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fidant, but has no Vote, but when they are equally divided he appoints a Doctor to give a casting Voice. D. *Gabriel de Sturis* acted twice in this Capacity whilst I was at *Manila*. Tho' a small Matter would suffice to maintain an *Oydore*, or Judge, because Provisions are cheap, as are Stuffs for Apparel, and all other Necessaries for Decency; a Saddle Horse being sold for ten pieces of Eight, and enough to keep him a Month for two; yet they have a plentiful Allowance, each of them being paid every four Months 1100 pieces of Eight. The Solicitor has over and above 600 pieces of Eight a Year from the *Sangley*, or *Chinese* Merchants, as their Protector, and 200 more as Solicitor for the *Cruzade*. The Governor's Salary is 13300 pieces of Eight; 4000 as General, 4000 as President of the Royal Court, and 5300 as civil Magistrate. If the Governor dies, the eldest *Oydore*, or Judge receives this Salary, and manages the Martial and Civil Government; for which he is afterwards accountable to the new Governor.

Greatness
of this Government.

Were not the *Philippine* Islands so remote, that Government would be coveted by the chief *Grandeos*, because his Government is unlimited, the Jurisdiction large, the Prerogatives not to be parallell'd, the Conveniences great, the Profit unknown, and the Honour greater than that of Vice-roy in the *Indies*. But, as I said, the distance makes the greatness of this Post not to be known in *Spain*. To show something of it, the Governor besides the Civil Government, and Administration of Justice, which he exercises with the Royal Court, has the Gift of all military Employments, makes 22 Alcades to Govern as many Provinces, and appoints the Governor of the *Marian* Islands, when one dies, till the King Names another. Formerly he made the Governors of the Islands *Formosa* and *Ternate* (one of the 5 *Moluccas*) when they were subject to the Crown of *Spain*. He also bestows all the *Encomiendas*, or Lordships over *Indians*, given as a Reward to Souldiers that have serv'd in *India*. These are given for two Lives, the Wife and Children succeeding in them, after which the Land returns to the King. These *Encomenderos* or Lords, receive the Duties that should be paid to the King, that is, 10 Royals from Marry'd Men, and 5 from others; but these Lords are oblig'd out of it to allow towards the Maintenance of the

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Forces, 2 Royals and 4 *Cavans* of Rice for each Head, and 2 Royals more to the Parish Priest. The King out of his own Demefnes, besides the 10 Royals, has 2 *Cavans* of Rice: A *Cavan* weighs 50 Pounds *Spanish*. It is very remarkable that the Governor fills up all the vacant Canonries in the Cathedral, and then acquaints the King to have them confirm'd, as he does by the *Encomiendas* above-mention'd. When any Parish of secular Priests is vacant, the Assembly is held before the Archbishop, who names three of the ablest for the Governor to choose one. The same is practis'd in the Vacancies of Canonries and royal Chaplains. The Parishes belonging to Religious Men, are supply'd by the Provincial of the Order, in a Provincial Chapter. These need no confirmation, and they may hear the Confessions of the *Indians*, but not of the *Spaniards* in their Parish, without the Ordinaries Approbation. If the secular Curates commit such a Fault, as deserves they should be expell'd their Benefice, it is done with the Advice of the *Diocesan* and Governor. The Governor of *Manila* has also the Nomination of the Commander of the Galeon, that sails every Year to *New Spain*, a Post worth above 50000 Crowns a Year. He appoints two Majors for *Manila* and *Cavite*, and several Captains and Officers, that are not Commission'd at *Madrid*. He gives the *Indians* Commissions as Colonels, Majors and Captains, without much difficulty; they paying the King half a Years value of the Place. To honour the Governor a Company mounts the Guard every Day before his Palace, and to curb the mutinous *Chineses*. There are in the City of *Manila* about 800 Souldiers in all, but their Pay is only two Pieces of Eight, and 50 Pound of Rice a Month.

This Grandeur and Power is somewhat eclips'd by a dreadful Trial, the wicked People of *Manila* make their Governors go through. They do not then examine the heinousness of Offences, but the Sums receiv'd in eight Years, punishing the Purse instead of the Person. The Accusers have 60 Days allow'd them, after Proclamation made through the Provinces to bring in their Complaints, and 30 Days to Prosecute before the Judge, who is generally the Successor in the Government, by special Commission from the King, and his supream Council of the *Indies*; which reserves to it self the judging of some

Severe
Trial.

H h h 2

Matters

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Matters of Consequence. Therefore the Judge having receiv'd all Informations, without deciding any thing, returns all the Proceedings to Court, after giving Sentence in those Cases which are left to him. The *Oydores* or Judges, who Govern after the Governor's death, or are remov'd to another Post in *Mexico*, are subject to the same Tryal; but with this difference, that they may go away, leaving an Attorney to Answer for them. There is so much Rigour us'd in this Tryal, that sometimes they proceed to Imprisonment, without respect to the Greatness of the Post posselt by the Person; as hapned to *D. Sebastian-Hurtado-de-Corcuera*, and *D. James-Faxardo*; the first of which was kept Prisoner 5 Years in the Castle of *St. James*; and the other not much less; but by special Order from his Majesty they had all restor'd that had been wrongfully taken from them at their Tryal. 'Tis true the Council of the *Indies* has moderated this Rigour, ordering that the Governors be not Imprison'd, but that the Informations being taken, they be sent into *Spain*; but this is not punctually observ'd because of the great distance. The Inhabitants of *Manila* did so terrifie *D. Saviniano-Marriguez-de-Lara* at his Tryal; that being imbark'd for *Spain*, he never ceas'd all the Voyage to ask whether the Vessel could return to *Manila*, and being at last assur'd by the Pilot that he must either land in *New Spain* or dye, he pleasantly said, *Then a t—d for Manila*. In short since the Islands were Conquer'd, no Governor has return'd to *Spain* but he and one more; for all of them either break their Hearts at their Tryal, or dye with Hardship by the way. It is certain this Tryal is worth 100000 Crowns to the new Governor, which he that goes off must have ready to come off well in this dreadful Tryal.

When I went thither the Governor was *D. Fausto-Cruzat, y-Gongora*, Knight of *Santiago*, or *St. James*, descended

from the antient Kings of *Navarre*, and one of the best Captain Generals the Islands had since they were Conquer'd. All the other Governors before him had anticipated upon the Revenue several thousands to maintain the Souldiers; but he during his Government, not only clear'd all Debts, but so improv'd the Revenue, that when I was at *Manila*, there were 400000 Pieces of Eight in the Treasury; for he by his great Ability, Wisdom, Zeal and Application had advanced the Revenue 110000 Pieces of Eight a Year. As for the Execution of Justice, and Places bestow'd, if the People of *Manila* will lay aside all prejudice, they cannot choose but commend his Conduct, for he has behav'd himself uprightly in all his Actions, and has bestow'd the *Encomiendas* or *Lordships* before-mention'd on well deserving Souldiers; the Offices of *Alcades* on Natives of the Place well qualify'd, according to the King's Orders; and Church Livings on the most deserving, without suffering himself to be corrupted. I do not write for Favour or Affection, for what I say is so true, that the King being inform'd of it, declar'd, he was faithfully serv'd by that Governor, and continu'd him in his Government, at such time as he had receiv'd 70000 Pieces of Eight, and given the Commission to his Successor to go take Possession of the Place. I was actually at *Mexico* when the King's Orders came for restoring the 70000 Pieces of Eight to the intended Successor out of the King's Treasury. This Gentleman's good Behaviour set him above the fear of a Trial. He was unfortunate in setting out Galeons, for in his time two of the greatest that were built in the Islands were cast away. The one was call'd *St. Joseph*, the other *Santo Christo*; and in them both the People of *Mexico* and *Manila* lost above a Million, which reduced *Manila* to great Poverty, but it recovers by the Arrival of other Ships.

CH A P. VI.

Of the Philippine Islands, their Discovery, and of the several Nations that have Peopled them.

THere being a great number of Islands under the Governor of *Manila*, of which place we have hitherto spoke, it will be convenient to give a short Account of the most remarkable

of them; and the more because they are little known in *Europe*, and not taken notice of in Maps.

The Author of Nature, and of the wonderful Creation of this World, *Philippines* in general, placed

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placed an Archipelago strew'd with Islands, now call'd *Philippines*, in the great Indian Ocean beyond *Ganges*, and almost opposite to the long extended Coasts of *Malaca*, *Sian*, *Camboia*, *Chinampa*, *Chochinchina*, *Tunkin* and *China*. The famous *Ferdinand Magellanes* call'd it *Archipelago de S. Lazaro*, because he came to an Anchor there in the Year 1521, upon Saturday before Passion Sunday, vulgarly in Spain call'd of *St. Lazarus*. The Name of *Philippines* was given them in 1543, by the General *Luis Lopez-de-Villalobos*, in honour to Prince *Philip*, then Heir to the Crown of Spain; or as others will have it in 1564, when he was actually Reigning, when the *Adelantado-Michael-Lopez-de-Legaspi* came to Conquer the Islands. What their antient Name was is uncertain, yet some Authors affirm they were call'd, Islands of *Luzones*, all of them taking the Name, as the *Canaries* have done, of the biggest, which is *Manila*, or *Luzon*; which in the *Tagala* Language signifies a Mortar, as if they had express'd the Country of Mortars. *Luzones* are certain wooden Mortars a Span deep, and the same Diameter, in which the *Indians* pound their Rice, which they afterwards sift through Sieves they call *Bilas*. There is no *Indian* but has one before his Door. The Inhabitants of the Island *de los Pintados* cut out three upon one same piece of Timber along one by another, that so many People may Work at once, for the Inhabitants of all the Islands feeding on Rice, they first bruise it in a Mortar, before they Boil it. Others, as for Instance the *Portugueses*, call them *Menilas*, a Name known ever since *Ptolomy*, as some will have it.

Cabrer.
lib. 7. c. 8.
p. 422. cap.
11.

Five great
Islands.

Five lesser.

The Ships that come from *America* to the Archipelago of *St. Lazarus*, or *Philippines*, when they discover Land must of necessity see one of the four Islands of *Mindanao*, *Leyte*, *Ibabao* and *Manila*, from the Cape of *St. Augustin*, because they front the vast Ocean, which they call of *Spain*, for above 600 Miles, lying in a Semicircle. *Manila* is seated North-East; *Ibabao* and *Leyte*, South-East, and *Mindanao* South. To the West of them is *Paragua*, the biggest next to *Manila* and *Mindanao*, with the which it makes a Triangle, but the Point of it next to *Borneo* belongs to that King; and the other to *Spain*. In the midst of this sort of Triangle, besides the five Islands already nam'd, there are five others, Large and Populous, viz. *Mindero*, *Panay*, *Illa de Negros*, or the

Island of Blacks, *Sebu* and *Bohol*. So that the most remarkable Islands of this Archipelago are but ten, the Number mention'd by *Ptolomy* in the Place above-mention'd. Among these ten here nam'd there is the same Number of small ones, all Peopled, which biginning to reckon them as they fall in the way the Ships take that are Bound for *New Spain*, are *Laban*, where the *Galeon St. Joseph* was cast away, *Marinduque*, *Illa de Tablar*, *Romblon*, *Sibugan*, *Masbate*, *Ticao*, *Capul*, and *Catanduanes*, without the Streight.

Ten lesser.

It is no easy Matter to give a distinct Relation of all other small ones, partly Inhabited, and partly Desert, but all known by the *Indians* that go to gather their Product; I can only say in general that opposite to the Island of *Manila* on the North side, between two Capes call'd *Boxeador* and *del Engano*, at 24 Miles distance, are the Islands *de los Babuyanes*, the first inhabited by Christian *Indians*, who pay a Tribute; the other by Savages near the *Lequios*, and Island of *Formosa* on the West. Near *Paragua*, opposite to *Manila*, there are three Islands call'd *Calamianes*, and then eight or nine more, all inhabited. Then turning to the Southward, ninety Miles from *Calamianes*, opposite to *Caldera*, and Point of *Mindanao*, are *Taguima*, *Xolo*, with other small ones about them.

Other
small
Islands.

The Islands of *Cuyo* lie between *Calamianes* and *Panay*, in the Province of *Oton* and *Maras*. The Island of *Fuegos*, or Fires, is near that of *Negros*, or Blacks. There is also *Bantayan* not far from *Zebu*; *Pangla*, near *Bohol*; *Panamao*, *Maripipi*, *Camiguin*, *Siargao*, and *Pannon*, which lie between *Mindanao* and *Leyte*, and many others whose fix'd Number it is hard to know. This shews their Mistake, who say the *Philippine* Islands are forty, for if they mean the great ones, they are not so many; and of all sorts there are many more.

All these Islands are in the Torrid Zone, between the Equinoctial and Tropic of *Cancer*, for the extreme Points of Latitude in this Archipelago are *Sarrangan*, or Cape *St. Augustin*, the Point of *Mindanao* in five Degrees and a half; *Babuyanes*, and Cape *de Engano*, the utmost Points of *Manila* in twenty Degrees; *Embocadero de St. Bernardo* in thirteen Degrees; and the middle of the Island and City of *Manila* in fourteen Degrees and a few Minutes. Their Longitude according to the best Maps, and Carts is 155 Degrees; tho' according to *Magellan's* Account it be 161, and this



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this because all Men do not reckon from the same Point. Now whereas *Ptolomey* places his Islands *Maniola* in 142 Degrees, it plainly appears, that considering the different Accounts, and Rules of taking Longitudes, the *Maniola* are not the same, as the *Manilos*, either as to situation or Number, and that they are much out of the way, who will have *Manila* to be built 160 Years, after the Birth of Christ, when *Ptolomey* flourish'd; without being able to deduce any Conjecture, from the Antiquity of its Structures, because those Nations use no other Materials, but Wood and Cane, and their Buildings are very Weak.

Conje-
ctures a-
bout the
Islands.

There are sundry Opinions concerning the Original of these Islands. Some say they were Created with the World, when the Author of Nature discover'd the Land, and divided it from the Waters. Others that they remain'd after the Flood. Others affirm they were made by particular inundations of Provinces, Tempests, Earthquakes, natural Fires, and other accidents, which use to cause Alterations both at Sea and Land; as some say, happened to *Sicily*, which they conceit was formerly contiguous to the Continent of *Italy*; the Island of *Cyprus* to *Syria*, and others. Lastly, others by the heaping of Matter, and the natural Alterations of these two Elements; particularly occasion'd by Rivers, which carry the Earth from one place, and settle it in another, or else by the usual washing of Rivers, which the Sea with the motion of its Waves, by degrees, heaps in one place or other, so that in Process of time, they come to be Islands. All this may be said of all the Islands in the World, as well as those; but the *Phillippines* may be rais'd particularly by the last means spoke of, because in several parts of them, there are burning Mountains, and on the tops of others Springs of hot Water. The Earthquakes are frequent and terrible at certain times; insomuch that they scarce leave any Structure standing, as *Manila* can sufficiently testify. The Winds call'd by the *Indians* *Baguyos*, by the *Spaniards* *Tifones*, and by us *Huracans*, are here so violent, that besides the Wrecks they cause at Sea, they Root up mighty Trees, and drive before them, vast quantities of Water, which drown Countries a great way up the Land. Among the Islands there is a Shoal Water, and many Flats, especially near the Continent;

insomuch that in many places there is no Sailing, and the Ships are forced to seek out Channels, which Providence has left to keep up a Communication from one Country to another. These may be Grounds to Conjecture, that if any of these Islands were at the Creation join'd to the Continent, several accidents, and especially the Flood might have divided them into so many distinct Parts, making of one great one, an Archipelago of little Islands.

It is not my business here to Argue, whether *Tharsis*, the Son of *Javan* with his Brothers, was the first that inhabited these Parts; but when the *Spaniards* first came to *Manila*, they there found three sorts of People. On the Sea Coasts there liv'd and rul'd *Malay Moors*, come, as they said, from *Borneo*, and the Continent of *Malaca*; where a Streight call'd *Malay*, has given its Name to all the *Malayes* dispers'd throughout the greatest and best part of that Archipelago. From these are descended the *Tagalians*, which are the Natives of *Manila* and the Country about it, as appears by their Language being very like the *Malayan*; by their Colour, Shape, Habit they wore when the *Spaniards* arriv'd, and in short by their Customs and Manners, taken from the *Malayes* and other *Indian* Nations. The coming of these People into the Islands, might be accidental, occasion'd by some Storm; for we see by experience, that several other Nations have been drove hither by Storms. In 1690, some *Japoneses* were drove ashore, who became Christians, and lifted themselves in the King's Forces, it being inevitable Death to them, to return home, after they had been in another Country, tho' against their Wills. I saw some of those *Japoneses* in *Manila*, who wore two wide Garments, with wide round Sleeves. The under Garment was girt with two Girdles, one from the left, and the other from the right, as the *Spanish* Clergy-men, wear them. Their Breeches were long, and their Shooes like *Recolets* Sandals. They wore their Hair short, but the Forehead shav'd as far as the Crown of the head. Besides the *Malayes* might come design'dly to Inhabit there, on Account of Trade, and for profit sake; or else being banish'd their Country; but these are all incertainties.

The Natives call'd *Bisayas*, and *Pin-tados*, of the Province of *Camerines*; and *Pin-tados*, as also those of *Leyte*, *Samar*, *Panay*, and other places, it is likely came from *Macassar*,
Bisayas
and Tagalians.

Gemelli. 1697. *casar*, where they say there are some People who Trim and Paint their Bodies like these *Pintados*. In the Relation, *Peter Fernandez de Quiros* gives of the discovery made in 1595, of the Islands of *Salmon*, he says they found in ten degrees of North Latitude, 1800 Leagues from *Peru*, much about the Latitude and distance of the *Philippine Islands*, an Island call'd *la Madalena*, or the *Magdalen*, inhabited by well shap'd *Indians*, Taller than the *Spaniards*, who went Naked, with all their Bodies wrought, after the same manner as the *Bisayas*.

It is likely the Inhabitants of *Mindanao*, *Xolio*, *Bohol*, and part of *Zebu* came from *Ternate*, by reason of their Nearness, Trade, and Likeness of Religion, to whom they still have recourse, in Case of War. The *Spaniards* at their first coming, found they had the Command in the aforesaid Islands.

Negrillos. The Blacks, by the *Spaniards*, call'd *Negrillos*, who live on the Mountains and in thick Woods, whereof there is Plenty in *Manila*, differ quite from all the rest. They are meer Barbarians, and feed on such Fruit and Roots, as the Mountains afford, and upon all they can kill, even to Monkeys, Snakes, and Rats. They go naked, except their Privities which they cover with the Barks of Trees, by them call'd *Babaques*; and the Women with a Clout wove of the Fibers of Trees, call'd *Tapisle*. They use no other Ornament, but Bracelets made of Rushes, and *Indian Canes* of several Colours. They have no Laws, Letters, or Government, but that which Kindred makes, for they all obey the Head of the Family. The Women carry their Children in Wallets made of the Bark of Trees, and ty'd about them with a Cloth, as some Women of *Albania* do in *Italy*, or like the *Irish Women*. Where Night overtakes them, there they lye, either in the hollow of a Tree, or under Mats, made of the Bark of Trees, set up like Huts; and thus they live like Brute Beasts, only for the sake of Liberty, that is, not to be Subject to the *Spaniards*. This same foolish love of Liberty, is the Cause, they will not suffer the Blacks of another Mountain to come to theirs, and on this Account they fight one another desperately. They are such Enemies to the *Spaniards*, that if they happen to kill one, they invite all their kindred, and rejoice for three days, drinking out of the Skull, clear'd for that purpose; by which means, they afterwards get Wives

the easier, as being more Couragious. Their Weddings consist only in touching of Hands, the Parents making their Children hold them out.

This mixing with the Wild *Indians* produced the Tribe of *Mangbian*, who are Blacks dwelling in the Isles of *Mindora* and *Mundos*, and who peopled the Islands *de los Negros*, or of Blacks. Some of them have harsh frilled Hair, like the *African* and *Angola* Blacks, others long. The colour of some of them, is like *Ethiopians*; others more whitish, and some of these have been seen with a Tail half a Span long, like those Islanders *Ptolomey* speaks of, *Comen. lib. 7. Tav. 11. pag. 166.*

The *Sambali*, contrary to the others, tho' Wild have long Hair, like the other Conquer'd *Indians*. The Wives, of these Savages are deliver'd in the Woods, like She Goats, and immediately wash themselves and the Infants in the Rivers, or other cold Water; which would be immediate Death to *Europeans*. These Blacks when pursu'd by the *Spaniards*, with the sound of little Sticks, give notice to the rest, that are dispers'd about the Woods, to save themselves by Flight. Their Weapons are Bows and Arrows, a short Spear, and a short Weapon, or Knife at their Girdle. They Poison their Arrows, which are sometimes headed with Iron, or a sharp Stone, and they bore the Point, that it may break in their Enemies Body, and so be unfit to be shot back. For their Defence, they use a Wooden Buckler, four Spans long, and two in breadth, which always hangs at their Arm.

Tho' I had much discourse about it, with the Fathers of the Society, and other Missioners, who converse with these Blacks, *Manghians*, *Mandi* and *Sambali*, I could never learn any thing of their Religion; but on the contrary, all unanimously agree they have none, but live like Beasts, and the most that has been seen among the Blacks on the Mountains, has been a round Stone, to which they pay'd a Veneration, or a Trunk of a Tree, or Beasts, or other things they find about, and this only out of fear. True it is, that by means of the Heathen *Chineses*, who deal with them in the Mountains, some deformed Statues have been found in their Huts. The other three beforemention'd Nations, seem'd inclin'd to observing of Auguries, and *Mahometan* Superstitions, by reason of their Commerce, with the

Ma-



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Malayes and Ternates. The most receiv'd Opinion is, that these Blacks were the first Inhabitants of the Islands; and that being Cowards, the Sea Coasts were easily taken from them by People resorting from *Sumatra, Borneo, Macassar* and other Places; and therefore they retir'd to the Mountains. In short, in all the Islands where these Blacks, and other Savage Men are, the *Spaniards* Possess not much beyond the Sea Coasts; and not that in all Parts, especially from *Maribeles*, to *Cape Bolinao* in the Island of *Manila*; where for 50 Leagues along the Shoar, there is no Landing, for fear of the Blacks, who are most inveterate Enemies to the *Europeans*. Thus all the in-land Parts being possess'd by these Brutes, against whom no Army could prevail in the thick Woods, the King of *Spain* has scarce one in ten of the Inhabitants of the Island, that owns him, as the *Spaniards* often told me. See *Navarrete*, who gives a much better Account of this Matter, and not by hearsay, but as an Eye-witness.

The Fathers Missioners, take much Pains, to bring these People to Salvation, going into the Woods to Preach to some of them, who are not altogether so fierce, and build little Huts or Houses, for the conveniency of the Missioner, who sometimes prevails upon a

few; but upon the least surmise of Jealousy, they burn Houses Church, and all in them, and run into the thickest of the Wood. This happens, because the Christian *Indians*, that they may have all the Profit of the Wax, the Blacks gather in the Woods, have persuaded them by all means to shun coming under the *Spanish* Yoke, because they would be oblig'd to pay a Tribute. Whoever catches one of them may keep him as a Slave; but if he becomes a Christian, when he has serv'd ten Years, he is to be made free, and then Natural Inclination prevailing, he certainly runs away to his Native Mountain.

There is another sort of People, not so Polite as the first, nor so Barbarous as these last, who live near the Springs of the Rivers, and are therefore call'd *Ilayas*, or *Tingbianos*, as Inhabiting the Mountains. There are others call'd *Zambales*, and *Igolotes*, who converse with the *Tagalis*, and *Bisayas*. Some of these Pay Tribute, tho' they are not Christians, and they are judg'd to be a mixt Race of the other Barbarous Nations, and therefore resemble them in Behaviour, Colour, and Manners. Yet all this does not make out, that Inhabitants might not go over to these Islands out of *China, Japan, Siam, Camboja*, and *Cochinchina*.

CHAP. VII.

A particular Account of the Island of Luzon, vulgarly call'd Manila.

Manila described.

HAVING spoke of the Islands in general, it will be proper now to give the Description of them in particular. Therefore to begin with *Luzon* or *Manila*, as the *Spaniards* call it, which is the chief of them. The Middle of it is in 15 Degrees of Latitude, the East Point in 13 Degrees and 30 Minutes, and the most Notherly Point in 19 Degrees. The Shape of it is like an Arm bow'd, but unequal in thickness, for in the East it is so narrow that it is but one Days Journey over; and in the North it stretches so large, that the narrowest part from Sea to Sea must be 30 or 40 Leagues. The whole length is about 160 *Spanish* Leagues, and the Circumference 350.

At the Elbow of this Arm looking towards the South East, a great River falls into the Sea, and makes a noble Bay 30 Leagues in Compass, call'd *Bahia* by the *Spaniards*, because it flows from

a great Lake, call'd *Babi*, eighteen *Italian* Miles from *Manila*. In this place the *Indians* had their Principal Village, consisting of about 3500 Houses, towards the East, in the Angle made by the River and the Sea. Behind it were many Ponds, which made the Place naturally Strong, and the Soil was Fruitful of all things, necessary for the Life of Man; for which reason *Michael Lopez*, the first Conqueror of the Island, thought fit to found the Principal City in this Place, under the Antient Name of *Manila*. This was done, as has been said before, on the Feast of St. John Baptist 1571, five days after the Conquest, which falling out on the 19th of the Month, being the Feast of St. *Potenciana*, She was chosen Patroness of the Island.

In sight of *Manila*, and three Leagues from it, is the Port of *Cavite*, upon the same Bay, which for the most part is deep, and abounds in Fish, and the Shores

Cavite
Port.



Shores are cover'd with many Trees and Villages. Directly against the Mouth of the Bay, eight Leagues from Manila is *Maribeles*, a little Island three Leagues in Compass, and half a League in length, but high. Here is a renown'd Officer, with six Souldiers upon Guard, he is also *Corregidor*, or chief Magistrate of a Village of 50 Houses, seated on the side of Manila. The greatest Profit he makes is by the Blacks, who bring him store of Wood, for a little Tabacco and Rice, which he sells at good Rates in Manila. This shows the Blacks are not such Enemies to the Spaniards, as he speaks of before. There are 3 Mouths to come out of the Sea, into the Bay; the first is most us'd, by reason of its depth, and being half a League over, and lies between the said Island, and *Punta del Diablo*, or the Devil's Point; the 2d is a quarter of a League wide, lying between the opposite Shore, and the Rock call'd, *de las Cavallos*, or of the Horses, it is unsafe, as having little Water and some Rocks under it; the third is wider, being three Leagues over, and lies between the aforesaid Rock, *de los Cavallos*, and the Point of *Marigondon*, but it has Flats, and there must be much care in Sailing up it.

Without the said Bay, on the Left-Hand, the way the Ships go to *New Spain*, at 14 Leagues distance, is the Bay of *Balayan* and *Bombon*, three Leagues in Compass, behind which is a Lake well peopled round about. Sailing on still Eastward, is the Point of *Azufre*, or *Brimstone*, and the Bay of *Batangas*, inhabited round about by *Indians*; near the Point whereof, there is a small Island call'd, *la Caza*, as abounding in Game. Between this and the Point before mention'd, is the Port of *Malcaban*; fatal for the Death of the Governor *Gomez Perez de las Marinas*, Murder'd by the *Chineses* that row'd the *Capitana* Galley, with several other Persons.

Beyond the Bay of *Batangas*, are the Villages of *Lobo* and *Galvan*, about which there are signs of Mines. Here ends the Province of *Balayan*, beginning at *Maribeles*, and inhabited by about 2500 Tributary *Indians*. It abounds in Cotton, Rice, and Palm-trees. Then follows the Province of *Calilaya*, or *Tayabas*, which reaches to *Cape Bondo*, and up the Country to *Mauban*, on the opposite Coast of the Island. It has more Inhabitants, and is larger than the other. Next is the Province of *Camarines* in which are *Bondo*, *Passacao*, *Iba-*

lon, Metropolis of the Government of *Caranduanes*; *Bulan*, where the Ship call'd the *Incarnation* was cast away, returning from *New Spain* in 1649; *Sorsocon*, or *Bagatao*, where the King's great Ships are built; and *Albai*, a large Bay without the Streight, where there is a high burning Mountain, which is seen at a great distance by the Ships coming from *New Spain*. In this Mountain there are some Springs of hot Water, and among the rest one of such Nature that whatsoever falls in, whether Wood, Bone, Leaf, or Cloth, is turn'd into Stone. The Governor D. *Francis Tello* had a Crab presented him half petrify'd, care having been taken, that it should not all be converted. At the Village of *Tivi*, two Leagues from the side of the Mountain, there is a great Spring of lukewarm Water, which has the same Quality of Petrifying, even living Creatures, as Crabs, Serpents, and Crocodils. One of these was found converted into Stone, as long as a Man's Arm, by F. *John de Santa Cruz*, whilst he was Curate there. But particularly the Woods *Molave*, *Binanuyo*, and *Naga* turn Stone. The same is to be seen in other Islands.

Beyond *Albay* Eastward, is the Cape of *Busaygay*, and then the Island runs Northward, leaving the Isles *Caranduanes* on the Right-Hand. Coasting from them Westward, they meet the River *Bicor*, which flows from a Lake and runs by the City *Caceres*, Founded by the 2d Governor, and Proprietor of these Islands D. *Francis de Sande*. Here resides the Bishop of *New Caceres*, under whom are the Provinces of *Colilaya*, *Camarines*, and *Ifalon*. Next to the Province of *Camarines* is that of *Paracale*, where there are Rich Mines of Gold, and other Metals, and of excellent Loadstone. In it dwell about 7000 Tributary *Indians*. The Soil is good and plain, producing *Cacao* and Palm-trees, from the last of which, they get much Oyl and Wine. Three days Journey from *Paracale* along the Coast, is another Bay call'd *Mauban*, where the Island winds, and makes as it were the bowing of the Arm, opposite to the Elbow where *Manila* stands. Sometimes the Ships coming from *New Spain* have left their Money here, to be sent to *Manila*. Without this Bay, is the Port of *Lampon*, like that of *Mauban*.

From *Lampon*, to *Cape Engano*, the Coast is inhabited by none but Infidels, and Barbarians. Here begins the Province, and District of *Cagayan*, which

Hot Waters.

Cagayan, or *New Segovia*



is the largest in the Islands, being 80 Leagues in length, and 40 in breadth. The Metropolis of it, is the City call'd *New Segovia*, founded by the Governor *D. Gonzalo Ronquillo*, and in it the Cathedral Church, to which *D. Michael de Benavides*, was chosen Bishop in 1598. The City is founded on the Bank of the River of the same Name, flowing from the Mountains of *Santor*, in *Pampagna*, and runs almost across all the Province. There resides the chief Alcaide of the Province, with a Garrison of *Spanish* Foot, and of other Nations. A Stone Fort was built here, and other Works made of Gabions and Wood, for a Defence against the revolted *Indians*, call'd *Irayas*, who live on the sides of high Mountains, which divide the whole Island. In this Province, the Parish belongs to the *Dominicans*. The most Northernly Cape, is that call'd *del Engano*, dangerous by reason of the Northern Winds, and great Currents.

Fifteen Leagues from *New Segovia*, Eastward is Cape *Boxeador*, and then turning the Cape, and coasting along from North to South, 20 Leagues ends the Province of *Cagayan*, and begins that of *Ilocos*. The Peaceable *Cagayanes*, who pay Tribute, are about 9000, besides those that are not subdu'd. The whole Province is fruitful, the Natives able of Body, inclin'd to Tillage and Arms, and the Women to several sorts of Work in Cotton. The Mountains produce Plenty of Wax, without any trouble; there being such abundance of Honey Combs, not only in this Province but throughout all the Island, that Wax is exceeding cheap, and all the Poor burn it instead of Oyl. They make their Candles in a hollow Stick, after this manner. They leave a small hole at each end, for the Wike to run through, and then stopping the bottom, fill it with Wax at the top, and thus the Candle is made in a moment of any Size whatsoever, which when cold, they break the Mould and take it out. On the Mountains, there is abundance of the Wood we call Brazil, Ebony and other sorts of great Value. In the Woods there is store of Wild Beasts, as Boars, but not so good as ours, and Deer, which they kill for their Skins, and Horns to sell to the *Chineses*.

The Province of *Ilocos*, is counted the Richest, and best Peopled in the Islands. Its Coast runs 40 Leagues. On the Bank of the River *Bigan*, the Governor *Guido de Laccazaris*, Successor to the *Adelantado*, in the Year 1574 built the City *Fernandina*. Up the Country the Province is not above

8 Leagues in breadth, for thither come the Mountains, and Woods inhabited by the *Igolotti*, a Tall Warlike People, and by Blacks not subdu'd. Yet the extent of the Country was view'd, when the Army march'd seven days, travelling 3 Leagues a day, always among Trees of Wild Nutmegs, and Pines, and at length came to the top of the Mountain, where were the Principal Habitations of the *Igolotti*. They live there, because of the Rich Gold Mines in those Parts, which they gather, and exchange with those of *Ilocos* and *Pangasinan* for Tabacco, Rice, and other Commodities. Besides Gold, this Province produces much Rice, and Cotton, whereof they make Quilts and other Furniture.

Next follows the Province of *Pangasinan*, for about 40 *Spanish* Leagues along the Coast. Its breadth is about 8 or 9 Leagues, and plain like *Ilocos*. The Mountains and Plains produce much Brazil Wood, call'd by the *Indians* *Sibucan*, and us'd in dying Red and Blew. The Inland is full of Wild *Indians*, who like Brute Beasts, wander naked up and down the Woods and Mountains, only covering their Privities with a Leaf. They Sow a little in their Valleys, and what more they want, they get in the Conquer'd Country, in exchange for small bits of Gold, they gather in the River. In the Province of *Ilocos*, there are 9000 that pay Tribute, and 7000 in that of *Pangasinan*. On the Coast of this Province, is the Port of *Bolinao* and *Playahonda*, Famous in the *Philippine* Islands, for the Victory there obtain'd by the *Spaniards* over the *Dutch*.

The next is the Province of *Pampanga*, where the Diocess of *New Segovia* ends, and begins that of the Archbishop of *Manila*. This Province is large, and of great Consequence; because the Natives being well instructed by the *Spaniards* help to Defend the Island, and have stood by them upon all occasions, serving not only in *Manila*, but in *Ternate* and other Provinces. Besides the Soil is very fruitful, particularly for Rice, by reason of the great Plenty of Water, so that it furnishes *Manila*. It also yeilds Timber for building of Ships, the Woods being on the Bay, not far from the Port of *Cavite*. It contains about 8000 *Indians*, who pay their Tribute in Rice. In the Mountains of this Province dwell the *Zambali*, a fierce People, and *Negrillos*, like the Blacks of *Angola* with such curl'd Hair. These are always Fighting among themselves, to defend their Woods from their Neigh-



Neighbours, and secure their Game, and
Gemelli. Pasture.

1697. The Province of *Babi* lying East of
Babi. *Manila*, is no less Important for building of Ships. About the Bay of this Name, of which we have spoke before, and in the Neighbouring Farms grows the best Fruit that is eaten in *Manila*, especially the *Bonga* or *Arecca*, and the *Buyo*, which is the same as *Betle*. This is an Aromatick, and Delicate Fruit, whereof enough has been said, when I spoke of the *Portuguese* Dominions in *India*; but it must be observ'd that this of *Manila* exceeds all other, and the *Spaniards* from Morning, till Night, never cease chewing of it. The Fruit this Plant bears, is call'd *Taclove*. This Province suffers very much, by the continual labour the Natives are put to, of felling Timber for building of Ships, two Hundred, and sometimes four Hundred being employ'd every Month in this Work on the Mountains, or at the Port of *Cavite*. The King allows them a piece of Eight a Month, and Rice enough. The whole Province contains six Thousand Tributary Natives.

Bulacan. There is also the Province of *Bulacan*, lying between *Pampanga*, and *Tondo*. It is small, its Inhabitants *Tagalians*, and abounds in Rice, and Palm Wine. The Number that pays Tribute, three Thousand.

Product. All the Island of *Manila* produces Gold, abundance of Wax, Civet, Cotton, Sulphur, Wild Cinnamon, Cacao, Rice, even on the Mountains which wants no Watering, good Horses, Cows, Buffaloes, and on the Mountains Deer, Wild Boars, and Wild Buffaloes.

Having gone round *Manila*, it remains to say something of a small Province, near the Mouth of the Channel, which was designedly omitted; because tho' its Metropolis be on the Land of *Manila*, yet the rest of it is made up of several Islands, as *Catanduanes*, *Masbate*, and *Burias*. *Catanduanes* is 30 Leagues, in compass, ten in length, and its shape is almost a Triangle. It is one of the first met with, in the way to the Islands, and so near the *Embocadero*, or Mouth

Catanduanes
 Island.

of the Channel of *St. Bernardin*, that some Pilots mistaking it, have lost their Ships there; for believing they were entering the aforesaid Mouth of the Streight, they found themselves among Dangerous Flats, which are all round the Island a Musket shot from the Shore. Its being expos'd to the North Wind, makes it always Stormy; for which reason there is no Sailing thither, but from the fifteenth of *June*, to the middle of *September*. It abounds in Rice, Oyl of Palms, Cocos, Honey, and Wax. There are several Rivers, Dangerous to cross, in whose Channels there is Gold found, brought down from the Mountains, by Floods running down deep Trenches. The biggest of them is call'd *Catandangan*, and by the *Spaniards*, *Catanduanes*, whence the Island took its Name. The Natives chief Employment is carrying Wood; making very light Boats, and carrying them to sell at *Mindora*, *Calclaya*, *Balayan*, and other places. They first make one very large, without any Deck, and not nail'd, but sew'd together, with *Indian* Canes, and then others less and less, one within another, and thus they Transport them an hundred Leagues. The People are Warlike, and Paint themselves like the *Bisayes*; they are excellent Sailors, and leaping into the Water in a Moment, turn a Boat again that has been overfet. For fear of such accidents, they carry their Provisions in the hollow of Canes close stopp'd, and ty'd to the sides of the Boats. Their Habit is only a *Bagah*, or Waistcoat which reaches down to the Knees. The Women are Masculine, and apply themselves as much as the Men to Tillage, or Fishing. They are Modestly Clad, in a Coat or Jerkin, after the manner of the *Bisayas*, and a long Mantle. Their Hair they tie on the Crown of the Head, making a knot of it like a Rose. On their Forehead, they wear a Plate of Massive Gold, two Fingers broad, lin'd with Taffeta; in their Ears three Gold Pendants, one in the place where the *European* Women use it, the other two higher. On their Ankles they have Rings, which make a noise as they go.

Vol. IV.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Islands of Capul, Ticao, Burias, Masbate, Marinduque, Mindoro, Luban, Babuyanes, Paragua, Calamianes, Cuyo, Panay, Imaras, Sibuyan, Romblon, Batan and Tablas.

Gemelli.
1697.

Capul.

Ticao.

Burias.
Masbate.

Within the aforementioned Archipelago, are *Capul*, and other little Islands, which make the Channel narrow, and the Currents the stronger, their Force being such, that sometimes they carry Ships about two or three times, though they be three Deck'd. *Capul* is three Leagues in Compass, the Soil Fruitful, Pleasant, and Commodious for the *Indians*, who have good Dwellings in it after the manner of the *Bisayas*. Eight Leagues North-west from the Mouth of the Streight is *Ticao*, an Island eight Leagues in Compass, inhabited by *Indians*, for the most part Savage. There is in it a good Port with the Convenience of fresh Water and Wood, and is therefore the last Land the Ships bound for *New Spain* touch at.

Four Leagues West of *Ticao* is *Burias*, five Miles in Compass. It has but few Tributary *Indians*, who are allotted to the Parish of *Masbate*, which is another larger Island South of it, and not far distant from *Ticao*, brought under the Obedience of the *Spaniards* in 1569. They say *Masbate* is thirty Leagues in Compass, eight in Breadth, and proportionably Long. Its Ports are Commodious for any Ship to Water. In it live about 250 *Indian* Families, which pay Tribute in Wax, Salt, and Civet. But those that dwell in the Mountains, and came from other Parts are Numerous. Here are such rich Gold Mines, 22 Carats fine, that the Mate of the Galcon *St. Joseph*, aboard which I went over to *New Spain*, going ashore in one of them, in a very short time dug out an Ounce and a quarter of pure Gold. They do not at present work at these Mines, for want of Industry in the *Spaniards*, who having Commission every Year from *New Spain*, to lay out some hundred Thousands of Pieces of Eight, with an Allowance to them of ten per Cent. take no care to look for Gold in the Mines. As for the *Indians*, if they have but a Dish of Rice, they never mind that precious Metal; and if ever they gather any in the Rivers, it is when they are press'd for their Tribute, and then they gather as much as serves to Pay it. The Shores of these Islands are often enrich'd with precious Amber-Greece, cast up by

the Current of the Channels that run upon them.

Leaving *Ticao*, *Masbate*, and *Burias* behind, and holding on the same way as the Ships that came from *Acapulco*, is the Island of *Marinduque*, 15 Leagues from *Manila*. It is 18 Leagues in Compass, high, and abounding in *Coco*, and other Fruit Trees, which the Inhabitants Live on, because there is but little Rice. There is a great deal of Pitch made, but little Wax. The peaceable Inhabitants are about 500, incorporated in the Nation of the *Tagalians*; tho' they are of another Race, as appears by the peculiar Language they have among them.

Mindoro is about eight Leagues from *Manila*, and five from *Marinduque*. This Island is fifteen Leagues long, eight in breadth, and seventy in compass. The broadest part of it is that which looks towards the South, where together with another high and round small Island, call'd *Ebin*, it makes a Streight between it and *Panay*, which they call *Porol*. There is another known by the name of *Calabite*, between it and *Luban*. The Inhabitants of *Mindoro* presently submitted themselves, upon Capt. *John de Salzedo's* assuring them, he would do no Harm. And therefore as an Acknowledgment they gave him some Ornaments of Gold they then us'd, and call'd *Oimos*. The Land of *Mindoro* is high and mountainous, abounding in *Coco*, and all sorts of Fruit Trees; but Rice grows only in some Parts. Along its Channels, and the Mouths of its Rivers there dwell peaceable *Indians*, who pay Tribute; and on the East, North-East, and side opposite to *Manila* are *Tagalians*; and so towards *Panay* and *Bisay*. Up the Inland live the *Manghiani*, who, tho' differing in Language, agree in having no Form of Government. They go Naked, only covering their Privities with Barks of Trees, call'd *Bobaques*; and change their Habitations according to the Season of the Year, because they live upon wild Fruit. Tho' they are not far from *Manila*, they have not lost their Simplicity in exchanging the Wax of their Mountains, for Nails, Knives, Needles, Rags, and other Baubles. Some Fathers of the Society of great Credit told



~~~~ told me, That these *Manghiani* have a *Gemelli*. Tail a Span long. In other Respects 1697. they are Brave, and pay Tribute, but

~~~~ have not as yet embraced the Christian Faith, except some few of the Territory of *Nauhan*, and this because they live Remote on the Tops of Mountains. *Baco* is the Metropolis of the Island, where the *Alcayde*, or Governour resides; which Place abounds in wholesome Waters, running from the Mountains, which produce abundance of *Salsaparilla*. Not far from *Baco* is a Place they call *Old Mindoro*, from which all the Island took its Name. One Cape of it call'd *Uaradero*, stretches out towards *Tal*, a Village on the Coast of *Manila*, between the two Bays of *Bombon*, and *Butangas*, and a small Island call'd *Verde*, or Green Island lying between them; the Channel for the Ships going to, and from *Cavite*, is not above a Mile over, and this narrowness is the cause of the Whirl-pools and Currents which endanger Ships when they have not a fair Wind and Current at their entring the Channel. In *Mindoro* and *Luban* they reckon there are 1700 Inhabitants who pay Tribute in Wax, and a thing like black Hemp, which the *Coco* Trees produce, and serves to make Cables for the King's Ships built at the Village of *Tal*.

Luban. *Luban* is a small low Island, 5 Leagues in Compass. Near it is the little Isle of *Ambil*, in which is a high round Mountain seen at a great distance by the *Indian* Gallies by reason of the Flames it casts up. The People of *Luban* are Passionate, and given to Drunkenness. It was the first that oppos'd the *Spaniards* with a few small Pieces of Cannon planted on a Fort. The Galeon *St. Joseph*, before-mention'd, bound for *Acapuleo*, and loaded with 12000 Bales, worth about two Millions, was cast away upon this Island, and nothing sav'd but a few Men.

Babuyanes. Beyond *Luban* Northwards there is no Island of Note; only beyond Cape *Boncador*, opposite to *New Segovia*, at eight Leagues distance from it, are the low little Islands of *Babuyanes*, stretching out to the Island *Formosa* and *Lequios*. In the nearest, which is conquer'd, there are about 500 Natives that pay Tribute. It produces Wax, Ebony, Botatas, Cocos, Plantans, and other Things for the Maintainance of the Inhabitants, and of certain Creatures call'd in the Country Language *Babuyes*, whence the Name of *Babuyanes* was deriv'd.

Fourteen, or fifteen Leagues South-

West of *Luban* are the *Calamines*, a Province made up of seventeen Islands all subdu'd, besides many others not yet reduced, among the first of which is a great one call'd *Paragua*, partly belonging to the *Spaniards*, and partly to the King of *Borneo*. This Island of *Paragua* is the third in bigness among the *Philippines*. Its shape is long like a strait Arm, by means whereof *Manila* and *Mindoro* seem to shake Hands with the great Island of *Borneo*. The Compass of it is 250 Leagues, the Length 100, but the Breadth not above twelve in some places, and fourteen in others. The middle of it lies between nine and ten Degrees of Latitude; its furthest Cape call'd *Tagusan*, towards the South-west, is fifty Leagues distant from the Island of *Borneo*, in which Interval there are many low Islands that almost join the two Lands. The Inhabitants of the Coasts of these Islands, and of *Tagusan* are Subject to the *Mahometan* King of *Borneo*; but up the Inland there are wild *Indians* unconquer'd, Barbarous, Lawless, and Subject to no King; and therefore all their Care is not to be subdu'd by the King of *Borneo*, or the *Spaniards*. Two parts of the Island are in their Possession. The *Spaniards* have in it about 1200 Tributary *Indians*, Blacks, like those of *Africk*, who Range from Place to Place, without any certain place of Abode. In cold Weather they make one great Fire, and all the Multitude gets about it. They are very faithful to the *Spaniards*, who keep a Garrison there of 200 Men, part *Spaniards*, and part *Indians*, with an *Alcayde*, or Governor, whose Residence is at *Taytay*, on the opposite Point to *Borneo*, or as the *Spaniards* call it *Bornei*, where there is an indifferent Fort. The *Lampuan*, or Governor for the King of *Borneo* resides at *Lavo*. The Island is almost all over Mountainous, and full of abundance of sorts of Trees and wild Beasts; and produces abundance of Wax on the Mountains, but very little Rice. Capt. *Emanuel de Arguelles* of *Oviedo*, a Person of great Worth on all Accounts, told me, That he going upon some Business to Confer with the *Lampuan*, he, after Entertaining him five Days very Courteously to bind their Friendship the firmer, drew a drop of his Blood, and gave it him to Drink in a Glass of Wine; which the Captain in the same manner did to him. The *Moors* after performing this Ceremony, are so Faithful, that they will sooner wrong their Brother than

Paragua.



Gemelli.
1697.

than their Friend. Another barbarous Custom is Practis'd by the Christians of *Paragua*, Subject to the *Spaniards*, which the Missioners have never been able to Abolish (as I was inform'd by the same *Arguelles*, who was there two Years *Alcayde*, or Commander in Chief) which is, That when a Child is born Blind, Halt, Lame, or Decrepit, so as to be unfit to Work; they put it Alive into a hollow Cane, and so Bury it, destroying it, as useless to its Parents, and the World. Besides the aforesaid Garrison, the *Alcayde* formerly commanded a small Fleet of Gallies to defend himself against the People of *Borneo*; but this was put down upon the Conclusion of the Peace in 1685, by D. *John Morales*, Governor of the Castle of *Manila*. Having several times Discours'd the said *Morales* concerning the Ceremonies us'd in that Embassy, for concluding the Peace, he told me, the King of *Borneo* receiv'd him in Publick, sitting after the *Mahometan* manner, on a Throne rais'd upon several Steps; causing him to sit upon Cushions on a Carpet; but that this Reception was singular, that King using to give others Audience from behind a Curtain. Nor is this to be wonder'd at, for he is so Haughty, and Reserv'd, that he suffers only his prime Minister to see his Face upon important Affairs; nor is it in his Power to do other, having taken an Oath to be so retir'd at his Accession to the Crown. The said *Morales* staid three Months at *Borneo*, and was well Entertain'd at the King's Expence.

Calamianes.

Not far from this Northern Cape of *Paragua*, are the three Islands call'd *Calamianes*, which give their Name to a Province or Government. These, and nine others near them, all small, are inhabited by peaceable *Indians*. In some of them there are 150 that pay Tribute, in others less. The chief Product of their Mountains is Wax; which they gather twice a Year. In the Rocks over the Sea are found those so highly valu'd Birds-nests, before spoken of, and about the Shores, there are very fine Pearls taken.

Cuyo
Islands.

Beyond the *Calamianes*, in sight of the high Mountain of *Mindoro*, are the five Islands of *Cuyo*, not far distant from one another. In them there are about 500 Tributary Families, more Civiliz'd, and better Affected to the *Spaniards* than those of *Calamianes* and *Paragua*. They are very Laborious, and therefore gather abundance of Rice, Grain, and o-

ther Fruit. The Mountains abound in all sorts of Beasts and Fowls. At these Islands ends the Province of *Calamianes*, and begins that of *Panay*, the first Land whereof is *Potol*. As *Paragua* is the biggest next to *Manila* and *Mindanao*, so *Panay* is the best Peopled, and most Fruitful in all the Archipelago. Its shape is Triangular, and its compass 100 Leagues. The names of its principal Capes are *Potol*, *Naso*, and *Bulacabi*. The Coast from *Bulacabi* to *Potol* lies East and West; from *Potol* to *Naso* North and South; from *Bulacabi* to *Iloilo*, another Cape less than the three great ones, is also North and South; from *Iloilo* to Cape *Naso* East and West. The middle of the Island is in the Latitude of ten Degrees. On the North side, almost in the middle between the two Capes of *Potol*, and *Bulacabi* the famous River *Panay* falls into the Sea; and as soon as out, meets with a small Island call'd *Lutaya*, in which Port the *Spaniards* had a safe Retreat before they discover'd and conquer'd *Manila* and *Cavite*. The Fertility of *Panay* is caus'd by the many Rivers that Water it (so that there is no Travelling a League along the Coast, without meeting a River that runs into the Sea) but more particularly by the already mention'd *Panay*, which gives its Name to all the Island, and runs forty Leagues. *Spaniards* of Credit told me, That when it Thunders in this Island, instead of Thunderbolts there fall Crosses of a greenish black Stone, which have great Virtue. As for the Crosses, I have seen them in the Hands of *Spaniards*; it is possible they might make them of the Stones that fell; but they affirm they are Natural, and fall in that Shape from the Sky. The Island for the better Administring of Justice is divided into two Jurisdictions. The first call'd of *Panay*, contains all that lies from Cape *Potol* to *Bulacabi*; the rest of the Island is Subject to the *Alcayde* of *Oton*, who resides at *Iloilo*, and point of Land running out into the Sea on the South side, between the two Rivers of *Tig-Bavan*, and *Jaro*; and forms a Streight, not above half a League over, with the Island *Imaras*, or rather an open Harbour. On this Point the Governor D. *Gonzala Ronquillo* caus'd a Fort to be built in the Year 1681. The Island contains about 16361 Tributary *Indians*, partly belonging to the King, and partly to particular *Encomienderos*, or Lords; but they all Pay in Rice, the Island producing 100000 Bushels *Spanish Measure*, and but little other



Gemelli.
1697. other Grain. The Inhabitants are Cor-
pulent, and good Country-men and Hun-
ters, the Island being full of wild Boars
and Deer. The Women make Cloth of
several Colours. There are in the Island
14 Parishes belonging to the Fathers of
the Order of St. *Augustin*, three Bene-
fices of secular Priests, and one College
of the Society of Jesus, where they Ad-
minister the Sacraments to the Garrison
of *Iloilo*. Besides the Tributary *Indians*,
there are here of those Blacks the *Spaniards*
call *Negrillos*, who were the first
Inhabitants of the Island, and afterwards
drove into the thick Woods by the *Bi-
say* who came to Conquer it. Their
Hair is not so Curl'd, nor they so big
as the *Guinea* Blacks. They Live in the
most uncooth Parts of the Mountains
with their Wives, and Children all Na-
ked, like wild Beasts. They are so swift
that they often overtake wild Boars and
Deer. They stay about the dead Beast
as long as it lasts, for they have no o-
ther Harvest but what they Reap with
their Bow and Arrows. They fly from
the *Spaniards*, not through Hatred, but
for Fear. Eight Years since, *D. John de
la Sierra*, a Gentleman well qualify'd,

and a very zealous and upright Minister,
going to Visit the Island, some of the
Blacks came down to ask Missioners of
him to Instruct them in our Holy Faith;
and brought him in a Basket, a Black
Woman twenty Years of Age, and but
two Spans and a quarter high, who be-
ing Baptiz'd was call'd *Mary*.

Among the Islands lying about *Panay* *Imarasi*
is *Imaras*, opposite to *Iloilo*, and about
a quarter of a League distant from it.
It is long and low, ten Leagues in Com-
pass, and three in Length; the Soil Fer-
tile, abounding in *Salsaparilla*, and good
Water. On the Mountains there are
wild Boars, Deer, and good Trees. It
has the Port of St. *Anne*, three Leagues
from *Iloilo*.

Ten or eleven Leagues to the North-
ward of the Point of *Bulacabi*, is an
Island call'd *Sibuyan*, equal to the last.
Two Leagues to the Northward, are
Romblon and *Batan*, and then the Island of
Tablas, larger than the others, and five
Leagues distant from the Point of *Potol*.
In it there are many *Indians* of the same
Language, and little differing from those
of *Panay* in other respects.

C H A P. IX.

Of the Islands of Samar, Leyte, Bohol, Sibuyan, Bantayan, Camotes, Ne-
gros, Fuegos, and Panamao.

Samar.

Between the two great Islands of
Manila and *Mindanao* are those of
Leyte, *Samar*, and *Bohol*, which one af-
ter another make a part of the Semicir-
cle form'd by them altogether. The
first of the three, and nearest to *Manila*
is call'd *Samar*, on the side shut up by
the Isles, and *Ibabao* on that side next
the main Ocean. Its shape is like the
Trunk of a Man's Body, without Head
or Legs; its greatest length from Cape
Baliquaton (which with the Point of *Ma-
nila* makes the Streight of St. *Bernardin*)
in thirteen Degrees, and thirty Minutes
of North Latitude, to that of *Guignan*
in eleven Degrees, towards the South.
The other two Points representing the
Elbows of the Body, and making the
greatest breadth of the Island, are *Cabo
de Spiritu Santo*, or Cape Holy Ghost,
whose high Mountains are the first dis-
cover'd by the Ships coming from *New
Spain* into those Eastern Parts, and that
which lying opposite to *Leyte* Westward,
makes another Streight, scarce a Stones
throw over; and yet the Ship St. *Ju-*

anillo, or the little St. *John* coming from
New Spain, pass'd through it. The whole
compass of the Island is about 130 Leagues.
Between *Guignan* and Cape *Spiritu Santo*,
is the Port of *Borongon*, and not far off,
those of *Palapa*, and *Catubig*, the little
Island of *Bin*, and the Coast of *Catarman*.
Vessels of unknown Nations are often
cast away on the aforesaid Coast of *Pa-
lapa*. To which purpose Persons of Cre-
dit told me, That some Years since,
there arriv'd People there who said they
came from Islands not far distant, one
of which was Inhabited by none but Wo-
men, and that Men go over to them at
certain times to Lie with them, and
bring away the Male Children. The
Spaniards by Fame call it the Island of
the *Amazons*. They also reported there
were such vast Quantities of Amber-
Greece found there, that they made use
of it instead of Pitch about their Boats;
which seems the more probable, confi-
dering, the abundance of it thrown up
by Storms on the said Coast of *Palapa*.
F. Antony Borgia of the Society of Jesus,
and

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and General Procurator for the Philippine Islands told me further, as did Michael Martinez, Commander of the *Galeon*, that carry'd me to *New Spain*; that a Christian Indian had there found a Piece of a vast Bigness; which, he not knowing the Value of, us'd as Pitch, about his Boat; but the Curate, who was of the Society hearing of it, bought it at a small Rate. F. Borgia, and the Commander Martinez were of Opinion, that the aforesaid Islands, not yet discover'd, might be those of Solomon, rich in Gold and Amber, which the Spaniards have several times sought after.

Within the Streight of St. Bernardin, and beyond Baliquaton is the Coast of Samar, on which are the Villages of Ibatan, Bangahon, Catbalogan, (where the Military Commander, and Alcayde reside) Paranos, and Calviga. Then follows the Streight call'd of St. Juanillo, or little St. John (whose Coast looks to the South) without which standing Eastward, appears the Point and little Island of Guiguan, where the compass of the Island ends. It is Mountainous and Craggy, but fruitful in the few Plains there are. The Fruit is much the same as that of Leyte, but here is one peculiar fort, call'd by the Spaniards Chicoy, and by the Chineses (who put a great Value on it) Seyzu, without Kernels. There also grows near Catbalagan another Plant of a prodigious Virtue, little known among the Europeans, as having been discover'd by the Fathers of the Society, but of late Years. The Dutch are also acquainted with it, as Trading at Batavia, and therefore at first would give double the quantity in Gold for it. The Plant is like Ivy, and like it twines about a Tree. The Fruit, which grows out of the Knots and Leaves of the Plant, resembles a Melocotoon in bigness and colour, and within has eight, ten, or sixteen Kernels, as big as a Hazle-nut each, Green and Yellow, which when Ripe drop out of themselves. Some call them Fruit of Catbalogan, others of St. Ignatius, and the Indians Bisay-Igasur. These also grow in the Islands of Bantajan, Ilabao, Igasur and Caragas; but those of Panamao, and Leyte are most esteem'd. They work their Effect better, adding to them another Fruit the Indians call Ligazo, and the Spaniards, Pepinillo de S. Gregorio, much like the Balsam Plant, but full within of a Substance like a bundle of Hemp. I brought of both sorts into Europe, that the Curious may make Trial of the rare Virtues ascrib'd them in those Countries.

A rare Fruit.

What they are the Reader will perceive by the following Account given me word for word by the Apothecary of the Fathers of the Society, who told me it was no more than what F. Moleco of the said Society had found by Experience.

The Dose must be proportionable to the Patient's Strength, and Distemper, but the most usual is the weight of half a Royal, that is, the 16th part of an Ounce, powder'd, and mix'd in Wine, or Water. If it has no Effect the first time, the Dose may be repeated. In the first place it is a powerful Antidote against any Poison either of venomous Herbs, or by blowing, as is us'd by the Indians of Borneo, the Philippines, and other Islands; for being carry'd about one, the Person so carrying it is not only safe from being hurt by the Poison, but it hurts him that designs to Destroy another. This is so certain that F. Alexius, a Jesuit, having one of these Nuts he found in the Garden accidentally, in his Pocket, and an Indian coming to Poison him with a blast of venomous Herbs, instead of doing the Father Harm, he himself dropt down in his Sight. Inquiring into the occasion of this Accident, other Indians own'd the Truth, as being very well acquainted with the Virtue of their Herbs, and thus discover'd the wonderful Power of that Fruit. Being drunk in Wine, as aforesaid, it is excellent to bring up any Poison. Secondly, It is good against the Cholick, and windy Distempers being carry'd about one, like Tumbaga, or drank in Wine. Thirdly, It takes away all Pains in the Belly and Stomach, drank in Water. Fourthly, It is good against Convulsions drank, and laid upon the Part. Fifthly, It helps Women in Labour, and has such Power that being apply'd before the time it may cause Miscarriage. Sixthly, It is good against the Gripes. Seventhly, against the Bite of venomous Creatures, both apply'd to the Place, and drank in Liquor. Eighthly, Against the Sting of the Insect Basil, found in the Philippine Islands, taken the same way. Ninthly, Against Tertian and Quartan Agues given when the Fit comes on. Tenthly, Being apply'd to Wounds it stops Bleeding, either whole or in Powder. Eleventhly, It helps Catars, Tooth-Aches and Pains in the Gums. Twelfthly, Carry'd in the Mouth it settles the Belly and Stomach, especially if the Party swallows its Spittle. Thirteenthly, Worn about one it

is



Gemelli. is good against Witchcraft; fourteenthly, Against all sorts of Fluxes, either Proceeding from a hot Cause, or a Cold. Which virtues here mention'd are certain, and try'd; but 'tis believ'd it has many more, which will be found by experience, having been in use but a short time. It has been also found by experience, that the Oyl these Nuts are fry'd in, has all the aforesaid Virtues, either taken inwardly, or apply'd outwardly; and it further helps Hearing, and Dimness of Sight.

Leyte.

The Island of *Leyte* takes its Name from a Village call'd *Gleyte*, seated on a Bay opposite to *Panamao*. From the Point of this Bay, Northwards, one side of the Island runs as far as the Streight of *St. Juanillo*, or little *St. John*, twenty Leagues in length. Then turning down from North to South, is the Island of *Panahan*, at about 30 Leagues distance, where there are two Points, 3 Leagues asunder. The first is call'd *Cabalian*, the other *Motavan*, a Name taken from a Rock directly opposite, now call'd *Sogor*. *Ferdinand Magalhaens*, the first discoverer of these Islands in 1521, entred through this Streight of *Panahan*. He that gave him the best Entertainment, was the Lord of the little Island of *Dimassavan*, who conducted and guided him to *Cebu*, and there was Baptiz'd, together with the King of that Island. In the Villages of *Cabaylan*, and *Abuyog* dwelt *Tendaya*, a great Lord; who was the only Refuge of the Spaniards, and of *Villalobos* his Fleet in 1543, whose tract was afterwards follow'd by the Captains of *Michael Lopez de Legaspi*.

From *Dimassivan*, or *Sogor* Westward, there are 40 Leagues to the Point of *Leyte*, and so ends its compass of 90 or 100 Leagues. It is well peopled on the East side, that is, from the Streight of *Panamao* to that of *Panahan*, by reason of the fruitful Plains, which yeild an hundred, and two hundred for one. Vast high Mountains cut it almost through the middle, and occasion so great an alteration in the Air, that when it is Winter on the North side (at the same time as with us in *Europe*) it is Summer in the Southern Coast, and on the contrary. Thus when one half of the Island Reaps, the other Sows, and they have two plentiful Harvests in a Year; to which the Rivers running down from the Mountains, do not a little Contribute. These Mountains abound in Game, as Deer, Wild Cows, and Boars, and several sorts of Fowl; as also Mines of Yellow and

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Blew Minerals. The Earth produces great store of Roots, on which the Inhabitants feed as much as upon Bread, Grain, Coco-trees, and good Timber to build Ships. Nor is the Sea inferior to the Land, yeilding Plenty of good Fish. The Island contains about 9000, that pay Tribute in Rice, Wax, and Quilts. The Fathers of the Society have the Charge of them. The People are susceptible of any Learning, and have two good Customs, the one to Entertain one another interchangeably when they Travel, the other never to alter the Price of Provisions upon any Dearth, and this under severe Penalties. The Air is fresher in *Leyte* and *Samar*, than at *Manila*.

On the side of *Bay-bay* and *Ogmua*, *Leyte* is, next to *Bobol*, the third Island under the care of the Fathers of the Society. Its length from North to South, is 16 Leages; its breadth, 8 or 10, and its compass 40. The South Coast looking towards *Mindanao* is best Peopled; that is, from *Lobog*, the Metropolis, to the little Island or Peninsula of *Panglao*. There are three others, with fewer Inhabitants, but in all they do not make above 1200 that pay Tribute. The Soil does not produce Rice, but is Rich in Gold Mines, and abundance of *Cocos*, *Batatas*, and several sorts of Roots, which serve instead of Rice. There is abundance of Cattle in the Mountains; and Fish in the Sea; which the Natives exchange with those of the Neighbouring Islands, for Cotten. The People speak the *Bisayan* Language, but are whiter, and better Countenanced than those of *Leyte*, *Samar*, and *Panay*, and bolder both at Sea, and Land. Their haughtiness appears by his Sir-name, who commanded them before the coming of the Spaniards, which was *Baray Tupueng*, that is, Non-such. But their Pride was humbled by the *Ternates*, *Portuguese*, and *Spaniards* successively; and this was foretold them by a *Baylona*, or Priestess of theirs call'd *Cariapa*, in a lamentable Tone in Verse.

Sogbu, *Sibu*, or *Zebu* might have deserved the first place in this Description, had the order of Conquest been follow'd; this being the first Island, on which his Catholick Majesties Royal Standard was set up by *Ferdinand Magalhaens* in 1521; and whence afterwards in 1564, they set out to subdue *Manila*, and all the Islands before mention'd; but I taking them in their Natural Order, as they lye going from the East, will speak of

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it after *Manila*, *Samar*, *Leyte* and *Bohol*.
Gemelli. Its shape is longish, not extending a-
 1697. bove 15 or 20 Leagues, the Breadth 8,
 and the Circumference 48. The chief
 Point of it looking towards the South East,
 is call'd *Burulaque*, and hence its two Coasts,
 run the one from North East to South
 West, to the Streight of *Tanay*; and
 the other from North to South to the
 Island of *Matta* (four Leagues in Com-
 pass,) and the City of the holy Name of
 Jesus. This is seated on a Point in the
 Latitude of ten Degrees, almost in the
 middle of the Island, and distant from
 the aforesaid Isle of *Matta* a Musket shot
 on the East, and a Cannon shot on the
 West, where *Magellan* was kill'd, with
 his Father in Law the chief Pilot, and
 Captain *John Serrano*. Between these
 two Lands is a Port shelter'd from all
 Winds, and with two ways into it, that
 is, one from the East and one from the
 West, but there are Flats at both the
 Entrances. Here *Magellan* found many
 Vessels of several Nations at Anchor,
 and the King of that Place demanding of
 him the Duties for Merchandize and
 Anchorage, he excus'd himself alledging
 the greatness of the Spanish Monarch.
 There were at that time in *Zebu* 3000
 Families of Warlike People; and in it
 was afterwards Founded the first Town
 of *Spaniards*, with all Magistrates of
 Note. In 1598, the King made it a Ci-
 ty, sending *F. Peter de Agurto* of the
 Order of *St. Augustin* to be the first Bi-
 shop. It was then permitted to *Zebu* to
 send Ships into *New Spain*; as at this
 time only *Manila* can send two: 'Tis
 true, that *Manila* to save paying twice
 70000 Pieces of Eight, Builds one so
 big, that it is as good as two, and thus
 the King is defrauded. This Island in
 process of Time increasing in Trade,
Zebu decay'd, and came to be a small
 Village, where at present resides the Bi-
 shop, a Chief Justice, two *Alcaydes* and
 other Officers. The Cathedral and
 Houses of the Chief Men are in the Pa-
 rade, opposite to which is a good Stone
 Triangular Fort with three Bastions,
 to defend the Port, City and Country.
 In it is a Garrison of two Companies
 made up of *Spaniards*, *Pampanghi* and
Cagayani. The antientest Monastery is
 that of the Barefoot *Augustinian* Fathers,
 who were the first Preachers of the Gos-
 pel here, and is call'd of the Infant Jesus.
 This Image of an Infant was found a-
 mong the Spoils of those that were de-
 feated, on the Day of the Conquest by a
 Souldier that had been in *Magellan's* Fleet.

The *Indians* afterwards declar'd, that
 the said Image (which must be suppos'd
 to have been left there at the first disco-
 very by *Magellan's* Men) was by them
 held in great Veneration, and always A-
 nointed with Oyl, as they did their own
 Idols; and that they had recourse to it
 in their Distress. Here is also a College
 of Fathers of the Society. Of two Ham-
 lets or Villages, that of *Paryan* is Inhabi-
 ted by *Chinese* Merchants and Artificers;
 the other by native *Indians*, free from
 any Tribute, because they were the first
 that submitted to the *Spaniards*, and help-
 ed them to discover the other Islands.
 In *Zebu* there are about 5000 Houses all
 in the Parish of the Fathers of *St. Augu-
 stin*. The chief Product of all the Coun-
 try about is *Borona*, which the People
 make use of for want of Rice. Its Co-
 lour is like *Millet*, but smaller and diffe-
 rent in Taste. It also produces much
 white *Abaca* to make Cables for Ships, and
 Cloth of the finest part. This Plant is
 like an *Indian Plantain*, and is Sow'd; when
 ripe it is beaten to spin for the uses aforesaid.
 The same is done with the *Gamu-
 to*, taken out of the Heart of some Palm
 or *Coco* Trees, to make black Cordage,
 but not so lasting in Water. There
 grows also a great deal of Cotton, Ta-
 bacco, Onions, Garlick and other Things;
 and in the Mountains they find much
 Wax and Civet. Of the Cotton they
 make fine Quilts, as also of the Thread
 of the *Coco*-Tree, a sort of Cloth they
 call *Madrenaque*, with the warp of Cot-
 ton.

The neighbouring Islands to *Zebu* are *Bantayan*.
 on the North East, near Cape *Burulaque*,
Bantayan, a small Isle encompass'd by 4
 or 5 less, in all which there are only
 300 that pay Tribute, and employ them-
 selves in Fishing, and making Cotton
 Cloth and Hose. Eastward, between
Zebu and the Coast of *Ogmuch* and
Leyte, are other Islands call'd *Camotes*;
 the chief of which is *Poro*, subject to *Camotes*.
Zebu. Its Point of *Tanion* stretches out
 to the Island of *Negros*, 100 Leagues in *Negros*.
 Compass, and is separated from it by a
 small Channel a League over, but dange-
 rous because of the Current. This I-
 land extends Northward from nine to
 ten Degrees and a half. It is fruitful in
 Rice, in which its Tribute is paid, and
 it supplies *Zebu* and other adjacent Parts.
 The Mountains are Inhabited by Blacks
 with curl'd Hair (who by reason of their
 Numbers gave the Name to the Island)
 and who live in their brutal Liberty,
 like their Forefathers. The Land is di-
 vided



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1697.  vided among them; some living on the Tops of Mountains, others on the Sides; but they fight fiercely among themselves, if one Party attempts to go into the Liberties of the other. This happens very often; for it is the Custom among them, that those above can take but one Wife, and her they must take by force from them below, and on the contrary; and consequently every Day there is Blood shed, and some Kill'd, especially with Poison'd Arrows. These are Headed either with Iron, Flint, Bone or Wood hardned at the Fire. At the Mouths of Rivers dwells a third sort of Blacks who have no Commerce with the other two, and are such Enemies to the *Spaniards* that they give them no Quarter. Nevertheless if the Island happen to be Invaded by *Pyrats* of *Mindanao* or *Xolo*, they run with their Arms to Defend it, and this done they retire to the Mountains. They behave themselves in this manner, as still looking upon themselves to be the first Lords of the Island. The *Bisays* 'tis true, as an acknowledgment for having been by them receiv'd into the Island, supply them with Rice, and the Blacks requite them with Wax. These *Bisays* live in the Plain, and the greatest number of them is on the West side, under the charge of the Fathers of the Society. In the Island there are about 3000 that pay Tribute govern'd by a *Corregidor*, or civil Magistrate, and a military Commander. Here grows a

great deal of *Cacao* lately brought to the *Philippines* from *New Spain*, as also much Rice, which the Mountains produce without Watering.

The Island *Fuegas*, otherwise call'd *Fuegas Siquior*, is near the last and *Zebu*. Tho' small, 'tis Inhabited by People of Valour, and dreaded by those of *Mindanao* and *Xolo*.

The Island *Panamao* lies West on the further Coast of *Carigara*, and not above a Musket shot from *Leyte*. Its Compass is 16 Leagues, the Length four, and the Breadth proportionable. It is Mountainous, Water'd by several Rivers, and full of Sulphur and Quicksilver Mines. Formerly it was Desert, but of late the King has suffer'd it to be Inhabited, and be under the Government of *Leyte*.

In all the Islands here-mention'd there are about 250000 *Spaniards* and *Indians* subject to the Crown of *Spain*; tho' scarce the 12th Part of them be Conquer'd, as has been said elsewhere. Marry'd Men pay 10 Royals Tribute, others 3, from 18 to 60 Years of Age; as also Maids from 24 to 30. Of this number about 100000 are Tributary to the King, the others to particular Lords. However the King's Revenue does not amount to 400000 Pieces of Eight, which not being enough for the pay of 4000 Souldiers there are in all the Islands, and the extravagant Salaries of Ministers, he lays out 250000 that come from *New Spain*.

CHAP. X.

The Wealth, Trade, and Climate of the Philippine-Islands.

Civet.

These Islands are rich in Pearls (especially *Calamians*, *Pintados* and *Mindanao*) excellent Amber-greece, whereof there was once a Piece found at *Xolo* weighing an hundred Pounds; Cotton and choice Civet. This is taken from a sort of Cats that are in the Mountains, which they take with Snares. The Males after taking away their Civet, they turn loose; the Females they keep because more can be made of them.

Gold.

But Gold is the chief and greatest Treasure; for in the Mountains there are rich Mines, and the Rivers have it mix'd in their Sand. The Governor of *Manila*, discoursing with me several times, upon this Point, told me, That in all there is to the Value of 200000 Pieces of Eight a Year gather'd, without the help of Fire, or Quicksilver;

by which may be guess'd what a prodigious Quantity would be found, did the *Spaniards* apply themselves to it as Industrious, as they do in *America*. The first Tribute paid the King in Gold by the Provinces of *Illoccas* and *Pangasinan* amounted to the Value of 100000 Pieces of Eight; for then the *Indians* apply'd themselves to gathering it more Industrious, than they do at present, for fear it should be taken from them. The Province of *Paratale* abounds in it above any other, as do the Rivers of *Butuan*, *Pintadas*, *Catanduanes*, *Masbate*, and *Bohol*, for which reason formerly abundance of Ships resorted to *Zebu*, to Trade for it. The same Provinces call'd of the *Bisayas* have Plenty of Amber, Civet and Wax.



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Situation.

As for *Manila*, the Author of Nature placed it so equally between the wealthy Kingdoms of the East and West, that it may be accounted one of the greatest Places of Trade in the World. The *Spaniards* coming West about, and the *Portugueses* East about, conclude their Voyage at the *Moluco* Islands, which were formerly under the Government of the *Philippine* Islands; and generally the middle participating of the Extremes as being that which unites them; hence it was that the *Philippines* had share of the best of both the *Indies*. For here are found the Silver of *New Spain* and *Peru*; and for the East, the Diamonds of *Golconda*, the Rubies, Topazes, Sapphires, and precious Cinnamon of *Ceylon*; the Pepper of *Sumatra* and *Java*; the Cloves, and Nutmegs of the *Molucos*; the Pearls and rich Carpets of *Persia*; the fine Silks and Stuffs of *Bengala*; the Camphir of *Borneo*; the Benjamin and Ivory of *Camboia*; the Musk of *Lequios*; the Silks, Mullins, Callicoes, and Quilts, with the curious Purcellane, and other Rarities of *China*. When there was a Trade with *Japan*, there came from thence every Year two or three Ships, and brought pure Silver, Amber, Silks, Chests, Boxes, and Boards, of precious Wood, delicately Varnish'd; in Exchange for Hides, Wax, and the Fruit of the Country.

It is easy to perceive how Advantageously *Manila* is seated to gather vast Riches by Trade, because a Vessel Sailing thence to *Acapulco*, returns loaded with Silver, the Profit being four Hundred per Cent. I am of Opinion there are no such plentiful Islands in the World. For where shall we find Mountains that will maintain such a Number of Savage Men with their Fruit, and Roots naturally produced by the Trees, and Soil; for they apply themselves to nothing but Shooting, and their Number is ten times more than the Subjects of the *Spaniards*.

Air.

The Air in the *Philippine* Islands is Hot and Moist. The Heat is not so violent as in the Dog-days in *Italy*, but more troublesome by reason of the Sweat and Weakness it causes. The Dampness is greater, because the Land is generally water'd with Rivers, Lakes, and Pools, and there fall great Rains the most part of the Year; so that tho' the Sun twice a Year, that is, in *May* and *August* be in their *Zenith*, and consequently darts down his Rays Perpendicularly, and therefore most Powerful, yet the Heat is not so great as to make the Place

Inhabitable; as *Aristotle*, and other antient Philosophers imagin'd of the Places under the Torrid Zone. This I observ'd which is wonderful, that first it Rains and Lightens, and the Thunder is heard after the Rain is over. During the Months of *June*, *July*, *August*, and part of *September*, the West, and South Winds blow, which they call *Vendavales*, bringing such Rains and Storms that the Fields are all Flooded; and they are forced to have little Boats to go from one Place to another. From *October* till the middle of *December*, the North Wind prevails; and from that time till *May* the East, and East-South-East, which Winds are there call'd *Breezes*. Thus there are two Seasons in those Seas, by the *Portugueses* call'd *Monzoens*, that is, the *Breezes* half the Year with a serene dry Air, and the *Vendavales*, the other half Wet and Stormy.

It is further to be observ'd, That in this Climate, no Lice or other Vermin breed upon *Europeans*, tho' they wear dirty Shirts several Months; whereas 'tis otherwise with the *Indians*, who have great Store. Besides, they never know what Snow is, nor do they use to drink any Liquor Cold, unless perhaps some Person, who has no Care of his Health, will cool it with Salt-peter, in those Months when the North-Wind prevails, which makes the Water somewhat Cool. In the *Philippines* the Weather can never properly be said to be Cold, for the Reasons aforesaid, and because the Days and Nights are there always of an equal length; for which reason at *Manila*, they never change the Hour of Dining, Supping, doing Business, Studying, or Praying; nor do they change their Cloaths or wear Cloath but only against the Rain. The Air being here, as has been said, Hot and Moist is not wholesome, and hinders Digestion; yet is worse for young Men that come from *Europe*, than for the Old. Providence has provided against this Inconveniency by furnishing the Natives with Provisions easy of Digestion. They use no other Bread but Rice, but that not so Nourishing as what we have in *Europe*. The Oil, Wine and Vinegar comes from the Palm, or *Coco*-Trees which grow in great Numbers, by reason of the predominant Moisture. True it is, there are all sorts of Flesh, but those who live Plentifully eat Flesh only at Noon, and Fish at Night; and the Poor for the most part have no other Diet but Fish ill dress'd; nor do they ever taste



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taste Flesh except on Festivals. The great Dews that fall in fair Weather contribute towards making the Country unhealthy; for it is such, that shaking a Tree sometimes it falls like Rain. This does no harm to the Natives who live to 80 or 100 Years of Age, but the *Europeans* who are us'd to better Food, and have stronger Stomachs live there but indifferently. In both *Indies* the Hilly Country is better than the Plain. At *Manila* there is no Eating, or Sleeping, without Sweating; which is not so much in open Places where there is an agitation of the Air; and for this reason the richer Sort have their little Country-Houses to live at from the middle of *March* till the end of *June*, whilst the Heat lasts. Tho' the Heat be violent in *May*, very often at Night it Thunders and Lightens with mighty Rains. The occasion perhaps is because the Clouds, carry'd towards the Mountains by the Winds they call *Vendavales*, there meet the opposite Breezes, which drive them back to the Plain; which contrary Motions and Agitation set on Fire the sulphureous and nitrous Matter making it go off in that manner, as I observ'd whilst I was Writing this fame.

Earth-
quakes.

Manila is also subject to great Earthquakes, especially when they happen in fair Weather. Many attribute it to the subterraneous Concavities, the Waters, Vapours, and Exhalations; without considering there is no part of the World but has many such Concavities, Waters, and Vapours; and yet no such Earthquakes. Secondly, they mistake the word Exhalations; as if Exhalation were a thing lock'd up in the Bowels of the Earth, and not that which goes from it, thrust out by some other thing that is mov'd, or drawn by some outward Cause. If I may give my Opinion, I believe it to proceed from the subterraneous Fires, which give a vehement Motion to several Minerals there must needs be about them, and they having no room to Dilate themselves, push forward with great force against the neighbouring solid Bodies, which by reason of the good Connexion of the Parts not being able to break and give way (for in that Case the Earth would open in many Places) are shaken, so that the

Motion is communicated to all that is over it, even to the Superficies of the Earth; and thus happens the Earthquake. This is sufficiently made out by the force of the Saltpeter in Gunpowder; and by Experience, which shews us those Places are more subject to Earthquakes, which abound most in Minerals and subterraneous Fires; as to our Sorrow is observ'd in *Campania*, *Calabria*, and *Sicily*.

To return to *Manila*, there was such a terrible Earthquake there in *September* 1627, that it levell'd one of the two Mountains call'd *Corvallos*, in the Province of *Cagayan*. In 1645, the third part of the City was overthrown, with the Slaughter of 300 Souls; and the like hapned the next Year after. The old *Indians* say they were yet more dreadful in former times; and that for fear of them they built all Timber Houses; not as the *Spaniards* have them now, of Timber above the first Floor.

The many burning Mountains about the Island confirm all that has been said; for at certain times they cast up Flames, and shake the Earth, producing all those Effects *Pliny* ascribes to the burning Mountains in *Italy*, that is, driving from them the neighbouring Rivers and Sea, scattering Ashes round about, and rending the Stones, about which give a report like Cannon. On the contrary there is no Soil more pleasant, or fruitful. The Grass grows, the Trees Bud, Blossom, and bear Fruit at once all the Year round, and this as well on the Mountains as in Gardens; and the old Leaves seldom fall before the new ones are come. For this reason the *Tinguians*, that is, Mountaineers, have no particular Place of Abode; but always live under the shelter of the Trees, which serve them instead of Houses, and furnish them with Food, and when the Fruit there is eaten up they remove to a fresh Place where there is a fresh fort. The Orange, Lemmon, and other *European* Trees bear twice a Year. If they plant a Sprig, within a Year it becomes a Tree, and bears Fruit; therefore without any Hyperbole I may say I never saw such a verdent Soil; nor Woods full of such old and thick Trees; nor Trees that yield more Sustenance to Man.

A Voy.

A Voyage round the World by Dr. John Francis Gemelli Careri. Part IV.

Containing the most Remarkable Things he saw in the *PHILIPPINE ISLANDS*.

B O O K II.

C H A P. I.

Of the Language, Characters, and Customs of the Indians of the Philippine Islands.

Gemelli.
1697.
Writing.

THE antient Inhabitants of these Islands receiv'd their Language and Characters from the *Malays*, of the Continent of *Malaca*, whom they also resemble in shallowness of Judgment. In their Writings they make use of three Vowels, though they pronounce five, and have thirteen Consonants. They Write upwards beginning at Bottom and going up to the Top, placing the first Line on the left, and so proceeding towards the right; contrary to the *Chineses* and *Japoneses*, who Write from Top to Bottom, and from the Right to the Left. Before Paper was us'd, and now in Places where there is none, they Write on the smooth Part of Canes, or on Palm or rather *Coco*-Tree Leaves with the Point of a Knife. But when it is a Letter that must be folded they can only use the Leaves; and the same is still practis'd in *Siam*, *Pegu* and *Camboja*. In the *Philippine*-Islands, the *Indians* have almost forgot their way of Writing, making use of the *Spanish*.

Languages.

The Languages are so numerous, that there are six in the only Island of *Manila*, which are the *Tagalian*, *Pampangan*, *Bisayan*, *Cagayanian*, *Pangasinanian*, and that of *Illocas*. Tho' they all differ, yet with the help of the one the rest are soon understood, by reason of their likeness. The *Tagalian* and *Bisayan* are most generally understood. The Language of the *Negrillos*, *Zambalos*, and other Savage Nations is not understood.

Customs.

As for their Customs they Salute one another Courteously; which was formerly done by taking off their Heads a Cloth, call'd *Potang*, and in the *Tagalian* Language *Manputon*, which they

wear wrapp'd about like a Cap; and this I saw done in my time by the common Sort of *Indians* among themselves; but when they met any Persons of greater Quality, they bow'd their Bodies low, clapping one or both Hands on their Jaws, and at the same time lifting up one Foot with the Knee bent. At present when they meet with any *Spaniard*, they make the *Tave*, or Obeisance, taking off the aforefaid Cloth, bowing their Bodies, and stretching out their Hands clapp'd together towards him.

Making Obeisance.

The *Tagalians* always speak in the third Person, and say my Lord, or my Master; they sit without any Seat, upon their Legs, that is, all their Weight on their Feet, without any other part coming to the Ground, as People do to ease themselves in the Fields; and they expect to be first spok'd to that they may answer; looking upon it as ill Manners to speak before their Superiors.

Civility.

Formerly the Mothers gave their Children their Names, and those generally taken from some Circumstance at their Birth; as for instance *Malivag*, which signifies Difficult, because it was brought forth with Difficulty; *Malacas*, that is, Strong, because it appear'd such at first coming into the World; which Custom the *Chineses* still observe. Other times they gave it the Name of the first Thing that occur'd, as *Daan*, a Chimney; *Dama* the name of an Herb; and by this only Name they were known, without using any Surname, till they were Marry'd. Then the first Son or Daughter gave the Name to its Parents, as *Amani-Malivag*, *Imanani-Malacas*, that is, the Father of *Malivag*. The Mother of *Malacas*.

Gemelli. 1697. The difference between the Names of Men and Women consisted in the addition of the Syllable *In*, as for instance, *Hoge* is a Man's Name, and *Hogin* a Woman's.

Persons of the Indians.

Habit.

The *Indians* are of a middle Stature, well shap'd, both Men and Women, of a purplish Colour inclining to Black. The *Tagalians* wear their Hair long down to their Shoulders; the *Cagayanians* longer; those of *Illocos* shorter; and the *Basayans* shortest of all. The *Sambalians* cut all close before, and wear the rest of their Hair loose. They are not so intelligent and quick as those of the *East-Indies*, who are excellent at any Business; but particularly in Trade and Writing. The Women of all the Islands differ but little in Colour, except the *Basayans*, who in some Parts are white; but all wear their Hair without Breeding, yet handsomly ty'd. The general Colour being black, those that are not endeavour to make themselves so, by the help of Bark of Trees, and Oyl mix'd with Musk and other Scents. The Womens chief Care and Pride is to file and order their Teeth so in their Youth that they may grow even. They cover them with a black Dye to preserve them; and the Ladies of Quality adorn them with little Plates of Gold. The Men formerly took no care of their Whiskers and Beard, but pull'd them with Nippers. Both Men and Women in some Countries delighted in wearing Pendants in their Ears; and the bigger the Hole in the Ear was, the handsomer it was counted; some of them had two in an Ear. No Man might be Clad in Red that had not kill'd another, nor in strip'd Stuff till he had been the Death of seven. The Men's Habit was a thin Doublet, that scarce reach'd the Waste, with short Sleeves; the lower Parts they wrapp'd in a Piece of Stuff, sometimes adorn'd with Gold, which wound about between their Legs; as the *Indians* on this side *Ganges* use at present. On their Arms they wore Bracelets of Gold and Ivory, or Strings of Jewels; about their Legs black Cords; on their Hands abundance of Rings. The uppermost Garment was a little Mantle, thrown up under one Arm. At present Men and Women, Young and Old smoke abundance of Tobacco all the Day. Their Head they cover with the *Manpuon*, above describ'd, and the greatest Beaus among them let the End of it hang down on their Back. They also wear a short Garment, call'd *Chinina*; to which the Wo-

mén add a long Piece of Stuff, call'd *Sarras*, which serves instead of a Petticoat; and when they go Abroad a little Mantle. But their greatest Pride is in the Jewels they wear on their Fingers, at their Ears, and about their Necks, according to every ones Ability. They wear neither Shooes nor Hose, because of the Heat; but the Women of Quality who are Glad after the *Spanish* Fashion, wear as they do. Besides all these sorts of Garments, it is still in use among them to have their Skins wrought after several manners; first, pricking themselves till the Blood comes, and then strewing black Powder on it, that the Impression may last. For this reason the *Spaniards* gave the Island of *Bisay* the name of *Pintados*, those People delighting in this above the rest, as if it betoken'd Valour and Nobility. They did it not all at once, but by degrees, as they perform'd any noble Actions. Therefore the Men Painted their very Beards and Eyebrows; the Women only one Hand, and part of the other. In the Island of *Manila*, at present, only the People of *Illocos* Paint themselves, but not so much as those of *Bisay*.

They sit very low when they Eat, and accordingly their Table is low, either round, or square. There are as many Tables as Guests; and they Drink more at them than they Eat; for the common Food is Rice boyl'd in fair Water, and Flesh only upon Festivals. Their Wine or Liquor is drawn from the Palm, or *Coco*-Tree, cutting a Bough before it Blossoms; and thus the Moisture that should go to feed the Fruit, drops into Vessels, set for the purpose; as our Vines would do, if cut at the proper Season. This Liquor being somewhat sharp or acid, the Poor put into it some Bark of Trees which give it a Colour, and a hotter Taste, and then it is call'd *Tuba*. The Rich distill it before it is fower, more or less, according as they would have it stronger or weaker; and keep it as we do Brandy, which is clear, and of a very drying Nature. The Liquor call'd *Chilang*, is nothing but the Juice of Sugar Canes, boyl'd a little over the Fire, so that it looks like Wine, and tastes like Sugar. The *Bisayans* make another sort of Rice, and call it *Pangari*. They first put some Herbs into a Pot, with some Leaven, then cover it with Rice, till the Vessel be half full, and then pour on Water. Thus it works or ferments and the Water grows strong and thick, so that to use it they must pour

Liquors



pour a great deal more Water on it, till it is thin enough to draw. When they have a mind to drink they suck it through a Trunk or hollow Cane from the Bottom of the Vessel.

Musick
and Danc-
ing.

Their Musick and Dancing are after the *Chinese* Fashion, that is, for Singing, one goes through and the other repeats the Stanza, to the Sound of a metal Drum. The Dancing is an imitation of Fighting, but all the Motions and Actions regular. They also have many Actions with their Hands, sometimes holding a Spear or Javelin, with which they Assault one another, Retire, grow Hot, and Cool again; Charge up close, and Fall off very Gracefully; so that the *Spaniards* do not think them unworthy to be admitted to their Festivals. The Compositions in their Language are pleasant and elegant enough. But their greatest Delight is Cock-fighting, whereof we have spoke before, a Sport once us'd by the *Roman* Emperors.

Bathing.

Bathing is so much in fashion among them, that the Children new born, and the Women just deliver'd use it, and this in cold fresh Water, before Sun rising, and after its setting. For this reason their Dwellings are all on the Banks of Rivers and Lakes; and there is a washing Trough before every House for those that go in, to wash their Feet.

Cures.

Having observ'd the extravagant Method of curing the Sick, practis'd by the Physicians in the *Portuguese* Conquests in *India*, I cannot but give an Account of those of the *Philippine-Islands*. Among the rest two Cures of Diseases seem'd to me wonderful. The first of these by the *Indians* is call'd *Sutan*, by the *Spaniards* *Tabardillo*, and is no other but a violent Pain in the Head and Stomach, and is certain Death unless the Patient be well beaten on the Arms, Thighs, Legs and right Breast. Then the Bruises are rub'd hard with Salt, till they grow Black; that the Blood being thus drawn to the Skin, may flow abundantly when cut with the Lancet. Then they are wash'd with Vinegar, and the Patient has nothing given him to Eat for three Days, but Rice boil'd in Water without Salt. (*Tavardillo* in Spain is a malignant Distemper breaking out in Spots, if Black Incurable, if Red to be Cur'd so they do not fall in, and is Cur'd another way; but this in the *Philippine-Islands* is another Distemper, and another Cure, tho' the *Spaniards*, because so dangerous, have given it the same Name)

The other Disease peculiar to the Isles of *Negros*, *Bohol*, *Panay*, *Onton* and *Xolo*, makes the Tongues and privy Parts both of Men and Women sink in so violently, that it endangers their Lives. They say Cold is the cause of it, and it is Cur'd by giving the Patient the Genitals of the Woman-Fish, concerning which see the Chapter of Birds and Fishes, or of a Crocodil, powdred in Wine or Water.

Religion.

Nothing has hitherto appear'd in Writing, either of these Peoples Religion, their Government, or History; but only some Traditions, deliver'd from Father to Son, and preserv'd in Songs, concerning the Genealogy and Heroick Acts of their Gods. By these it appears they had one principal God, call'd by the *Tagalians*, *Barhala-may-capal*; that is, the God Maker. They ador'd Birds and Beasts, like the *Egyptians*; and the Sun and Moon like the *Affyrians*. There was not a Rock, Stone, Promontary, or River but what they Sacrific'd to; nor any old Tree to which they did not pay divine Honours; and it was look'd upon as a Sacrilege to cut it down on any account whatsoever. This Superstition continues among them still; so that no force would prevail with the *Indians*, to make them cut down a certain great old Tree, call'd *Balette*, whose Leaves are like those of a Chestnut-Tree, and its Bark good for some Wounds, nor some antient tall Canes, vainly believing the Souls of their Ancestors dwell in them, and that the cutting of those Trees or Canes would put them into a Fever; and that therefore an old Man, they call *Nuno* would appear to complain of their Cruelty. This is to be understood of such as are not Christians or not well Instructed. This vain Belief continues among them, because sometimes they fancy they see several Apparitions, call'd *Tibalong*, on the Tops of the Trees; and they are fully perswaded, that the same appear to Children in the shape of their Mothers, and carry them to the Mountains without doing them any harm. They say they see them vastly Tall, with long Hair, little Feet, long Wings, and their Bodies Painted, and that their coming is known by the Smell. Be it as it will, for I will not take upon me to argue the Point, 'tis certain the *Spaniards* do not see them, tho' the *Indians* tell them they are then actually present. The *Tagalian* Dictionary compos'd by a *Franciscan*, gives a large Account of these Phantomes.

In

1697. In *Pampanga*, and particularly on the Mountain call'd *Bondo*, or *Kalaya*, which is a League and a half high, and belong'd once to the Petty Kings, *Sinoquan*, and *Mingan*, there are *Plantans*, *Betles*, and other sorts of Fruit. These they say may be eaten upon the Spot; but if any Man attempts to carry them from the place, he certainly either falls down dead, or some way Lame. Perhaps the Devil, by God's Permission may cause some such strange Accidents, to keep those People in Paganism; however it is, the *Indians* themselves have a good share in it, for they are notable Sorcerers, and are said often to convert themselves into Crocodils, Wild Boars, and other fierce Creatures.

They also ador'd some particular Gods, left them by their Ancestors, and call'd by the *Bisayans*, *Davara*, by the *Tagalians*, *Anito*. One of these was believ'd to keep in the Mountains and Fields, to assist Travellers; another to make the Seed sprout up, and they left him things in certain places, to gain his Favour. There was also a Sea *Anito* for the Fishery, and another belonging to the House, to take care of the Children. Among these *Anitos*, were placed their Grandfathers, and Great Grandfathers; whom they call'd upon in all their Troubles; keeping little ugly Statues of Stone, Wood, Gold, and Ivory, in Memory of them, which they call'd *Liche*, or *Laravan*. They also accounted among their Gods, all those that dy'd by the Sword, or were kill'd by Lightning, or eaten by Crocodils, believing their Souls ascended to Heaven, by way of an Arch they call'd *Balangao*. For this reason, the Eldest among them, chuse to be bury'd in some remarkable place on the Mountains, and particularly on the Promontories that run into the Sea, that they might be ador'd by Sailers. They tell abundance of Fables, concerning the Creation of the World, and the first Men that inhabited it.

Government.

There were no Kings, or Lords of any great Note, throughout all the Archipelago; but in the continual Wars they had among themselves, the little ones join'd in Confederacy with the greater. In *Manila* the Uncle and Nephew, were Lords, or Chiefs, and had equal Authority. Every several Precinct, or Petty Dominion, was call'd *Barangai*; for as the Families came hither in a *Barangai* or Bark, to seek dwelling places; so they remain'd subject, either to the

Commander of the Vessel, or to the Head of the Family, and from him took their Name. Then they apply'd themselves to Tilling of so much Land, as they could defend against the Neighbouring *Barangais*; and tho', when they were once settled in the Place, they were in their turn assisting to the others; yet they might not upon any account mix with them, that is, one go into the Tribe of another, (especially Marry'd People) unless they paid a certain quantity of Gold, and made a Feast to all the *Barangai*; otherwise they would cause a War. If two Persons of different *Barangais* Marry'd, the Children were to be divided, as if they had been Slaves.

Nobility was not Hereditary, but acquir'd by Industry and Force; that is, by Tillage, working in Wood, Gold, or other matter, and such like Trades, so as to excell in them; and then such a one was call'd *Daro*, or Chief, and among the *Tagalians* *Manguinao*, and all his Kindred and Friends, follow'd his Party. If this Man afterwards lost what he had, he lost his Reputation; and his Children remain'd *Origuin*, or in the *Tagalian* Language *Alipin*, signifying as much as Slaves. Those were reputed the common sort, who got their living by Digging, Fishing and Hunting. Since the *Spaniards* rule over them, they are grown Lazy; they are good at Mechanics, as for Instance at making small Chains, and curious Beads of Gold, and other things. In *Camarines* and other parts, they make Boxes, Cases, and Chests of several Colours, curiously wrought out of *Indian* Canes, for there are excellent ones throughout all the Islands, and 50 Spaas in length, which twine about Trees like Ivy. The Women make Purls not inferior to those of the Low-countries, and admirable Silk Embroideries. It is their Laziness, that makes them appear less Ingenious; and they are so entirely addicted to it, that if in walking they find a Thorn run into their Foot, they will not stoop to put it out of the way, that another may not Tread on it.

Nobility.

The chief *Indians* had formerly a great number of Slaves of their own Nation, sometimes an hundred. The Cause why so many fell into Slavery, was Usury, so much us'd among them, that neither the Father would lend his Son any thing, nor one Brother the other, tho' he saw him in never such Distress, without Bargaining to restore it double. Now if the Debtor could not

Slaves and Usury.



perform at the time agreed on, he became a Slave to the Creditor, till he pay'd the Debt; and in the mean while the longer it was unpay'd, the more the Interest increas'd, till it far exceeded the Principal; and so they and their Offspring remain'd Slaves, without Redemption. To this day Debtors pawn their Children of both Sexes; and in some Places sell them, especially the *Bisayans*; notwithstanding the King has Prohibited that Barbarous Custom, under severe Penalties. Sometimes the Masters will add to their Interest, the value of a Dish, the Slave has hapned to break, that he may have the less hope of Redemption. All Prisoners of War were also made Slaves; tho it were among People of the same Race and Dominion. Besides the great ones, Tyrannically enslav'd the common sort, either because they had hapned to break, the Mourning silence, or thrown some Dirt on them; or for passing by some place, where they were Bathing; or some such slight Occasion; and these Slaves they afterwards sold at Pleasure. These remain'd in their Houses to live upon their Labour, but the Master took from them one Harvest in the Year, or part of it, according as he was, more or less, rigorous. Another sort of Slaves serv'd their Masters, when they entertain'd a-

ny Body, Sow'd, Reap'd, or went any where by Water. These were call'd *Namama Bay*; by the *Tagallians*, *Sanguigulir*, and by the *Bisayans*, *Halan*. Sometimes the same Man hapned to be Slave to several Persons; or else half free, and half a Slave. This was when he came of a Father that was free, and the Mother a Slave, or the contrary, and he was the third Son; for the first follow'd his Father's Fortune, whether free or a Slave; the second the Mothers; and the 3d was half free. When the Mother was free, that Son was only a quarter free. The *Sambalians* pretend that the *Tagallians* are their Slaves.

It is us'd to this Day, when there happens an Eclipse, to make a great Noise with Drums, and other Instruments, to fright the Dragon, they imagine swallows the Moon, and make him Vomit her up again. They us'd formerly to Swear before a Wild Beast, or a lighted Candle, wishing they might be devour'd by such a Beast, or Consume like the Candle, if they broke their Promise; or be torn in pieces by a Crocodil, or swallow'd up by the Earth. It is impossible to force an *Indian* to Curse the Devil, and if he is press'd to do it, he will answer; he is not to Curse one that has done him no harm.

CHAP. II.

The Government, Weapons, Marriages, Sacrifices, Auguries, and Funerals of the Indians, of the Philippine Islands.

Punishment of Murderers.

THE first Law among them, was to Respect and Honour their Ancestors, and especially Father and Mother. The Head of the *Barangai*, with some of the Antient Men of it, Judg'd of all Causes whatsoever. Civil Controversies were decided after this manner. The Parties were Summon'd, and endeavours us'd to make them agree. If this did not take effect, they made them Swear to submit to the Sentence; and then they Examin'd the Witnesses. If the Proofs were equal, what they contended for was divided; if not Judgment was given for him that had the best Evidence. If the Party that was Cast, was dissatisfy'd, the Judge became a Party; for he took from the Person who lost the Suit, the value appointed, or adjudg'd, whereof a good Part he kept to himself; then he pay'd the Plaintiffs Witnesses, and gave him the rest, which

was the least Part. In Criminal cases Sentence of Death, was never given in Form of Law, unless the Person kill'd, and the Murderer were both Poor; for when any such had no Money to satisfy the Party griev'd, then the *Dato*, or chief, and other Great Men of the *Barangai*, came with Spears, and binding the Criminal to a Post, kill'd him. If the Person kill'd was of Note, then all his Kindred made War upon the Murderer and his; till some Mediator interpos'd to declare, what quantity of Gold he promis'd to make amends for the others Death. Of this Money, the one half was given to the Poor, and the other to the Wife, Children, and Kindred of the Party kill'd.

As for Theft, if the Fact were made out, but the Person not known, all the Parties accus'd, were oblig'd to lay something under a Cloth, after which, if

Theft.

Gemelli. if the thing Stolen, was not found there among the rest, they had two ways of Purgation. The first was to place them all near any deep River, with Spears in their Hands, and then make them run and cast themselves into it. He that came out first, was reputed Guilty, and therefore many for fear of the Punishment were drowned. The other was to Command them one after another to take a Stone out of a Basón of boyling Water, which whosoever refus'd to do, pay'd the Value of the thing Stolen.

Adultery. The Punishment for Adultery, was paying a Fine; and the quantity of Gold agreed on, or appointed by the Elders, once pay'd, the Adulterer was clear, and the Husband restor'd to his Honour; so that he return'd to his Wife. But the Children got in Adultery, did not Inherit their Parents Nobility, no more than those Born of Slaves, but were accounted of the common sort. The Legitimate Children Inherited Nobility, and the Eldest Succeeded his Father, if he was Lord of the *Barangay*. The first failing, the others succeeded orderly, that is, the 2d, 3d, &c. after them the Females, and then the next of Kin. Incest us'd to be severely Punish'd.

Arms. Their Arms Offensive, were Bows and Arrows, and Lances, or Pikes with the Spears of Iron, of several Shapes, or else of Wood hardned at the Fire; broad Daggers, with two Edges, well shap'd; and Trunks with which they used to Shoot Poison'd Arrows, like those of *Borneo* and *Sumatra*. To cover their Bodies, they use a long narrow Shield.

Marriages These Nations are much given to sensuality, so that their Women either Marry'd, or Unmarry'd, are seldom continent. When they Marry'd, the Man found the Portion, and then they contracted settling a Penalty, in case of Divorce; which when it hapned was not look'd upon as any dishonour, so the Forfeiture agreed on were Paid. But this was, during the Life of the Sureties, that is, the Parents; for when they were dead, the Children were free. At present their expences are Exorbitant, for on the Wedding day, they make the Bridegroom pay for admittance into the House, which they call *Passava*; for speaking to the Bride, call'd *Parignog*; for Eating and Drinking with her, by the Name of *Passalog*; and lastly for consummating the Marriage he pays to her kindred, which they Term *Ghina*.

puang; all according to their Quality. Formerly the Portion was paid to the Father-in-law, who at his Death dispos'd of it as he pleas'd, among the Children; and if the Bride had no Father, her kindred receiv'd it, to be restor'd to the Children born of her. The Marriage was Solemniz'd by the *Catalona*, or Priests, with a Sacrifice; after which the Gollips gave the Marry'd Couple to Eat and Drink, out of the same Dish; and then the Bridegroom told the Bride he took her for his Wife, and she receiv'd him. Then the *Catalona* gave her Blessing, after which some Beast was kill'd, and next follow'd the Entertainment, and making themselves Drunk. If there was any falling out between the Marry'd Couple, another Sacrifice was offer'd, the Bridegroom slaying the Beast so Sacrific'd, and after dancing spoke to his *Anito*, or Ancestor, desiring him to grant Peace according to his desire. They took care not to Marry out of their own Tribe, and always the nearest of Blood, except in the first Degree. There was no difficulty in being divorced; for the Wife restor'd the Portion, if it was through her Fault; and the Man lost it if it were through his, and he took another Wife. Polygamy was not us'd among the *Tagalians*; but if any Man had no Children by his Wife, he might with her consent, have to do with his Slaves. The chief of the *Bisayans* had two or more lawful Wives, and the Children born of them, all inherited as Legitimate; but those by the first Fire, had double as much, as those of the second. The Children by Slaves, had something given them out of the Moveables, at the Pleasure of the Legitimate, and the Mother was free. The Gold given in Portion was measur'd, not weigh'd. Adoption was also us'd, the Person adopted paying a certain Sum, which if he dy'd first, fell to the Person adopting; but if otherwise, he that was adopted, recover'd double the Sum out of the others Estate.

Formerly there were Men that made it their Trade, to deflower Maids that were to be Marry'd; and they were paid for it; because the Maidenhead was look'd upon as an Obstruction to the Bridegrooms Pleasure. At present (as some Missioners of the Jesuits told me) some of the *Bisayans*, if they find when they Marry their Brides are Maids, say they have got bad ones; because no Man has had a mind to, and debauch'd them.

Brides deflower'd.

Gemelli. As for their Religion, it has been
1697. mention'd before, that there was no
Temples found among them, but only
certain little Idols, in Caves near their
Houses, to which they offer'd Sacrifice,
by means of Priests, call'd by the *Taga-*
lians Catalonan; by the *Bisayans Babaylan*.
The manner of Sacrificing was thus.
They all assembled in a Hut or Cottage
made of Wattles for this purpose, and
having danced a while caus'd a handsome
young Girl to give the first stroke with
a Spear to the Victim, which was always
some four-footed Beast. The Sacrifice
being Slain, they cut it in Pieces, and
when dress'd eat it in a respectful man-
ner. If the Sacrifice was not upon any
occasion of Rejoycing, but for some sick
Body; they made a new Hut of Wood,
and laid the Patient in it upon a Mat on
the Ground, together with the Offering.
Instead of an Altar they cover'd several
Tables, with variety of Meat. Then
the *Catalona*, being the same handsome
young Girl, came out Dancing to the
Noise of Instruments, and having wound-
ed the Beast, the sick Person, and some
of the Standers by were anointed with
the Blood. Having Flead the Beast they
all came again before the Patient, and
the *Catalona* muttering some Words be-
twixt her Teeth, open'd, stretch'd and
view'd all Parts of his Body; winding
herself into Sundry shapes, and foam-
ing at the Mouth. Then she stood a
while besides her self; and at last ha-
ving recover'd her Senses (as is writ of
the *Sibils*) she Prophesy'd concerning
the Parties Life or Death. If she fate
down to Eat or Drink, it was a sign of
Life, if not of Death; but for fear of
frighting the sick Person, she us'd to
say the *Anitos*, or their Predecessors had
chosen him for their Companion. Then
the Patient recommended himself to her,
that she might persuade his Kindred to
put him in the Number of the *Anitos*;
and lastly the Sacrifice ended in Eating,
and Drinking; but the Guests were ob-
lig'd to leave an Offering of Gold,
Cotton, Birds, or some other thing for
the Priests.

Supersti-
tion.

They were so Superstitious, that if
they found a Snake on their Garments,
they would never wear them again, tho'
they were new; and the same if an Owl
sate in the Night on their House. If
they found a Snake on the way; or any
body sneez'd, Dog bark'd, or a Rat
made a noise, they turn'd back. The
Fisher-men had no benefit of Fish, they
took the first time with a new Net; be-

lieving if they did, they should catch
no more for the future. Nor was any
body to talk in a Fisher-man's House,
of new Nets; nor in a Hunts-man's of
young Dogs, till they had taken a Prey,
positively believing if they did, the Vir-
tue of the Nets and value of the Dogs,
would be lost. They that went by Sea,
were to take nothing that belong'd to
the Land, nor so much as name it; nor
those that travell'd by Land, any thing
of the Sea. To conclude, they under-
took nothing without casting lots.

F. Xuaquin Affin, Minister of St. Pe- Widdow-
ter, of the Society of Jesus, told me, ers.
that he having serv'd as Missioner sever-
al Years among the *Tagalians*, observ'd,
that they never eat alone, but will have
one Companion at least. That when
the Wife dyes, the Widdower keeps
with a Mat before him, and is serv'd
during three days by Widdowers, for
Marry'd Men, and Batchelors would be
accounted unlucky. The Wives do the
same when their Husbands die.

When the Women are to be deli- Child
ver'd, they will allow no Maids to be bearing.
present, because they say it would make
them have hard labour. When any Bo-
dy dies, not only the Kindred and
Friends, but hired People come to la-
ment and make a dismal Song. Then
the Body being Wash'd, and Perfum'd
with *Storax*, *Benjamin*, and other sweet Dead Bo-
Gums found on those Mountains, is dies.
wrapp'd up in more or less Silks, ac-
cording to its Quality. Formerly they
Anointed, and Embalm'd the Bodies of
Persons of Note, with Aromatick Li-
quors, Aloes, and Eagle Wood, and put
into their Mouths, the Juice of Betle,
that it might sink into their Body. The
Poor were bury'd in a Grave in their
own House; the Rich in a Coffin made
of one piece of Precious Wood, and
clos'd so Artificially, that no Air could
get into it. They left on the Body,
Gold Bracelets, and other Rich Orna-
ments. Then they placed the Coffin,
lifted up from the Ground, in a corner
of the House, with Lettices round it,
and by it a Chest, with the Dead Per-
sons best Apparel, and his Arms, if a
Man, or her necessaries for work with a
Woman. At certain times, they plac-
ed before them several sorts of Meat,
in token of Affection, and Respect;
but the greatest sign of loving the Dead,
was to make much of the Slave that had
been his Favourite, and then kill him to
bear his Master Company. Others bu-
ry'd the Dead in the Fields, and made
Fires



~ Fires in the House for many Days, that
Gemelli. the Dead Man might not come to take
1696. those that were left Alive. When the
~ Body was bury'd, the lamentation ceas'd,
but not the Gormandizing, which last-
ed more or less, according to the Dead
Man's Quality; but the Widdow, and
Children fasted, to express their Sor-
row, eating, neither Fish, nor Flesh,
but only Grain or Herbs. This Fast the
Tagalians call *Sipa*.

Mourning The Tagalians Mourning is Black;
the Bisayans White, but these last over
and above Shave their Heads and Eye-
brows. Formerly, if any Man of Note
dy'd, they were to keep silence many
Days, and not to Strike any place, nor
go upon the Neighbouring Rivers. To
this purpose they set up a certain Sign,
that all Persons might know it was a
time of Silence, and none should presume

to pass by upon pain of Death, which
was severely executed. In Honour of
those that dy'd in War, they added Sa-
crifices and Offerings, to the usual ob-
sequies. If the Person had been basely
kill'd in War, or treacherously Mur-
der'd in Peace the Mourning, or Silence
was never laid aside, till his Kindred had
made the *Balata*, that is, taken Revenge,
killing a number, not only of the Ene-
mies with whom they were at War,
but of all Strangers, not their Friends,
that came before them. In the mean
while they wore a List of Leather about
their Neck, and spent all the Day, by
Land and Water, in search of Men to
Destroy, and satisfy their Rage. This
done, they broke Silence with great Re-
joicing, and then the Mourning was
left off.

C H A P. III.

Of the Beasts, Birds, and Fishes in the Philippine Islands.

Wild Cat-
tle.

There is so great a number of Wild
Buffaloes, like those of China,
grazing about the Plains, that a good
Hunter a Horseback with a Spear, may
kill ten or twenty in a day. The Spa-
niards kill them for their Hides; the
Wild Indians to eat them. The Woods
abound in Deer, Boars, and Wild
Goats, like those of Sumatra, which last
are so numerous, that they have given
their Name to one of the Islands, call'd
de las Cabras. The Spaniards have car-
ry'd thither out of New Spain, Japan,
and China Horses and Cows, which have
Multiply'd considerably; but not the
Sheep, by reason of the excessive moi-
sture of the Earth.

Monkeys.

There are also in the Mountains, in-
numerable Monkeys, and Baboons so Mon-
strous big, that once at *Samboangan*, they
saw some of them defended themselves
with Sticks, against a *Pampango* Souldier
that assaulted them; so that the Souldier
in a few days, dy'd with the Fright. The
little Apes are diverting in the House.
My Friend D. *John del Poco* had a white
one; but so Old, that it held its Paw
over its Eyes to see any thing, as a Man
does, when he would observe something
at a distance. He told me, he once had
another of *Borneo*, which cry'd like an
Infant, and went upon two Feet, car-
rying a Mat under its Arm, to change
its sleeping place. These Monkeys seem
to be sharper in some respects than Men.

for when they can find no Fruit on the
Mountains, they go down to the Sea-
side to catch Crabs, Oysters and the
like. There is a sort of Oysters, call'd
Taclovo, the Fish whereof weighs some
Pounds, and it commonly lyes open on
the Shore. The Monkey fearing it should
close and catch its Claw in, puts in a
Stone first, that it may eat the Oyster,
without fear of its shutting. One sort
of them, that they may take the Crabs,
put their Tail into their hole, that when
the Crab lays hold of it, they may draw
him out.

There is in the Islands, a great Mul-
titude of Civet-Cats; and this is chiefly
to be observ'd, that if their Civet is not
taken away every Month, the heat they
receive from it, is so great, that they
tumble about the Ground, till the Blad-
der break, wherein it is contain'd, and
so ease themselves of that Pain.

There is another sort of Cats, as big
as Hares, and of a Fox colour, call'd *Ta-*
guan. They have Wings like Bats, but
hairy on both sides, by the help of which
they leap from one Tree to another,
sometimes above thirty Spans, that is,
seven Yards and a half distant.

In the Island of *Leyte*, there is a pe-
culiar sort of Creature, call'd *Mago*,
about as a Mouse, with a Tail like it,
and so the long Hairs on the Snout, but
the Head is twice as big as the Body,
and it eats nothing but Coals.

There

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Snakes.

There are Snakes of a prodigious Bigness. One sort of them call'd *Ibitin*, which are very long, hang themselves by the Tail down from the Body of a Tree, expecting Deer, wild Boars, or Men to pass by, to draw them to them with their Breath, and swallow them whole; and then winds it self round a Tree to digest them. Some *Spaniards* told me, *The only Defence against them was to break the Air between the Man and the Serpent*; and this seems rational, for by that means, those Magnetick or attracting Particles spread in that distance are dispers'd. Another sort of Snake call'd *Assagua* eats nothing but Hens. That they call *Olopong*, is Venomous. The biggest are call'd *Bobes*, which sometimes are 20 or 30 Spans long.

Iguanas.

Another sort of four footed Creature, which is also found in *America*, and devours Hens, is call'd *Iguana*. It is like an *Alligator*, the Skin Purple, speckled with yellow Spots, the Tongue Cloven, but the Feet close and with Claws. Tho' a Land Creature, it passes over Rivers swiftly. The *Indians* and some *Spaniards* eat it, and say it tastes like a Tortoise.

Birds.
The *Tavon*

Among the Birds of the Islands the *Tavon* deserves to have special Mention made of it, as well for its Quality, as because it is not known whether there are any of the Species elsewhere. It is a Sea Fowl and Black. As to its size it is less than a Hen, but has a long Neck and Legs, and lays its Eggs in a light Sandy Ground. These Eggs are wonderful; for besides their being as large as a Gooses, when Boil'd there is very little White found in them, but all Yolk, yet not so well tasted as a Hens. The strangeness of them is, that contrary to all others, when the Chickens are hatch'd the Yolk appears whole and sweet as it was at first, with the Chickens Beak fast, and without any White. By this it appears that it is not always true, that the generative Virtue of the Seed makes the Yolk Fruitful, and that in this Case the Yolk serves for the same use as *Placenta Uterina* does to an Infant. The Chickens roasted before they are fledg'd, prove as good as the best Pigeons. The *Spaniards* very often eat the Chicken and the Yolk of the Egg together in the same Dish. The old Bird is eaten by the *Indians*, but is tough. The Hen lays about 40 or 50 Eggs in a Trench near the Sea and covers them with Sand. For this reason it is call'd *Tavon*, which in the Language of the Islands signifies

to cover with Earth. There the heat of the Sand hatches them, and the Chickens feed on the Yolk, till they gather Strength to break the Shell, throw up the Sand and get out. Then the Hen which keeps about the neighbouring Trees, runs about them making a Noise, and the young ones hearing her, labour the harder to get out to her. This is no less wonderful than what the Scripture says of the Ostriches Eggs, *Job 39*. We see the disposition of Providence, in giving this Bird that Instinct to bury its Eggs so deep, and the Chicken such long Claws, as to make its way. They make Nests in *March*, *April* and *May*, like the *Halcyons* the Antients make mention of; because at that time the Sea is Calmest, and the Waves do not swell so high as to spoil them. The Sailors go in quest of them along the Shore, and where they find the Sand has been thrown up they open it with a stick, where they sometimes find Eggs and sometimes Chickens, which are equally Valuable and Nourishing.

There is also a sort of Turtle-Dove with gray Feathers on the Back, and white on the Breast, in the midst whereof is a red Spot, like a Wound with the fresh Blood upon it.

The *Colin* is a Fowl as big as a Black-Bird, Black and Ash colour'd; without any Feathers on its Head, but instead of it a Crown of Flesh. That is yet stranger which the *Spaniards* call *Paloma-Torcas*; it is of several Colours, as Gray, Green, Red and White on the Breast, with the same Spot like a Wound on the Breast; and the Beak and Feet Red. These and other sorts of Birds I saw in *D. John-del-Pozo's* Volery at *Manila*. There was also a Black-Bird brought from *Suratte*, as big as a Turtle-Dove, with a yellow Beak, and a List of the same Colour like a Collar. It endeavour'd to speak like a Parrot. He had also some little Birds of the Coast of *Coromandel* less than a Linnet, their Breast White and Red, their Wings Gray with little white Spots, and the end of their Tail Red, so that they were most Beautiful to behold. Besides a great number of white Doves with their Tails always lifted up like a graceful Semicircle, which he told me were brought out of *Persia*.

The *Salangan* is a strange Bird of the Islands of *Calamianes*, *Xolo* and others. It is as big as a Swallow, and builds a little Nest on the Rocks over the Seashore, cleaving to the Rock as the Swallows

Gemelli. 1697. lows do to the Wall. These are the so famous Birds Nests, whereof we have spoke in the foregoing Volume.

Herrero. The *Herrero* is a green Bird, as big as a Hen. Nature has furnish'd it with such a large and hard Beak, that it bores the Bodies of Trees to build its Nest. From the Noise it makes at this Work, which is hear'd at a great distance, the *Spaniards* took occasion to give it this Name of *Herrero* or Smith. Others think it was so call'd for its knowledge of an Herb, which lay'd upon Iron breaks it; for it is known by experience, that the Hole on the Tree being cover'd with an Iron Plate to save the Young that are in the Nest, it seeks out this Herb, and laying it on the Plate, breaks it, and so clears the way; but I will not vouch for the Truth hereof.

Colo-Colo. There is another rare Bird call'd *Colo-Colo*, little less than an Eagle, Black, and half Fish half Bird, for it equally dives under Water, and flies in the Air. It overtakes any Fish and kills it with its Beak which is half a Yard long. The Feathers are so close that as soon as out of the Water it shakes them dry.

Peacocks &c. In the Island of *Calamianes* there are abundance of Peacocks. The wild Mountain Cocks supply the want of Pheasants and Partridges, and well dress'd are excellently tasted. The Quails are half as big as ours, and have a red Beak and Feet.

In all the Islands at all times there are green Birds, call'd *Volanos*, and several sorts of Parrots, and white *Cacatuas*, which have a Tuft of Feathers on their Heads.

Camboxas. The *Spaniards* carry'd Turkeys out of *New Spain*, but they did not Thrive or Increase, by reason of the dampness of the Soil, as is believ'd. The want of them is supply'd by a Hen call'd *Camboxa*, because the first of them were brought out of that Kingdom, whose Legs are so short that the Wings trail on the Ground. The Cocks of another sort, call'd of *Xolo*, which have long Legs, are not inferior to Turkeys. Besides the common Hens like ours, there is another sort that have black Flesh and Bones, but are well tasted.

Another Bird that breeds about the Lakes, especially that of *Babi*, has the Feet and Beak Red, and the Colours of several Colours, as big as a Hen, and would be as well tasted did it not eat Fish.

Bird of paradise. The *Oydor* or Judge, *D. John Serra*, shew'd me another dead Bird that had

most beautiful Feathers, as big as a Black-Bird, brought him from the Island of *Borneo*, where it was taken. It had no Feet, but only great Wings to bear it up, and is therefore call'd the Bird of Paradise. *F. Combes* in his History of the Island of *Mindanao*, says there are such there.

We have spoke before of the great Bats of the Island, so that it is needless to say more in this place; only that in the Island of *Mindanao*, they extract a great deal of Salt-Peter from their Excrement by the means of Fire, but it is not so strong as the common sort.

The very Fish of the Island have something singular. One of these is the *Duyon*, by the *Spaniards* call'd *Pece-Muger*, that is, Woman-Fish, because it has Breasts and Privities like a Woman, and there never was any Male seen. The Bones of it have a notable Quality of stopping Bleeding, and curing a Cough. The Flesh of it eats like Pork.

The Sword Fish differs not from ours, only that there are some there 20 Spans or 15 Foot long, and the Sword 9 or 10 Spans in length. We gave an Account of the fighting with the Crocodils when we spoke of the Lake of *Babi*. The Damage they do to small Boats will appear, if we observe that their Swords have been found broken upon great Ones.

As for the Crocodils Providence has signaliz'd it self after several manners in them. For in the first place the Females of these Monsters being extraordinary Fruitful, so as to bring sometimes 50 Crocodils, the Rivers and Lakes would have been full of them in a very short time, to the great damage of Mankind, had not Nature caus'd it to lye in wait where the young ones are to pass, and swallow them down one by one; so that only those few escape that take another way. Secondly, the Crocodils have no Passage for Excrements, but only Vomit the small Matter that remains in their Stomachs after Digestion. Thus the Meat continues there a long time, and the Creature is not hungry every Day; which if they were, they could not be fed without the utter Ruin of infinite Men and Beasts. Some of them being open'd there have been found in their Bellies Mens Bones and Skuls, and Stones, which the *Indians* say they swallow to pave their Stomach. The Female lays her Eggs out of the Water that they may hatch. They are twice as big as a Goose Egg, whiter and as hard as a Stone,

Stone. The Yolk in them is but small, like that of the Tortoises Egg. The *Spaniards* as well as the *Indians*, eat the little Crocodils. The same *Indians* affirm there are little Bladders of excellent Musk sometimes found under their Jaws. *Eusebius* in his History, lib. 22. cap. 5. mentions the same thing, and Experience has often verify'd it.

Alligators. There is another species of Crocodils found in these Lakes, call'd by the *Indians* *Bubaya*, by the *Portuguese* *Caymanes*, and are those we call *Alligators*. The difference between them and the Crocodils is that they have no Tongue, and have a difficulty in turning. For want of a Tongue it can make no Noise, nor swallow in the Water, but it must Tear and Devour its Prey on the Bank. The *Indians* say it has four Eyes, two above and two below, by help whereof it easily discovers the Fishes and Stones, which it takes from the Bottom with its Paws; but that on Land it is short-sighted. Besides that the Male can go but half out of the Water, and that only the Females go out to seek something to eat in the Fields, because it appears that all those kill'd on Land are Females. It is a most assured defence against the *Caymans* or *Alligators*, to carry about one the *Bonga* or *Nang-kau-Vagan*, a sort of Fruit growing on a Cane, which I have by me. It hinders the *Alligator* from com-

ing near, as has been try'd with a Dog, and is also a Preservative against Witchcraft.

In the Sea of *Mindanao* and *Xolo* there are abundance of large Whales, and Sea Horses like those of the Land, but without Feet, and with a Tail like a Crocodils.

The Sea-shells in the same Island are so large that they serve for Holy-water Pots, and to give Water to the *Buffaloes*. A religious Man told me, That as he was going to the Island of *Pintados*, the Sailers took one so large from a Rock it was stuck to, that the Meat in it gave them all a Belly full. These Shells are every where valu'd but especially by the *Chineses*, who make several Curiosities of them.

There are two sorts of Tortoises found in those Seas. The great Ones are Eaten, and their Flesh tastes like Beef, but the Shell is not valu'd. The Flesh of the lesser Sort is not Eaten, but the Shell is good for several uses. Some of them are an Antidote, it being found by Experience that Rings or Beads made of them would fly in Pieces like a Glass, if they touch or come near any Poison.

The Thornbacks are mighty large, and their Skin esteem'd by the *Japoneses* to make Scabbards for their Scimiters. To make short concerning this Matter, I must declare that of all the sorts of Fish mention'd by *Pliny*, there are very few wanting in these Seas.

CHAP. IV.

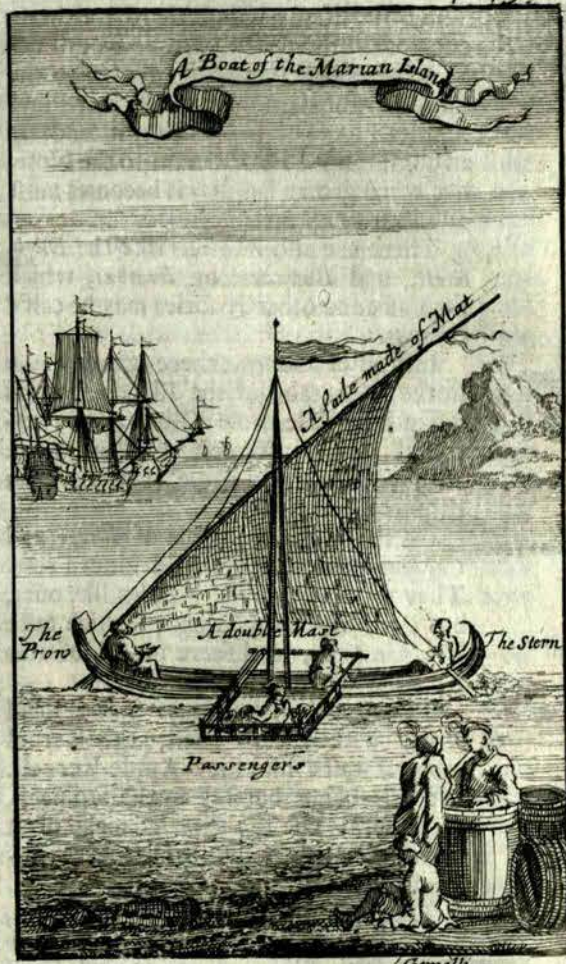
Of the Trees and Fruit of the Philippine-Islands.

Santor. THE most valuable sorts of Fruit in the Islands are of two sorts, and both of them grow in the Woods without any Improvement. The first of them is call'd *Santor*, in Bigness, Colour and Shape like to a ripe Peach, but somewhat flatter. When gather'd in Season the Rind is sweet, but open'd there are in it five Kernels, like the Seeds in an Orange, and as Sower and White. The *Spaniards* esteem it equal to a Quince, and therefore Preserve it after the same manner. It is also good pickled with Vinegar, and gives a pleasant Relish in Pottage when half Ripe. The Woods being full of these Trees, and Sugar at about four Shilling and six Pence the hundred Weight, all the Friars in the

Philippine-Islands Preserve a great Quantity to Eat after Dinner and Supper. Besides the Leaves are Medicinal, and the Wood excellent for Carving. The Tree is like the Walnut, but has larger Leaves.

The other sort of Fruit which they call *Mabol*, is somewhat bigger than the other, but downy like a Peach, and of the Colour of an Orange. The Flesh of it is ill Tasted, hard of Digestion, and contains six Kernels. The Tree is as Tall as a good Pear-Tree, has the Boughs thick, the Leaves large, long and green like the Laurel. The Wood when wrought is little Inferior to Ebony. Both of them may be seen in the following Cut.

Here



Here are also *Bilimbines*, which the *Gemelli*. *Portuguese* call *Carambolas* (as I observ'd 1697. in the third Volume) but as in the *East-Indies* they are sharp, so here they have a mixture of Sharp and Sweet. They are eaten for Sauce Raw, and Prepar'd with Vinegar and Sugar.

The *Macupa*, call'd by the *Portuguese* *Giambo*, is bigger than that which grows at *Goa*. There are also *Banchilins*, which the *Portuguese* call *Bilimbines*; *Giaccas*, call'd by the *Spaniards* *Nancas*, *Tanpays* by the *Portuguese* call'd *Giambas-de-Malaca*; *Cassuis* or *Cagnis* and others, which being describ'd in other Places are therefore here purposely omitted.

There are also *Mangas* of *Siam*, by the *Portuguese* call'd *Mangas-de-Papagallo*, brought but of late Years; and *Cammies*, the Fruit and Tree like the *Portuguese* *Carambolas*, but without *Kernels*, and more sharp.

All hitherto mention'd are as it were Garden Fruit, but there are other sorts Wild, not inferior to them in Taste, if gather'd in Season. The *Lumboy*, by

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the *Tagalians* call'd *Dobat*, is a Tree in all Respects like the *Pear-Tree*; it puts out a pretty, but small white Blossom, the Fruit like a *Cherry*, only longish like an *Olive*. The *Portuguese* give it the Name of *Giambulon*.

The *Dottoyan* is a scarcer Tree, whose Fruit is in all Respects like the *Giambulon*, Red, and with a *Kernel*, the *Flesh* of it is *White*, and the *Taste* sweet and sower.

The *Panunguian* is a very large Tree, producing a Fruit, as big as a *Pigeons-Egg*, with a red *Shell*, in *Shape* and *Hardness* like our *Pine Apples*. Within it there are *Kernels*, and a transparent *Flesh* of good *Taste* and helping *Digestion*. Others have given this Fruit the Name of *Licias*, for its likeness with those of *China*, but they differ from them.

The *Carmon* is good Boil'd and sharpens the *Appetite*. It is as large as an *Apple*, and has a *Rind* like an *Onion*, and the *Flesh* within sharp and sweet. The Tree is as big as an *Apple-Tree*, and

M m m



and thrives well on the Banks of Rivers.

Gemelli. In some of the Islands there are the so much celebrated *Duriones*. The Tree

1697. is large, and the Fruit grows to the thick part of the Boughs, like our Pine-Apples. At the first tasting it sends up an ungrateful Taste of Onion to the Nose, but when grown familiar it becomes most delicious to all Strangers.

Duriones. There are also *Maranes* like the *Duriones*; and *Lamzones* or *Boasbas*, which for Taste and other Qualities may be call'd Grapes.

Instead of Olives, there grow *Paxos* in the Mountains of the Islands, which differ but little from Olives when gather'd young. Green they are eaten with Vinegar, and Ripe they have an exquisite Taste.

Paxos. On the high Mountains of *Illocos* and *Cagayan* there are vast wild Pine-Trees. They do not bear Pine-Apples like ours, but *Piles*, not unlike them, which taste like Almonds, and serve for all uses as Almonds do among us.

Pine Trees. The *Lumbon* produces some small Nuts, with a hard Shell, the Kernel whereof tastes like Pine-Apple Kernels. But this being hurtful to the Stomach, the general Use the *Chineses* make of it is to extract the Oyl, which serves instead of Tallow for Ships.

Lumbon. Their Oranges are of several sorts, all differing from, and bigger than those of Europe. There are great and small Lemmons, but for the most part sweet.

Oranges. The *Jamboas* are twice as big as a Mans Head, Round and Yellowish. Some of them have white, some red and some yellow Seeds. Their Taste is like a Lemmon, with a mixture of Sweet to the Sour. The Tree is also like the Lemmon-Tree in Bigness and Leaves.

Jamboas. Of the Fruits of *New-Spain* there are brought hither *Ates*, *Anonas*, *Zapotes-prietas*, *Chicos Zapotes*, *Aguacates*, *Papayas*, *Mameyes*, and *Goyavas Peruleras*; of which last there is such plenty in the Mountains that they are a great support to the Poor. They make Preserves of it, and Wine better than that of the *Coco-Tree*, or the *Sider of Tirol*. This Fruit eaten Green is astringent, and when very Ripe is laxative. The Leaves of it boil'd are good for swell'd Legs; and the *Indians* reducing them to Powder heal themselves therewith of the Disciplines they take in the holy Week. The Islanders know nothing of the *European* Fruit, because the Soil will not produce it; and tho' in the Castle of *Cavite* there are some Vines of Muska-

dine Grapes, they never come to Maturity, no more than the Figs and Pomegranates in the Monastery of the *Jesuits* in the same Place.

All those hitherto mention'd, serve only to please the Palate; but the Trees that yield both Profit and Pleasure, and wherein for the most part the Estates of the chief Men in the *Philippine* Islands consist, are the *Palm-Trees*. They reckon there are 40 several kinds of them; but among the best, which give daily Sustenance, that is the choicest which the *Tagalians* call *Toro*, the *Pintadas* *Lindan*, and the Inhabitants of the *Maluco*-Islands *Sagu*. This, to distinguish it from the others, grows naturally without any Improvement on the Banks of Rivers. It runs not very high but is thick. All of it from Top to Bottom is a soft Substance like a Raddish, cover'd with a Bark only an Inch thick, not very hard nor smooth. They use it after this manner, they cut it in Pieces and lay it a soaking in Water, then they take only a narrow slice of the Bark, that the remaining part may contain the inward Substance, and cut the White within it extraordinary small; then they press it with their Feet in Baskets made of Cane, near the River, so that the best of the Juice may run through, by pouring on Water, into a Vessel set under full of Water. Then they take up that Substance so bruis'd and put it into Moulds made of Palm-Tree Leaves, like our Cheese Fats, where it hardens a little, like soft Starch, which being afterwards dry'd in the Sun, without any Oven serves instead of Bread, and is very Nourishing, and will keep.

The second Sort of Palm-Trees is that which yeilds their Wine and Vinegar. The *Tagalians* call it *Sasa*, the *Bisayan*s *Nipa*. They do not grow big enough to deserve the Name of a Tree, for they are generally in Places that abound in Salt Water, and especially where the Waves of the Sea come. The Fruit would not be unlike the Date, but it never comes to Maturity, because the *Indians*, as soon as ever it Blossoms, cut off the Bough, as has been said before, that the Liquor may run into the Cane Trough placed under it. One of these Troughs will hold ten Neapolitan *Carraffas* or Bottles, and is often fill'd in a Night. When it is not Distill'd or Prepar'd as has been mention'd before, that is, with the Bark of *Calinga*, which is like Cinnamon, it grows as sour as Vinegar. The Leaves of these Palm-Trees

Gemelli. Trees interwoven with small Canes, serve to cover Houses instead of Tiles, and will last six Years.
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Coco-Tree. There is also Wine, Vinegar, and *Tuba* made of the *Coco*-Tree, which besides are of great use to the Islands because of the Oyl drawn from them, which when fresh is good to Eat. From the middle of the same *Coco* comes a Water as sweet as Sugar, and a sort of Sugar made of the same Water condens'd. The outward Rind serves to make Ropes, Match, and to Caulk Ships. The Shell within it to make Cups, and for other Uses elsewhere spoken of.

Burias. There is another sort of Palm-Trees call'd *Burias*, from which the Islands of *Burias* towards the Streight of *S. Bernardin* took their Name. The Tree is thicker than the *Coco*; the Fruit are perfect Dates, of the Stones whereof they make good Beads, and the Leaves are like those of the common Palm-Trees in *Africk*. About the beginning of the Year the *Bisayans* cut the Stem or Stalk, and so they gather the Liquor, as is done with the *Nipa* and *Coco*-Tree. Of this Liquor, besides Vinegar, they make over the Fire a sort of Honey, and black Sugar, which they call *Pacassas*, and sell in little Boxes, as a thing much valu'd among the Islanders. I tasted it and found it was somewhat Saltish and easie to dissolve. They also make *Sagu*, after the same manner as it is made of the other Trees; and in Times of Dearth they make a sort of Meal of the Fruit ground; but not so wholesome as that of the *Sagu*.

Bonga. The other Palm-Tree, call'd *Bonga*, has large Leaves like the *Buri*, but the Tree and Fruit unlike. The Body of the *Bonga* is Tall, Slender, Strait and knotty all the Way. The Fruit is like a large Acorn, highly valu'd, because of it, the Leaves of *Bette* and Chalk, they make a Composition as big as a small Acorn, which they and all the *Indians* value at a great Rate, as a thing that Comforts the Stomach, Fastens the Teeth, Causes a sweet Breath, and makes the Lips Beautiful and Red; yet immoderately us'd it turns the Lips and Teeth black, as most of the *Indians* find by Experience, who never cease chewing it from Morning till Night. Some of them will pass a Day or two without Eating, believing they are Nourish'd by it.

Yonota. The last sort of profitable Palm-Trees (to say nothing of the rest tho' they bear Fruit) is the *Yonota*. It furnishes the Islanders with Wool, call'd *Baroz*,
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to make Quilts and Pillars; and with black Hemp, call'd *Jonor*, or *Gamuto*, to make Cables for Ships. Its Threads in length and thickness are like Hemp, in blackness like Horses Hairs, and they are thought to last long in Sea Water. Both the Wool and Hemp are taken from about the Trunk of the Tree. It produces some small *Cocos* in long Bunches or Clusters; but of no use. The *Indians* from the young Branches draw sweet *Tuba*, which when grown four makes them Drunk. The tender Tops are eaten, but are not so good and well tasted as those of the *Coco*, which they eat Boil'd.

The Leaves of all these Palm-Trees in general will bear Weaving, as well to make Hats or Hoods, as to cover Houses, make Mats for Rooms, Sails for Ships, and other uses; so that in them the poor People find Meat, Drink, Cloth and Houses, as *Pliny* in his Natural History lib. 13. cap. 4. writ above 1500 Years since.

The *Tamarines* or *Sampalos* are a wild Fruit, and grow in Cods like green Beans. They have a biting Taste, and are therefore Eaten with Salt, and Preserv'd with Sugar. The Tree is tall and thick, the Leaves small, and the Wood serves for several Works like Ebony.

The Islands produce abundance of *Cassia*. The Tree is not so large as the *Tamarine*, but much thicker of Boughs, The Leaves are of a beautiful Green, and bigger than those of the Pear-Tree, and being boil'd with the Blossoms, in the Nature of a Conserve, work the same Effect as the Fruit, and are less nauseous. So the young Fruit made into a Preserve, is Safe, and a good Laxative. The Mountains do so abound in it, that in *May* and *June* they fat the Swine with it, especially in the Island of *Mindoro*.

There are so many other sorts of great Trees on all the Mountains, which serve to build Ships and Houses, and are always Green; that those whom long Experience has not made well acquainted with the ways, cannot by any means go far among them, as I saw with my own Eyes going a Hunting. Among the best of them is the black Ebony, the red *Balayong*, the *Asana* or *Naga* of which they make Dishes to drink out of, for the Water grown blewish with standing in them is very wholesome, and not ill tasted, as I found by Experience; and cutting a slit in the Bark of the Tree there runs a Liquor from it, call'd *Dra-*
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