

1455. *rine*, contrary to what is asserted by *de Barros*, a Cada Mosto, who places the Foundation of two Churches before it. This Mistake of *de Barros* renders his Account of the Fire which burnt for seven Years^a dubious: This (he says) seems not to suit well with the great Woods at all Times found upon the Island, although for several Years together large Quantities have been cut down for the Service of the Sugar-Works, of which there had been no less than an hundred and fifty at one Time.

AFTER the Death of King *Juan*, his Son and b Successor *Duarte*, in Consideration of the great Sums expended in discovering and peopling this Island by Prince *Henry* his Brother, gave him the Revenues of it for his Life; which Donation was made at *Cintra*, September 26, 1433. He likewise, for the same Reason, gave the Spiritua-

lities of it to the Order of *Christ* for ever; and the Endowment was confirmed by *Alfonso* the Fifteenth, Anno 1439.

MOREOVER, as a Reward and Encourage-ment of Worth and Merit, he gave to *Juan Gon-* *Gonsalvo* *rewards* *salvo Zarco*, and his Heirs for ever, a new Name and Arms: Which is the less to be wondered at, as the Arms of *Portugal* themselves have been changed, being formerly *Argent*, a Cross *Azure*. The King then willed and decreed, that in Memory of the *Camara dos Lobos*, discovered by the said *Gonsalvo*, he should take upon him the Stile and Title of Earl of the *Camara dos Lobos*, with the Arms *Sinople* in a Tower *Argent*, supported by two Sea-Wolves, and charged with a Cross *Or*. Which Name and Arms the Family bears to this Day.

CH A P. II.

The Voyage of Aluise da Cada Mosto, in 1455, along the Coast of Africa, as far as Rio Grande.

Written by Himself.

Translated from the Italian.

INTRODUCTION.

Copies of the Voyages. THERE are two Voyages extant of *Cada Mosto*, both to be found in the Collections of *Ramusio*^b and *Grynæus*: One to the Rivers *Senega* or *Sanaga*, *Gambra* or *Gambia*, and *Rio Grande*; the other to the same Coast of *Africa*, and the Islands of *Cape Verde*.

Difference as to Date. THESE Voyages seem to have been written originally in *Italian*, in which Language *Ramusio* has given them: *Grynæus* has inserted a *Latin* Version of them; but there is a very considerable Difference between the two Copies in several Things, particularly as to the Dates: For the *Italian* dates the Author's setting-out from *Venice* in 1454; whereas the other puts it in 1504. What the Difference may be owing to, we cannot pretend to say: But we have Reason to believe the Date is right as it stands in *Ramusio's* Copy, from which our Translation has been made. It may be sufficient to observe here, that the Voyages could not be performed so late as 1504, since Prince *Henry*, by whom *Cada Mosto* was employed, died in the Year 1463.

THESE Voyages are preceded by the Author's own Preface, and a Discourse or Introduction written by the Collector. In this latter we are informed, that the Author, whom *Ramusio* calls the noble *Aluise da Ca da Mosto*^c, was the first who discovered the Islands of *Cape Verde*, although the *Portuguese* ascribe that Honour to *Dennis Fernandez*, a Countryman of their own, twelve Years before^d. These Voyages were the more estimable at the Time they were penned, as they made it appear, that the Countries near the Line, which the Ancients had represented as quite uninhabited, and burnt up with excessive Heat, were covered with Verdure, and abounded with People.

RAMUSIO imagined also, that these Discoveries might have been of considerable Use to Commerce; and that *Europeans*, by Means of the Rivers *Senega* and *Rio Grande*, which he supposed to be Branches of the *Niger*, might have opened a Trade with the rich Kingdoms of *Tombuto* and *Melli*, and so brought Gold from the

^a See before, p. 11. d.

^b *Ramusio's* Copy begins vol. 1. p. 96, and ends p. 110, taking up fourteen Leaves and near half, the Leaves being marked only on one Side.

^c So it is written in *Ramusio*, and not *Cada Mosto* in two Words, as we for Shortness write it; or *Cadamosto*, as others have written it. *Aluise* is the same as *Luis* or *Lewis*.

^d See before, p. 13. n.

1455. Countries of the Negros, in a much more easy, safe, and expeditious Manner than the *Moors* of *Barbary* could convey it by Land over the vast and dangerous Defarts that lie between. As Salt, by *Leo's* Account, is the most valuable Commodity throughout the Negro-Kingdoms, the Method he proposed was, that the Ships should take in Salt at *Sal*, one of the *Cape Verde* Islands, and therewith supply the Countries along the *Niger*; which was said to be navigable for five hundred Miles together. In Exchange for this, they were to receive Gold and Slaves; which latter were to be carried to Market at *St. Jago*, another of those Islands, where they would be bought up immediately for the *West Indies*.

The Gold Trade.

FOR carrying on a Commerce of this Nature, it was necessary, in those Days, to have had a Licence from the *Portuguese*, who were Masters of all that Coast of *Africa*, for several Degrees below the Line. This *Ramusio* judged might have been easily obtained, since all *Europeans* were permitted by them to trade at the Island of *St. Thomas*, in the farther End of *Guinea*, under the Equator; which was then, as it is at present, in their Possession. However, as the *Portuguese* themselves had not undertaken a Trade of this Kind, he was a good deal at a Loss what to think of it: Indeed, the *English* have attempted it more than once, but met with Obstacles; which shew, that, if the Thing be practicable, yet it is not so easy as *Ramusio* imagined it: Besides, he supposed, a Communication betwixt the *Niger* and other Rivers, that fall into the Western Ocean, which has not yet been discovered; and is by several Travellers of good Credit denied. Whence, the late *Mr. de Pisle* was of Opinion, there is no such Communication; and, in his later Maps of *Africa*, has made the *Senega*, *Gambia*, and the *Niger*, separate Rivers.

Not practicable.

Account of Prince Henry.

CADA MOSTO, in his Preface, after having made an Apology for his Performance, and asserted a strict Adherence to Truth, in relating Particulars, proceeds to speak of the *Infante Enriquez*, or *Henry of Portugal*, the great Discoverer: He praises him as a Prince of a great Soul, and sublime Genius, as well as for his Skill in Astronomy; and says, he applied himself wholly to the Service of Christ, in making War against the *Moors*; in which he performed many gallant Exploits. *Don Juan*, his Father, in 1432, being on his Death-Bed, sent for him, and requested him to pursue his laudable and holy Purposes, of persecuting the Enemies of the Christian Faith;

which he promised to do. Accordingly, afterwards, with the Assistance of his eldest Brother, *Don Duarte*, or *Edward*, who succeeded to the Crown, he made War in *Fez*, with Success, for many Years.

1455.

Cada Mosto.

THE more effectually to harass the *Moors*, he sent his Caravels, annually, to scour the Coasts of *Azafi* and *Messa*, without the Streights of *Gibraltar*: This did them a great deal of Damage: But the *Infante*, having Discoveries also in View, ordered them to advance every Year farther along the Coast. They, in Effect, proceeded till they came to a great Cape, which, for several Years, put an End to their Navigation Southward, the Caravels being afraid to go beyond it; whence it took the Name, which it still retains, of *Cape Non*; as, who should say, that those who passed it should never return. *Don Henry*, who was of a different Opinion, added three Caravels more, to those which had been at the Cape, and sent them out next Year. These, indeed, did pass beyond the Cape about an hundred Miles; but, meeting with nothing but a sandy Coast, and no Habitations, turned back again.

THE Prince, yet, encouraged by this Progress, sent the same Fleet, the Year following, with Orders to proceed an hundred and fifty Miles farther, and more, if it was thought proper; promising to enrich all those who embarked in this Adventure. They went again; and, although they obeyed the *Infante's* Instructions, yet they could not improve the Discoveries. *Don Henry*, however, still firmly persuaded, by the Strength of his Judgment, that Habitations and People would certainly be met with at length, still continued to send out his Caravels, till such Time as they came to certain Coasts inhabited by *Arabs* of the *Desart*, and the *Azanaghi*, a tawny Race. Thus the Countries of the first Negros were discovered; and after them, other different Nations; which will be mentioned in the following Relation.

Firmness of Mind.

THUS far *Cada Mosto's* Preface. At the Beginning of his Relation he informs us, that he was twenty-two Years of Age when he set out upon his Voyage; and had, before that, sailed in some Parts of the *Mediterranean*, under the Jurisdiction of the Republic; and had been in *Flanders*, whither his Intention was to have returned, in order to better his Fortune: For his whole Thoughts were bent (as he says) on employing his Youth in the Acquisition of Riches;

Account of the Author.

* *Affasi*, or *al Saffi*. ^b *De Faria* says, *Cape Non* was doubled, and *Cape Bojador* discovered in 1415, many Years before *King Juan's* Death. See before, p. 11. However, as this Recapitulation of Discoveries is only to introduce the Occasion of the Author's own Voyage, the Exactness of Chronology need not be insisted on.

that,

1455. that, afterwards, with the Experience he should have of the World, he might attain to some Degree of Honour.

And his Voyages. THESE Voyages of *Cada Mosto* are remarkable for being the oldest extant that we meet with relating to the Navigations of these latter Ages, or which is the same Thing, of the *Portuguese*. We have, indeed, Accounts of some few made before: But these Accounts are only short Extracts, or Memorandums of Things, given us by Historians; and not the distinct Journals, written by the Navigators themselves. These Voyages are penned with a good deal of Spirit by the Author, who was an intelligent Person; and, excepting some few Particulars, with regard to which he was imposed on by the Merchants of *Africa*, (a Thing to which all Travellers, especially the first, to any Country, are liable) they are as entertaining and curious as most that have been written since. The Reader, among other Things, will find, here, a particular Account of the Gold Trade, from *Tombuto*, and its several Branches, which has been so little known to later Voyagers. This shews, that it does not require a Succession of Travellers to make large Discoveries; and that one inquisitive Person shall bring home a better Account of Countries than twenty who come after him.

THESE Voyages, both in *Grynæus* and *Ramusio*, are divided into Sections; but we have not followed the Division observed by either of them.

SECT. I.

The Galleys leave Venice. Stop at Cape St. Vincent. Two Persons come on board from Prince Henry. Give Account of his Discoveries. Terms granted Adventurers. Cada Mosto goes to Prince Henry. Sets out for Puerto Santo. Madera. Canary Islands: The largest then unconquered. Teneriffe, its Pike. The Natives, how governed. Their Manners. Seized by the Spaniards. Sacrifice themselves. Their Activity.

The Galleys leave Venice.

MR. *CADA MOSTO*, having resolved to return to *Flanders*, with what little Money he had, embarked on board the *Venetian* Galleys, commanded by Captain *Marco Zen*, Knight: They parted from *Venice* on the eighth of *August*, 1454. Being detained by contrary Winds, near

Stop at Cape St. Vincent.

Cape St. Vincent, it happened, that the *Infante* *Don Enriquez*,^a was at that Time lodged in a Village, called *Reposera*, near the Cape; having retired from the Noise of Business, to this agreeable Retreat, for the Sake of his Studies. Hearing of their Arrival, he sent *Antonio Gonzalez*,

Two Persons come on board.

his Secretary, accompanied by one *Patricio di Conti*^b, who said he was a *Venetian*, and Consul from the Republic in *Portugal*; as appeared by his Commission: He had likewise a Salary from the *Infante*. These Gentlemen brought some Samples of *Madera* Sugars, Dragons-Blood, and other Commodities of the Countries and Islands belonging to that Prince. They asked those on board the Galleys several Questions; and informed them, that the *Infante* had caused some desert Islands, lately discovered, to be inhabited; and, that as a Proof thereof, they had shewn them the said valuable Production. They added, that all this was nothing in Comparison to other greater Things which *Don Enriquez* had performed; declaring, that since such a Year he had discovered Seas which had never been sailed through before; and Lands of divers strange Nations, where wonderful Things were found. That the *Portuguese*, who had been in those remote Parts, had made great Advantage by trading with the Inhabitants; and gained 700, and sometimes 1000 per Cent. They related so many Things on this Head, that the *Venetians* were much astonished thereat; and *Cada Mosto*, in particular, being inflamed with a Desire of visiting these Places, asked, if the *Infante* would suffer any Person to go, who had a Mind? They answered in the Affirmative; and likewise acquainted him with the Terms required of the Person who should undertake such a Voyage; which was, either to be at the whole Expence of fitting out and freighting a Vessel, or else at the Charge of Freight only; the Prince providing him with a Caravel. That, in the first Case, he should, on his Return, allow the *Infante* one fourth Part of his Cargo, as a Duty; the rest, to remain his own Property. And, in the second Case, to divide whatever was brought from those Places, equally with the Prince: And in Case of no Returns at all, then the whole Expence to be defrayed the *Infante*: They declared, however, that it was impossible to make a Voyage without great Profit. They added, that the Prince would be very well pleased with any *Venetian*, who should undertake such a Voyage, and shew him great Favour; because he was of Opinion, that Spices, and other rich Merchandize, might be found in those Parts; and knew, that the *Venetians* understood those Commodities better than any other Nation.

UPON the Whole, *Cada Mosto* went along with the Secretary and the Consul to see *Don Enriquez*, who confirmed what they had told him, and encouraged him, by Promises of Honour and Profit, to go. The Author being young, and of a Constitution able to bear Fatigues, as well as

1455.

Cada Mosto.

Give Account of Discoveries.

Terms of Adventurers.

Cada Mosto goes to Prince Henry.

^a He was the first who caused the Island of *St. Thomas* to be inhabited. *Patrician* of *Venice*, and his Surname omitted.

^b In *Grynæus* he is called a

1455. desirous to see those Parts of the World never before known to any *Venetian*, and withal advance his Fortune, accepted of the Invitation. After this, he informed himself concerning the Merchandizes proper for such a Voyage, and then returned to the Gallies: Where, having disposed of all the Goods which he had shipped for the *Low Countries*, he brought on board such Things as he thought necessary for the Expedition, and then landed; leaving the Gallies to proceed on their Voyage for *Flanders*. The *Infante* shewed great Satisfaction at *Cada Mosto's* Resolution, and entertained him very handsomely at Cape *St. Vincent*: Where, having waited a great many Days, at length, the Prince ordered him to rig a new Caravel, of about ninety Tons Burden; of which one *Vincent Diaz*, a Native of *Lagos*, (a Place about sixteen Miles distant) was Commander. The Caravel being ready, and furnished with every Thing necessary, they began their Voyage on the twenty-second of *March*, 1455, with a full Wind at North-East and by North, steering their Course towards the Island of *Madera*. On the twenty-fifth, they came to the Island of *Puerto Santo*, lying about six hundred Miles Southward from the Cape whence they set out ^a.

Sets out for Africa.

Come to Puerto Santo.

Island Madera.

FROM *Puerto Santo*, which was discovered near twenty-seven Years before, they sailed on the twenty-eighth of *March*, and the same Day came into *Monchrico*, one of the Ports of the Island of *Madera*, forty Miles distant. In fair Weather, the two Islands may be seen from one another. This latter was inhabited within these twenty-four Years; the Prince made two of his Gentlemen Governors thereof, viz. *Tristan Tefera*, who has that half of the Island where *Monchrico* Port lies: The other, *John Gonzales Zarcho*, who has the other District of the Island, where *Fonzal* [or *Fonchial*] stands.

This Island is inhabited in four different Places, viz. *Monchrico*, *Santa Cruz*, *Fonzal*, and *Came-ra di Lupi*: And though it has other Establishments, these are the principal, and may muster up about eight hundred Men, reckoning an hundred Horse among them. The Island has about eight Rivers that run through it, over which they have built Saw-Pits, where they slit Boards of many Sorts, with which all *Portugal* and other Places are supplied. Of these Boards, two Sorts turn to Account: The one is Cedar, which has a strong odoriferous Smell, and is like the *Cypress*; whereof they make fine, large, and long Boards, and build Houses therewith; and make

other Uses thereof. The other Sort is called *Naffo*, of a red Rose Colour, and extremely beautiful. They make very good and beautiful Bows, as well as Cross-Bows, of the *Naffo* Wood; which are sent to the West ^b. He had been assured, by Men of Credit, that Grapes are commonly ripe here in the Week before *Easter*, at least, by *Easter* Day, or the *Octave* at farthest, on Account of the Temperateness of the Air.

THEY sailed from *Madera*, following their Course to the South, and came to the *Canary* Islands, about three hundred and twenty Miles distant. These Islands are seven in Number; four whereof are inhabited by *Christians*, viz. *Lanzarotta*, *Fuerteventura*, *la Gomera*, and *il Ferro*: The Lord of which is a *Spanish* Gentleman, whose Name is *Herrera*, a Native of *Seville*, and Subject to the King of *Spain* ^c. Large Quantities of an Herb, called *Oricello*, is carried from these Islands to *Cadiz*, and the River of *Seville*, which is used in dying of Cloths; and is sent from those Places both East and West. Goat-Skins, in great Perfection, are likewise brought from these Islands in large Parcels; as is Plenty of Tallow, and good Cheese.

THE Inhabitants of these four Islands, subject to *Christians*, are *Canaries*, who have different Languages, not much understood among themselves. They have only Villages, and no fortified Places; except, that on the Mountains, which are exceeding high, they have Redoubts. The Passes to these Mountains are so strong, that all the World could not take them, except by a Siege.

THE other three Islands, inhabited by Idolaters, are *Grand Canaria*, *Teneriffe*, and *la Palma*: They are greater, and better inhabited, than the other four; particularly, the *Grand Canary*, which has between eight and nine thousand Souls; and *Teneriffe*, which is the largest of the three, has, as some report, between fourteen and fifteen thousand: However, *Palma* has but a few Inhabitants; though a very beautiful Place to behold. These Islands, as they are possessed by Men of Courage, the Mountains excessive high, and their strong Places impregnable, the *Christians* were never able to subdue. It must be observed of *Teneriffe*, which is the best inhabited, that it is one of the highest Islands in the World; and is seen, in clear Weather, at a great Distance. *Cada Mosto* was informed, by Mariners, that they had seen it between sixty and seventy *Spanish* Leagues off at Sea, which make about two hundred and fifty *Italian* Miles. This

1455.

Cada Mosto.

Canary Islands.

The largest: unconquered.

Teneriffe, in Pike.

^a The Description of the Island which follows, in *Ramusio*, is omitted, as given already, p. 565: ^b The Author's farther Account of *Madera* is omitted here, being already inserted in the Description thereof given before. See p. 558, & seqq. ^c Some Things omitted, to be found before, p. 534, & seqq.

1455. Island has a Point or Mountain in the Middle, in Shape of a Diamond, of very great Height, and always burns. This Account he had from *Christians* who were Prisoners in *Teneriffe*, and affirm, that the Point, from the Foot to the Summit thereof is fifteen *Portuguese* Leagues; which make sixty *Italian* Miles.

The Natives, how govern- ed. THEY have nine Lords on this Island, whom they call Dukes; not so by Inheritance or Succession, but by Force. They war among themselves, and make great Slaughter. They have no other Arms but Stones, and Maces like Darts, to the Points whereof they fix sharp Horns, instead of Iron; and those who have none, season the Points of their Weapons in the Fire, and make them as hard as Iron. They always go naked; save a few, who wear Goat-Skins before and behind. *Their Man- ners.* They anoint their Bodies with Goat's Tallow, mixed with the Juice of some Herbs, which thickens the Skin, and defends them from the Cold; of which they cannot complain much, as they lie so far to the South. They have neither walled nor thatched Houses; but live in Grottos, and Caverns, on the Mountains. They feed on Barley, Flesh, and Goat's Milk, of which they have abundance; and some Fruits, particularly Figs. As the Country is very hot, they reap their Oats in *April* and *May*. They have no settled Religion; but worship, some, the Sun; others, the Moon and Planets; and have nine Sorts of Idolatry. Their Women are not common; but every Man may take as many as he pleases; but none will chuse a Maiden, unless she has first lain a whole Night with their Lord; which they repute a great Honour.

Seized by the Spaniards. IF the Author should be asked, how these Things come to be known? He answers, that the *Christians* of the four Islands go in their Foists, by Night, over to those other Islands, and seize some of the *Canaries*, of both Sexes; whom they send to be sold for Slaves in *Spain*. If it happens, that some of the Foists People are made Prisoners, the *Canaries* do not put them to Death; but employ them to kill and flea Goats, and cure the Flesh; which they looking upon as very vile Offices, make them perform out of Contempt.

Sacrifice themselves. THESE *Canaries* have an odd Custom; for, when their Lords first enter on their new Possession, some offer to die, in order to do Honour to the Feast: Whereupon, they all repair to [the Brink of] a certain deep Valley, where, after having performed some Ceremonies, and said a few Words, he, who is willing to die for Love

of the new Lord, throws himself into the Valley, and is dashed to Pieces. The Lord, in Return, is obliged to do great Honour and Services to the Relations of the Deceased. This barbarous Custom is confirmed by the *Canary Christians*, who have escaped from among them.

THEY are very active and nimble, great Runners and Leapers; being accustomed to traverse the Cliffs of the Mountains. They skip, bare-footed, from Stone to Stone, like Goats; and sometimes, take Leaps, which are scarcely to be believed. They throw a Stone with great Strength, and Exactness; so as to hit where they please. Both Sexes know how to paint their Bodies green, red, and yellow, with the Juice of Herbs; and they look upon such Colours as ornamental as *Europeans* do fine Cloaths. *Cada Mosto* was in two of the *Canary* Islands, viz. *Gomera* and *Ferro*: He also touched at *Palma*; but did not land.

SECT. II.

Cape Blanco. Forna of Argin. Coast of Barbary. Cape Blanco described. Hoden, a Place of Trade. The Inhabitants. Their Traffic. Trade of Argin; and of the Arabs. The Slave Trade, and its Branches. The Azanaghi. Slave-stealing forbidden the Portuguese. Odd Custom of the Azanaghi. Their Manners. They took Ships, at first, for Apparitions. Country of Teggazza.

CONTINUING his Course towards *Ethiopia*, *Cada Mosto*, in a few Days, arrived at *Cape Blanco*, distant from the *Canaries* about eight hundred and seventy Miles. It is to be observed, that in this Passage, steering South, they kept at a great Distance from the *African* Coast, which was on the Left-hand; the *Canaries* being far advanced into the Sea towards the West, the one more than the other. Thus they sailed till they had ran two Thirds of their Way from the Islands to the Cape; and then kept closer to the Left, till they got Sight of Land, that they might not pass the Cape without seeing it: For afterwards no Land appears for a considerable while. The Coast runs in from this Cape, and forms a Gulph, called the *Forna of Argin*, from a little Island situated in the Gulph; and so named by the Inhabitants of the Country of *Argin*. The Gulph enters about fifty Miles; and has three other Islands, to which the *Portuguese* gave Names. The first, they called *Blanca*, or *White*; on Account of its Sands: The Second, the Island of the *Garze*, or *White Herons*; (for

* Here the Author mentions the Instances of throwing the Stones and Oranges, inserted before, p. 535. b. He saw a *Christian Canary* make the Offer about the Oranges, and to stand at eight or ten Paces from the Person he was to throw them at: But he observes, that no Body would take up the Wager; for that they all knew he would perform even better than what he mentioned. Whence *Cada Mosto* concluded, that they were the most dextrous and active Men in the World.

3455. there they found as many of those Birds Eggs as a Cada Moſto. filled two Boats.) The third, they call *Cuori*^a: They are all ſmall, ſandy, and uninhabited Iſlands. In that of *Argin*, there is Plenty of freſh Water; but in the reſt, none.

Croſt of Bar- IT is to be obſerved, that Southwards, from bary, the Streights of *Gibraltar*, the Coaſt, which is that of *Barbary*, is inhabited no farther than *Cape Cantin*; from whence, to *Cape Blanco*, is the Sandy Country, or Deſart, (ſeparated from *Barbary* by the Mountains^b, on the North) cal- And the Sar- led *Sarrak*^c, by the Natives; which, on the rah, South, confines with the Negroes; and would require fifty or ſixty Days to croſs; in ſome Places more, ſome leſs. This Deſart reaches to the Ocean, and is all ſandy, white, and dry; the Country low, and ſo plain, that it does not ſeem to be higher in one Place than another, till you come to *Cape Blanco*; ſo called by the *Portu- gueſe*, on Account of its white Colour from the Sands, being without any Graſs or Trees. It is a moſt beautiful Cape, as being triangular, that is, having three Points in Front, about a Mile diſ- tant from each other.

Cape Blanco deſcribed. LARGE Fiſh, of divers Sorts, without Num- ber, and exceeding good, are found on this Coaſt; like, in Taſte, to what they have at *Venice*, though of another Shape. The Gulph of *Argin* is all over ſhallow, being full of Shoals, both of Rocks and Sand. There are great Cur- rents in this Gulph; and no ſafe Sailing, but by Day, with the Lead in Hand; and that, accord- ing to the Stream: Two Ships have been already loſt on theſe Shoals. The *Cape Blanco* lies South- Weſt of *Cape Cantin*.

And of the Arabs. THEY have many *Barbary* Horſes, which they carry to the Country of the Negroes, and there barter with the great Men for Slaves; hav- ing from ten to eighteen for each Horſe, accord- ing to its Goodneſs: They alſo bring wrought Silks of *Granada* and *Tunis*; Silver, and a great many other Things: For which they receive Plenty of Slaves, and ſome Gold. Theſe Slaves are brought to *Hoden*, from whence they are ſent to the Mountains of *Barka*, and from thence to *Sicily*; part of them are alſo brought to *Tunis*, and along the Coaſt of *Barbary*; and the reſt to *Argin*, and ſold to the licenſed *Portugueſe*: Every Year between ſeven and eight hundred Slaves are ſent from *Argin* to *Portugal*.

Hoden, a Place of Trade. You muſt know, that behind *Cape Blanco*, on the Continent, there is a Place called *Hoden*, ſix Days Journey, on Camels, from the Shore. This Place is not walled; but much frequented by the *Arabs*, and the *Karawans*, which come from *Tombuto*^d (and other Places belonging to the Negroes) to this Side of *Barbary*. Their Proviſion is Dates and Barley; of which they have Plenty. They drink Camels Milk; and that of other Animals; for they have no Wine. They have Cows and Goats, but not many, becauſe the Land is very dry. Their Oxen and Cows are very ſmall in Compariſon to thoſe of *Italy*. The Inhabitants are *Mahomedans*, and great Enemies to *Chriſtians*. They are never ſettled, but wander continually over the Deſarts. They fre- quent the Countries of the Negroes, and viſit that Side of *Barbary* which is next the *Mediterranean*. They travel in great Numbers, with a numerous Train of Camels, on which they carry Braſs, Silver, and other Things, from *Barbary* to *Tom-*

BEFORE this Trade was ſettled, the *Portu- gueſe* Caravels, ſometimes four, and ſometimes more, uſed to come to the Gulph of *Argin*, well armed, and, landing by Night, ſurpriſed ſome Fiſhermens Villages: They even entered into the Country, and carried off *Arabs* of both Sexes, which they ſold in *Portugal*. They failed in this Manner along the Coaſt to the River *Senega*, which is very large; and divides a People, called *Azanaghi*, from the fiſt Kingdom of the Ne- groes.

THE *Azanaghi* are tawny, or rather of a deep-brown Complexion, and live in ſome Places on the Coaſt, beyond *Cape Blanco*. They range the Deſarts, and confine with the *Arabs* of *Hoden*. They live on Dates, Barley, and Camels Milk. But as they are nearer the Negro Coun-

^a *Gryneus* has *Cori*, p. 9.
^b In *Ramafio*, *Oro Tiber*.

^c Theſe are the *Atlas*.

^d Rather, *Sarrak*.

^e In *Gryneus*, *Atan-*

1455. tries, they carry on a Trade with them; from a to steer. They could not conceive, in case they were human Creatures, how they could travel more in one Night, than they themselves were able to perform in three Days. This confirmed them in their Notion of the Ships being Spirits. The Truth of what the Author relates, was certified by many *Azanagbi*, who were then Slaves in *Portugal*; as well as by the *Portugueze*, who frequented those Seas, at that Time, in their Caravels.

Slave-Stealing forbidden.

HOWEVER, for some Time past, Peace and Commerce has been restored to them all; and the *Infante* suffers no farther Damage to be done to these People. He is in Hopes, that by conversing with *Christians*, they may easily be brought over to the *Romish* Faith, as they are not, as yet, well established in that of *Mohammed*; of which they know nothing but by Hear-say.

Azanagbi's odd Customs.

THESE *Azanagbi* have an odd Custom of wearing a Handkerchief round their Heads; a Piece whereof covers their Eyes, with Part of the Nose and Mouth. They reckon the Mouth to be a nasty Thing; which, as it is constantly belching, and has a bad Smell, should be always kept out of Sight. Thus, they compare it to the Posteriors, insinuating, that both ought to be concealed alike. However that be, it is most certain, that they never expose the Mouth to View, save when they eat; as *Cada Mosto* often observed.

Their Character.

THEY have no Lords among them; but the Rich are respected something more than the rest. They are very poor, and egregious Liars; the greatest Thieves in the World, and very treacherous; lean, and of a common Stature. They wear their Hair, which is black, frized over their Shoulders, like the *Germans*; and oil it every Day with the Fat of Fish, which makes them smell very strong; yet they repute it very modish.

What Ships at first

THE *Azanagbi* never heard of any *Christians*, except the *Portugueze*, with whom they had War for thirteen or fourteen Years; in which several of them were carried-off, and sold for Slaves; as beforementioned. *Cada Mosto* affirms, that when they first saw Ships at Sea, (a Thing never beheld by any of their Ancestors) they took them for large Birds, with white Wings, that had come from foreign Parts. When the Sails were furled, they concluded, that the Ships were Fish, by their Length: Others believed they were Spirits, that wandered by Night; and were in great Fear of them, because, in some Evenings, they lay at Anchor in one Place, and next Morning were seen an hundred Miles distant, proceeding along the Coast, or put back, as the Wind changed, or those of the Caravels thought proper

For Appari-
tions.

ABOUT six Days Journey by Land from *Horden*, there is a Place called *Tegazza*, which, in our Language, signifies a Chest of Gold; where large Quantities of Rock-Salt was dug every Year, and carried on Karawans of Camels by the *Arabs* and *Azanagbi*, in separate Companies, to *Tombuto*, and from thence to the Empire of *Melli*, belonging to the *Negros*. Being arrived here, they dispose of their Salt, in eight Days, at the Rate of between two and three hundred Mitigals (the Value of a Ducat each) the Load; according to the Quantity thereof: After which, they return home with their Gold.

SECT. III.

The Empire of *Melli*. Salt, the chief Merchandise there: How conveyed. Way of Bartering. Strange Sort of *Negros*: One of them taken: Their frightful Form. Trade interrupted. Course of Gold Trade. The *Azanagbi*; their Manners. Large-breasted Women. Swarms of Locusts.

THIS Empire of *Melli* lies in a very hot Climate, and affords very bad Nourishment for Beasts; insomuch, that out of an hundred, which go with the Karawans, scarce twenty-five return. Neither are there any Quadrupeds in this Empire, for they all die: Several of the *Arabs* and *Azanagbi* sicken and die likewise, through the excessive Heat. They reckon it to be forty Days Journey, on Horseback, from *Tegazza* to *Tombuto*; and from *Tombuto* to *Melli*, thirty. *Cada Mosto* having inquired of them, what Use the Merchants of *Melli* made of the Salt? was answered, first, that a small Quantity thereof was consumed in their Country; for, that as they lay near the Line, where the Days and Nights are of equal Length, at certain Seasons of the Year the Heats were excessive, and putrified the Blood; so that, but for that Salt, they would certainly die. There is no Art in preparing it: They only take a Piece every Day, and, dissolving it in a Porringer of Water, drink it off; and by this Means preserve their Health, as they imagine.

Salt, the chief Merchandise.

* The Author calls them *Indians*, that is, *East-Indians*; for so they were deemed before *de Gama's* Voyage. Also, a Bag or Sack of Gold.

1455. THE Remainder of the Salt is carried a long a
 Way, in Pieces, by Men, on their Heads; every
 Piece being as much as a Man can well bear.
 The Salt is brought to *Melli* in large Pieces,
 taken out of the Rocks; each Camel being load-
 ed with two. There the Negros break them in-
 to lesser Pieces, for the Conveniency of carrying
 on the Head; and muster a large Number of
 Footmen for that Purpose. These Porters have
 a long Fork in each Hand; which, when tired,
 they stick in the Ground, and rest their Loads on.
 Thus they proceed till they come to a certain Wa-
 ter; but the *Relator* could not tell whether it was
 fresh or salt: However, the Author was of Op-
 inion, that it must have been a River; because,
 if it was the Sea, they could not, in so hot a
 Climate, have been in Want of Salt. The Ne-
 gros are hired to carry it in this Manner for
 Want of Camels, or other Beasts of Burden; as
 beforementioned: And from what has been re-
 lated, it is easy to see, that the Number, both of
 the Carriers and Consumers, must be very great.

BEING arrived at the Water-Side, the Propri-
 etors of the Salt place their Shares in Heaps to-
 gether in a Row; every one setting a Mark on
 his own: This done, those of the Karawan re-
 tire half a Day's Journey. Then the Negros,
 they went to deal with, who will not be seen,
 nor spoken-to, and seem to be the Inhabitants of
 some Islands, come in large Boats; and, having
 viewed the Salt, lay a Sum of Gold on every
 Heap, and then withdraw. When they are
 gone, the Negros, who own the Salt, return;
 and if the Quantity of Gold pleases them, they
 take it, and leave the Salt; if not, they leave
 both, and withdraw again: The other *Moors*
 then come-on, and the Heaps they find without
 Gold, they carry with them; and either advance
 more Gold to the other Parcels, or leave the
 Salt. In this Manner they trade, without seeing
 or speaking to one another; which has been a
 very ancient Custom among them. This Ac-
 count, the Author owns, appears somewhat im-
 probable; yet he affirms, that he had it from se-
 veral *Arabs*, and *Azanaghi* Merchants, as well as
 other Persons, who were worthy of Credit.

Stranger Sort of Negros. CADA MOSTO asked the same Merchants,
 how it came to pass that the Emperor of *Melli*,
 being such a great Lord, as they reported, did
 not find Means, by Friendship or Force, to dis-
 cover who these People were, that would not
 suffer themselves to be seen or talked-to? Upon
 this they told him, that not many Years before,
 an Emperor of *Melli*, having determined to get
 some of these Invisibles into his Hands, held a
 Council on the Occasion; wherein it was order-
 ed, that before the Salt Karawan returned from
 their half-Day's Journey, some of his Men

1455. should go and make Pits by the Water-Side, near
 where the Salt was left, that they should hide
 themselves therein; and that when the Negros
 came to leave the Gold on the Salt, they should
 attack them, and make two or three Prisoners.

THIS Project was executed, and four were
 taken; the rest having fled: Three also of those,
 who had been surprised, were set at Liberty by
 the Captors; who judged, that one would be
 sufficient to satisfy the Emperor's Desire, and
 that the Negros would be less provoked. But,
 after all, the Design proved abortive; for the
 Prisoner would neither speak, (though talked to
 in various Languages) nor eat any Victuals; so
 that, at four Days End, he died. This has made
 the *Melli* Negros think, that these *Blackmoors*
 are dumb. Others are of Opinion, that the
 Captive, having been endued with human Shape,
 must needs have had the Gift of Speech; but
 that, finding himself treated in a Manner, that
 none of his Predecessors ever had been, he re-
 fused to speak, out of Indignation.

THIS cross Accident was much regretted by
 the Negros of *Melli*, because their Lord was
 thereby prevented from obtaining his Ends; and
 the Captors having brought the Emperor an Ac-
 count of the Man's Death, he received it with
 great Displeasure, and asked of what Stature they
 were? He was answered, that they were exceed-
 ing black, well shaped, and a Span taller than
 themselves: That their under Lip was thicker
 than a Man's Fist, and hung down on their
 Breasts: That it was very red, and that some-
 thing like Blood dropped from it; but that their
 upper Lip was as small as that of other People.
 That the Form of their Lips exposed to View
 their Gums and Teeth, which were larger than
 their own; and that they had great Teeth in
 each Corner of their Mouths: That their Eyes
 were large and black. In short, that they made
 a terrible Figure, Blood dropping from their Gums
 as well as Teeth.

THIS Accident prevented all the succeeding
 Emperors from making any farther Attempt of
 this Kind: Because on Account of the Negro's
 Death, his Countrymen, for the Space of three
 Years, forbore coming to buy any Salt, as they
 used to do. It is believed, that their Lips began
 to putrify at last through the excessive Heat of the
 Climate; and that being no longer able to endure
 so grievous a Distemper, of which some must
 have died for Want of that effectual Remedy
 the Salt, they returned of their own Accord to
 traffic for that Commodity. This has established
 an Opinion, that they cannot live without the
 Salt; the Negros of *Melli* judging of the Case of
 the others by their own: For the Emperor's Part,
 he does not regard whether those Blacks speak or
 not,

1455. not, so he has but the Profit of their Gold. This is a *Cada Mofso* all *Cada Mofso* could learn of the Matter^a; which, he thinks, may well be credited, since so many Persons have affirmed the same to be Fact, and that he firmly believed every Word of it himself, who had both seen and heard of many strange Things in the World.

Course of Gold Trade.

THE Gold brought to *Melli* is divided into three Parts: The first sent by the *Melli* Karawân to *Kokbia*, which lies on the Road to *Syria* and *Kairo*; the other two Shares are sent by another Karawân from *Melli* to *Tombuto*, from whence the Gold is sent in Divisions; first to *Toet*^b, and from thence along the Coast to *Tunis* in *Barbary*. The last Division is sent to *Hoden* above-mentioned, from whence it spreads to *Oran* and *One*^c, Towns in *Barbary*, within the *Streights* of *Gibraltar*; and to *Fez* and *Marokko*, *Arzila*, *Azafi*, and *Messa*, Towns without the *Streights*; where the *Italians* and other *Christians* had it from the *Moors*, in Return for divers Merchandizes. In short, this is the best Commodity that is brought from the *Azanaghi's* Country; for of the Gold sent to *Hoden* every Year, as before observed, they bring some to the Sea-Coast, and barter it with the *Portuguese* at *Argin*^d.

The Azanaghi.

IN the Land of *Tawny-Moors*, no Money is coined; nor do they ever use Money, any more than in the neighbouring Countries; but all their Trade is carried on by bartering one Thing for another, and sometimes two for one, which is their Way of Living. It is true, that the *Azanaghi* and *Arabs*, in some of their Towns within Land, use little white Shells^e, which are brought to *Venice* from the *Levant*, of which they pay certain Numbers, according to the Goodness of what they are to buy. They give the Gold they sell by *Mitigal* Weight, which is about a Ducat in Value.

Their Manners.

THE Inhabitants of this Desert have neither Religion nor Sovereign, only those who are the richest, and have the largest Retinues, are Lords, as is customary in many Places. The Women are tawny, and wear Cottons that come from the Country of the *Negros*; and some of them Frocks, which are called *Alkhezeli*; but no

Smocks: And she who has the largest and longest Bubbies, is reputed the greatest Beauty: For this Reason, when they attain the Age of seventeen or eighteen Years, and that their Breasts are somewhat grown, they tie a Cord very streight round the Middle of them, which presses very hard and breaks them, so that they hang down; and by pulling them every Day, they grow longer and longer, reaching as low as the Navel of some Women.

1455. *Cada Mofso.* *Large Breast Women.*

THE Men ride Horses in the *Moorish* Fashion, but have not many; for the *Berber* Chiefs of the Country will not allow them to keep any, neither could they live long in such great Heats. The Desert throughout is very hot, and has but little Water, which makes the Country dry and barren. It rains here only three Months in the Year; that is, in *August*, *September*, and *October*. The Author was also informed, that in some Years large Swarms of Locusts appear in this Country; they are like Grasshoppers, the Length of one's Finger, and of a red and yellow Colour. They appear sometimes in such Clouds in the Air, as to hide the Sun, covering the Horizon as far as the Sight can reach, which is from twelve to sixteen Miles; and where they lodge, they strip the Ground bare, which they look upon as a great Pestilence. These Insects come every third or fourth Year: But were they to pay their Visits every Year, there would be no living in the Country. The Author saw an incredible Number of them on the Coast, when he travelled through it.

Swarm of Locusts.

SECT. IV.

The River Senega. Entrance described. Surprising Contrast. Country of Senega. The Jalois: Their Kings, how maintained: Their Wives, how disposed of: Their Religion. Dress of the Men. Preposterous Drawers. Womens Dress. Their Genius and Manners. Their Arms. Very courageous. Have Boats, but no Ships.

HAVING doubled *Cape Blanco*, they continued their Course to the River called *Senega*.

River Senega.

^a I am afraid, few of our Readers will think either the Testimony of the *Africans*, however positive, or Belief of the Author, however strong, an Argument sufficient to gain their Credit to this Story: But at the same Time we may venture to assert, that this is actually a common Report in that Country, and no Invention of *Cada Mofso's*; for *Johson*, who was at the River *Gambra*, or *Gambia*, in 1620, repeats the Whole of this Story in Substance, (as will appear in his Relation inserted hereafter); and *Movette* relates the Circumstances of the Blacks trafficking for Salt without being seen, which he had from the *Moors* of *Marokko*. See his Travels there in 1671, in *Stephens's* Collection, vol. 2. p. 81. Indeed we hear nothing from this Author of the frightful Lips; but every Fiction has its Period, and that at present is perhaps out of Date. ^b In *Grynæus*, *Ato*. ^c In the same Author, *Hona*.

^d This is the first Account (brought from these Quarters) of the Parts whence the Gold comes, and the Course of its Trade through *Africa*, and into *Europe*; and seems more particular and exact than any given since by later Authors. ^e *Percollette*; doubtless, what we call *Kori Shells*.

1455.
Cada Mosto.

Senega, which divides the Defart and the tawny *Azanaghi* from the fruitful Lands and Negros. Five Years before *Cada Mosto* made the Voyage, this River was discovered by three Caravels belonging to Prince *Henry*; which entering it, made Peace, and settled a Trade with the *Moors*; since which Time, Ships have been sent every Year to traffic with them.

Entrance described.

THIS River is large, above a Mile wide at the Mouth, and sufficiently deep. A little farther, it has another Entrance. Between the two there is an Island, which forms a Cape running into the Sea, and at each Mouth there are Sand-Banks and Shoals, reaching about a Mile from Shore: For this Reason all Ships that sail into the *Senega* ought to observe the Course of the Tide; which also ebbs and flows every six Hours for seventy Miles within it, as the Author was informed by the *Portuguese*, who had been a great Way up it with Caravels to trade. From Cape *Blanco*, which is three hundred and eighty Miles distant, the Coast is all sandy till within twenty Miles of the River; it is called the Coast of *Anterota*, and belongs to the *Azanaghi*, or Tawny-Moors.

Surprising Contrast.

CADA MOSTO was quite surprised to find so great a Difference in so narrow a Space; for on the South-Side of the River, the Inhabitants are exceeding black, tall, corpulent, and well made; the Country all green, and full of Fruit-Trees; And on the other Side, the Men are tawny, meagre, and small of Stature; the Country dry and barren. This River, according to the Opinion of the Learned in these Parts, is a Branch of the River *Ghion*, which comes from the terrestrial Paradise. The Ancients called this Branch *Niger*, which washes all *Ethiopia*, and drawing near the Ocean towards the West, divides into many other Branches. The *Nile*, which is another Branch of the *Ghion*, washes *Egypt*, and falls into the *Mediterranean*.

The Jalofs.

THE first Kingdom of the Negros lies on the River *Senega*, and those who inhabit the Banks thereof are called *Jalofs*: All the Country is low, not only to that River, but also beyond it, as far as Cape *de Verde*; which is the highest Land on all this Coast, and four hundred Miles distant from Cape *Blanco*. This Kingdom of *Senega* is bounded on the East, with the Country called *Tukbuser*; on the South, with the Kingdom of *Gambra*; on the West, with the Ocean; and on the North, with the River.

* These Notions later Discoveries have shewed to be erroneous.

† Or, *Jalofs*. ‡ Although the first Kingdom or Kingdoms of the Blacks lies upon the *Senega* or *Sanagha*, and others along the *Gambra*; yet there were not properly any Kingdoms of these Names. There was indeed, to the North of the *Sanaga*, the Country inhabited by the *Sanbaga*, or *Azanaghi*, from whence the River seems to have taken its Name: But it was divided among various Tribes of these People, and not under any one Sovereign. However, the Geographers since then have propagated the first Mistake.

THE King, who reigned in *Senega*, in *Cada Mosto's* Time, was called *Zukholin*, and twenty-two Years of Age. This Kingdom is not hereditary, but commonly three or four Lords (of which there are many in the Country) chuse a King to their own Liking, (yet always of noble Parentage) who reigns as long as he pleases them. They often dethrone their Kings by Force, and the Kings many Times render themselves so powerful, as to stand on their Defence; which makes the Government unfettled, as that of the *Soldan of Cairo* is, who is always in Fears of being killed or banished.

1455.
Cada Mosto.
Government.

THESE Kings are not like those of *Europe*, for their Subjects are Savages, and extreme poor: They have no walled Towns, but only Villages, with thatched Houses. They use neither Lime or Stone for building, not knowing how to make the one, or form the other. The Kingdom is small, extending (as the Author was informed) no more than two hundred Miles along the Coast, and the same within Land. This King has no certain Revenues, but the Lords of the Country, to court his Favour, make him Presents every Year of Horses, (which are very much esteemed here, being scarce), together with Furniture; and other Beasts, such as Cows and Goats; also Pulse, Millet, and such like Things. This King likewise lives by Robberies, and forcing some of his Subjects and those of neighbouring Provinces into Slavery; Part whereof he employs in cultivating the Lands assigned him, and sells the rest to the *Azanaghi* and *Arabian* Merchants, who trade here with Horses, and other Things, as well as to the *Christians*, since Trade has been opened between them.

Kings, how maintained.

EVERY Man here may entertain as many Women as he pleases. The King has always upwards of thirty, and distinguishes them according to their Descent, and the Rank of the Lords whose Daughters they are. He keeps them in certain Villages and Places of his own, eight or ten together. Each of them has a separate House to dwell in, and a fixed Number of young Women to attend on her, with Slaves to cultivate the Land assigned her, that they may maintain themselves with the Product thereof. They have likewise Cows and Goats, which the Slaves also take Care of; and thus they sow, reap, and live.

Their Wives.

§ WHEN the King comes to any of these Villages, How disposed of.

1455. lages, he brings no Provisions along with him; a
 Cada Mollo. these Women being obliged to bear the Expences
 of him and his Retinue whenever he visits them.
 Every Morning, at Sun-rise, each of his Women
 in the Place he arrives at prepares three or
 four Covers of divers Viands; such as Flesh,
 Fish, and other Dainties, according to the
Moorish Taste, which are carried by the Slaves
 to the King's Pantry: So that, in less than an
 Hour, there are from forty to fifty Dishes brought;
 and when his Majesty has a Mind to eat, he
 finds every thing ready to his Hand. After he
 has eaten of such Dishes as he likes best, the Re-
 mainder is given to his Retinue: But as this Diet
 is never in Plenty, they are always hungry. Thus
 he travels from one Place to another, visiting his
 Women, by which Means he has a very num-
 erous Issue: But from the Instant any of them
 proves with Child, he goes near her no more.
 All the Lords live in the same Manner.

Their Reli-
 gion.

THESE Negros profess the *Mohammedan* Reli-
 gion, but are not so well instructed therein as
 the White *Moors*, particularly the common Peo-
 ple. The Lords have always about them some
 of the *Azanaghi* for that Purpose, or else *Arabs*,
 who come to reside there. These have incul-
 cated, that it would be a Disgrace for them, who
 are Lords, to live without observing any of God's
 Laws, and to act as the inferior People do with-
 out any Religion. It is owing to their never
 having conversed with any but the *Azanaghi's*,
 or *Arabs*, that they are *Mohammedans*: But since
 they became acquainted with *Christians*, they are
 not so fond of that Faith.

Dress of the
 Men.

THE Generality of these Negros go quite
 naked, except covering their privy Parts with a
 Goat's Skin, made in the Form of a Pair of
 Breeches. But the Lords, and those who are
 able, wear Cotton Shirts, of the Product of the
 Country, which is spun by their Women. They
 weave Pieces of Cotton a Span wide, but never
 any wider, not having the Art of making larger
 Looms; so that they are obliged to sew five or
 six of these Pieces together, when they would
 make any large Work. Their Shirts reach to
 half their Thighs, the Sleeves of which are large,
 but cover only half of the Arm.

Preposterous
 Drawers.

THEY use Cotton Drawers, which hang down
 to the Small of the Leg, and are monstrously
 wide, being from thirty to thirty-five and forty
 Palms in Circumference; so that, when tied on,
 they are full of Plaits, and though like a Sack
 before, the hind Part trails on the Ground like a
 Tail, resembling large Petticoats with a Train.
 In short, it makes the most preposterous Figure
 in the World; yet they asked the *Europeans*, if
 they ever had seen a finer Dress? For in their
 own Opinion, nothing comes up to it for Ele-
 gance.

THEIR Women, married or unmarried, go
 naked from the Waist upwards; and downwards, 1455.
 wear a Piece of Cotton to half the Leg. Both
 Sexes go bare-footed and uncovered, but weave
 their Hair into beautiful Tresses, which they tie
 in various Knots, though it be short. The Men
 employ themselves in Women's Work; such as
 spinning, washing of Cloaths, and the like.

Genius and
 Manners.

IT is very hot here, not being so cold in *Ja-
 nuary*, as it is in *Italy* in the Month of *April*;
 and the farther one travels, the more the Heat
 increases. Both Men and Women wash them-
 selves four or five Times a Day, being very clean-
 ly as to their Persons, but not so in eating, in
 which they observe no Rule. Although very ig-
 norant and awkward in going about any thing
 which they have not been accustomed to, yet in
 their own Business, which they are acquainted
 with, they are as expert as any *Europeans* can be.
 They are full of Words, and never have done
 talking; and are, for the most Part, Liars and
 Cheats. Yet, on the other hand, they are very
 charitable: For they give a Dinner, or a Night's
 Lodging, and a Supper to all Strangers who come
 to their Houses, without expecting any Return.

THESE Negro Lords often make War among
 themselves, and with their Neighbours. They
 have no Cavalry, for Want of Horses: They
 wear no Arms, save a large Target for their De-
 fence, made of the Skin of a Beast, called *Danta*,
 which is very difficult to be pierced; and *Aza-
 gays*, or light Darts, in throwing of which they
 are very dexterous. These Darts are pointed with
 Iron, the Length of a Span, barbed in different
 Manners; so that they make dangerous Wounds
 in the Body wherever they enter, tearing the Flesh
 grievously, when pulled out. They also have a
Moorish Weapon, which is like a *Turkish* half
 Sword; that is, bent like a Bow, and made of
 Iron, (without any Steel) brought from the King-
 dom of *Gambra* by the Negros, who thereof
 make their Arms; and if they have any Iron in
 their own Country, they know nothing of it,
 or want Industry to work it. They use also ano-
 ther speared Weapon, like our Javelin; besides
 which, they have no other Arms.

As they have but few Arms, their Wars are
 very bloody, for their Strokes do not fall in vain.
 They are extremely bold and fierce, choosing ra-
 ther to be killed, than to save their Lives by
 Flight. They are not afraid to die, nor scared,
 as other People are, when they see a Companion
 slain. They have no Ships, neither did they ever
 see any, before the *Portuguese* came upon their
 Coast. Those inhabiting near the River, and
 some who live by the Sea, have *Zappolies*, or
Almaidas, made out of a single Piece of Wood,
 the largest whereof carries three or four Men.
 In these they fish sometimes and go up and down
 the

1455.
 Cada Mollo.
 The Women's
 Dress.

Their Arms.

Very cru-
 el.

Boats, but
 no Ships.

1455. the River. These Negros are the greatest Swimmers in the World, by the Experiments the Author had seen of them in these Parts.

SECT. V.

Country of Budomel. The Author lands: Is well received. Goes into the Country. Surprising Performance of two Blacks. Lord Budomel's Habitation. His Wives and Women: His constant Regiment. Great State of the great Men. Differs about Religion. Way of eating.

Country of Budomel.

CADA MOSTO having passed the River of Senega with his Caravel, sailed along the Coast to the Country of Budomel, about eight hundred Miles farther, the Country between being all low Land, and without Mountains. He stopped at this Place to know something of the Lord Budomel, (from whom the Country took its Name;) certain Portuguese, who had dealt with him, having represented him as a very just Person, who might be confided in, as he paid for every thing he took. Our Adventurer had some Spanish Horses on board, which were much esteemed among the Negros; besides Cloth, Moorish wrought Silks, and many other Commodities.

The Author lands.

As soon therefore as he came to anchor at a Place called the Palm of Budomel, which is a Road, and not a Port, he sent his Interpreter, who was a Negro, to give this Lord Notice of his Arrival, and the Goods he had on board. Not long after, Lord Budomel himself, with about fifteen Horses, and an hundred and fifty Foot, came to the Sea-Side, and sent to desire Cada Mosto to land, for that he would do him a Piece of Service. He accordingly went, and was received with great Civility.

Is well received.

AFTER some Discourse, the Author delivered him seven Horses, with their Furniture, and every thing else that he wanted, which cost in all three hundred Ducats; trusting to his Honour for Payment, which he proposed to make at his House, twenty-five Miles distant from the Shore; intreating Cada Mosto to go down with him, and to wait a few Days, because he was to pay for what Goods he had in Slaves. Cada Mosto readily agreed to go, induced as much by the Desire of making Discoveries, as of being paid. But before they set out, the Lord made him a Present of a beautiful Female Black, of about twelve Years old; telling him, at the same Time, that he gave her to him to serve him in his Cabin. The Gift was willingly accepted of, and sent aboard.

Goes into the Country.

BUDOMEL furnished the Author with Horses, as well as every thing else necessary for a

Journey; and when they came within four Miles of his Habitation, gave him in Charge to Bisoror his Nephew, who was Lord of a little Town where they had arrived. Bisoror took him to his own House, and treated him all the while he remained there (which was twenty-eight Days) with great Civility, and good Company. This was in November; during which Time, he went often to see Lord Budomel, in Company with his Nephew, and observed many Things relating to their Way of Living. He had the greater Opportunity to make Remarks, as he travelled back, as far as the River Senega, on Account of the tempestuous Weather; which arising on this Coast, so that he could not go on board, he was obliged to send the Ship before to this River, and go by Land himself.

THE Author observes, upon this Occasion, that being desirous to send Instructions to those in the Ship, to meet him at the Senega, he inquired among the Blacks, if any of them would undertake to carry a Letter for him on board? To which several of them answered in the Affirmative. The Ship lay about three Miles from Shore, the Sea ran high, and there was a great Wind; insomuch, that he thought it impossible for any Man to perform it; especially as several Sand-Banks lay near the Shore, and about half Way, other Banks; with a great Current running between them, sometimes backwards, and sometimes forwards, that it is a most difficult Task for any Man to swim through them, without being carried away by the Stream: Besides, the Sea breaks over the Banks with so much Violence, that it seemed impossible to surmount such Obstructions.

NOTWITHSTANDING two of these Negros offered to go, and having demanded, what they expected for their Labour? They answered, two Mavulgis of Tin for each of them, the Mavulgi being worth no more than one Grosson. At this Price they undertook to carry the Letter to the Ship, and took the Water. I cannot express the Difficulties, says the Author, which they were to encounter with in passing the Sand-Bank in so high a Sea. Sometimes they were out of Sight for a considerable while, and I often thought they had been drowned. At last, one of them not being able any longer to resist the Violence of the Waves which broke over him, turned back; but the other being stronger, after struggling a large Hour on the Bank, got past it; and having carried the Letter to the Caravel, returned with an Answer; which to me, says the Author, seemed very wonderful, and thence I concluded, that the Negros of this Coast must be the best Swimmers in the World.

A Grosson is about three Farthings English.

1455. It has been already observed, that those who are called Lords, have neither Castles nor Cities. The King of this Country has nothing but Villages, with thatched Houses. Budomel is Lord of one Part of this Kingdom, which is small: These are not Lords on Account of their Riches or Treasure, because they have none; neither is there any Coin made use of among them: But they are considered as such, out of Courtesy, and by Reason of the great Retinues, with which they are always attended; being respected and feared, by their Subjects, more than any Italian Lords. The Place of Budomel's Residence was neither a walled House nor Palace; but, according to their Manner of Living, he has some Villages assigned for the Habitation of himself, and his Wives, with their respective Families; because he never fixes in one Place. The Village, where the Author resided, was one of his Habitations, and had between forty and fifty thatched Houses built near one another, and surrounded with Ditches and large Trees, only a Passage or two was left for Entrance; and every House had a Court, inclosed with a Hedge.

His Wives
and Women.

BUDOMEL, according to Report, had nine Wives in this Place, and more or less in other Villages. Each of these Women has five or six young Negros to attend her; with whom the Lord may lie when he pleases; nor are the Wives offended thereat, it being the Custom. Both Sexes are very lascivious; and one of the chiefest Things that Budomel importuned the Author about, was, to teach him the Art of pleasing many Women. He had been told, the Christians were very expert at it; and promised to grant whatever was in his Power to give on that Condition. They are very jealous, and suffer no Body to enter the House where any of their Women dwell; nor would they even trust their own Sons.

His constant
Retinue.

BUDOMEL has always at least two hundred Negros in his Retinue; who change from Time to Time; some going, and others coming in their Room: Besides, many People repair from the adjacent Places to meet him. At the Entrance of his House, before his Apartment, there are seven large Courts, leading from one to the other, with a Tree in the Middle of each; where those wait who come upon Business. His Family is distributed in these Courts, according to the Rank of the Person; the most considerable being stationed nearest, and the meanest farthest from his Apartment; which few approach, except the Christians and Azanagbi, who have free Admission; more Liberty being allowed them than the Negros.

Great State.

BUDOMEL affects great State and Gravity,

for he will not be seen, except one Hour in the Morning, and, for a little while, towards the Evening; at which Times he appears in the first Court, near the Door of the Apartment; into which none but Persons of Note are permitted to enter. The Pride of these Lords appears most in giving Audience; for when any Person came to speak to Budomel, were his Condition ever so great, he was obliged, first, to strip himself stark naked, excepting the Skins which covered his Privities; then, the Instant he entered the Court, he fell upon his Knees, and bowed down his Head as low the Earth; lastly, with both his Hands he covered his Head and Shoulders with Sand.

THIS is the Manner in which they salute their Lord; nor is there any Person whoever exempt from these Duties; not even their own Relations. The Person, who solicits the Audience, remains a great while in this penitential Posture, dabbling himself with Sand, and crawling on his Knees, till he approach the great Man. When the Suppliant is within two Paces of this Lord, he stops, and begins to relate his Case; but still continues to lay on Sand, with the Head down, in Token of great Humility. All this while the Lord scarce seems to take Notice of him, being in Discourse with other Persons; and when his Vassal has told his Story, with an arrogant Aspect, makes the Answer in two Words. Such is his affected Pride and Grandeur; and such is the Submission paid him: Insomuch, that the Author does not think, greater could be given to God himself, were he on Earth. This, in his Opinion, proceeds from the great Awe and Fear they live in of their Lords; who, for every little Fault they commit, take their Wives and Children, and cause them to be sold for Slaves.

BUDOMEL behaved with great Complaisance to Cada Mosto, and carried him into the Mosks; for, towards Evening, he ordered the Azanagbi or Arabs, whom he always had about him, to say Prayers. His Manner was thus: Being entered into the Moske, (which was in one of the Courts) with some of the principal Negros, he first stood with his Eyes lifted-up, then he advanced two Steps, and spoke a few Words softly; after which, he stretched himself on the Ground, and kissed it: The Azanagbi, and all the rest, did the same. Then rising, he repeated the same Acts over again, ten or twelve Times, which took up half an Hour.

WHEN he had done, he asked the Author's Opinion of their Manner of Worship; and to give him some Account of his own Religion: Hereupon Cada Mosto told him, in Presence of

* Captain Jobson, in his Voyage up the River Gambia, in 1620, inserted hereafter, relates the very same Custom as practised by the Inhabitants.

† Masjeds, or Churches.

1455. his Doctors, that the Religion of *Mohammed* was a false; and the *Romish*, the true one. This made the *Arabs* mad, and *Budamel* laugh; who, on this Occasion, said, that he looked upon the Religion of the *Europeans* to be good; for that none but God could have given them so much Riches and Understanding. He added, however, that the *Mohammedan* Law must be also good; and that he believed the *Negros* were more sure of Salvation than the *Christians*, because God was a just Lord, and, therefore, as he had given the latter Paradise in this World, it ought to be possessed, in the World to come, by the *Negros*, who had scarce any Thing here, in Comparison of the others. In all his Discourse he shewed a good Understanding; and took great Pleasure in hearing the Customs of the *Christians*. *Cada Mosto* believed he might easily have been converted, were it not for Fear of losing his Estate; for his Nephew, in whose House he lodged, often told him so; and took great Delight himself in hearing the Author talk of his Religion.

Way of eating.

BUDOMEL's Table, like those of all other Lords, and Men of Condition, is supplied by their Wives, in the same Manner as the King of *Senega*'s is furnished; each sending him every Day so many Dishes. They eat on the Ground, without any Regularity, or Company, except the *Moors*, who are their Teachers, and one or two of their chief *Negros*. The inferior People eat by ten and twelve in a Mess. A Basket full of Victuals being set before them, all put their Hands in-together. They eat but very little at a Time; but go to it four or five Times a Day.

SECT. VI.

The Soil and Product. Way of Culture. Palm-Tree Wine. Fruit, and other Trees. Animals. Charming of Serpents. Poisoning of Darts. Cattle. Wild Elephants: Do not attack Men. Parrots: Their Nests, how contrived. Their Markets or Fairs. Way of buying and selling. Horses very scarce. Diversions of the Negros. Surprised at a Bagpipe, as well as at the Ship, and a lighted Candle. Their musical Instruments.

The Soil and Product,

NO Bread-Corn, Rye, Oats, or Wine, grows in the Kingdom of *Senega*, or any of the Negro Countries on that Coast, on Account of the great Heats: This they made Trial of by the Seeds they had from the Ship: For Wheat requires a temperate Soil, and frequent Rains; which are wanting here. They have no Rain for nine Months in the Year; that is, from *October* till *June*. However, they have large and

small Millet, Beans, and the finest Kidney-Beans in the World: They are as large as Hazle-Nuts, but longer than the *Venetian*, and speckled with various Colours, as if painted; so that they make a beautiful Shew. The Bean is large, flat, and of a lively Red: There are also white Beans. They sow in *July*, and reap in *September*; at which Time Rain falls, and the Rivers are swelled.

THEY prepare the Soil, sow, and get in their Harvest, all in three Months Time. They are bad Husbandmen, no Lovers of Labour, and sow no more than what barely serves them the Year round; for they lay up no Store of Oats for Sale. Their Method of turning up the Earth is thus; four or five of them go into a Field, with Spades, (instead of Shovels, used in *Italy*) and throw up the Earth; running it not above four Inches deep in the Ground: This is all their Ploughing. But as the Soil is so fertil and kind, it produces every Thing they sow, without any farther Pains.

THEIR Liquors are Water, Milk, and Palm-Wine; which latter is taken from Trees (here very numerous) like the Date-Trees, though not the same*. They yield this Liquor, called by the *Negros* *Mighol*, all the Year round. Being tapped in two or three Places, towards the Foot, a brown Water runs out, as thin as Skim-Milk, into the Calabasses, set to receive it. The Liquor distils but slowly; for a Tree will not fill above two Calabasses from Morning till Night. It is exceeding good to drink; and intoxicates, like Wine, if not mixed with Water. It is as sweet the first Day as any Wine in the World; but the luscious Taste goes off every Day more and more, till, at length, it becomes eager. It drinks better the third or fourth Day than the first, because it purges a little, and is not so sweet. *Cada Modo* drank frequently of it every Day, while he was in that Country, and liked it better than the Wine of *Italy*. This *Mighol* is not in such Plenty that every Body may have it at Discretion; however, they all have some; especially the chief Men: For the Tree is not planted in Gardens, like the Fruits or Vines of *Europe*, but grows in the Forests, and is common to all.

THEY have several Sorts of Fruits, like the *Euro-Fruit*, and *pean*, though not exactly the same; and notwithstanding they grow wild, yet they are very good. Were they cultivated in Gardens, they would prove much better than those in the Northern Climates; the Quality of the Air and Soil being very nutritive. The Country is all plain and fertil, abounding with good Pasture, besides an infinite Number of large and beautiful Trees, not known in *Europe*. Here are, likewise, several Lakes of

* But a Species of it, called the *Palmito*.

1455. fresh Water, not large, but very deep, and full of good Fish, which differ from such as are found in *Italy*: Also many Water-Serpents, by them called *Kalkatrici*. They have an Oil, which they use in Viſuals; but the Author could not tell what it was made of. It is remarkable for three Qualities, viz. the Smell of a Violet, the Taſte of Olive-Oil, and a Colour, that dyes the Viſuals better than Saffron. There is a Plant here, likewise, that produces small Kidney-Beans in great Quantities.

Animals.

THEY have ſeveral Sorts of Animals; particularly Serpents, both large and ſmall; ſome whereof are venomous. The large ones are more than two Paces long, but have neither Legs nor Wings, as Serpents are ſaid to have; but ſo very thick, that ſome have ſwallowed a Goat at one Morſel. They retire in Troops, as the Natives ſay, to certain Places of the Country where white Ants ſwarm; which, by Inſtinct, build Houſes for theſe Serpents, with the Earth they carry in their Mouths for that Purpoſe. Theſe Houſes look like Ovens; and are to the Number of an hundred and fifty in a Place.

Charming of Serpents.

THE Negroes are great Inchanters, uſing Charms in reſpect of every Thing; particularly theſe Serpents. A *Genoeſe* of Credit told *Cada Moſto*, that the Year before being in *Budomel's* Country, and lodged likewise with his Nephew *Bisboror*, he heard a great Whiſtling about the Houſe at Midnight; which having wakened him, he ſaw *Bisboror* riſe, and call two Negroes to fetch his Camel; ſaying, that he muſt go. His Gueſt asked him, whereto, ſo late at Night? He answered, about certain Buſineſs; but that he would be ſoon back again. *Bisboror* returning after ſome Time, the *Genoeſe* was inquiſitive to know where he had been. Did not you hear the Hiſſing about the Houſe ſome Time ago? ſays *Bisboror*: I did, ſays the *Genoeſe*. Theſe were Serpents, ſays the other; and if I had not, with certain Inchantments, which we uſe in theſe Parts, ſent them back to their own Quarters, they would have killed a great many of my Cattle this Night.

Poisoning Darts.

THE *Genoeſe* being ſurpriſed at this Account, *Bisboror* told him, he need not wonder at all at the Matter, for that *Budomel* could do a great deal more; and that when he had a Mind to envenom his Weapons, he uſed to make a large Circle, into which he brought, by his Spells, all the Serpents in the Neighbourhood: Then letting all go again, but that which he thought moſt poiſonous, he killed it; and with the Blood, mixed with the Seed of a certain Tree, (which the Author had ſome of) infected his Weapons to ſuch a Degree, that if they drew but the leaſt

a Drop of Blood, the Perſon wounded died in a Quarter of an Hour. The *Genoeſe* farther affirmed, that *Bisboror* offered to ſhew him a Sample of his Art; but that he was unwilling to ſee the Experiment: From hence *Cada Moſto* concludes, that all the Negroes muſt be great Sorcerers. He adds, that this Story of the Serpents is very probable; for that he had heard of *Chriſtians* in *Italy* who could do the ſame.

THERE are no tame Animals in the Kingdom of *Senega*, ſave Oxen, Cows, and Goats: Sheep they have none; neither ſhould they live in this hot Climate; for they love temperate Air, and live better in cold than hot Countries. But Nature has provided Mankind every where with Neceſſaries according to their different Occaſions. She has ſupplied *Europeans* with Wool; who could not do without it in theſe cold Climates. The Negroes, who, living in ſuch intense Heat, have no Occaſion for Cloaths, are without Sheep; but then the Deity has ſupplied them with Cotton. The Cattle of this Country are much ſmaller than thoſe of *Italy*; which ſeems to be owing to the Heat. It is a Rarity to ſee a red Cow here; for they are all black or white, or elſe mottled with Spots of both Colours. Beaſts of Prey are numerous here; ſuch as Lions, Leopards, and Wolves; alſo Goats and Hares. Wild Elephants march in Troops, like Wood-Hogs, in *Venice*; but can never be tamed, as in other Parts of the World.

THIS Animal being very well known, the Author only obſerves in general, that they are of a very large Size, which may be conceived from their Teeth brought into *Europe*. Of theſe, each Elephant has but two in the under Jaw, like the wild Boar, without any other Difference, ſave, that the Points of the wild Boar's Teeth turn upwards, and thoſe of the Elephant down. *Cada Moſto* had been told, before he ſailed to theſe Parts, that the Elephants could not bend their Knees, and that they ſlept ſtanding, which he declares to be an egregious Falſehood; for that their Knees may be plainly diſcerned in walking; and that they lie down, and riſe, like all other Animals.

THEY never ſhed their large Teeth before Death; nor do Harm to any Man, unleſs provoked by him: In that Caſe, the Elephant attacks him with his Trunk, which is in Place of a Noſe, of an exceeding Length. He can contract and extend this Proboscis at Pleaſure; and will toſs a Man with it as far as a Sling can throw a Stone. It is in vain to think to eſcape by running, let the Perſon be ever ſo ſwift, provided the Elephant follows him in earneſt, and fetches large Strides. They are more dangerous when they have young ones, than at any other Time;

: Yet the People, in moſt Parts of *Europe*, and even in *Britain*, formerly went naked.

1455. and have but three or four at a Birth. They feed on Leaves of Trees and Fruit, pulling down the large Boughs, and bringing them to the Mouth with their Trunk, which is a very thick Cartilage*. The Author could hear of no other Animals being in this Kingdom, except the above-mentioned.

Parrots,

THERE are divers Sorts of Birds in this Country; particularly Parrots, in great Numbers. The Negroes hate them, because they do great Damage to their Millet and Pulse. They say, there are several Sorts of them; but *Cada Mofso* could see no more than two. The one, like those brought from *Alexandria*, but a little smaller. The other Sort is much larger, has a brown Head, Neck, Beak, and Legs, the Body yellow and green. He had a good Number of these two Sorts, particularly the small ones, whereof many died; the rest, being about an hundred and fifty, he carried to *Spain*, and sold them for half a Ducat a-piece.

Their Nests, how contrived.

THESE Birds are very industrious in making their Nests, which they build with Bulrushes, and small Leaves of the Palm, and other Trees. The Parrot chuses out the slenderest Branch, at the End whereof she fastens the Bulrush: To which, being about two Spans Length, she sticks her Nest, weaving it in a most beautiful Manner; and, when finished, it hangs like a Ball to the End of the Bulrush, having only one Passage into it. Thus they contrive to save their Young from the devouring Serpents; whose Weight these small Branches cannot support. There is Plenty of other large Birds, called *Pharash's Hens* in *Europe*; whither they are brought from the *Levant*. They have likewise other Birds, both large and small, quite different from any known in *Italy*.

Their Markets, or Fairs.

As the Author was several Days on Shore, he went three or four Times to see one of their Markets, or Fairs; which was kept on *Mondays* and *Fridays*, in a Meadow, not far from the Place where he was lodged. Hither repaired, with their Wares, both Men and Women, for four or five Miles about; and those who lived at a greater Distance, went to other Markets nearer them. The great Poverty of this People appeared in the Goods found in these Fairs; which were, a few Pieces of Cotton-Cloth, Cotton-Yarn, Pulse, Oil, Millet, Wooden Tubs, Palm-Mats, and every Thing else for the Use of Life: Here also one meets with Arms, and small Quantities of Gold.

Way of buying and selling.

As they have no Money or Coin of any Kind, all Trade is carried on by Way of Barter; exchanging one Thing for another, and sometimes

two or three for one, according to the different Values. These *Blacks*, both Men and Women, came to gaze on *Cada Mofso* as if he had been a Prodigy; and thought it a great Curiosity to behold a white Man, for they had never seen any before. They were as much astonished at his Dress as his Colour; being cloathed after the *Spanish* Fashion, with a black Damask Waistcoat, and a Cloak over it. They admired the Woollen Cloth, of which they have none; and seemed much surprised at the Sight of the Waistcoat. Some caught him by the Arms and Hands, which they rubbed with Spittle, to see if the Whiteness was natural or artificial; and finding that his Skin was not painted, their Wonder continued. The End of his going to these Markets was, chiefly, to see what Quantity of Gold was brought thither.

HORSES are of great Value, and scarce, in this Country of Negroes, who cannot easily come at them; being brought from those Parts of

Barbary next *Europe*, by the *Arabs* and *Azanaghi*. Besides, the great Heat will not suffer them to live long; for they grow so fat, that they cannot make Water, and so burst. They feed them with Bean-Leaves, which they gather after the Beans are brought from the Fields. These are cut small, being as dry Hay, and serve instead of Oats: They give them Millet also; which fattens them much. A Horse and Furniture is sold for from nine to fourteen Negro Slaves; according to his Goodness and Beauty. And when a Lord buys one, he sends for his Horse-Sorcerers; who, causing a Fire to be made of certain Stalks of Herbs, hold the Head by the Bridle over the Smoak while they repeat a few Words. They afterwards have him anointed all over with a fine Oil; and keeping him eighteen or twenty Days, without suffering any Body to see him, fix to his Neck some *Moorish* Charms, (which look like doubled-up, small square Billets) covered with red Leather. By Means of these Scrolls, they imagine, that they shall engage with greater Safety in Battle.

THE Women of this Country are very pleasant and merry, and delight in Singing and Dancing; particularly the young ones. These Diversions they take only at Night, by the Light of the Moon. Their Way of Dancing is very different from the *Italian*. Several Things, belonging to the Sailors, seemed wonderful to the Negroes; among which, was the Cross-Bow; but much more, the Artillery. Some of them coming on board, *Cada Mofso* caused one of the Guns to be fired off, which put them into a Panic; their Dread increased, on his telling them, that one

* It is very pliable, and will wind and bend any Way.

1455. Cannon-Shot would kill an hundred Men; on a which Occasion they said, that it must be something belonging to the Devil.

Surprised at the Bagpipe,

THEY likewise greatly wondered at the Bagpipe; with which, he ordered one of his Sailors to divert them. Upon beholding the several Parts and Ornaments of the Instrument, they imagined it was a living Animal, that sung in different Voices; taking great Delight in hearing it played on. Cada Mosto, observing their Simplicity, told them, it was a musical Instrument, and put it into their Hands unblown. Upon this, they perceived that it was made by Art: But said, that it was something divine, and made by the Hands of God, since it sounded so sweetly, and with so many different Tones; declaring, they never heard any Thing that could come-up to it.

At the Ship,

THE Ship, and its Contrivance, afforded them also Matter of great Admiration, as well as the Masts, Sails, Shrouds, and Anchors. They took the Port-Holes, made in the Stern, for real Eyes, with which she found her Way by Sea. They said, the Europeans were great Sorcerers, and not inferior to the Devil himself: That Travellers by Land found Difficulty in tracing the Road from one Place to another; yet, that they travelled by Sea, where there were no Tracks, which seemed much more difficult: And though they were so many Days without Sight of Land, yet they knew what Course they steered; which, to the Negros, could not be done, without old Nick's Assistance. All this was owing to their Ignorance of the Art of Navigation, and the Compass. But what they most of all wondered at was, to see a Candle lighted in a Candlestick, which to them, who had never beheld the like before, appeared both beautiful and surprising; for in this Country they have no other Light than that of the Fire.

And a lighted Candle.

HONEY they suck out of the Combs, and throw the Wax away, as useless. The Author, having bought some of the Combs from a Negro, shewed how the Honey was taken out; and then asked, if they knew what that was which remained? They answered, that they knew it to be good for nothing: But they were greatly astonished when they saw it made into Candles, and lighted in their Presence; saying, that the Christians had Knowledge of all Things. In this Country they have no Sorts of musical Instruments, save two; the one a *Moorish* Instrument^a, which might be called a large Drum; the other like a Fiddle; but it has only two Strings, which is played-on with their Fingers, and makes no Harmony.

No musical Instruments.

SECT. VII.

Cada Mosto leaves Budomel; joins two Ships. Cape Verde described. Three little Islands. A

fine Coast. Two Negro Nations. Slaves to no Lords. River Barbalini. Come to another Land an Interpreter. He is cruelly slain. Come to the Gambia. Enter the River. Discover two Boats. Followed by others. They attack the Ships. Are repulsed. Come to a Parley. Refuse all Commerce, and retire. Stars visible about the North and South Poles. Winter Season here.

THE Author having, during his Stay in Budomel's Country, seen a good Part of it, and bought some Slaves, he determined to double Cape de Verde, in order to make new Discoveries, and try his Fortune, still farther: For, before his Departure from Portugal, he was informed, by Prince Henry, that a Person, well acquainted with the Countries of the Negros, had assured him, that not far from the Kingdom of Senega, there was another, called Gambia; out of which, according to the Report of the Natives, large Quantities of Gold were carried into Spain; and that the Christians, who should go thither, might enrich themselves.

CADA MOSTO, who longed to go in Quest of this Gold, having left Budomel, repaired to the Caravel, and set Sail, without Delay. One Morning he discovered two Ships, and, coming up with them, found that one belonged to Antonio Ufo di Mare, a Genoese Gentleman; and the other, to some Gentlemen, in the Service of Don Enriquez; who came in Company with a Design to pass Cape de Verde, and seek their Fortunes, by making new Discoveries. As the Author had the same Views, he joined in Company with them; and all sailed together, Southward, along the Coast, in Sight of Land, for the Cape, which, next Day, they descried; being about thirty Italian Miles distant from the Place of his Departure.

CAPE de Verde is so called, because the Portuguese, who had discovered it about a Year before, found it covered with Trees, which continue green all the Year round. This is a high and beautiful Cape, which runs a good Length into the Sea; and has two Hills, or little Mountains, at the Point thereof. There are several Villages of Negros from Senega, on and about the Promontory, who dwell in thatched Houses close to the Shore, and in Sight of those who sail by. There are also some Sand-Banks that run off it, about half a Mile, into the Sea.

HAVING doubled Cape Verde, they came to three little desert Islands, full of large green Trees; and as they wanted Water, they anchored at one of them, which seemed to be the largest and most fruitful, in Hopes of meeting with a Spring: But, on landing, they found no Signs of any; except in one Place, which was of no Service to them.

^a In Ramusio's Copy, Tabacche: In Grynaeus, called a Sambuka.

1455. them. They met, however, with several Birds a Fathom Water, about four or five Miles from 1455. Cada Mosto-
 Cada Mosto-
 Nests, and Eggs of different Sorts, such as they never had seen before. They continued here all that Day fishing with Lines and large Hooks, and caught an incredible Number, among which were the Dentali, and gilded Fish*, that weighed from twelve to fifteen Pounds a-piece. It was then in July.

Agins Coast. NEXT Day, they proceeded on their Course, keeping always in Sight of Land. This Side of the Cape forms a Gulph. The Coast is all low, and full of fine large Trees, which are constantly green; that is, they never wither as those in Europe do, for the new Leaves grow before the old ones fall-off. These Trees are so near the Shore, that they seem to drink out of the Sea. It is a most beautiful Coast to behold; and the Author, who had sailed both in the East and West, never saw any comparable to it. It is watered every-where by several small Rivers: But they turn to no Account, because great Ships cannot enter them.

Two Negro Nations.

BEYOND this little Gulph, the Coast is inhabited by two Negro Nations: One called *Barbasini*; the other *Serreri*, but not subject to the King of *Senega*; for they have neither King nor Lord of their own; but one is more honoured than another, according to the Condition and Quality of the Person. They will suffer no Lord among them, perhaps, to prevent their Wives and Children being taken from them, and sold for Slaves, as they are in all the other Negro Countries, which have Kings and Lords. They are great Idolaters, without any Law, and extremely cruel. They use Bows and Arrows more than any other Weapon, whose Wounds are incurable, if any Blood is drawn; for then the Creature immediately dies. They are exceeding black, and well made.

Slaves to no Lords.

THEIR Country is full of Woods, Lakes, and other Waters, which are a great Security to them; for they cannot be invaded but through narrow Defiles, for which Reason they do not fear any of the neighbouring Lords. In former Times, the Kings of *Senega* often attempted to reduce these two Nations to their Obedience, but were always worsted by them; to which their Arrows and the natural Strength of the Country greatly contributed.

River Barbasini.

RUNNING along this Coast, with a good Wind to the South, they discovered the Mouth of a River, which is about a Bow-shot wide, but not deep. To this they gave the Name of *Barbasini*, as it is marked in the Chart made of this Country, being sixty Miles from Cape de Verde. They sailed along this Coast by Day, and at Sunset always came to an Anchor in ten or twelve

Land: At Sun-rise, they hoisted Sail again, having a Man continually on the Top, and two at the Prow, to see if the Sea broke over any Rocks or Shoals. Sailing forwards, they came to the Mouth of another River, which seemed to be as large as the *Senega*. At the Sight of so fine a River, and very beautiful, with Trees down to the very Shore, they cast Anchor, and determined to send one of their Negro Interpreters to Land, of which every Ship had brought some from *Portugal*. These had been sold as Slaves by the Lords of *Senega* to the first *Portuguese* who touched on their Coast, were become *Christians*, and understood the *Spanish* very well. They had them of their Masters, conditionally on their Return to give each, for his Wages, a Slave to be chosen out of their Stock; and when any of these Interpreters could furnish his Master with four Slaves, he was made free.

HAVING cast Lots to see which of the three Ships should send an Interpreter ashore, it fell to the *Genoese* Gentleman's Turn. Hereupon, he dispatched an armed Bark, with Orders to the Men not to touch the Shore, but when they landed the Interpreter, who was charged to inform himself concerning the Condition as well as Government of the Country, and if there was any Gold or other Things to be had worth coming for. The Interpreter being landed, and the Boat put back to some Distance, several Negroes of the Country came to meet him. These, as soon as ever they perceived the Ships approach the Coast, lay in Ambush, with Bows, Arrows, and other Weapons, in Hopes of taking some of the Men, who they expected would land.

AFTER a short Discourse with the Interpreter, whatever the Subject was, they fell furiously on him with their *Gomies*, (which are short *Adoorish* Swords,) and killed him, those in the Boat not being able to give him any Relief. When those on board the Ship received this News, it gave them great Surprise; and concluding that these People, who could commit such a Piece of Barbarity on one of their own Race, would treat them with more Cruelty still, they immediately weighed their Anchors, and proceeded on their Voyage to the South, sailing in Sight of Land; which improved in Beauty and green Trees, in Proportion as they advanced, all the Coast being low. At last, they came to the Mouth of a very large River, being no less than three or four Miles wide in the narrowest Part. As they found they could safely sail into it, they concluded to rest there, and the next Day learn if it was the Kingdom of *Gambra*.

BEING come to this River, which does not

* In *Ramusio*, *Orats Vecchie*; and in *Grynæus*, *Ostrea Vester*.

1455. appear to be less than ^{or} eight Miles wide at a foremoſt; and by the Time they had gotten four Miles up it, they perceived themſelves followed by a Number of *Almadia's*, without knowing from whence they came. They tacked about and bore down upon them, having firſt covered their Ships in the beſt Manner they could, to ſerve as a Defence againſt their envenomed Arrows. They made every thing ready to fight, though ill provided with Arms, and ſoon met them.

THE *Almadia's* came under the Prow of *Cada Moſto's* Ship, which was foremoſt; and dividing themſelves into two Diviſions, took him in their Centre. This gave him an Opportunity to tell their Number, which was fifteen, and as large as Barks. They ceaſed to row, raiſed their Oars, and looked upon the Caravel with Wonder. There were between an hundred and thirty, and an hundred and fifty Negroes, all well made, of a good Size, and very black. They wore white Cotton Shirts on their Bodies, and white Caps on their Heads, like the *Germans*; but with a Wing on each Side, and a Feather in the Middle, by which they diſtinguiſhed themſelves to be Soldiers of War. At the Prow of each *Almadia*, there ſtood a Negro, with a round Target, which ſeemed to be of Leather, on his Arm; yet they neither attacked the Caravel, nor ſhe them.

Enter the River.

Discover two Boats.

Followed by others.

THE Boats proceeded up the River, which they ſounded, and finding no leſs than ſixteen Fathom Water for two Miles, they advanced farther, and ſaw the Banks of the River very beautiful, and full of Trees: But as they perceived it made ſeveral Turnings and Windings into the Country, they did not think proper to proceed any farther. In their Way back, near the Mouth of a little River, which ran into the great one, they ſaw three *Almadia's*, called in *Italy*, *Zoppoli*, each made, out of one Piece of large Wood, like a Skiff. Although they were ſtrong enough to defend themſelves, yet for Fear of being attacked with poiſoned Arrows, (uſed by all the Inhabitants of *Gambra*, as the other Negroes had informed them) they, in Obedience to their Orders, took to their Oars, making all poſſible Haſte back to the Ship: When they got on board, the *Almadia's*, which followed them cloſe, were within Arrow-Shot. There were about twenty-five or thirty *Moors* in her, who ſtood for ſome Time looking at a Sight quite new to them; but would neither come nearer, nor ſpeak, notwithstanding all the Endeavours that were uſed by Signs to induce them: At laſt they returned.

ABOUT three, next Morning, the two Caravels, which ſtayed behind, ſailed with the Current and a ſmall Breeze, in order to join their Companion, and enter into the River; hoping to meet with more humane People than thoſe they had ſeen in the *Almadia's*. They ſailed into the River one after another, the ſmall Caravel being

foremoſt; and by the Time they had gotten four Miles up it, they perceived themſelves followed by a Number of *Almadia's*, without knowing from whence they came. They tacked about and bore down upon them, having firſt covered their Ships in the beſt Manner they could, to ſerve as a Defence againſt their envenomed Arrows. They made every thing ready to fight, though ill provided with Arms, and ſoon met them.

THE *Almadia's* came under the Prow of *Cada Moſto's* Ship, which was foremoſt; and dividing themſelves into two Diviſions, took him in their Centre. This gave him an Opportunity to tell their Number, which was fifteen, and as large as Barks. They ceaſed to row, raiſed their Oars, and looked upon the Caravel with Wonder. There were between an hundred and thirty, and an hundred and fifty Negroes, all well made, of a good Size, and very black. They wore white Cotton Shirts on their Bodies, and white Caps on their Heads, like the *Germans*; but with a Wing on each Side, and a Feather in the Middle, by which they diſtinguiſhed themſelves to be Soldiers of War. At the Prow of each *Almadia*, there ſtood a Negro, with a round Target, which ſeemed to be of Leather, on his Arm; yet they neither attacked the Caravel, nor ſhe them.

THUS they continued peaceably till they ſaw the other two Ships bear down on them: Then they prepared, dropped their Oars, and without any farther Ceremony ſhot their Arrows at them. The Ships ſeeing the Attack made upon them, diſcharged four Pieces of Cannon at the Enemy: The Report whereof ſo ſtupified them, that they threw down their Bows; and looking ſometime one Way, and ſometime another, remained ſurpriſed to ſee the Stones ſhot by the Cannon, fall in the Water near them. They continued in this Suſpenſe for a conſiderable while: But ſeeing the Cannon fired no more at them, plucked-up Courage; and laying-hold of their Bows, renewed the Fight with great Fury, approaching within a Stone's Throw of the Ships. Hereupon the Sailors began to diſcharge their Croſs-Bows at them. The firſt Shot was made by the Baſtard Son of the *Genoeſe* Gentleman, which hitting a Negro in the Breaſt, he immediately dropped down dead. Thoſe in the *Almadia* took-up the Dart, and gazed at it with Wonder, but did not give over the Attack, which they carried on vigorously, and were as courageouſly oppoſed by the Caravels; inſomuch, that in a little Time many of them were killed, without the Loſs of one *European*.

THE Negroes obſerving the Diſadvantage they laboured under, all the *Almadia's* agreed to attack the little Caravel in Stern, which was both ill manned and ill armed. They executed this Deſign with great Fury: Which *Cada Moſto* ob-

1455. *Cada Mosto.* serving, he moved forward to her Assistance; and getting her between the two large Caravels, they all discharged their Cannon and Cross-Bows at the *Almadia's*, which made them retire. After this, they linked the three Caravels together, and dropped an Anchor that held them all, as it was calm.

Come to a Parley.

THEY next attempted to have some Talk with the Negros by Means of their Interpreters, who often ~~had~~ ^{met} them. At last, one of the *Almadia's* drawing near, they asked those in her their Reason for attacking Strangers, who came to trade with them in a friendly Manner, as they had done with the Negros of the Kingdom of *Senega*: That they were willing to be upon the same Terms with them, if they thought proper; and were come from remote Parts with great Presents for their King or Lord, in Behalf of the King of *Portugal*, who was desirous of Peace and Friendship with him.

Refuse all Commerce.

THEY then intreated the Negros to let them know what Country they were in, who was King thereof, and what was the Name of the River; adding, that they might freely come and take what Goods they thought proper out of their Ships: That they would take in Return some of their Commodities, in such small Quantities as they pleased themselves; and that in case they gave them none at all, they should be very well contented. To this they made Answer, That they had some Intelligence of them before, and of their Dealings with the Negros of *Senega*; who, they said, must needs be very wicked Men, for desiring to have any Friendship with them: For that they were well assured *Christians* were Man-eaters, and bought Negros for no other Use than to devour them: That, for the same Reason, they would have no Manner of Correspondence with them; but would endeavour to kill them all, and then make Presents of their Effects to their Lord, who lived about three Days Journey distant: That the Country was called *Gambra**, but the Author could not recollect the Name they gave the River. In this Instant the Wind began to rise, and as they had discovered the evil Intentions of the Negros, they bore-down upon them; but they fled to the Shore, and thus ended their War with them.

And retire.

THE Commanders of the Caravels then came to a Resolution to proceed about an hundred

Miles up the River, in Hopes of meeting with a better disposed People than these were: But the Sailors, who were impatient to return home, not caring to run any farther Dangers, unanimously and loudly opposed their Determination; declaring, that they would consent to no such Thing; and that they had done enough already for this Voyage: Whereupon, knowing that Seamen are a headstrong, obstinate People, and to prevent Scandal, they came into their Measures, and next Day sailed for Cape de Verde on their Return to *Spain*.

DURING their Stay in this River, they saw the North-Star but once, and that very low; for having examined it in clear Weather, it appeared to be no more than the Height of a Lance above the Sea. They likewise observed, about the same Elevation, six clear, bright, and large Stars; which, by the Compass, lay due South in the following Figure: * * * * This they took for the Southern Chariot, * * * * but could not expect to see the principal Star, as they had not yet lost Sight of the North Pole. In this Place, the first of July, they found the Night to be eleven Hours and an half long, and the Day twelve and an half. This Climate is always hot, and the Author was told, that the Rain which falls within Land is warm, through the great Heat of the Air. It is true there is some Difference in the Heat, which is sometimes greater, at other Times lesser. When this last is the Case, they call it Winter: For the Rains begin in July, continue all October, and fall every Day about Noon; when certain Clouds rise in the North-East by East, or East South-East Point, accompanied with great Thunder, Lightning, and a prodigious Quantity of Rain. In this Season the Negros begin to sow their Grain, in the same Manner as those in *Senega* do. Their Provision is Millet, Pulse, Flesh, and Milk. There is not so much Dawn at Day-break here, as in *Italy*: For within half an Hour after the Curtains of the Night are drawn, the Sun appears; during which Time, the Skies are somewhat turbid, as if covered with Smoke. The Cause of this sudden Appearance of the Sun in the Morning, contrary to what happens in *Europe*, *Cada Mosto* imputed to the Lowness of these Countries, which are destitute of Mountains: And of the same Opinion were all the rest.

* Hence it appears, that *Gambra* is the Name of the Country, not the River: That the true Name is *Gambra*, not *Gambia*; and that it is in use with the Natives, and not given by the Portuguese, as it is commonly thought. *Jobson* says, he never heard the Natives call it any other than *Gee*; that is, the River.

The Second Voyage of Aluise da Cada Mosto to the Coast of Africa, in 1456, in which the Cape de Verde Islands were discovered.

Written by Himself.

SECT. I.

Cada Mosto sets out from Lagos. Cape Verde Islands discovered. Buena Vista. St. Jago. Abundance of Fish. Island St. Andrew. Negroes come aboard: Are kindly used. The Country subject to Batti Mansa. A Present sent to him. Treaty of Peace and Commerce. Commodities of the Negroes: Their Navigation.

Set out from Lagos.

CADA MOSTO could say little or nothing concerning the Condition of the Country of *Gambra*, as having been obliged to return to *Spain* without proceeding any farther: Partly through the Intractableness of the Natives, who are a fierce, wild People, especially those on the Sea-Coast, and partly through the Perverseness of the Sailors, who had refused to follow them. Next Year, the above-mentioned *Genoese* Gentleman and he jointly fitted out two Caravels, in order to return to that River. The *Infante* Don *Enriquez* having heard of their Design, (which indeed they could not have undertaken without his Leave) was highly pleased thereat, and determined to send a Caravel of his own along with them. Every thing being got ready for the Voyage, they sailed from *Lagos*, not far from *Cape St. Vincent*, in the Beginning of *May*, with a prosperous Wind. They steered for the *Canaries*, and made them in a few Days: But as the Wind continued favourable, they did not touch at them, continuing their Course Southerly; the Current, which ran to the South-West, also favouring them, they sailed at a great Rate. At last, coming in Sight of *Cape Blanco*, they kept out to Sea, and the Night following were taken in a great Storm from the South-West, which made them steer West by North for two Nights and three Days, rather than turn back, in order to weather the Tempest. On the third Day, they descried Land, to the great Joy as well as Surprise of every one, to find Land in those Parts, where they thought there was none. Having immediately ordered two Men to the Main-Top, they discovered two large Islands: This being made public, their Sa-

Cape Verde Islands discovered.

a tisfaction was still the greater; for they were sensible, these Islands were not known in *Spain*. As they imagined the Places might be inhabited, and were eager to push their Fortunes, they steered for one of them; which soon coming-up with, they sailed round Part of it, till they came to safe Anchorage. The Weather growing calm, they sent their Boat well manned and armed to Shore. The Men landed, and having gone over some Part thereof, brought Word back, that they could meet with no Signs of Inhabitants. Next Morning, to clear up all Doubts, *Cada Mosto* sent ten Men well armed with Guns, Cross-Bows, and other Weapons; ordering them to go to the Top of some Mountains in View, and thence look-out not only for People, but also for more Islands. These Men having executed their Commands, found no Inhabitants, but an incredible Number of Pigeons, which they caught with their Hands, such Strangers were the Birds to Man, and brought great Quantities of them to the Caravels. What was of much more Importance, they discovered three other large Islands: One whereof was to Leeward toward the North, which those in the Ships did not see; the other two lay to the South, and in their Course, all within Sight of one another. These Men likewise observed something like Islands to the West, but at so great a Distance, that they could not distinguish them clearly; neither did *Cada Mosto* care to sail to them, lest he should lose Time, and meet with nothing but desert Islands, like those he touched at. The News of his having discovered these four Islands, brought others this Way afterwards; who, being desirous to see how many Islands there were in all, found them to be ten in Number both great and little, inhabited only by Pigeons and other Birds; but a fine Fishery^a.

Buena Vista.

To return to the Voyage, they sailed from *St. Jago*, this Island; and coming in Sight of the other two, searched for an anchoring Place near one of them, which was full of Trees. Here they discovered the Mouth of a River, and being in

^a From this Passage it appears, that the Voyage was written some Years after it was performed: And the Passage seems to refer to the Discovery of *Antonio de Noli* in 1462. It is much that *de Faria*, who mentions this Discovery, should take no Notice of that preceding it by *Cada Mosto*, to whom the Honour properly belongs. See before, p. 16. a.

1456. Need of Water, they came to an Anchor, and a though wide of them: Whereupon, being hailed, 1456. the Interpreters spoke to them, and shewed them *Cada Mosto*, a few Trinkets, which were offered to be given them; telling them, that they might safely come near, without the least Apprehension, for that those on board were good-natured, civilized People. The Negros, wrought-upon by this Means, by Degrees approached the Ships; and, at last, coming up to the Caravel, which belonged to *Cada Mosto*, one of them, who understood his Interpreter's Language, entered into it. This Negro was greatly surpris'd at seeing the Inside of the Caravel, with her Sails and Rigging: For they had no other Method of going to Sea, but with Oars; and thought it was the same with respect to all the World besides. He was likewise no less amazed at their Colour, than their Dress, since his own Nation for the most Part go naked; and if any of them are clothed, they only wear a white Cotton Shirt.

Abundance of Fish. THEY catch'd also such a large Quantity of Fish about the Mouth, as well as in this River, as is scarcely credible; and though they knew not the Kind, yet it was large and well tasted. A Vessel of an hundred and fifty Tons might sail into the River, which was a good Arrow's Shot wide. Here they remained two Days to refresh, and took in the above-mentioned Provisions, besides large Quantities of Pigeons, which they kill'd without Number. To the first Island they anchored at, they gave the Name of *Bona Vista*, as being the first they had Sight of in those Parts; and to this other, which seem'd the largest of the four, *Sant. Jago*; having cast Anchor there on *St. Philip* and *Jacob's* Day.

EVERY thing being in Readiness for pursuing their Voyage, they set-sail from these Islands, and steering their Course for Cape de Verde, arrived at *Spedegar*; [and keeping] within Sight of Land, [came afterwards] to a Place call'd the *Two Palms*, lying between Cape de Verde, and the River *Senega*. They knew the Course so well, that they doubled the Cape next Day; and passing forward, came once more to the River *Gambra*, into which they speedily enter'd; and without any Opposition from the Negros, or their *Almadia's*, sail'd up the River, always by Day, with the Lead in Hand. Such of the *Almadia's* of the Negros as they met with kept at a Distance, and rowed close to the Banks of the River, not presuming to venture near us.

Island St. Andrew.

ABOUT ten Miles within the River, they cast Anchor on a Sunday Morning at an Island in Shape of a Smoothing Iron*, where one of the Sailors, who had died of a Fever, was buried; and as his Name was *Andrew*, being well beloved, they gave the Island the Name of *St. Andrew*, which it goes by.

LEAVING this Island, they proceeded up the River, and some of the Negro *Almadia's* followed,

It must be observ'd, that they steer'd Easterly in going up the River; into which several lesser Streams fall. They found it was much narrower where they came to anchor, than at the Mouth; being, as they reckon'd, not above a Mile in Breadth. When they came to this Place, they sent one of their Interpreters and the Negro to *Battimanfa*, with a Present of a Silk *Moorish* Garment, call'd *Alzimba*, made like a Shirt, and beautiful enough. They likewise gave this Lord Notice of the Design of their Coming; signifying, that the King of *Portugal*, a *Christian*, had dispatch'd them thither to enter into Peace and Friendship with him, and let him know, that if

* In *Ramusio*, *Polesine*. This seems to be *St. James's* Island; although the Distance is not exact.

1456. he had any Call for the Commodities of their a row very safe. They do not go far into the Sea, 1456.
Cada Mosto. Country, their King would supply him every
Year therewith.

Treaty of
Peace and
Commerce.

As soon as the Messengers had declared their Commission, *Battimansa* immediately ordered certain Negros to the Caravel; with whom they not only entered into a Treaty of Friendship, but also bartered several Things for Negro-Slaves, and some Gold: Though nothing in Comparison of what they expected from the Account given by those of *Senega*; who, as they are very poor, look upon that as a large Quantity, which our Adventurers considered but very trifling. They value their Gold as a very precious Thing, and at a greater Rate than the *Portuguese* did; yet, for all that, the latter had it very reasonably, since they gave them for it Things of very little Value. They continued here eleven Days; during which Time the Caravels were resorted to by Numbers of Negros, from each Side of the River, who came to see Novelties, and sell their Goods; among which were a few Gold Rings.

Commodities
of the Negros.

THEY traded with Cotton, and Cotton-Yarn. Some Pieces were all white; others, striped with blue and white; and a third Sort, with red, blue and white Stripes, very well wrought. They likewise brought Civet, and Civet Cat-Skins, Monkies, large and small Baboons, of various Sorts: Which, being very plenty, they sold them cheap, that is, for something not exceeding ten Marquets a Head; and the Ounce of Civet, for what was not worth more than forty or fifty: Not that they sold the Things by Weight; but the Author judged it to be about that Quantity. Other Negros brought divers Sorts of Fruits; among which were many small wild Dates, not very good, though esteemed by them. The Sailors eat of this Fruit, and found it had a different Taste from those in *Europe*. The Author would never venture to touch any, lest they should give him the Flux, or some other Disorder.

Their Navigation.

THE Ships were crowded every Day with People of different Aspects and Languages; while the Negros never ceased to go up and down the River in their *Almadia's*, with Men and Women, from one Place to another. They use nothing but Oars in Sailing; and row, standing, on both Sides. There is one always who rows a-Steer, sometimes on one Side, and sometimes on the other, to keep the *Almadia* steady in her Course. They fix their Oars to nothing; but hold them fast in their Hands: This Oar is a Pole, like a half Lance, seven Feet and a half long, to the End whereof they fasten a round Trenchard; and with these Instruments they row very swiftly along the Coast. They go into the Mouths of Rivers, of which they have a great many, and

nor from their own Coast, lest they should be taken by their Neighbours, and sold for Slaves. The eleventh, at Night, they agreed to return to the Mouth of the River, (because many of their Company began to sicken, being seized with acute Fevers) and so departed.

SECT. II.

The Religion of the Negros. Great Heat. Huge Trees. The Elephant: Way of hunting it: The Flesh eaten: The Foot described. The River-Horse. They leave the Gambia. River of Kasa Mansa. Cape Roxo discovered. Rivers, St. Ann and Domingo. Rio Grande. Inhabited Islands. Irregular Tides. Violent Current.

IT remains to relate what the Author observed, and was informed, concerning this Country, during the short Stay they made there. As to their Religion, it consists of various Kinds of Idolatry. They put great Faith in Sorcery, and other diabolical Things; yet all believe in God. There are *Mohammedans* among them, who trade to many Countries, and are not settled in Houses, because the Country People are ignorant. They live much after the same Manner as the Negros of the Kingdom of *Senega*, have the same Provisions, and Rice of more Sorts than what grows in that Country.

THE Negros of *Gambia* eat Dogs Flesh; which the Author never heard to have been eaten in any other Place. Their Cloathing is Cotton, whereof they have abundance; which may be the Reason for their not going naked, as those of *Senega* do, where Cotton is scarce. The Women dress in the same Manner; and, when they are very young, take Pleasure in making of Figures on their Necks, Breasts, and Arms, with the Point of a hot Needle; which seem like Flowers on Silk wrought on Handkerchiefs, and never wear off. This is a very hot Country; and the Heat increases in Proportion as the South is approached. It was, by much, hotter in this River than at Sea; occasioned by the great Number of large Trees that grow about it, with which this Country abounds. At a Spring, near the Banks of this River, where the Sailors went to fill Water, there was an exceeding large Tree; but the Height was not in Proportion to its Thickness: For they judged it to be but twenty Paces high, whereas it was seventeen Cubits round at the Foot. It was full of Holes, and hollow; but the Branches were very large, and spreading, which made a great Shade. There are other Trees much larger than this, by which the Richness of

* The Words, in *Ramusio*, are, *E non Stanno fermi a case Perché li paesani noi ne danno cosa alcuna.*

1456. the Soil is easily conceived; the Country being a
 Cada Mosto. watered by several Streams.

The Elephant. THIS Country is full of Elephants; but the
 Inhabitants know not how to tame them, as in
 other Countries. As they lay at Anchor in the
 Middle of the River, three Elephants came out
 of the Woods, and walked by the River's Side;
 they sent out their Boat, and some Hands, to go
 to them, being at some Distance; but on their
 Approach, they returned into the Woods. These
 were all the Author saw alive. Afterwards, b
*Guumimenfa**, a Negro Gentleman, out of Com-
 plaissance, shewed him a young one, dead; which
 this Negro (who lived near the River's Mouth)
 had killed, after two Days Chace.

Way of Hunting. THIS People hunt a-foot in the Woods, with
 Bows and Azzagays only, which are envenomed.
 Their Method is to place themselves behind the
 Trees, and sometimes mount to the Tops, leap-
 ing from one to another, in the Pursuit of the
 Elephant; which, being a large Animal, is c
 wounded in many Places before it can turn about,
 without having Power to make any Resistance:
 Though, in an open Field, no Man durst attack
 one; or could escape, were he ever so swift.
 But he will never hurt any Person, unless pro-
 voked to it: This, *Cada Mosto* had been told by
 many Negros. The Teeth of this dead Elephant
 (one whereof was still in the Jaw) were not above
 three Spans long: Which shews it was young in
 Comparison of those whose Teeth are from ten
 to twelve Spans in Length; and small as it was,
 we reckoned it might have as much Flesh as five
 or six Oxen.

The Flesh eaten. THE Gentleman made the Author a Present
 of what Part he liked best; and gave the Re-
 mainder to the Huntsmen, to feast on. When
Cada Mosto understood that this Flesh was eaten
 by the Negros, he had a Piece cut off for roasting
 and boiling. Of this he eat, that he might say
 he had fed on the Flesh of an Animal, which e
 none of his Country had ever done; however,
 he could not relish it, for he found it both hard,
 and of no pleasant Taste. He brought one of
 the Legs, and Part of the Trunk, to the Car-
 vel; together with some of its Hair, taken off
 the Body, which was very black and thick, as
 well as a Span and half long. This Hair, with
 Part of the Flesh, salted on Purpose, he, at his
 Return, presented to Don *Enriquez*, who received
 it with great Pleasure, as it was the first that
 came from this Country, discovered by his own
 Encouragement.

The Feet de- scribed. IT must be observed, that the Elephant's Foot
 is round, like that of a Horse, but without

Hoofs; which are supplied by a hard, black, and 1456.
 very thick Skin, beset with five Nails on the Fore- Cada Mosto.
 part, which are round, and of the Size of a
 Grosse. The Foot of this Elephant, though
 young, was not so small, but that the Sole (which
 was round) measured a Span and an half every
 Way. The same Negro Gentleman gave *Cada*
Mosto another Elephant's Foot, three Spans and
 an Inch in the Sole: Which, together with a
 Tooth twelve Spans long, he likewise presented
 to the *Infante*; who, some Time after, sent it to
 the Dutcheffs of *Burgundy*, as a great Curiosity.

In the *Gambra*, as well as all other Rivers on *The River- Horse.*
 this Coast, besides the Calcatrici, and other Ani-
 mals, there is one, called the *River-Horse*, of
 the same Nature almost with the Sea-Cow, which
 lives both on Land and in the Water. It is as
 large as a Cow in the Body, and has but short
 Legs, with cloven Feet; a large Head, like that
 of an Horse; and two huge Teeth, like the wild
 Boar's Tusks, some of which the Author had seen
 upwards of two Spans in Length. This Animal,
 getting out of the River, walks along the Side,
 like other four-footed Beasts: And was never before
 discovered in any of the Voyages of *Christians*,
 that *Cada Mosto* could learn, except, perhaps,
 in the *Nile*. He also saw Bats, or rather Owls,
 upwards of three Spans long, and several other
 Birds, very different from those in our Parts,
 both in Taste and Shape; but very good to eat.

DEPARTING from the Lord *Battimanfa's* *Leave the Gambra.*
 Country, they in a few Days got out of the River,
 stocked with Commodities sufficient to encourage
 them to proceed farther: And since they had pro-
 ceeded so far, they looked upon it as a laudable
 Thing, to continue their Course along that Coast.
 Having agreed to this, they steered forward, with
 a favourable Wind: But, as they were too near
 the Mouth of the River *Gambra*, and the Land
 ran a great Way to the South South-West, as far
 as a certain Point which they took for a Cape,
 they kept to the West to gain the Sea, though
 the Coast was very low, and full of Trees:
 Which having done, they perceived that it was
 not a Cape; the Shore appearing strait on the
 other Side of the Point: However, they kept at
 a Distance from it, because there were Breakers
 round it, for several Miles, into the Sea. This
 obliged them to keep two Men continually in the
 Prow, and one at Top, to discover Shoals and
 Sand-Banks; sailing only by Day, and lying at
 Anchor by Night.

THE Caravels, during this Time, went one *River of*
 after the other, casting Lots every Day, to see *Kalamandis*,
 which should go foremost, in order to avoid Dif-

* *Grynæus's* Copy reads, *Gnumi Mensa*. *Mensa*, or *Manfa*, according to *Jobson*, signifies a King, in the
Mandingo Language.

b A *Venetian* Piece of Silver Coin, not exceeding a Silver Penny.

Grynæus has it, *Batrinense*, and *Owls*.

c *Grynæus* calls him *Batrinense*, and before *Batimanfa*.

1456. puts. Having sailed two Days in this Manner, a took to their Arms, not knowing what their De- 1456.
 Cada Mosto. within Sight of Land, on the third, they discovered sign might be, and waited their coming. As Cada Mosto.
 the Mouth of a River, about half a Mile wide; and they drew nearer, they hoisted out a white Handkerchief, fixed to the End of an Oar, which they held up as high as they could, for a Signal of Peace. The Portuguese answered in the same Manner: And then the Negros came along Side of them. The largest of the two advanced towards Cada Mosto's Caravel, and gazed with great Surprise, as they found the Whites; they examined the Form of the Ship, the Masts, Yards, Sails, Rigging, having never seen any before. The Interpreters spoke to them, in order to know what Place it was; but could not understand a Word of their Language; which proved a great Mortification, as they were obliged to leave them without getting any Intelligence. They bought a few Gold Rings of one of these Negros; having agreed about the Price by Signs.

UPON this Intelligence they sailed, next Day, c their Interpreters were of no Use, and, concluding, for the same Reason, that it would be to no Purpose to proceed farther, they determined to return. They stayed in the Mouth of this great River, or Rio Grande, two Days, where the North Pole appeared very low. In this Place they met with a great Contrariety in the Tides, which they had not observed any where else: For, whereas, at Venice, and all other Places in Europe, the Flux and Reflux are equally of six Hours Continuance each; here it flows in four, and ebbs in eight. It is incredible with what Violence the Tide runs in: For they had a deal of Difficulty to bear up against it, with three Anchors a-head, and sometimes they were obliged to hoist their Sails; the Current being so impetuous, that it exceeded the Force of the Wind.

IN another Day's Sailing, they got to a very large River, which, at first, appeared to be a Gulph, and was judged to be about twenty Miles over; however, they could discern the beautiful green Trees on the other Side, towards the South: The crossing of which, took up a good deal of Time. When they arrived thither, they descried some Islands in the Sea; and, being resolved to get some Intelligence of this Country, they came to an Anchor without Delay. Next Morning, two large *Almadia's* came off, and rowed toward the Ships; one was as long as a Caravel, with about thirty Hands in her; and the other, sixteen. Seeing them approach with great Eagerness, they

FINDING themselves in a Country where Irregular Tides, their Interpreters were of no Use, and, concluding, for the same Reason, that it would be to no Purpose to proceed farther, they determined to return. They stayed in the Mouth of this great River, or Rio Grande, two Days, where the North Pole appeared very low. In this Place they met with a great Contrariety in the Tides, which they had not observed any where else: For, whereas, at Venice, and all other Places in Europe, the Flux and Reflux are equally of six Hours Continuance each; here it flows in four, and ebbs in eight. It is incredible with what Violence the Tide runs in: For they had a deal of Difficulty to bear up against it, with three Anchors a-head, and sometimes they were obliged to hoist their Sails; the Current being so impetuous, that it exceeded the Force of the Wind.

DEPARTING from the Mouth of this large River, on their Return to Spain, they directed their Course towards two large Islands, and some small ones, that lay about thirty Miles distant from the Continent. The two large Islands are inhabited by Negros; the Country low, but full of beautiful large green Trees. Here they met with the same Difficulty as before, for want of their Language; so that they steered away for *Christendom*, where they safely arrived.

* According to de Faria, Rio Grande was discovered by Nunnez Tristan, in 1447, that is, nine Years before Sec. p. 15.