



them. Lastly, he flourish'd the Banner a while in the Air, and then laying it on his Shoulder, walk'd about the Chapter in Memory of our Saviour's walking in *Pilar's* Court. Then all being rank'd with their Backs to the Altar of the Chapter, made a low Bow one after another, and went back towards the Choir, dragging vast long Trains after them. The Dean went last, between two Canons, with the Banner in his Hands.

Processions.

On Holy Thursday the 4th of April, three Processions went out one after another; the first of the Brothers of the Trinity clad in Red; the second of Brothers of the Church of St. Gregory of the *Jesuits*; and the third of Brothers of St. Francis, call'd the Procession of the *Chineses*, because made by *Indians* of the *Philippine* Islands. Each of them carry'd its Images, with abundance of Lights, and a company of arm'd Men, after the manner as was mention'd before, besides some that went a Horseback, with Trumpets sounding dismally before them. The Procession being come to the Palace, the *Chineses*, and Brothers of the Trinity strove for Precedence, and there pass'd some Blows with painted Clubs they carry'd instead of Torches, and the Crosses, so that several Persons were Hurt.

The Sepulchers and Monuments they make at *Mexico* are beautiful and slightly, but poor in Lights, all made by one Model, and every Year the same; the Tabernacles being high, with Pillars, and Fret-work gilt, which serves as long as the Wood holds. Friday 5th, I saw the Procession of *Jerusalem*, or Mount *Calvary*, which goes from St. Francis the Great, carrying the Figure of the Sepulcher. About eight in the Morning three Trumpets founded a doleful Tune, and then appear'd a great many Brothers with Lights in their Hands, and among them several Persons Whipping themselves. Then follow'd a Company of arm'd Men; some of them a Horseback carrying the Sentence in Writing, Title, Garment, and other Tokens of the Passion. Then Persons representing our Saviour, the Blessed Virgin, St. John, St. Veronica, the good and the bad Thief. Then two representing Jewish Priests on Mules, and others in very good Order. In the Afternoon was the Procession of the Blacks and *Indians* of the Sodality of St. Dominick, much like the others. After this follow'd that of the *Spaniards*, call'd the Funeral of our Saviour, in

which went 16 *Regidores*, who are like Aldermen, two *Alcades*, and a *Corregidor*, who are the Supream Magistrates of *Mexico*, with *Alguaziles*, and Serjeants before them. Then follow'd abundance of Knights, and Brothers, and all the Mysteries of the Passion carry'd on small Biers, by Men clad in Black like Angels, and adorn'd with Jewels. After them came ten Penitents, with vast long Trains; next the Company of arm'd Men, in white Armour, as has been said in other Places; and lastly, an Image of our Saviour, in a rich Shrine of Silver and Crystal, given the *Dominicans* by the Bishop of *Campeche*. By the Shrine was the Blessed Virgin, and St. John, follow'd by an infinite Multitude of devout People. In short, nothing was inferior to the Magnificence of *Europe*. Another Procession of *Indians* went from the Parish of St. James of the *Franciscans*, much like the last, only that some *Indian* Women went in Mourning Weeping, to represent the Daughters of *Sion*.

Saturday 6th, the Viceroy and Vicequeen went to hear Service at the Cathedral; he sat on a Place rais'd above the rest of the Church, she in a Closet shut up with Lattices, both on the right side of the Altar. On a Bench behind the Viceroy sat the first Chaplain, Captain of the Guard, and Gentleman of the Horse. On the left side of the Altar sat the *Regidores*, attended by two Macebearers, clad in Damask with Silver Maces in their Hands. After the usual Ceremonies, Mass beginning at *Gloria in excelsis*, the rich Marble Tabernacle was uncover'd; the lower part whereof is supported by sixteen Pillars, and the upper by eight, with noble gilt Statues, which vast Work rises to the top of the Church. There is also a Pulpit of the same fine Marble of the Pillars curiously Wrought.

A fine Tabernacle.

Sunday 7th, I saw the Viceroy at the Church of St. Augustin the Great, at Mass, sitting on his Throne, and 18 Knights of *Santiago*, or St. James, upon two Benches by him, with their white Mantles of the Order. There are in *Mexico* abundance of Knights of this and other Orders, who sell Cloth, and Silk, Chocolate, and other Things of less value; saying this no way lessens their Gentility, they having a Warrant of the Emperor Charles V. for so doing. This Church is very beautiful, and has thirteen Altars extraordinary rich in Gold, and adorn'd with curious Pictures. At the Entrance

on



*Gemelli.*  
1698. on the left hand is a small Congregation of the third Order, with five Altars richly Adorn'd. I saw a Play in the Afternoon very ill Acted by *Criollos*, that is, the Sons of *Spaniards* by *Indian* Women, the *Europeans* looking upon it as a disgrace to Act in Publick.

*Guadalupe.* Monday 8th, I went a League out of the City to visit the Church of our Lady of *Guadalupe*, which they say was built by Command of the Blessed Virgin appearing to an *Indian*, and is now a noted Pilgrimage, whither the *Mexicans* resort with rich Offerings, with which there is now building a large Church with three Isles supported upon eight Pillars, and will cost a great deal before it is finish'd. The high Altar of a little Church, serves for the present, and is curiously wrought of Silver. There are three other Altars for saying of the Masses, where are Alms brought for every Day. Near the aforesaid Church is the Place, where the Blessed Virgin is said to have appear'd the fifth time, and a great Spring; and not far from it on the Rock an Hermitage of great Devotion, in the place where the *Indian* who had the Vision, is reported by order of it to have gather'd Roses to show the Bishop in token of the truth of what he said. This Afternoon I went upon the Canal of *Xamaca*, where People either walk on the Banks, or divert themselves in Boats on the Water, there being many Men and Women who Sing and Play on the Musick, striving to outdo one another. The Banks are cover'd with little Houses of *Indians* and Inns, for the People to take some Refreshment, such as Chocolate, *Atole* and *Tamales*. The principal Ingredient of the two last nam'd is *Indian* Wheat, order'd after this manner. They boil the *Indian* Wheat with Lime, and when it has stood a while grind it, as they do the *Cacao*. Then they strain that Past through a Sieve with Water, which makes a white thick Liquor, like that we draw from Almonds; which Liquor when it has been boil'd a little, they call *Atole*, and is drank either mix'd with Chocolate or by it self. The more dainty People drink it the latter way with Sugar; but either way it is very nourishing, and much us'd in the *Indies*. Of the Past that remains after that washing, they make the *Tamales*, mixing it with minc'd Meat, Sugar and Spice, and colouring it over. I lik'd the Tast of them both, tho' my Mouth was us'd to good and bad.

*Atole a Liquor.*

Tuesday 9th I hear'd Mass in the Nunnery of S. *Agnes*, Founded by a Citizen

of *Mexico*, with a Revenue to Maintain 33 poor Maids, which are now chosen by his Heir. The Monastery on the other hand, in gratitude pays a thousand Pieces of Eight a Year to this Protector and Heir, by order of the Founder. This right of Patronage is at present in a *Criollo* or Son of a *Spaniard* by an *Indian* Woman, of the Family of *Cadena*. The Church is well adorn'd, has nine Altars, the Roof vaulted, and all decent.

Thursday 11th, in the Morning I went to see *Chapultepec*, where History tells us *Montezuma's* Palace of Recreation, or Country-House stood. At present it serves to receive the Viceroys, till the City is ready to receive them, and their Palace of Residence put in order. Of late Years this publick Reception has not been made, the City having represented to the King what a great Expence it was; so that the present Viceroy the Count de *Montezuma*, went in privately to take Possession of the Government in the great Hall where the Courts are kept, and when all things were in a readiness, made his solemn Entry a Horseback over the Causeway of *Guadalupe*, attended by the Nobility and Magistrates. When he came to the Triumphal Arch erected before the Church of the *Dominicans*, the Gate was shut according to Custom, to perform the Ceremony of presenting the Keys, and tending the Oath to keep the Liberties of the City. As he was going to alight for this purpose, he fell from his Horse, and his Perriwig dropt off his Head, the Horse being unruly, and he, as a Scholar, little us'd to ride. Then he pass'd through the second Arch, which was richly adorn'd, and then a Bridge over to the Church-yard of the Cathedral, at the Gate whereof the Archbishop in *Pontificalibus* expected him, with all the Chapter, to swear him to the keeping the Privileges of the Church. This done *Te Deum* was sung.

*Chapultepec*

Viceroy's Reception,

To return to the Palace of *Chapultepec*, it was built at the foot of a Hill (on the Top whereof is a Hermitage of the Invocation of S. *Francis Xavierius*) by D. *Luis de Velasco*, who was Viceroy in the Reign of the Emperor *Charles V.* as appears by the Inscription over the Gate; but it is too little for a Viceroy's Court. It has two Courts, in one of which the City did use to have the *Juego de Toros*, or riding at Bulls, whilst things were preparing for the Entry. The Garden is small but has a good Spring, which after serving the Palace is convey'd in Pipes to *Bethlem*, the Novitiate of the *Mercenarians*, to serve





serve the Inhabitants of that Quarter. *Gemelli.* They say this Spring was accidentally found by a Viceroy, who caus'd that Place to be dug to find *Montezuma's* Treasure. Close by it is a little Wood, and not far from it the Powder-House, the Mills drove by Water. At *Chapultepec* begin the famous Arches or Aqueduct, which conveys to the City of *Mexico* an excellent Water brought from *Santa Fe*, three Leagues distant. One *Mark Guavara* a private Citizen, was at all this charge. Almost all People use this Water, because that of *Belen* is thicker. Some say it is spoil'd by being convey'd beyond *Chapultepec* in Leaden Pipes; but I found it good enough.

Our Lady  
de los Re-  
medios.

Friday 12th, I travell'd three Leagues through a Plain well cultivated Country, like that of *Poggio Reale* in *Naples*; to see the miraculous Image of our Lady, call'd *de los Remedios*. The Church is built on a Hill, with convenient Dwellings for the Priests that serve it, under the Care of a Vicar. It is adorn'd with excellent Pictures in gilt Frames, as is the Roof and four Altars. But the high Altar (on which stands the holy Image, which is Massy and two Spans high) besides being all gilt, has a noble Canopy of beaten Silver, an Antependium of Crystal, with gilt Figures behind it, and about 30 large Silver Lamps of curious Workmanship; nor have they spar'd this Metal to adorn the Pulpit. Behind the high

Altar is a little Treasury where they keep all the Things of value offer'd by the Devotes. For fear of Thieves the Church being vastly rich and standing on a Mountain, they never open it till ten in the Morning.

Thence I went to *S. Joachim*, a Monastery of *Carmelite* barefoot Fryars, begun to be Built of late Years, and therefore the Religious are as yet but ill Lodg'd, and say Mass in a little Church with three Altars. They are Walling in a great piece of Ground to make a Garden, which in time will be delightful and yield great Profit.

Saturday 13th, I went to the Monastery of the *Dominicans*, to see the Chappel of *D. Peter Montezuma*, descended from the Emperor *Montezuma*, where I found a Spanish Inscription, in English thus, *The Chappel of D. Peter Montezuma, who was hereditary Prince to Montezuma the Lord of the greatest part of New Spain.* The Chappel is dedicated to our Lady *de los Dolores*, or of Sorrow; devoutly adorn'd, and enrich'd with Gold, as are the other 40 Altars in the same Church, besides Oratories and particular Congregations. The Monastery is large, containing 130 Religious Men in handsome Dormitories. The Nunnery of *S. Teresa* of her Order is rich; in the Church there are six Altars handsomely painted, and magnificent-ly adorn'd with Gold.

## CHAP. VIII.

*An Account of the wonderful Conveyance for the Water to run out of the Lake of Mexico.*

Being desirous to see this mighty Work, I mounted a Horseback on Monday 15th, and travell'd 3 Leagues along the Plain to the Village of *Tanipantla*. Then going up the Hill of *Barrientos*, two Leagues further came to *Guautilan*; where there is good earthen Ware made, like that of *Cilli* so much valu'd in Europe, which when broke wanton Ladies eat. In the Evening crossing the River *Guautilan* (which falls into the *Disague*, or Channel made for carrying off the Water from the Lake of *Mexico*) I rode a League further, and set up that Night at *Teplosotlan* in the Noviceship of the *Jesuits*, where the Rector entertain'd me courteously. This House is built upon a Hill with Dormitories and Conveniences for 52 Priests, Novices and Lay-Brothers. The Church is of the Invo-

Vol. IV.

cation of *S. Francis Xaverius*, and has six Altars richly gilt, especially the high Altar, which exceeds all other in Magnificence. There is a Chappel of our Lady of *Loretto* of the same bigness, and exactly built like that in *Italy*. The Garden is large and has a great deal of European Fruit.

Tuesday 16th, having travel'd some way over Plains well cultivated, I came to *Gueguetoca*, the Place where Waters have their Passage under the Direction of the *Guarda Mayor*, or head Keeper. The Viceroy is oblig'd by the King's express Command to go thither every Year in August to view what Condition the Place is in, and give the necessary Orders for it. *D. Thomas de Buytron y Moxica* entertain'd me courteously, and gave me a true Account of that Work.

X x x

Mexico





Gemelli.  
1698.

Mexico  
subject to  
Floods.

Mexico is so seated that it is always subject to be overflow'd by the Water of its Lakes, which run down in vast quantities from the Mountains about it. This hapned the first time in the Reign of *Montezuma* the first of the Name; afterwards under *Ahuizotl*, and under the last *Montezuma*; so that the Inhabitants seeing themselves forced to go in Boats about the City, would certainly have chang'd their antient Abode, had not they been assisted by the neighbouring Kings, making some Banks against the Water.

The Year after Mexico was Conquer'd by the Forces of the Emperor *Charles V.* that is, in 1523, the Waters swell'd so high, that they were oblig'd to make the Bank and Causeway of *S. Lazarus*. This not being a sufficient Defence against the Mischief that might happen, they began to turn away the River *Guanitlan*, which did most harm; this by Order of *D. Luis de Velasco*, who was Viceroy in the Year 1556; because the Year before the City had been Drowned, notwithstanding the new Bank.

Another great Inundation hapning in the Year 1580, the Viceroy *D. Martin Enriquez*, order'd some Method should be found to drein all the Lake; and the Village of *Gueguetoca* was thought a proper Place to convey the Water into the River of *Tula*; but the Work was not begun. In 1604 the Inundation was so great, that the City had like to have been all Drowned; wherefore the *Marques de Montes Claros*, who had charge of conveying away the Water, was for beginning the Work immediately. The King's Solicitor oppos'd it, alledging, *That Work could not be finish'd under an Age, and could never be maintain'd, because a Channel was to be Cut nine or ten Leagues in Length, and in Depth from sixteen to an hundred Yards (every Yard of these is 3 Spans and a Quarter of Naples, that is, about three Quarters and a Nail of an English Yard) on which Work 15000 Indians must be employ'd every Day; and therefore the Work was put off.* In 1607 *D.*

A great  
Canal to  
carry away  
the Water  
begun.

*Luis de Velasco* Governing, there was so great a Flood, the Fences made by his Predecessor proving usefess, that the City was almost swallow'd up; which made the carrying off the Water before, thought impracticable to be thought of again, and the Place was often view'd by the Viceroy, Judges, Magistrates of the City, Clergy, Ingeniers, and other understanding Persons to find the easiest way to convey the Water. After several Consultations it was resolv'd, That the

King's Solicitor and the City should Petition the Viceroy. He going in Person to the Place aforementioned with the Judges of the Royal Court and the Visitor General, order'd the Work should be done; and accordingly on the 28th of November 1607. after Mass sung at *Gueguetoca*, the Viceroy himself taking a Spade began to dig. This Place was found out by *Arrigo Martinez* an European, who undertook to bring the Work to perfection. The Expence being so great, the same Viceroy caus'd the Houses, Possessions, Merchandize and Goods of all the Citizens to be Apprais'd, which were valu'd at 20267555 Pieces of Eight, upon which he rais'd one in the hundred, and that amounted to 304013 Pieces of Eight and two Royals and a half; which was paid by Laity and Clergy alike. Whilst *Martinez* was carrying on the Work, the Viceroy went thither with some Persons of Judgment, who were of Opinion that the Trench or Canal should be carry'd on open, from the Bridge of *Gueguetoca*, or Salt-River, up to the Lake of *Sitlaltepec*, for the space of a League and a half, and from the Bridge downward, the Water should run under Arches with Gaps left open at certain spaces; and that the Canal all along should be four of their Yards, as above, deep, and five over. The number of *Indians* that wrought from the end of November 1607 till the 7th of May 1608, was 471154; and those that made it their Business to dress them Meat 1664, the Expence of Pieces of Eight 73611. The Viceroy and Archbishop saw the Water run to the end of the cover'd Canal, at the foot of the Hill of *Nocistongo*.

In 1611, the King by special Warrant of the 8th of May, demanded a particular Account of the Viceroy, the Archbishop and City, of what had been laid out till that time; what benefit had been reap'd, what they could hope for the time to come, what it would cost to bring the Work to Perfection, and what the Charge would be every Year to keep it in Repair. The Viceroy by the Advice of understanding People, answer'd, *That they had taken wrong Measures, and therefore all the Expence was lost.* *Alonso d' Arias* was of opinion the Canal under Ground must be forty Yards deep, of those before-mention'd, and 60000 in length up to Mexico to secure the City; and that it was impossible to finish the Canal as 'twas begun under Ground, or to keep it afterwards in Repair, because of its narrowness. The City gave the same





Gemelli.  
1698.

same account the Vice-roy had done; concluding all was mistaken, because they had not proceeded according to the first design; adding that the expence to that time amounted to 413324 pieces of Eight, for the labour 1128650 *Indians*. *Martinez*, on the other Hand, writ in Vindication of what he had done, clearing himself of what was objected by his Adversaries.

Hereupon it was resolv'd at *Madrid*, to send over *Adrian Boot* a French Ingenier, and accordingly he went. He coming to *Mexico* in 1614, view'd all the Lakes, and Rivers that could do harm to the City, in the Company of one of the *Oydores* or Judges; and at last concluded that all the Work done was in vain, and would only serve to ease the City of the River of *Guautilan*, which carries the greatest quantity of Water, into the Lakes of *Mexico*, *Citlaltepec*, and *Sumpango*. Then he offering to throw up the Banks about the City, the next Year 1615, for the expence of an hundred eighty six thousand pieces of Eight, his Proposal was rejected, that Method having been found unsuccessful in the Years 1604, and 1607. *Martinez* was therefore order'd to carry on his Work, upon condition he should finish it for 110000 pieces of Eight. The King confirm'd this Contract in 1616, ordering the Money to be paid out of Duty on Wine in *Mexico*. The Count *del Priego* being Viceroy, to see how much the Water must rise to Flood the City, caus'd the work of the Canal to be left off, the Banks to be broke down, and the River of *Guautilan* and other Waters to be let in, from the 13th of *June*, till the last day of *October* 1623. The Water was observ'd at first to rise a Yard, wanting 2 Inches, but in *December* it swell'd so high that the City was in Danger. The Marques *de Zerralvo* finding things in this Posture, following the Steps of his Predecessors, made several Fences; but they avail'd nothing, for the River of *Guautilan* running into the Lake in 1627, the Water was half a Yard deep in the City. Hereupon the People of *Mexico* press'd the Vice-roy, to make the Canal be carry'd on as the King had order'd; whereupon after some consultation, it was order'd to be proceeded upon. But upon St. *Matthew's* day, that same Year, some Banks breaking, so great a quantity of Water came in, that it was two Yards deep in the City, and they went about the Streets in Boats. This was caus'd by the River of

Vol. IV.

*Guautilan*, breaking into the Canal of *Sumpango*, after the Work of the Canal was left off. Seeing the Waters up to their Chins by this inundation, they began to talk of removing the City, to some high Ground, according to several repeated Orders from the King. In order to it, the Viceroy on the first of *November* 1629 held a Council of all the Courts and Citizens; where it was agreed that several Magistrates and skilful Persons, should go find out the Canal that had been begun.

On the 6th of *December* 1629, upon a second Debate, it was resolv'd to continue the Canal of *Gueguetoca*, which would now cost 200000 pieces of Eight, to bring it to perfection; besides other Works upon the Causeway and Banks. At the beginning of *January* 1630, the Work was begun, upon condition it should be finish'd in 21 Months, with the expence of 280000 pieces of Eight, and the Labour of 300 *Indians* every day, according to the Method propos'd by *Martinez*, which was found to be easier than the rest. The Marques *de Zerralvo* Viceroy on the 12th of *October* 1630, put out an Order for carrging on the Canal to the Mouth of St. *Gregory*.

Afterwards considering it was impossible to find a Passage for all the Waters, obtain'd a new Order of the 19th of *May*, 1631, for building a new City, between *Tacuba*, and *Tacubaia*, in the Plains of the Village of *Sanctorum*, towards the Mills of *John de Alcocer*, and would have this debated in a General Council. The Magistrates, Chapter and Religious meeting, the greatest part would not consent to it, saying there was no reason to lose the value of 50 Millions and upwards, in the Structure of Churches, and Houses, to save the expence of four Millions, it would cost to drein the Lake; urging further the loss of the Revenues of the Church, the King and private Persons. Thus all that could be alledg'd on the contrary being of no force against private Interest, nothing was concluded on.

In 1632 *Martinez* dy'd for Grief, that the *Oydor Villabuena* had reflected on him, upon account of the mistake, committed in making the Canal.

The Marques *de Cadereyta*, coming over Viceroy in 1635, caus'd all the Canals of the City to be cleans'd, for the Boats to go upon them, with the expence of 34000 pieces of Eight; and the following Year having seen an account of the condition of the Banks, and of the

X x x 2

Canal



Canal of *Gueguetoca*, he order'd *Ferdinand Zepeda*, and *D. Ferdinand Corrillo* to draw up another particular of all that had hapned, and what had been laid out upon the said Canal, from the 8th of *November* 1607, when it was begun under the Government of the *Marques de Salinas* the 2d Viceroy, till the 27th of *March* 1637. Three points were consider'd in that Paper. The first, whether in order to secure *Mexico* against inundations, it would be available to preserve the Canal of *Gueguetoca*; whether being made open, deeper, and wider, it would be capable of dreining the Lake of *Mexico*, and in case it were, whether it was possible to keep it in repair. The 2d, whether in case no way were found out for all the Waters at *Gueguetoca*, or elsewhere, *Mexico* might be secur'd by Banks. And the third, whether, if both were impracticable, the City ought to be remov'd. The Computation was made of what had been spent till then, and it amounted to 295016 pieces of Eight, seven Royals and a half.

This account being Printed at *Mexico* on the 7th of *April*, 1637, Copies were given to all Magistrates, the Chapter, Provincials of Orders, and other Persons of Judgment; that they might examine it, and give their Opinions. To this purpose, a Consult was held in the presence of the Viceroy, where they all disagreed, according as every one stood affected. On the 20th of *July* 1637 the same Viceroy order'd that the Canal of *Gueguetoca* should be made open; whereupon the Geometricians declar'd, that between the Causeway of *St. Christopher*, and the Mouth of *St. Gregory*, there must be dug up 70721526 cubical Yards of Earth, to make way for four cubical Yards of Water of the Lake of *Mexico*. It has since appear'd by experience, that for almost an Age past, wherein there has been continual Labour, and Application, about three Millions of Gold have been spent, without compassing the intended end; for no other way having been found for the River *Guatitlan*, upon Floods it has carry'd Trees, Stones, and Earth into the vaulted part of the Canal; so that in process of time, it has by degrees obstructed the Passage of the Waters, which afterwards of necessity run into the Lakes of *Zumpango*, thence to that of *Xaltocan*, and lastly into those of *St. Christopher*, *Tescuco*, and *Penon*, indangering the City of *Mexico*, as particularly in 1645.

The Inhabitants never agreeing to re-

move the City, according to the King's Orders, the *Marques de Cadereyta* caus'd the Work of the open Canal to be carry'd on, causing the old Arches to be broken down, the better to remove the Impediments that hindred the Passage of the Water. This Work, as has been said, was begun in 1637, and at this present, there remains much more to do, than has been done; and the worst of it is, that they must cut down a vast depth, to lay open the old vaulted way, made them by digging under ground, like Conny-buries. This Work is carry'd on, but most is done in rainy Weather, because then the Flood helps to carry down the Stones, dug out, otherwise it would not be done in many Ages. To do this, they fasten a Beam on the Bank of the River, or neer the mouth of the Vault; about this Beam, they wind several Ropes to which the *Indians* are made fast by the middle, who dig the Earth and Stones along the Canal, to make them fall into the Stream, into which they sometimes tumble themselves.

That I might give the Reader a true account of the present condition of this Canal, I went in the Afternoon to see it. I found it open for a League and a half, to the place call'd *Guimata*, where it winds, because they met with a solid Rock, and from thence forward to the Mouth of *St. Gregory*, being half a League in length, it is not open, except in some places for an experiment. Here it is necessary the ground be cut down open to the Banks; to do which will employ many thousands of People, and require a much greater expence than the 100000 pieces of Eight assign'd by the King. And when all this is done, it will not secure *Mexico* against the Floods; to prevent which, it would be necessary to make the Canal much deeper, that it might carry all the Water, that gathers in the Lake, when the Rains fall.

I went hence to see the Bank or Dike, call'd *Vertidero*, half a League above *Gueguetoca*, made to keep the River of *Guatitlan* from running into the Lakes; and confine it to the small Lake of *Cuyatepeke*, and this to avoid destroying the Canal which is not capable of receiving it in time of Floods. Sometimes the Waters gush into the Lake of *Zumpango*, which is twelve Spans lower than that of *Cuyatepeke*, and as much higher than that of *Xaltocan*, and thus they are kept as it were laid up, till the Floods are over. Then that they may not run out of the Lake of *Zumpango*, into those of *St.*



St. Christopher, Tescuco, and Pennon to Gemelli. mischief Mexico, a strong Bank, is always kept up. There are also two other Banks or Dikes, which answer to the Lake of Zumpango, the one with three Sluices, the other with two, to convey the spare Water of Zumpango, when it does not Rain, into the afore-said Canal. When I went thither, the

Canal was choak'd up, and out of use by reason of the great quantity of Earth carry'd into it, by the Waters. Two other Dikes, one after another have a Communication with the River and Lake of Chyatepeke; the first has six Sluices, the 2d four. The Keeper of them led me all about, and tho' an Indian, treated me courteously in his House.

# CHAP. IX.

Of the Danger the Author run himself into, to see the Plate dug, and a Description of the Mines of Pachuca.

THO' all my Friends discourag'd me from going to the Mines of Pachuca, as being incredibly deep, yet having fix'd my Resolution, I set out upon Wednesday the 17th. I din'd at the Village of Techischiac two Leagues distant, then went on a League further to the Village of Guipustla, and from thence 3 Leagues to lye at the Farm of Tusanlalpa. I there kill'd four Hares by the House, and might have kill'd more, but would not; first, because they are not so good as those of Europe; in the next place, because the Mexicans abhor them, because they have seen them eat the Maggots bred in dead Horses.

Mines.

Thursday 18. having travell'd six Leagues, part Mountain, part Plain, I came to Pachuca, where I was entertain'd by Dominick Lavarrea, the chief Officer there of the King's Revenue. My chief design being to see the Mines as soon as we had din'd, he sent his Son-in-law with me to the two nearest, about half a League distant, to which the Way was rough and craggy. They were both extraordinary deep. The depth of the first call'd Santa Cruz, or Holy Cross, was 92 Estados (an Estado is 3 Spanish Yards, and a Spanish Yard, as was said before, is three quarters and a Nail of our English Yard) so that the 92 Estados being 276 Spanish Yards, makes 224 English Yards. The other, call'd of Navarro, is 80 Estados, that is, 195 Yards. In that of Santa Cruz, the Metal was taken out with Malacates. This is an Engine with a perpendicular Axle-tree resting in two Irons. About the Axle-tree moves a Wheel, upon which instead of a Rope an Iron Chain is wound, one end of which comes up with the Metal hanging to it, and the other goes down for more, like Buckets in a Well. The Engine is kept going by four Mules, made

Depth.

fast to a piece of Timber that crosses the Axle-tree. Two of these Malacates work at this Mine, as well to draw up the Metal, as to drein the Water, which would otherwise rise and hinder the Work. I went down five Ladders, or Poles; but the Miner would let me go no further, for fear I should tumble headlong; and indeed the Poles we were to go down by were wet, and a Man's Foot might easily slip, as he was finding out the Notch. Then I went to the Mine, call'd del Navarro, where the Indians brought up the Metal on their Backs, with eminent Danger of their Lives, in climbing so many Ladders, or rather upright Poles with Notches. This they do for four Royals a day; but at Night they are allow'd to carry as much Ore as they can at once, which they afterwards share with the Owner of the Mine. They had wrought five Months to make a Communication under Ground from one Mine to the other, and convey the Water out of that of Navarro, into that of Santa Cruz, which was deeper; as yet the Miners had not met, but were so near one another, that both heard each others Strokes.

Friday 29th, I went two Leagues further to see the Mines on the Mountain. There I found a little City of clay Houses, cover'd with Wood, as in other places the Indians cover them with Leaves of Maguey; for here at least 12000 got their living in those deep Dungeons. There are in the space of six Leagues about a Thousand Mines; some laid aside, others where they now Work, and others they preserve; but some privately get down into them to Steal the Metal. Eight days before I was there, fifteen Indians had been kill'd in one of them, the Earth falling in upon them, as they were going



ing down a narrow Mouth; the great one being stopp'd up by the Owner's Orders.

Having rested a little, I went to the Mine, they call of the *Trinity*; because it is made up of the three several Mines, distinguish'd by the Names of *la Campechiana*, *Joya*, and *Pennol*. Tho' these be three Mouths, they all go to the same Vein. As for its Riches, Persons of Reputation and well acquainted with the Place, told me, that in these ten Years, there have been forty Millions of Silver drawn thence, nine hundred, or a thousand Men working there every day. When they had sunk the Work, an hundred *Estados* (each three quarters of an *English* Yard and Nail, as has been explain'd before) they found Water, to drein the which sixteen *Malacates* (before explain'd) were set up, and two Millions were laid out in Timber-work to keep the Earth from falling in. Yet time, that consumes all things, has render'd this rich Mine so dangerous, that it is counted impossible to get more Plate out of it, and therefore all the Mouths are stopp'd up.

However a new Mine was open'd close by it, eight Years since, which has yielded great Profit to the Owner, and is call'd, *St. Matthew's* Mine; the Veins of Metal lying East, and West, which are easily found and dug. In this Mine, the which is fifty *Estados* deep (as above) I resolv'd to see the Veins of Silver; but having gone down five Ladders, or Poles, I was astonish'd to see how likely it was to tumble down headlong. Being therefore about going up again, the Miner, who has the charge of propping up the Mines, encourag'd me, saying, there were but few Poles to the bottom; whereupon he going before with a Light in his Hand, I ventur'd to go down the rest, tho' with much Fear; because I sometimes found it very difficult to clasp the Pole with my Arms, and fix my Feet on the Notches on it. However recommending my self to Almighty God, I went down three times as far as the Miner had told me, only to encourage me; so I came at last to the Place where the Miners with Iron Wedges made

the hard strong Ore fly about. They told me, that in some Places it is softer, and of several Colours; and having rewarded them, they gave me a great deal of Metal. Here I bethought my self of the Danger I had run into; and the more because it was very unwholesome being in that deep Dungeon, by reason of the pestilential Damps of the Place. Having therefore stay'd there, about two Hours, I went up again, in much dread, because of the bad Ascent; and got up into the open Air, very weary. I thought I was then newly Born into the World, and I confess in my Days, I never undertook so Rash, if not Foolish, an Action; nor was I ever so much afraid in five Years, I travell'd among barbarous Nations. I would not have gone down again into that Place, whither only my Curiosity had led me, for two, or three thousand pieces of Eight.

The Mines are so deep, because they always dig down Perpendicularly, to find the Veins of Silver, which being dug away as they lye Horizontally, they again begin to sink deeper, till they meet another; and that being spent, down again; so that this Work continuing above an Age, the Mines must of necessity be vastly deep, as will appear by the following Cut.

- A. The Mouth of the Mine.
- B. Poles, or Timbers with Notches, very dangerous to go down.
- C. *Indians* that carry up the Ore, with Light in their Hands.
- D. Veins of Metal, where other *Indians* dig the Ore.

See Cut, Page 522.

The worst of it is, that tho' the wretched *Indians* carry Light; yet this not showing them what is below, they are forced to set their Feet at a Venture, and so they sometimes tumble down, with the Metal on their Backs. They would have carry'd me to see others, but I would not tempt God any more. I return'd betimes, to *Pachuca*, and din'd with *Lavarrai's* Son-in-law.

CHAP.





## CHAP. X.

*How the Silver is separated from the Stone of the Mines, by Fire, and Quicksilver.*

*Gemelli.*  
1698.  
The Ore broken.

After Dinner they carry'd me to see the Metal separated at the Silver Works, whereof there are many in *Pachuca*. It is done after this manner. When the Ore is brought out of the Mines they break it with Hammers, to separate the Metal from the *Tepetate*, or Stone that has no Silver. The *Pipinadores*, that is, the Men that break it, being well skill'd in their Trade, put the Metal which is for the Fire, and that which is for the Quicksilver into several Sacks; Experience teaching them how to know the one from the other, and so send it to the *Haziendas*, or Mills.

Then pounded.

There the Ore is ground, and pounded in six Iron Mortars, like those for Powder, working like Mills with Water, or with Mules. In order to run it, they mix with it a certain proportion of burning Lead (first separated from the same Metal) which is like a Letharge of Iron, and is put with an equal quantity of Coals into a Furnace, like a Chimney twelve Spans high, and wider at the top than the bottom. Two great pair of Bellows blow this Furnace, two Mules working the Engine that moves them; and whilst the first Metal is melting, they lay on more for about six Hours. When the Lead, and Silver are melted, they take off the burnt Scum with a Hook; whilst the Silver is let run out at the small end of the Furnace, through a Trough into a Mould, where it hardens; and when Cold is taken out. Then they shut the Spout of the Furnace, and lay on more Ore, Lead, and Coals as at first, to cast more Pigs, or Bars. The burnt Lead, we have spoke of, is Sold by the *Indians* to their Masters; making it in their Houses, when they endeavour to melt Silver by Stealth. When they have made 50, or 60 Pigs, in a Week's time, more or less, according as the Owner of the Work is in Wealth; they are put into another Furnace adjoining, to separate the Lead, and refine them. This Furnace is like our Ovens to bake Bread in, with a Trench in the middle, full of wet Ashes moulded together to receive the pure Silver. It is first heated with a Wood Fire in another Furnace adjoining, call'd the refining Furnace; and when the Pigs are ready to run, they clap great Bellows, like those of

Refining.

the first Furnace, to it. Then the Silver running, the pure part of it runs off along the aforefaid Trench, and the Lead or Earth drawn off with an Iron Hook; when Cold looks like a Froth, or Pumice Stone. This Froth of the first and second running, is kept to serve again in the Furnace where they melt the Ore.

Then the Pigs, or Bars of pure Silver, weighing 80, or 100 Marks, of eight Ounces to a Mark, are carry'd to the King's Refiner or Assayer, who tries whether they are Standard, that they may be Coin'd. If they find them so, they are Mark'd, and the King takes his Fifth; there being in all Places where there are Mines a Treasurer, a Controller, and another Officer call'd *Official Mayor*, to receive the King's Dues. If they are not Standard, they are Refin'd over again, and then Stamp'd, marking how many Grains of Gold there are in every Mark, and if above forty, they are carry'd to the King's Refining House to be separated.

Marking.

If it is Pure, or Virgin Ore, the Quicksilver is us'd after this manner. After being well pounded in the Mortars above mention'd, into fine Powder, and sifted, it is moulded in a strong wooden Box, with Water, Salt, and the Drofs of Copper, as if it were to make a Clay to build Walls. This done they add the Quicksilver to it, and tread it for 24 Hours, so that it may mix through all the Mass. Then they make a Heap of it, under Covert, but open to the Air on the sides, with a Mark to know the Day it was made; for every two Days it must be work'd up again with Water, be stamp'd for 24 Hours, and be put in the same place.

Course Ore.

All the Heaps, thus made, are visited, as if they were Sick Persons, by the *Azoguero*, or Quicksilver Man; who washing a little of that Mass, by the Silver that remains clotted together in the Dish, and by the outward Heat of all the Heap, understands what quantity of *Mercury*, and of Drofs of Copper must be added to it, or taken from it; because too much Quicksilver makes it turn Black, and it must be cool'd with the Ouse taken out of neighbouring Rivers. If it is Cold they add more Copper



Gemelli.  
1698.

per Drofs, because the Quicksilver is no fermentative Menstruum, and it receives but gives no Quality. Skilful Men say, That when the Mafs is of a Colour like Bran, it shows there wants more Quick-silver; if of a Pearl Colour, that the Work is in a good Condition; if of an Ash Colour, that the Heap cannot be better than it is. This Perfection it comes to in twenty Days, or a Month, more or less, according to the Nature of the Ore.

Washing.

This Mafs, or Mixture is afterwards wash'd at the *Lavadero*, or Washing-place, with Hand-wheels; the Earth thus wash'd running through Spouts into three several Vessels, one under another, that the Silver running off from the first, may stop in the second or third, from the last of which the Water runs out through a Spout, and falls into a Place, where the Women always find some small quantity of Silver.

The Silver that remains at the bottom of the Vessels, is put into a thin Cloth Bag ending in a Point at the bottom, that the *Mercury* may drop out at the Point, the Weight at top pressing it. Yet only the fifth Part goes off this way; for which reason they use to put several Balls of about three Pounds each, of that first Paste, or *Amalgama*, as the Chymists call it, into a Brass or Earthen Bell, or Crucible, with little Plates of Iron across the Mouth of it, that the Silver may not fall when it is hardned. Such another Bell is put into the Ground, one third part of it full of Water; and then the Mouth of the other is fitted to it so exactly that nothing may Evaporate. Then they make a Cole Fire on the uppermost, till it is red Hot; which is the sign that the Quicksilver is separated, and the Silver alone remains in a Body.

This is carry'd to the King's Officers to be Assay'd; and if not Standard, is again run to Refine, and cast into Bars, on which they put the Stamp to show it has paid the Fifth, and the Mark denoting how many Grains of Gold it contains, as has been said.

The Silver might be separated in a few Hours by only Fire, but then there would be a great Loss; on the other hand it requires a whole Month to do it with Quicksilver; and a greater Expence,

because the Mercury coming from *Spain*, or *Pern* is very dear; they paying 84 pieces of Eight the hundred Weight, and being oblig'd to separate an hundred Marks with it. In my time I saw 300 pieces of Eight given for it; not that the King sells it so dear; but because his Officers sometimes make their advantage of the necessity of the Owners of the Mines; and this want of Quicksilver is what Empoverishes *Mexico*. Hence it is also, that in *New Spain* for the King's Fifth, they take but Ten in the Hundred, and one call'd *de Cobos* for the Assayer, and other Officers, by reason of the great Expence the Proprietors are at; whereas in *Pern* they take Twenty in the Hundred to the full, the Quicksilver being Cheap there. In former times the Silver was separated with only Mercury, and Salt, and it lay a whole Year; but afterwards a *Dominican* Friar made the Work easier, by the invention of the Drofs of Copper, which presently heats the Mafs.

There is one wonderful Particular to be observ'd in this Matter, and is, That the Quicksilver receiv'd by the Water in the lower Bell is found so much short of what was put in, as is the Weight of the Silver gain'd by its means. And therefore some make a Question, whether the Mercury fixes, or whether evaporating, it consolidates the Silver. The first is counted the more likely Opinion, because of the equality of the Silver, and of the Mercury that is missing.

Saturday 20th, I set out from *Pachuca* betimes, and having travell'd 7 Leagues, din'd at the Inn of the Village of *Tesayucca*. Then riding two Leagues further I lay at *St. Lucia*, a Farm of the *Jesuits* belonging to the Noviceship of *Teplosetlan*. This Farm contains many Leagues of Pasture, and Tillage. There are on it about an hundred marry'd Blacks, who living in Cottages multiply, to the great Benefit of those Fathers; every one being sold for 3, or 400 pieces of Eight. They have about 140000 Sheep, and Goats; 5000 Horses, and Mares; and 10000 Cows, and Oxen. Those that look after them, have the Tithe of all the Increase, which is bought by the Fathers, at a set Rate. Sunday 21st, I travell'd seven Leagues on a good Road to *Mexico*.





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

Containing the most Remarkable Things he saw in  
NEW SPAIN.

B O O K II.

C H A P. I.

*Upon what Conditions the Mines are granted to Proprietors.*

Gemelli.  
1698.  
Mines free  
to all.

ANY Person whatsoever that discovers a Mine, whether of Gold, or Silver, may make his Advantage of it, paying the King the fifth Part of its Product. A Mine forsaken by the first Discoverer for three Months, falls to the King; so that any Man is free to go dig in it, giving Notice to the first Owner. If he opposes, and showing a Reason, why he has not kept Men at Work, the Royal Court judges whether his Opposition is to take Place or not.

How divided.

The King gives 60 *Spanish Varas*, or Yards, such Measure as above, towards every quarter of the Heaven from the Mouth of the Mine, or all on one side, as the Miner likes best; without which Space another may open another Mine, leaving five Yards between them to part their Ground. As they sink under Ground, one may Work into the others Division, till he meets with the others Workmen,

for then he must retire to his own; or Dig lower that the other may not meet him again Digging in the upper part.

If the lower Mine be drowned by any Spring, as often happens, he that is above is oblig'd to give him the sixth Part of the Metal Ore he gets; and if the Water breaking out in the upper should run into the lower, the Owner of the first of them is bound to Drein it, because the Veins of Metal being like those in the Body, full of Moisture, and Water instead of Blood; when open'd they send the Water down; which if it were not drein'd by the lower Miner, the higher would be forced to do it.

These, as has been said, pay the Tenth to the King, wherein they differ from the *Peruvians*, who pay the Fifth, as to Silver; but as for Gold there is no Priviledge, and they are all bound to pay the Fifth.

Of drein-  
ing.

The  
King's  
Dues.

C H A P. II.

*Of the Mint, and Royal Office of the Apartado, or House to separate the Gold from the Silver.*

How much  
Plate is  
entred.

ALL the Plate dug out of the Mines in *New Spain* is to come to *Mexico* to be entred in the Exchequer; and they say there are two Millions of Marks of eight Ounces as has been said, entred in a Year, besides what is slipt aside, or conceal'd; and out of this Sum they Coin every Year 700000 Marks into pieces of Eight at the Mint.

Manner of  
Coining.

The Silver that is to be coin'd into pieces of Eight, besides the first Entry to pay the King's Fifth, is to be

Vol. IV.

again entred in the Exchequer, there to pay to the King a Royal in a Mark, which the *Spaniards* call *Sennoraje*, that is, the Duty of Lordship, to wit, when the Plate is such as they call *de ley Can- sada*, that is, Bare Standard, which is 2210 *Maravedies* a Mark, and so up to 2367 *Maravedies*, call'd *Ley Subida*, that is, the High Standard. The King's Officers will not Mark it, unless it be so Fine; and if it be otherwise, they first reduce it to the fineness of 2376 *Maravedies*;

Y y y

vedies;





*vedies*; and then add to every Mark five eighth parts of an Ounce of Alloy, to reduce it to 2210 *Maravedies*; such as is the Plate of the common pieces of Eight. The Owners are at the Charge of this Work in the Furnaces of the Mint, where a great deal of Silver is lost in casting the Bars, for want of good Utensils. These Bars are carry'd to the Assayer, for him to see whether they are Standard, that is, worth 2210 *Maravedies* a Mark; and he finding it right, they are carry'd to the *Ornazas*, which are the eight Places where they Coin. In each of them is a *Capataz*, or Head of Ten, or Twelve Men. To him the Bars are deliver'd, being weigh'd by the Weigher, and entred in their Books by the Clerk and Treasurer. Here the Bars are put into the Fire, that they may be Cut, and when Cut, because the Silver is harsh, they are wetted with Water, and being put into the Fire again are Coin'd.

Sort of  
Coin.

There are five sorts of Money made there, which are pieces of Eight, half pieces of Eight, quarter Pieces, single Royals, and half Royals. When cut according to their due Weight they return to the Treasurer, who receives them at the Hands of the same Weigher, Clerk, and other Officers. The Money coming out Black by reason of the Copper, it is sent first to the Whiteners; and then passing the Officers who are to see it has the just Weight of 67 Royals to a Mark, it is deliver'd to twenty Coiners who are together in a great Room. To them are deliver'd every Day the five Stamps call'd *Trucles*; but at Night they are carefully kept by the proper Officers upon Danger of their Lives. The Money being Stamp'd, returns to the Treasurer, with all the Formality before-mention'd, and he delivers it to the Owner, deducting what belongs to the Officers, *viz.* the Treasurer himself, the Assayer, Cutter, Clerk, Weigher, two Guards, and other under Officers, and twenty Coiners. But this Deduction is no Loss to the Owner, because it is taken out of two Royals added to the value of the Plate before it was Coin'd; which being worth 65 Royals before it came to the Mint, according to the common Weight of 34 *Maravedies*, goes thence worth 67 Royals, according to the Weight of 33 *Maravedies*. This Increase is divided among the Officers by *Maravedies* and *Raciones*, that is, Shares, or Parts, every *Maravedi* having 137 *Raciones*, or Parts, as follows.

To the Treasurer 22 *Maravedies*, and 120 *Raciones*, or Parts. Fees for Coining.

To the Assayer 1 *Maravedi*, and 60 *Raciones*.

To the Cutter 5 *Maravedies*, and 60 *Raciones*.

To the *Escrivano*, or Clerk, 1 *Maravedi*, and 60 *Raciones*.

To the Weigher 1 *Maravedi*, and 60 *Raciones*.

To one Guard 1 *Maravedi*, and 60 *Raciones*.

To another Guard 1 *Maravedi*, and 60 *Raciones*.

To a *Merino*, or under Clerk, 16 *Raciones*.

To an *Alcade*, 16 *Raciones*.

To the *Capataces* and *Brazajeros*, that is, Heads of the Firemen, and Firemen themselves, 24 *Maravedies*.

To the Coiners 8 *Maravedies*.

Which in all make 68 *Maravedies*.

All the chief Officers, as Treasurer, Assayer, Cutter, Clerk, Weigher, two Guards, and two *Alcades* are appointed by the King, and all the Inferior are appointed by the Treasurer, paying 3000 pieces of Eight. The first are all liable to pay for any Cheat or Fraud committed by their Companions, that they may all be a Check upon one another, and this upon pain of Death, particularly to the Assayer.

The said principal Offices are bought, and every one has a right to make his over, or resign it to whom he pleases. But that this Resignation may stand good, he that Resigns must live twenty Days after it; and he who has the Benefit of it, is to make it known to the Viceroy within sixty Days; and pay the third part of the value of the Place to the King, and the other two to the Owner, or his Heirs. If he that Resigns does not Live twenty Days, or he to whom it is made over does not make it known in sixty, it is forfeited, and sold for the King, and therefore they that have the Places Resign them once a Month, that they may always reckon they liv'd twenty Days after. The Treasurer's Employment is worth between 50 or 60000 pieces of Eight a Year. Those of Assayer, and Founder (given for ever to the Monastery and Hermitage of the Barefoot *Carmelites* of Mexico) being serv'd by the same Person yield 15, or 16000 pieces of Eight. That of Cutter 10, or 11000; and the rest of the great ones abovemention'd, some 3500, and the worst of them 800 pieces of Eight a Year. The Masters of the eight Furnaces,

Value of  
their Places.





~~~~~ naces, and 20 Coiners, have every one  
*Gemelli.* between 800 and 1000 Pieces of Eight a  
1698. Year, and the meanest Servants earn a  
~~~~~ Piece of Eight a Day. A good number  
of these being the Treasurer's Slaves, he  
makes the Profit of their Places.

Selling of  
Plate.

Tho' every private Citizen that has  
Silver may have it Coin'd into Money,  
yet the Mint is almost continually Em-  
ploy'd by Merchants, and at present  
there are three richer than the rest, who  
buy the Metal of private Persons, who  
are not so rich; paying two Royals short  
of the value in a Mark; one that they  
pay to the King for *Senorage*, or Duty  
of Lordship, and the other for the cost  
of Work; for whereas the value of Stan-  
dard Silver of 2376 *Maravedies*, is eight  
Pieces of Eight and six Royals a Mark,  
they pay but eight Pieces of Eight and  
four Royals.

Separation  
of Gold  
and Silver.

There being some Gold, as has been  
said before, mix'd with the Silver, it is  
separated in another Place, call'd *el A-*  
*partado*, or the Separation. Before the  
Plate goes thither, it must go to the Ex-  
chequer to pay the Kings fifth, to be  
then sent thither. The Separation is  
made in the aforesaid House after this  
manner. The Silver being run is con-  
verted into little Balls, which are put in-  
to Vessels with *Aqua fortis* to dissolve.  
The Gold remains at the bottom of the  
Vessel like black Powder; and the *Aqua-*  
*fortis* containing the Silver is put into two

Glasses with their Mouths together; by  
the Spaniards call'd *Cornuamfas*. Putting  
Fire to it the Silver remains in one of  
the two Glasses, and the *Aqua fortis* in  
the other. The Gold is run in a Furnace,  
and is first cast into round Pieces, and  
then into Bars, as is done with the Silver  
separated from it. For this Trouble  
there are six Royals a Mark allow'd to  
the House *del Apartado*, or of Separation.  
Both the Gold and Silver return to the  
Exchequer, where the first appearing to  
be 22 Carats fine, and the Silver 2216  
*Maravedies*, it is stamp'd, as has been  
said above. The Office of the *Apartador*,  
or Separator, belongs to a private Per-  
son in Mexico, who bought it of the King  
for 74000 Pieces of Eight.

When the Gold is Coin'd, it is done  
after the same manner, as has been said  
of the Silver; and they may have Pieces  
of 16, of 8, of 4, and of 2 Pieces of  
Eight, which are call'd Crowns of Gold.  
But there is a difference in the Fees, for  
whereas the Silver pays 2 Royals a Mark,  
the Gold pays three and a half; the Mo-  
ney being delivered out by a Weight  
which is less than the common, by which  
the Gold is receiv'd, as has been said of  
the Silver.

This is all I could learn touching this  
matter, part of which I was an Eye wit-  
ness to, and the rest was told me by D.  
*Philip de Rivas* of *Sevil*, who had been  
Assayer 30 Years.

### CHAP. III.

#### *The Journal Continu'd.*

UPON Sunday the 28th, I went to  
divert me on the Canal of *Xama-*  
*ca* in a Boat made of one Tree, call'd a  
*Canoo*. This being the only Diversion  
at Mexico; there us'd to come aboard  
there Men and Women, Young and Old,  
Fair and Foul, with Garlands of Flow-  
ers on their Heads; and so go up and  
down the Canal, after filling their Bellies  
with those wretched Dainties I have spoke  
of before, which are sold along the Banks.  
If they would cleanse the Canal and make  
convenient Boats, this would be a plea-  
sant Diversion. I went in the *Canoo* as  
far as the Village of *Istacalco*, which in  
the Mexican Language signifies, the white  
House. The Water of this Lake being  
boil'd with a sort of Earth they call *Te-*  
*chischire*, or of Saltpeter, and run off  
through a Pipe, makes Salt. By the way  
I saw an Ear of Corn like a Pyramid,

Vol. IV.

with eight other Ears joining to it, all  
upon the same Reed, a sufficient Argu-  
ment of the Fruitfulness of the Soil.

Monday 29th, five Thieves were  
hang'd, a Spaniard, a *Mestizo*, a *Mulato*  
and two Indians. The Spaniard had kept  
a *Mestiza* Woman, whereupon his Fa-  
ther Confessor prevail'd with him to  
Marry her, which done the Criminal  
press'd to consummate the Marriage, plead-  
ing the legality of it, and was so eagerly  
bent upon it, that the Priest had much  
difficulty to dissuade him, tho' he was to  
be executed the next Morning, which  
was done accordingly, they being carry'd  
to Execution Clad in White, with Caps  
on their Heads, on which was the Cross  
of the Brotherhood of the *Misericordia*.  
It is the Custom there when any are  
Hang'd to pull down their Feet by a  
Chain they carry dragging with them.

Y y 2

Tuesday



*Tuesday* 30th, I went to *Tacubaga* 2 Leagues from the City, where there are several pretty Country Houses, with Fountains and Gardens; and particularly the Count *de Santiago's* Olive-Garden, which at present is going to Ruin. *Thursday* the 2d of *May*, I went to *S. Cosmo* half a League from *Mexico* to see the House and Garden of *D. John de Vargas*; the first finely Furnish'd, and the second full of pleasant Fountains. This Gentleman keeps his Coach and six, and spends 6000 Pieces of Eight a Year, without any other Revenue, but what he has from Cards and Dice, for some Nights he wins 30000 Pieces of Eight.

*Friday* 3d. I went to shoot Rabbits at the *Pedregal de S. Angel*, that is, a stony spot of Ground, extending two Leagues, which they say was made by the eruption of a burning Mountain; but found no Sport. The next Day I saw the Farm of the *Jesuits* of *Manila*, which they bought for 100000 Pieces of Eight. There was a good House and they were building the *Hospitium*, or Place to entertain the Fathers that come from *Spain*, to go to the *Philippine-Islands*. *Tuesday* 27th, I saw 45000 Marks of Silver carry'd into the Mint brought from *Parral* in Carts, a Journey of six Months. And *Wednesday* 8th, 236 Marks of Gold 22 Carats fine from *S. Luis de Poetusi*, to be Coin'd into *Spanish Pistoles*. *Thursday* 9th, I visited the Infirmary of the Fathers of *Bethlem*, for the use of sick Persons that are Recovering. There were two Galleries of a good Structure, with decent Beds. The Church has beautiful Altars and a fine Sacristy, for the use of secular Priests, because the Religious themselves never ascend to the Degree of Priesthood. Their Place of Burial is a long Gallery, with Benches on the sides, where they place the dead sitting.

*Friday* 10th, there was new Barley and Indian Wheat in the Market, but the scarcity was yet so great, that the Magistrates were fain to deliver it out to many thousands of *Indians* by measure, as they saw the greatest necessity. *Saturday* 11th, the Bishop of *Mechoacan*, who had been Viceroy *pro interim*, or till the new Viceroy came, was attended out of Town by him, and had the right Hand, abundance of the Nobility, and great Officers following in their Coaches. *Sunday* 12th, was the Solemnity of the *Dominicans* electing a Provincial, which is alternative, for one time they choose a *Spaniard*, and another the Son of a *Spaniard* born there. The *Franciscans* choose one time a *Spaniard*, the next the Son of a *Spaniard* born there, and the third time a *Spaniard* that has taken the Habit in the *Indies*. *Monday*, *Tuesday* and *Wednesday*, there were Processions, being Rogation Week, but nothing worth the observing. *Friday* 17th, a Collegian was examin'd in the University, in order to take his Degree of Batchelor in Philosophy. They who were to be his Judges argu'd against him. His Master the Professor, being a religious Man of the Order of the *Mercenarians* sat in the Pulpit above him, and wore on his Head a Priests Cap such as they use in *Spain*, with some purple Tufts on it, as Doctor in Philosophy, and two white Ones, as Doctor in Divinity. The Doctors of the Civil Law wear them Red, those of the Cannon Law Green, and Doctors of Physick Yellow. The Votes being for the Candidate, when he had made a Profession of his Faith, he went up to the Pulpit where his Master had been, and the Ceremony ended with a great noise of Trumpets; the new Graduate mounting a Horseback to be attended about the City by others of his Profession.

#### CHAP. IV.

##### The Description of the Hermitage of the Barefoot Carmelites.

HAVING obtain'd leave of the Provincial of the Barefoot Carmelites to see the Hermitage of that Order, which is not to be seen without his leave, I went thither upon *Saturday* 18th, and came to it an Hour before Night, the way being bad, and having spent much time in climbing the Mountain, up a Path half a League in length, which cost the Order 6000 Pieces of Eight to make it passable. Being come to the Gate of

the first Enclosure, we waited there half an Hour after ringing the Bell for Admittance; the Monastery being a full Mile from thence, so that we were forced to send an *Indian*, who was within, and he return'd with the Key. The Father Rector and some other religious Men came out to Receive and Entertain'd us Courteously. *Sunday* 19th, one of the Fathers shew'd us the Church and Dormitories. The first is small and has five Altars



Altars modestly adorn'd, and in it is the *Gemelli*. Burial Place of the Founder and his Family. In the Dormitories the Roof is low and the Cells small. At small distances there are small Oratories, where the Fathers may say Mass when they please. There is a good Library, and a Garden that produces nothing but Apples and Roses. Besides the Monastery there are nine solitary Places to which the Fathers may retire in *Lent*, *Advent*, or any other time. In each of these is a little Cell, with a Kitchen, and a little Garden with Fruit and Flowers, Water'd by a clear cool Fountain. Here the Fathers may not eat so much as Fish, but only Fruit and Cheese, or at most boil'd Herbs. They pray at the same time as those in the Monastery, being govern'd by the same Bell.

All the Ground belonging to this Monastery being about 7 Leagues, is encompass'd with a good Wall of Lime and Stone. Within it there are vast high Mountains cover'd with tall thick Pine-Trees, and a few Fir-Trees; so that the enclos'd Deer, Lions, Tigers and Rabbits, have liberty enough and come under the Windows of the Monastery. I hapning to kill a Deer, the Fathers were very much displeas'd, it being forbid to kill any Creature there.

The most wonderful thing is, that ever since the first Founding of this Solitude, there have always been two Crows there, which suffer no others from abroad to come in; but as soon as their own Young are able to fly, drive them away. The Cook calls them with a Whistle, and they come and feed, and then fly away into the Wood. The Seat is Melancholy and Unwholsome, by reason of the continual Fog rising every Morning from the Rivers and Valleys about; and therefore the Fathers suffer much who reside there.

At a small distance from it is a Mountain, call'd of the Idols, because formerly the *Indians* Sacrificed there. There are still to be seen some little Idols of Clay in the hollow of a low antient Wall; and some *Indians* who are not well grounded in the Faith, go thither to make their abominable Offerings.

The Hermitage was Founded on the 25th of January 1605, under the Invocation of our Lady of *Carmen*, or the *Carmelites*, by *D. Melchior Quellar* an *European*, who liv'd in the City of the *Angels*. Besides the building of the Monastery, and settling Revenues to maintain the religious Men, he lay'd out 26000

Pieces of Eight upon Walling in so great a Tract of Ground; and then presented the Monastery with the Employments of Assayer and Founder (as has been observ'd above,) which are worth near 16000 Pieces of Eight. So that calculating the whole Expence as near as a Man can guess, it amounted to about 600000 Pieces of Eight, which he got by his Ingenuity in the aforesaid Employment, for he came poor out of *Spain*. His Wife *Da. Mariana Nino* was also a Benefactress to the Order, Founding the College of *S. Angel*, to which out of her Portion she left a sufficient Revenue for the Maintenance of the Fathers.

There is no reason to think this strange, because many other *Spaniards* from mean Beginnings have arriv'd to vast Wealth, and then finish'd prodigious Works. Among the rest one *James del Castillo*, born at *Granada*, coming poor out of *Spain*, laid the Foundation of his Fortune by following the Trade of a Brazier, and in progress of Time came to be worth above a Million of Pieces of Eight, built the great Monastery of *Chiribusco* of the Order of *S. Peter de Alcantara*, a League from *Mexico*; that of *S. Elizabeth* of Barefoot *Franciscan* Nuns, within the City; and that of *S. Agnes*. After all this vast Expence, when he dy'd, he left a Million to *D. Dominick de la Rea*, Knight of the Order of *Santiago*, or *S. James*; who had Marry'd a young Maid kept out of Charity by *Castillo*.

*Joseph de Retes*, Knight of the Order of *Santiago*, after building a Nunnery of the Invocation of *S. Bernard*, left a Million to his Daughter, who obtaining the Pope's Dispensation, marry'd her Cousin *D. Dominick de Retes*, Knight of the Order of *Alcantara* and Marques of *Xorge*. His Wife dying without Issue he restor'd the Million Portion; and yet was not left Poor, for his Brother *D. Joseph de Retes*, had left him 150000 Pieces of Eight.

*D. Francis Canales*, Knight of the Order of *Calatrava*, having made his Wife Heiress of all he had, which amounted to 600000 Pieces of Eight, she tho' left Young, despising many rich and noble Persons who courted her for a Wife, gave all she had to the Poor, and in the Year 1695, became a Nun, to the great Edification of all People, in the Monastery of the *Capucin* Nuns. This Nunnery was Founded by *Simon de Haro*, as was that of the Conception, and yet this *Haro* brought nothing out of *Spain* but the Cloaths on his Back.

*Dominick*





*Gemelli.*  
1698. *Dominick Laurencana* coming Poor in-  
to the *Indies*, acquir'd so much Wealth,  
that he built the famous Monastery of  
the *Incarnation*; and afterwards a Nun  
of the same, without letting it be known  
who did it, built the Nunnery of *Val-*  
*vaneda*.

*John Navarro Pastrana*, by no better  
a Trade than a Coachman, got so many  
pieces of Eight, that he built the Nun-  
neries of *St. Joseph de Gracias*, and that  
of the *Conception*.

*Stephen de Molina Mosquera*, tho' he  
had built the Church and Nunnery of  
*St. Teresa*, yet at his Death he left 100000  
pieces of Eight.

*D. Mark de Guevara* made the Aque-  
duct of *Mexico*, a League in length,  
which was a vast Expence by reason of  
the many Arches it lies upon. As an  
acknowledgment for his good Work he  
was made *Alguazil Mayor*; and had place  
in the Chapter for him and his Heirs. I  
pass by many other Instances to avoid

being tedious; and think it enough to  
say, That all that is great and mag-  
nificent in the Structures of the *Indies*  
(which cost four times as much as they  
do in *Europe*) is all the Work of *Euro-*  
*peans* and *Spaniards*, who by their Indus-  
try have rais'd their Fortunes there.

It being forbid to stay above 24 Hours  
in that solitary Place, we return'd upon  
*Monday* 20th, by the way of *Santa Fe*,  
to see the Source of Water that goes to  
*Mexico*, which is two Leagues from the  
Hermitage. It rises at the foot of a  
Mountain, and is convey'd into open  
Troughs about a League from *Mexico*;  
and then into close Pipes which convey  
it to all the Quarters of the City. Near  
the Spring is the House where *Gregory*  
*Lopez*, Born at *Madrid*, led an eremiti-  
cal exemplar Life for several Years. A  
*Mexican* Lady built an Oratory there,  
and a convenient House for any that would  
go thither to say Mass. That Night we  
return'd to *Mexico*.

## C H A P. V.

*What more the Author saw during his Stay at Mexico.*

*Escapusal-*  
*co.* *Friday* 24th, I went to *Escapusalco* to  
see whether there were any Foot-  
steps left of the Palace of the King so  
call'd. Having rode a Mile and a half  
out at the Quarter of *St. Cosmo*, I came  
to the little Village of that Name, which  
is a Parish of the *Dominicans*, where I  
found no other Structure of Stone, but  
a little Monastery of that Order, no  
bigger than for five Friars, and a very  
plain Church with twenty Altars in it.  
The Palace we may suppose was destroy'd  
by the first Conquerors. Calling as I  
return'd in at the *Hospitium* of the *Do-*  
*minicans* call'd *St. Hyacinth*, the Vicar in  
the Garden show'd me that so highly va-  
*Cochinille.* lu'd *Cochinille*, for dying Scarlet. There  
were certain Worms of an Ash colour  
sticking to the Leaves; these he told me,  
when ripe, they shook off upon a Cloth,  
and when dry they turn Scarlet. The  
greatest quantity of them is gather'd in  
the Province of *Uguaxaca*, or rather *Gu-*  
*axaca*, famous for good Chocolate.

*The Royal*  
*Palace.* *Saturday* 25th, the Viceroy remov'd  
to the New Palace, Re-built after it had  
been Burnt. They say this belongs to  
*Cortes*, and that for the Viceroy's greater  
Conveniency it was exchang'd for that  
of *Montezuma*, which belong'd to the  
King. Whilst the Royal Palace was Re-  
building, the *Marques del Valle*, Succes-

for to *Cortes*, gave the Viceroy House-  
room *Gratis* in that we have mention'd  
of *Montezuma*, opposite to the Cathed-  
ral. The said Royal Palace has a Front  
to the great Square, nothing Inferior to  
that of *Naples*; the beautiful Symmetry  
of open Windows, or Balconies supply-  
ing the want of curious carv'd Work;  
and the want of other Ornaments being  
sufficiently recompenced by its being  
Square, with a Court in the middle, and  
two towards the great Square, on which  
there are small Brass Guns, to make use  
of in case of any Mutiny.

From the great Court, there is a pair  
of Stairs (like that of the Palace at *Na-*  
*ples*) leading to the Apartments, which  
are not only beautiful, but many and  
large. The Courts of Justice are a-part,  
and is the *Corps de garde* for those few  
Soldiers that Mount. The Viceroy in  
the Morning went to the Court of Cri-  
minal Causes, in order to the Goal-De-  
livery for *Whitsontide*, and took his Seat  
between five *Oydores*, or Judges of the  
Royal Court, and five *Alcades de Corte*.  
There were 400 Prisoners *Spaniards*, and  
all for Theft; for living Idle, and like  
Vagabonds, they must Steal, and Cheat  
to Live; and therefore tho' a Stranger  
be never so much upon his Guard, he  
will never get out of *Mexico* without  
losing

Many  
Thieves.





losing some Money or Equipage; for they are so Expert at Lying, that they will deceive a Man, tho' never so Cunning. They had rather be Poor and Naked than follow any Trade, or Serve; and yet they may get four times as much as in Spain. If Vagabonds were taken up as is Practis'd in other Countries, People might live safe in their Houses; but, as it is, tho' they be shut, they are not safe; the Thieves making their way in at the tops, or else burning the Doors. Besides in the Day time no Purse is safe in the Church, they are so very Dextrous; and one Day I saw my Sword taken from my side. Tho' this was a Day of Mercy, yet very little was shewn by the Viceroy and his Ministers; mentioning of whom puts me in mind, that when any of them is Dying, the Viceroy is oblig'd, by special Order from the King to go Visit, and ask whether he has any thing that lies upon his Conscience to discover to him; and when he is Dead he is to attend the Body to the Church.

Trinity  
Hospital.

Wednesday the 5th of June, I saw the Hospital of the Blessed Trinity, which is only for sick Priests, of any Nation whatsoever. The Church is well adorn'd with 21 Altars gilt. The Infirmary holds about twenty Beds, and is serv'd with great Charity and Neatness. There is an Apartment for the Superior, and some Lodgings for the Chaplains; as also to cure Mad Men. The Licentiate D. *Alonso Gomez* made a Present to this charitable Place of the twelve Pictures of the Apostles of a great Value. Thursday 6th, against the Procession of Corpus Christi all the Streets and Windows of the City were richly adorn'd with images, Carpets, and Quilts, which together with the green Herbs and beautiful Flowers, made a delightful Show. In the Silver-smiths Streets was the Conquest of Mexico curiously painted, with the Houses exactly as they were then, and the Habits the Indians then wore. The Procession began with about 100 Images adorn'd with Flowers, then follow'd the Brotherhoods, and Religious of all Orders, except the Jesuits and Carmelites. Then came the Cannons carrying the Blessed Sacrament on a thing like a Bier. The last were the Archbishop, the Viceroy, the Ministry, Magistrates of the City and Nobility.

Corpus  
Christi  
Procession.

Friday 7th, I went to the Monastery of St. Francis the Great, to see the Tomb of Ferdinand Cortes, the Conqueror of Mexico. On the right Hand of the High Altar was his Picture under a Canopy; and a little higher than the Ground a Tomb, where he told me the Bones of that great Commander were preserv'd, not yet honourably bestow'd. The Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul being the 29th, was kept in the Cathedral, the high Altar being so richly adorn'd, that it was valu'd at 150000 pieces of Eight, the Chalice alone, which was set with Emeralds having cost 11000. Sunday being the last Day of the Month, I went in a Coach to the Alameda, (which is the Place to take the Air like the Park in London) all the Diversion there is about a Fountain, because there are several Water-works. The Basen is of Brass, much better than that in the middle of the great Square.

There having been a plentiful Harvest of the Grain they call *de Riego*, that is, which comes up with watering, the Viceroy on Monday the 1st of July, sent for all the Bakers and Farmers, and desir'd them to make the Bread of the Weight it us'd to be; and the more to Oblige them, treated them with Biskets and Chocolate, being by himself all the while. They promis'd fairly, whilst they were Drinking, but were very unwilling afterwards to be as good as their Words; being us'd to get half in half; or else they could never wear Cloaths worth 4 or 500 pieces of Eight.

Tuesday 2d, being the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin, the Viceroy and his Lady went to the College of the Maids of St. Elizabeth, where they were entertain'd. Here 26 Orphans are maintain'd by the Brotherhood of the Blessed Sacrament, which allows every one of them 14 Royals a Week, and 500 pieces of Eight Portion when they Marry. However they have a Chance to partake of other Portions given in other Charitable Places.

Saturday 6th, I went to the College of Amor de Dios, or the Love of God, which has 36000 pieces of Eight a Year of Royal Foundation to be spent in the Cure of those that have the French Disease.





## CHAP. VI.

*The Funeral of the Lady Fausta Dominica Sarmiento, Grandchild in the fifth Descent of Montezuma; also the Festival of St. Hippolito, and Pendon.*

**M**ONTuesday 16th, dy'd the Lady *Fausta Dominica Sarmiento*, Grandchild in the fifth Descent to the Emperor *Montezuma*, and Daughter to Count *Montezuma* the present Viceroy. She was but eight Years of Age, and by her Death a Revenue of 40000 pieces of Eight a Year she had in the *Indies*, fell to her younger Sister. For the clearing of her Genealogy the Reader is to understand that the Emperor *Montezuma*, among his many Wives, had one call'd *Miyahuaxochite*, who was also his Niece, as being the Daughter of his Brother *Ixtlicuechahuac*. By her he had a Son, whose Name was *Tlaca huc pantzinyohualyca huacatzin*, who was afterwards Baptiz'd, and took the Name of *Peter*. He took to Wife the Lady *Magdalen Quayauh-xocitl*, his own Cousin, (as being the Daughter of *Tlacahucpan*, third Brother to *Montezuma*) of whom was Born *D. James Luis Ikuil Temochtzin*, who marry'd in *Spain*. From him are descended the Counts of *Montezuma*, *Tula*, &c. to whom the King's Exchequer of *Mexico* pays 40000 pieces of Eight a Year. By another Wife, whose Name they say was *Teitalco* (which it is likely has been ill Spelt, because it is no *Mexican* Name) *Montezuma* had a Daughter call'd at first *Tecubich potzin*, and when Baptiz'd *Elizabeth*. Her first Husband was her Uncle *Cuiclahuatzin*, who ought to have succeeded *Montezuma* in the Empire, had not *Quahrimoc* usurp'd it. Her second Husband was *Quauhremochtzin*; after whose Death *Ferdinand Cortes* gave her in Marriage to *D. Alonso de Grados*, who had no Issue by her. She had to her fourth Husband *Peter Gallego de Andrada*, from him are descended the *Andradas Montezumas*, now living in *Mexico*. Her fifth Husband was *John Cano*, from whom come the *Canos Montezumas*.

The Funeral.

This Lady, above-mention'd, her Funeral was put off to the next Day, being *Wednesday* 17th, and in the mean while all the Bells in the City rung Peals. About ten in the Morning all the Religious Orders in the City came to the Palace to Pray for her Soul. She lay on the same Brocard Bed, on which her Mother dy'd, under a Canopy, in a Room hung with Damask. Then all the Religious, Nobility, and Officers came to

attend the Funeral. The first that took up the Body were the Judges of the Royal, and Criminal Courts, who upon occasion represent but one Body, after them the Officers of the Court of *Cuentas*, and Exchequer took it, then the Magistrates of the City, and lastly four *Dominicans*. Next the Body march'd the *Spanish* Company with their Arms revers'd, and Drums unbrac'd; and then the Doctors of the Civil and Canon Law, and of Physick, being distinct parts of the University, with their Mace-bearers. Then follow'd the Magistrates of the City and Courts, in their proper Places, and lastly the Viceroy Nephew clad in sad Colour. By the way there were three Canopies erected upon Scaffolds only for Show; not that the Body was to be set down there. All the Religious, with the Clergy, and Chapter, being come to *St. Dominick the Great*, the Body was set upon a high Mausoleum, with a Garland of Flowers, as being a Maid; and the Mass being Sung, the Foot-company that was in the Church-yard gave two Volleys; for at the Elevation nothing was done but only the Ensign flourish'd the Colours near the high Altar. Then the Body was carry'd to be Bury'd in the Chappel of *Peter Montezuma*, before spoken of. The Arms of this Family are an Eagle with her Wing extended towards the Sun, and *Indian*-Figs about her.

*Monday* 29th, I went to the Hospital Notable of the Love of God to see *D. Charles Siguenza y Gongora*, of whom I had the Cuts I have insert'd in this Volume, and found him Busy distributing a Purse of an hundred Pieces among the Poor. Inquiring of him about that *D. Francis de Aguiar y Seixos Gallego*, the Archbishop of *Mexico*, provided such a Purse every *Monday* to be distributed among poor Women, that could not Work; and that with his own Hands he gave two pieces of Eight to every Person recover'd after Sicknefs, that carry'd a Certificate from the Hospital. This good Prelate in the Year gives about 100000 pieces of Eight more than his Revenue in Charity; for besides what has been said, he Distributes 100 Pieces every *Friday* in his Palace, and every Day 20 Bushels of *Indian* Wheat, which cost 80 pieces



pieces of Eight. He allows the Hospital of the Trinity 30 pieces a Day; among all the Sick 2 Pieces; to the Dead 12 Royals; to private poor Men and Women about 3000 Pieces every first Day of the Month.

Friday the 9th of August, going to the College of St. Ildephonsus to see some Antiquities; I found on the East side of it, some antient Stones, upon one of which there were Figures and Hieroglyphicks carv'd; and among the rest an Eagle with Leaves of the Indian Fig-tree about it; and another on the Wall, besides Circles, and other Figures. D. Charles Siguenza, a great Antiquary in what concerns the Indies, told me, those were the remains of a Temple of *Huitzilpochtli*, dedicated in the Year 1486; because by other Pictures, and antient Pieces of the Heathen Times, it appear'd that Temple had stood there; but others will have it, that it stood where now the Cathedral is. Both may be true, for it might be so large as to reach to both Places. Saturday 10th, I saw some Indians that kill'd the least Birds upon the highest Trees with Pellets shot out of Trunks.

Solemnity, On Monday 12th, after *Vespers* began del Pendon, the Solemnity, they call *del Pendon*, or of the Standard, of the Standard, which is the greatest that is kept in Mexico, in Memory of the Conquest of Mexico, which fell out upon the Day of St. Hippolitus. All the Magistrates of the City, and Gentlemen invited by them being Assembled, they took up the Standard with which Cortes conquer'd Mexico, and went to the Viceroy's Palace, where they found all the

Officers of State. Here the Procession began after this manner. First went four Kettle-Drums upon two Asles (Beasts esteem'd in America) then follow'd the Trumpets, 12 *Alguaziles* on Horseback, and the Cities two Mace-bearers; then the Gentry and Magistrates of the City, and then all the King's Officers, and among them the Standard, carry'd by a Magistrate of the City. In all they were about an Hundred, ill mounted. They were all displeas'd at the Viceroy for refusing to go with them, contrary to the King's Orders, which particularly enjoin him to mount and attend the Standard, going on the left Hand of it; and therefore to omit, it is reckned an Offence he may be call'd in Question for. It was said he staid at Home for fear, having fallen from his Horse at his Entry. Having left the Standard in the Church of St. Hippolitus, they all return'd in the same Order to the Palace. The same Company heard Mass on Tuesday 13th, being the Day of St. Hippolitus, and then carry'd back the Standard. Thursday 15th, was the Festival of the Assumption of our Lady, when her Image was carry'd in Procession, being all of beaten Gold, set with Diamonds and Rubies. It weighs, with the four Angels at its Feet 6984 Castellanos of Gold, and the whole Value of it is about 30000 pieces of Eight. It belongs to the Cathedral, where there are other precious Relicks, rich Furniture, and Vessels of Silver and Gold. Here several Maidens drew Lots for three of them to have 300 pieces of Eight a-piece, Portion.

A rich Image.

# CHAP. VII.

Of the Sport the Spaniards call la Gamita.

Wild Indians. Monday 26th, I set out of Mexico with some Friends to shoot Deer, but finding none where we expected on Tuesday 27th, went away upon Wednesday 28th, to the Village of St. Jerome, inhabited by *Otomito Indians*, where we were fain to make use of an Interpreter, because they understand not the Mexican Language. These Wretches, like many more in New Spain, live rather like Beasts than Men, among frightful Mountains. They live the most of the Year upon Herbs, because they have no Indian Wheat, by reason they Till but little Land, and are given to Idleness. The Tears stood in my Eyes to see them

Vol. IV.

in that miserable Condition, that they had scarce wherewith to cover their Nakedness, both Men and Women; and grinding the empty Ears of new Indian Wheat on a Stone to make Chocolate, to which they added some Bran to make Dough of it, and Bake that green Paste. Seeing one of them pick up the Crums of Bread that fell from me, I gave him some. Their Lodging is answerable to their Diet, for they have no other Bed all the Year round but the bare Ground. There is no doubt but their own Sloath is the cause of their Misery, as also the Avarice of some *Alcades*, who take from them all they have got in the whole Year,

Z z z

obliging



*Gemelli.*  
1698. obliging them to buy Oxen, Mules, Horses, and Quilts of them, at three times the Value, and taking their Provisions at their owne Rates.

After an uneasy Night spent in a Cottage, we went upon *Thursday* 29th in the Morning to the Mountain to Shoot by way of the *Gamuta*. This is a Noise resembling the Cry of the young Fawns, which draws the Does within reach of the Gun to be Shot. Many Shot were made all Day, and but one Doe killed. The next Day being *Friday* 30th, tho' 26 Does came to the Noise of the *Gamuta*, only two were kill'd; but having now Venison enough, we return'd to *St. Jerome*. By the way we met abundance of Bucks, (I kill'd a great one) and *Gua-xolotes*, or *Turkeys*, that went about the Wood in Troops. These are the best Fowl the *Spaniards* found in *America*, so good that they bred some Tame, and brought them into *Europe*. That Night we lay at *St. Jerome's*, and the next Day being *Saturday* the 31st of *August* return'd towards *Mexico*, with four Deer upon a Mule, but it is to be observ'd they are no bigger than a good Fawn in *Europe*. Night overtook us in a Farm, where we were fain to lie that Night. The Man of the House civilly gave us Cheese, and Milk, without taking any Money for it. *Sunday* the first of Sep-

tember we return'd to *Mexico*. Nothing remarkable hapned till *Saturday* the 14th, when, the Price of Bread having been set before at half a Royal for 14 Ounces, a Baker was fin'd for selling 16 Ounces for the same Price. An Action altogether unaccountable.

*Monday* 16th, going to the Palace, I found in the great Hall four *Chichimecas* (a Word signifying, bred up amidst Bitterness) come from *Parral*, to beg an Alms of the Viceroy. They had no part cover'd but their Privities; all the rest of their Bodies being Naked, and stain'd of several Colours. All their Faces were streak'd with black Lines made by pricking the Skin till the Blood comes, and rubbing it with Ink. Some cover'd their Heads with a Staggs Skull with all the Horn on, and the Skin of the Beasts Neck fitted to theirs. Others carry'd a Wolfs Head with all the Teeth; others a Tygers, and others a Lions, to look the more terrible. But when they are abroad, the Cries and Noise are more terrible, than their Presence. The Mules and Horses smell the Stink of their Flesh at a great distance, and will not go on. They desire above all things to kill *Spaniards*, that they may flea their Heads, and fit that Skin upon their own Heads, with all the Hair, and so wear it as a token of Valour, till it rots off in bits.

## CHAP. VIII.

### Of the Cus, or Pyramids of *St. John Teoti*, *Guacan*.

THE time of my Departure from *Mexico* drawing near, I thought fit to see some *Indian* Antiquities, not far from the City, and in order to it on *Thursday* 19th, I rode a-crofs the Lake of *St. Christopher* to *Acolman*, or *Aculma*, a Parish of the *Augustinians*; and having rested there a while went on to the Village of *Teotiguacan* (which in that Language signifies, a place of Gods, and of Adoration) six Leagues distant. That Night I lay in the House of *D. Peter de Alva*, Grandson to *D. John de Alva*, descended from the Kings of *Tescuco*. *Friday* 20th, in the Morning he bore me Company to see the Pyramids, a League from his House. First we saw that call'd of the Moon standing towards the North, two sides whereof were found to be 200 *Spanish* Yards in length, that is, about 650 Spans, or 160 Yards *English*, the other two sides 150 *Spanish* Yards. We had no Instrument to take the height,

but as near as I could guess it was about 200 Spans, or 50 *English* Yards. To say the Truth, it was nothing but a heap of Earth made in Steps like the Pyramids of *Egypt*; only that these are of Stone. There stood once on the top of it, a vast great Idol of the Moon, made of hard Stone, course enough; but the Lord *Summarica*, first Bishop of *Mexico* caus'd it to be broke in pieces, out of a Religious Zeal, and there are three great pieces of it at the foot of the Pyramid to this Day. Within this great Pile, there were some Vaults, where the Kings were Bury'd; for which reason the Road to it is still call'd *Micaotli*, which in the *Mexican* Language signifies, the way of the Dead. About it are several little artificial Mounts, suppos'd to be the burying Places of Lords. Thence we went Southward to see the Pyramid of the Sun, call'd *Tonagli*, 200 Paces distant from the other. Measuring two sides

Pyramid  
of the  
Moon.

Pyramid  
of the Sun.

we





*Gemelli.*  
1698. we found them 300 *Spanish* Yards in length; but the other two were not above 200. Its height was about a fourth part more, than that of the Moon. The Statue of the Sun that stood on the top of it, after being broken, and remov'd out of its place, was left in the middle, there being no throwing it down to the Ground, by reason of the greatness of the Stone. This figure had a great hollow in the Breast, where the Sun was placed; and all the rest of it was cover'd with Gold, as was that of the Moon, which afterwards the *Spaniards* took away, at the time of the Conquest. At present, there are two great Stones at the foot of the Pyramid, which were part of the Idols Arms and Legs. This gives occasion for two Doubts, or Questions; the first, how the *Indians* having no use of Iron, could cut so hard a Stone: the second, how they could carry, and raise it to such a height, being destitute of convenient Engines, and wanting the Art to make them. Besides, there are no such hard Stones in the Neighbourhood, and they had neither Mules, Horses, nor Oxen to draw it so far, those Creatures having been carry'd thither by the *Spaniards*. The Word *Cu*, is not *Mexican* (it might perhaps be of *Mechoacan* or some other Province) for the *Mexicans* call the Church *Teocagli*, or *Zoptli*.

The building of these Pyramids, is attributed to the *Ulmecos*, the second Planters of *New Spain*, who came from that Island *Atlantis*, *Plato* speaks of in his *Timæus*. This Conjecture is made, because all the *Indian* Histories, unanimously agree, that these *Ulmecos* came by

Sea, from the East; and on the other side, according to *Plato*, the Inhabitants of the Island *Atlantis*, deriv'd their Original from the *Egyptians*, who had the Custom of raising Pyramids. *Aristotle* in his Book *de Admirandis*, says, that the *Carthaginians* use to Sail to an Island, very far distant from *Hercules's* Pillars; and that many of them settled themselves there; but that afterwards the Senate forbid them, for fear that being taken with the delights of the Place, they should forget their Country. If this be true, it is not to be look'd upon as any Wonder, that the *Mexicans* should raise Pyramids after the *Egyptian* manner, and have the same Year; no more than that which *Ammianus* in his 17th Book, relates, viz. That on the *Egyptian* Obelisks, there were sometimes Birds, and Beasts of another World carv'd. No *Indian* Historian has been able to discover when the *American* Pyramids were set up; but Dr. *Charles Siguenza* believes them to be very antient, and not much later than the Flood. It is certain that where they stand, there was formerly a great City; as appears by the vast Ruins about it, and by the Grots or Dens, as will artificial as natural; and by the Number of Mounts, believ'd to be thrown up, in Honour of their Idols. One of them is call'd *Tonagli-iguesia*, which signifies, the fall of the Sun. Saturday 21st, I return'd home. Monday 22d, it rain'd so much that several Houses were ruin'd, and they were forc'd to go in Boats, in the quarters of St. *John de la Penitencia*, or of Pennance St. *Francis*, and St. *James*, almost as far as the *Alameda*, or publick Place, of taking the Air.

## CHAP. IX.

## Of the Birds, and Beasts of New Spain.

Birds.

There is such variety of beautiful Birds in *New Spain*, that no Country in the World can parallel it. The preference among them all is given to the *Sesontle* (which in the *Mexican* Language, signifies 500 Voices) a small matter less than a Thrush, and of an Ash-colour; only the Tail and Wings, which are speckled with white. That the *Spaniards* call *Gorrion*, or Sparrow, Sings sweetly, is as big as our Sparrow, and its colour inclining to Black. The Bird call'd the *Cardinal* sings well, is as big as a Wood-lark, and has not only the Feathers, but the Beak Scarlet; and be-

Vol. IV.

sides, on the head a most beautiful Tuft. It is taken in the Temperate parts of *New Spain*, and *Florida*; and the *Spaniards* give ten, or twelve pieces of Eight apiece, for them to send into *Spain*. There is another small Bird of the same colour; he is less than the other, and does not Sing. There is another as big as a Thrush, by the *Spaniards* call'd, *Tigrillo*, or little Tiger, because spotted like a Tiger, valu'd for Singing. The *Cuir-lacobe*, has dark Feathers; and is as big as the *Sesontle*, but has a longer Beak, and red Eyes. When kept in a Cage, it must have a Pumice

Z z z 2 stone,



*Gemelli.*  
1698. Stone by, to grind its Beak on as it grows, that the length may not hinder its eating. There is another call'd *Cacalorotol*, which in the *Mexican* Tongue, signifies Black-bird. It is as big as our Black-bird, of a Yellow colour, and Sings delightfully enough. The *Silgueros*, are black and white, as big as a Sparrow, and are valu'd to keep in Cages. There are some black Wood-larks, black and yellow, who build their Nests, hanging at the Trees, by Horse-hair, wove like a Purse, and they Sing well.

Parrots.

As for those that imitate the Voice of Man, or Speaking, there are Parrots of several sorts. Some call'd *Catarinillas* green; others *Loros* which are green, but have the tips of their Wings, and their Head yellow. *Pericos* little bigger than a Thrush, and green. Others as big as a Dove, call'd *Guaccamayas*, very Beautiful; for they have red, green, and yellow Feathers, and a beautiful Tail, as long as a Pheasant's; but these do not talk.

Fowl to eat.

As for eatable Fowl, there are two sorts of Pheasants; one with black Wings and Tail, and a dark Body, which they call *Gritones*; another of a Murrey, much bigger than the last, call'd *Real* or Royal, because it has a thing like a Crown on its Head, better relish'd. There are *Chachalacas*, in all respects like our Hens, but their Feathers are of a murrey colour, and they are not so big. Abundance of wild Turkeys, which about the new Moon, are easily kill'd upon the decay'd Trees, on which they perch; for when one falls to the Ground, there is no Danger, the rest should fly away, at the noise of the Guns. There is another sort of Birds good to eat, which they call Black-birds, who go tamely into the Houses. There are several sorts of them, some quite black, others with red Wings; others with yellow Heads, and Breasts, and others bigger than a Black-bird, black, and with a long Tail, call'd *Urracas*, that is, Pies.

The Quails are of the same colour as ours, but with some Feathers standing upon their Heads, and not so well tasted as ours in *Europe*. The *Pito Real* is as big as a Turtle Dove, and with a Bill as long again as its Body. Its Fea-

thers are all black, except those about the Neck, which are yellow. The *Spaniards* look upon the Tongue of it, as a Sovereign remedy against the Heart-burning; giving the Patient warm Water to drink, that it has been steep'd in. Besides, the smoak of the Feathers cures other Pains by sympathy; as for instance, those of the Wings, Pains in the Arms; those of the Legs, in the Legs, and so of the rest. There is another wonderful Bird, call'd *Guachichil*, or *Chupaflores*, that is, Suck-flowers, because it is always seen in the Air, sucking Flowers, without ever lighting on the Ground. The *Indians* say they stick their Beaks in the Boughs of Trees, for several Months of the Year, where they take them asleep, to make of them their Images, and other Curiosities abovemention'd.

The *Suppilotes* are as big as Crows, there are two sorts of them, the one has a Tuft of Flesh on the Head, and do not eat Carrion; the other, a Tuft of Feathers, and these last eat all the Carrion, and filth of the City, and Country. At *Vera Cruz*, it is forbid to kill these Birds, for the good they do; and it is allow'd to kill Pigeons in the House, or Abroad. Of European Birds, there are Geese, Cranes, Ducks, Pigeons, Turtles of two sorts, some as big as ours in *Europe*, and others less, and several sorts besides.

As for Beasts, there are Bears, Beasts. Wolves, wild Boars, but different from ours, for they have the Navel upon their back, Hares, Rabbits, Deer, Foxes, Tigers, Lions, and other sorts. The Lions are not so fierce as those in *Africk*, but being pursu'd by the Dogs, run up the Trees. For such as are peculiar to the Country, there are *Siboles*, as big as a Cow, whose Skin is much valu'd for its long soft Hair. *Ardillas* black and sad colour'd, like Dormice; *Lobos* like Leopards; *Zorillas*, as big as a Cat, with black and white Hair, and a beautiful Tail. These when pursu'd, stop to piss for their Defence; because this Water of theirs, infects the very Air for an hundred Paces about, and overcomes those that pursue it, and if it light upon any Garment, it must be bury'd to get out the Stink.

C H A P.





## CHAP. X.

## Of the Fruit, and Plants of New Spain.

Gemelli.  
1698.

TO speak the Truth, the best Product of *New Spain*, is the Gold and Silver, the Pearls taken in its Seas, the Emeralds found among the Rocks, in the Kingdom of *Santa Fe*, and other precious Stones of *Peru*, but having spoke of them elsewhere, there is no need of Repeating it here.

Fruit.

But to speak of the Fruit growing on Trees, there are all sorts that *Europe* affords, except Nuts, Cherries, Medlars, and Service Berries. Those peculiar to the Country, are Plantans, Pine-apples, or *Ananas*, *Anonas*, *Cocos*, *Ates*, and *Dates*, of which I have given an account elsewhere, and set down their Shape and Figure. Those which grow in no other Country, or if they be in the *Philippine*-Islands, have been carry'd out of *America*, are these that follow. The *Aguacate* grows on a Tree, like the Walnut,

Aguacates

but thicker. It is sometimes long like a Pear, and sometimes round. The colour without is green, and green and white within, with a large Kernel in the middle. It is of a most exquisite taste, so that it is either eaten raw with Salt; or boil'd; for it is very unctuous, and sweet. Physicians count it hot, and therefore forbid it to Nurses, for fear they should lose their Milk. All that have tasted, do allow it exceeds all the Fruit of *Europe*.

Sapotes.

The next place is due to the *Sapotes*, whereof there are four several sorts. Some they call black *Sapotes*, their Tree is as big as a Walnut, and thick; but the Leaves very green, and smaller than those. The Fruit is round, and has a very thin green Rind; within it is of the colour and taste of *Cassia*, with four small Kernels. Green, it is Poison for Fish; ripe it is very wholesome for sick People. The 2d sort is call'd, white *Sapote*. The Tree is as tall as a Pear-tree, the Fruit as big as a Pear, green without, and white within, with four white Kernels. It is good to make People Sleep. The third sort is call'd *Sapote Borracho*, or Drunken *Sapote*. The Tree is like the last, but the Branches more lightly. The taste of the Fruit, is between sweet and tart, but very Pleasant; the colour is green and yellowish without, and whitish within, with two Kernels. The 4th is call'd *Chico Sapote*, or little *Sapote*. The Tree is higher

bigger, and thicker than the Walnut. The Fruit without, is almost Purple, and within higher colour'd. It has four small Kernels placed as it were in Niches. The Taste is sweet, and the most valu'd of all that grow in a hot Country. They make a Composition with it, which the Ladies chew to keep their Teeth white.

The *Mamey* is a very tall thick Tree, which always has Fruit on it, from one Year to another, and it is as big as a large Lemon. The outside is a Barly colour, and red within, with a large Purple Stone, in which is a Kernel like a bitter Almond, call'd *Pestle*, which they make use of in Glifters.

The *Granadilla de China*, grows on a Plant like the Ivy, which winding about any Tree, covers it all. It is as big as an Egg, and as smooth; white and yellow without, and whitish within, and has Seeds like those of a Grape. Its Taste is sweet, somewhat inclining to a pleasant Tartness, very pleasing to Ladies. Some fancy, they see the Instruments of our Saviour's Passion, represented in it, as may be seen in the Cut.

All the afore said sorts of Fruit, are eaten in *Mexico*, from *March*, till *September*; but the *Mameys* and *Black Sapotes*, are always to be found on the Mountains, when any Body wants them.

Among the *Indian* Plants the first Place is due to the *Cacao*, as well for the Profit it yields the Owners, as for being the chief Ingredient of a sort of Drink become almost general to all the World, and very grateful and delightful, particularly to *Spaniards*. It is sow'd in a Soil that is hot and dry, with the Eye upwards, well cover'd with Earth. It springs out within a Fortnight; and does not grow above three Spans in two Years; at which height it must be Transplanted; where it is to be observ'd, That the Plant must be taken up with all the Earth that covers the Root. When they are Transplanted they must be set in Rows 18 Spans from one another. A Stick is set up to support every one, and about them Plantans, and other Fruit Trees, because it grows well under their Shade. Besides all Sprigs that shoot out at the foot of the Plant must be cut off, that they may not hinder it running up; the Ground must be weed-

Mamey.

Granadilla.

Cacao.



weeded, and the Roof must be kept warm, from too much Wet, and from some Worms that use to come about it. After five Years, it is as thick as a Man's Fist, seven Spans high, and then bears. Its Leaves are somewhat like those of the Chestnut-tree, but a little narrower; the Blossom comes out all over the Body, and Branches, like the Jessmin; but scarce the fourth part of it holds. From the Blossom there shoots out a little sort of an Ear, like that of the Indian Wheat, which before it is Ripe is Greenish, and when Ripe of a Chestnut Colour, and sometimes Yellow, White, and Purple. Within them are found the Cacao Nuts with a white Down upon them, being from ten to fifteen in Number. These Ears are gather'd after the full of the Moon, open'd with a Knife, and the Nuts taken out, which is then kept three Days in the House a drying in the Shade; then laid three Days longer in the Sun; then again as many more in the House, and lastly in the Sun again, that it may be thorough dry. These Shrubs make the Air somewhat unwholsome.

*Bainillas.* The *Bainilla* is a sort of Indian Cane by the Spaniards call'd *Bexuco*, which twines about the Orange-tree like Ivy. That long Cod it produces, when gather'd is Green, but is dry'd in the Sun, and stretch'd out now and then, that it may not split, and at last it remains hard, and blackish. The Spaniards, to make them the sweeter, use to sprinkle them with rich Wine, in which a *Bainilla* has been boil'd cut in Bits. It grows on the South Coast of New Spain.

Every Body knows, that Cacao and *Bainillas* are the principal Ingredients of Chocolate. The Europeans to every Pound of Cacao add a Pound of Sugar, and an Ounce of Cinnamon. The Indians use no *Bainilla*, whether they be Rich or Poor; nor the Spaniards that live in America, because they say it is not Wholsome; and the goodness of their Chocolate consists in good Cacao and Cinnamon; adding to every Pound of Cacao two Ounces of Indian Wheat, that it may Froth the better; not to save Cacao, which is very Cheap in those Parts. Others add some of the Cacao Shells to the same purpose. In Europe they use to add some Nuts to the Cacao, which gives the Chocolate a pretty Relish. This Drink is very antient, and us'd by the Indians before the Spaniards conquer'd their Country; but the Spaniards improv'd it. In the Indies it is so common now that there is not a Black,

or a Porter, but Drinks it every Day, and the better sort four times a Day.

There is another useful Plant in the Indies call'd *Maghey*, which grows in a temperate Soil. From the Leaves they draw something like Hemp to make Ropes, Sacks, Shirts, and several sorts of curious Works. It also yields Wine, Hony, and a good Balsam. The Liquor when it comes from the Plant is sweet as Hony; a while after it is like Mead, and good for the Strangury, and other Distempers. The Indians put into it a Root that makes it boil up and ferment like Wine, and it makes People as Drunk as Wine, and is call'd *Pulche*. The Plant is frequently found about the Fields; and there is of it in Spain, especially between Port St. Mary and St. Lucar. It is like our Houseleek, but much taller, and its Leaves thicker, and more solid. When it is of six Years standing, they cut away the middle Leaves, making a Concavity in the middle, which receives the Liquor, and the Indians every Morning take it away, and keep it a Month in Vessels; after which the Plant withers, and young Sprouts shoot out, so that it is with good reason call'd the Indian Vine. If it be not cut, it produces nothing but a Stalk like a Ferula, with a Fruit that is of no use. They make *Aqua vite* of it after the same manner as was said of the Coco Wine in the foregoing Volume.

This Drink is so universal among the Indians, that the Excise upon it was no less than 110000 pieces of Eight; but it was taken off by his Majesties Order, after the Indians set Fire to the great Square, and Palace in the Year 1692, as was said above, and the Drink it self was Prohibited. Nevertheless it is conniv'd at, and some Spaniards drink it as well as the Indians; for which reason, whilst I was there, fresh Orders came from the King to receive the Duty again, and allow of the Drink as formerly.

The Indian Fig-trees do not only produce pleasant Fruit, but also the Cochinele for dying Scarlet, as was said before. For dying Blew there is the Plant they call *Annil*, whereof there is great Plenty in the Island *Hispaniola*, and elsewhere. This is what we call Indigo. Besides these, and many more Indian Plants too tedious to be mention'd here, there grow almost all that Europe affords, of which it is needless to give any Account.

A V O Y.





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

Containing the most Remarkable Things he saw in  
*NEW SPAIN.*

*B O O K III.*

*C H A P. I.*

*The Author's Journey to the City of the Angels, and an Account of what is remarkable there.*

Gemelli.  
1698.  
First day's  
Journey, 7  
Leagues.

**B**EING weary of my long stay in *Mexico*, and having taken leave of all my Friends, I set out from that City, on *Thursday*, the 10th of *October*, intending to Imbark aboard the Advice-boat, bound for the *Havana*, in order to Sail from thence for the Ca-

nary Islands, there being no hopes that the Fleet would Sail in any reasonable time. After two Leagues riding, I came to *Mexicalingo*, a little Village, where a River, that comes out of the Lake of *Chalco*, runs out towards that of *Mexico*, and is very serviceable for

con-





conveying of Goods. Travelling on a League further over Marshy Plains, I came to the Village of *Istapalapa*, and at the end of four Leagues more to the Inn of *Chalco*, where the Host made me pay dear for a bad Supper, and worse Bed.

*Chalco*. *Chalco* is an indifferent Village and the best *Alcaydeship*, or little Government upon that Lake; through which all the Meal, Sugars, and several other Things are convey'd to *Mexico*. Near *Mexicalingo*, the River is so Rapid that it may be said to hurry the Boats on headlong.

2d. Day 5 Leagues. *Friday* 11th, I set out before Sun rising with other Company, and after riding up a dirty steep Way a League in length, bated at *Cordova*, whence entring upon a Mountain which was all along cover'd with Pine Trees, we went four Leagues further to lye at *Rio Frio*, that is, cold River; an Inn in the middle of the Mountain, where every Horse pays a Royal to the Guard. Our Host look'd more like a Robber than any thing else.

3d. Day 8 Leagues. *Saturday* 12th, we proceeded betimes along the Mountain Way two Leagues to the Inn of *Tefmolucca*. Thence I descended into a delightful Plain, strew'd with little Country Houses, and three Leagues thence got by Noon to the little Village of *S. Martin*. After Dinner I would go to *Tlascala*, three Leagues distant, to see the remains of that City against which the Arms of the *Mexican* Empire could never prevail. Having rode through some marshy Plains partly under Water, near the City I cross'd a River, where I had like to have Perish'd by reason of the Flood and Darkeness of the Night; and to mend the matter lodg'd in a scurvy Inn, after so troublesome a Journey.

4th. Day 5 Leagues. *Sunday* 13th, I heard Mass in the Parish Church, where there hangs up the Picture of the Ship that brought *Cortes* to *Vera cruz*, and being satisfy'd there was nothing worth seeing in *Tlascala*, (which is become an ordinary Village) besides a Monastery of *Franciscans*, I set out for *Puebla de los Angeles*, or the City of the Angels, to which the Bishoprick is translated. Thither I came at one in the Afternoon, having rode 5 Leagues over the Plain, and was lodg'd in a private House near *S. Christopher's*, for a Piece of Eight a Day.

City of Angels. *Puebla de los Angeles*, or the City of Angels, was founded by the *Spaniards* on the 26th of *April* 1531, and so call'd, as they say, because Queen *Isabel*, or *Elizabeth* of Spain, whilst the City was Building, saw in a Dream a great many

Angels, with Lines marking out the Ground. The Buildings here for the most part are of Lime and Stone, and Vye with those of *Mexico*. But the Streets are much neater, tho' not Pav'd; all of them Handsom and Strait, crossing one another towards the four Quarters of the World; whereas those of *Mexico* are always Stinking and Dirty, so that a Man had always need to go in Boots. About the City there are many Mineral Waters, on the West side they are Sulphurous, on the North Nitrous and Alomy, and on the East and South Sweet. *Monday* 14th, I went to see the great Square. Three sides of it are adorn'd with good *Porticos*, uniform, and set off with rich Shops of all sorts of Commodities. On the other side is the Cathedral, with a most beautiful Front, with a high Tower, the fellow to which is not yet finish'd, so that this Square is finer than that of *Mexico*. Going into the Church I found it built after the same Model as that of *Mexico*, but somewhat less. It has seven Stone Pillars on each side, like that of *Mexico*, which make three Isles. The Choir and high Altar are also like those of *Mexico*, but lower, and have only twelve Pillars of good Marble. The Entrance was then adorning with Marble, and good Iron Work. The Church has 25 Altars in all, a decent Sacristy, and a little Room, call'd *Ochavo* (to keep the Things of most value,) richly Gilt, as is its little *Cupula*. The Chappels are well Painted and Gilt. Near the same Church towards the Square, Cathedral is another Chappel, where the Blessed Sacrament is kept, with three Altars. There are three Gates on another side which is handsomly wrought, leading to the Bishop's Palace and the Seminary. The Bishop's Canopey is in the Church on the right side of the Altar; whereas the Archbishop of *Mexico*, to avoid contention with the Viceroy, has none, but sits in the Choir, in pursuance to the King's Orders. This Bishoprick is worth 80000 Pieces of Eight a Year; besides 200000 that go among the Canons and Officers of the Church, whose whole Revenue is about 300000 Pieces of Eight. Ten Canons have every one 5000 Pieces of Eight a Year. The Dean 14000; the Chanter 8000; the Master of the School 7000; and the Archdeacon and Treasurer not much less. There is a proportionable Allowance to six Demi-Canons, six half Demi-Canons, and other inferior Officers.

Mon.





*Gemelli.* Monday 14th, I saw the College of the Holy Ghost of the Jesuits, whose Church has 14 Altars richly gilt. Tuesday 15th, I saw the Church of the Barefoot Carmelites without the City, which is small and has ten Altars; but the Monastery is large, and has a good Garden. This Day D. Nicholas Alvarez, Master of the Ceremonies, shew'd me a Loadstone as big as an ordinary Apple, which holds up twelve Pounds Spanish of Iron. Also a Giant's Rib as thick as a Mans Arm, and ten Spans long. There is a Tradition that these Giants dwelt on the Mountains above *Tlascala*. In this City it rains in the Afternoon as at *Mexico*; and that day the Flood carry'd away Houses and Cattle, and what was worst of all, four Men and two Women. In the Church of the Nunnery of S. Jerome, there are seven Altars well adorn'd. The Monastery of S. Dominick is a noble Structure. The Church Vaulted, and has about 12 Chappels richly Gilt, particularly that of the Rosary. The Church of the Augustinians is also Vaulted, very Large, and more magnificently Built. The Parish of S. Joseph has three Isles Vaulted and twelve Altars. On the right Hand of it, the Chappel of Jesus of Nazareth was Building, with a Cupula upon four large stone Arches. S. John de Dios of the Fathers Hospitallers, has a large Cloister with good Pillars, but the Monastery is Poor. In the Church there are eleven Altars. The Church of the Nuns of S. Monica is worth seeing for the Gold about its six Altars. Nor are the nine of the Nuns of S. Catherine inferior to them. The Church of the Nuns of the Trinity is beautiful, and has six Altars, and the Monastery has a curious Front. The College of S. Luis of the Dominicans without the City, is not very great, and the Church has only four Altars. Twenty Fathers live there subject to the Provincial of *Mexico*, and keep the Schools.

*Cholula.*

Sunday 20th, I went to the Village of Cholula a League from the City. It looks more like a Wood, for all the Houses

are among Gardens. The Government is profitable, because many rich Merchants live there. In the midst of it is an antient Pyramid of Earth, on the top of which at this time there is an Hermitage. To return to the City, the Church of S. Christopher is richly adorn'd, being vaulted, and having 19 Altars. Nor is that of the Nuns of S. Clare inferior to it, in which there are six curious Altars. The Monastery is vastly Rich, having 500000 Pieces of Eight rais'd by Portions, which lye dormant. S. Francis is a very spacious Church with 24 Chappels, well set off, as is the Arch. Before one comes into the Church is the Chappel of the third Order, with nine Altars well gilt. In the Monastery there are 150 Religious Men. That of the Recolets is not so big, where there are but 25 Friars, and the Church is small, and has but 5 Altars. S. Paul, the College of the Dominicans, is also but small, containing 20 Religious Men, and the Church has but 4 Altars. As I went out of this City I could see the burning Mountain of *Mexico* cast out mighty Flames. The Monastery of the Mercenarians is convenient for 50 religious Men it contains, the Church is beautiful, has 12 Altars and 10 Chappels well gilt. That of the Fathers of Bethlem has been 15 Years building, with the Monastery. The College of S. Ildephonsus of the Jesuits, newly Built, is very large, and there are 50 Fathers in it. The Church has 7 Altars well gilt. Adjoyning to it is the Parish Church of S. Mark, in which there are 12 Altars. The Church of S. Agnes has 7 Altars; that of the Conception eight; the holy Cross a Parish of secular Priests fourteen; and S. Roch of the Fathers of S. Hippolitus only four.

The Reader by the number of Monasteries so Rich and well Provided, may judge of the Greatness, Magnificence and Wealth of the City. The Bishop when I went to take my leave of him made me a Present worth 50 Pieces of Eight.

## CHAP. II.

The Author continues his Journey to Vera-Cruz.

5th Days  
Journey  
5 Leagues.

Proceeding on my Journey towards Vera Cruz, upon Monday the 21st. three Leagues from the City I came to the Village of Amataque, and then travelling two Leagues further lay at the

Vol. IV.

Village of Quachinla in the Indian Governor's House.

Tuesday 22d, after riding 4 Leagues on a plain Road, I rested at the Village of S. Augustin. Near to the Parish Church of

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Gemelli.  
1698.

7th Day a  
bout 7  
Leagues.

this Place, is a great *Pyramid* like those before-mention'd. After Dinner I travell'd 3 Leagues further, and set up that Night at the Farm of *Istapa*.

Wednesday 23d, having rode up a dreadful Mountain, I met the Guards of the Way, who took a Royal for each Horse. Soon after upon another boggy Mountain my Mule fell into a Slough, where several of the Country People were fain to help her out. Having travell'd a League further over Precipices, I rested at the Village of *Acusfingo*, built in a Wood of *Cirimoya*-Trees. I din'd with the *Alcade's* Deputy, and then set out again, and travelling 3 Leagues further, stop'd at that they call *Ingenio del Conde*, or the Earls Engine, passing over a large River on a long Bridge. I found no Body to entertain me here, besides that it would have been dangerous, the People being all Blacks, and therefore I went on guided by a Black on Horseback, because the Place was so dirty that the Mud and Water reach'd up to our Stirrups. I came late, after riding a League to the Farm of *S. Nicholas*, crossing the same River again upon another Bridge at the foot of the Mountain *Orizava*. Here a *Spaniard*, who was Owner of the Farm, receiv'd me Courteously; but a Fowl I gave him to dress, came to Table without Legs or Wings.

8th Day 5  
Leagues.

Having rode a League on Thursday 24th, I was oblig'd to take a great Compass to cross the White-River, over a Bridge, and go to *Orizava* to take fresh Horses; where at the *Alcade's* House, I found the Vice-Admiral of the Windward Navy, who would make me stay and Dine with them. Mounting after Dinner I rode a long way through the Town of *Orizava*, which standing among so many Trees of *Cirimoyas* and *Anonas*, looks like a Wood, and came into a spacious Plain, near the burning Mountain of the same Name, which is cover'd with Snow. The Guide led me through a dirty Way to a more dirty Mountain, therefore call'd *Despenadero*, or the Precipice, where I thought it a Miracle that our Beasts came off safe. Being over this Mountain I was forced to climb such another, and being come down into the Valley under it, cross'd a great River upon a Bridge. Having in all travell'd 5 Leagues of very bad Way, I came to lye at the Town of *Cordova*, the Head of that *Alcadeship*, or little Government. The Place is Inhabited by rich Merchants, who have Sugar-Works. Most of them are *Spaniards*, the Air be-

ing wholesom, and the Soil producing all sorts of Fruit-Trees. I lay that Night in a pitiful Inn, where the Black that was my Guide, seeing he could steal nothing else, took away my Mules Halter.

Friday 24th, coming into a hotter Country I saw Parrots of several sorts, and abundance of Turkeys (call'd by the *Spaniards* *Guaxolotes*, or *Gallos de la tierra*, which shews they are not right Turkeys, these being call'd by them *Pavos*) sitting tamely on the Trees. Having travell'd four Leagues through the Wood, I bated in the Village of *S. Lorenzo de los Negros*, or *S. Lawrence* of the Blacks, in the midst of a Wood. This Place being all Inhabited by Blacks, looks like some part of *Guinea*, but they are handsom, and apply themselves to Husbandry. They are descended from some runaway Slaves; and they were afterwards permitted to remain free, upon Condition they should not entertain any more fugitive Blacks, but restore them to their Owners; which they religiously observe. Riding six Leagues further I lay at the Inn of *S. Compus*, where there was neither Mans Meat, nor Horse Meat; and for our greater Plague, the hungry Dogs and Rats would not let us sleep, so that we were forced to hang up our Stirrups and Shooes that they might not be eaten. The Host was a lean naked *Spaniard*, who led an eremitical Life there, rather than serve any Body. Many *Spaniards* of Quality for this reason marry *Indian* and *Mulato* Women, and live miserably as Herdsmen on those Plains, being ashamed to return into *Spain* poor; as if the Soil of *America* were all Gold and Silver; and every Man that goes thither must of necessity be immediately Rich. How many perfectly starve, in respect of those few that rise to great Honour and Wealth in the *Indies*? Even as it is in the Army, where many Thousands perish, for some few that rise to be Colonels or General Officers. Abundance of Blacks and *Mulatos* live in the neighbouring Plain, like so many wild Beasts.

Saturday 26th, I travell'd four Leagues, which might pass for six, over a wild Plain not Till'd no more than the last, and rested at *Passo de las Carretas*, or the Pass of the Carts. In this Place there is nothing but a House of *Mulatos* without any Provision; so that the Horses fasted, and we eat some small matter we carry'd with us. The neighbouring Mountain might have furnish'd Fruit enough to fill our Bellies, but the *Indian* Fruit cannot be eaten till it has been three Days in the House.

9th Day 10  
Leagues.

10th Day 8  
Leagues.





House. These *Mulatos* make good Thred,  
*Gemelli.* call'd *Pita*, to sew Shooes, of an Herb like  
1698. *Maghey*, which they Plant. Here I  
found my self in some distress, being to  
ford a great River. At length making  
a virtue of necessity, I, and a *Spaniard*  
of *Orizava* made one of those *Mulatos*  
guide us, and being come to the Bank  
caus'd him to go over first, upon a tall  
Mule, and saw the Water come up to  
her Crupper. There being no going  
back, I made the *Mulato* come again to  
carry over my Portmantue, in which  
were all my Manuscripts; and then re-  
commending my self to God's Protecti-  
on, went into the rapid River bare Legg'd  
in great fear; and tho' there were two  
several Branches to divide the River,  
yet the Water came almost over my  
Mule, and wash'd my Thighs. Being by  
God's Mercy come to the other side, and  
having recover'd our selves, we bethought  
us how little we should have been pity'd,  
had the *Mulato* left us both in the lurch  
and gone away with the Mule and all we  
had, that is, 1000 Pieces of Eight of the  
*Spaniards*, and my four Years and four  
Month's Manuscripts of my Travels,  
and my Mony for my Journey. But  
Fear had blinded our Understanding, so  
that we forgot that one of us ought to  
go over first to the other side. There  
was formerly a Boat in this Place to waft  
over Travellers; but the *Alcade* to pu-  
nish the *Mulato* that kept it for some  
Offence, took it from him, forbidding  
him to receive or entertain any Passen-  
gers, but to send them the way of *Cotasta*,  
which was for his Advantage; and the  
*Mulato* answering, *He might order them*  
*to be call'd, and told of it by the Inhabitants*  
*of that Village*, he was abus'd by the cove-

tous *Alcade*. Thence we travell'd over  
a Plain, and through a thick Wood, of  
a sort of Palm-Trees that bore a Fruit  
like green Walnuts, hanging in Clusters.  
The Pulp within them tastes like our Al-  
monds. We pass'd several small Lakes,  
and had like to lose our way by reason  
of the high Grass; and the more because  
there being no Boats to carry us over,  
we were forced to ford, and were very  
wet. Having travell'd four Leagues, we  
came to a Farm call'd *Asperilla*, where  
there was an infinite multitude of Gnats,  
and we were forced to pay dear for two  
Hoods to defend us against them.

Sunday 27th, we rode two Leagues  
to the Farm of *Xamapa* and cross'd the  
River of that name in a Boat. A *Spani-*  
*ard* there confirm'd what *F. Colin* writes  
in his History of the *Philippine-Islands* con-  
cerning the Bird *Carpintero*, viz. That it  
finds an Herb which makes Iron fly like  
Glass; which he said he had try'd, by  
nailing an Iron Plate over that Birds  
Nest, but that he never could find out  
the Herb in all those Plains. After Din-  
ner we travell'd 3 Leagues further to the  
Port of the new *Vera Cruz*, where I  
found my Equipage sent thither a Month  
before, by *Ferdinand Mercado*. There  
are no Inns in the City, so that a Stran-  
ger is forced to hire a House. Here I rest-  
ed after my Journey, and tho' a small  
Vessel sail'd for *Havana* on Wednesday the  
30th, would not go aboard it, being  
promis'd better Conveniency aboard an-  
other that was to set out soon after.  
Being ill Lodg'd where I was, *D. Antony*  
*Penalosa*, Lieutenant of a Troop of Horse,  
generously gave me an Apartment in his  
House.

11 Day 5  
Leagues.

## CHAP. III.

*The Description of the new Town and Port of Vera-Cruz.*

*Vera Cruz.* THE new City of *Vera-Cruz* is seated  
in the Latitude of 19 deg. and 16  
min. and 273 deg. of Longitude; on a  
sandy barren Soil; so that Provisions  
coming a great way, it is very dear liv-  
ing there. Its Figure is longish, lying  
East and West, and the whole Compass  
scarce half a *Spanish League*. The Air is  
not wholsom, especially in Summer. Ve-  
ry often when the North Winds blow,  
to which it is very subject, the Houses  
are half bury'd in the Sand about them.  
They who were entrusted to Wall  
it in, cheated the King Impudently,

The Walls.

Vol. IV.

making a thin Wall about six Spans high,  
which would scarce serve for a cover'd  
Way; besides that at present every Body  
rides over them, because they are bury'd  
with Sand; and there is no need of shut-  
ting the Gates, all Parts being passable.  
Some Bastions and Redoubts there are a-  
bout it at a great distance from one  
another and irregular; only two little  
Forts, or Redoubts on the Shore, at  
both ends of it, might make some De-  
fence. This City was built instead of  
the old *Vera Cruz*, because that Port was  
not fit for great Ships. In 1683 it was

A a a a 2 taken



~ taken and sack'd by one *Lorenuillo* a Pi-  
*Gemelli.* rate of *Petiguavas*. He landed one Morn-  
 1698. ing early half a League West of the Ci-  
 ~ ty, and surpriz'd the Inhabitants who  
 made no Opposition. Afterwards his  
 Ships Anchor'd at the Island of *Sanficios*,  
 because it was out of reach of the Castle  
 Guns. This Castle is half a League  
 from the City, so that it can no way de-  
 fend it, but only serves to secure the Port  
 and Ships that Anchor under its Walls.  
 The Port is naturally Strong, because on  
 the East and West it is defended by a-  
 bundance of Rocks; which Strangers,  
 who are not acquainted, cannot avoid  
 running upon.

Inhabi-  
 tants.

Now tho' all the Fleets, or single Ships  
 that go out of *Europe* to *New Spain* put  
 into this Port; yet the City instead of  
 being Rich and Large like *Mexico*, is,  
 for the Reasons above all'dg'd, Small and  
 Poor, little Inhabited by *Spaniards*; but  
 for the most part by Blacks and *Mula-  
 tos*; so that there are scarce any white  
 People to be seen, but only when the  
 Flota is there. As soon as that is gone,  
 they that are well to pass, retire up the  
 Country, as well because of the unwhol-  
 somness of the Air, as because their Ef-  
 fects are not safe; and therefore they  
 build none but little wooden Houses, not  
 at all lasting.

Friday the first of November, I went  
 to the Parish Church, which has four  
 Pillars on a side, that support the vaulted  
 Roof, and make three Isles, in which  
 there are nine Chappels. The Church  
 of the *Jesuits* is poor, has but ten Altars,

and those meanly adorn'd. Sunday 3d, I  
 din'd with the Governor, before whose  
 House one of the two *Spanish* Companies  
 that are in Garrison in the City, always  
 keeps Guard; as does a Troop of 60  
 Horse to scour the Coast. Saturday 9th,  
 there being no Diversion in the Town I  
 went out a Shooting, and Riding five  
 Leagues, ferry'd over a great River to  
 the old *Vera Cruz*. This at present may *Old Vera*  
 more properly be call'd a small Village *Cruz*.  
 of Fishermen, than a City; for it has  
 no Houses, but Cottages cover'd with  
 Leaves and enclos'd with Canes. The  
 Inhabitants are always tormented with  
 the stinging of Gnats. Before me they  
 took some Fish in the River call'd *Bobos*,  
 or Fools; because when the North Wind  
 blows they make to the Sea, and so fall  
 into the Nets. Their Rows dry'd are  
 excellent to eat. These Rivers and all  
 those of *New Spain*, but particularly  
 those of *Guatemala* being full of Croco-  
 dils or Alligators, it is worth observing,  
 That the Dogs when they cross them,  
 knowing by instinct of Nature, that the  
 Alligators are most fond of their Flesh,  
 go first, to secure themselves, and bark  
 in one Place, that the Alligators may  
 come thither, and then run to swim over  
 at another Place. This same is related by  
*F. Navarrete* in his *Account of the Philip-  
 pine-Islands*. That Day I kill'd abun-  
 dance of Pheasants, of a better sort than  
 the black Ones. They were as big as  
 Turkeys, with a black and white Tuft  
 on their Heads, and all the rest of their  
 Feathers Murrey.

#### CHAP. IV.

##### A short Account of the Discovery and Conquest of New-Spain.

Cortes's Ships having Anchor'd in the  
 Port of the old *Vera Cruz*, it will  
 not be from our purpose to say something  
 in this Place of the Discovery and Con-  
 quest of *New Spain*; adding to what o-  
 ther Authors have already made publick,  
 some Particulars kept in that Country  
 by Tradition from Father to Son, and  
 extracted out of four Letters writ by  
*Cortes* to the Emperor *Charles V.* Printed  
 Copies whereof are still preserv'd by  
*D. Charles Siguenza*.

Some will have it that *America* was ac-  
 cidentally discover'd by a Ship drove  
 thither by tedious Storms, which return-  
 ing afterwards to *Lisbon* with but a few  
 Men, the Master of it gave *Christopher  
 Columbus*, born at *Nervi* on the Coast of

*Genoa*, an Account of his Voyage and  
 what he had found, and then dy'd. Many  
 other preposterous Notions go about this  
 particular, too tedious for us to handle,  
 and therefore we will come to the Point.

*Columbus* being himself in no Condition  
 to undertake this Voyage upon his own  
 Account, apply'd himself to the Kings of  
*England* and *Portugal*, who both giving  
 him but little Encouragement, he in the  
 Year 1486, went and offer'd himself to  
*Ferdinand* and *Isabel* or *Elizabeth*, King  
 and Queen of *Spain*, who were then in-  
 gag'd in the War against the *Moors* of  
*Granada*, and so far prevail'd, being se-  
 conded by Cardinal *Mendoza*, Archbi-  
 shop of *Toledo*, that he had 16000 Crowns  
 allow'd him, wherewith he fitted out 3  
 Ships,





Ships, Man'd with 120 Souldiers and Sailers. He set Sail on the third of August 1492, and having furnish'd himself with Necessaries at the Canary-Islands, continu'd his Voyage. On the 11th of October he discover'd Land, which was one of the Islands *Lucayos*, call'd *Guana-*

Discovers  
Land.

*ham*, between *Florida* and *Cuba*, where he landed and took possession of the *Indies*. Thence he pass'd on to the Island *Hispaniola*, where he gain'd so far upon the *Caique* or Lord of that Place, that he allow'd him to build a Fort of Earth and Wood on the Shore, in which he left 38 *Spaniards* under the Command of *Roderick de Arana* of *Cordova*; and taking ten *Indians*, forty Parrots, some Gold, *Indian-Wheat*, and other things to make out the truth of his Discovery, return'd to *Spain* with two Ships. The Court being then at *Barcelona* he repair'd thither. The King was much pleas'd with what he brought, and the Account he gave of his Discovery. Six of the *Indians* were Baptiz'd, the King and Queen being Godfather and Godmother. *Columbus* had much Honour done him, and Pope *Alexander VI.* granted the Crown of *Castile* all the Islands and Continent that should be discover'd Westward, and all Eastward to the *Portugueses*, dividing the World between those two Kings, by two Lines drawn from North to South,

2d. Voy-  
age.

*Columbus* for a second Voyage was furnish'd with 18 Ships and 1500 Men aboard them, besides Mares, Cows, Sheep, Goats, Swine and Asses to breed in the *Indies* where there were none; besides, *Wheat*, Barley, and several Herbs and Plants of *Europe* to bring up in that Country. This Fleet sail'd from *Cadiz* on the 25th of September, and keeping along near the Line, the first Land it discover'd was, the Island afterwards call'd *Desada*. Then they came to *Puerto de Plata* in the Island *Hispaniola*, and thence to *Puerto Real*, where they found the 38 *Spaniards* who were kill'd for having attempted to force the *Indian Women*. Here *Columbus* Founded a City and call'd it *Isabella*, in Honour of the Queen. This done he sent back *Antony de Torres* with 12 Ships into *Spain*, to carry Presents of Gold, Parrots, *Indians* and other things, and he with three other Ships went on to discover further according to his Orders. He discover'd the Island *Buba*, and other lesser Islands. He fell at variance with the Pope's Vicar for his severity towards the Priests and *Spaniards*, and thereupon was call'd to Court, whither he carry'd rich Presents, and yet

was reprov'd for his Harshness to the *Spaniards*.

Having obtain'd 8 Sail more he sent away 2 before him under the Command of his Brother, loaded with Provisions and Ammunition; and he himself with the other six set out from *S. Lucar de Barrameda* in May 1497. From the *Madera*-Island he sent three Ships to *Hispaniola* with 300 Men. With the other three he kept close to the Line till he discover'd the Continent call'd *Paria*, along which he coasted 330 Leagues, as far as *Cape Vela*, where striking athwart a great Tract of Sea he arriv'd at *Santo Domingo*, a City built by his Brother on the Banks of the River *Ozama*, where he was receiv'd as Governor. Here the *Spaniards* suffer'd much, because the *Indians* thinking Famine would drive them away, did not sow their *Wheat*, which forced them for want to eat Snakes and filthy Vermin. The *Spaniards* are also said to have got the Pox of the *Indian Women*, and some of them bringing it over to *Naples*, gave it to the *Neapolitans* and *French*, which made the first of these call it the *French Disease*, and these the *Neapolitan*.

*Bartholomew Columbus* Brother to the Admiral, having disoblig'd the *Spaniards*, they made their Complaints to the King, who sent over *Francis de Bovadilla*, who clapt the Admiral and his Brothers in Irons, and so put them aboard and sent them into *Spain*. After some trouble *Columbus* was restor'd to his Authority, and return'd with three Ships to *Hispaniola*, where the Governour would not suffer him to come into the Port, and therefore he went on to discover as far as *Cape Higueras*, and then on the South Coast to *Nombro de Dios*. He return'd to *Cuba* and *Jamaica*, but could not get to *Santo Domingo* for want of Ships. Here his Men mutiny'd, but the Mutiniers were defeated in fight by *Bartholomew Columbus*. The Admiral after this return'd to *Spain*, and when he thought to have gone back to *America*, was prevented by Death at *Valladolid*, in May 1506. I omit to say more of him, because his Life is to be seen at large in this Collection of Travels.

4th. Voy-  
age.

Afterwards several attempted to Conquer the Continent discover'd, but without Success. *Francis Fernandez de Cordova* sail'd thither in 1517, with three small Vessels, and discover'd from *Compeche*, to *St. John de Ulva*. *John de Grijalva* in 1518, with 4 Sail set out by *James Velasquez* Governour of *Cuba*, both



*Gemelli.* both of them had Skirmishes with the Indians, but could make themselves Masters of no Place.

*Cortes.* Heaven had design'd this Conquest for *Ferdinand Cortes*, born at *Medellin*, in *Estremadura*, who was sent thither by the aforesaid Governor of *Cuba*, in November 1518, with the Command of ten Sail; which he would afterward have taken from him, ordering the Alcade of the Town of the *Trinity* to secure him. But he could not bring it about, *Cortes* being very much belov'd by five hundred and eight Souldiers, and one hundred and nine Sailers he had with him.

*His first Conquest.* His first Conquest, was over the Village of *Tabasco*, where the Inhabitants made some opposition. They having never seen any Horses, thought the Horse and the Rider had been all one Creature. Upon Maunday Thursday, in the Year 1519 *Cortes* arriv'd at St. *John de Ulva*, where all his Men Landed upon Good-Friday, for which reason, that place was call'd *Vera Cruz*. Here they continu'd some Months, by reason of the opposition made by the Indians; till at length, being resolv'd to Conquer, or to dye, *Cortes* caus'd the Ships to be broke up, that his Men might have no hopes left of retiring; and be sensible their safety, consisted in their Swords.

*Advances to Tlascala.* Accordingly on the 15th of August 1519, he set forward with 400 Men, for the Province of *Tlascala*, leaving a sufficient Garrison at *Vera Cruz*. He had several Incounters, with the *Tlascallans*, who thought they were sent against them, by the *Mexicans* their Enemies. The Spaniards dress'd theirs and their Horses wounds, with the Grease they took out of the Bowels of the Indians they kill'd. The *Tlascallans*, at length dismaying, su'd for Peace. Whilst they were treating, four Indians came from *Montezuma* to bid him welcome, and offer a Tribute, provided he would not go to *Mexico*. *Cortes* entred *Tlascala*, on the 23d September 1519, attended by *Caciques* and Lords of Towns; who after giving him the best Accomodation they could, offer'd him their Daughters for Wives; and set free many Wretches they kept up a Fattening for Sacrifice. *Montezuma* sent other Ambassadors with Gold and Jewels, fearing some ill Consequence after the Peace concluded with the *Tlascallans*. After this *Cortes* was receiv'd by the chief Men of *Cholula*; but being inform'd that they, by Order of *Montezuma*, conspir'd to betray him, he put a great number of them to death,

and rescu'd the Prisoners kept to be Sacrific'd. Hereupon *Montezuma* being more terrify'd than before, sent another Embassy to him, with Presents of Gold and Rich Coverlets, excusing himself on account of the business of *Cholula*, and offering vast Gifts to *Cortes*, and Tribute to the Emperor *Charles* the 5th, provided he would not come into the City, which was all in Confusion, for fear of him, and for want of Provisions. *Cortes* persisting in his Resolution to go, severely reprimanded the Ambassadors, *Montezuma* perceiving there was no putting a stop to this Evil, making a virtue of Necessity, sent his Nephew *Camatzin*, Lord of *Tescuco*, and other noble Men in great Pomp, to meet him a days Journey off, and conduct him. *Cortes* came with them, through *Iztapalapa*, to the broad Causeway of *Mexico*; whither *Coadlavacca* and *Cuyoacan*, the Emperor's near Kinsmen came out to meet him. After them, came other Lords. and *Montezuma* himself alighted when he saw *Cortes*, who did the like and presented him with a Collar of false Stones. After this Ceremony *Montezuma* departed, ordering his Nephews, the Lords of *Tescuco* and *Cuyoacan*, to conduct him to the Palace, where his Father *Axayaca* had liv'd, whose Idols and Treasure were there still; and to provide quarters for the Souldiers. Here *Montezuma* again, met *Cortes* and presented him a Collar of Gold, treating all his Men plentifully at Supper. This they say was on the 18th of November 1519.

The Emperor was then 40 Years of Age, of a good Stature, a dark Complexion, a chearful Countenance, wore short Hair, and a little black Beard. He liv'd in great State, as well in regard of the number of his Courtiers, as of his Souldiers. When he went to the *Cu*, or Temple, he carry'd a Rod made half of Gold, and half of Wood, several great Men going before him; two of whom carry'd two Maces, as the Hieroglyphick of Justice. *Cortes* and some of his Officers desiring to see this great Temple, to which there was an Ascent of 114 steps; *Montezuma* receiv'd him very Courteously, and from the top of it, shew'd him all the City, most of it in the Lake, to which the way was over three Banks, or Dikes, one call'd of *Iztapalapa*, another of *Tacuba*, the third of *Tepeaquilla*, with Drawbridges, at certain distances. He also shew'd him the Temple of *Huichilobos*, the God of War, and of *Tezcatlipuca* of Hell,

Goes to Mexico.

Montezuma.





~~~~~ Hell, both Brothers, full of a deadly  
Gemelli. French caus'd by the Men there Sacrific'd.  
1698.

~~~~~ He is secur'd.

The Souldiers one day searching about for a place to make a Church of, broke through into an Apartment, the Door whereof had been lately made up, where they found a great quantity of Gold, and Jewels, it being *Montezuma's* Treasure, which they thought fit to shut up again, without taking any thing away. *Cortes* had resolv'd to secure *Montezuma*, but was afraid of the Success, because of the small number of his Men. For this reason he contriv'd to deceive him, bringing him by fair means to his Quarters, and then tell him he must be content to live a Prisoner, or to dye. Afterwards understanding that the *Indians* at *Vera-cruz*, had kill'd *John de Escalante*, and six other Men, (which made the *Indians* take heart, perceiving that the *Tenlis* or Gods come from the East, were Mortal) he lay'd hold of this opportunity, to quarrel with *Montezuma*. Having therefore sent a Message before, he went with five of his most resolute Commanders to the Emperor's Palace, and there loudly upbraiding him with breach of Faith, told him, he must submit to be his Prisoner, or resolve to dye. *Montezuma* excus'd himself, promising Satisfaction, and urging it was not proper to make him a Prisoner; but being frighted at the Officers Swords, and at the Words of *Marina* the Woman Interpreter, who made him sensible of his Danger, he offer'd a Son and two Daughters as Hostages, and *Cortes* refusing, suffer'd himself to be carry'd to his Quarters, where a Guard was put upon him. Lords and other Subjects, came from Places far distant, to him about their Affairs, and went into his Presence bare-footed, not right forward, but sideling, with their Eyes fixt on the Ground, and ordinary Coverings on them, leaving the Rich ones without. When they came before him, they bow'd three times, and when they went away, were not to turn their Backs. The four Commanders who had kill'd *Escalante*, were brought Prisoners, and *Cortes* condemn'd them to be Burnt; putting Fetters upon *Montezuma*, whilst it was doing. He ask'd leave once, to go out a Hunting, and another time to the Temple; that his People might believe he was not kept Prisoner, which was granted him with a Guard of 150 Spaniards, and notice given him, that upon the least commotion of the Peo-

ple, they would kill him. *Cacamatzia* King of *Tescuco*, seeing his Uncle *Montezuma* made a Prisoner, thought of rescuing him, and crowning himself Emperor, which his design he imparted to the Lords of *Iztapalapa*, *Tacuba*, and *Cuyoacan*, *Montezuma's* Nephews. He having notice of it, would have *Cortes* secure them all, as was accordingly done by his Orders, which were obey'd, tho' he was Prisoner. The Imprisonment of these great Men, emboldned *Cortes* to demand of *Montezuma*, that he should swear Fealty to the King of *Castile*; and he consulting with the Principal *Caciques*, resolv'd to do it, which he did in Form, promising to pay a Tribute, with the Tears standing in his Eyes, and the same was done by the Petty Kings, subject to him.

*Cortes* seeing so much Gold, would needs know, where they found it, and *Montezuma* sent some *Indians* to three several Places with Spanish Officers, who return'd with the value of 1500 pieces of Eight, in Gold dust, which the *Indians* had gather'd in the Sand of certain Rivers. After this the Emperor made a Present by way of Tribute to the King of Spain, of all his Fathers Treasure, which was shut up in the a-foremention'd Apartment; besides many Jewels brought him by the *Caciques*. All the Gold being melted into Plates, by the King's Officers and Seal'd, there was found to the value of 600000 pieces of Eight; whereof one 5th part being deducted for the King, and another for *Cortes*, the rest was divided among the Men. The Idol Priests provok'd, that *Cortes* had set up the Cross upon their Temple excited the People to fall upon 'em, and therefore *Montezuma* advis'd him to be gone; but he to gain time, said he had destroy'd his Ships, and could not go, till he had built three Ships. *Montezuma* allow'd of the delay, order'd Workmen to build the Ships, and promis'd to keep the People quiet.

This being the Posture of Affairs at *Narvaez's* Mexico, and *James Velasquez* understand- sent a-  
ing that *Cortes*, had sent Deputies to the gainst  
Emperor with rich Presents, without *Cortes's*  
taking notice of him, he fitted out 19 Sail, with 1400 Men and 20 pieces of Cannon, and sent them under the Command of *Pamphilo de Narvaez*, with whom went an Oydore, or Judge of *Santo Domingo*, to mediate between him, and *Cortes*, since it had been in his Power to hinder his setting out. The Fleet coming into the Port of *St. John de Ulua*,  
Moit-