

the *Cape* are capable of distinguishing, or know how to turn to their advantage. The river *Nile* and *Egypt* itself for instance, would be full of *crocodiles*, if their eggs were not in a great measure destroyed by the *viverra ichneumon*. In the *East-Indies* this animal is famous for lessening the number of lizards and venomous serpents, which too much abound there; and the same service is undoubtedly done by the *viverra* species in *Africa*. These certainly contribute also to keep the number of moles within certain limits. The *ichneumon* is likewise used to be made tame in the *East-Indies*, so as to follow its master as tractably as a dog; and by its means it has been discovered, that the *opbiorbiza* is an excellent antidote against the bite of serpents. Probably a discovery of equal utility might be made at the *Cape*, if the *ichneumon* was made tame there, and these animals were purposely suffered to be bitten by several sorts of serpents, and at the same time it was observed what antidote they had recourse to; for nature, which has given, and indeed imposed on the *ichneumon* the same office in *Africa* as in *Asia*, viz. to limit the increase of the race of serpents, has in both places furnished them with equally good weapons, and an equally good preservative. Experiments of this kind certainly deserve to be made with the *viverra genetta*, and some others of that genus. The *folliculus* of this latter creature contains a kind of musk, in all probability not without some particular intention in its all-wise Creator, nor without some use to the animal itself; perhaps, indeed, for that of men, when they shall be at the pains to make the discovery.

It

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It would not be amiss to make mention in this place of a third species of *viverra*, which is found in these parts, though I did not get a sight of it till after my return from the South-Sea; this was the *viverra putorius*, which an acquaintance of mine caught on Mr. DREIJER's farm at *Rondebosch*, situated nearer to the Cape than to *Alphen*. This animal is not known to be found any where but here and in North America; in one word, in the northern parts of the new world, and the southernmost promontory of the old, which is directly contrary to what M. BUFFON says he is morally certain of. The surest step this great and masterly natural historian could have taken, would have been to have contented himself with the contemplation of nature, which is never without its use, without endeavouring to lay down universal laws for her; as if no other animal could be common to the old and new world, than those which could easily pass by land from *Asia* to *America*.

In one of my excursions between *Alphen* and *Rondebosch*, near a marshy place in a dale, I came unawares upon an animal with which I was totally unacquainted; but notwithstanding it was within 70 or 80 paces of me, I could not get a perfect view of it, on account of the intervention of the bushes, and the creature's running away immediately. It did not seem however above three feet and a half high, but from its ash-grey colour, and remarkably heavy gait in running, I was induced to think it could be nothing else than a young *bippopotamus*, or, as it was here called, a SEA-COW. Creatures of this kind are, indeed, never seen in this part of the country; but they are used to wander far, so that perhaps this had the night before chanced to
stray

stray from *Zeekoe-valley*, near *Falfe-bay*, a place to which they frequently resort. Were it so, I am not at all sorry that I did not get a nearer view of a creature otherwise so very dangerous, as, according to my usual custom, I had no other weapon about me than my knife and insect-scissors.

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The reader will scarcely imagine, that the *fauna* and *flora Capensis* would this summer leave me any time for the hyp or vapours; I must, however, confess, that some solitary and idle hours, combined with other circumstances, now and then gave room and occasion for envy and disgust. The days at the *Cape*, by reason of the greater vicinity of that place to the equator, are shorter in summer than with us. Urged by an ardent zeal and inclination for natural history, I could not help repining, that in a place where I had the best opportunities for this purpose, I found my hands tied, in some measure, by other business in the day-time, and in the long evenings was in want of books and many other necessary helps; but I more particularly felt the want of friends, and of society with some one, who set a proper value upon study, particularly on the study and investigation of nature, of which here follows an instance.

A Cape physician, who had studied some time in Holland, paid me a visit at the villa where I resided, and asked, I do not know upon what occasion, to see my herbal. I, for my part, was in the highest degree desirous to give myself, as well as him, this pleasure, as I could not but hope to learn the virtues of divers plants in medicine. But in these hopes I soon found myself deceived; the African *Æsculapius* knowing scarcely the names, much less the use, of any one plant. On this subject the country

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try people had already given me some, though upon the whole, but little information. Of some hundred plants that I laid before him pasted in a book, we had scarcely turned over the third part, before he began every now and then to gape. I therefore thought it high time to give another turn to the conversation, and ceased to trouble him any longer with my enquiries. Instead of that, I endeavoured to rouse him out of his dream, by communicating to him my thoughts of the virtues of such and such an herb; for what disorders such a particular plant might be tried with safety and hopes of success; and this in consequence of its affinity and similitude to other plants already known, and whose virtues had undergone the test of experience, or (as far as one might conclude from hence) from the place it held among the *natural orders*, &c. My visitor all this while was neither polite nor intelligent enough to give his assent to what I said, but continued yawning and gaping. I therefore left above half the plants untouched, and turned the discourse to the subject of commerce and shipping, upon which the conversation immediately became more lively; an event, which did not at all surprize me; for this worthy physician's income depended more upon merchandize, than upon Apollo and the Muses; and it is much the same case with the rest of the faculty at the *Cape*, to the great prejudice of the sick in particular, as well as to that of natural knowledge and the art of medicine in general.

*Should this journal ever chance to fall into the hands of the physician, who was pleased to yawn over the collection of useful simples that I had the honour of laying before him,

him, it is to be hoped, he will kindly excuse my having borrowed so pleasing an original as himself, in order to give a more lively idea of the great esteem and credit in which botany stands with the collective body of Æsculapius's sons in Africa. I must, however, do him the justice to confess, that he was really, in my opinion, the most able of the faculty in that part of the world. I acknowledge with gratitude all the civilities he afterwards shewed me; but he must not take amiss my not being able to conceal a truth, which discovers the reason of the small progress made by the sciences in *Africa*, and, perhaps, in some other parts of the globe: he will likewise pardon the freedom I have taken, in setting the whole affair forth in its natural colours, just as it appeared to me; as in such case, the reader is enabled to pass sentence of judgment himself, frequently better, perhaps, than could be done by the relator.

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S E C T. IV.

Trip to Paarl.

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SINCE my design, as I have already said, is to give my readers the description of this country and people in the same order and manner, in which I myself became acquainted with them, I have thought proper to insert in this place an account of an excursion I took to *Paarl* and its environs, just as I drew it up immediately on my return home, in a letter to a worthy friend and quondam ship-mate. It is written in the true sea-style, the descriptions and narrative being plentifully interlarded with divers phrases in common use among the gallant sons of Neptune.

SIR,

With a carcase quite wearied out, I am just returned home from a journey on foot over the parched and torrid plains of Africa, after having had occasion to visit several African *boors*. So they here call a set of hearty honest fellows, who, though they do not, indeed, differ in rank from our Swedish peasants, and make no better figure than the yeomen in our country, are yet for the most part extremely

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extremely wealthy. On the 9th of October in this present year, I set out for the *Cape*, to see the burghers perform their exercise, and likewise, according to a previous agreement with Mr. O——G, a countryman of our's, to take a view of the vegetable and animal productions of this country. By this you will find, Sir, that I intended to kill two birds with one stone. With regard to the military operations, the brave warriors kept within doors on the 10th on account of the high wind, which indeed was so violent at the bottom of *Lion-mountain*, whither I went out a botanizing, that I was several times obliged to lay myself down upon the ground. On the 11th the whole burgesse turned out into the field; the coats, as well of the horse as of the foot, were, to be sure, all blue, but of such different shades, that they might as well have been red, purple and yellow. Their waistcoats, particularly those of the infantry, were brown, blue and white, in short all the colours of the rainbow. A French priest, clothed in black, with red heels to his shoes, stood near me, and could not help expressing to me his amazement at seeing such a party-coloured equipment. However, this did not hinder them from going through their exercise extremely well, as a great number of them were Europeans, who had served in the last war in Germany, and since that time had been in garrison at the *Cape*, when, in consequence of having served five years, they had become denizens of the country. Ambitious, therefore, of keeping up their military reputation, and puffed up with pride in consequence of their superiority in point of fortune, they took it into their heads several years ago to consider it as a very disgraceful circumstance, that

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they should be obliged to make front against the garrison, which, on their side, felt themselves so much hurt by the comparison, that the attack became very serious; so that among other things they loaded on each side with coat-buttons, pieces of money, and the like. Since this accident, both these corps are never exercised at one and the same time. Being disappointed at not having the company of our countryman, I set off on my expedition with a Mulatto for my guide, whom I hired for a quarter of a rix-dollar per diem. Over his shoulder he carried a staff, at one end of which hung my apparatus for keeping my herbs, at the other a counterpoise composed of a wallet filled with provisions and a few clothes. This guide of mine, proud of the name of *bastard*, soon gave me to understand, that he was no slave, as most of the blacks are, but was free-born by his mother's side, as her mother was a Hottentot, and her father an European (as he supposed) of a tolerable good family. To make short of my story, I quitted the town, implicitly following my blind destiny and my tawny pilot. We steered our course north-west, and after a number of traverses over the plains, by twelve o'clock we had got to the gallows. *Heus Viator!* Here we stopped a little to contemplate the uncertainty of human life. Above half a score wheels placed round it, presented us with the most horrid subjects for this purpose; the inevitable consequences, and at the same time the most flagrant proofs of slavery and tyranny; monsters, that never fail to generate each other, together with crimes and misdemeanors of every kind, as soon as either of them is once introduced into any country. The gallows itself, the largest
I ever

I ever saw, was indeed of itself a sufficiently wide door to eternity; but was by no means too large for the purpose of a tyrannical government, that in so small a town as the *Cape*, could find seven victims to be hanged in chains. Farther on, where the sand had been formed into a hard mass by the rain-water lying upon it, I found a number of cicindelæ skipping about, of an unknown species. At this my companion, who had never before seen an insect-hunter, fell a laughing as if he was out of his wits, and seemed all wonder and astonishment.

There is not a bridge to be found in all Africa. We were therefore obliged to wade over some pretty deep brooks and rivers; so that herboring, it must be owned, is a very troublesome business here: but then, on the other hand, the harvest is rich. As soon as I had sat myself down, I made a curious discovery of a remarkably prickly *rumex* (or dock), and likewise of the *tribulus terrestris*. Now and then we rambled up and down recruiting for my regiment of insects, and my collection of plants; an employment which, in proportion as it enlivened my mind, infused fresh spirits into my body, and strength into my limbs. These latter I had likewise an opportunity of resting on the following occasion. Among the waggons that overtook us, there was one drawn by six pair of oxen, after the fashion of the country. In this a slave lay asleep, as drunk as David's sow, likewise in a great measure after the country fashion. Another however more sober than he, sat at the helm, with a whip, the handle of which was three times the length of a man, and the thong in proportion. In this country they never use reins to their oxen, for which reason,

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reason, though he flourished his whip about from right to left with great dexterity, the beasts not being under much discipline heaved continually from larboard to starboard, sometimes across the road, and sometimes along-side of it; so that the driver was not unfrequently obliged to jump off from the waggon, in order to impress his sentiments with the greater energy on the foremost oxen of the team. The waggons are so large and wide in the carriage that they cannot easily overturn, and where the road is worse than ordinary, the foremost oxen are usually led. Up in the waggon sat a Dutchman, who being much hurt at seeing me on foot, very courteously obliged me, together with my servant, to get into the waggon and ride. In about the same latitude we were overtaken by a farmer. We hailed one another, that is, we called to, and saluted each other, as ships do at sea; and were informed by him, that he was a *Mother-country* lad (so the Europeans are called here), and had a wife and family near the *twenty-four rivers*, at the distance of forty *uurs* from thence, in one of the prettiest spots, to his mind, in the whole country. But I now began to reflect, that neither *TOURNEFORT* in the *Levant*, nor *LINNÆUS* in the *Lapland* mountains, nor any other botanist, had ever gone out a herborizing in a six-yoked waggon, and at the same time that my studies and collections could be in no wise forwarded by a carriage of this kind; moreover, that although by this means my legs might get some ease, the other parts of me would suffer for it in consequence of the jolting of the carriage; therefore taking to my feet again, I went on till I arrived at the company's farm. The
steward

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steward (or as they call him there, the *baas*) presented me with a glass of a strong-bodied wine, which was by no means adapted to quench my thirst; but the water here was brackish, and had a salt taste, and they had no milk nor cows, although there was upon the farm a considerable number of horses and other cattle. The reason of this was, that in such places there is usually stationed a guard of soldiers, who care more for wine than milk; the pasture was likewise greatly in fault, being unfavourable for milch-cows, and drying up their milk. I therefore took leave of the *baas*, an appellation given to all the christians here, particularly to bailiffs and farmers. The next farm belonged to a peasant, who was a native of Africa. I now took it into my head for the first time, to make a trial of this people's so much boasted hospitality; but unluckily the man himself was gone to the review at the *Cape*, and had left only a few slaves at home, under the command of an old Crone, who said that the bed-clothes were locked up. I could easily perceive, that she had as little desire to harbour me, as I had to stay with her. It was now already dark, but notwithstanding this and my stiff and wearied legs, I resolved to go on to another farmhouse, that appeared in sight. We missed our way in a dale, and wandered among the thickets and bushes. The *jackalls*, or African *foxes*, now began their nightly serenade, pretty much in the same notes as our foxes in Europe; frogs and owls filled up the concert with their horribly plaintive accompaniment. At length we came to a little rising ground, whence we could again discern the farm, and discover the right road. A guard of dogs, which in
Africa

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Africa are allowed the unlimited privilege of falling foul on such foot passengers of a night, (the later the more liable to suspicion,) set upon us, and frightened us not a little. It was now half an hour past eight; however, as the people were not yet in bed, they came out to our assistance, so that we received no other wounds than those inflicted on the skirts of our coats. We were turned into the kitchen, where we heard a piece of news, that sounded like a thunder-clap to us; this was, that the *baas* or steward was gone to the review, and that every accommodation was locked up. But I felt the pressure of this difficulty still more at break of day. In the mean time the slave, with the greatest good-nature and respect, begged me to be so kind as to make shift with a little tea and bread which he had of his own. My servant, together with this house-slave, and another that looked after the cattle, fell on board a loaf of coarse bread and lard; to them a most delicate and favourable dish. After they had deliberated some time upon the matter in the Portuguese language, I was put into the absent *baas's* own bed-chamber. The bed was tolerable, but the floor was made of loam, the walls bare, and the whole furniture consisted of a cracked tea-canister, with a few empty bottles, and a couple of chairs.

As the door would not lock I set the chairs against it, so that in case any attempt should be made against my life I might be awakened by the noise. After this I laid myself down to sleep, with a drawn knife under my pillow. The many murders that, to my knowledge, were committed in this country, rendered this caution extremely necessary.

The

The next morning I began to ask for my breakfast, which consisted of some stale *smalt*, a kind of lard prepared and kept in a wooden trough, to be used by way of butter; I likewise got hold of a chop of venison, which they broiled for me, but seasoned it too high with pepper. My hunger made me so civil, as not to show any slight to my black host's entertainment, but I did not sit long at table. An unexpected but very violent quarrel, carried on in the Portuguese language, which I did not understand, now arose between the domestic slave and the cow-keeper. Both their black faces looked like coals on fire. At last the latter taking out his knife, the other was forced to buy him off with a large slice of meat; upon which lighting his breakfast pipe, he went his way, after they had on both sides renewed their friendship with looks of the utmost cordiality. However, for all this seeming reconciliation, the house-slave took a cruel revenge on his antagonist's dog, which happened to stay behind in the kitchen. Yet, notwithstanding his having been guilty of so mean an action, this slave had caught so much of the generous flame of the African hospitality, that I could not easily persuade him to accept of a trifling acknowledgment for his services. Soon after break of day I set out again on my journey, when, for the first time since my arrival in these parts, my eyes were gratified with the sight of extensive corn-fields, which were now in full verdure, with their blades rising a foot out of the ground; for in Tyger-mountain district, where I was at this time, the tillage of corn is the husbandman's chief employ. Wheat and barley, however, are the only sorts of corn that are

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found in the whole colony. The former is used only to be bread, the latter merely for the purpose of foddering horses; partly in this way, that the green corn is cut down in the blade once or oftener according as the growth of it will admit, and partly by grinding it into groats, and then mixing it with the cut straw for their horses as soon as it comes to its full growth, as is practised with us. About ten o'clock I took shelter from the rain in a farm-house, where I found the female slaves singing psalms, while they were at their needle-work. Their master, being possessed with a zeal for religion quite unusual in this country, had prevailed with them to adopt this godly custom; but with that spirit of œconomy which universally prevails among these colonists, he had not permitted them to be initiated into the community of christians by baptism; since by that means, according to the laws of the land, they would have obtained their freedom, and he would have lost them from his service. This very godly *boor* was born at Berlin, and had been mate of a ship in the East-Indies. This occasioned us to enter into a conversation on the victories of his much-loved monarch, and in the space of an hour after that, upon every subject that could be imagined. My throat still felt as if it was burnt up with pepper, and my stomach was tormented with hunger. The former was assuaged by a couple of glasses of wine, but being ashamed to complain of the latter, I left it to its fate to wait till noon (when perhaps I might chance to get an invitation from some good soul,) and returned to my botanical calling and occupation among the shrubs and bushes, with which this country is almost entirely covered, excepting such spots as are cultivated.

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Hardly a stick of wood, indeed scarcely any wild tree, is to be seen here. The soil hereabouts, viz. round about *Tyger-berg* and *Koe-berg*, is, to all appearance, mostly a dry barren sand or gravel; yet, in this district, so full of hills, there are certain dales covered with mould, and yielding a plentiful harvest to a few peasants, who apply to the culture of lemon, orange, and pomegranate-trees. At three in the afternoon I arrived at the house of farmer *Van der Spoei*, who was a widower, and an African born, and likewise brother to the person, who, you know, is proprietor of the red or old *Constantia*. Without seeming to take the least notice, he stood stock-still in the house-passage waiting for my coming up, and then did not stir a single step to meet me, but taking me by the hand, greeted me with *Good day! welcome! how are you? who are you? a glass of wine? a pipe of tobacco? will you eat any thing?* I answered his questions in the same order as he put them, and at the same time accepted of the offer he made at the close of them. His daughter, a clever well-behaved girl about twelve or fourteen years of age, set on the table a fine breast of lamb, with stewed carrots for sauce; and after dinner offered me tea with so good a grace, that I hardly knew which to prefer, my entertainment or my fair attendant. Discretion and goodness of heart might be plainly read in the countenance and demeanour of both father and child. I several times addressed myself to my host, in order to break in upon his silence. His answers were short and discreet; but upon the whole, he never began the conversation himself, any farther than to ask me to stay with them that night: how-

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ever, I took leave of him, not without being much affected with a benevolence as uncommon to be met with, as undeserved on my part. In my great zeal for botany, I did not pay the least attention to my stiff and wearied legs, but hobbled as well as I could over the dry and torrid hills, moving all the day long as if I was upon stilts. Towards evening I felt myself less weary, as, by a continuation of the motion of walking and jumping, my limbs were grown more pliable. Not far from the farm we had a brook to cross, where we met with a female slave, who very officiously and obligingly shewed us the shallowest places. She seemed to lay her account in receiving some amorous kind of acknowledgment, in which she could not be otherwise than disappointed, as she had the misfortune to meet with a delicate as well as a weary philosopher. In the evening I arrived in good time at a farm, where the father and mother were from home; but *Master John* and *Miss Sussey* gave me house-room notwithstanding. It was a handsome building, and, like all the rest on the road, composed partly of brick, and partly of well-wrought clay, but without any other floor than the bare earth. I had intended to go on farther, but when I saw a large churn on the floor, and heard from *Sussey's* own mouth, that they had thirty milch-cows, you may imagine that I did not think of going, especially as I had seldom found milk very plentiful since my arrival in Africa. The farm was said to yield about three thousand two hundred bushels of corn yearly, which was from ten to fifteen times the quantity that was sown. A good wheaten loaf, light and well-baked, and about two feet in diameter, was set upon the

the table, and of this, with some milk and fresh butter, I made an excellent meal. They seemed to take a great pleasure in entertaining me, and (though they strove to conceal their laughter) appeared highly entertained in their turn with my broken Dutch, and my apparatus for catching and preserving insects. My collection of herbs they liked very well, as they themselves prepared a kind of plaister with herbs and wax. The next morning they brought me coffee, which I left untouched, it being full of grouts, and, according to the custom of the country, as weak as small beer. However, I set out again on my journey, quite lively and brisk after the high treat I had had of milk. As my box of insects was already quite full, I was obliged to put a whole regiment of flies and other insects round the brim of my hat. On the road we passed a cow-keeper, who was roasting a small tortoise, the flesh of which tasted like that of a chicken. Two or three miles farther on we met with a shepherd, that was regaling himself with roast lamb at his master's expence. My companion, who knew the full value of his liberty, expressed great satisfaction at finding, that poor slaves had sometimes an opportunity of revenging themselves on their tyrants by a breach of trust. He informed me, that it was common for shepherds, who had rigid and niggardly masters, when a ewe had twins, to keep always one of them for themselves, and very often the other too; whenever they had an opportunity of concealing the theft. At three o'clock we came to another farm. Here I had some conversation with the old lady of the house about her gout, which she had in her hands and feet, and at the same time

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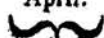
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concerning her good man's rheumatism, which in order to get rid of by sweating, he was gone on a journey to the warm baths. A house plaistered up in a slovenly manner with clay, a heap of dirty scabby children, a female slave dragging after her a heavy iron chain fastened to one of her legs, the features of the old woman herself, her peaked nose, her perpetually scolding her servants, and lastly, her entertaining me with nothing but cold water, plainly indicated that poverty dwelt in her house, and at the same time that the gout had in her choleric temperament a very fertile soil to grow in. She advised me to set myself down in the *Paarl* (a tract of ground a little way from thence planted with vines, and inhabited by vine-dressers,) in order to make my fortune by turning quack. She informed me, that there had been a physician there before, who had had no practice, as his price was too high. She said, that she never could, nor ever should be persuaded to be bled, or to take any kind of physic; nevertheless, she thought it very comfortable for a person to have access to a physician in case of sickness. You see, Sir, that an African cottage will afford you a view of mankind, similar to what you may have had in the palaces of Europe, where (it must be owned) they call in physicians to their assistance, but seldom fail to manage themselves in a great measure according to their own caprice. In pursuance of the information I got I took the road to the right, which, I was told, would carry me to the house of a rich and infirm widow of fifty-two years of age. My servant, who was acquainted there, warned me not to frighten the good woman into fits with my insects stuck on the brim of my hat;

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hat; for which reason, having arrived there about five o'clock, and been well received by her, I took care to turn the crown of my hat away from her, and afterwards hid my hat in a corner of the room. Immediately my mouth was crammed with bread, butter, and cheese, wine and tea, and at the same time was employed in giving dissertations on the gout, apoplexy, violent bleedings at the nose, coughs, and her poor deceased husband's dropsy. The good lady was attentive to hear, and I to eat, as much as ever my lectures would permit me. During these, a tell-tale huffey of a female slave, who was a favourite with her mistress, had been pumping my servant in the kitchen, on which she whispered her mistress in the ear, that my hat was full of little beasts (*kleine bestjes*.) The old lady immediately quitted the fine instructions that I was about giving her with respect to diet, in order to go and look at the strange and wonderful sight that was to be seen on my hat. But what astonished her the most in this affair was, to see the little animals run through the body with pins, and fastened to the brim of my hat. An explanation was required on the spot. It was now necessary for me to cease eating a while, for fear of being choked with some of the big words and long Dutch phrases, which I was obliged to coin on the spot, in order to convince her of the great utility of understanding these little animals for medical and economical purposes, and at the same time to the glory of the great Creator. Fortunately for me I descanted on this subject with great success, though not without some inquietude; for, in case I had not succeeded, I should certainly have been turned out of doors for a conjuror (*bexmeeſter* :)

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meester :) but now, on the contrary, the good woman begged me to stay, and I promised myself a good night's rest in such an elegant and well-furnished house. Soon after there came a light cart, with company. This consisted, first, of her daughter; secondly, of a very stout fat country 'squire or yeoman, Mr. M * *, who was said to be able to give each of his daughters four thousand guineas on their marriage, one of whom had, by some accident or other, already lain in of a black child, the father of which, as a reward for his kindness, had been advanced from the condition of slave to that of prisoner for life in one of the *Robben* isles, and the lady herself to that of wife to her father's bailiff; thirdly, the 'squire's half brother, still more corpulent than himself. The father of these gentlemen was a native of *Livonia*, and had been a soldier in the Swedish service. They had seen an insect-hunter before, but when they looked into my collection of herbs, and found it to contain not only flowers, but likewise grass and small branches of shrubs and trees, they could not forbear laughing at a sight so unexpected. The young lady got from me all the intelligence I could give her on the subject of pimples and freckles, and, by way of reimbursing myself, I asked her several questions concerning domestic remedies and the warm bath, which she had lately used for three weeks. She likewise, together with her mother, advised me to practise physic in PAARL; but it is a great pity, they added, that a man who seems to understand our disorders so well, should speak our language so ill.

There

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There was no milk to be had here, but the want of it was amply supplied by a very good and well-dressed supper. The wine went round in bumpers to each others healths, and to the continuance of our friendship and acquaintance. The conversation turned upon various subjects, and among others, those of corpulency, and the custom of sleeping after dinner; and the efficient cause of these, viz. the Livonian gentlemen's use of the warm bath in this climate, was discussed with great precision. We wished one another a good night; but I myself rested very ill; for the unusually purfy batchelor, who fell to my share, snored continually, and proved very troublesome. He looked indeed very good-humoured, as well as his lively and *plaisirige broeder*, but was not able to say much; and when he did speak, he wheezed so much, as to be for the most part unintelligible to me. He puffed and blowed more in putting on his shoes and stockings, than I did when I last went up Table-mountain. The next morning I bid these good people adieu, and took the road leading to *Mountain-river* in *Paarl*. The ferry lay a good deal out of my way, who had no particular business to transact on the other side; so that having observed an uncultivated islet, three or four fathoms distant from the bank, where the sheep and goats could not get to forestall me in the blooming produce of the soil, I ventured over on some bundles of the palmites, I spoke of above, (*acorus palmita*) which were so smooth and brittle, that, if I had chanced to make the least slip, I must have been inevitably drowned by getting between them, or else under them. My hat and queue excepted, I went a botanizing on this island in the same dress

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as Adam wore in his state of innocence. My skin quite parched up by the sun, served, however, to convince me, that I had lost in my little paradise the dominion over the gnats and horse-flies. These diminutive animals soon obliged me to turn back and put on my clothes, when I afterwards botanized along the course of the river, and so passing through several farms, I arrived at *Paarl* at a miller's, who was sitting and taking his afternoon's nap. A more serious and even seemingly surly chap, I never saw in my life. He set before me an old crazy chair, and without asking who I was, said directly, *What will you chuse to have?* (*Wat zal ye bruiken?*) I see, replied I, you have got some tea, be so kind as to give me some bread to it, for I am both hungry and thirsty; I have spent the whole day in culling of simples. *What, have you eat nothing to-day?* Girl, bring some meat, bread, and a bottle of wine! says the cross-grained old fellow. Accordingly I ate my belly full, and afterwards drank to his health; during the whole of which time he was smoking his pipe in silence, and poring over an astrological almanack of the last century. During all which time, he did not once address himself to me; and to a question or two I asked him, he answered me so short, that I imagined he was extremely displeased with my visit, and therefore could not help pressing him to accept of a pecuniary recompence for my entertainment. He answered me positively with a most inflexible air, *No; that I certainly will not, it is our duty to assist travellers.* For my servant, without my knowledge, had ordered a good luncheon of bread and meat, but did not follow me half way over his slippery loam-floor when I took my leave of him. Affected

with an internal sense of gratitude, I wished within myself, that heaven might pardon so worthy a miller, in case he should at any time chance to trespass on his neighbour's corn.

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A little farther on lived a *Koster*, that is, a Sexton, a set of people that are more respected by the Calvinists than with us. He was of black extraction by the mother's side. I went in, sat myself down, and drank a dish of miserable tea without sugar. The *Koster's* wife, who was rather in years, was then sick in bed. I enquired into the nature of the disorder: but when I was told that the patient, notwithstanding the use of the warm bath for three weeks, remained as it were contracted in all her limbs, and her joints quite filled up with chalk-stones, I did not chuse to say any thing more, than that the gout was a terrible affliction, shrugged up my shoulders, and inquired for the right road. Just before the door grew the *Cataputia*. I asked the man if he made any use of the seeds, or whether I might gather any of it? He answered, he did not use them himself, but in general gave them to his friends: *Gather what you will*, continued he, *I never heard any body ask after them before, what do you want them for?* *For medical purposes*, replied I. I now had brought an old house over my head, and was obliged to go in again, and hear the account of the old woman's illness, as well as explain the cause of it. However, I thought it necessary to inform her, with very little circumlocution, that her stay in this calamitous world was likely to be of very short duration. She was glad to be freed from her misery, and her husband to get rid of a sickly wife; on which account they both of

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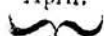
them seemed to hear my fatal prognostic with pleasure, and made me drink a couple of glasses of wine for my pains; and at the same time offered to shew me the church, which stood just by. By this edifice I could plainly perceive, that these boors bestowed no more pains upon God's house, than they did upon their own. This church was, indeed, as big as one of our largest sized hay-barns, and neatly covered, as the other houses are, with dark-coloured reeds; but without any arching or ceiling, so that the transoms and beams within made a miserable appearance. Altars and altarpieces are, I believe, never used in the reformed church. There were benches on the sides for the men, but the women have each of them their chair or stool in the aisle. The pulpit was too plain and slovenly.

From hence I set off for home by a bye-way, as little known to my guide as to myself. Eighteen China oranges, which I had bought in *Paarl* for one skelling Dutch, proved extremely serviceable to me at this time; and a large roll of tobacco which my servant had taken with him, was a still more desirable *vade mecum* for him. He carried really a heavy load, which however appeared to be very little burden to him. On the other hand however, it must be considered, that he went on always in a straight line, while I continually ran from one side to the other, peeping among the bushes. It was already dark when we arrived at a farmhouse, where the boor himself was not at home. During his absence, I drew his wife into a conversation concerning household affairs, and found (what I much wondered at in so substantial a house) that they had seldom any great plenty of milk; and this on account of the dry barren hills
near

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near them, and other causes not worth mentioning here ; but that on the other hand, they had a good stock of sheep, some arable land, and vineyards, which, by means of water-conduits, might be rendered fertile. She was a generous and good kind of woman as one would wish to see, but unluckily happened to offer me just every thing that I did not wish for, wine, brandy, and tobacco. Her husband, a very brisk lively old fellow, being at last come home, immediately drank to me, saying, *Perhaps you suppose that nobody knows any thing but yourself, with your herbs and you, but you shall see that we African peasants are not all so stupid as you think for.* Upon this, by way of surprising me, he displayed a few good books, and a heap of trash, on almost every science ; all of which I could do no other than commend, as he did nothing but run between me and his book-case, and read over the whole title-page of every book, the printer's and bookseller's name not excepted. *You see, says he, that I do not spend my whole time in following the plough.* We almost called one another Cousin-Germans, he being a Livonian and I a Swede. At night there was no danger of starving for want of victuals. *You must eat hearty with us farmers,* said the kind-hearted dame. *Eat and spare not : we do not grudge it you.* They had their butter and cheese, together with hung-beef, or rather buffalo-flesh, from their grazing farms, almost six hundred miles up the country. By the appearance of the soup and green-peas I could plainly perceive, that my learned host had not studied any books of cookery, which in Africa would have been of much more use to him than poetry and the dead languages. The good woman of the house was obliged to

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go to bed alone, while her husband employed himself with the history of JOSEPHUS, in order to convince me of his great attachment to study. Accordingly many people in this country call their slaves, some after the months, and others after the days of the week in which they were born. Early in the morning I was waked here by the horrid shrieks and cries of *January* and *February*, who were undergoing the discipline of their master's lash, because the horses had not been found the preceding evening. Soon after the family got ready for going to church, but were prevented by a shower of rain. In the mean time we ate our breakfasts, and drank to each others health; upon which I returned them thanks and took leave of them, with a luncheon of bread and butter doubled together, and stuffed into my coat-pocket by my host and hostess, by way of (*weegkoff*) or provision for my journey. I was secretly much affected at receiving such tokens of good-will, quite undeserved on my part, from the hands of people to whom I was an entire stranger.

The woman was goodness itself, but this goodness was enshrined in a mighty phlegmatic body. The old fellow's phraseology, as well as his library, discovered, that he was, as well as myself, a run-away student. I likewise afterwards came to know, that he had been a surgeon, and had been sent thither as a soldier by kidnappers; and at the same time I learned, that he had got the greater part of his books by marriage with a parson's daughter, his present wife. This good woman could not have chosen, to counteract her *phlegm*, a more choleric piece of goods for a husband, who, in spite of a naturally good disposition,

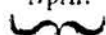
was

was said, for trifling faults, to have beat several of his slaves to death. I could give you, Sir, many instances, that the exercise of any crime whatsoever, particularly such as the slave trade, or the trafficking with the liberties of mankind, never fails to plunge men into disorders and misdemeanours of various kinds.

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On the lands belonging to this farm stands the Tower of Babel, so they call a hill, which is mentioned by this name by KOLBE, as being of a remarkable size, and which will ever remain a standing monument of this author's inaccuracy. I pass over my little adventures with *serpents, scorpions, cameleons*, and other animals of the lizard kind, well knowing, that you are not endued with taste enough to take pleasure in, and be sensible of, the beauties of these reptiles, a race of animals with which this Canaan of Africa abounds. But I must not omit to tell you, how puzzled and undetermined we frequently were on our return homewards, particularly once on a large plain. Almost at the end of it we met with seven of the company's servants or soldiers, but by no means to our advantage; for these my fellow-christians, intoxicated with the wine which they carried about them in leathern bottles or calabasses, were at variance among themselves, and seemingly did not wish to give us any information, as every one of them pointed out to us an almost entirely different way. Jabbering to me all at once in High Dutch, Low Dutch, Hanoverian, &c. they all endeavoured to make me believe, that I should meet with rivers, mountains, deserts, and the like, if, according to their sea dialect, I did not steer my course right. Another asked me whither I was bound?

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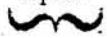


bound? and then told me how I should lay my tacks to starboard and larboard. I thanked them, and got away from them as well as I could; on which they formed a ring round my servant, and chattered to him about the road till his head was quite turned. At length they got into a dispute themselves about the same subject, by which means we both got loose from them. What was now to be done? Being without chart or compass, I endeavoured to direct my course by the sun, till I overtook a black heathen, who was tending sheep; and in consequence of whose sober and sensible directions, I arrived in the evening at a farm-house, the bailiff of which, a Hanoverian, welcomed me in the most friendly manner, with a hearty slap of the hand, in the African style. He entertained me with milk, and an account of the love affairs and intrigues he had when he was a foldier in England. He also gave me a list (which, by his desire, I took down in my pocket-book, as the result of his own experience) of the constant order of precedence in love, which ought to be observed among the fair sex in Africa: this was as follows. First the *Madagascar* women, who are the blackest and handsomest; next to these the *Malabars*, then the *Bugunese* or *Malays*, after these the Hottentots, and last and worst of all, the white Dutch women. The excessively nice stewed cabbage we had for supper, he supposed to be the best in the world; and at the same time, that its crispness proceeded from the soil being highly impregnated with salt-petre. In fact, the land here was sandy and low, and probably contained much sea-salt. Being but two christians among twelve or fourteen men slaves, we bolted the door fast, and had five
loaded

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loaded pieces hung over our bed. During the whole evening I had seen the slaves in such good humour, and so kindly and familiarly treated, that (with regard to their temporal matters at least) they really seemed to be better off than many servants in Europe; I therefore observed to my host, that his mildness and kindness was the best pledge for their good behaviour, and the surest preservative against their attacks. It may be so, replied he, but besides that, several runaway and rebel slaves are continually wandering about, in order to plunder houses of victuals and fire-arms, or else to draw others over to their party; we have likewise instances of the blacks becoming furious at night, and committing murder, more particularly on the persons of their masters; but sometimes, if they cannot get at them, on some of their comrades, or else upon themselves. I am here in the place of a master to them, and am obliged to punish them whenever they behave ill to me or to each other. The Bugunese in particular are revengeful, and nice about the administration of justice. In order to avoid jealousy, quarrels, and murder, my master does not permit any female slaves to be kept here; but I could wish it were otherwise, as well as in other places, where I formerly was a servant. Now they are lonesome and solitary, and consequently slow and sluggish enough. The chief of my master's income from this farm arises from the breeding of horses. Could he keep female slaves here, he would get still more by the propagation of the human species; and indeed, a female slave who is prolific, is always sold for three times as much as one that is barren.

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From the information that I have just given you, you will perhaps, my good friend, be apt to think with me, that even the most supportable kind of tyranny always brings with it its own punishment, in troubled sleep and an uneasy conscience. Slaves, even under the mildest tyrant, are bereaved of the rights of nature. The melancholy remembrance of so painful a loss, is most apt to arise during the silence of the night, when it ceases to be dissipated by the bustle of the day. What wonder then, if those who commit outrages on their liberties, should sometimes be forced to sign and seal with their blood the violated rights of mankind? Ought not my host, gentle as he was, to fear the effects of despair on twelve stout fellows forcibly taken from their native country, their kindred, and their freedom? Is it not likewise to be dreaded, that thus shut out from the commerce of the fair sex, which sweetens life, and renders its cares supportable, their inclinations, which are extremely warm, should trespass against manhood?—In the course of our conversation on rural oeconomy I took notice, that a slave born in the country (especially a *bastard*) who can drive a waggon safe and well, and who can be trusted to inspect the other slaves, or is looked upon as a clever and faithful servant, bears the price of five hundred rixdollars. One that is newly brought from Madagascar, or is in other respects not so skilful nor so much to be depended upon, costs from an hundred to an hundred and fifty rixdollars. A horse that in Sweden would fetch ten rixdollars, costs at the Cape from thirty to forty; a draught ox from eight to ten; but a tolerable good milch-cow from twelve to fourteen; one

ditto brought from the mother country or any part of Europe, and of a sort that produces a great quantity of milk, sells for forty or fifty rixdollars, and the purchaser thinks himself favoured into the bargain; all which has since been confirmed to me by several others.

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On Monday morning I took leave, and asked the road towards home, when I was answered, "There is no road this way. You must leave the road that goes to the Cape to the right, and then go straight forward through the bushes, when you will come within sight of the mountain that stretches itself between Constantia and the Cape; then go straight forward over the dry barren plains, to the nook in the mountain; you may remember it lies very near Constantia and your house. You will find no more farms in your way home." Well! thought I to myself, this looks as if I should dine upon grass to-day; I was vexed at having had no breakfast, and was too bashful to give a hint of it to my host, who the day before had received me with such hospitality. We had not long been in sight of the mountain, before we saw a cloud arise from it, which did not turn to rain till it arrived at the plain we were in. This shower, which was pretty heavy, subjected me to the greatest inconveniencies, having exposed myself to be wet through, in order to shelter my herbal. But of such a nature is this climate, that in a few minutes, as soon as the sun shone out again, I was quite dry. In the evening, when I came to *Alphen*, I learned, that it had not rained there in the least, but the cloud covered the mountain in its usual way.

I must not omit to tell you, that on the road I several times entered into a religious discourse with my heathen

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companion; he asserted, that I was the first that had spoken to him on that subject, at the same time that he was so stupid (for so he called himself) as not to know or comprehend any thing concerning it, nor did he think it was for him to trouble himself with these matters; however, he did not seem unwilling to believe every thing that any body should think proper to tell him. His thoughts had never ascended to a superior being, nor led him to the first origin of any thing, to the creature or to the Creator. He very well knew, that the white men assembled together in the churches, but had never thought of asking to what purpose. Very likely it may be so, was the answer he usually gave me, when I talked to him on this subject. Notwithstanding this, he seemed to have in some measure an abhorrence of vice, and a veneration for what was good. The person, who at that time recommended him to my service, gave him the character of being extremely faithful. In other respects his mind was capable enough of being illumined; but as the making of proselytes brings the Dutch in neither capital nor interest, this poor soul, with many others of his countrymen, was neglected. But more of this and other matters by the next opportunity that offers.

I am, &c.

With the botanical excursion, the detail of which is given in this letter, I was extremely well pleased on several accounts. The six last days of it might almost be called a forced march, intermixed with a good deal of leaping, and (what tires one full as much) clambering. With
the

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the same inclination, however, I think I could have lasted out several days longer in the same manner. The next day after my departure from the Cape, was, as I have already related, the most tiresome to me; afterwards both my limbs and joints seemed to get more used to the exercise. The two or three first days after I had got home, I felt myself sore and tender, or, as people usually express it, beat and bruised all over, but this went off by degrees: in like manner as, thanks to the violent exercise I had taken, some disagreeable, though slight touches, of a rheumatic gout entirely vanished, with which I had been troubled some time before, and that chiefly in rainy weather; and which did not return upon me, before I was exposed to the cold in the Antarctic polar circle. After my return home, however, I was wise enough to make a little excursion every day.

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S E C T.

S E C T. V.

*Residence at Alphen, after the Author's return
from Paarl.*

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IN one of my excursions I had the good fortune to meet with Mr. Hemming, the sub-governor, on his farm, in the district of Constantia; who, though he thought highly of the science of botany, was yet astonished that my enthusiasm for it should have carried me so far about in the space of six days, viz. from the Cape over *Tiger-berg* through *Paarl*, *Botlary*, and so in a circle home again, and this by no means by the nearest way.

Mr. Hemming's garden was one of the best in the district; he had taken pains to procure grafts of orange and lemon-trees, and layers of the pomegranate from Spain, from which he promised himself fruit equal to the Spanish, as what grows at the Cape at present is not quite so good. Divers sorts of cherry-trees, that grow here, scarcely produced a single cherry, though various trials had been made with them in different spots. The best method he had found of rooting out a *uniola*, which was overrunning his kitchen-garden, was to sow it with cabbage for a year, as he had observed, that this weed never throve on land where cabbages had been sown. The *pisang* was to be met with in his
garden

garden of a luxuriant growth, but was said not to produce fruit of so high a flavour as it does in its native country. A species of this grows wild in the *Houtniqas* country, a district somewhat to the east of *Muscle-bay*; though I could never find it there myself.

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I continued at the farm at *Alphen* till about the middle of November. Entirely taken up with the Cape plants, I did not seldom revolve in my mind, how I should go on with them for months and years ensuing; but fate had ordered it otherwise. In fact, it was ordained, that I should suddenly change the continent of Africa, its delightful summer-climate, and its beautiful flowers, for a bleak cold ocean, blocked up with mountains of ice.

C H A P. III.

VOYAGE TO THE SOUTH-SEA.

S E C T. I.

The Circumstances which gave occasion to this Voyage.

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THE circumstances which gave occasion to this voyage were as follows: The ships *Resolution* and *Adventure*, destined to make a voyage towards the South Pole and round the globe, were at that time at anchor in *Table-bay*. The Messrs. FORSTER accompanied them in the capacity of naturalists; and had an appointment from the British crown of 4000l. sterling, or 8000 ducats, for the whole expedition. They were brought to *Alphen* by Major Van PREHM, in order to be introduced to me. By this means I had the pleasure of enjoying their company for a couple of days. As the southern continent, which was still pretty generally supposed to exist, had taken no small hold on my imagination, this was sufficient reason for me to congratulate these

these gentlemen on the trust reposed in them, and the good fortune they had in visiting as naturalists, so distant and unknown a part of our globe. I found them not only eager each for his own part to fulfil what the world expected and required of them, but they even went so far in their zeal for the more accurate investigation of nature, as to think of procuring an assistant, at no small cost to themselves, and therefore offered me my voyage gratis, with part of such natural curiosities as they might chance to collect, on condition of my assisting them with my poor abilities. Such an unexpected return to my compliment, had almost deprived me of the power of answering them, had not my heart dictated to me the most lively expressions of gratitude to them for the confidence they placed in me. But before I could give a determinate answer to so lucrative and agreeable a proposal, which at the same time did me so much honour, but likewise set before me a tedious, difficult, and dangerous voyage, the affair seemed to require some consideration. Should I accept this offer, thought I, and the event prove fortunate, I should soon forget my fatigues, nay, frequently remember with pleasure the difficulties I had undergone. On the other hand, should I once neglect this opportunity, I should long have to upbraid myself with the omission. I recollected, that the great Linnæus had frequently said, nothing had vexed him more in his whole life, than that, when he resided in Holland, he had not accepted of the offer which had been made him of taking a voyage to the Cape of Good Hope.

As two Swedes, Dr. SOLANDER and Mr. SPOERING, with remarkable honour to themselves and advantage to science,

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had

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had before undertaken a voyage to New Holland, &c. and so round the world, I could not help wishing that a Swede likewise might have the opportunity of making a visit to the south pole, and the continent supposed to be in the vicinity of it. I had reason as well as the Messrs. FORSTER to hope, that the assistance of a third naturalist (meaning myself) might add to the discoveries of the curious productions of nature, which the two others were so intent upon making; especially in those places, which were now about to be visited for the first, and probably for the last time. In other respects, in case that any of the plants which are so useful in the colder parts of the north should be found in the south, who could be supposed capable to collect them with such assiduity, or of preserving the seeds of them with so much care as a Swede? Again, on the other hand, if my voyage should prove unsuccessful, I was in hopes that my miseries, together with life itself, and all its train of attendant evils, would have a speedy end. Occupied by reflections of this kind, I passed the night, perhaps more restless than will easily be imagined. The next morning by day-break, the distraction of my thoughts carried me to my chamber window; here I fixed my eyes on the adjacent meadows, as though I meant to ask the plants and flowers that grew on them, whether I ought to part with them so hastily. They had for a long time been almost my only joy, my sole friends and companions; and now it was these only, which in a great measure prevented me from making the voyage. At length I came to the resolution of undertaking it; yet with a fixed determination, that if I had the good fortune to come back to the Cape,

Cape, I would again occupy myself on this same spot with the most delightful of all employments, the investigation of nature. I therefore began to get ready for my journey; and sent specimens of the insects and plants I had collected to Sir CHARLES LINNÆUS and other lovers of the science. The rest of my collections, &c. I left at the Cape, at the president's house, desiring him to dispatch them to Sweden, in case he should receive any certain information of our ship's being lost; or in case my absence for any length of time, should give him reason to doubt of my return. The danger of the journey was, however, the least of my cares: the supposed length of it, together with my ignorance of the English language, as well as of the disposition of the people, with whom I was to be conversant during the whole time, perplexed me much more. The farewell letters I wrote to some of my relations were so much the more painful to me, as I could easily imagine to myself their anxiety and uneasiness on the account of my impending fate. I therefore thought it most adviseable, to represent my journey to be as easy and commodious as was consistent with any degree of probability.

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In the seven months that had passed since my departure from my native country, I had had no news from thence. I now gave up all thoughts of getting a single word of intelligence from any part of Europe for four times that period. Thus circumstanced, how much it cost me to go on board, I leave those to imagine who are not entirely devoid of feeling.

What happened during this remarkable voyage, I fear would be liable to tedious repetitions, were I to relate it in

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the form of a journal, partly on account of the frequent occurrence of events pretty nearly resembling each other, and partly by reason that various islands were visited several times; a more particular account of the voyage therefore, I must defer to some other opportunity. In the mean while, for the sake of preserving the order and connexion of time, it seems requisite, that I should here, in its proper place, give some account, though as concisely as possible, of the different regions we explored during the succeeding twenty-eight months, till the time of my landing again safe at the Cape.

S E C T.




## S E C T. II.

*Voyage from the Cape of Good Hope to New Zealand.*

ON the 22d of November, 1772, at four o'clock in the afternoon, we sailed from the Cape. The very same day stormy weather, and the disagreeable kind of sickness which usually attends people at sea on their setting out, appeared to a degree sufficient to make many wish themselves on shore. Within eighteen days from our leaving the flowery meads of the Cape, we found ourselves very near a considerable large floating island of ice. The thermometer stood at a few degrees above the freezing point, while our latitude was only 50 deg. south. How disagreeably we passed the remainder of the summer in this hemisphere, may be gathered from this, that we made our way through floating islands of ice, sometimes as big as mountains, till we came to lat. 67'. 10"; so that we are, and probably shall continue to be, the only mortals that can boast of the frozen honour (as I may call it) of having passed the antarctic polar circle. A hundred and twenty-two days, or something more than seventeen weeks, were elapsed, without our having been able to see land; but not without our having gone through divers perils, not to mention the  
hardships

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hardships which we underwent of various kinds; especially that of having, for the greater part of the above-mentioned period, remained in excessively cold latitudes, continually surrounded with ice. The *aurora australis*, which in the south is the same as the northern lights in our hemisphere, a spectacle never before seen by a European, now appeared several times in the month of March, on the 26th day of which month we anchored in *Dusky-bay*, situated near the southernmost promontory of *New Zealand*. From hence we went to *Cook's-strait*, where we had a sight of that most singular junction of the water with the clouds, which by sailors is called the water-spout; and the next day, being the 18th of April, we anchored in *Queen Charlotte's-sound*. The other ship, the *Adventure*, had been separated from us ever since the 8th of January in the preceding year, by a fog. After this she had investigated the western coast of *Van Diemen's Land* in *New Holland*, and a part of the coast by which it is supposed to be joined with *South Wales*, which latter was discovered in Captain Cook's former voyage. It was great pleasure to us to find, that this ship had, fortunately for us, landed at the place previously agreed upon for the rendezvous. The plants and trees in this country are, excepting some of its ferns and mosses, almost entirely unknown, and different from those that grow in other parts of the globe. These, therefore, together with the new species of birds and fishes which are to be found here, afforded me an agreeable occupation. The inhabitants, on the other hand, a race of cannibals, live in such a miserable condition, and have such manners and customs, as may excite our pity and

and compaffion in behalf of our own fpecies; yet, as among civilized nations there are not wanting fuch as are a difgrace to human nature, fo among thefe very devourers of their own fpecies, one might difcover fome traces of a good difpofition, as well as the feeds of ingenuity, which, under the foftering care of the foul-informing fciences, might render thefe our fellow-creatures, now plunged in darknefs, a much more virtuous and happy people.

1773.  
April.

This nation chiefly depends on fifhing for its fupport; and by purfuing fuch an uncertain livelihood, they want both time and inclination for agriculture and the mechanical arts, as well-as for that order and regularity which is requifite for the prevention of the barbarifm in which thefe poor people are actually plunged. For while they are fecking after their food in the water, they fuffer their lands to be infefed with an uncommonly large kind of ftinging nettles, with other weeds and thorny plants, fo that they are very frequently obliged to transport their huts to defert fhores, unftable and floating, as are the animals, which they have to purfue in a boundlefs element. Notwithftanding this, the foil poffeffes fuch a degree of fecundity, that it is capable of being converted into the moft fertile arable land or vine-yards, fufficient to give food and other conveniencies of life to a great number of inhabitants, who, united among themfelves, would compofe a very powerful republic, and be in a condition to extend their commerce and conquelts over the whole Pacific Ocean. (Collate with this my oration on laying down the office of prefident of the royal academy of fciences.)

## S E C T. III.

*First Voyage from New Zealand to Otaheite, and  
from thence back again to New Zealand.*

1773.  
June.

ON the 7th of June we sailed from *New Zealand*, and had thoughts of taking in refreshments in some of the warmer islands, as the cold season was now set in in this part of the world. After we had been at sea a few days, we resolved upon killing a fat, though ugly Dutch dog, before the scurvy, together with the short commons of the ship, should render his flesh unfit for eating. Already used in our run between the *Cape* and *New Zealand* to put up with sheep that had died of the scurvy or other disorders, diseased hens and geese, we certainly were not now in a condition to turn up our noses at a roasted dog, which was really nice and well-tasted. After we had passed the tropic, we came in sight of divers islands, some of which had been discovered before, and others had been hitherto entirely unknown; and on the 16th of August we arrived at the far-famed, though, perhaps, too highly celebrated, island of *Otaheite*. We were in the greatest danger of suffering shipwreck on this island, sacred  
to

to love; for our keel struck several times very hard against the coral rocks, before we came to anchor. After remaining here fourteen days we visited the islands of *Huabeine*, *Uliatea*, and *Otaba*, and afterwards discovered a new, but probably an uninhabited island; looked out for the islands of *New Amsterdam* and *New Middleburg*, discovered about a hundred years ago by TASMÁN; and having found them, and taken in refreshments there, returned again to *Queen Charlotte's-sound*, in *New Zealand*, after having been absent from it about half a year. During this run, according to the time of the year it was winter; but, with respect to our feelings and the warmth of the weather, it was summer. We likewise met with a greater variety of remarkable subjects for description (such as the different countries, their produce, the nations that inhabited them, and their peculiar customs and manners) than I am able to comprize here in a small compass. I cannot, however, help relating some few events that happened at different times: as for instance, one evening when both ships, driving before a brisk gale of wind, wanted to speak with each other, they came so near together in consequence of the great swell of the sea, and the dilatory manœuvering of the men at the helm of one of the ships, that notwithstanding the officer of the watch repeatedly called out with the greatest anxiety, *starboard and port*, they were within a hair's breadth of striking against each other; in which case they would doubtless have dashed one another to pieces in an instant, or else have both gone to the bottom. As besides myself very few people, not even the officers

1773.  
August.



1773.  
August.

belonging to the watch, were on deck, this accident is neither mentioned in the log-book of the ship, nor in any of the journals yet published. It seemed in the beginning as if both ships would strike with their broadsides against each other, but directly upon that the *Adventure* dropped astern, and with the point of her bowsprit came within two or three yards at least of our mizen-shrouds, and so made a flourish over our taffarel and ensign-staff. Upon this, an officer who belonged to another watch immediately observed, that it was in the highest degree imprudent, and without the least show of reason, to sail up to each other in such a brisk gale and high surge; to which the officer of the watch made no farther reply, than just to repeat several times with great seeming satisfaction, "It is all over now." Indeed, they both allowed, that we were very near suffering shipwreck in the middle of the ocean. The other accident I shall relate, concerned myself alone. Once when I was on a botanical excursion in Huaheine, some Indians fell upon me and plundered me; leaving the upper part of my body quite naked, with several marks of violence on my head and breast. This incident proceeded partly from a fancy the Indians had taken to my clothes, and partly from a desire of revenge; Captain Cook having just before been obliged to drive away an impudent Indian by force, and take his weapons from him.

We were separated from the *Adventure* on the coast of *New Zealand* by a storm, and never saw her afterwards. She came to anchor in *Queen Charlotte's-sound*,  
before




before we went from thence, where she had the misfortune to lose her whole boat's crew, consisting of ten men, who were killed, roasted, and eaten by the cannibals. Upon which she set out on her way home, and arrived in Europe a year before the ship commanded by Captain Cook.

1773:  
August.

## S E C T. IV.

*Second Voyage from New Zealand to Otaheite, and  
from thence back again.*

1773.  
November.



ON the 25th of November in the year 1773, we sailed from New Zealand, in order once more, and during another summer, to explore the cold southern latitudes. From the 13th to the 21st of December we passed for the first, and in all probability for the last time, that part of the globe, which is the direct antipodes to *Sweden*; so that I was now on the spot the most distant from my native country of any on the whole globe, as the nearest way home, supposing one could go through the center of the earth, or the length of the whole earth's diameter, was about six thousand eight hundred and twenty-one miles. This astonishing distance, however, did not prevent my rapid thoughts from frequently visiting my beloved countrymen and relations during this period, while my feet were in direct opposition to their's. After this we advanced still farther, inasmuch that on the 20th of December we passed the *antarctic* circle a second time, and did not repass it till the 25th, so that we kept our Christmas-eve (though, it must be owned, a very meagre one) in the frigid zone. On the 26th of the following month

we

we passed the southern polar circle, for the third time. We now penetrated into the southern regions as far as we could go; as before we had got to 71 deg. 14 min. we were prevented by the ice from putting in execution the scheme we had fondly formed of hoisting the British flag in a sixth part of the world, or even in the southern pole itself. We now therefore turned about to the north, in order to take in refreshments in a warmer climate, as winter or the cold season was expected soon to return.

1774.  
March.

On the 14th of March we anchored off *Easter-island*, which is situated in 27 deg. S. lat. and 199 deg. 46 min. W. long. Here we found no good water, and few refreshments of any sort. The lava and other volcanic productions that we saw here, together with some huge images of stone raised to some height from the ground, plainly evinced, that some violent revolution of the earth had defaced a country which had been formerly in a more flourishing condition, and thereby reduced a once powerful nation to the wretched state in which we now found it.

On the 16th of March we sailed from hence, and on the 7th of April anchored off one of the *Marquesas* islands. These are situated in about 10 deg. of lat. The greater part of them were discovered by the Spaniards a hundred years ago. The inhabitants gave us several proofs of their disposition to hostilities as well as thieving, so that we were obliged to leave them some bloody marks of the efficacy of our fire-arms. Having staid here a few days we set sail, and after a quick passage, landed at *Teokea*, in lat. 14'. We met with some hostilities from the people here, but contented ourselves with inspiring them with terror, by firing our cannons over their

1774.  
April.

their heads. We afterwards discovered several small islands, and at length, on the 22d of April, came to anchor for the second and last time off *Otabeite*, where we remained till the fourteenth of May. Various circumstances contributed to render our abode here more delightful than before. We now procured many more interesting informations touching this country and people, than were known before. On the 2d of June we were informed by some of the inhabitants, that two ships had landed at *Huabeine* or *Ovabeine*, one of which was larger than ours. By subsequent accounts from Spain we know, that this ship was from the Spanish settlements in America; and that the year before, during our stay at *Otabeite*, some of the crew belonging to a Spanish ship had been left there, one of whom had actually hid himself in a crowd of people, on being, though dressed in the Indian fashion, taken by an English sailor for a European, and accordingly accosted by him in the French language. This, with several other circumstances, makes it highly probable, that the Spanish ships were sent both years to be spies upon us, and to make reprisals upon us in return for our visits in a part of the world of which they are so extremely jealous, and of which they look upon themselves as the sole proprietors; especially considering that previously to this they have, merely on account of their carrying on an illicit commerce, punished many Englishmen, by condemning them to hard labour in their mines. (See the Gottingen Magazine for 1780, No. I. p. 75.)

After we quitted *Otabeite* we paid a visit to *Huabeine* and *Ulitea*, likewise for the second and last time; leaving on the latter island a sensible youth, who about eight months

months before had had the courage to come on board of us. His name was OEDIDE, though otherwise called MAHEINE.

1774.  
June.

On the 4th of June we sailed from *Ulitea*, and on the 6th passed by *Hove's* island. On the 16th we discovered *Palmerstone's* island, and on the 20th *Savage* island, so called from our being received by the savages there in a very hostile manner. They hit me on the arm with a large stone, and threw a javelin among us. For which reason we did not stay to anchor here, but went on to *Namocka*, or *New Rotterdam*, one of the friendly isles above-mentioned. In the same vicinity we saw several islands, besides those discovered by *TASMAN*, and upon one of them there appeared a volcano. On the 2d of July we descried a small inhabited island, which we called *Turtle Island*, and the next day made a hasty landing there. On the 16th we came to the islands discovered by *QUIROS*, which *M. BOUGAINVILLE* investigated more narrowly, calling them the *Cyclades*; but *Captain Cook*, who now discovered a greater number of them, gave to the whole of this *Archipelago* the name of the *New Hebrides*. Off one of these, to which we gave the name of *Mallicola*, we cast anchor on the 22d of July. Here we found a diminutive race of people, with a language peculiar to themselves, and poisoned weapons. They received us in a friendly manner, notwithstanding which there happened a skirmish between us; however, after staying there a couple of days, we parted friends.

On the 3d of August we anchored for a few hours before *Irromanga*, a newly discovered island, the inhabitants of which offered to detain our captain and boat, an attempt which many of them paid for with their lives, although  
but

1774.  
August.

but two of our people were wounded. On the 4th we anchored before the island of *Tanna*, in 19 deg. 30 min. S. lat. Close by the harbour there was a volcano, which showered ashes upon us every day. The smoke, flame, and loud thunder proceeding from this mountain, afforded a beautiful and sublime spectacle. The inhabitants spoke a peculiar language, of which we had not the least knowledge; and shewed us much friendship, though not without committing some hostilities, which drove us to the disagreeable necessity of staining this otherwise hospitable shore, with the blood of some of the inhabitants. On the 20th we steered again for the northern isles of this Archipelago, but at length quitted them entirely, after having spent in the investigation of them forty-six days; a period of time, in which we alternately experienced pleasure, disgust, and danger. More than once we were exposed to the poisoned weapons of the natives, from the slightest wound arising from which, we had every reason to dread as painful and terrible a death, accompanied with madness, as happened to some of Captain *Carteret's* crew, when they were wounded on the coast of *New Guinea*. At one time our ship had run aground; at another she was in danger of dashing against the rocks; and at another time, viz. on the 1st of August, of being consumed by fire in the open sea; when it would have been our wretched fate, either to be blown up in the air, or to have sought for death in the briny ocean.

On the 4th of September; after three days sail, we discovered the largest island, next to *New Zealand*, in the whole Pacific Ocean, which by Captain Cook was called *New Caledonia*, and seemed with respect to its soil and ve-

getables



getables to resemble *New Holland*. The inhabitants were civil and hospitable, but poor, and spoke a language peculiar to themselves. At this place, by great good fortune, I avoided eating the liver of a poisonous fish, in company with the captain and Messrs. *Forster*, who were extremely ill for some days afterwards. On the 15th, for want of wind, we were near being driven on the rocks; and on the 28th at night were in the most dangerous situation, being furrounded by a coral reef. That evening, when I went to bed, there was the greatest probability that I should never wake again, but at my very last gasp: I however had the good fortune to go to sleep directly, and slept very sound, and the next morning to find that I had escaped the most imminent danger that could well be imagined.

1774.  
September.  
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On the 10th of October we saw *Norfolk* island, in 29 deg. 2 min. S. lat. the first discovery the English made beyond the tropics. We landed upon it, and found it uninhabited. On the 18th we came for the third time to anchor in *Queen Charlotte's Sound* in New Zealand.

S E C T. V.

*Voyage from New Zealand to Terra del Fuego, and
from thence farther on towards the South Pole.*

1774.
December.

ON the 10th of November we sailed from New Zealand. Our ship was now found to have sprung a leak, but not of any consequence. In the space of six weeks, we had sailed over the whole ocean between *New Zealand* and the southernmost part of *America*; and on the 20th of December anchored to the south of *Terra del Fuego*, where we saw the most wretched race of men in the world. On the 29th we passed *Cape Horn*, and on the 31st, or New-year's eve, we anchored off a little island near *Staaten-land*, in the straits of *Le Maire*; here we had an agreeable amusement in hunting an innumerable quantity of sea-lions, seals, and sea-fowls.

On the 23d of January, 1775, we sailed to the south-east, and on the 14th discovered the island of *South Georgia*, in lat. 54 deg. 38 min. Here we landed in all speed, and though it was now the summer season, we found the whole country covered with an eternal snow, excepting some of its coasts, on which there grew only one single species of grass, and a sort of *sanguisorba*. This horrid country, however,

afforded

afforded us some fresh provisions, viz. the flesh of the sea-lion and seal; a kind of food that we had some time before learnt to put up with. We afterwards found one after another, several small islands and rocks; on one of which, in consequence of a fog arising, we very narrowly escaped being shipwrecked; an accident which, in the circumstances we were in, would inevitably have put an end to our voyage and discoveries, together with our lives.

1775.
January.

On the 28th of January, in lat. 60, the ship could make no way on account of the ice. On the 31st we found ourselves in a fog, and very near a high land, covered every where with an eternal snow; but the approach of winter and other circumstances, occasioned us to give over all farther investigation of this place. This furthest point of land that we could see, we called the southern *Thule*, as being the most distant land seen in this hemisphere.

S E C T. VI.

Return to the Cape of Good Hope.

1775.
March.


AT length we quite turned our backs upon these cold latitudes, when the daily increasing warmth, and our approach to the north, to the civilized world, to our friends and our home, contributed to enliven us with the hopes of a quick and fortunate conclusion to the whole voyage, and the many disagreeable circumstances attending it. But that we now had many more hardships to undergo, than BYRON, WALLIS, and COOK had suffered in their former voyages round the earth, many of our officers, as well as of the crew, who had been on one or more of those voyages, attested. The purposes intended to be answered by our voyage, particularly that of approaching as near as we could to the south pole, required other attempts to be made, other dangers to be undergone: the remainder of the voyage consequently, was almost a concatenation of dangers and hardships.

On the 17th of March we saw land, viz. the coast of *Africa*. The reader may easily imagine, how delightful a sight this was to us. In the mean while, entirely ignorant of the state of affairs in Europe, we could not, when once in sight
of

of the harbour itself, assure ourselves that we should not be picked up by some unknown enemy, who might carry us out as prisoners, perhaps to the most distant part of the East-Indies. The next day, however, we overtook a Dutch vessel, and received from her the joyful news of a general peace. Before night we saw several sails more, which seemed to be steering by the Cape, and making as fast as possible for Europe; and with no small pleasure, particularly on my part, we saw the Swedish flag flying upon two of them. The ocean had hitherto, during our voyage, been really too lonesome and desolate a theatre to us; and it would be necessary to be as weary of the uniformity of it, as we were, in order to enjoy a sight upon it, which at any other time would have been of no consequence. Neither is it any wonder, that in so long a space of time, we came to be in some measure weary of each others company; when, for instance, those who were used to entertain the company with tales and anecdotes, were obliged to have recourse two or three times to the same stories, in order to furnish their quota in conversation.

The following morning we overtook an English ship called the *True Briton*, commanded by Captain BROADLY, who sent us some old news-papers. Full of love for my native country, I first and foremost, with the greatest eagerness, ran over all the articles in them that concerned Sweden; but found only a couple of lines, which gave me to understand that a great revolution had taken place there, but did not say when or how. This gave rise to divers conjectures amongst us, and was to me in particular an affecting subject to ruminate upon; but from what the English told

1775.
March.

^{1775.}
March.  told me, as well as from what my own ideas suggested to me, I was convinced, that the commotions in the Swedish government were then almost at such a height, as scarcely to be capable of growing worse, and that thus this news in all probability argued something better. This consideration was not without its effect in comforting me, till time shewed how extremely right we had been in our conjectures.

At length on the Wednesday following, being the 22d of March, 1775, after a voyage of sixty thousand miles, and an absence of two years and a quarter from the Christian and civilized part of the world, we came again to anchor in *Table-bay*. Those who before us had sailed round the globe always went to the westward, and thus lost a day in their reckoning. But, as we made the same voyage towards the east, and thus continually anticipated the rising of the sun, we were consequently the first, and, indeed, only navigators, who had gained a day, or found a supernumerary day on their journals. Consequently, according to the Dutch almanacks at the Cape, it was on Tuesday, or the 21st of March, that we landed there; so that, directly contrary to every known and usual mode of expression, we actually had two Tuesdays in one week.

It was now a thing which we earnestly wished for, as well as of the greatest consequence to us, to enter the harbour, as several of our crew were attacked with the scurvy. Our unparalleled preservatives of four-crou and wort, had, it must be owned, pretty well kept us from the ravages of this otherwise destructive disorder, so that we lost only one of our crew by sickness (an old complaint of the lungs) since we left the Cape; but our blood and
humours

1775.
March.


humours were, as well as our malt, and the greatest part of our provisions, in consequence of the length of the voyage, spoiled and corrupted. Our bread was, and had been for a long time, both musty and mouldy; and at the same time swarming with two different sorts of little brown grubs (the *curculio granarius*, or weevil, and the *dermestes paniceus*) which either in that state or in that of their *larvas*, or maggots, had nestled themselves into every bit of bread that we had, so that we could not possibly avoid eating them; and they frequently discovered themselves to us, the former by a bitter, the latter by a disagreeable cold taste in the mouth. Nay, their *larvas*, or maggots, were found in such quantities in the peas-soup, as if they had been strewed over our plates on purpose, so that we could not avoid swallowing some of them in every spoonful we took. The peas used for this purpose, had been ground a little in England, that they might boil the easier, but had by this very means afforded an easier passage to these disgusting insects.

What was of still more consequence, was, that we had only a quantity of bread, bad as it was, sufficient for a few days on board; and as for the brandy, an article of great importance to the crew, it was, if I remember right, quite gone the day before we arrived in the harbour. Pepper, vinegar, coffee and sugar, by the help of which, taking them in their turns, the salt provision would have been less hurtful to us, we had for a long time been entirely without. Our salt meat, now almost three years old, having been kept on board during the whole of this period, was the more dried and shrunk up, as the salt had had so much
the

1775.
March.


the longer time to absorb to itself and dry up all the moisture and juices. These, with several other difficulties, occasioned the joy we felt at having got into the harbour, where we should be able in many respects to lead, as it were, a new life, to be as unbounded as it was universal. With pleasure, likewise, and longing desire, we received our letters from Europe, but not without a very natural anxiety and fear, lest we should find in them accounts of the loss of our dearest friends and acquaintance. After about five weeks stay at the Cape, the Resolution sailed for England, attended with my most hearty good wishes. The civilities I had received from almost every body on board this ship, the dangers I had undergone in it, and the friendships, which during that long space of time I had had an opportunity of making, gave me, it must be owned, sufficient cause. I, for my part, in pursuance of the resolution I had previously made, staid behind in Africa, in order to continue my researches in this country, of which I therefore now resume the relation.

C H A P. IV.

JOURNEY FROM CAPE TOWN TO THE COUNTRY OF THE
CAFFRES.

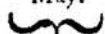
S E C T. I.

Residence at Cape Town previous to the Author's African Expedition.

MY desires and thoughts continually ran upon making a journey into the internal parts of this country, and visiting the different nations of it. For the present, however, I was obliged to stay in the town, and wait for the appearance of spring or the fine season.

1775.
May.

I have observed before, that the *quaade mousson*, or winter, is reckoned to last from the 14th of May to the same day in August; and that during that time, ships seldom venture to run into *Table-bay*. A Dutch vessel, which nevertheless still staid here on some particular business, and on the night succeeding the 14th day had thrown out all

1775.
May.

her anchors on account of the violence of the north-west wind, was very near being driven on the rocky ground that lies by the side of the fort. The day after this, or the 15th, the bay was so much agitated by the storm, that no boat or sloop could go to or from the above-mentioned ship. The next evening the wind increased as the night came on, and the poor seamen had reason to fear that every minute would be their last. The extreme darkness of the night, contributed not a little to make the danger, and even death itself more terrible. I lived in the upper story of a stone house towards the higher part of the town, where the hurricane shook the windows, roof, and, I had almost said, the whole house. This my situation, as well as the more dangerous one of the Dutch ship, awakened in me a lively remembrance of the Antarctic cold, and the various storms I had experienced; and made me more thoroughly sensible of the comforts of a good warm bed-chamber upon terra firma, but at the same time excited in me so much the greater compassion for the vessel in distress. Contrary to all expectation however, its anchor and tackling were proof that night against the storm; and the next day's calm, at the same time that it put the ship out of danger, diffused satisfaction over the countenances of every one. Another event of this kind, though it happened during my absence, while I was gone on my voyage to the South Sea, deserves however to be recorded in this place, more especially as it is a farther proof of the unsafeness of this road in winter. Here follows the account of it, as I had it confirmed to me by several eye-witnesses.

The

1775.
May.

The ship *Jong Thomas*, which happened to stay in Table-bay till the boisterous season had commenced, was driven on shore by a storm near the land on the side of *Zout Rivier*, not far to the northward of the fort. Early in the morning, as soon as this happened, orders were issued by government, that no one should, on pain of death, presume to approach, even from afar, this unlucky shore; where, to give weight and authority to this resolution of theirs, they had with equal readiness erected gibbets, and at the same time posted troops all over the neighbourhood; but neither these, nor any other measures taken by them, were in any way conducive to the saving of the crew, being merely calculated to prevent such goods and merchandize being stolen as might chance to be thrown up in the wreck. The ship, however, was wrecked very near the shore; so that the crew's distress and calls for assistance, were heard very distinctly; but the swell of the sea, which with the greatest violence washed over the ship and broke against the strand, made it impossible for them to save themselves in boats, and highly dangerous to attempt it by swimming. Some of those who ventured to swim to shore, were thrown against the rocks and dashed to pieces; others, as soon as they had arrived at the shore were carried back again by another wave and drowned. One of the keepers of the company's menagerie, who before break of day, ere the prohibition was made public, had rode out to carry his son (a corporal in the army) his breakfast, came by that means to be a spectator of these poor people's distress; at the sight of which he was touched with compassion of so noble a kind, and at the same time so operative,

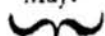
1775.
May.

tive, that seating himself firm on his spirited horse, he swam him over to the ship; encouraged some of them severally to lay hold of the end of a rope, which he threw out to them for that purpose, and others to fasten themselves to the horse's tail; then turned about, and carried them safe on shore. This animal's natural aptness for swimming, the great size of his body, the firmness and strength of his limbs, prevented him from being easily overpowered by the swell of the sea.

But unfortunately this generous and active veteran himself became a victim to death. Fourteen young persons he had actually saved; and while endeavouring to preserve more than it was possible for him to do in so short a time, he and his horse were both drowned. The occasion of this was as follows; after the seventh turn, having staid a little longer than usual to rest himself, the poor wretches on board were afraid that he did not intend to return; for this reason being impatient, they redoubled their prayers and cries for assistance; upon which, his tenderest feeling being wrought upon, he again hastened to their relief ere his horse was sufficiently rested. The poor animal, almost spent, now sunk the sooner under his burden, inasmuch as too many sought to be saved at one time; and one of them, as it was thought, happened unluckily to catch hold of the horse's bridle, and by that means drew its head under water. This bold and enterprising philanthropist commands our esteem and admiration the more, as he had put himself into this danger for the relief of others, without himself being able to swim. I have therefore considered it as my peculiar duty, as well as a pleasure, to preserve

preserve his name, which was VOLTEMAD, together with this gallant exploit of his in these pages. Inspired with similar sentiments, the East-India directors in Holland, on receiving intelligence of this affair, raised a monument to his memory, in a manner worthy of themselves and him, by calling one of their new-built ships after his name, and ordering the whole story to be painted on the stern. These orders were accompanied with letters to the regency at the Cape, the contents of which were as follows: *That in case VOLTEMAD had left any issue in the military or civil department, they should take care to provide for them, and make their fortune as speedily and effectually as possible.* But unfortunately, in the southern hemisphere they had not all the same grateful sentiments. The young corporal VOLTEMAD, who had been an eye-witness to his father's having offered himself up in the service of the company and of mankind, was refused his father's place, though the appointment to it could scarcely be considered as any promotion. From mere chagrin, therefore, he had already quitted that ungrateful country, and was gone to *Batavia*, where he died before the news of so great and unexpected a recommendation could reach him. There were several inhabitants of the Cape, who, while they, with a laudable emotion, lamented the unhappy fate of VOLTEMAD and his son, affirmed, that a small line might, by some good swimmer, or by *Voltemad* himself, have been handed from the strand to the ship; by means of which one or more stout ropes might have been stretched out between these latter, for the purpose of saving the crew. It was likewise thought, that the issuing of that
severe

1775-
May.

1775.
May.

severe prohibition, and the appointment of the guard of soldiers, were not of such use to the company as they were imagined to be; as, not to mention other things, even so heavy a commodity as iron was stolen away from the wreck; which, after the storm had abated, and the sea, that had risen considerably, had retired again, as good as lay upon dry land.

Under the pretence of preventing the people belonging to the ship from being plundered, they were directly put under a guard upon the spot from that time till the evening; and that without their having taken any refreshment, although they were wet and hungry, and wearied out with the labour of the preceding night. For several days after this they were seen wandering up and down the streets, begging clothes and victuals. One of these, indeed, is reported to have met with peculiarly rough treatment. This was a sailor, who, in order the better to swim for his life, went off from the wreck almost naked, and having got safe on shore with his chest, opened it, in order to take out a waistcoat to cover his nakedness; he was, however, not only hindered in so doing by a young chit of an officer, but was obliged to put up with a few strokes of a cane into the bargain; being told at the same time, that he was liable to be hanged without delay on one of the newly-erected gibbets; as, directly contrary to the express prohibition of government, he had presumed to meddle with goods saved from the wreck. The sailor excused himself with saying, that it was impossible for him not to be ignorant of the prohibition, and that he could clearly prove himself to be the right owner of the chest by the key of it (which, in
the

the sailor's fashion, was fastened to his belt,) as well as by a psalm-book, wherein his name was written, and which lay in that same chest. Notwithstanding all this, it was with great difficulty that he saved his neck from the gallows. He was forced, however, naked and wet as he was, to wait in the fields till the evening, with no other covering than the sky. Shivering with cold, he at length, through repeated entreaties, got permission to look after his chest, and take what he wanted out of it, but now found it broke open and plundered. To conclude, when they had taken him to the town, and there left him near the gates naked and bare, as above described, he had, however, the good fortune to meet with a tender-hearted citizen, who immediately, without the least hesitation, gave him the coat off his own back, and took him to his own house.

This anecdote of the sailor I had from one single person only; but though that person's character for veracity was unimpeached, yet, for the honour of our species, I could heartily wish, that my informer might be found to have over-charged his colours in the black painting he has made of this transaction! On the contrary, rather may the same compassionate law in favour of those who have the misfortune to suffer shipwreck, take place in Europe and its colonies as it does in China! on the coast of which kingdom, all such as are unfortunate enough to be stranded, whether natives or strangers from the most distant country, find not only perfect security for their persons and effects, but are likewise maintained and found in every thing till they get to their own home, whither they

1773.
May.

1775.
May.

they are sent at free cost. Some of the crew of the *Frederic Adolphus*, a Swedish vessel, shipwrecked on the *Plata* bank, September the 3d, 1761, who landed in their boats before the Chinese town *Katsie*, experienced in its fullest extent the efficacy of an establishment that does so much honour to mankind. Mr. MAULE, the supercargo, who likewise was one of the number, has assured me, that they were all received with the greatest humanity, maintained at the emperor's expence, and conveyed in one of the larger kind of Chinese vessels to the other Europeans at Canton.

As in the preceding pages I have made mention of the stormy winters at the Cape, it may not be improper to give here a summary abstract of my meteorological observations for the months of May, June, and July. With regard to the temperature of the air I must previously remind the reader, that I made use of a FAHRENHEIT's thermometer, which was given me by Dr. FORSTER at our parting; and that the observations taken with it were made in the shade, in the open air, between eight and nine o'clock in the morning, when the temperature of the air was most like that of the night. I must farther remark, that the winters at the Cape are in general by no means severe, and that this winter was reckoned one of the mildest.

During the first half of May the thermometer kept fluctuating between 53 and 63 degrees; and during the latter half, between 50 and 58, excepting on the 27th of this month, when it was at the lowest, or 49°, although the day was clear and the sun shone. The rainy days in this month were the 11th, 12th, 15th, 16th, 30th; and
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among these the three first named were the worst, and accompanied with tempestuous north-west winds; so that when I passed Zout Rivier on the 11th, the water was no higher than my horse's knees; but when I repassed it on the 15th, the water had risen so high, in consequence of the rain and tide, as to reach up to my saddle.

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March.

In the month of June the thermometer was between 54 and 60. There was a fall either of rain or snow on the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 14th, 27th, and so on to the 31st inclusively. Besides these, there were a few other cloudy days, attended with a high wind; but the remainder resembled our fine summer days in Sweden. On the 3d, it rained very violently, when it happened that a quantity of water which, in the preceding days, had been collected on the mountain, burst its way down to the town, and filled the canals there, at the same time overflowing some of the streets; so that for several minutes, it rose to the height of two or three feet against the houses. It likewise washed away a small wall belonging to a stone house, and carried it under the building, at the same time rushing into divers cellars.

In July, by reason of some intervening affairs that hindered me, I observed the state of the weather only till the 19th; during that time, the thermometer kept between 54 and 59 degrees. The rainy days were the 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 12th; clouds without rain on the 3d, 9th, 10th, 13th, and 14th.

S E C T. II.

Preparations for the African Expedition.

1775.
March.

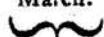
DURING the major part of the winter months I lived in the town itself, and at times made preparations for my journey in several ways, among which might be reckoned my practising physic and surgery; as what I acquired by these means, was a great help towards equipping me out in the expensive manner my undertaking required. My travelling purse was farther fortified by a lucky speculation in commerce, and likewise with sixty ducats (for which sum I had a right to draw a bill for acceptance) for my English translation of our able Swedish physician VAN ROSENTEIN's *Treatise on the Diseases of Children*. This work I undertook and finished in the last year of our cruising in the South Sea, mostly in the rougher climates, as I at that time was the least taken up with business of any other kind, except that of writing; though even in this case I was not unfrequently obliged, on account of the stormy weather, to cling with my legs round the foot of the table, and hold myself fast with one hand, in order to be able to write

write with the other. I take this opportunity of acknowledging my obligations to Messrs. FORSTER for various alterations they were so kind as to bestow on the translation here alluded to, which my slender knowledge of the English tongue made extremely necessary; as likewise for their taking care of the impression of it at London in the year 1776.

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With a view of rendering my intended journey more agreeable and convenient, I made every possible enquiry where I could hear any thing concerning it; but instead of gaining any useful intelligence, I was left more in the dark than I was before, as most of the information I could collect was confused and perplexed; the various accounts I heard, being often contradictory to each other, but still more frequently clashing with probability itself. I was chiefly dissuaded from the journey, as being a very absurd and dangerous undertaking, especially as, being a stranger, as yet unacquainted with Africa, and far from rich, I must necessarily subject myself to every kind of inconvenience; but since I saw nothing impossible in the affair, at least not in making the experiment, I pursued my design. With this view I formed an acquaintance and even friendship with Mr. DANIEL FERDINAND IMMELMAN, a young African, who before this had, merely for the sake of pleasure, made a little trip into the country, to which he was induced by the following spirited reflection: that it was very little either to his honour or to that of the other African colonists, that they had neglected investigating their own country, so that they would soon be obliged to apply to

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me and other strangers, for intelligence concerning themselves and the very place of their residence. For his own part, he was easily persuaded to enter into all my designs and favour me with his company; but we were obliged to lay our heads together and stand firm by each other, in order to get the permission of his relations. His mother, a sensible European lady, together with her lovely daughter, at length gave their consent, and principally on this account, that young *Immelman* had very weak lungs, and the best remedy for him would be to take a long journey on horseback, especially as he had the advantage of being accompanied by a physician: and on the other hand, he had reason to fear a more certain and horrid death in consequence of the complaint he laboured under, than any thing that might be apprehended from the attacks of the roving Hottentots or of the wild beasts up the country. His father, an old experienced soldier, who had served both in Europe and the East-Indies, and was then lieutenant in the garrison at the Cape, at length gave his consent on the principle, that a lad should never be shy or backward, where there was any danger. For this purpose Mr. *Immelman* provided himself with a good easy nag, for which he gave fifty rix-dollars; I had already bought an ordinary galloway for thirty-four, and a new baggage-waggon, about the size of the ammunition-waggons in Sweden, but covered over with a tilt made of sail-cloth, and finished in the same manner as those in which the peasants usually travel in this colony. The price of it was likewise what was usually given for these carriages, that is, about

two

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two hundred rixdollars, reckoning seventy-four for the wood-work, and eighty for the iron-work; the yoke, the hind chains, and those for the traces, the sail-cloth covering, and a box for the coom, made up the rest of the sum. To draw a waggon of this kind there are usually required five pair of oxen, which I therefore bargained for at eight rixdollars a head. I further took with me medicines of several sorts, as well for our own use, as for that of the peasants, to whom they might be of great service, and procure us a better reception. I likewise provided myself with a small stock of glass beads, brass tinder-boxes, steels for striking fire with, and knives, together with some tobacco; all these were commodities peculiarly acceptable to the Hottentots. We likewise took with us an oaken cask, made for the purpose of keeping serpents and other animals in brandy; also several reams of paper for drying plants, with leads and needles for insects, and at the same time some necessary changes of apparel. Neither did we forget to take with us plenty of tea, coffee, chocolate, and sugar, partly for our own use, and partly to insinuate ourselves into the good graces of the yeomen, who, by reason of the great distance they are at from the Cape, are often without these necessaries. I was told indeed, that liquors would infallibly answer this purpose much better; but the room they took up, their weight, and the expence of them, prevented me from taking any with me. We were well provided with needles of several sorts, as by means of these, and a few good words, we should be enabled to gain the good graces of the farmer's daughters, as well as their assistance in collecting insects.

I bought

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I bought too thirty odd pounds of gunpowder, with a small quantity of which we filled several horns, which we kept near at hand; the remainder we emptied into a leathern bag, and locked it up in my chest, by way of keeping it out of the way of the lighted pipes of the Hottentots. We took with us shot of different sizes, about seventy pound in weight, with a tolerable stock of balls, lead, and moulds for casting. It is certain, that the expence and quantity of this ammunition, was much more than we were advised to take with us, or than I myself thought necessary. On our return to the Cape, however, after an eight month's journey, it was almost all used. I would therefore advise every body, who may hereafter undertake an expedition of this kind, to stock themselves well with powder and shot. Every shot does not take place, and not a little is expended in the shooting of small birds; some too must be spent in shooting at marks. Besides, it may happen, as it did to me and my party, that for several weeks together, one may have little else to live upon than what falls before one's gun; not to mention, that prudence requires one to be prepared with ammunition against the hostile attacks of the Boshies-men and Caffres.

As the colonists here are enjoined by the laws to seize and bring to the Cape all such as travel about the country without being able to shew a permission in writing for that purpose, I therefore solicited and obtained the governor's pass, requiring that I should pass every where free and unmolested; and at the same time that the inhabitants should assist me as far as lay in their power, on receiving

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a reasonable compensation. In another letter, the people belonging to the warm baths in *Hottentots Holland* were enjoined to find me in lodging; for this remedy I was resolved to try against the rheumatic pains I experienced in consequence of the cold, to which I had been exposed in the Antarctic circle.

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S E C T.