed, about the Size of one of our Campaign Beds, standing upon four Columns, with a Tester, a Back, a Bolster, and a Counterpane, all over beset with Diamonds. When the Monarch comes to sit upon it, they spread over it a Coverlid of Gold Brocade, or some other rich variegated Stuff. He ascends to it by three low Steps, of about two Foot in length. On one Side of the Bed stands an Umbrella, raised upon a Pole of about the length of a Half-Pike, and to every Column is fastened some Piece of the King's Armour, as to one his Buckler, to another his Sabre, to the Third his Bow, and to the Fourth his Quiver and Arrows.

From the great Hall of the *Amkas* you enter

The *Cofel-Kame*. enter another less large, but however very spacious, richly painted and gilded, and with the Pavement raised 4 or 5 Feet above the Ground, like a magnificent Anti-Chamber. Here the Emperor, sitting in a Chair, with his *Omrahs* standing round him, gives private Audience to his Officers, receives their Accompts, and treats of the most important Affairs of State. They are obliged to be present every Evening at this Assembly, as in the Morning at the *Amkas*. They call this State-Room the *Cofel Kamé*.

Mosques.

On the Left Hand of the Court that contains the first Hall, you see a small Mosque, extremely well built, the Dome of which is all over covered with Lead most beautifully gilt, which makes it be taken for massy Gold. Here the Monarch goes every Day to Prayers, except *Fridays*, when he repairs to the great Mosque in the Middle of the City, where it stands upon a Rock that was made level to support it, and to give a fine Prospect all around, especially to the four Streets that here meet, and point directly to the four Corners of the Mosque. The three Entries of this Temple are magnificent. To arrive at them, you ascend 25 or 30 Steps of large beautiful Stones. Every one of these Steps quite surrounds the Place, except the last, which is cased with other large hewn Stones, to cover the Unevenness of the Rock. This noble Elevation contributes much to make the Building appear to advantage. The whole Structure is of Marble, and all its Gates are covered with Plates of Brass, exceedingly well wrought. Over the Principal appear some small

small Turrets of white Marble, and upon the back Part of the Mosque arise three large Domes, which are also of white Marble within and without. The middle one is much the largest, and higher than the others. All the Body of the Mosque, from these three Domes to the grand Portal, is open a-top, on account of the extreme Heat of the Country. The Pavement consists entirely of Marble Squares.

When his Majesty goes on *Fridays* to pay The *Mosque* his Devotions at this Temple, two or three *gul's* Cavalcade to Hundred Musketeers, drawn up in Ranks, wait for him at the Gates of the Citadel thro' the great Mosque, which he passes, and about the same Number are planted along the great Street that leads to the Mosque. He rides upon an Elephant richly caparisoned, under a Canopy supported by Pillars that are finely painted and gilt; or else on a Throne shining with Gold and Azure, that stands on a kind of Litter, or rather portable Stage, all covered with Scarlet and Brocade, and carried by eight Hundred Men upon their Shoulders. A long Train of *Omrahs* follow him, some on Horse-back, and others in a Sort of Litters, which they call *Paleki*.

There is in *Deli* one more remarkable Building, called the *Princess's Caravanfera*; The *Princess's Caravanfera*. because *Begum-Sabek*, eldest Daughter of *Chahabhan*, had it erected, in order to contribute her Part towards the Embellishment of the City; a Point in which all the *Omrahs* endeavoured to outvy each other, by way of Complaisance to their Sovereign. It is a large square, surrounded with Arcades, each of which is separated from the others by Wain-

feot Partitions. In the back Part of each Arch there is a small Apartment, and over the whole Range a Gallery, which surrounds the Building, and carries to the same Number of upper as there are lower Rooms. This *Caravanfera* is the Rendezvous of all great Merchants, who come from *Persia*, *Usbeck* and other foreign Countries. The Apartments are so numerous, that they are seldom all full; and so convenient, that no other Lodging is wanted. Such is the City of *Deli*, the Capital of *Indostan*.

Kouli Kan *Kouli Kan* entered this City as a Conqueror before whom every Thing gave way. The People came out to meet him, and strewed all the Ways he passed with Flowers; either thro' a Principle of Fear, or because the People are always inconstant, and still imagine they shall find some private Advantage in all Revolutions of this nature.

Account of the Prisoners. The *Persian* Army encamped in the Neighbourhood of *Deli*, and had more Prisoners than their own Number amounted to; no fewer than 200,000, all tied together in Couples, and among them many *Omrahs*. Some of these latter were *Dilaat Mahmet-Can*, the Brother of *Sadat-Can*, of whom we spoke before; *Zoufom-Dowla*, *Can-Dowroen*, *Gusseine-Sjach*, Governor or Vice-roy of *Indostan*, who had been wounded, it was thought, mortally, but had the good Fortune however to escape. His Brother, named *Mossaffaer-Can*, was killed in the Field of Battle: His Son, *Miaffoer*, was taken Prisoner without being wounded; as were also *Wassellii-Can*, *Amies-Can*, *Ali-Mahmet-Can*, *Mir-Haffan-Can*, *San-*

gina, Affieraf-Can, Actabaer-Can, Ackkel-Nick-Can, Ali-Achmet-Can, Sjaldet-Can an *Agwan*, and *Fermin Pibay* Great-Master of the Ordnance; not to mention above three Hundred other Officers of Distinction, whose Names have not been transmitted to *Europe*.

It was a very mortifying Spectacle for the *How the Indians*, to see so many of their Countrymen, Victor of their Relations, their Friends, all in Irons, poses of Not a Man however thought of delivering them. one of them; whether it was that the Name alone of *Kouli Kan* had struck a Damp upon all their Spirits, or that the People had entertained on Antipathy for *Mahmet-Cha*, and the Grandees of his Court. However that might be, every thing remained quiet; and those Prisoners who were desirous of Liberty, were obliged to buy it at an exorbitant Price; the common Soldiers only excepted, of whom part were sent into *Persia*, to be employed in the Mines; and the rest were sold for Slaves, some at *Deli*, and others in other Cities of *Indostan*, to be carried into foreign Countries. Such was the Fate of this prodigious Number of Troops, which *Mahmet-Cha* had brought into the Field with him. I should have mentioned that 30,000 of them fell in the Field of Battle, or were killed in the Flight.

The first thing *Kouli Kan* did, was to dis- His Treat- arm all the Inhabitants of *Deli*. He forbade ment of the the *Omrahs* to keep more than one Horse, *Omrahs* and one Domestic; which very much morti- and *Rajas*. fied those Gentlemen, who till that Time would, some of them, maintain four Hundred Horsemen, with Footmen and Slaves in

proportion. As to the *Rajas*, or Pagan Sovereigns who were Vassals to the *Mogul*, he sent them all home to their own Territories well knowing, that he had nothing to apprehend from their Quarter, as there was scarce one of them who was not dissatisfied with *Mahmet-Cha*. He also restored to them those of their Subjects that were found among the Prisoners, without Ransom.

He assumes
pompous
Titles.

All the Honours that had been paid to the Great *Moguls*, did this Conqueror assume to himself in *Deli*. In every Decree he published he took the superb Titles of *King above all the Kings who have a long time reigned, Victorious over the Turks and the Indians*. He had Coin struck at *Deli*, in which he was represented on Horse-back, with this pompous Legend round his Effigy.

Catastrophe of the
Mogul Ladies.

The *Moguls* have a House of Pleasure four Leagues from *Deli*, which is very delightful and built in a good Taste. *Kouli Kan* went thither to pass some Days, and to relax his Spirits a little after the Toils of War. Then he gave Orders to have the late Emperor *Mahmet-Cha* brought before him, with all the chief Ladies of his Court. This was done with regard to *Mahmet-Cha*; but as to the Ladies, *Milko Semanio Begum*, Daughter of the deceased Emperor *Farogzier*, imagining that some Violence was intended against her Person, swallowed a subtle Poison which she had artfully concealed, and advised the other Ladies to follow her Example. The greater Part of them did so, and died with this unfortunate Princess.

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Mahmet-Cha was taken out of his Cage by *Mahmet-Cha* dined the *Schah's* Order, who received him with great Demonstrations of Affection. They with the *Schah*. dined together, in company with the chief Officers of the *Persian* Army. After the Repast was over, *Kouli Kan* told the unhappy *Mogul*, that he would give him his Liberty, and re-establish him in his Dominions, the Moment he had frankly owned where all his Treasures were hid, and given sufficient Security for the annual Tribute stipulated in the Treaty; for that it was no more than just to take from him the Means of assisting hereafter the Rebels of *Candahar*.

The *Mogul* consented to all, very sincerely Ratified delivered up his whole Wealth, gave all the late Hostages and other Securities that were required, and ratified the Treaty before-mentioned, the Breach of which had been the Occasion of the late Battle. He now thought himself very happy, that he could recover his Empire at any Price.

By this Transaction *Kouli Kan* became Master of all the Riches of the *Indies*. He took Possession of the precious Throne before described, and of all the Jewels of the Crown of *Indostan*.

Furthermore, under Pretence of taking from The *Deli-Mogul* all Means of giving future Assistance to the Rebels of *Candahar*, he put it out of his Power, at least for a long while, to recover the Provinces that he had taken from him by this Treaty. He imposed a Tribute, at the rate of so much per Head, upon all the Inhabitants of *Deli*: Which was looked upon as such an Act of Tyranny, that those who had the charge of collecting the Capitation, drew

The HISTORY of

on themselves the Hatred of all the People. This made no Diminution, however, either of their Severity or their Insolence. The People laid their Complaints before the Conqueror's Feet, who shewed not the least Regard to them. Irritated at this, the Citizens began to give ill Language to his Officers, and even to greet them with Blows; which *Kouli Kan* no sooner heard, but he ordered his Army to march into the City, and live at Discretion upon the Inhabitants. The *Persian* Soldiers committed many Excesses, and used the Natives rather as their Slaves than their Hosts, taking every Opportunity of draining their Purses, and insulting their Persons.

He attempts to seize the Effects of those who died in Arms against him.

But what entirely alienated Mens Minds from the Conqueror, was the Attempt he made to appropriate to himself all the Effects of the *Grandees*, who died in Arms against him in the preceding Battles. Tho' it was customary for the great *Moguls* to use this Prerogative with regard to all who died, whether in War or otherwise; they took it however very ill that *Kouli Kan* was not content either with the imperial Treasures, or with the exorbitant Taxes that he had imposed upon private Persons, but that his Avarice should carry him even to deprive the Living of their Inheritance from the Dead. In a Word, all his Conduct appeared to them so odious and so tyrannical, that the greatest Part of the *Omrahs*, to whom he had given their Liberty, conspired against his Life.

A Conspiracy against him.

On the 17th of *March*, fifty of these *Omrahs*, having assembled privately together, agreed to repair to the *Seraglio* where the *Sehab* then

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then resided. They were to take all, as much as possible different Ways, and so to meet as it were by accident in the Guard-Room that lay nearest the Conqueror's Person; there to massacre the Soldiers, then to break open the Door of his Apartment, and finally to lay their Oppressor dead at their Feet.

It is not known by what Means *Kouli Kan* He e-
got Intelligence of this Conspiracy: But thus^{scapes, and}
much is certain, that he was not informed of^{the Conspi-}
it till it was just upon the Point of execution.^{rators are}
He had barely Time to make his Escape into^{taken.}
a Mosque not far remote, and to send Word
to the Captain of his Guards, that a Compa-
ny of Traitors were coming to assassinate him.
The Officer was putting his Men in a Posture
of Defence, when the *Omrahs* entered the
Room Sword in Hand, and were bravely re-
ceived at the Pike's End. The Conspirators,
who did not expect to find Men so much up-
on their Guard (for it was late at Night) be-
haved with great Resolution, and pushed with
their Swords to the Right and Left: But they
were very soon convinced of their Mistake,
and obliged to surrender. Not one of them
escaped, nor was there one killed upon the
Spot; and though more than Twenty were
wounded, three only died some Days after.

Next Morning *Kouli Kan*, before he quitted He orders
the Mosque he had retired to, resolved to take a cruel Re-
a bloody Revenge for the Design formed a-venge.
gainst him. He ordered the captive Conspi-
rators to be empaled under the Walls of the
Temple; and then sending for his Generals,
commanded them to put all their Troops un-
der Arms, to take Possession of all the Streets
and

and Quarters of the City, to plunder every House, and to put to the Sword every Inhabitant, without Distinction of Age or Sex. Immediately was seen the most horrible Slaughter that ever History recorded. The *Persian* Soldiers pillaged, violated, and massacred without Mercy. The River *Gemma*, upon which the City of *Deli* is built, was very soon dyed with the Blood of these unhappy Victims.

*Nazamel-
molk* expo-
sulates
with him
boldly.

Alarmed at the Noise made by the Tumult of this bloody Scene, *Nazamelmolk*, who was still detained a Prisoner upon the Occasion before related, found Means to escape out of his Captivity, got Information that *Schah Nadir* was in the Mosque near the *Seraglio*, and rushed into his Presence. He found this Conqueror eating of Sweet-meats, and feeding his Eyes with the frightful Tragedy which his Soldiers were acting. *I know very well*, said the *Omrab* as he drew near, *that I deserve Death for having broke out of Prison; nor do I come to ask my Life at thy Hands. But what have all these Innocents done, which thou, fierce and relentless, caushest thus to be butchered? Have they attempted any thing against thee? Even if they had, is it just that thou shouldst destroy so many Thousands of Souls, for a Design which thou canst not reasonably condemn? Can any thing be more natural to Man, than a Desire to deliver himself from Tyranny and Oppression? Consult thy own Conscience; ask it if thou hast made a good Use of thy Victory: Thou wilt then see that it was not Ingratitude which prompted those who conspired against thy Person, but a natural innate Love of Peace and Tranquillity. Why dost thou torment and grieve, by a thousand new Ways, those*
whom

whom thou hast conquered? They are Men, and thou treatest them like Beasts. If thy insatiable Desire of Riches had not prevented, all Indostan had adored thee: But by thy violent Exactions thou hast made Men desperate, and rendered those thy Enemies, who, after having acknowledged thee their Conqueror, would ever have remained thy Friends. How canst thou, who pretendest to exalted and heroic Sentiments, how canst thou fall into these detestable Excesses of Cruelty?

These Words, pronounced with a firm And pre- and intrepid Tone, brought the Victor again vails. to himself. He not only forgave the Omrah the honest Freedom he had made use of, but sent Orders immediately to his Generals to put a Stop to the Massacre. They soon executed their Commission, in Consequence of that good Discipline which the Schah makes all his Soldiers observe. Nazamelmolk was looked upon as the Deliverer of Deli: The Schah gave him his Liberty, and shewed afterwards a particular Esteem for his Person.

Having satiated his Vengeance, Kouli Kan The Mogul was willing to give some Proofs of his Gene- restored. rocity. He released the Mogul from his Confinement, and re-established him in his Empire. He even made an Abatement in the annual Tribute which he had at first exacted, and reduced it to three Kourours. It was upon this Occasion that Mahmet-Cha wrote him a Letter, in Form of a Declaration; a Translation of which here follows:

His Letter
to Kouli
Kan.

To the most gracious Schah Nadir, King of
Kings, comparable to Mahomet, Imitator
of Alexander, and the living Image of the
Divinity.

YOU have sent us an Embassador, to
communicate to us your Intentions,
with regard to the Treaty that was concluded
by our *Omrah Nazamelolk*, and you consent
to fix the annual Tribute which you impose
on us at three *Kourours*, on the Payment of
which you engage yourself to assist our glo-
rious Empire with all your Forces, against any
Power who shall have the Temerity to at-
tack it. We thank you for this new Fa-
vour, and acknowledge that we are indebted
to you for Life, Liberty, and the Crown
which we wear; and we will forget nothing
that may testify our profound Gratitude. In
consequence of this, we acknowledge you for
the legitimate Sovereign of the Kingdom of
Cabul, the *Indian Sea*, the Country of the
Patans, the Castles of *Ixel* and *Cudabaar*,
and of all that is comprehended between the
Districts of *Tatta* and *Retta*, quite to the
Banks of the *Indus*.

Who sets
out for
Persia.

Towards the End of *May*, *Kouli Kan* be-
gan his March to return into *Persia* with all
his Army, loaded with the rich Spoils of *In-
dostan*, and conducting with them a prodigi-
ous Number of Camels and Elephants, the
greatest part of them labouring under the
immense Treasures of the *Mogul*, which were
now the Property of his Victor.

Mabmet-

Mahmet-Cha would bear him Company as far as *Agra*. This City, as well as *Deli*, stands upon the *Gemma*, which is the *Jomanes* of *Pliny*, in 28 Degrees 30 Minutes North Latitude, at the Distance of 210 Leagues from *Surat*. Before the Reign of *Akbar* it was only a large Town; but that Monarch made it a City, and it is now beyond Dispute the largest in all *India*. The Natives call it *Akbar-Abad*, the City or Colony of *Akbar*. It is at no great Distance from *Deli*, which it also resembles in Form, making a large Crescent, the two Ends of which run to the Banks of the River. *Akbar* at first chose *Fetipour* for the Capital of his Empire, and then established his Residence at *Deli*, which he soon quitted, and made choice of *Agra*. He enlarged this Place extremely, and the *Grande*s of his Court vied with each other to build in it magnificent Palaces, upon the common Court Principle of pleasing their Master. *Agra* extends in Length 9 *Italian* Miles, or three Leagues; but then it is more long than broad. It had no Walls in the Time of its Founder, but only a large Ditch that environed it on every Side. The Number of the Inhabitants amounted, by Computation, to 660,000; not to mention the *Foreigners* which the Convenience of the *Caravan*seras, and the Facility of Commerce, brought thither daily from all the Countries of *Asia*.

Akbar began his Works in this City by building the Castle, which he affected to make larger than any one that was at that Time in the *Indies*; and as the Situation

A Description
of *Agra*.

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de.

of

of the old Castle appeared to him fine and commodious, he had it pulled down, and upon the same Spot laid the Foundation of the new one which stands at this Day. He encompassed it with a Wall of Brick and Stone, which was terrassed or rampiered in several Places, and raised to the Height of 25 Cubits; and between the Castle and the River he left a large open Area, for the Performance of such Exercises as it should please his *Mogulian* Majesty to chuse for his Diversion.

Its Imperial Palace

The Imperial Palace, as at *Deli*, stands within the Circuit of the Castle. It contains three Courts, adorned all round with Porticoes, and fine painted or gilt Galleries. Some Parts of the Building are even covered with Plates of Gold. Under the Galleries of the first Court are situated the Barracks, or Lodgements for those of his Majesty's Body-Guard. The Officers have their Lodgings in the second Court; and it is in the Third that you see the magnificent Apartments of the *Mogul* and his Women. From this Court there is a Passage to a fine Divan, that overlooks the River, and to which his Majesty repairs when he has a mind to divert himself with the Battles of his Elephants, or to see his Troops perform their Exercise, or to amuse himself in any other Manner that he shall judge most proper, by Spectacles either on the Water or in the Square.

Other Palaces.

This Palace is accompanied with 25 or 30 other very large ones, which stand upon the same Line, and belong to the Princes or other great Lords of the Court. This makes the

the whole Prospect, from the other side of the River, the most beautiful Sight in the Universe; and it would be yet finer but for the long and high Walls that are built to enclose the Gardens, and which contribute much to make the City so extensive. Upon the same Side stand several lesser Palaces, and other Buildings. For every one desiring to enjoy the Benefit of this exquisite View, and the Convenience of the *Gemmas*, endeavoured to find a Place upon this Shore. The City therefore is very long, but not broad; and, excepting a few, which are open and well built, the Streets are narrow, and without Uniformity.

What makes the Beauty of *Agra*, next to these Palaces, are above 60 Caravan-^{Caravan-}seras, and ^{Seras,} more than 12 Squares. Some of these Caravan-^{Squares,}seras have to the Number of 6 Courts, ^{Bagnios,} all surrounded with Porticoes, or Arcades, ^{Mosques,} which lead into convenient Apartments, for ^{and Mo-}the Reception of Foreign Merchants, who ^{numents.} trade hither. There are likewise above 800 Bagnios, and a very great Number of Mosques, some of which serve for Places of Refuge. You also meet with many Pieces of magnificent Sculpture, which some of the Grandees had the Ambition to erect in their Life-time to their own Memory, or to consecrate to the Memory of their Ancestors. The Founder of the City's Monument stands upon an Eminence, and by much surpasses in Magnificence those of the great Lords; but the most beautiful of all is that of *Tage-Mahal*, the Wife of *Gha-Gehan*. One may judge, from the Expence bestowed on
I this

this Structure, the Violence of the Monarch's Love. The magnificent Garden, in which all the Parts of this Monument are divided, the large Pavillions erected there with their splendid Fronts, the fine Portico's, the superb Dome which contains the Tomb, the charming Disposition of its Columns, the Elevation of the Vaults, which support several Galleries above, the Terrasses and other Ornaments, are in a Taste perhaps that to an *European* would seem extravagant; but, though it does not resemble that of the ancient *Greeks* and *Romans*, it has nevertheless great Beauties. I will only add, that this *Mausoleum* was 20 Years in building.

Popularity
and Hou-
ses.

The City of *Agra* is at this Time pretty populous, but not enough so to raise 200,000 Men fit to bear Arms, as some *Europeans* have writ. The Palaces, with their Gardens, take up the greatest part of its Ground; so that nothing can be inferred from its Extent with respect to the Number of its Inhabitants. The middling Sort of Houses are low: Those of the common People are mere Cottages, and have very little Room and few People in them. You may walk the Streets without being crouded, except just when the Court is there. At that Time indeed there is great Confusion, and there seems to be an infinite Number of People; but they consist chiefly of the Officers and Servants of the *Mogul*, those of his *Omrahs* and *Rajas*, and the Army which always attends him as his Guard.

Among the different Nations that live in *Agra*, as well as in other Parts of *India*, there seems

seems to be a great Uniformity of Dress. Only the *Mahometans*, whom the *Portuguese* call *Moors*, distinguish them outwardly by a Particular Sort of Head-dress; but in every thing else they are clothed exactly like others. The *Indian* Drawers are usually made of Cotton, and extend in some only to the Middle of the Leg; whereas others wear them longer, quite down to their Ankle-bone. Those who are fond of being finely dressed, have their Drawers made of striped Silk, and wear them so long, that they gather them up about the Leg in several Folds; and of these they are as fond, as our pretty Fellows in *Europe* are of their Silk stockings with Gold Clocks. They let their Shirt hang over their Drawers, which is the Custom all over the East. These Shirts are all open, from Top to Bottom; as are also their Upper Garments, which they call *Cabas*. The Reason they usually give for wearing them so, is, that they find them most convenient, as being easily put on or off: But they have yet another Reason for it; which is, that they throw them open to take in the fresh Air, whenever they happen to be alone in sultry Weather.

When it is cold, the *Indians* have an *Arca*-The *Arca-luc*, or Waistcoat, stuffed with Cotton and quilted, the Outside of which is usually a Chints, or some painted Cloth; and their Colours are so lively and lasting, that when the Garment is dirty they may wash it, without doing any Damage.

Over the *Arca-luc* they put the *Cabas*, The *Cabas* which is an upper Vest; but when they

- wear both, you are to suppose it not warm, which is very seldom in these Parts, where they have no Winter. The *Cabas* is usually a close Jacket, with a sort of Petticoat fastened to it at the Waist. It is all the way open, and full of Plaits below, that it may be no Impediment in walking. There is a Collar to it of the same Stuff, about 2 Inches broad. They do not button this Vest like us, but lay it over upon the Stomach, first from Right to Left, and then from Left to Right, tying it with Strings of the same Stuff about a Foot long, and two Inches broad. They have six or eight Pair of these Strings from Top to Bottom, but tie only the upper and under Pairs, letting the rest hang down loose by way of Ornament.

Girdles,
the *Cade-*
bi, and the
Chal.

It is not common for them to use the fine *Persian* Girdles; at least, they are used only by Persons of Quality and large Fortune: Others wear only one Girdle of white Linen, whereas the *Persians* have two. When it is very cold, the *Indians* put over all these Garments a Vestment which they call *Cadebi*; which among People of Fortune is generally very magnificent. These are of Gold Brocade, or some other beautiful Stuff, and turned up with the finest Sable Fur. They put on, whenever they go abroad, a *Chal*, which is a Sort of Vest made of very fine Linen, and wrought at *Cachemire*. These *Chals* are about two Ells long, and one Ell broad: Such of them as are good will come to from 25 to 30 Crowns. There are some that cost 50 Crowns, but then they are extremely fine. They put this Robe over
their

T H A M A S K O U L I K A N.

their Shoulders, and tie the two Ends upon their Stomach; the Fold hanging down below their Reins. Some wear it in Form of a Scarf, and on Occasion bring it over their Head, and make a Sort of Cap of the End of it.

The Turbans which the *Indians* wear, are usually small. That of the *Mahometans* is White. The Rich make it of a Linen so fine, that 25 or 30 Ells of it, which they frequently use, will not sometimes weigh Four Ounces. These Linens are made in the Neighbourhood of *Bengal*: They cost a great Price, and a Turban of this Kind will come to a very large Sum, perhaps 3 or 4 Score Pounds *Sterling*. When they are artfully twisted up, they very much resemble the Shape of the Head; for they are higher three or four Inches behind than they are before. As to the Cloathing of their Legs, they wear in *India* neither Stockings nor Socks; but put their Feet naked into *Marocco* Shoes, which are almost of the same Shape as the *Turkish* Pabouches. Persons of Distinction lace these Shoes with Gold.

The *Mogul* Women, who chuse to distinguish themselves from others, dress themselves almost like the Men; but the Sleeves of their Shifts, like those of the other *Indian* Ladies, never come below their Elbows, that they may have Room to adorn the lower Part of the Arm with Jewels, and with Bracelets of Gold, Silver, or Ivory. Sometimes they glitter with Diamonds, as do also the lower Part of their Legs.

Many People at *Agra* take delight in

Bred Animals. breeding up of Animals, in order to divert themselves with making them fight; and as Elephants and Lions are very expensive to maintain, the greatest Part of them are content to keep Goats, Rams, Cocks, Harts and Antelopes, to entertain their Friends with the Battles of these Animals.

Kouli Kan
returns
Home.

Kouli Kan staid a Fortnight at *Agra* with *Mahmet Cha*; after which the two Princes took their leave of each other; the later returning to *Deli*, and the other pursuing his Journey towards *Persia*. He passed thro' *Fetis pour*; then, turning to the Right, and leaving *Bando* on the Left, he traversed many Desarts and Mountains, and arrived at *Meharta*; from whence, in a few Days Journey, he arrived at *Bouckar*, where he repassed the *Indus*. He put his Army in Quarters of Refreshment, partly in the Kingdom of *Cabul*, and partly in that of *Candahar*. Thence he took the Road to *Ispahan*, accompanied by his Regiments of Guards, with all the Treasures that have been recited, and several *Indian* Women, the most Beautiful he could find, in order to people his Seraglio. He was received in his Capital towards the End of *September*, and no possible Testimonies of Affection were wanting from his People.

Punishes
the Infidelity
of
some Women
in his
Seraglio.

But he found great Disorder in his Seraglio, where 4 or 5 of his Wives had had Intrigues during his Absence, in Consequence of which, two of them were six Months gone with Child. The *Schah* ordered these to be ript up, and the others to be buried, both alive. Some of the Eunuchs, who were suspected of having favoured the Infidelity of these

THANAS KOULI KAN.

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these Women, were empaled. He punished with the same Rigour a Secretary, who had fled with 10 or 12 Slaves, carrying away several Papers of Importance. This Man was arrested 4 Leagues from *Ispahan*.

After these Examples of Severity, *Kouli Kan* Conjectured himself entirely to the Affairs of State. It was thought, after the wonderful Successes he had met with in *Indostan*, that he would attack either *Russia* or the *Turks*: But it does not hitherto appear that he chuses to embroil himself with the first of these Powers, nor break in too much Hurry with the other. Time must inform us in what Manner he will employ his numerous Army, which he keeps in continual Exercise.



APPENDIX.

IT was certainly very judicious in our Author, not to continue his Narrative farther than he thought he could depend upon the Authenticity of his Accounts. But as we have several Times received Advices from the *East*, since the last that he seems to have made use of, I thought it proper to add what is now farther known concerning the Hero of these Sheets.

Account
of the
Booty tak-
en by Kou-
li Kan.

There has been an Inventory published in *Europe*, and said to be transmitted from *Japan*, of all the Booty which this Conqueror brought home from *India*. The Elephants, Camels, Artillery, Tents, and Ammunition, amount to the Value of 3 Kourours; the ready Coin, in Gold and Silver, taken out of the Royal Treasury, to 15 Kourours; the Rings and Jewels of all Sorts, to 8 Kourours; the Emperor's Bed of State, adorned with precious Stones, to 7 Kourours; an Imperial Throne, set with Diamonds, to 9 Kourours; the Basons, and other the like Utensils, adorned also with precious Stones, to 11 Kourours; the ready Money and Jewels taken from the Emperor's Wives and Children, to 3 Kourours; the Plunder of the City of *Deli*, to 10 Kourours; what was exacted from the *Onguils*, and other Persons in the Service of the *Omrahs*, the *Nabals*,

bals, and the *Rajas*, to 10 Kourours; what *Commarudien-Can*, the Emperor's Favourite, was obliged to give, to 16 Kourours: The whole, added to what arose from the Estates of four other Ministers, who were put to Death at the Desire of *Kouli Kan*, amounts to 111 Kourours. The Kourour, according to what has been already said, contains 100 Lacks, and each Lack 100,000 Roupees: So that in each Kourour are 10 Millions of Roupees. The Roupee at *Bengal* is Thirty-pence, or Two Shillings sixpence *Sterling*; which by Multiplication brings the Kourour to 1,313,000 Pounds of the same Denomination; and this again multiplied by 111, amounts to the almost incredible Sum of 145 Millions 743 Thousand Pounds.

What I have to observe on this Account Reflexively, that it sets the Price of the *Great Mogul's* sons on the Throne at above double the Sum that our *Mogul's* Author has rated it: But if we consider that Throne. the *Sieur Bernier*, from whom he has taken this Particular, travelled and wrote in the last Century, since when, the Valuation of Things may have greatly altered; and if we reflect likewise that since that Time died the Magnificent *Aureng-Zeb*, and that several Princes have succeeded to this Throne, all of whom have been possessed of the rich Diamond Mines in the *Indian Peninsula*, and would probably endeavour to outvy each other in adorning this Monument of *Oriental Pomp* and *Vanity*; all this, I say, considered, we have no Reason to wonder that what was worth only 4 Kourour when the *French Traveller* resided at *Deli*, should be worth 9 when

when the *Persian* Monarch took Possession of that Capital.

On the
Diversity
of Ac-
counts in
other Par-
ticulars.

There are some other Particulars, in which later *Memôirs* seem to disagree with those our Author wrote from. *Sadat Kan*, who in his Narrative loses his Life at the first Attack of the *Mogul's* Lines, is by others (even in a Letter said to be written with *Schah Nadir's* own Hand) made a Prisoner at the Battle of *Corbaal*. To which add, that instead of 500,000 Horse in the *Mogul* Army, that Number has been with more Probability applied to the Foot, and the Cavalry computed at only 200,000: But then the Number of Elephants and Artillery has been in Proportion as much enlarged, as that of the Men has been lessened; it being affirmed that there were 3000 armed Elephants, and 8000 Pieces of Cannon in the Army of the *Indian* Monarch.

Kouli Kan
remits se-
veral
Taxes.

There cannot be a more certain Indication of the immense Wealth acquired in this Expedition, nor a stronger Circumstance to confirm what has been here recited, than the *Regam* or Edict sent by the Conqueror from *Deli* into *Persia*, containing a Remittance of a great Number of Taxes for the whole Term of Three Years. I cannot but observe likewise, that this Remittance vindicates *Kouli Kan* from that avaritious Character with which he has been charged, and which his Rigour at *Deli* seemed but too justly to fix upon him. At least it proves, that he is not an Oppressor of his own Subjects, however severely he may treat his Enemies. But the prodigious Sum taken from *Com-*
marudien-

marudien Can, the *Mogul's* Favourite, amounting to 21 Millions eight Thousand Pounds, may shew us that a Master's Lenity to his People, may have no great Influence upon a Minister. It is remarkable that this Article, from the Private Chest of one Man, a Prime Minister, is the largest in all the Inventory of *Kouli Kan's* Booty.

It is not without Justice therefore that *Mabmet-Mabmet-Cha*, notwithstanding his good natural Disposition, has been charged with bad Government; and that this sudden, and almost unparalleled Revolution, is said to be owing to a Revolt in People's Minds. The Commonalty groaned under the Oppression of the Grandees. While the Emperor was taken up with his Pleasures, he left the Management of his Empire to *Commarudien Can*, who minded nothing but amassing Riches. The State was without Disciplined Troops, except only the Emperor's Guards; because the Generals charged to maintain them, put the Sums appointed for that Use into their own Pockets. Rebels from the Coasts of *Malabar* and *Coromandel* used to advance into the Heart of *Indystan*, where the little Resistance they met with, shewed how easy it would be for such a Leader as *Kouli Kan* to conquer that Empire.

Whether that Hero did indeed receive some Reports little Shock in his Return to *Persia*, or, which is more likely, whether it was owing to the *Kan's* *Turks*, who apprehended that after so much Success he would revive the old Quarrel with them, and therefore strove to keep up the Spirits of their Soldiery, is a Matter that has

not yet been fully cleared up. But certain it is, that we were for some Time amused with a pretended Letter from *Smyrna*, informing us, that the Conqueror was actually in such a Situation as he would not easily extricate himself from; that his Army was reduced to 40,000 Men, and that he wrote to his Son, who was yet in a worse Condition thro' Dissatisfaction at home, for a Reinforcement; that the *Indians* had retaken most of his Booty, upon his passing the *Indus*, and obliged him to a precipitate Retreat; and that the *Aghwans*, to the Number of 60,000 were ready to attack him on the other Side

Who conquers the
Usbecks.

However, if there was in reality any thing in this Report, it served only to shew us that *Kouli Kan* knew as well how to retrieve an adverse Accident, as to pursue his good Success. The Chastisement he soon after inflicted on the *Usbeck Tartars*, a powerful Nation, and his secret Enemies during all his Wars, both in *Candahar* and *Indostan*, sufficiently testifies that neither was his Authority lessened, nor his Men dispirited. We have not as yet a very particular Account of this *Usbeckian War*; but are well assured that he twice defeated the Enemy, tho' Superior to him in Number, and that he took *Buchara*, the Capital and Residence of the chief *Han* or King, by Storm. The *Persians* spent three Days in pillaging it, and got a vast Booty. Upon which all the Country submitted to the Conqueror. Whether he will act by the *Han* of the *Usbecks* as he did by the *Mogul*, I mean restore him to his Dominions, or keep the Sovereignty of this Country, which will

will open him a Way into *Russia* on the East, as he had before on the West of the *Caspian Sea*, is what Time alone can determine.

Usbeck, or *Zagathray*, is bounded on the *Usbeck* or North by the *Russian Calmucks* and Defart *Tar-Zagathay* tary, on the West by the *Caspian Sea*, on the South by *Persia* and *India*, and on the East by *Turchestan*. It contains the antient Provinces of *Sacæ*, *Sogdiana*, Part of *Scythia*, and *Bactria* in Old *Persia*. In Length it extends 1200 Miles, and in Breadth 840 ; containing several considerable Towns, of which the Chief are *Buchara* and *Samarcand*. *Usbeck* is generally reputed the principal and best cultivated Part of all *Tartary*, and the Inhabitants have long carried on a large Trade with their Neighbours of *Persia* and *Indostan*. It has other Princes besides the *Han* of *Buchara* ; but he, as being the most Powerful, and able to bring into the Field 100,000 Men, is usually called *Han* of the *Usbecks*. In the Wars of *Peter the Great*, one of these *Hans* offered to lend that Prince 50,000 Soldiers. *Buchara* and *Samarcand* are about 50 Leagues distant from each other. The former lies on the River *Oxus*, and the other upon a lesser River that falls into it. They are both famous ; *Buchara* for giving Birth to *Avicenna* the Philosopher, and *Samarcand* for being not only the Birth-Place, but the Royal Residence of *Tamerlane*, and for an University founded by him, which is in Repute to this Day among the *Mahometans*. It is situated in a pleasant Valley, and defended by a Castle.

Such is the Country, and such the People that *Schah Nadir* has subdued, since his triumphant Return from *India*. As it is expected that his next Enterprize will be against the *Turks*, between whom and the *Persians* there is an irreconcilable Hatred; it may not be amiss to say a Word or two of the City of *Mecca*, which the latter, as *Mahometans*, claim an equal Right to with the former.

Conque- Towards the Conclusion of the first Part of this
rers never History, there is inserted a Copy of the full Pow-
want Pre-ers granted to the *Turkish* Ambassador, by which
tences for the *Grand Signor* grants the *Persians* free Li-
War. berty to make the Pilgrimage of *Mecca*. The
Design of this seems to have been, to have
taken from *Kouli Kan* all future Pretences for
renewing Hostilities upon a Religious Mo-
tive. But Treaties lay little Restraint upon
the Minds of Conquerors, who, flushed with
Success, never want some plausible Reason
for pursuing their good Fortune. As the ob-
taining of free Access to the Prophet's Birth-
place has already been one of *Kouli Kan's* Rea-
sons for a War, may not his next pious Design
be to rescue this Holy City out of the Hands
of Hereticks? Tho' he has now no Preten-
sions on the *Ottoman Porte*, for Countries
formerly conquered from *Persia*, there is no
doubt but he will form some on another
Foundation and none so likely as a religious
one.

Mecca and
Medina
described.

Mecca is seated in *Arabia Felix*, at a little
Distance from the River *Chaibar*, in a dry
and barren Valley, surrounded on all Sides
with Mountains. It has imposed its Name
on the neighbouring Gulph, and is the Ca-
pital

pital of a Territory governed by its own Prince, under Protection of the *Porte*. He is called the *Scherif*, or *Scheck* of *Mecca*; and, as he derives his Origin from *Mahomet*, is highly revered by the People, and loaded with Presents from Superstitious Votaries. Two Hundred Miles North of *Mecca* stands *Medina*, where the Prophet was buried. His Tomb is supported by Four slender Pillars, which occasioned the Vulgar Opinion, that it hangs in the Air between Load-stones. This Place is equally resorted to with *Mecca*, and might be made equally the Subject of a Religious War.

I shall only add, that the Conquest of The Con-
all the South and most valuable Part of quest of
Arabia seems to be the most easy Task that *Arabia*-
our *Persian* has to perform; especially with *Felix* easy
the Assistance of a small Naval Force, for to *Kouli*
transporting his Troops over the Streight of *Kan*.
Ormuz, which he might procure from the
Europeans in the neighbouring Seas. It is scarce
a Century and a Half ago, that *Schah Abas* the
Great, by the same means made himself Master
of all the Sea-Coasts of this vast Country; and
even took *Medina* itself. I call it the most
easy Task, because the Princes he has to
deal with are in no Sense his Equals, and
could receive little if any Assistance from
the *Turks*. A very small Matter might cut
these off from all Communication with *Ara*-
bia Felix, except by way of the *Red Sea*;
for North *Arabia* is almost one continued
sandy Desert quite across, which would scarce
be passable to an Army, and is with Dif-

culty, traversed by the Caravans. How little the *Turks* have been able to perform beyond this, is evident from the Independence of several Princes, who all lie open to the Arms of *Kouli Kan*.

P. S. *We have received the following Articles by the Holland Mail, just Time enough to insert them here. As the Particulars they contain have not been confirmed, we shall leave them to the Reader without any Remarks.*

PETERSBOURG, Nov. 1. 1741.

THE Report that was spread of a bloody Battle between the *Sophi's* Troops and some Rebels in the *Daghestan*, is contradicted by the *Persian* Embassador. However, he owns that the *Schah* has marched into the Mountains of that Country, and is actually reducing the Rebels, in which he meets with more Difficulties than he imagin'd. The said Embassador reports, that the *Sophi* of *Persia* is a very tall, well-built Man; that he takes great Pains to get *European* Officers into his Service, to discipline his Soldiers, whom he intends to put on the same Footing as the *European* Troops. His Excellency adds, that the *Schah* is of a brisk enterprising Temper; that he is always forming vast Projects, and executes them almost as soon as they are conceived. He also reports of this Monarch, that his Voice is so strong, that

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that one may hear him distinctly at the Distance of 300 Yards, when he speaks loud without straining himself.

Extract of a Private Letter from Constantinople, Octob. 3.

THE Hostilities pretended, some Time ago, to have been commenc'd against this Empire by *Thamas Kouli Kan*, were only idle Reports, to which it was hard to give any Credit. We have received more Accounts on this Subject, in the Letters lately sent to the *Grand Signor* by *Bashaw Achmet*, who commands at *Babylon*. According to those Letters, the Army which *Thamas Kouli Kan* assembled in *August* last, on the Frontiers of *Armenia*, consisted of near 130,000 Men. He remained quiet in his Camp, without forming any Enterprize, because he waited for the Return of the last Embassador he sent hither, in order to frame his Conduct by his Report, either to begin Hostilities, or to adjust all Differences by an Accommodation. In the mean Time, *Kouli Kan's* eldest Son thought he perceived that his Father did not harbour a very good Opinion of him, and that he even had some Design of excluding him from the Succession to the *Persian* Throne, in order to secure it to his second Son. Full of these Imaginations, he found means to gain over to his Interest some Generals who had most Influence on the Army: The Generals succeeded in securing Part of the

K 3

Troops

A P P E N D I X.

‘ Troops in the young Prince’s Interest ; and
‘ so an open Revolt ensued in Favour of the
‘ Son against the Father. The rest of the
‘ Army, which remained attached to the Fa-
‘ ther, attacked the Rebels with so much
‘ Advantage, that they were defeated, and
‘ their Generals taken Prisoners, along with
‘ the Prince for whom they rose up in Arms
‘ against their Sovereign. *Thamas Kouli Kan*,
‘ who did all that could be expected from a
‘ great Captain, as well as a Soldier, during
‘ the Engagement, had his Hand pierced
‘ by a Musket Bullet. A few Days after
‘ he ordered his eldest Son to be brought be-
‘ fore him, reproached him with his Rebel-
‘ lion, and his Attempt against his Life, and
‘ then condemned him to Death. As to the
‘ Generals who sided with the Son, some of
‘ them were impaled, others had their Eyes
‘ put out, their Tongues torn up by the
‘ Root, &c. As the common Soldiers could
‘ not all be punished, they were decimated.
‘ According to these Advices, *Kouli Kan* on-
‘ ly waits the Return of his Embassador, in
‘ order to take a final Resolution as to Peace
‘ or War with the *Porte*.

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