

have been generally found very weak and weary, so that some people have ventured forth on foot to shoot them. Some Hottentots, who are trained up to shooting, and often carried out by the farmers for this purpose, are particularly daring in this point; as they are swifter in running, and at the same time, not without reason, suppose that they have a less suspicious appearance than the white people in the eyes of the elephants and other animals; and, on account of the rank odour they have, (somewhat like that of game) which proceeds from their skin-cloaks, their grease, and their bucku powder, are less liable to be discovered by the scent.

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When the elephant finds himself wounded, he is said not to offer to defend himself from his enemies, and sometimes not even to fly from them, but to stand still to cool himself, and sprinkle himself with the water, which he now and then keeps in reserve in his proboscis. Whenever he comes to a piece of water, and finds himself warm, he sucks up some of it, in order to sprinkle himself with it. It is already well known to naturalists, that the elephant's haunts are generally near the rivers; neither are they ignorant of the care and regularity with which, in Asia, those that are rendered tame, are taken to water in order to be washed: so that it did not seem at all incredible to me, that the elephants should sometimes be found, as I am informed they often are, in the dry torrid fields of Africa, quite faint and dying with thirst. One person assured me, that in a marshy place, or, more properly speaking, a place full of land-springs, (*fontain grasse*) he had observed pretty distinct traces of elephants having lain there. All the accounts I could collect,

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agreed in this, that these animals, when hunted, endeavoured, with the greatest care, to avoid muddy rivers, probably that they might not stick fast in the ooze; while, on the other hand, they industriously sought out the larger rivers, over which they swam with great ease. For notwithstanding that the elephant, from his feet, and the position of his limbs, does not seem to be adapted for swimming when he is out of his depth in the water, his body and head being entirely sunk under the surface, yet he is in less danger of being drowned than other land animals, as he carries his long trunk raised above the surface of the water in order to breathe, and can steer his course in it by means of this appendage; which at the same time forms his nose or organ of smell, and is endued with a great olfactory power. It has consequently been observed, that when several elephants have swam over a river at the same time, they have all found the way very well; and have been able at the same time to avoid running foul of each other, though their heads and eyes have been all the while under water.

It is merely for the sake of the teeth that the elephants are hunted by the colonists, though at the same time they contrive to preserve the flesh for their servants, viz. their slaves and Hottentots. And as the larger elephants teeth weigh from one hundred to one hundred and fifty Dutch pounds, which may be disposed of to government for as many gilders, so that a man may sometimes earn three hundred gilders at one shot, it is no wonder that the hunters of elephants are often so extremely venturesome. A peasant (now dead) who had hunted a large elephant over the mouth of Zondags-rivier, where it is very deep and

and broad, was bold enough to pursue it with his horse, and got over very safe, though he carried with him his heavy gun on his shoulder, and could not swim himself. It was said, however, that he got nothing by this bold and daring action, as the elephant took refuge in a close thorny thicket, where the hunter neither could nor dared to creep after it.

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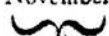
It is only on the plains that they can succeed in attacking the elephants; in the woods, where the attack cannot be made otherwise than on foot, the chase is always more dangerous. The hunter must take great care to get on the lee side of the animal, or against the wind; for if by means of the wind he once gets scent of the hunter, he rushes directly on him, endeavouring to kill him, especially if (as frequently is the case) he has ever been hunted before; and thus has had an opportunity of knowing, from experience, how dangerous and bold these marksmen are. More than one of these daring men have, by this means, been brought into the greatest danger. DIRK MARCUS, the man I mentioned before as living at *Hagel-craal*, gave me an account of one of his adventures of the chase as follows:

“Once on a time in my youth, said he, when from a hill covered with bushes near a wood, I was endeavouring to steal upon an elephant to the leeward of me, on a sudden I heard from the lee side, a frightful cry or noise; and though at that time I was one of the boldest of elephant-hunters in the whole country, I cannot deny, but that I was in a terrible taking, insomuch that I believe the hair stood quite an end on my head. At the same time it

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appeared to me, as though I had had several pails of cold water thrown over me, without my being able to stir from the spot, before I saw this huge creature so near me, that he was almost on the point of laying hold on me with his trunk. At that instant I fortunately had the presence of mind to take to my feet, and, to my great amazement, found myself so swift, that I thought I scarcely touched the ground: the beast, however, was in the mean time pretty close at my heels; but having at last got to the wood, and crept away from him between the trees, the elephant could not easily follow me. With respect to the place I was in at first, I am certain that the animal could not see me, and consequently that he first found me out by the scent. It may be thought, indeed, that, out of revenge at least, I ought to have fired my piece at this saucy intruder; but, in fact, he came upon me so unexpectedly, that in my first fright I did not think of it; and afterwards, my life depended upon every step I took; and at last I was too much out of breath to attempt any thing of that kind, being in fact very glad to get off so well as I did. Besides I doubt much, whether a ball lodged in the chest, would have gone through the pleura into the heart; the surest method is, to fire the ball in between the ribs, quite slanting through the lungs or chest."

Another of these bush-fighting gentry, CLAAS VOLK by name, according to all accounts, was not so fortunate. Being once upon a plain under the shelter of a few scrambling thorn-trees, (*mimosa Nilotica*) he thought he should be able to steal upon an elephant that was near the spot; but was discovered, pursued, and overtaken by the animal, which

which laid hold of him with his trunk, and beat him to death. This, however, is the only instance in the memory of man, of any of these hunters having met with a misfortune in the exercise of their profession; excepting another peasant of the name of RULOPH CHAMPER, in whose side an elephant made a deep hole with its toe, as (without seeing the man) it was lifting up its foot in order to step over him. I examined the scar left after this wound, and found a deep depression of four of the ribs, which were still fractured, and of which the man complained a good deal upon any change of weather. This misfortune had happened to him many years before, near *Zwartkops-rivier*, where, with two of his companions, he lay sleeping in the open air, by a fire that was almost burnt out. These, very luckily for them, awoke a little before the arrival of the elephant, and crept away among the bushes; but the saddle-horses belonging to all the three, which, indeed, were tied to a tree, had their backs broke in several places. The elephants, which were four or five in number, were passing on their way very leisurely, at the time when they did this mischief.

From what has been already related, it follows evidently, that the elephant-hunt, so circumstantially described by M. DE LA CAILLE, in his *Journal Historique du Voyage fait au Cap de B. Esperance*, p. 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, as being undertaken by the colonists with lances, can be nothing else but a story, with which somebody imposed upon the good abbé's credulity; and which, when I was at the Cape, several people that knew a little more of the matter, were graceless enough to make a jest of. Neither is there much

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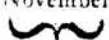
much more probability in the account given by this author, of a misfortune that happened to an elephant-hunter in this country. The story runs thus : Once on a time three brothers, natives of Europe, who had already made a handsome fortune by following this profession, had, each of them being on horseback and armed with a lance, attacked an elephant by turns ; which, however, at length, laid hold on one of the horses that had stumbled, and threw him, together with his rider, up into the air, a hundred paces from him ; then taking up the latter, ran him through the body with one of his large tusks ; upon which the animal held him up with exultation, as it were, thus impaled and shrieking in a horrid manner, to the two other horsemen, his unhappy brothers. It is not extremely probable, that an elephant could throw a horse a hundred paces from him, any more than that a man should be able to cry out and shriek, when he was pierced through, and spitted on the thick tooth of an elephant. But in the abbé's defence it must be remembered, that this ingenious astronomer did not intend to print any historical account of the Cape ; the short remarks he made upon this subject, being not published till after his death.

The elephant's manner of copulating is a point hitherto much contested ; for, notwithstanding the great number there are of them in India, many of which are apt to be in rutt in so high a degree as to run mad in consequence of it, still nobody has ever been able to make them copulate. Several authors have explained the matter in this way ; that the elephants were too modest to suffer any human creature to be witness of their union, (a circumstance

stance which these animals have always reason to be apprehensive of,) though the male and female are both shut up together in the same dark stable. Others again have gone so far as to assert, that the elephants are so shy, as not to suffer any of their own kind to be present at their copulation. And many have endeavoured to explain the continence of these animals in their domesticated state, from the consideration of their magnanimity and pride, supposing them to have too much sense, as well as greatness of soul, to wish to multiply their race, and thus debase it by bringing it into the world in a state of bondage to mankind. But since we know, that elephants, previous to this, suffer themselves to be brought to obey by compulsion, and, indeed, to a greater degree of subjection than almost any other animal, it should seem that we cannot, with any reason, bestow our approbation on this latter opinion.

In all probability, therefore, this repugnance in a point to which nature, on the other side, visibly encourages all her creatures, proceeds from the peculiar make of the elephant, rendering it partly unfit for the performance of these rites; an impediment which nature, perhaps, found it necessary to set up against the too great increase of these gigantic animals; as, were it otherwise, by desolating and laying waste the whole extent of the warmer climates, they would bring on the destruction of their own species. Moreover, as nature does not operate without means, may not the continence of the elephant, whether implanted in it by nature, or whether it be the mere consequence of its form, or other accidental circumstances, may not, I say, this

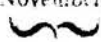
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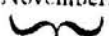
this continence be the means employed by nature for the promotion of the growth and strength of this animal, which are so considerably beyond those of any other? Elephants (excepting some males, which, being either too old or too young to contend with their stronger rivals, are hunted away by them) always keep in herds; so that while some few are, perhaps, prevented from copulating in the early part of life, and consequently from being enervated, it is, probably, as I said before, the peculiar formation of their bodies which, after all, proves the greatest obstacle in this point; for the parts of generation in both sexes are placed about the middle, just under the belly, and those of the male are very short in proportion to its body. From this peculiarity in their formation most authors have, without sufficient foundation concluded, that the females are capable of admitting the embraces of the male in no other manner than lying on their backs. Nay, although no one has ever been able to say, that he had been an eye-witness to this, yet that great naturalist, M. BUFFON, Tom. XI. p. 63, looks upon it as so incontrovertible a point, that he assures us, he should not once have doubted of it, even if the travellers DE FEYNES, TAVERNIERS, and BUS-SYS did not accord with him, which, however, they do in this particular. He therefore objects likewise against Aristotle, and that with so much the greater reason, as this author describes their copulation as differing in no other way from that of other quadrupeds, than merely in the female's lowering her loins on this occasion. Nevertheless, in order to determine this singular question with more certainty, I let slip no opportunity of interrogating

on the subject every elephant-hunter I saw. To this every they all agreed in replying, that with respect to the above-mentioned argument, they were most inclined to approve of the common opinion, if they had not been differently informed by two of their companions, JACOB KOK and MARCUS POTGIETER, who had actually seen elephants copulate. I met, however, only with the former of these hunters, who told me, he had likewise himself been of opinion, that the female was obliged to lie on her back on this occasion; till at length, being out along with POTGIETER hunting of elephants, he had occasion to think otherwise. On a certain spot they came to, they could reckon about eight elephants, which, on account of the small size of their tusks, they took for females, excepting two large ones; which, making several circles round one of these that they took for females, (the only one, perhaps, in rut) frequently, in all probability, by way of caressing her, struck her with their trunks, till at length she threw herself down upon her knees, and keeping the spine of her back in a stiff and extended position, brought her hind feet quite close to her fore feet, or somewhat beyond them; so that she almost, as it were, stood upon her head. In this forced posture they saw her wait a long while together for the caresses of the males, who, in fact, likewise endeavoured to perform the matrimonial rites, but from jealousy hindered each other, whenever either of them began to mount. After two hours had thus elapsed, the patience of our hunters began to tire; and the rather, because, on account of the uneven and stoney nature of the ground, which, however, had

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no wood upon it, and of a river being between them, they could not dare to advance and fire at these animals. I will not dissemble, that though I have not the least occasion to doubt the veracity of my informer, and though what he told me is by no means impossible, I yet find great difficulty in this matter. But on the other hand, the same may be said of M. DE BUFFON's, or the common opinion; first, as they have not been able to confirm it by the testimony of any eye-witness, nor even by any instance of this kind in other quadrupeds properly so called; that is, in such animals as have some degree of affinity with elephants; secondly, as the female's lying on her back can hardly be more convenient for the male, especially as the vagina, according to what I am told, goes from the fore part backwards; thirdly, it is besides well known, that the older elephants, on account of the unwieldiness of their bodies, chiefly stand when they sleep, in order to avoid the trouble and difficulty of lying down and getting up again. TAVERNIER, indeed, in his third volume, informs us, that the same females when in rut make themselves a kind of bed, and lay themselves in it on their backs, at the same time inviting the male elephant by a peculiar cry, &c. but as the author did not see this himself, and that besides it is entirely contrary to the modesty and dislike to copulation for which the female elephants have always been remarked, I cannot do otherwise than leave M. TAVERNIER's relation and different opinions touching the subject, to the test of future experience*.

With

* Compare with the foregoing account that given by WOLF with respect to this subject, in a book just published, called "The Life and Adventures of John Christopher

With regard to the time that the female elephants go with young, I could get no information; but that their cubs suck with their trunks, is confirmed by the observations of many. The female elephants have, moreover, been seen followed by two or three cubs at a time, though of very different sizes, viz. from three to eight or nine feet high; but the largest of them, which consequently was almost full grown, was, nevertheless, to the great astonishment of the huntsman, suckled by the mother. And when it so happens, as is not unfrequently the case, that by a female being shot, an infant-cub has been deprived of its mother, and at the same time been separated from the other elephants, it has endeavoured to associate with the hunters and their horses, in the place of its deceased mother, and followed them wherever they went. With regard to this, several farmers assured me, that they could get some milch-cows from the Hottentots in the way of barter, or take some from home along with them, to rear the elephant's cubs with, in case they had any tolerable encouragement given them by the governor: but, perhaps, in defect of milch-cows, which, in fact, are rather difficult to be had there, they may bring up the young elephants with gruel or porridge, or else with decoctions, or other

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phet Wolf, with his Voyage to Ceylon." This author pretends to have had as much experience in regard to elephants, as the generality of jockies in England with respect to horses; and positively asserts, that the female lies on her back on this occasion, at the same time giving a circumstantial description of the whole process. In the Additions to the History of the Elephants which M. DE BUFFON has given in his Supplement, Tom. III. (ed. in 4to) and Tom. VI. p. 165, (ed. in 12mo) a M. BLES describes the copulation of the elephants in Ceylon, in the same manner as farmer KOK does here.

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preparations of those herbs which it has been remarked, that the elephants principally chuse to feed on.

According to the accounts of authors, and to what I could learn both from the Hottentots and colonists, elephants have no scrotum; but their young sucklings might probably, nevertheless, undergo a certain operation, and thus might be domesticated to greater advantage than those that are now used in India; for by means of this operation, as well as by habit, they would infallibly be less nice in their food, less riotous and unruly, more hardy, and not in the least subject to the fury that sometimes seizes them in the rutting season. But though food seems more difficult to be got for elephants in India, than it possibly could be at the Cape, yet I doubt whether it would be worth while for many private people in that colony to keep them; but it certainly would be very proper for government to endeavour to tame some of these animals, and use them in its service. In India an elephant has an hundred pounds of rice-groats it daily, raw and boiled, and mixed up with butter and sugar; besides, this they give it arrack and pifang, (vid. BUFFON, p. 43;) but as this animal in its savage state gets neither butter nor arrack, this, perhaps, is to the full as unnecessary as to have it served out of golden vessels, and be waited on by noblemen, as is done in Pegu. M. DE BUFFON, p. 143, supposes the consumption of provision by a wild elephant to amount to 150 pounds of grass and roots daily; and in the *Memoires pour servir a l'Hist. des Animaux* we find, that in the last century, an elephant in the menagerie at Versailles, was reckoned to be very sufficiently fed with 80 pounds of bread,

bread, two buckets of soup, and twelve bottles of wine every day. This elephant died in its 17th year, but would, perhaps, have lived longer, if it had not not been fed quite so plentifully; as otherwise the age of an elephant is reckoned 150, 200, and even 300 years, or more. Perhaps a young one brought up at the Cape, would be contented with distiller's wash, grains, cabbage, and other vegetables, together with parboiled barley, malt, or wheat. Wine being not very wholesome for them, might be very well dispensed with; but as by promising it liquors, this animal may be made to exert itself to a greater degree than usual, it might not be amiss to give it a few bottles of wine now and then. However, as wine in this colony is at a very low price, the expence with regard to this article is likewise tolerable: nevertheless, it cannot be denied, but that even at the Cape it must be difficult to find so large an animal as this in provision; but, on the other hand, it must be remembered, what great advantages may be gained by keeping them; for besides that the elephant is extremely docile, sensible, and obedient, its strength is very considerable. It is said to be able with its trunk, to lift two hundred weight on to its shoulders from the ground without the least difficulty, and to carry goods to the amount of three thousand two hundred weight with ease and pleasure. It is likewise able to pull up trees by the roots with its tusks, and break the branches off with its snout (vid. BUFFON, l. c. p. 41, 42;) nay, with this singular instrument it can untie knots with great readiness, open locks, and take up the smallest piece of money from the ground.

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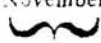
“ But to give an idea (says M. de BUFFON) of the service this animal is capable of doing, it is sufficient to mention, that all the casks, sacks, and packs which are sent from one place to another in the Indies, are conveyed by elephants; that they are capable of carrying burthens on their backs, necks, tusks, and even in their mouths, by means of a rope, one end of which is given to them, and which they hold between their teeth; that being endued with as much intelligence as strength, they take care not to break nor do any damage to the parcels entrusted to their care; that they take them from off the beach into the boats without suffering them to be wet, laying them down gently, and adjusting them in their proper places; that when they have put them into the place where they were ordered, they try with their trunks, whether they stand safe or not; and if a cask is in danger of rolling, they will go and get stones of their own accord to set against it.”

So that it is no wonder, that an animal of such great utility sells in India for nine, or ten, nay, even as high as thirty-six thousand livres (vid. l. c. p. 43.) These animals would be found particularly serviceable in bringing timber from *Houtniquas* and *Groot Vaders-bosch*, and in transporting goods between the CAPE and BAY-FALSO; especially as, according to BUFFON, p. 42. they can with great ease perform a journey of fifteen or twenty leagues a day, and twice as much if you push them on. They make as much way in their walk as a horse does in his usual trot, and in running as a horse does in a gallop, (l. c.) When in some places they are disturbed by the hunters at the



Cape, and find no woods there to shelter them, they do not stop before they get several days journey from the spot where they were. As the elephants in this colony are now become more wary, withdrawing into *Sitficamma* and other woody tracts of country where they are difficult to get at, or far up the country on the north side of *Visch-rivier* and into *Cafferland*, people have lately been less inclined to hunting them than they were for several years back; especially as they are obliged to sell all the ivory to the company, which pays by the pound less by one half for the small tusks than what it does for the large ones: for which reason, the peasants frequently smuggle the small tusks to the Cape in their butter-tubs, with a view to get somewhat better payment for them from the private merchants. Many years back, when the elephants were to be found near the Cape, nine or ten people (several of whom were living when I was there) particularly distinguished themselves by their success in shooting these animals, though not without undergoing some danger and hunger, and the greatest difficulties for many months together; after which, on the other hand, they would in an equal, or perhaps much shorter period of time, as freely and prodigally spend what they had earned in these expeditions, which might be from an hundred to three hundred rixdollars a man. The consequence of this was, that a considerable number of elephants have been extirpated: nevertheless, it is agreed on all hands, that this is a mere nothing in comparison of the number of those that escape; as sometimes one sees them in flocks to the amount of several hundreds or even thousands, though, perhaps, one is not able to shoot

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shoot above one of them: so that they, probably, herd together in infinitely greater numbers about the more remote and unfrequented rivers in the other parts of Africa, where, perhaps, they do not only find an asylum, but even exercise dominion over mankind; while the people that inhabit those parts are without the knowledge of gunpowder, an article of such various utility, the invention of which people are so universally of accord to find fault with, the great use of which, however, in the conservation and civilization of our species (though I have never heard acknowledged by any one) it does not appear to me difficult to perceive; a great many Negroes, for want of powder and fire-arms, being obliged to make their dwellings under-ground, merely on account of the elephants; by which, however, they have often the mortification of seeing their plantations destroyed.

The Hottentots that I took into my service near *Zondagsrivier*, told me, that in a hunting party, some of their acquaintance had got an elephant's cub for their share, which followed them to their *craal*, where they had killed it, and feasted on its flesh. The mother, who probably had at length traced it out by the scent, went at night, when it was dark, to the *craal*, and, by way of revenge, destroyed and turned every thing she found topsy turvy.

Both Negroes and Hottentots lay snares for these animals by means of pits which they make, covering them over neatly afterwards, in places where the elephants are used to pass, but the quantity caught by this method is very inconsiderable. I have also been told, that the Hottentots are sometimes adventurous enough to throw poisoned darts at  
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an elephant, after which they must have the patience to follow the animal several days by the scent, before the poison is capable of spreading over its huge body, and of causing it to fall.

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The Negroes, who, according to certain private information I have received, mutually buy and sell the tail of the elephant at the price of its weight in gold (or, according to M. DE BUFFON, p. 63,) exchange it in the way of barter for two or three slaves, induced by some superstitious notion, have the boldness to cut it off from the body of the living animal. The Hottentots, however, set no more value upon it than they do upon the tails of the buffalo or other animals, which they carry in their girdles, as tokens of their dexterity and success in hunting.

I brought the tail of an elephant home with me. The skin of it being stripped from the tail itself a foot, is two inches broad, and about the thickness of a thin ox's hide. Probably on the body of the animal, when alive, this tail was scarcely thicker than a man's thumb.

From the tip of it, and near it to about a foot higher up, on the outside, grow some stiff smooth hairs, of a glossy black colour, and fourteen or fifteen inches long, in all to the number of about one hundred and eighty, of the thickness of middling packthread or iron wire. These hairs are not hollow, but of a horny nature throughout their whole substance; a great many of them, however, are tough, and will bear to be doubled or tied in knots without breaking, and can scarcely be snapped asunder by the strength of a man, and would therefore be useful for making beads to fishing-hooks; though some of them,

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on the other hand, are very brittle. The greater part are rather flat than round, and many of them very uneven and a little twisted, while some are thicker towards the point. Perhaps these hairs are not to be found upon every elephant, but only upon the large and old ones; as several of my acquaintance, who have seen these animals in the menageries of Peterburgh and Paris, could not recollect having observed these hairs, just as I have been describing them, and shewed to them at the time.

Fossil elephants teeth, perhaps, are seldom to be had at the Cape; probably from their not having dug deep any where thereabouts, and from the Hottentots having long since catched up and carried away such as, after the death of any elephant, may have been to be found near the surface, and likewise from the Caffres being accustomed to make bracelets of such as they can procure. Seafaring men, however, who have visited the eastern coast of Africa, have informed me, that they have ivory there either for barter or for sale, in a much greater quantity than it is probable the barbarous inhabitants could themselves procure by hunting. This likewise accords with what I think I remember to have read in some old writers of voyages. A farmer told me, that when he lived in the district of *Cango* in this colony, he had found some elephants teeth, not in the least damaged, three feet under ground, which he imagined had been buried there in former times by the Hottentots as a treasure. It is likewise possible, that they might have been buried by degrees, and in process of time by the winds raising the sand and dust near them, and afterwards were farther covered over by the mould produced by

by decayed trees and vegetables. As likewise people at the Cape are very little used to pry into the bowels of the earth, there perhaps still lie buried, from the like causes, in several spots thereabouts, a hundred times this quantity of elephants teeth. It has, however, much more puzzled the philosophers with their systems and conjectures to explain, how elephants teeth and bones, as well as the remains of the rhinoceros, should get to the cold latitude of Siberia, where, by the name of relicks of the *Mammoth*, (an imaginary subterraneous animal,) they are dug up in greater quantities than any where else.

In the mean while, till this matter is cleared up, as after the whole is mere conjecture; M. DE BUFFON, for instance, (see his *Supplement*, of late refuted with great solidity by M. MARIVETZ, *Physique du Monde*, Tom. I.) modifying the earth according to his own fancy, and, after having previously brought it to a swelling heat, supposing it first began to cool at Siberia and near the pole, at which time the creation of elephants, &c. took place; others again drowning it in a deluge, in order to have an opportunity of carrying thither by the torrent the rhinoceros and elephant from the warmer climates of Asia: I, for my part, could wish, that these great men with their systems, would allow them quietly to take their own course, and to get to Siberia on their feet. No easier method at least, none more natural, nor more consistent with the constant practice of other migrating animals can possibly be thought of. Who is not, for instance, acquainted with the pertinacious migrations from time to time of the *lemings* (*mus lemmus*,) where they must in the end be frozen and famished to death, in



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case they chance to escape in the mean time, being made a prey to ravenous animals, or being drowned in crossing rivers.

The *mus migratorius seu accedula* of M. PALLAS, is another instance of this disposition in animals to migrate. Of the migration of antilopes, especially of the *spring-boks*, downwards to the *Cape of Good Hope*, I shall have occasion to make mention farther on. The more considerable peregrinations of locusts, indeed, will, perhaps, be of no avail, as examples in the cases of quadrupeds; but those produced above are sufficient to make it probable, that elephants likewise are subject to migrations, either from some motive equally unknown with that of the lemmings, or for certain reasons which offer, as it were, of themselves to our conjectures: for instance, a considerable increase in the number of these animals, their want of food, the inconveniencies attending an unusually dry and hot season, their being molested by mankind, or affrighted by the eruptions of volcanos and earthquakes in their native soil.

I put the too great increase of the elephants in the first place, on account of the almost incredible number one sees at the *Cape of Good Hope*, as well as the many centuries this animal is said to live. If moreover we assume the hypothesis, that the south-east part of Asia, which is at present inhabited by a numerous and prolific race of men, viz. the Chinese, had been as favourable to the increase of elephants, more especially in the first ages of the world, which are supposed to have been the most fertile in all the productions of nature; it will naturally follow, that the numbers of these animals would, some time or other,

other, have received so great an augmentation, that the scarcity of food, and the mutual conflicts between different herds of elephants, must have obliged some of them to seek their subsistence elsewhere.

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Dry and hot summers would naturally have increased this deficiency of food for elephants, and accelerated their removal; and at the same time, for the sake of coolness, determined their course towards the north, and finally to Siberia. I am very ready to believe with natural philosophers, that this latter country was formerly not so cold as it is at present; but cannot suppose it to have been by any means warm enough to harbour elephants, excepting indeed in summer time, as it is well known, that our Lapland summers, though short, are yet extremely warm.

Swarms of elephants having thus, for one or more causes, left their native habitations, and by degrees, or, perhaps, by a hasty and sudden removal, having arrived at a great distance from it, in more severe climates, and been there overtaken by a cold autumn or winter, it would be no wonder, if they had got out of their latitude, and spread themselves still farther into Siberia and the neighbouring countries; and there having perished, have been buried at greater or less depths by earthquakes, by the falling in of steep mountains, and by rivers changing their course, and at length have left to inquisitive posterity evident monuments of their migrations.

A journey of about twenty-five or thirty degrees, or about one thousand one hundred and forty miles, between China and Siberia, cannot be looked upon as long for elephants,

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phants, as I have already observed at p. 334, that these animals can with ease travel to the extent of a degree, or twenty leagues in a day, or sometimes twice as much: and, indeed, according to *L'Afrique de MARMOL*, Tom. I. p. 58, when they are put to it, they will make, in the space of one day, six days journey.

By the account I have given of the elephants at the Cape, I find that I have been induced to dwell with some proximity on the history of this animal. I would therefore wish, in order to make it the more complete, to quote from different naturalists and writers of travels some remarkable passages, which tend greatly to illustrate the understanding and disposition of the elephant.

“ In India they were once employed in launching of ships. One was directed to force a very large vessel into the water; the work proved superior to his strength; his master, with a sarcastic tone, bid the keeper take away this lazy beast, and bring another in his stead; the poor animal instantly repeated his efforts, fractured his scull, and died on the spot.” (PENNANT’S *Hist. of Quad.* p. 155, from LUDOLPH. *Com. in Hist. Æthiop.*)

“ In Delli an elephant, passing along the streets, put his trunk into a taylor’s shop, where several people were at work; one of them pricked the end of it with his needle. The beast passed on, but in the next dirty puddle filled his trunk with water, returned to the shop, and spurning every drop among the people who had offended him, spoilt their work.” (PENN. *l. c.* from HAMILTON’S *History of the EAST-INDIES.*)

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“ An elephant in *Adfmeer*, which often passed through the bazar or market, as he went by a certain herb-woman, always received from her a mouthful of greens. At length he was seized with one of his periodical fits of rage, broke from his fetters, and running through the market, put the crowd to flight; and among others this woman, who in haste forgot a little child she had brought with her. The animal, recollecting the spot where his benefactress was wont to sit, took up the infant gently in his trunk, and placed it in safety on a stall before a neighbouring house.” (PENN. from TERRY's *Voyage*.)

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“ Another in *Dekan* not having received the arrack it had been promised by its *cornac* or governor, by way of revenge killed him. The *cornac*'s wife, who was an eye-witness to this, took her two children and flung them before the elephant, saying, Now you have destroyed their father, you may as well put an end to their lives and mine. It instantly stopped, relented, took the greatest of the children, placed him on its neck, adopted him for its *cornac*, and never afterwards would permit any body else to mount it.” (BUFFON, Tom. XI. p. 77, from the Marquis DE MONTMIRAIL.

If the elephant is of a revengeful disposition, it is likewise equally remarkable for gratitude. A soldier at Pondicherry, who was accustomed, whenever he received the portion that came to his share, to carry a certain quantity of it to one of these animals, having one day drank rather too freely, and finding himself pursued by the guards, who were going to take him to prison, took refuge under the elephant's body and fell asleep. In vain did the

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guard try to force him from this asylum, as the elephant protected him with his trunk. The next morning the foldier, recovering from his drunken fit, shuddered with horror to find himself stretched under the belly of this huge animal. The elephant, which, without doubt, perceived the man's embarrassment, caressed him with his trunk, in order to inspire him with courage, and make him understand, that he might now depart in safety. (BUFFON, p. 78.)

A painter was desirous of drawing the elephant which was kept in the menagerie at Versailles in an uncommon attitude, which was that of holding his trunk raised up in the air with his mouth open. The painter's boy, in order to keep the animal in this posture, threw fruit into his mouth; but as the lad frequently deceived him, and made an offer only of throwing him the fruit, he grew angry; and, as if he had known, that the painter's intention of drawing him was the cause of the affront that was offered him, instead of revenging himself on the lad, he turned his resentment on the master, and taking up a quantity of water in his trunk, threw it on the paper on which the painter was drawing, and spoiled it. (*Mem. pour servir a l'Hist. des Animaux, par Messieurs de l'Acad. des Sciences, Part III.*)

On the 4th we came to *Leeuwen-bosch*, a little wood so called, on a river of the same name, from the circumstance of its having been formerly in a peculiar manner inhabited by lions. At this time there lived here a slave of each sex, for the purpose of tending a few cattle belonging to a farmer, and of preserving the corn-fields from the in-  
loads.



roads of the gazels. The slave's hut composed the whole of the buildings on the premises, besides an open shed, under which we took our night's lodging.

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On the 5th we entered into *Sitsicamma*, where we visited the three first farmers that lay in our road. As in this province there were various unknown plants, and no naturalist had been there before us, we staid there till the 12th, when we took our departure, and set off for *Zee-koe*, or *Sea-cow-river*; and finally, from the 15th to the conclusion of the month, took up our lodging in a farm situated at the lower or southern ferry-place of this river.

On the eastern side of *Leeuwen-bosch* the country may be said to be a champain or open country, the long range of hills, by the side of which we had travelled all the way from the Cape, terminated here, or else running on to the north. This tract of land seems to come under the character I have given of the *Sweet* grafs-fields and plains towards the shore. The same may be said of the hither part of *Sitsicamma*, which, especially near the shore, was extremely low and sandy.

The *myrica cerifera* is likewise to be found here, as well as at the *Duyven*, or Doves, as they are called at the Cape. The greenish wax-like and tallowy substance, with which at a certain time of the year the berries are covered, and which is probably formed by insects, being used by the inhabitants for making candles, which burn rather better than those prepared from tallow.

On the plains I saw numerous herds of the *antilope dorcas*, (or *hartbeest*, vide Plate I. Vol. II.) and likewise saw the *gnometie*, or little gazel, I spoke of at p. 279.

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The interior part of *Sitsicamma* is said to consist of an impenetrable forest. Two Hottentots, who wished to penetrate through it from the *Houtniquas* side, are said to have been obliged, after having made a fruitless attempt during ten or twelve days, to turn back again, happy to have reached home in safety. They perceived a great number of elephants, with several broad beaten tracks made by these animals, but which extended only from north to south, so as to terminate and lose themselves in thick woods either near the shore, or at the range of mountains which separates *Sitsicamma* from *Houtniquas*. Buffaloes are likewise found there in great numbers.

*Kromme-rivier* itself at its mouth, or where it empties itself into the sea, is very broad and deep; so that ships might lie at anchor in it very commodiously, if the sea-breezes and the surge, which, probably, are every day varying the shape of this coast, had not blocked up the mouth of it.

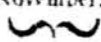
*Zeekoe-rivier*, which in several places had been deep enough to harbour a great number of those large animals called *sea-cows*, (*hippopotamus amphibius*, Plate IV. Vol. II.) from which it derives its name, we now found so much choaked up with sand near the sea-side, that we could go over it dry-shod.

In *Kromme-rivier*, the farmer that lived on the spot had brought those animals to be so familiar, that I saw them swimming up and down the river in broad day-light, and often stick their nostrils up out of the water, in order to blow themselves or take breath.

On the heights near the upper farm on *Zeekoe-rivier* grew the *bread-tree* (*brood-boom*) of the Hottentots, discovered.

vered by Professor THUNBERG, and of which he has given a description and drawing by the name of *Cycas Caffra*, in the *Nova Acta Reg. Soc. Scient. Ups.* Vol. II. p. 283. Tab. V. The pith or marrow (medulla) which abounds in the trunk of this little palm, is collected and tied up in dressed calf or sheep-skins, and then buried in the earth for the space of several weeks, till it becomes sufficiently mellow and tender to be kneaded up with water into a paste, of which they afterwards make small loaves or cakes, and bake them under the ashes. (For a fuller description of this vide l. c.) Other Hottentots, not quite so nice, nor endued with patience enough to wait this tedious method of preparing it, are said to dry and roast the marrow, and afterwards make a kind of brown frumenty of it. This *cycas* grows likewise near the *Drie Fonteins* in *Lange-kloof*.

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In all *Sitsicamma* there were but eight farms. Among other rare and curious vegetables, it is said there is a kind of fig-tree in the woods here, which is of a lofty gigantic growth, with undivided leaves; and the fruit of it is as good, if not better, than that produced from those which are cultivated in our gardens.

At *Slangen-rivier*, two years before my arrival in these parts, a ship is said to have sent a boat ashore, the crew of which filled several casks with water; and afterwards, going directly on board the ships, set sail before any of the colonists could come up to speak with them. Having had an opportunity of taking observations on, and of laying down on my map a long tract of the coast between *Sitsicamma* and *Zondags-rivier*, and being obliged to bestow names on two remarkable points projecting from it, I

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thought proper to name them after two experienced Swedish navigators, who at the same time have deserved the approbation of the public by the charts they have given of the African coast, I mean the Captains EKEBERG and BURTZ. The former has given the world a good chart and description of *Table* and *False-bays*. The other in his later voyages has added to the observations made by the former gentleman upon these places, and has extremely well laid down the coast between *Mossel-bay* and the *Cape*; during the period that, being on his return from China in the Swedish East-Indiaman, the *Stockholm Slott*, he had the misfortune to be detained for a considerable length of time by contrary winds, in consequence of his ship's having lost her rudder. Captain BURTZ likewise kindly communicated to me the views of the country as they are seen from the sea, which are placed at the top of my map.

The little island which I have placed near POINT EKEBERG I have, in fact, never seen myself, but thought it right, at all events, to lay down on that spot, as Captain BURTZ was induced by an old Portuguese chart, that gives a tolerable idea of the coast, to conclude, that the bay called in it *Bay-constant*, where there is a little island near the point, is the same inlet that I have laid down near *Kromme-rivier*; so that, being on shore, I possibly might not be situated so as to see the island distinct from the continent.

Here it is likewise necessary to remark, that all the maps and charts of the eastern coast of Africa hitherto known, are faulty in making the extent of it to the eastward much less than it really is, and than I found it to be in my journey over land. I am likewise sensible, that  
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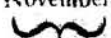
many navigators have, in the course of their voyages, taken notice of the same error ; and among them Captain Cook, at the time when, being on his return from his first voyage round the globe in the *Endeavour*, he fell in with this coast unawares. Moreover, during our stay near *Sea-cow-river*, a ship was seen one evening under full sail making directly for the shore, and did not tack about till she was almost too near. I afterwards learnt at the Cape, that this was a Dutch vessel ; and that from the chart she carried with her, she had not expected to come upon the coast nearly so soon, nor had she perceived it till just before she had tacked about. My host, who, while the vessel was hovering about the coast, had rode along with me to a part of the shore higher than the rest, could distinguish the ship's crew from thence ; but it seems that none of them saw us, probably on account of some mist or exhalation proceeding from the land.

I remember to have read somewhere in an English Magazine an account of the *Doddington*, an English East-Indiaman, having suffered shipwreck on an island or rock situated in 33 deg. or, more probably, 32  $\frac{1}{2}$  S. lat. near the eastern coast of Africa. This account mentions, that two persons rowed in a skiff from the wreck to the continent, where, as soon as they arrived, which was towards the evening, wearied out with hard labour, they turned the boat topsy turvy, and crept under it in order to go to rest ; notwithstanding which they were in great danger from the wild beasts, (probably the *hyenas* or *tiger-wolves*) which endeavoured to squeeze themselves in under the boat in order to get at them. The next morning they met with  
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the wild inhabitants of the country, (in all likelihood the *Bosbies-men*) who took from them a brace of pistols and their clothes; though after a little consideration, and on the sailors earnestly entreating them on their knees, they suffered them to keep their boat and oars, and return to their disastrous island, as to an asylum; whence they at length, together with some more of the crew, proceeded in a bark made out of the wreck to the northward, and came to a nation that abounded in cattle and elephants teeth, (probably the *Caffres*) where they were very kindly received, &c. On recollecting myself, and comparing this account with one I had from the colonists, it appears to me that this ship was wrecked right before the mouth of *Zondags-rivier*; as about twenty or thirty years ago, a smoke was seen proceeding from the island situated there. A farmer of the name of *VEREIRA*, who at that time was a hunting of elephants in this district, had bought of the *Hottentots* a pistol and a piece of red cloth, which they said they had got of some people who had come to them from sea. The colonists likewise informed me, that a year after this event, a dogger was sent from the Cape, at the request of the English East-India company, in order to search for the above-mentioned islands, and the goods that were left there; but that the captain came back, as they thought on purpose, without executing his commission. It perhaps would still pay for the labour to build a boat at *Zondags-rivier*, with a view to search for these small islands; but in order for people coming from the sea to find them, it would be necessary that somebody should have previously observed the true latitude on the continent directly opposite

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sight to them; after which, by making signals by fires, the same place might easily be discovered. I often saw the above-mentioned islands from *Point Padron* in the harbour of *Krakekamma*.

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The farm near *Sea-cow-river*, where we took up our head quarters from the 15th to the 30th, belonged to an honest old colonist, by nation, if I remember right, a Hessian. He was a sensible, active, ingenious man, and consequently had got his farm into the best order; upon which he had built many more tenements, than we had seen on any farm we had hitherto visited in the whole course of our journey. The main body of the house alone consisted of six rooms. He had a great number of Hottentot servants, as well as cattle; but had laid the foundation of his fortune by hunting elephants. Having been a great traveller himself in his youth, he wished to render us every service that lay in his power; offering to assist us with a good Hottentot guide, who was at the same time an excellent shot, as soon as he heard that we intended to expose ourselves to all the dangers and hardships that might arise in the course of an expedition of one hundred leagues, between that place and *Bruntjes Hoogte*, for the sake of botanizing and hunting. But, unluckily for us, the corn-harvest was now approaching, it beginning on the 23d of this month; besides which, many of his Hottentot labourers were laid up with a bilious fever.

I was therefore obliged to wait till the harvest was over, and to forward it with all the assistance my Hottentots could give. In the mean time he delegated to me the province of attending and curing the sick, and that with the greater confi-

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confidence, as I had just before made two female Malabar slaves belonging to a neighbour of his, find their legs again, who, out of mere idleness, had kept their beds for several days under pretence of illness. Three slaves of the same nation, likewise belonging to this neighbour of his, also recovered by my assistance from a bilious fever; one of them, who had but just before fallen ill, was cured by a strong decoction of tobacco, the only emetic I just then had at hand. She bore, however, several tea-cups full of this disgusting liquor before it operated. The other two, who had lain above twelve days, at last got over the disorder by an alteration in their diet; but two other slaves, who were likewise Malabars, had just before died here of the same fever. A violent bleeding at the nose was said to have supervened a short time before death, and immediately after it the gall gushed out in great quantities through their nostrils; a circumstance, to which the assistants, very injudiciously keeping the fresh air from them with the greatest care, by covering them up with the bed-clothes and shutting the doors quite close, did not a little contribute.

With the Christians the disorder was at the height on the third day, but with the slaves and Hottentots on the fifth or seventh.

I observed that the Hottentots complained much of a pain in their heads and necks, and sometimes in their shoulders. This pain vanished and moved downwards into their arms and legs, (so that they were not able to stand) as soon as the disorder changed for the better, which mostly happened after the administration of emetics. In a Christian girl the crisis came on with violent pains in the feet.

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The pulse was, it must be owned, tolerably high; those that tried venesection, however, obtained no relief from it, and were, notwithstanding, troubled with a bleeding at the nose in the course of the disorder. The whites of the eyes remained yellow a long while, excepting in such as had vomited sufficiently, and by that means a metastasis of the pains was made from the neck to the legs and feet. The sick Hottentots belonging to my last host JACOB KOK, who had been just captured, and, by passing into his service, had made too sudden a transition from their savage manner of living, bore very dangerous doses before they could be made to vomit. For this purpose, besides the tobacco, I made use of *vinum emeticum, seu aqua benedicta rulandi*, which I prepared according to the Dispensary of the London college for 1762, viz. two ounces of *croc. antim. lot.* in a bottle of common Cape wine.

Though sixty drops of this was sufficient to cause a pretty violent vomiting in a Hottentot girl of fifteen years of age, brought up from her infancy among the Christians, and likewise in several adults, that made use of it at the Cape, yet four ounces had not the least effect on three Hottentot girls of about the same age, whom I had under my care all at one time; I was obliged, therefore, to force them to swallow pieces of shag tobacco in substance, and to drink several basons of the tobacco decoction, before I could bring them to vomit.

To two slender and diminutive youths, who were newly captured, I gave, by degrees, several spoonfuls of the *aqua benedicta* above-mentioned, till each of them had taken about two ounces of it, after which it began to operate. A youth of about twenty years of age, who had been very

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lately caught, took eleven grains of *gummi gutta*, but did not seem to feel the least effect from it; upon which I gave him, as well as to an old Hottentot newly captured, forty and above years of age, (both of them lean and slender) several tea-cups full of the *aqua benedicta*, which was now very thick and full of sediment, taking care at the same time to shake up all the crocus of antimony from the bottom of the bottle. At first I trembled myself for the consequences which might ensue from such large doses, but found that they had very little effect, till I let the patient swallow, all at once, a foot at least in substance of tobacco cut in pieces, and drink several large basons full of a strong infusion of tobacco, and at the same time swallow down the tobacco of which the infusion was made. Nay, I was obliged into the bargain, to empty Mr. IMMELMAN's snuff-box into the throat of the younger of them, in order to encourage the vomiting: the operation was for all that very moderate in this case; otherwise, the more bile the patients vomited, the sooner they got well, viz. in the space of about two or three days.

A fat bouncing Hottentot woman, who had been several years with the Christians, either feigned or fancied herself sick. I have great reason to believe, that she pretended to be so, in order to have the pleasure of swallowing the pieces of tobacco, and the tobacco decoction, which I so liberally distributed on this occasion. Here it must be observed, that I placed the sick in the shade near the front door, and administered the medicines myself, in order to be able to judge the better of their operation; but must confess, that I was amazed to find these people's stomachs require such large doses of so bitter and strong a poison, as is tobacco.

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Though, in fact, it is to the full as astonishing, to see the colonists, particularly such of them as have been bred in India, eat greedily of so pungent and fiery a substance as raw capficum, just as if it was a piece of bread or a sweet-meat. As a preservative for the health, I made every body in the family take a spoonful of vinegar, with fresh rue, fasting; after which, nobody was attacked with the disorder.

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On the 29th, the Hottentots in the neighbourhood asked the permission of their masters to have a ball and dance, in compliment to my Hottentots, who had rendered them the essential service of assisting them in getting in their corn, and were now shortly going away. Their request was granted, and as soon as the moon began to shine, the ball was opened al fresco. About twenty persons of both sexes joined in this dance, which was kept up till past midnight with the greatest spirit; and, indeed, I may say, without the least intermission. The ball, however, did not finish with this; but they went afterwards under cover, and, sitting all round in a ring, kept swinging the upper part of their bodies backwards and forwards with a slow and even motion, singing all the while in a dull monotonous manner. A dressed skin was stretched over a kettle, on which they drummed with their fingers, in unison with the voice.

The Hottentot woman, who had made or fancied herself sick, in order to get some of the tobacco decoction, seemed to be the principal person that had the direction of the dancing, as well as the music, vocal and instrumental. Should the reader wish for a more particular description of this dance, I can say little else concerning it, than that

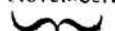
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it is not to be described, at least not in all its different figures and movements. Neither, indeed, do I conceive, that it was confined to any particular rules; the chief intention seeming to be, to put the body into motion: for which purpose, every body hopped and jumped about both by themselves, and occasionally with each other; and doubtless with the same intentions they wreathed, twined, and twisted their bodies into every droll and uncommon attitude their fancy led them to. Though, perhaps, a Hottentot might be induced to form the same opinion of our most fashionable dances. In the mean time it is possible, that the Hottentot dance I have been endeavouring to give some idea of, was not totally without art in its kind, as my Hottentots from *Buffeljagts-rivier* said they had never seen such a one before, and that they were not capable of joining in it. Our host and hostess, who likewise looked on for a time, pointed out to me, however, two of their country dances; one was called the baboon-dance, in which they imitated baboons or apes: this, as well as the others, was distinguished by a thousand grimaces, the performers now and then, moreover, going upon all fours. The other was called the bee-dance, in imitation of a swarm of bees. In this every performer now appeared to make a buzzing noise. In this manner the ball continued till day-break, when the greater part of the dancers were obliged to return to their daily labours.

I likewise at this time saw an instance of the polygamy practised by the Hottentots, a practice, however, which is said to be very rare among them. An old Hottentot had married two wives, and seemed in a manner very proud of the

the possession of them, as doing credit to his manhood. I was informed, however, that the ladies very often quarrelled, and not unfrequently came to blows; and that when their spouse went to part them, they used both with one accord to fall upon him, and wreak their vengeance upon his hair.—In these times, when the Hottentots for the greater part are slaves, it is not to be wondered at, that their manners are subject to changes. In the mean while I could not get any intelligence to be depended upon, how far polygamy had been formerly more or less practised. The marriage ceremonies among the Boshies-men, are said to be no other than such as are inevitably necessary and agreeable to nature, viz. the agreement of the parties and consummation.

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My host and hostess, who twenty years before had lived nearer to the Cape, viz. at *Groot Vaders Bosch*, told me they believed the report, that a master of the ceremonies performed the matrimonial rites, by the immediate conspersion of the bride and bridegroom with his own water, was not without foundation; but that this was practised only within their kraals, and never in the presence of any of the colonists. My Hottentots, whom I frequently questioned upon this subject, chose neither to confess the fact, nor absolutely to deny it, so that probably this usage is still retained in some kraals.

That the funeral ceremonies are alike with every different tribe of Hottentots, we are well assured, as likewise that they are conducted in the following manner. The deceased is thrust either naked or with his cloak on, into some hole in the earth, or subterraneous passage, where they generally

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rally become a prey to some wild beast. However, they usually stuff a large bundle of brush-wood, or bushes, into the aperture of this hole or passage.

I was very assiduous in my enquiries, in how far it was true, that the Hottentots secluded from society such as were old and helpless. The only person that could give me any instance of this custom being practised, was my host. In his younger days, being out a hunting in *Krakekamma*, in company with one VANDER WAT, with whom I was likewise acquainted, they observed in the extensive desert plains of that district, a little narrow slip enclosed with bushes and brambles. Their curiosity being excited, they rode up to it, and found within it an old blind female Hottentot, who, at first, as soon as she heard the Christians coming, endeavoured to crawl away and hide herself; but afterwards made her appearance, though with a very sour aspect: she confessed, however, that she had been left to her fate by the inhabitants of her clan. But neither did she desire nor receive any assistance from these Christians, nor, indeed, had they made any enquiries whether this was done with or against her consent.

Calling afterwards at the craal she belonged to, all the information they got there was, that the old woman had actually been left there in that manner by them. With respect to any conveniencies she might have about her, they could perceive nothing, but a trough which contained a little water.

Another custom, no less horrid, which has hitherto been remarked by no one, but which I had fully confirmed to me, is, that the Hottentots are accustomed to inter, in case of

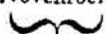
the mother's death, children at the breast alive. That very year, and on the very spot, where I then dwelt, just before my arrival, there had been the following instance of it :

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A Hottentot woman at this farm had died of the epidemic fever. The other Hottentots, who did not imagine that they should be able, neither did they chuse to rear the female infant she had left behind her, had already wrapt it in a sheep-skin alive, in order to bury it, together with its deceased mother; when they were prevented from accomplishing their purpose, by some of the farmers in the neighbourhood. The child, however, died soon after of convulsions. My hostess, who at this time was rather in years, informed me, that about sixteen or seventeen years before, she had lighted upon a Hottentot infant in the district of *Zwellendam*, which was bundled up in skins in the manner above-mentioned, and tied fast to a bush, near where the child's mother had been newly buried. The infant had so much life left, as to be in a condition to be recovered. It was afterwards brought up by Mrs. Kok's parents, but died at the age of eight or nine years. From several instances of this kind related to me by others it follows, that children are never interred alive, or exposed, but when their nearest relatives, who are their natural guardians, are dead: so that I think we may conclude from this, that even superannuated people are never exposed, but in case of their having no children nor near relations to take care of them: and as these cases may occur but seldom, it is not to be wondered at if this practice should come to be less in vogue, and if consequently

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we should not so often hear of it. In the mean time, whatsoever it be that has given rise to this custom, yet we that have the happiness of being in a more civilized state, have certainly not without reason accused the Hottentots of inhumanity on this occasion. Still, however, they deserve rather to be pitied, than to be reviled and loaded with reproaches on this account; for on reflecting a little, we should, perhaps, find, that too many persons, even in our boasted civilized societies, are left almost destitute and unassisted; or, perhaps, are entirely abandoned to their dreadful fate. Indeed I fear, that if we were fairly and strictly to compare the failings and crimes of the Hottentots with those of civilized nations, the issue would turn out very little to the honour of either, and still less to that of the latter. And in fact, if we impartially consider the conduct of mankind in a general view, we shall not, perhaps, find great reason to flatter it: neither, indeed, would this be the way essentially to serve our fellow-creatures, as self-love and flattery, it is allowed on all hands, renders us dangerous enemies to ourselves; and the case is just the same with regard to mankind in general.

On the 30th, or the day after the ball, we prepared for our departure. Our host, who had hitherto entertained us in a remarkably hospitable manner, was even more than commonly careful to provide us with every thing that he thought we should want on our journey. With this view, he lent me a couple of good serviceable draught-oxen, in the place of two of mine; one of which could not be made use of, on account of its having been bit by a serpent, nor the other by reason of its being in a very
bad

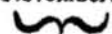
bad condition. He likewise, as I mentioned before, complimented us with his best Hottentot, whose name was PLATTJE, and whom he had always taken with him himself, in several hunting parties he had made up the country, to carry his arms for him, and assist in killing the game.

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Our hostess, who was very well apprized that we should not often find a table ready spread for us in a desert of an hundred *uurs* in length, and that game did not always abound there, made up an excellent viaticum for us, consisting of a box full of biscuits, ten pounds of butter, and a large wether cut in pieces and salted in its own skin; which, after being taken off, was tied up again at each end with the meat in it, so as to serve for a sack. The rest of our provision consisted of two loaves of coarse bread, together with a bag of flour for my Hottentots, who at this time were three in number.

During our abode here we found a vast number of insects; and many species which we had not seen before. Among all these, what most excited my admiration was a *termes*. On a warm day, about the conclusion of the month, (I forgot to set down precisely the day) there came out of the earth in several places thousands of white insects, in shape somewhat resembling ants. Some of these were about half an inch long, and had each of them four wings, with which they soon began to fly about, and swarm round each other in the air like *ephemeræ*, though they were not observed to copulate. When caught, their wings came off remarkably easily, especially if they were not taken the greatest care of. Their bodies were milk-white, and extremely soft, so that one could easily squeeze a white liquor out of them. During this,

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I likewise saw thousands of smaller insects or ants, but without wings, making their way out of the holes the former had just made in the earth. These seemed very easily enraged, and were apt to bite; the heads were likewise larger in proportion, and their jaws were more pointed and sharper than those of the former. I collected a sufficient quantity of both sorts, in order to present them to my entomological friends, and particularly the largest of them to Baron DE GEER, who has adopted them, in Tom. VII. of his *Memoirs*, p. 47. Plate XXXVIII. Fig. 1—4. by the name *termes Capense*. This illustrious author has the greater reason to call them by the name of termes, as he himself, as well as Mr. FRISH, has discovered a termes with the rudiments of wings.

It was at the distance of a mile and a half from the farm, on rather a woody spot, that I discovered the *termes Capense*, and observed them piercing the ground in several places, and with great impatience making their way through the surface. As I was at that time taken up in attending my Hottentot patients, the greater part of these animals disappeared by the next morning, when I got back to the place of their transformation; so that I could make no farther observation on the œconomy of these insects, which, in all probability, is highly wonderful. Neither can I say with any certainty, whether this *termes Capensis* be the same species with the white ants, (as they are called) which build and inhabit those dark-grey hillocks of earth from three to four feet high, which I mentioned before, that the fugitive Boshies-men in *Lange-kloof* frequently explored to no manner of purpose: for several times, when I had an

opportunity, or gave myself time to break into them, (and that not without some trouble) in order to examine them, I had the mortification to find the birds fled. But in the ant-hills or clumps of earth of about a foot high, which I explored on the mountains in *Falfe-bay*, I found a grey-coloured kind of termes, or, as it is there called, pismire, somewhat different from the white unwinged ones described above: but this was lost in my collection while I was absent on my voyage round the world, so that I cannot with any precision determine to what species it belonged. The same disagreeable accident happened to me with respect to another very diminutive species of termes, or white ant, which I got a sight of twice in the road between *Bosbies-mans-rivier* and *Visch-rivier*. This termes was not greater than our *termes pulsatorium*, or death-watch; and, as well as I can remember, was very like the white ant of the East-Indies, or the *termes fatale*. Contrary to all expectation, these made their way out of the hard ground, coming to be our guests in considerable numbers, whenever we happened to set our butter-tub, or any thing fat or greasy belonging to our provender-chest on the ground.

The winged ants first-mentioned (*termes Capense*) my host had seen in a much greater quantity; he likewise informed me, that the *Bosbies-men* and other Hottentots, who were obliged to seek their own food themselves, soon grew fat and in good condition by eating these insects. For this purpose, they were said sometimes to boil them in their earthen vessels, in the manner they usually did grasshoppers; and at other times to eat them raw, as I at that moment saw my host's Hottentots do with respect to some few which

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flew, or rather were driven by the wind into their master's grounds; where the people being then busy in getting in their corn, neither could, nor, indeed, as they had plenty of other food, did they need to spend their time in catching these insects. As my host's only son likewise tasted one of these winged ants, I was induced to follow his example. It seemed to me merely to feel cold in the mouth, without any particular taste; though with greens it would, probably, make as good a dish as seago, or crabs, those scorpion-like insects, which we have accustomed ourselves to eat in Europe. In one part of *Carniolia* near the Danube, where they are used to collect *ephemerae* by the cart-load for the purpose of manuring their land, an insect-eating race like the Hottentots would, doubtless, make as good a feast upon them, as they do in Africa upon ants and locusts. Whether the most mischievous species of *termes*, the *termes fatale*, Syst. Nat. or, as they are called, the white ants of the East and West-Indies, whether these naturally inhabit the Cape, I cannot determine with any degree of certainty; though it has been often asserted, that the white ants sometimes come thither with the East-India ships, and nestle themselves in there for some time. Mr. IMMELMAN's parents told me, that a brick floor, laid upon the bare earth in the lower part of the house, sunk all at once to the extent of about four feet square and two feet deep: and it was found, that this unexpected mine proceeded from some white ants, which had made their nests beneath the flooring, and from thence likewise had begun to form avenues to the pantry. However, they destroyed at once the whole colony of these unwelcome guests, by  
pouring



pouring boiling water upon them. Otherwise people are wont, according to the accounts I have received from those who have been in the East-Indies, to drive away these insects with petrolæum, and other strong-scented oils. Rotten fish, which are said to be as bad as poison to pismires, would likewise, probably, clear the houses of the *termes*. Though, perhaps, the strongest poison for these insects is arsenic; as a small pinch of it only strewed in any place in the vicinity of them will, according to M. CHANVELON, in his *Voyage to Martinico*, kill many millions of them in a few hours.

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The damages caused by the white ants, as they are called, (which, however, perhaps, consist of many different species) may be pretty well guessed at from what has been said already. It, however, deserves likewise to be mentioned, that merchandize to an infinite amount are destroyed yearly both in the East and West-Indies by these vermin. In the space of a few hours they are able to eat into a chest, and, as it were, cut to pieces all the linen, silk, clothes, and books in it; on which account, people in these countries are obliged to have their trunks and merchandize slung upon ropes. It is likewise, perhaps, capable of multiplying its species more than any other insect; for Professor LINNÆUS very kindly shewed me a female, which he had just before received from the East-Indies, and which was an inch and a half long, and of an extreme bulk, and consequently capable of laying millions of eggs.

Though I could not learn whether the more noxious species of white ants are natives of the Cape or not, yet it is very well known, that Africa, at least that part of it

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near Senegal, is pestered with them. In so short a space of time as between the evening and midnight, they have been known to form a vault or covered way of earth or clay, which they have gone in quest of and prepared themselves, as other observers have remarked. This arched way reached from the floor of M. ADANSON's chamber to the head of his bed, (see his *Voyage au Senegal*.) They moreover not only began to cut his sheet and mattress in pieces, but even had the impudence to fall foul on M. ADANSON himself. A Hottentot with a good appetite, would here have had a fair opportunity of putting in execution the *lex talionis* \*.


The locusts, likewise, sometimes afford a high treat to the more unpolished and remote hordes of the Hottentots; when, as sometimes happens, after an interval of eight, ten, fifteen, or twenty years, they make their appearance in incredible numbers. At these times they come from the north, migrating to the southward, and do not suffer themselves to be impeded by any obstacles, but fly boldly on, and are drowned in the sea whenever they come to it. The females of this race of insects, which are most apt to migrate, and are chiefly eaten, are said not to be able to fly; partly by reason of the shortness of their wings, and partly on account of their being heavy and distended with eggs; and shortly after they have laid these in the sand they are said to die. It is particularly of these that the Hottentots are said to make a brown coffee-coloured soup, which, at the same time, acquires from the eggs a

\* In Vol. LXXI. of the Phil. Transf. may be seen a more circumstantial and complete account of these insects, by Mr. Smeathman.

fat

fat and greasy appearance. Several different people agreed in giving me this account, and at the same time informed me, that the Hottentots were highly rejoiced at the arrival of these locusts, though they are sure to destroy every bit of verdure on the ground: but the Hottentots make themselves ample amends for this loss, by falling foul on the animals themselves, eating them in such quantities as, in the space of a few days, to get visibly fatter and in better condition than before. My host in particular informed me, that being one locust-year on a hunting expedition on the other side of *Visch*-river, the Hottentots in those parts explained the abundance of these insects as proceeding from some great *master conjuror* a good way to the northward, having removed a stone from the mouth of a certain deep pit, out of which he had let loose these animals, in order to be food for them. The intentions of nature, however, in the production of locusts, is hardly answered, by their sometimes serving to fatten a few Hottentots. But I over-ran too hastily the very extensive tracts composing the southern promontory of this quarter of the globe, to be able to point out with any degree of certainty, any other uses accruing from the migration of the locusts thither in such great numbers. I will venture, however, to throw out a conjecture, which, at least, can do no harm; namely, that according to all accounts, wherever the swarms of locusts alight, the vegetables are sometimes entirely consumed and destroyed, appearing as if they had been burnt up by fire. Perhaps, the use of these creatures is the same with that of fire, which latter is applied by the colonists and Hottentots to the purpose of clearing their

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their fields from weeds. The ground is, indeed, by this means, in both cases, stripped quite bare; but merely in order that it may shortly afterwards appear in a much more beautiful dress, being, in this case, decked with many kinds of annual grasses, herbs, and superb lilies, which had been choaked up before by shrubs and perennial plants. These last, moreover, which, throughout the whole of the preceding year, were hard, dry, withered, and half dead, of a pale yellow colour, harsh, and unfit for fodder, have now an opportunity of springing up again, so as to produce with their young shoots and leaves, pastures adorned with a delightful verdure for the use of the cattle and game.

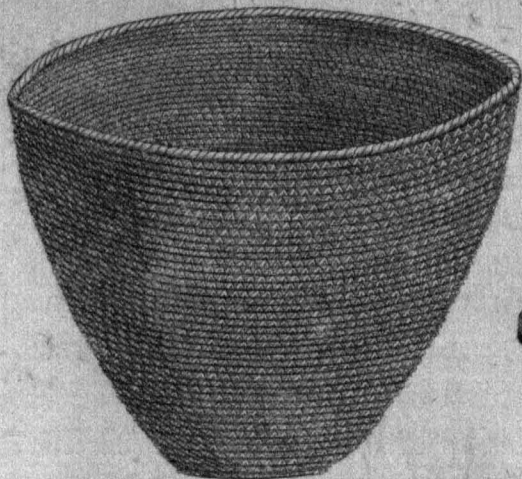
The weather in this month was warmer than in any of the preceding, especially towards the conclusion of it, when we quitted *Lange-kloof*, and *Kromme-rivier*, and came to the plains by the sea-side.

The thermometer generally rose at about eight o'clock in the morning from 65 to 70 in the shade, and in the shade at noon it was sometimes as high as 80.

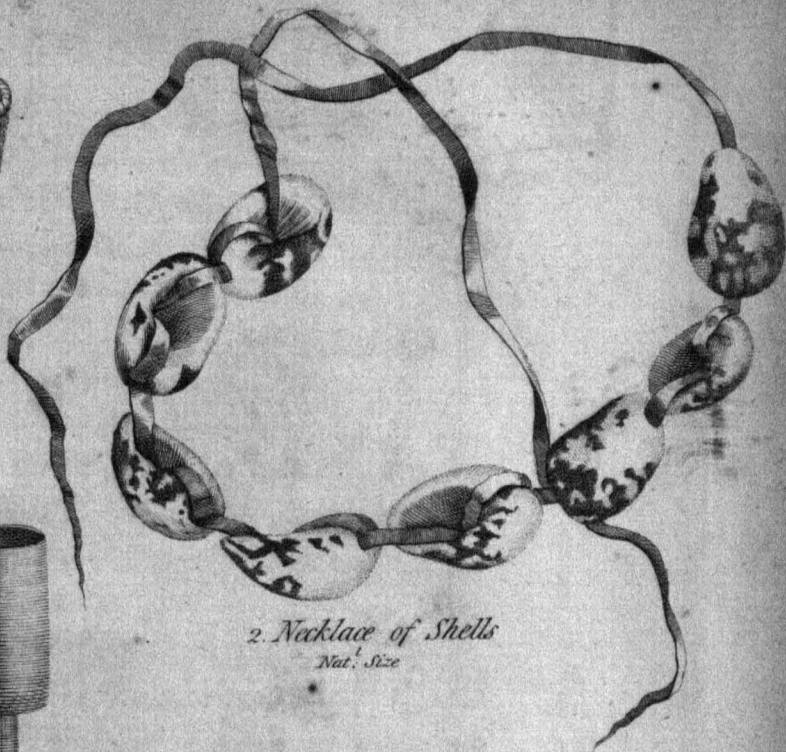
The rainy days were the 11th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 26th; sometimes with a south-east, and at other times with a south-westerly wind. On the remaining days, which were fine and free from rain, the north-west and west winds almost always prevailed.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

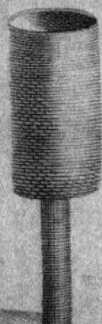




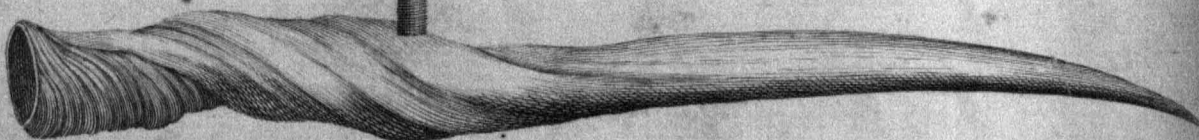
*1. Milk Basket.*



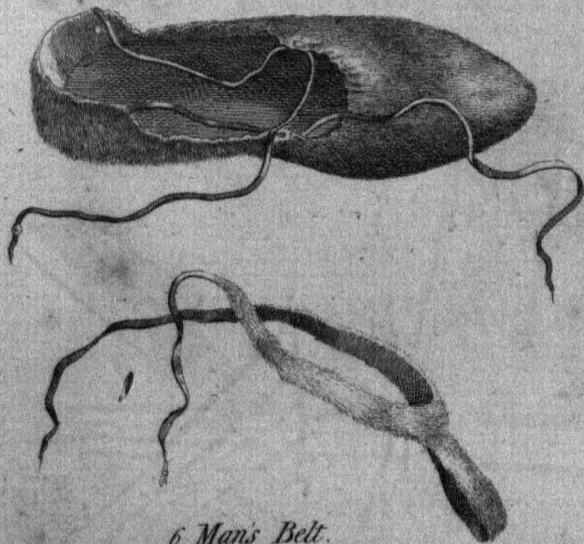
*2. Necklace of Shells*  
*Nat. Size*



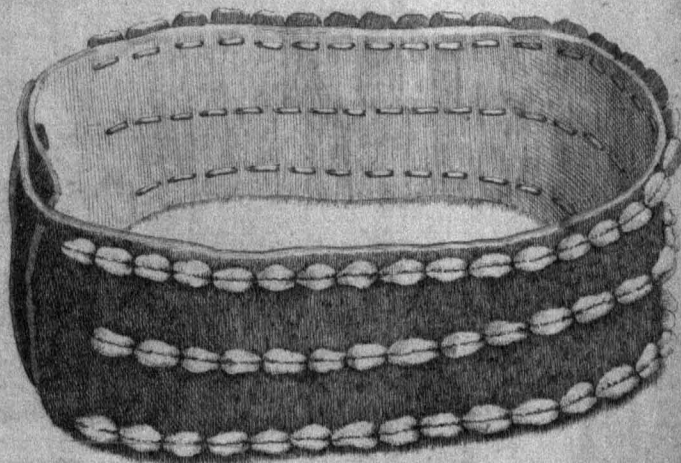
*3. Boshiesman Tobacco-pipe*



*4. Field Shoe.*



*6 Man's Belt.*

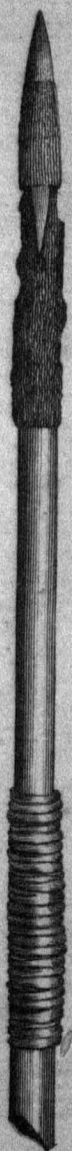


*5. Woman's head Ornament.*

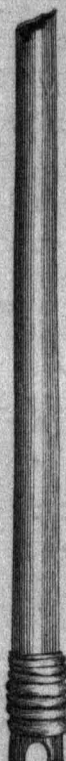


Arms &c. of the Hottentots.

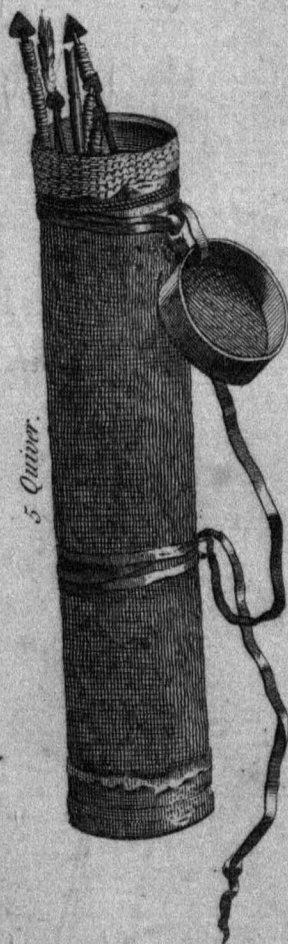
7 Arrow head



6. Bottom of the Arrow



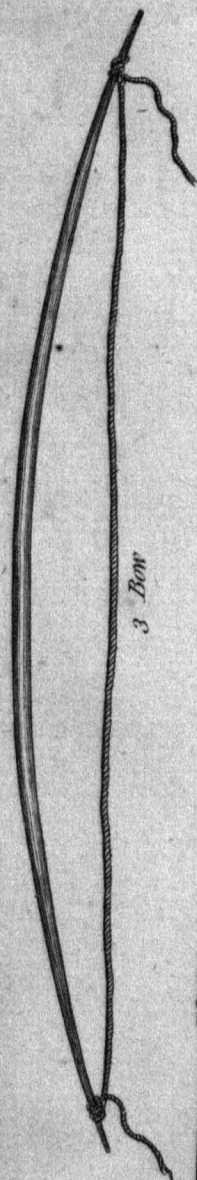
5 Quiver.



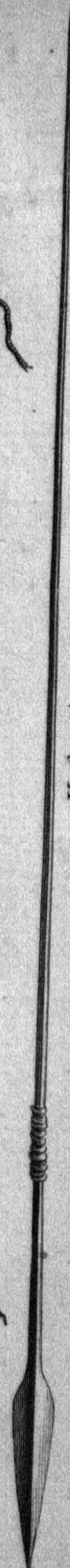
4 Head of the Arrow. nat. size.



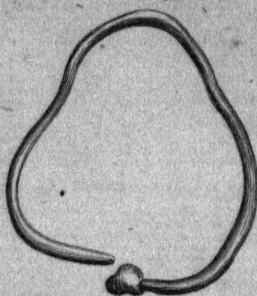
3 Bow



2 Hapagui



1. Head of the Hapagui



Metallic Ear-rings

A  
V O Y A G E  
TO THE  
C A P E O F G O O D H O P E,  
TOWARDS THE  
A N T A R C T I C P O L A R C I R C L E,  
A N D  
R O U N D T H E W O R L D:  
BUT CHIEFLY INTO THE  
COUNTRY OF THE HOTTENTOTS AND CAFFRES,  
FROM THE YEAR 1772, TO 1776.

BY ANDREW SPARRMAN, M.D.  
PROFESSOR OF PHYSIC AT STOCKHOLM, FELLOW OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
IN SWEDEN, AND INSPECTOR OF ITS CABINET OF NATURAL HISTORY.

TRANSLATED FROM THE SWEDISH ORIGINAL.

WITH PLATES.

I N T W O V O L U M E S.

V O L. II.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR G. G. J. AND J. ROBINSON, PATER-NOSTER-ROW.

M DCC LXXXV.

# C O N T E N T S.

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## C H A P. X.

### JOURNEY FROM SEA-COW-RIVER TO LITTLE SUNDAY-RIVER.

Set out on their journey. Camtours-river. Description of the Hottentot Capt. Kies, who is treated sans ceremonie by the author's Hottentot Plattje. A farmer's account of the great drought, and of a hoard of Caffres he had met with on the road. Galgebosch. No water to be had. Van Staade's river. Are visited by some Gonaquas Hottentots. Description of the persons, dress, &c. of these people. Throw their javelins at a mark. Not remarkable for dexterity in this point. A grain called holcus forgum yields an inebriating liquor. Their waggon in danger of being blown into the air, from their having inadvertently set fire to the grass. Carousal of hunters. The salt-pans. Description of the cimex paradoxus, or leaf-insect. Mr. Immelman spits blood. Is in danger of being tossed by buffaloes. Guinea-hens. Appearance of the banks of Sunday-river. Hire several Boshies-men to attend them in their expedition. Give chase to an uncommon species of wood-swine. Description of these animals. Hottentot or bastard Caffres. Their dance and song. Voluptuous practices of the youths of both sexes during dancing. Envenomed wound. Curious milk-baskets. Method of milking. Circumcision practised by these people. Conclusion of the milking by singing and dancing. The author turns conjuror. Bastard-Caffre conjuror well paid. Fox-tails for warm weather. Buffalo-lice, p. 37.

## C H A P. XI.

### JOURNEY FROM LITTLE SUNDAYS-RIVER TO BOSHIES-MANS-RIVER.

Concerto of lions. Their roaring described. Preparations made against an attack from these beasts. Animals fear the lion by instinct, and perceive him at a distance, even when he does not roar. Lions few in number,

number, compared with other animals. Not so bold since the Dutch have introduced the use of fire-arms into that part of Africa. Do not immediately kill a man, except in case of resistance. Neither do they attack any animal openly, except irritated or very hungry. Measure the length of their leap, when they have missed their prey by leaping over it or short of it. Lurk chiefly near rivers. Scared away by the noise made with an ox-whip. Singular escape of a Hottentot from a lion. Lion frequently betrays marks of cowardice. Instance of a lion being shot with its prey lying under it untouched. In general content with wounding its prey, if it be a human creature. The cause of this investigated. Ludicrous situation of a farmer pursued by a lion. Great strength of this animal. Not strong enough, however, to overpower the buffalo, without having recourse to art. Artful expedient of one for carrying off a buffalo. Instance of a buffalo's keeping five lions at bay. Lion easily torn in pieces by a dozen farmer's dogs. Horses fond of hunting lions and other fierce animals. The chase of the lion described. Colonists hunt them with great eagerness. Not hard to kill with guns. Its hide tender and penetrable. Their principal Hottentot marksman shoots a buffalo. Description of the buffalo. Its ears by the Hottentots supposed to be torn by evil spirits. A treacherous and cruel animal. Fond of lying down in the water, or wallowing in the mire. Buffalo-calf. The calves might be brought up tame. The flesh good eating. Cannot be shot with balls of lead alone. The game wantonly destroyed in great abundance by some sportsmen. Gluttony of the Hottentots. Amuse themselves with cracking jests on their masters, in their own language. Smoke cow-dung in default of tobacco. Idle in the highest degree, and difficult to govern, p. 73.

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## JOURNEY FROM BOSHIES-MANS-RIVER TO QUAMMEDACKA.

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The

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The author's cruelty to some birds dying with thirst. Alarmed all night long by a lion. The raw root of a species of purslain very good eating, as is that of the da-t'kai. Hottentots shoot two rhinoceroses. The manner in which they informed the author of it. The description and anatomy of the rhinoceros. The author and his friend in great danger from one. Meet a herd of elk-antilopes, and afterwards with a party of colonists, p. 117.

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#### JOURNEY FROM QUAMMEDACKA TO AGTER BRUNTJES-HOOGTE.

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### C H A P. XIV.

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The



The massacre of Heuppenaer and his party in this country. King Ruyter's craal. Ruyter's history, tyrannical behaviour and wars. Comparison between the respective modes of fighting of the Hottentots and Caffres. Slaves of the Christians more warlike than either, and much esteemed by the Caffres. Description of Camdebo. Roads from thence to the Cape. Plan formed for extending the journey. It proves abortive on many accounts. Delightful situation and fertility of Agter Bruntjes-Hoogte. Happy lives of the farmers there. The foot made by them an index to the road. Commodious posture of sitting. Extreme moderation in furniture and dress. Their virtues. Friendly proposal from a female. New cure for the gout. Advantages of the medical art to mankind. Worms universally mistaken here for pulmonary complaints. The gnu. The *viverra cristata*, or grey jackal, onkjes- and common jackal. Description of the ratel. Its manner of plundering bees nests. Very difficult to kill. The zerda, or animal anonyme of Buffon. Bruce's mistake concerning it rectified. Description of the honey-guide. Mistake in the *Philos. Transf.* rectified. The jerboa *Capensis*. The bleesmoll, or *mus Capensis*. The zand-moll, or *mus Caffer*, resembles the rhinoceros. The *talpa Asiatica*, or variable mole, more properly the *forex aureus*, described. Answer to Dr. Pallas's query. The gazels of this country described. The hartbeest and elk-antelope, the fat of this latter very fine. They migrate to the southward in great droughts. Chase of an elk-antelope. The beast sweats blood. Dangers of the chase in this country. The author's horse falls with him. The koedoe, or coudou. Pleasant mistake of Buffon concerning the name. The Cape-chamois, or gemsé-bok, somewhat resembles the elk of Kolbe. The blaauw-bok, bunte-bok, and gnu. The ree-bok, riet-ree-bok, vlak-steen-bok, steen-bok, duyker-bok and klip-springer. A baboon hunt—the dogs shew more malice against this animal than against any other. Strictures on Buffon's opinion concerning the necessity of a meat-diet for man. Description of the camelopardalis. Defence of Hasselquist against Buffon. Pleasant opinion of the latter concerning the horns of oxen. Buffon convicted of setting the horns on the wrong head, p. 248.

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## C H A P. XV.

### JOURNEY FROM AGTER BRUNTJES-HOOGTE TO THE TWO VISCH-RIVERS, AND RESIDENCE AT THOSE PLACES.

Departure from Agter Bruntjes-Hoogte. Beauty in a desert. Shoot a tiger. Instance of a tiger got the better of by a slave. Unwelcome visit from a large party of Caffres. Preparations for their reception. The conference. Their method of slaughtering their meat. Heaps of stones, probably antique monuments. Kok's-craal. Amazing swiftness of the Hottentots. Blockade of the sea-cows in their pits. Great danger from one of them. Cry of this animal described. A sea-cow shot by one of the party in his sleep. Her calf carried off and slaughtered. Description of it. The hippopotamus lives entirely on herbs and grass. Is sometimes seen in the sea, but cannot drink the salt water. Copulation, size, and method of catching these animals. Not slow in their pace. Medical virtues of their skulls. Anatomy of the calf. Leaches of a new species about its anus. Disquisition on its different names. Proposals for catching and keeping these animals alive. The waggon in danger of being overturned by a rhinoceros in its flight. A rhinoceros hunt. A Hottentot coward becomes bold from sensibility. The fine scent of the Hottentots accounted for. Two of the Hottentots in the author's train shoot a rhinoceros asleep. Hottentot bribe. Instance of their peculiar turn of mind. Love in a desert. Drowiness the effect of love. Recipe for that passion. Billet-doux of a forester, p. 300.

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### JOURNEY BACK TO THE CAPE.

Rhinoceros hunt. Dangerous ride in the dark. Diabolical yell of a pack of hyænas. Congé of a Hottentot. Plettenberg's colony. Artifice of a hippopotamus to breathe in the water. Another of a colonist to cheat the government. The golden age restored among the Gunjeman Hottentots. The riches of a female Gunjeman. Simplicity of their diet. Zwartkops-river. Boldness of three young lions. Damaquas Hottentots. The sea-cows go to sea with the tide. The company scared by a buffalo, and lost in a wood. The travellers return to their old host, J. Kok. Inconvenience of feather beds. Red wine and oysters. Scorched serpents.

serpents. The *bullachatina*. A country in flames. Wagenboom-river. The author loses his way on horseback in a dreadful storm of thunder and lightning. Method of converting grapes into raisins. Famine arising from the drought. Revisit Artaquas-kloof. The author's collections hurt by the waggon's overturning there. Valsche-rivier. Great scarcity of ploughshares in Africa, and of wrought iron in general. A battle royal between a Hottentot and his wife. A receipt to promote union in the married state. The imaginary gold-mine. The aloe plant discovered by a Negro slave. Method of preparing the gum from it. The *geitje*, a highly venomous lizard. Dreadful consequences of its bite. Cured by a slave. Conjectures on its origin. Description of this animal. Systematical description of the *lacerta Capensis*. A very large species of lizard, and very difficult to kill. Description of a singular anonymous quadruped. A farmer murdered by his slaves. Surprising escape of his son. Cruelty of the colonists to their slaves, and horrid punishments inflicted on them. Public executions only serve to irritate the rest. Different dispositions of the slaves of different nations. Peculiar turn of mind of the Bugunese. The author returns by the way of Roode-zand. A lake newly discovered at Sneeuwberg. Brandy made from a species of cactus. Arrival at the Cape, p. 350.

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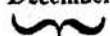
JOURNEY FROM SEA-COW-RIVER to LITTLE  
SUNDAY-RIVER.

**O**N the 1st day of December we set off on our journey eastward from *Zee-koe-rivier*, and the next morning from *Cabeljauw-rivier*, which was the last place we came to that was inhabited by christians. At noon we reached *Camtours-rivier*, where we baited.

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Here a Hottentot captain, or rather a patriarch, exercised dominion over about half a hundred people, but was still in his way a sovereign. He was a little old man, of the name of KIES. I should at first sight have been easily tempted to consider him as reigning merely over women,

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as at that time the company, in which we found him smoking his pipe consisted only of females; for the men (excepting some few who lay ill of a putrid fever) were all out, some of them to hunt a lion, which had lately committed ravages among their cattle; and the others, it was said, were gone to a great distance, in order to gather a certain succulent plant, which they made use of for chewing, either for the sake of passing the time away, or on account of its being of a pleasant taste, and having the property of assuaging their hunger. Captain KIES, therefore, absolutely denied our request; which was, that he would let us have some of his Hottentots by way of guides, who might likewise be a necessary assistance to us, and reinforcement of our company in the journey we were going to make through the wilderness.

In the meanwhile, I could not help being rather ashamed of the rude behaviour of my third Hottentot or marksman, PLATTJE; for though I had hitherto never seen him at all blunt in his behaviour, but had remarked, on the contrary, that he had always addressed these Hottentot patriarchs with some kind of respect, I now observed, that immediately on our coming into the presence of a person of such great authority, without the least bow or ceremony of any kind, he went uninvited and sat himself down by the side of him, at the same time filling his pipe out of the other's pouch, and calling about him for milk to drink. This behaviour, nevertheless, did not seem to be at all taken ill; on the contrary, they immediately brought him a cup of bagged milk. I observed at this time, as well as on my return hither, that KIES like Captain RUNDGANGER, of whom



whom I made mention at page 240, of Volume I. always had his captain's staff in his hand or else close by him; and this staff, was every way as plain and simple as RUNDGANGER's: but though KIES was much better circumstanced with regard both to the number of his people and of his cattle, yet he as good as dwelt with his court and the rest of his subjects in the open air; his palace consisting only of a few poles set up slanting in the earth with a ragged mat thrown over them, which of course admitted the wind in several places, and let in the rain in wet weather. This shed, thus open on three sides, and in a great measure at the top, was, however, useful enough at that time of the year, and in that warm climate. The winter, or more properly speaking, the rainy season, would, probably, oblige them to provide themselves with a better dwelling.

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That same day we continued our journey, making towards *Loory-rivier*, where we took up our abode at night. Here we met with a farmer, who in his ox-waggon had followed the course of *Zondags-rivier* all the way from *Camdebo*; a country of that kind which I have described at page 246 of Volume I. under the denomination of *Carrow*. He informed us, that this year, in which the drought was unusually great in all parts, it was remarkably so there, as scarcely a drop of rain had fallen there in the space of eight months; but just as he was leaving those parts, he had had several showers along the course of that river.

He, therefore, dissuaded us from taking that road, as it was, for the greater part of it, entirely unbeaten, arid, and rugged; and likewise, because both water and game were

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extremely scarce there. In consequence of this latter circumstance, as his provisions were almost entirely spent, he was just going to knock one of his draught-oxen on the head, by way of procuring food for himself and his suite, when two hartbeests by great good-luck came up directly to the waggon, in order to take a view of it, one of which he immediately shot.

This same peasant had unexpectedly met on this road with about an hundred wandering Caffres. Their patriarch or chief, had proposed to sleep the first night along with the farmer in his waggon, who, on the other hand, should sleep with him in his tent the night following. This the farmer not consenting to, the Caffre patriarch was so far from taking it ill, that, on the contrary, he had killed an ox, and presented the farmer and his suite with some fine pieces of beef. The boor likewise informed me, that the Caffre cattle were uncommonly fat and in good condition; at which he was the more surprized, as they were not turned out till noon, and driven home very early. He, moreover, observed, that the Caffres fondled and talked to their cattle a good deal as they stood in the craal; doubtless, in the same manner as the Arabians do to their horses; which not a little contributes to making them thrive and rendering them brisk and lively, and at the same time more intelligent and tractable.

On the 3d we baited at noon near *Galge-bosch*, a little wood which was much frequented by lions, and still more by buffaloes. I was consequently more than ever in pain for my cattle, as, though there was very good pasturage on the spot, they had stolen away from it, and were missing

missing for several hours. In the mean time, we were apprehensive, that they had been scared away from the place by lions; but the fact was, that being very thirsty, they had strayed into a dale towards a pit full of very muddy water, where they were found. My Hottentots were of opinion, that cattle would find out water by the scent at a very great distance. I have heard some colonists say, that they suspected the same of the Hottentots, as they can find water upon occasion better than any colonists; but this cannot proceed from any thing else than the Hottentots greater assiduity in this point, and being more accustomed to wander about the fields, by which means they have acquired a particular skill in tracing out this necessary article of life from certain peculiarities of situation, and various other circumstances.

Indeed, we could get nothing fit to drink ourselves; and it was late at night before, thirsty as we were, we got to a land-spring; which, to our great vexation, we found dried up; so that there were only here and there in the mire a print of the buffaloes feet deeper than ordinary, in which we observed a little moisture. We therefore dug deeper holes with our hands, and waited with all the patience we were masters of, till the water was collected in them, and could be taken out by means of small basins. But besides that it was as thick as hasty-pudding, it had acquired so rank a taste from the buffaloes that had laid and wallowed in it, that even the Hottentots made wry faces at it; and our horses began to blow and snort at the strong buffalo-scent which affected their nostrils, even before they tasted the water. Our thirst, however, obliged

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us frequently to sip a little of it just as it was; for when it was made into coffee or tea, it was still more intolerable. To search about elsewhere at this time when it was dark, was not only impossible but dangerous, on account of the lions. At break of day we discovered some traces which led us to the fountain-head of this land-spring, which had been closed up by the trampling of the buffaloes feet; we, therefore, made haste to dig it open again, when we found some more tolerable water to quench our thirst, which was actually insupportable. We frequently made use of sugar-candy as a tolerably good palliative for our thirst, during our travels in this hot and scorching climate; but this did not relieve us for any long time together. At 9 o'clock in the evening the thermometer was at 64, and the next day, being the 4th, at day-break, a good deal of dew having fallen, I found it 10 degrees lower.

We now pursued our journey, taking the lower road by *Van Staades-rivier*, which at that time was brackish and rather deep. For want of proper precaution in our Hottentots, our oxen turned back before they got half way over the river, and at the same time were thrown into confusion and disorder; so that it was a difficult matter, to save both them and the waggon from sinking. When we had got to the other side, and were baiting our cattle, we were visited by eighteen *Gonaquas*-Hottentots, from a *craal* which was just in the neighbourhood.

This nation consisted of about two hundred people, who were all graziers, and at that time dwelt there in two separate villages. They are certainly a mixture of Hottentots and Caffres, as their language had an affinity with

with that of both these nations; but in their utterance, which was like that of human beings, in the *natural* blackness of their complexions, in the great strength and robustness of their limbs, and lastly in the height of their stature, they bore a greater resemblance to the Caffres, several of whom they likewise had at that time among them. The cloaks of the *Gonaquas* are likewise made of dressed cow-hides, like those of the Caffres. These cloaks are very supple; a quality that proceeds partly from being rubbed a good deal, which I myself saw performed with stones on the inside of them; and partly from the great quantity of grease, which, being mixed up with buckupowder, is rubbed into them. Both sexes are adorned with, and set a great value upon, brass rings, which they wear on their arms and legs, as well as brass plates of different sizes and figures, which are fastened in their hair and ears.

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With respect to beads, which, speaking of in a general way, they call *sintela*, the small red ones are much more coveted than the rest; these are called *lenkitenka*, (See the specimen of the Caffre's language, which I have annexed at the conclusion of this journal.) The genuine Caffres had, in this point, exactly the same taste; but many of them had got ivory rings, of the thickness and breadth of about half an inch, and of such a size as to be strung upon the arms above the elbows. These, however, are worn only by the men; for which reason a Caffre, who had sold me his bracelets, seemed extremely distressed, saying, that he was now naked about the arms like a woman. Besides that both the Caffres and Gonaquas are very unfortunate



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fortunate beggars, they are likewise exceedingly unreasonable in their dealings, as when they make their payments, they are very apt to ask for a handsome present into the bargain.

Both the Gonaquas and Caffres differ from other Hottentots in this particular, that they make use of circumcision. This operation is performed on youths of different ages, as they are accustomed to wait till they can perform it on several at a time.

The Gonaquas women make use of almost the same kind of apron or veil as the Hottentot females do. The men are much more naked and less covered about this part than the males among the Hottentots, inasmuch as they cover with a little cap, or case, made of the skin of an animal, the extremities only of what modesty should teach them to conceal entirely. This socket, resembling the extremity of the thumb of a glove, is sometimes fastened with a small thong, or the sinew of an animal, to some strings of beads or leathern belts, which they wear for ornament's sake round their waists. Some individuals are seen with lions or buffaloes tails hanging on these same belts, as trophies of their courage in having killed these beasts.

By reason of the nakedness of these people, of which I have just been giving a description, it may be thought that they have as little modesty as covering: but the fact is, that very few of them could be induced, even by presents, to take off their little cases, in consequence of my wish to be perfectly convinced that they were circumcised. Indeed, I have been told by a farmer, that in Cafferland one does not unfrequently see even grown up girls without any covering

vering whatsoever; and that in certain dances, it constitutes part of the solemnity for the youths of both sexes to make such oblations to love in the presence of every one, as by the laws of decency and of civilized nations, are considered as sacred to the married state alone.

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The Caffres seemed to me to resemble very much in appearance the *Mosambique* slaves, whom I had seen at the Cape; and, perhaps, these nations border upon each other; the former being probably descended from the latter, or the latter from the former.

The Gonaquas Hottentots, who at this time paid their respects to me, came chiefly with an intent to beg tobacco. They were all of them armed with one or more of the javelins, which they call *bassagais*, (vide Plate II. Vol. I. Fig. 1, 2.) as well as with short sticks, to which they gave the name of *kirris*. With one of these I saw a lad very nearly hit a sparrow-hawk in its flight. But they took so bad an aim, when they threw their javelins, that, though they tried very often, they could not hit a handkerchief which I had set up between two sticks, at the distance of twenty paces, by way of mark for them, and at the same time as a prize for him that should hit it. This want of dexterity, certainly proceeded from their having neglected to practise, as they lived too far from the Boshies-men Hottentots, and Caffres, and too near to the Christians, to be able to exercise any hostilities against the former, or to dare to do it against the latter. In the mean time they were very busy in examining narrowly each others javelins, and in feeling for their proper balance. They threw them, however, with a great deal of force; and, as I have been told by several

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people, are able to pierce a man or a gazel through the body at the distance of twenty paces. I then shot at a sheet of paper with a fowling-piece, and as they appeared to be very much amazed at the holes that were made, and at the same time to be very desirous of keeping the paper, they took it without any ceremony, but shortly after offered to give it me again for a morsel of tobacco.

The *Gonaquas* Hottentots moreover were graziers, and in some sort tillers of the ground, as the Caffre nation is likewise said to be. The kind of corn which they sow, is the *bolcus sorghum*, which is likewise used in the south of Europe, and known to yield abundantly. The colonists call it *Caffer-corn*. The stalks shoot up to the height of a man, and as thick as a rush. They terminate in a pedicle or branchy ear, a foot and a half long, with seeds of about the same size as those of rice; two or three of these ears generally yield three quarters of a pint of corn. The time of sowing this seed, is said to be in August or September. But in the beginning of November, while I yet remained in *Sitsicamma*, I saw it already fit for cutting, at a farmer's who set little store by it, giving it only to his cattle. The *Caffres* use to bruise this corn between stones, and make it into loaves, which they bake under the embers.

They mostly, however, use to ferment it with a certain root and water, till it produces a kind of inebriating liquor. They generally consume their whole stock, which, however, is not considerable, immediately in the autumn. The Caffre prince *PALOO*, whom the colonists called king *PHARAON*,

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RAOH, is said to have killed himself with drinking this liquor.

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On several accounts we hastened our departure from hence. Our course was now to the north, over plain level fields, for the greater part covered with a dry arid grass to the height of about two feet. Our guide took us first to a well of lukewarm water, and afterwards at night to another pool of water, at the bottom of a river that was dried up. Both places were very acceptable to us as well as to our cattle, though the water was none of the best. Near this latter spot we took up our night's lodging.

It was not without difficulty, that we could collect wood enough round about the neighbourhood to boil our tea-kettle; and after all, we ran a great risk of having an end put to our whole expedition by a fire. A Hottentot, in looking for something with a piece of lighted wood, happened to set the dry grass on fire, which spread in it almost as if it had been oakum; so that had we not been very quick in stopping the progress of the flames, and moreover mutually assisted each other, we should soon have seen the whole district in one continued flame, and our waggon would have been entirely demolished in the conflagration, and blown up into the air; for there was not only a good deal of coom about it, but it also contained many inflammable matters; such as the sail-cloth tilt, dried herbs and paper, a cask full of spirits, and about twenty pounds weight of gunpowder. The wind blew hard from the south-west, the thermometer at eleven at night being 66, and the next day about dawn at 64, when we saddled our horses and put our oxen to the waggon. At nine we

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got to little *Zwart-kops* river, and set off from thence about four in the afternoon, and at six o'clock arrived at great *Zwart-kops* river.

On the road we had seen large herds of the wild asses, called *quaggas*, and of *hart-beests*; as likewise, for the first time, six female buffaloes, with two young ones. These came from the sea-side, from whence our guide supposed they had been forced to make their retreat thus at noon, either on account of the lions or of flies.

We had not yet been able to get within reach of any game, so that our salted wether had hitherto been our only resource. This, in its skin bag, had already acquired a pretty strong haut gout, in consequence of the warmth of the weather. Mr. IMMELMAN, who was nice in his eating, and not used to put up with salted meat, especially when it was rather tainted, had, from our first setting out, it being now the fifth day, suffered much from hunger. For our small stock of bread would not at this time afford us above two biscuits a man per diem, each biscuit weighing about an ounce and a half.

At this *Zwart-kops* river, where we were now arrived, and intended to pass the night, we found two farmers had got in before us, who were come thither in order to get salt and hunt. Indeed, they had already shot several heads of game, which they had hung up in large slips and shreds on the bushes, waggons, and fences, in order to dry it in the sun, in the same manner as the Hottentots did the elephant's flesh near *Diep-rivier*, as I mentioned before, Volume I. page 313. From this flesh there was diffused round about the spot not only a crude and rank smell, but likewise a  
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putrid stench from such parts of it as had arrived at the state of putrefaction; and the farmers wives and children, together with the Hottentots who had accompanied them, with a view to assist them as well as for their own pleasure, were employed in feasting upon it, and sleeping, and scaring away a number of birds of prey, which hovered round about them and over their heads, in order to steal away the flesh. This horrid spectacle of so many carnivorous human creatures, awakened in me a lively remembrance of the cannibals in *New Zealand*, and had like to have entirely taken away our appetites for a meat supper, so that we resolved to bear with our hunger that night as well as we could: but at last comes our guide, very opportunely, with the shoulder of a *hart-beest*, which we immediately cut, and dressed it in our pot with dripping; a dish which was called by the Hottentots by the name of the instrument (*t'nora*, which means a knife,) with which it is cut in pieces. Our mouths watered at the sight of it and we eat it with an excellent appetite, which was no longer spoiled by any reflections similar to those I have just mentioned.

On the 6th, at break of day, my guide and I took a ride, in order to cut up the *hart-beest* he had shot, and loaded one horse with as much as he could carry, in order to lay it up in the waggon, by way of making provision for the journey.

The *tulbagia*, a small hexandrous plant, called by LINNÆUS after M. TULBAG, governor at the Cape, grew here in great abundance; though I had never before seen more than a single specimen of it, and that was on the road  
to

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to *Zwellendam*. Here I likewise saw, for the first time, a small kind of onion, with spiral leaves; caught an *amphibæna*; and drew up the description of a *cleome juncea*, which I have inserted in the *Acta Societ. Upsal. Vol. III.* page 192.

The farmers here, as well as some others, who were going to the Cape before me, were so obliging, as, at my request, to take with them the packet of herbs I had already collected; otherwise, I should not have had room enough in my waggon for all my collection.

The tide was very visible in this river. The wind blew strong from S. S. W. At noon the thermometer was 71 in the shade, and in the evening, after the moon was up, at 64. On the 7th, at half past five in the morning, the thermometer was at 52.

We now proceeded on our journey, going northwards, and in our way, a good mile and a half from the river, we met with the capital *Zout-pan*, or Salt-pan. By this name these places are distinguished, where there is a quantity of culinary salt produced.

This salt-pan was an extensive plain, covered over with a level and continued crust of salt, upon which, in several places, there stood a little water; so that there could not be a more natural resemblance of a frozen lake than this. This by consequence, being contrasted with the warmth of the weather and surrounding trees and flowers, would certainly at first sight have struck me with the greatest amazement, had I not been previously informed of the real cause of the phenomenon. Towards the sides the crust of salt was thin; and just there one might perceive, that it

was diffused over a loamy and clayey soil. But a little farther towards the middle, I found it was above two feet deep, without being able to discover the bottom of it, or any water underneath it. The colonists who worked here with poles, imagine that the crust of salt extends many fathoms below the surface.


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This salt-pan was about three miles in circumference, and of an oblong shape. After there have been several warm days together, there is formed in different places on the crust, a hoar frost, as it were, which is the finest and strongest salt, and is with great reason supposed by the colonists to exceed that of Lunenburg. Indeed, the whole of it seems to be quite fine and pure: and it appears to me, and is allowed by others, to give a better taste to the butter and meat that is preserved in it, than any that comes from the other salt-pans to be met with in Africa; as *Saldanka-bay*, between *Zoet-melk* and *Gawrits* rivers, and in certain places behind the *Sneeuwbergs*, or snowy mountains.

My Hottentots were occupied in collecting a stock of the finest salt, as much as I thought we should want for the purpose of salting our meat, and such skins of animals as I might wish to preserve. In the mean time, I myself made a rich capture of many reptiles and insects hitherto unknown; some of which were stuck fast and dried up in the crystals of salt, while others were dying, or had just expired, in consequence of the viscid saline matter with which they were in contact. Many insects were likewise drowned in the clear water or briny liquid, which, after it had rained, was collected in certain places in the incrustation of

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of salt. We were obliged to wade a good way into it; and although the salt dried and crytallized upon our legs and feet, till at night we found water to wash it off with, yet no ill effects ensued from it: a circumstance which I thought proper to mention, for the encouragement of such as may hereafter collect insects in this or other places of the same nature.

That peculiar insect, the *cimex paradoxus*, which I have described and given a drawing of in the Swedish Transactions, (Vol. XXXVIII. p. 235,) \*I discovered at this place, as at noon-tide I sought for shelter among the branches of a shrub from the intolerable heat of the sun. Though the air was now extremely still and calm, so as hardly to have shaken an aspen leaf, yet I thought I saw a little withered, pale, crumpled leaf, eaten as it were by caterpillars, flitting from the tree. This appeared to me so very extraordinary, that I thought it worth my while suddenly to quit my verdant bower in order to contemplate it; and I could scarcely believe my eyes, when I saw a live insect, in shape and colour resembling the fragment of a withered leaf, with the edges turned up and eaten away, as it were, by caterpillars, and at the same time all over beset with prickles. Nature, by this peculiar form, has certainly extremely well defended and concealed, as it were in a mask, this insect from birds and its other diminutive foes; in all probability with a view to preserve it, and employ it for some important office in the system of her œconomy; a system with which we are too little acquainted, in general too little investigate, and, in every part of it, can never sufficiently admire with

\* See likewise Plate VII. of this Volume.

that

that respect and veneration which we owe to the great Author of nature and Ruler of the universe.

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At night we came to *Kuga*, a little river, the water of which was brackish; but some good and fresh water was found in a well hard by it. Here likewise we had a hasty glimpse of two hares, which seemed to resemble the ordinary hares of Europe.

My companion, who was subject to a spitting of blood, happened here to be much troubled with this complaint; a complaint to which the animal diet he had been accustomed to during the whole journey, together with the fatigue he had undergone, and the scorching heat of the sun, had necessarily disposed him. Bleeding, together with a little saltpetre and the water from this spring, were the only means, (and those not ill adapted to the purpose,) which we fortunately had at hand for his recovery in this desert place. Upon the whole, I took as much care of him as I possibly could on an open plain, with no other canopy than the sky. The fineness of the weather, together with the coolness of the night, and above all his utter aversion to all sickness, circumstanced as we were, I believe did not a little contribute towards his speedy recovery. The next morning, however, when, in order to make a trial of his strength, he walked a few hundred paces from our baiting-place, his life was in still greater and more imminent danger. This was from a herd of young cattle, which, by way of experiment, had been left in this place, under the care of a slave, and being at that time unused to the sight of any human creature besides, had like to have gored him to death. These fierce animals then, making a semi-



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circle about Mr. IMMELMAN, advanced continually nearer and nearer to him, so that he was obliged to retire backwards. According to the old saying, "a curst cow has short horns;" this we found in a manner verified on this occasion, for a heifer without horns was the foremost and most vicious of them all. I therefore hastened thither with my loaded piece, with an intention of discharging it among them, and at the same time, repeating the firing as often as I was able, to cover our retreat. In the mean time, however, it came into my head first to try a milder method, which I had heard of, when in Europe, as a certain defence against the attacks of wild and vicious bulls; and which, in short, was no more than to hold your hat before your face, and on a sudden uncover it at intervals, at the same time, with a quick pace, advancing upon them, and standing still alternately. With this method we so far succeeded, that the heifer without horns, as well as the rest of the herd, was very much scared. Just after this, one of my Hottentots was attacked by the same herd, but escaped them by the lightness of his heels. Afterwards, on our returning this way home, we were informed, that the owner of the herd had been obliged to remove it from hence, as a lion had begun to infest these parts.

Two hartbeests came likewise this morning early very near our waggon in order to survey us, but unluckily just at that time we had no gun ready charged. At 12 o'clock I found the thermometer, when placed in the shade under our waggon, at 83.

In the afternoon we set off again, directing our course to the east, and came to a place on the lower part of *Zon-dags-rivier*,

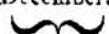
*dags-rivier*, known by the name of *t'Nuka t'Kamma*, which, I believe, signifies *grassy water*. We here found the recent traces of a lion, and took proper precautions against it, in case we should go down to the river. In the evening we likewise thought we saw in the thickets an elephant at a good distance off. These animals are said to assemble in great numbers in the thorny thickets, made by the *guaijacum afrum* and the *mimosa nilotica*, which afford them a kind of asylum.

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We now began to find the Guinea hen (*numida meleagris*) in these parts. They kept together in flocks, and consequently were very shy and cautious. I observed they flew low and straight forwards, like our partridges. They appeared to get the greatest part of their food on the ground, but at night they perched together up in the trees; so that I once killed six of them at one shot, and several more were wounded, which, however, escaped in the dark. Their flesh was dry, and much inferior to that of the common hen.

Of *Sunday-rivier*, which at this part made a great many windings, the banks to us were extremely high and steep, and indeed quite perpendicular; consisting, to all appearance, merely of the same dry and clayey materials as the surface of the earth exhibited on our side. In the upper part, the bank appeared to be quite plain and level; but it is difficult to conjecture, whence this dissimilarity in the banks of the river should arise, unless one of them had been thrown up by an earthquake; or that the river by degrees had made its way to the side of some flat hill level at top, and undermined it, till the part that hung over fell down, when it would necessarily be quite level and per-

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pendicular; as, in fact, it is at present. At night we had rain, with a south-west wind.

On the 9th at five o'clock in the morning, when we departed from hence, the thermometer was at 62; and at half past three in the afternoon we arrived at *Zondags-rivier's-drift*. We had, nevertheless, gone out of our road on purpose to chase two buffaloes, one of which made its escape though wounded, and the other leaped into a close thicket, where it was neither adviseable, nor indeed possible to follow it. In the mean time, to my great astonishment, we could see from the top of the bushes the animal piercing through the thickest of the wood with the greatest ease, just as if he was merely running through a rye-field. We likewise saw a *Koedoe* (the *antelope strepsiceros* of PALLAS.)


Soon after our arrival at this part of *Sunday-rivier*, we were waited upon by three old Hottentots, who seemed as if they came to pry into our business in those parts. They were, properly speaking, of the race of *Bosbies-men*, though of the more civilized sort, who, even in their own language, distinguished themselves by the name of *good Bosbies-men*; probably from the circumstance of their grazing a few cattle, and not living by rapine like others of their countrymen. My guide explained their business to me, which was to beg tobacco, and to complain of their distressed situation; the farmers having been with them, and having carried off all their young people, so that they were now left alone in their old age to look after themselves and their cattle. I ordered my interpreter to tell them in reply, that we, as  
they

they might very well perceive, were no farmers, and still less kidnappers.

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I must here inform the reader, that many of the ignorant Hottentots and Indians not having been able to form any idea of the Dutch East-India Company and the board of direction, the Dutch from the very beginning in India, politically gave out the company for one individual powerful prince, by the christian name of *Jan* or *John*. This likewise procured them more respect, than if they had actually been able to make the Indians comprehend, that they were really governed by a company of merchants. On this account I ordered my interpreter to say farther, that we were the children of *Jan Company*, who had sent us out to view this country, and collect plants for medical purposes. I likewise bid him give them to understand, that we had an amazing quantity of powder and ball, together with five stand of fire-arms, as they themselves saw; that we intended to shoot a great deal of game, and it would be a great pity if they could not come along with us, and partake of the abundant spoil of flesh, which would otherwise be suffered to lie as food for the birds and beasts of prey.

This story, patched up in haste, with a mixture of truth and falsehood, seemed to have made a deep impression on these Hottentots. It was, indeed, touching them in a tender part, to talk to them of so much meat, and to pity their emaciated state, without letting them observe, however, that it was more for my own advantage than theirs, that I was so desirous of their company. That same night then, there not only came to me three middle-aged men

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men to offer their services, but I even saw the three old fellows above-mentioned, with great eagerness and diligence preparing their shoes, in order to be ready the next morning to follow us in our expedition.

Having given my guide to understand, how strange this conduct of the Hottentots appeared to me, when I compared it with the account they had given of themselves at first, at the same time that from this circumstance I apprehended they would prove false; besides, that I doubted, whether we should be able to find food for so many as six of them, we being five in number ourselves, which in all made eleven persons; he replied, "Pshaw! this is always the Hottentot's custom to lye the first word they speak; and as for victuals, we shall get game enough to eat, I'll warrant you." The latter part of his reply gave me some satisfaction; for as to the Hottentots custom of lying at the first word, I was pretty even with them in that respect, with my pretended relationship to *Jan Company*.

On the 10th in the morning we set out on our journey, being in all eleven persons. The six newly-arrived Hottentots did not understand a word of Dutch, on which account we were obliged to make use of the three others as interpreters; though, in general, we made them understand us pretty well by signs, and some few Hottentot words we had learnt the meaning of, and could ourselves pronounce with the proper clack against the roof of the mouth. Still, however, Mr. IMMELMAN and I could not be otherwise than anxious about the procuring of food for such a number of people, when, in case of a scarcity, we expected to hear them grumbling against their *Moses and Aaron*,



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*Aaron*, who had enticed them into the desert; for the buffalo which we had chased the day before got away from us, though the bushes in more than one place were stained with his blood. Upon this, however, we soon observed, that our volunteer corps, the six last Hottentots, made no difficulty of eating, without any preparation whatever, the ill-tasted beans of a wild shrub, (the *guaiacum afrum*.) I thought I could shew the Hottentots another substance likewise, which might serve to appease their hunger in case of necessity. This was the *gum arabic*, which they might gather in many spots thereabouts from the *mimosa nilotica*; but this was a species of food very well known to them, and which they had often tried. When in want of other provisions, the Boshies-men are said to live upon this for many days together.

This day I saw, for the first time, a herd of *bosch-varkens*, or, as they are likewise called, *wilde-varkens*, (wood-swine, or wild-swine) in their wild uncultivated state; for I had hitherto only seen one of this species of animals in the menagerie at the Cape. It was confined there with a strong iron chain, as it was very wild and vicious. M. PALLAS, who in his *Spicil. Zool. Fasc. II. p. 11.* and *Miscel. Zool. p. 16.* has described this animal by the name of *aper Æthiopicus*, and given a figure of it, farther informs us in his *Spicil. Zool. Fasc. XI. Additam. p. 84.* that one of them killed the keeper of the menagerie at Amsterdam. One may easily conceive that this creature is very dangerous, if one only takes notice of its large tusks, (vide Tab. V. l. c.) These are four in number. Two of them proceed from the upper jaw, and turn upwards like a horn, consist-