

Gemelli.
1994.
Climate.
The Air and Climate differs according to the several Provinces. *Edzerbagan* is excessive Cold, but Healthy; *Mazanderan* bad by reason of the standing Waters; *Ispahan*, which is almost the Heart of the Kingdom, is more subject to Cold than Heat, because of the abundance of Snow that falls instead of Rain, tho' it is seated in 32 Degrees, and a few Minutes of Latitude. The Heat is tolerable even in the Dog-days, and not attended with the Plague of Bugs, Fleas, Gnats, and other troublesome Insects.

Snow.
The Snow, as I have said, falls in such quantities in Winter, that sometimes it rises above a Stone three Spans high, a League from the City, towards the Mountain; by which the *Persians* judge of the Fruitfulness of the Year. In the Southern Provinces, and particularly at the Ports of *Bander-Abassi*, and *Bander-Congo*, on the Gulph of *Persia*, the Heat is Excessive, and Hurtful; for it breeds in the Legs of *Europeans*, a sort of slender Worms fifty, or sixty Spans long, which are afterwards drawn out by

little and little, in several Days, rowl'd on a Stick. The great Men retire at that time to the cool neighbouring Mountains.

Several Nations have formerly reign'd in *Persia*, and extended their Dominion into all the three Parts of the World then known. In *Asia* they possess'd *Armenia*, *Persia*, *India* on this side *Ganges*, *Affyria*, *Syria*, the lesser *Asia*, and the Island of *Cyprus*. In *Africa* they had *Egypt*, part of *Ethiopia*, and *Libia*. In *Europe*, *Thracia*, and *Macedonia*; besides the Islands of the *Egean* Sea, belonging both to *Europe*, and *Asia*. Under the *Parthian* Monarchy the *Persian* Empire contain'd all that lies between the Rivers *Indus*, and *Euphrates*. At present to come to the Matter in Hand, that is, to modern Affairs, it is bounded on the North by the *Caspian* Sea; on the South by the Ocean; on the East by the *Mogul's* Country, and on the West by the *Turkish* Dominions, from which it is parted by the Rivers *Tigris* and *Euphrates*.

Persian
Dominions.

Hornij.
Hist pag.
108. &
155.

Ptolom.
Geog. lib.
6.

Cluver.
Geog. lib.
5. cap. 12.
Mallet.
Desc. del
Univer.
tom. 2.
cap. 3.

C H A P. V.

The Genealogy of the Family now Reigning in Persia.

Tamerlan.
After *Tamerlan* had routed *Bajazeth's* Army, and made him and his Wife Captives; he carry'd his victorious Arms into *Persia*, and prescribing Laws to those People by the Point of his much dreaded Sword, he became in a short time the richest, and most powerful Prince in the East. His cruel Inclination not being satisfy'd with the Spoils of Nations subdu'd, he drove away many Thousands of Prisoners out of *Caramania*, with a design to put them to Death upon the first Opportunity. But it was the good Fortune of those Wretches, that when he came into the City *Ardevil*, he found a *Sceik*, whose Name was *Aidar*, who liv'd with the Reputation of Sanctity; and growing Familiar with him, he not only granted him the Lives of all those Captives, but the Dominion over them. The good *Aidar* having obtain'd this, provided for them the best he could, and gave them their Liberty to return home; in memory of which Benefit those People ever continu'd most Affectionate to him, and all his Race.

Ismael Sofi.
The *Persians* finding themselves oppress'd by the *Tartar* Yoke from the Year 1250, and being consum'd with Civil Wars,

by reason of the Divisions in the Family of the *Ussum-Cassan's*; *Ismael Sofi* the Third, Son of *Sceik-Aidar*, with the Assistance of the *Caramanian's*, taking Courage, began to seize the Empire; first Possessing himself of *Tauris*, which was divided into Factions, and afterwards routing *Alamut*, King of *Persia*, or as others will have it *Aluante*, the Son of *Jampius*, the Son of *Ussum-Cassan*, and killing him with his own Hand near that City. This hapned about the Year of our Lord 1499, and from that time forward *Persia* was call'd the Kingdom of *Sophi*, as being subject to the Race of *Ismael*. Some, tho' without any Ground, will have it, That this Man was *Ussum-Cassan's* Grandson, as being Born of his Daughter, and of *Sitaidari*, surnam'd *Arduelle*, of a City of that Name he was Possess'd of: But the truest Opinion is, That he was Son to *Sceik-Aidar*, as has been said, the great Grandson of *Mortuz-Ali*, *Mahomet's* Cousin, and Son-in-Law.

Tammus succeeded his Father *Ismael*; *Tammus* and *Tammus* left for his Successor *Ismael* the Second, who by reason of his Cruelty sate but a short time on the Throne; his Brother *Mahomet-Codabende*, tho' un-

Asia. nov.
descript.
lib. 2.
cap. 1.

Angiolello
in gestis
usum Cassani.

Barroso in
Asia.

Bizarro de
rebus Persicis.

Mahomet
Codabende.

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unskill'd in Government, being set up by the great Ones in his Place. Some are of Opinion that this Man was Blind; but the Truth of it is; That his Eyes were weakned by a red hot Iron his Brother caus'd to be held to them, the first Day he came to the Crown; which Custom continues to this Day among his Successors. After *Mahomet*, *Scia-Abas* the First, his Son, Reign'd, and was call'd the Great, for his extraordinary Wisdom and Valour, with which he extended the Limits of the Empire, Conquering the Kingdoms of *Lar*, *Ormuz*, *Candabar*, and other Cities and Provinces. Of many Sons he had only *Sofi-Mirza* Liv'd, who having got a Son on a Slave; the Grandfather grew so Fond of the Grandson, and so Averse to his own Son, that he order'd a great Man about the Court to put him to Death. Yet afterwards seeing his Head he lamented Bitterly, seiz'd all the Goods of him that Executed the cruel Command, and gave them to him he had before Banish'd for refusing to Obey it. From that time forward, the King's Sons have always been kept in the *Aram*. *Scia-Abas* Dy'd about the end of the Year 1628, having Reign'd forty Years; and Order'd, that after his Death the Crown should Devolve to *Scia-Sofi*, his Grandson, which was perform'd by the General of the Army, and the rest of the great Ones.

Scia-Sofi.
Scia-Sofi coming to the Crown, could not at first give any Specimen of his Valour, as well because he was yet a Child, as by reason of much *Opium* given him by his Grandfather to Stupify him. The first notable Action he did was at *Casbin*, where he order'd the Head of *Ali-Culican* (a Man that had deserv'd well from the Crown, as having in the Reign of *Scia-Abas* Conquer'd the Kingdoms of *Lar*, and *Ormuz*.) and of three of his Sons to be cut off. Then making his Entry into *Ispahan*, he did the same to seven principal Ministers of his Court, whom he had drawn to the Palace with fair Words, and serv'd the Queen-Mother in the same manner; so absolute is the Power of those Monarchs, and so ready the Obedience of their Subjects. Some may perhaps imagine that the People at the sight of those Heads would enquire into the Cause why they were cut off, and blame their King's Cruelty; but the best of it is, That all the Peo-

ple in the *Meidan*, without any further Consideration said, *Since the King has order'd these Dogs to be cut to Death, it is a Sign they deserv'd it.* *Scia-Sofi* Dy'd in the Year 1642. of hard Drinking.

His Son *Scia-Abas* the Second, succeeded him, having been kept at *Casbin*, so that he did not make his solemn Entry into *Ispahan*, till the beginning of the ensuing Year 1643. He Reign'd 21 Years with the Reputation of a Valiant, and Noble Prince; but so addicted to Drunkenness, that one Day he caus'd three of his Women to be Burn'd, because they refus'd to Drink more Wine. He dy'd of an Inflammation caus'd by that Vice in the City *Telixon*, and the Year 1664.

The great Men that were then at Court immediately sent the General of the Musketers, with the chief of the Astrologers to carry the News to his Son; who tearing his Garments that Moment in token of Grief, fate him down at the Door of the *Aram*. Then a Lord appointed for that purpose drawing near girt on his Sword, saying, a Slave of his had obtain'd so great an Honour. Then the King put on the *Sofi's* Cap, which is wide at the top, with twelve Gathers in memory of their twelve Prophets, and something like a Cilinder, half a Span long, and cover'd with the same Cloth. Then abundance of Drums and Trumpets sounding, the People ran into the *Meidan*, every one crying out, *Patscia-Sal-amelek*; that is, I Salute thee Emperor; which is all the Solemnity of the *Mahometan* Coronation, as has been said elsewhere. Not long after, falling Sick, by the Advice of the Physicians, he chang'd his Name, and took that of *Scia-Selemon*; as we have related at large in the foregoing Book. He dy'd on the 29th of July 1694, whilst I was at *Ispahan*; expressly forbidding his Son to Practice the antient but cruel Custom of their Family, of putting out their Brother's Eyes with red hot Irons.

Scia-Offen.
Scia-Offen ascended the Throne on the 6th of *August*, that same Year, at the Age of twenty Five; and tho' hitherto he has fulfill'd his Father's Command, yet he will not fail in time to Blind his Brothers and Nephews, according to the antient Custom; if he does not put them to Death.

CHAP. VI.

Of the several Employments in the Persian Court.

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Armath-Dulet.

THE Prime Post in the Persian Court is that of *Armath-Dulet*, who is like the grand *Vizier* in *Turky*. All the Affairs of the Kingdom run through his Hands, and he contrary to the *Turk*, dispatches more Business with the Pen, than with the Sword; nor is he so subject to go to the War, or to lose his Head for the least Miscarriage. But he is to take the proper Measures to Govern well, and not propose any thing to the King that may displease him.

Nazar.

The next great Officer is the *Nazar*, who has charge of all that is presented to the King.

Mether.

The next is the *Mether* who is a white Eunuch, waiting always in the Bed-Chamber, and about the King's Person, with several Handkerchiefs in a Purse to supply him when he wants.

Mir-akor-Baschi.

The *Mir-akor-Baschi* has charge of the Stables, which are also a Place of Refuge, and takes care that the King's Horses be branded on the left Leg, to know them from others; and that none of 40000 Souldiers the King keeps be missing.

Mirscikar.

The great Master of the Game is call'd *Mirscikar*. He looks to the Hawks, and has under him all the Officers that belong to the Hunt.

Segon-Baschi.

The *Segon-Baschi* has charge of the Dogs, and other Beasts for Hunting, and is subordinate to the *Mirscikar*.

Sindar-Baschi.

The *Sindar-Baschi* is Head of those that keep the Saddles, and hold the Stirrup, when the King gets a Horseback; he is also call'd *Ozangu-cursfisci*.

Kebisfi-cursfisci.

The *Kebisfi-cursfisci* carries the King's Sword.

Oriage-cursfisci.

The *Oriage-cursfisci* carries the Bow and Arrows.

Vakanaviz.

The Secretary is call'd *Vakanaviz*.

Kaf-nadar-Baschi.

The *Kaf-nadar-Baschi*, is in the nature of a Treasurer, that keeps all the Money in the King's Coffers.

Agati-Baschi.

The great Steward is call'd *Agati-Baschi*.

Kakim-Baschi.

The Kings first Physician is call'd *Kakim-Baschi*, by whose advice the others are receiv'd.

Mihmandar-Baschi.

The Master of the Ceremonies or Introducer of Ambassadors is call'd *Mihmandar-Baschi*.

Monagem-Baschi.

Monagem-Baschi, is the Chief of the Astrologers, by whom, as I said before the King is rul'd in all his undertakings.

The *Divan-Beg*, is supreme Judge both in civil and criminal Affairs, and has his Court in the King's House. He is Judge of Appeals from all Provinces in the Kingdom, and receives Informations against the *Chams*, and other great Men.

Divan-Beg.

The *Deroga* is under the *Divan-Beg*, to whom all appeal that are wrong'd by him. He punishes Thieves and such that are guilty of Capital Crimes.

Deroga.

The *Sofragi-Baschi* is he that lays the Cloth of Gold on the Carpet before the King.

Sofragi-Baschi.

The *Sciraci-Baschi* is to provide the Kings Sellar with Wine.

Sciraci-Baschi.

The *Mescaldar-Baschi* is chief of those that carry Flambeaux. He furnishes the Court with Wax-candles; and takes care that the Gold Lamps in the Royal Hall be supply'd. To him belong all the Fines laid on those that play at Cards and Dice, which are forbid by their Law.

Mescaldar-Baschi.

The *Kavergi-Baschi* has charge of the Coffee and Rose-water.

Kavergi-Baschi.

The *Giara-Baschi* is the Surgeon, who bleeds and Shaves the King's Head.

Giara-Baschi.

The *Capigi-Baschi* is head Porter.

Capigi-Baschi.

The *Melectegiar-Baschi* keeps the King's Cloth, and has care to deliver it out to the Tailors to make his Cloaths.

Melectegiar-Baschi.

The *Gelodar-Baschi* is Chief of the Footmen.

Gelodar-Baschi.

The *Mirab* is the Overseer of the Waters, who get considerably by the Country People, because it is his Business to distribute the Water for Watering the Fields.

Mirab.

The *Zegher-Baschi* has Power over all those that work Carpets with Gold and Silver, and Cloth for the King's Household. This is done in the Place call'd *Karkron*, where they also make Scimiters, Bows and Arrows, Silver Rings, because the *Mahometans* may not say their usual Prayers with Gold Rings on their Fingers, and they Paint in Miniature on a sort of Vernish made of Gum Mastick, and a Mineral Oyl, found not far from *Sciamaki* on the *Caspian* Sea.

Zegher-Baschi.

The *Nakkasce-Baschi* is Head of these Painters or Limners.

Nakkasce-Baschi.

The *Negear-Baschi* is nothing but the Chief of the Kings Carpenters.

Negear-Baschi.

The *Ambardar-Baschi* keeps the Grain and other Provisions for the Kings own use.

Ambardar-Baschi.

The

Gemells. The *Odunci-Bafci* keeps the Wood to burn. All these Mechanicks have several Assistants under them, who have Flesh, Butter, Rice, and Spice allow'd for their daily Maintenance.

1694. The *Tufcamal-Bafci* is Supervisor of the King's Kitchen, and commands those that are to serve at Table; whence he always takes the best Dish.

4 Generals. In War the King of *Persia* is serv'd by four sorts of Souldiers, each of which has its own General. The first is the *Persian* commanded by the *Saper-Salar*, whose Commission is worth above 20000 *Tomans* a Year. The second is of the *Corseis* or *Keselbafci*, that is, red Head, because formerly they wore red Caps, who make a Body of 22000 good Souldiers; their General is call'd *Cursci-Bafci*, and has about 15000 *Tomans* Pay. The inferior Officers among these Souldiers are the *Mimbafci*, who command a thousand Men, the *Jusbafci* a hundred, and the *Ombafci* ten, every Souldier has 15 *Tomans* a Year Pay. The third sort is of the *Gulams*, or the King's Slaves, who for the most part are *Georgian* Renegadoes, or of other Nations, who reckon that Slavery a great Favour, for the allowance of five, or at most eight *Tomans* a Year. Their General is call'd *Gular-Agafi*. They are arm'd with Scimiters, Bows, Arrows, Coats of Mail, and Head-pieces. The King sometimes gives them good Employments for their Lives, and sometimes when they behave themselves well they are continu'd in their Sons, so they be Men when their Fathers dye. The *Tufinkgi* compose another Body of 50000 Men. These are Peasants, who fight with Musket and Scimiter, and have four or five *Tomans* pay. They being generally very ill disciplin'd, the *Chams* of the several Provinces make them exercise every three Months. Their General is call'd *Tufinkgi-Bafci*.

Guards. The *Escek-Agafi* is Commander of two thousand *Kescelkisci*, or the Kings peculiar Guards, newly brought up, who carry such a heavy Musket that it looks more like a Falconet.

Artillery. The *Tapigi-Bafci* is General of the Artillery, whereof the *Persians* have some small Stock, but only in the frontier Places; for we said before they have no fighting Ships, and those Vessels they make use of on the Gulph of *Persia* and *Caspian* Sea against the *Usbeks* and *Kalmuks* are very ill provided.

TheChams The *Chams* or Governors of Provinces, and all the Officers of the King's

Household are chosen from among the *Corseis*, or *Gulams*, because they are well Shap'd, Brave, and of good Countenances, which the *Persians* are not, for if they have any of these Qualifications it comes to them by the mixture of Blood with the *Georgians*, or some other Nation dwelling on the *Caspian*, or *Black-Sea*; and therefore the King himself, and the great ones endeavour to get Children by some renegade *Georgian* Woman. This Employment of the *Chams* is one of the best a Man can wish for, because they are fear'd and honour'd like so many little Kings. Their Revenues are seven or eight thousand *Tomans* a Year, and they continue a long while unless they be found guilty of some heinous Crime. 'Tis true at the *Nurus* or beginning of the Year they must make the King a considerable Present; and every one be at the whole expence of his Kitchen for a Week. Those Provinces where the King has taken away the Title of *Chams*, to save the useless expence of his Revenue are under Governors call'd *Asses*.

Now follows the second Rank of those Officers, who have the charge of Religion, administer Justice and inspect Accounts, and as in Temporals the *Atmash-Dulet* is the Chief, so in Spirituals the *Nabab* or *Sedre* sits as Supream with two inferior Judges, the one call'd *Sceik*, or *Axond*, and the other *Cafi*, of whom we have said enough in the Chapter concerning Religion.

The Building of every *Mosch* is directed by its *Monteveli*; and every *Mosch* has a *Movazen* to call the People to Prayers from the Top of it, the Words he says when he cries out to them in his Language are, *There is but one only God and Mahomet is his Prophet*.

In the Chamber of Accounts call'd *Revenues.* *Defter-Kone*, the Kings Patrimony runs through the Hands of the *Mosofi* and *Mamalek*. These value the King's Farms, most of the Land in the Kingdom being his, and they let them out Yearly, or for Lives to private Persons; receive all the Rents, and enter into their Books all the Expences on inferior Officers. This Chamber has its particular *Deroga*, to punish those that defraud the King.

By these several Employments and Officers, every Man may guess how much the *Persian* Court exceeds any other of the East, in Splendor and Magnificence; without my taking the pains to shew it, which would perhaps be offensive to the Reader.

C H A P.



CHAP. VII.

*The Author's Journey to Sciras.*Gemelli.
1694.

F. Francis of St. Joseph, had perswaded me several times to Travel with him to Rome; but finding me fully resolv'd to go on to *Indostan*, he thought fit to take the same Course. He therefore hir'd twelve Mules of a *Ciarvattar* of *Sciras*, for us and our Baggage, and we set out two Hours after Night, on Wednesday the 1st of September; F. Francis, F. Constantine of the Holy Ghost, both Portuguese Augustinians, F. Severinus of St. Joseph, a Bare-foot Carmelite of Naples, and I. All of us taking our Leaves of the other Fathers with tender Affection.

Being out of *Ispahan*, and its Neighbourhood, we held on our way by Moon Light, and Travelling nine Miles in four Hours, through a plain but barren Country, came to the little Village of *Spaneca*, where we were forc'd to Lodge that Night in the Mud *Caravansera*, and to stay all Thursday 2d, for the Load of Wine, left at the Dwelling-House of the Dutch, through the carelessness of the *Ciarvattar*. In this Village King *Scia-Abas* gave many Lands to a Persian Nobleman in Exchange for the two Villages of *Ispahan*, taken from him when he remov'd his Court from *Sciras*. They say that Lord was so powerful, that the King dismounted when he pass'd before his House; but I will not Vouch for the Truth of it. I having kill'd a great many Pigeons, and the Load of Wine being come by Noon, we Supp'd merrily at Night.

Then mounting an Hour after Sunset, we Travell'd 24 Miles in ten Hours to the Village and *Caravansera* of *Magar*, suffering much by the Cold and Wind. Here of our own free Will we gave the *Ractars* four *Abassis*, but would give nothing to two Wretches that guarded the way in the Mountains. The *Caravansera* here mention'd was half a Mile from the Village, Built twelve Years before that time by *Scia-Selemon*, and truly the Structure is Magnificent, being of good Brick, adorn'd with long rows of Trees, and the Game about it preserv'd for the King.

Having rested all Friday 3d, we set out at the same Hour as the Day before, and after sixteen Miles riding in six Hours, through a barren Country,

came to the little Mud City of *Cumiscia*, seated in a fruitful Plain abounding in excellent Fruit. We staying here all Day the Fourth, I Diverted my self with shooting of Pigeons. The Knavery of the *Ciarvattars* was the cause of our Travelling by Night, because they Slept by turns on their Asses, as found as if they had been in Down Beds, nothing concern'd that we lost our Sleep. To remedy this Evil, I resolv'd with F. Francis, to threaten to Beat them, if they ever Slept again upon the Ass; for then they would certainly Travel by Day. They taking no Notice of the Warning given, had good Correction that Night, being taken in the Fact; and from that time, as we had foreseen they began to Travel by Day.

Saturday 4th, therefore we set out two Hours before Night, and Riding sixteen Miles in six Hours, over a barren Country, stopp'd at the *Caravansera* of *Masfur-Bek*, near which there were two Country Houses. Sunday 5th we took our Journey about the same time after Travelling ten Miles pass'd in the Night by the little Village of *Aunabar*, where besides the *Caravansera* is an Earth Fort, made by the King. Advancing as many Miles further we took up at the good *Caravansera* of *Tyesacas*, seated on the Bank of the River; tho' the other dwellings are seated on the Rock, and in such manner, that the place is suppos'd to have been formerly a Fort. Here we found better Bread than at *Ispahan*, the Inhabitants being all well to pass. That Night the *Ciarvattars* were allow'd to Sleep on their Assish Bed, in reward for their Expedition the Day before.

Monday 6th, we departed at the same time, and Travell'd 32 Miles in twelve Hours, through Valleys naked of all Trees, and expos'd to Robbers; for which reason *Scia-Abas* Built the Fort of *Giambet*, in the mid way, where there is a Garrison still kept. At break of Day we came to the *Caravansera* of the Village of *Dighirdu*; but finding it taken up were forced to lie in a ruin'd House, or rather a Stable, with our Beasts. Nothing troubl'd us but watching to ride by Night, and being disturb'd with Flies in the Day; for we every where found plenty of Provisions at reasonable



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sonable Rates; so that we far'd Plentifully for three, or four *Carlines* of *Naples* Money; and the want of *Caravanse-
ra's* was supply'd by a portable Kitchen. *F. Francis* had furnish'd with all Utensils. Thus in short we wanted for nothing but Snow to cool our Drink.

Tuesday 7th, we had some Disturbance, upon occasion of *F. Francis* breaking the Head of an *Armenian*, who very rudely took the Part of his Companion, that had cheated him of 45 *Tomans*. We rested all Day in the Village, *F. Severinus* of *Naples* dressing the Wound; and the rest of us Diverting our selves in seeing *Caravans* of 4, or 500 Mules and Camels together pass by; that being the most frequented Road for the Trade of *India*.

We mounted at the usual Hour, and six Miles from thence pass'd by the *Caravanse-
ra* of *Chivola*; and sixteen Miles further over the River *Rutuma*, where the *Georgians* that came with us, with the Nets they usually carry about them took 150 Pounds weight of good large Fishes. Then advancing six Miles beyond it, we Lodg'd in the famous *Caravanse-
ra* of the Village of *Cuschisar*, which signifies dry Poison, a cold Place, by reason of the Neighbourhood of the Mountains always cover'd with Snow. The Country about is cut a-crofs with Trenches; the *Persians* using wherefoever they find Water to convey it after that manner to enrich their Fields.

While we rested in the *Caravanse-
ra* on *Wednesday* 8th, four Ostridges, by the *Persians* call'd *Citor-morgo*, that is, Camel Birds, were brought in, and two wild Cows, which the *Sultan* of *Baheren* (a City on the *Persian* Gulph known for its Pearl Fishery) or Governour of the Province was sending to the King. These Cows are as big as one of our Calves, but more Fat and Tender, tho' they feed on Straw. Their Colour is Whitish, except the Tail and Feet, which are Black; and on the Head there are large black Spots; their Eyes are Sparkling; their Horns slender, strait, smooth, round, and two Spans long, with sharp black Points.

About Sun-setting we proceeded on our Journey on a bad Way, being either marshy Plains, or dreadful barren Mountains; among which we saw the ruin'd *Caravanse-
ra* of *Danbayne*, formerly good, but abandon'd because the *Caravanse-
ra*dar, or Keeper of it had been Murder'd by Robbers. At length having Travell'd twenty Miles in seven

Hours, the last three a steep Descent we came to the antient *Caravanse-
ra* of the Village of *Aspas*, where the Country People's Houses are little better than Cottages.

Thursday 9th, we set out again two Hours before Night, and rode sixteen Miles in six Hours on a plain Road to the *Caravanse-
ra*, of a Village call'd *U-
giam*, consisting of a few Mud Houses, where we alighted. The Soil about it does not want for Corn, by reason of the neighbouring River, over which there is a Bridge of nine Stone-Arches. Here I could not make use of some few Pieces of Brass Coin I brought; because throughout the Kingdom, every Province makes its own, and will not take any other; Nay, in some Places they will not take the Silver that is Coin'd in another Government.

Friday 10th, setting out at the same time, we rode eight Miles Climbing, and then going down a rugged Mountain; then four Miles further, we pass'd by the Village and *Caravanse-
ra* of *Mam-
sada*; and lastly twelve Miles beyond that took up at the good *Caravanse-
ra* of the Village of *Mayn*. In this Place, tho' seated among high Mountains, we Eat good Figs, there being abundance of several Fruit-Trees, and good Tabacco, which they carry to *Ispahan*. *F. Severinus* fell twice from his Mule before he reach'd this Place, the Way was so bad, and being bid to settle the Pannel which was come upon the Beast's Neck, he answer'd Pleasantly, I will have it suffer for its Fault; and left the Mule in that uneasy Condition till the *Ciarvattar* came up, who was two Miles and a half behind, that is, half a *Persian* League. The *Georgians* and *Armenians* our Friends, took a prodigious quantity of Fish, and we had our share of it.

Saturday 11th, we rode twenty Miles through a plain Country, crossing the River on a noble Stone-Bridge, a quarter of a Mile long, and lay at the *Caravanse-
ra* of *Abigherne*, five Miles from the Bridge, one side whereof which was like to fall being then mending. Near that Place was the Mountain levell'd by *Alexander*, for his Army to pass.

We set out late on *Sunday* Evening, to go to a Village near *Darius* his Palace. Having lost our way in a marshy Country, the *Catergis* led us in the darkest of the Night to pass over a narrow wooden Bridge; but my *Armenian* Servant, who first try'd to pass, falling into the River Horse and all, without receiving



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1694. receiving any Hurt but being well wash'd, we alter'd our Design, following the common Road, and thus having spent seven Hours in riding twenty Miles, we came to the *Caravansera* of *Policer*. Four Miles short of it, we pass'd upon a Causeway two Miles in length, and yet had much Trouble to get a Horse

and Slave belonging to *F. Francis* out of the Mire.

Two Bales of Carpets being dry'd, we set out on *Monday* 13th, an Hour after Night-fall, and Travelling twelve Miles over rugged Mountains, pass'd by the *Caravansera* of *Besciaga*, and proceeding as many Miles further, came at break of Day on *Tuesday* 14th, to *Sciras*.

CHAP. VIII.

A Brief Description of the City of Sciras.

Being come at last to *Sciras*, we were entertain'd in the House of the Fathers of *S. Teresa*, *F. Amadeus*, a *Piemontese*, the Superior receiving us with very courteous Expressions.

Sciras
City.

Sciras is seated in the Latitude of 28 Degrees, 44 Minutes, and 86 of Longitude, in a delightful Plain enclos'd with pleasant Mountains. Coming from *Ispahan*, there is a way twelve Miles long pav'd with Flint regularly ascending to the narrow Path cut out of the Rock, which is the Passage into the City. This Way is adorn'd by a lofty Portico, which can be shut against Enemies, and defended by a few Men; and for a considerable space the Walls of the Gardens joining to it, being all Built alike, tho' belonging to several Owners. Among them is a great Pool all of Stone, in which formerly there were Boats to take the Air.

Its Name. Some will have it, That *Sciras* took its Name from the *Persian* Word *Scire*, which signifies Must, because of the great quantity of Wine made about it. As also that all the Plain it stands on was in former times a great Lake; and that after the Destruction of *Persepolis*, the Inhabitants thereof, filling it, settled their Habitation there; founding the New City. This they are the more inclin'd to believe, because in some Parts of it they have found large Iron Rings, like those they tie Boats to on the Shore.

Most valuable Things in it. The two most valuable Things in *Sciras* are Wine, and Women, whose Beauty is so extraordinary, that it serves instead of a Portion. Therefore crafty *Mahomet* had good cause, as some say not to go into it on any Account, for being sensible of his own Weakness, he knew it might put a greater stop to his Victories, than *Capua* did to *Hannibal's*.

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I cannot decide whether the Gardens of *Sciras* are more delightful to the Taste, by reason of the variety and excellency of their Fruit; or to the Eye for their long rows of Cypress-Trees. Thus the Mud Houses being hid by their Green at a distance, it looks more like a Wood than a City, being fifteen Miles about, too great a compass for 20000 Inhabitants.

Gardens.

There are excellent *Bazars* cover'd with long Arches; and better Squares, *Caravanseras*, and *Moschs*. Here they make Glasses, cut Cristal indifferently for several Uses, dress Leather, and print Silks. Abundance of Money comes to the City for dry'd Fruit, Wine, Rose-water, Oranges without Seeds, and Fruit pickled in Vinegar, wherewith it supplies not only all *Persia*, but *Indostan* from the Ports of *Bander-Abassi*, and *Bander-Condo*.

Commodities.

In the Mint of this City they Coin Brass, but seldom Silver. The Government of the Province whereof *Sciras* is Metropolis, is one of the best in *Persia*, its Jurisdiction extending towards *Ispahan*, as far as the Village of *Aspas*, which is five Days Journey for a *Caravan*.

Government.

Tuesday 14th, I went to see two Gardens fallen to the King by Forfeiture. The First is under the Hill call'd *Dilgusci*, from which flows a River that runs through the midst of the Garden. I found not only the Palace, but the Trees were all decay'd, and that the Water serv'd the People of *Sciras* for whitening of Cloth. On this same Mountain is a very ancient Structure, which appears to have been formerly a Fort, to serve which there is a Well of a vast depth dug in the Rock.

Two Gardens.

The other Garden is on the left of the Road, coming from *Ispahan*. This is one of the best about *Sciras*, for it has

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not



Gemelli.
1994. not only double Rows of Cipresses all about it, but is a perfect regular Wood of Roses and Fruit-Trees, being all cut into Squares, like a Chets-board. But the Wall about it was fallen in many Places.

The rest of the King's Gardens are in a wretched Condition, through the neglect of those that ought to take care of them; as is usual in all parts of the World, where they are not afraid of the Prince's Eye, and the Officers are not call'd to justify their proceedings.

C H A P. IX.

The Description of Darius's Palace, and other Ruins of Persepolis.

THO' many, with reason, are of Opinion, there is nothing in the World more wonderful, or to be admir'd by curious Persons, than what still remains of the magnificence of the ancient *Rome*; yet there are some that affirm all this is nothing if compar'd with the Pyramids of *Egypt*, and the Works of *Alexander* the Great, that last to this Day. But those who have travell'd further do maintain that neither the *Roman* nor *Egyptian* Antiquities, nor the Structures of *Alexander* the Great are to be compar'd to the Ruins of *Persepolis*, and among the rest to *Darius's* Palace. A justifiable Curiosity therefore prevail- ing upon me, on *Wednesday* 15th I hir'd two Horses, for my Self and my Servant, for three *Abassis* a Day, and setting out rode 20 Miles before I came to the River and Bridge of *Polixan*. In this place there were *Rattars*, but Civil, and not Troublesome to Travellers like those of *Tauris*. Then leaving the Mountains we travell'd a marshy Road, and at fifteen Miles end an Hour before Sun set, we alighted at the *Caravansera* of the Villiage of *Mirxascon*, half a League distant from *Darius's* Palace.

The *Carvansedar*, or Keeper of the *Caravansera* inquir'd of my Servant what brought me thither, and knowing the Cause of my coming said to him, if your Master can read an Inscription, there is in the Palace, he will find a great Treasure; but if he cannot, assure him that when he goes into a certain Grot he will remain there Dead. The *Armenian* being frighted at these Words, when I was going on *Thursday* 16th in the Morning to see that Antiquity, set himself so positively not to go with me, that I had enough to do to get him at least to stay a Mile from the Place to look to the Horses.

Darius's
Palace.

To come to the Point, this vast Fabrick is at the Foot of a high Mountain, that overlooks a Plain above thirty Miles in Length, and twenty in Breadth,

where the famous *Persepolis* is suppos'd to have stood. The Front of it looks towards the West, and is 500 of my Paces in Length; the North Side 400, the South 250; on the East it has the Mountain instead of a Wall. Its Shape, as may appear by the Dimensions, is irregular, and may be compar'd to a Fortrefs; for tho it has no Towers, as was us'd when it was built, yet it has on every Side several Angles at certain Distances, uniformly dispos'd, and may be call'd half Bastions, according to the true Rules of Military Architecture. The Stones it is made of are of a prodigious Magnitude, and it plainly appears they were dug in the neighbouring Mountain, as well because of its nearness, as because they make the top of it plain, and equal with the Palace. The Walls of the first Floor still standing, are crufted over with Black Marble, and in some Places 10, in others 20, and in others 30 Foot high.

On the South Side outwards there is an Inscription cut on an empty Space 15 Spans long, and 7 broad, in such a Character, that there is now no understanding Person in the World that can make any thing of it. It is neither *Caldæe*, nor *Hebrew*, nor *Arabick*, nor *Greek*, nor of any of those Languages the Learned have Knowledge, but only Triangles of several Sorts, severally plac'd, the various placing whereof perhaps formed divers Words, and express'd some Thoughts. The most receiv'd Opinion is, that they are Characters of the ancient *Goris*, who were Sovereigns of *Persia*; but this is not easily to be made out, the *Goris* themselves being at present very ignorant as to their Antiquities, and unfit to give any Judgment of such things.

An In-
scription.

The great Stair-case of the Palace is on the West Side, but not just in the middle, being a little towards the North on the Side of the Village of *Mirxascon*. It parts into two, each of which has the Wall

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Wall on the one Side, and a Bannister of the same Marble on the other. Both of them are of the same Workmanship, and in the midst of each is a square Landing Place, as broad as the Stairs, to rest, and then turning to such another, it leads up to the first Floor; so that the Stair-case makes three Quarters of a Circle; and it ascends two opposite ways, that is, on the right and left circularly up to the first Floor, as was said above. I cannot think any Words can express its Magnificence; for if we regard the breadth, it is of 30 Foot, if the easiness of the Ascent it is such that there are 95 Steps to rise, 22 Geometrical Feet. The Stones are 30 and 35 Spans long each, and of a proportionable depth, so that six or seven Steps are cut out of one Stone; and if it hapned to break in any Place, it was so artificially mended, that the sharpest Eye can scarce find out the Joynt; and hence it is that those who are less understanding, think those Stairs are either made of one Stone, which would be impossible, or else cut out of the Rock. Besides, both the Stairs and Walks, are of a Sort of Black Marble, so hard, that it has withstood the Injuries of Time for so many Ages, and preserves the Memory of so wonderful and rare a Work.

From the square Landing Place, where the two Stair-cases end you go into a Portico of White Marble, 20 Foot wide. The Architrave is now fallen; but by the Pillars still standing it appears to have been built with such Art and Mastery, that it will be hard to find the Remains of any Roman Structure to compare with it. On it are carv'd in Bass Relieve two Beasts, as big as Elephants, holding out their Heads, as if they look'd at the afore said Stair-cases. They are either some odd Fancy of the Workmen, or else some Hieroglyphick of the Antients to express the Empires of the Medes and Persians, the Bodies being like Horses; the Feet and Tails of Oxen, long, and turning up like a Lions.

Twenty Spans further upon the same Line, are two fluted Columns with their Capitals and Bases, of a whitish Stone, but somewhat inclining to Red. Their height besides Capitals and Bases is about 70 Foot, and so thick, that three Men can scarce fathom them, every one of them having 40 Flutes, each 3 Inches over. At a like distance streight forward there are two other Pilasters, neatly carv'd like the First, only with this

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difference, that the Beasts carv'd on the latter have Wings and Men's Heads looking towards the Mountain. Over each of these Columns there are three Inscriptions in the same Character, making in all Twelve.

Beyond this Portal, or Hall, for such the Order of the Columns and Pilasters seem to make it, on the right Side is such another double Stair-Case, leading to the upper Chambers. It is narrower, being but 25 Foot broad, and shorter than the First, but incomparably more Beautiful and Stately; for on its Walls and Parapets there is something carv'd in Bass Relieve, like a Triumph, consisting of a great Train of People in several Parcels, finely clad, carrying some Banners, and others Gifts to offer. At last comes a Chariot drawn by several Horses, with a little Altar, out of the middle whereof a Flame rises. This might upon good Grounds be said to be some Procession for Sacrifice, for we know, and particularly from *Herodotus*, that the antient Persians ador'd the Fire; and that the Kings carry'd it along with them in a stately Chariot when they went to War; and perhaps those I said were Offerings, are Caskets of Perfumes, which the ingenious Carver Feigns are carry'd before it to burn now and then. On the other side are carv'd wild Beasts fighting, and among them a Lion and a Bull are done to the utmost Perfection, their *Eierconcs* being so lively represented, that it seems to make Nature itself Blush; and this the more because the hardness of the Stone has preserv'd the most curious Workmanship.

At the top of this second Stair-case is a square Place, encompass'd with Columns, whereof only seventeen are now standing, tho' by the Pedestals it appears there were an Hundred; and some of those left want the Capitals. But they are fluted, and of one entire Piece of white and red Marble, some sixty, others seventy Foot high, and twelve of them as thick about as those before mention'd. But that Row towards the Plain, and the two towards the Mountain, are more ordinary than the others. They say these supported the Temple of the Sun, and not without some show of reason, but nothing can be asserted because of the Ignorance of the Persians, as to their Antiquities.

On the same Floor, close by the said Columns, is a place 50 Foot square, enclos'd with Walls 6 or 7 Foot thick; where formerly there were many Rooms,

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of

of a much finer Marble than that hitherto describ'd, and so wonderfully carv'd, that I must have spent many Days to take a full View of the Figures, and whole Months to draw them. There are four Doors into this Place, excellently carv'd, and adorn'd with the most curious and beautiful Foliage imaginable, and in some Places Inscriptions in the same Character before-mention'd. Only the Walls of these Chambers are now standing, being 24 Foot high, all the Arches being gone to Ruin, and the Floor full of the Stones fallen down, and of excellent carv'd Marble that adorn'd it in some Places. The Windows look'd into the Court, or upon the first Floor; and there are several at small distances three Foot wide, six Foot high, and three Foot from the Ground.

Which way soever a Man turns his Eye on this second Floor, left standing in spite of the Malice of Time, there appear several Figures cut in Bass and half Relieve. Particularly in a Place fifteen Spans square, near the aforesaid Parcel of Columns, which appears to have been in the nature of a Hall. I saw Men Carv'd fighting with Lions, or holding Unicorns by the Horn; or else stood with Knives in their Hands like the antient *Roman Gladiators*, ready to kill the wild Beasts they held in their strong and brawny Arms. In other Places there were Princes, as it were in Triumph attended by a numerous Train. On two opposite sides were two Figures of Giants on each; in other Places Princes sitting giving Audience to Ambassadors, or else moving under large Umbrellos.

On the South side Wall left standing, which is the highest part of that Floor, besides several Stones lying about the Ground, there are still to be seen Princes carry'd in Chairs, with Courtiers by shading them with Umbrellos. There are other Statues with Vessels in their Hands, and Men leading Creatures like Rams, which doubtless express some procession for Sacrifice. Not far off on a Pilaster of the same black Marble, is an Inscription in the same Character, and another on such another Stone; which I observing, and remembering those I had seen before, began to consider with my self, how easily humane Judgment is mistaken, and how different things happen to what Man proposes to himself; for whereas the Author thought by means of those Inscriptions to have eterniz'd his Memory with Posterity, which the beauty of the Work well deserv'd, yet quite the contrary we see is fallen out.

In the inner part, and exactly in the midst of the Palace, is the Amphitheater for the shows of wild Beasts, and other Sports, as plainly appears if I am not mistaken, by the Figures cut in half Relieve in several parts of it, which are of Men fighting with wild Beasts with Knives in their Hands, and others wrestling with Lions. There are also Princes sitting with Truncheons in their Hands, or walking under Embrellos. Other Figures have Vessels in their Hands, others Spears, and some play on such a Pipe as the God *Pan* is Painted with, consisting of seven Reeds, orderly joyn'd together. It is possible all these Figures might be placed there barely for Ornament, but the Situation and Nature of the Place incline me to believe it serv'd for Shows, as was said before. This Structure is not above fifty Paces of mine Square, and stands on the East-side, as do all those hitherto describ'd.

Before we proceed further, it is to be observ'd, that besides the rare Design and Workmanship of all those Figures here spoken of, they are very remarkable for their variety of Habits; for some have long Beards down to the Waste, and the Hair on the other Side so short, it scarce touches the Neck; others have a flat round Cap on their Heads, and their Garments down to their Heels, Wide, full of Gathers, just like the Gowns of the Senators of *Venice*, and with such wide Sleeves that they hang down to their Knees, and on their Feet they have something like wooden Sandals, or Cloggs. Other Figures differ from these only in the Eyes, which they have somewhat higher over the Forehead. Others have shorter Hair and Beards, and taller Caps. There are also Servants carrying Poles with Horsetails fastned to them to drive away the Flies. But the most remarkable thing of all is, that among so many hundred Figures as are in that great Structure, there is not one of a Woman; and next, the hardness and brightness of the Marble, which stands as if it were newly finish'd without the least decay, and yet what is meerly a Miracle in Nature, it has continu'd three thousand Years, for we cannot allow it less Antiquity than that of the *Assirian* Monarchy, or at least of the *Median*; tho some think those Habits much antienter, but without any good Ground.

Ascending a Musket shot towards the Mountain there is a Front thirty Foot Square cut on the Rock it self, with Figures

figures of white Marble set in it, but flatter than those already mention'd. On the upper part is a Man standing, with a Bow in his Hand, looking on an Idol that has a human Body, and monstrous Feet, carry'd in Triumph. By him is a Fire burning in a sort of a Trough, and a Globecarv'd; under it are Men supporting this Mass with their Heads and Hands lifted up, and below that several Creatures. All these Figures of Men have short Hair and long Beards; and wear a sort of Caps they call *Cauch*, like those the *Turks* wear, but without any Border like the Turbant. Under this Frontispiece there is a low Arch cut, creeping into which on all four, I found two Tombs cut out of the very Rock, and cover'd with two Stones seven Spans long, and three in breadth; but they were full of Water, which drops from the Arch. Here the royal Treasure is suppos'd to be bury'd; tho' that particular Grot, or Cave the *Parvansedar* spoke of, was made by Order of the *Cham* of the Province, on account of the People that went thither continually to dig to try their Fortune.

Incert. Aut Asia disc. l. 5. c. 13.

Two Musket shots further Southward, on the same Line and Rock, is another Frontispiece like the last, with such Figures, and such an Arch under it, within which instead of one there are three Separations, with each of them a Tomb cover'd with the same Stone, but without any Water in them.

An hundred Paces without the Palace Southward, is a Column standing, like those before mention'd, whose Base is the Rock it self; but it is no easie matter to Judge what was the use of it.

The *Persians* call all this wonderful Work hitherto describ'd *Celmonar*, or the forty Pillars, for *Cel* signifies forty, and *Monar* a Pillar; and tho' there are now but twenty standing, it is to be suppos'd there were forty when they gave it the Name, and that since then they either fell with Age, or were carry'd away for some other Structure. Some looking back for fabulous Originals, say this was built by *Persens* the Son of *Jupiter* and *Danae*, from whom the *Persian* Nation took its Name.

Baudran lex. Geog. v. Persp.

Others are of Opinion these are the Ruins of a famous Temple built by *Ahasuerus*, at the foot of a Mountain which ran into the antient *Persepolis*; others will have it to be *Darius's* Palace, but cannot say which of them, by reason of the Antiquity of the Tradition; and their Opinion being the most probable,

Thevenot Voyage de Levant 2. p. l. 3. p. 7.

we will follow it with the same uncertainty. In short, observing these Marble and Jasper Stones, with the signs of Fire on them, which by reason of the hardness has only spoil'd the beauty of the Face, I call'd to Mind what antient Historians have left written, that *Alexander* being once Drunk, set Fire to *Darius's* Palace, at the instigation of *Thais* his Concubine, who thus thought to Revenge the burning of *Athens* her Country by *Xerxes* and *Darius*. *Alexander* committed this Folly about the Year of the World 3724. but the unexcusable Natives have done it several times since.

Mallet disc. del. Univ. vers. Tom. 2. p. 172. Quint. Curt. l. 5. Steph. de Urbibus v. Persepolis.

None that have seen such beautiful and stately Remains of venerable Age, will doubt of the great Antiquity and Magnificence of the City of *Persepolis*; for the holy Writ and prophane Histories give us only an account of the antient *Ninive* and *Babylon*, yet it is not to be suppos'd there may not be others more antient; besides that the precious and almost everlasting Relicks of *Celmonar* and the City *Persepolis* are so far in the East, that they have been little frequented by *Europeans*, and unknown to antient Historians, so that they could not give that account which the frequent resort of Strangers has since communicated to the learned. A good instance hereof we have in the City *Memphis*, which was not inferior either to *Ninive* or *Babylon*, either for Antiquity or its Fame throughout the World, by reason of the long and never interrupted Race of its Kings; and yet what great account do antient Historians make of it? And were it not that *Europeans* now often travel into *Egypt* and relate Wonders of those vast *Pyramids*, which after all are only mighty heaps of Stone, and rather show the Power and Wealth than the Ingenuity of the Founders, who would conceive so great an Idea of them, as now generally we do? Now were *Persia* as much frequented by *Europeans*, how would the Remains of this truly Royal Palace be extoll'd, where Art seems to have done its utmost to surpass Nature, in the delicacy of the Carving; and Nature in furnishing a proper Matter for such noble Work? For my part I am of opinion it ought not only to be reckned as one of the seven Wonders of the World, so much talk'd of by the Antients; but that there neither is, nor ever was a Wonder in the World to compare to it.

Gran. Diction. de Merit. v. Persepolis.

Ambassade de Gar. de Silva de Figueroa v. Pers. p. 160.

Lexic. Geog. Phil. Ferrar v. Persepolis.

There is no Question to be made, but that the antient *Persepolis* stood in this Place, considering the Fertility of the Situa-



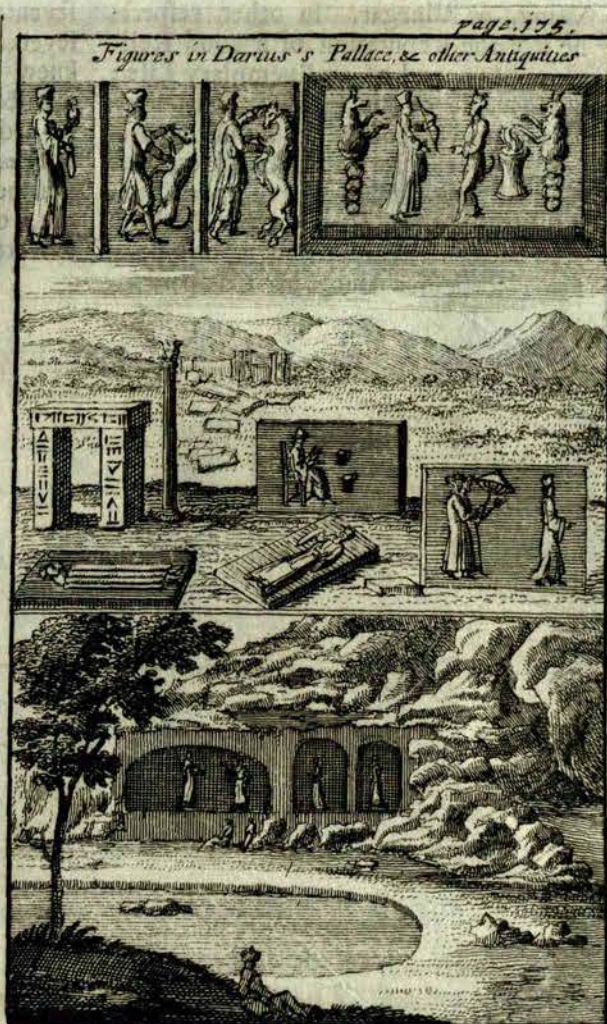
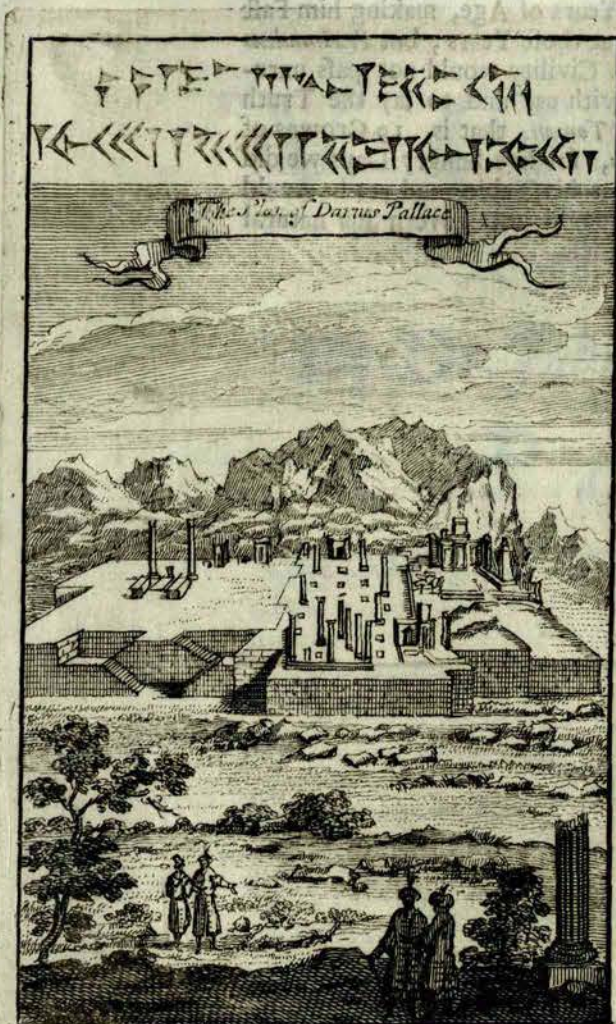
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Figuerola
in loco ci-
tato.

Situation, and the nearness of the River *Araxes*, now call'd *Bendamir*, near which the Antients plac'd it. Besides, the Authors that write of it say, that four hundred Paces from it in a Mountain call'd *Mount Royal*, the Sepulchers of their Kings are cut out of the Rock; which it is plain must be understood of the Tombs I have already describ'd, which are cut in the solid Rock on the East-side; and therefore when they speak of the Palace burnt by *Alexander the Great*, at the overthrow of the *Persian Empire*, and of the Citadel of *Persepolis*, they must needs mean this Place. It is a great misfortune that the noble Remains of Antiquity in *Asia* should be among such barbarous Nations, as endeavour utterly to destroy them; that Strangers may want that occasion of resorting thither. There would be no need of so many Conjectures could the unknown Characters in several Places of the Palace be Read. All the Learned that thought they could have explain'd them have been disappointed; nor could any Man yet be found that could make the least of them. I do not at all admire this; and I am of Opinion that when the *Persian Empire* was transfer'd to other Nations, the new Kings, that the Natives might not retain the least Memory of their former Greatness and Affection to their lawful Sovereigns, forbid the use of the ancient Characters, introducing new Habits, new Customs, and a new manner of Writing; that so the next Generation might better bear the new Yoke. This Policy is in use now as well as in past Ages. It is little above half an Age since *China* was reduced under the grievous *Tartar Yoke*; and these tho' Ignorant, Rude, and of brutal Manners, yet endeavour to make that noble Nation forget its antient Customs, and

the excellent Form of its Government; tho' they are sensible of the incontroulable Opposition of the *Chineses*, who with much reason stand up for the Preservation of their just Laws and Heathen Customs. So should we put a Writing in the antient Character of those Islands into the Hands of the Inhabitants of the *Philippines*, which is like that of *China*, it is most certain none of them would understand it, because they all apply themselves to the *Spanish Tongue*. How much more difficult then must it be for the People of *Persia* to read antient Inscriptions, some thousands of Years after the subversion of their Empire? Such precious Remains of Antiquity well deserve to be cut in Copper for the satisfaction of the Ingenious, before they are quite lost through the fault of the Natives; but it is a difficult matter to draw above two thousand Basse Relieves, and a vast charge to print them. The Reader therefore will think it enough that I have drawn the Plan of the Palace, with some of the principal Figures; that there may be some knowledge of the several Habits of the antient *Persians*; and two Lines of twelve there are in the Inscription on the Pilaster of the first Floor; perhaps hereafter some more fortunate Searcher into the oriental Languages may employ his Wit on it.

Having very well spent all the Day in seeing and distinctly observing, the best part of those Antiquities, I return'd, and was scarce come to the place where I had left my *Armenian Servant*, before I hear'd him ask me whether I had found the Treasure; he believing the Inscriptions were in *Portuguese*, and that I had Read them and taken the Treasure, as the *Carvanfedar* had told him; which made me laugh Heartily all the Way.

Mounting



Gemelli.
1694. Mounting a Horseback I return'd to *Mirxascon*. By the way on the Lake I kill'd a strange Bird, all white, only a little reddish under the Wings; it has long Legs and Feet like a Goose; the Beak long and slenderer at the top than bottom, the *Portugueses* call it *Flamengo* or *Flemming*.

Thursday 16th, at Night I lay in the same *Caravanseira*, and *Friday* 17th, betimes got a Horseback for *Sciras*. By the way I met three Robbers taken by the *Chaim* of *Sciras's* Souldiers at *Mirxascon*, for having Robb'd and Murder'd several Travellers on the Road. They were led with a triangular Yoke about their Necks, like that we put upon Swine; which put me in Mind of that the *Romans* laid on their Slaves that had committed a Fault, which made the Poets call them *Furciferi*. Every one had his right Hand made fast with a crooked Staff to the thick part of the said Yoke, so that there was no getting it loose. A little further on I saw an Engine to draw up Water into the Gardens, quite different from

ours; for whereas in ours a Horse or Mule goes round, there an Ox drew a Rope out right.

Before I conclude this Chapter I must speak of *F. Amadeus*. Whilst we stay'd at *Sciras* he would not permit us to be at any Expence, lest it should be a breach of the Laws of Hospitality; but on the other Hand he was so frugal, that we did not only want the power of filling our Bellies at his Table, but for the most part the ill Relish of his Dyet was very ungrateful to our Palate. The Fowl that were left at Noon were dress'd again at Night, and if they were not eaten by reason of their ungrateful Savour, what was taken away Rosted appear'd the next Day Boil'd, and thus the good Father who was a great *Peripatetick* endeavour'd by the means of Fire to reduce the not eatable Substance into the form of Straw, from that of a *Carkas*; and it was still worse if a Fifth Day did not follow. To compleat the Entertainment he gave us to drink a sort of Liquor, which it would have been equally false to call either
Wine

Gemelli.
1694.

Wine, or Vinegar. In other respects he had the Reputation of a good Religious Man, and of an Exemplary Life; but because of his excessive Parsimony he was never thought fit by his Superiors to govern formal Monasteries, lest the Religious should Starve under him. To conclude, he exercis'd his Zeal for Abstinence in the *Hospitium*, upon a poor Polish Religious Man, his Companion,

seventy Years of Age, making him Fast severely at those Years; but *F. Amadeus* knew his Civility would not pass unrewarded with us, and to say the Truth he had a *Toman*, that is, 19 Crowns of *F. Francis*, for five hungry Days we did Penance at his Table, and yet he would not, or could not govern his natural Covetousness.

The End of the Second BOOK.

A VOY.



A
VOYAGE

Round the WORLD,

By Dr. John Francis Gemelli Careri.

PART II.

Containing the most Remarkable Things he saw in
PERSIA.

BOOK III.

CHAP. I.

The Author continues his Journey to Bander Congo.

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Tho' F. Francis was indispos'd, either by reason of the ill Air of *Sciras*, or some other cause unknown, and not in a condition to travel; yet to get away from *F. Amadeus*, he hir'd other Beasts, and on *Saturday* 18th, having loaded our Luggage, we began our Journey about an hour after it was Night, without any Supper.

We travell'd all Night, and stay'd on *Sunday* 19th, at the Village of *Bagbun*, which signifies Gardner, 30 Miles from *Sciras*. The common days Journey was to *Babagi* 10 Miles short of this, but we advanc'd as far as *Bagbun*, because it was our new *Ciarvattar's* Town.

Odd way
of Cup-
ping.

Monday 20th, F. Francis relapsing, a Black Woman was sent for to Cup him. The manner how she did it being very odd, I shall not omit to set it down. She plac'd a Glafs like the head of a Limbeck on the Patient's back, and moving it up and down, suck'd the Air strongly through the Pipe; then she scarrify'd the Flesh, and sucking again drew the Blood into the same Vessel. Other Women instead of a Glafs, make use of a Horn.

Tuesday 21st, we set out an hour before Night, and travell'd as we had done the Day before, over a Plain well stor'd with Wild Boars, and Gazelles, whereof I told 50 in only 3 Miles riding. We lost our way near the *Caravansera*, and were conducted to that of *Musferi* by a Guide, after travelling 20 Miles in 7 Hours, tho' the common Road is 25 Miles from the *Caravansera* of *Babagi*. We met a *Ciater* or express, who besides the Bells about his waste, to make him be known for a Beast, wore long colour'd Feathers in his Turbant ty'd one above another like a Crest, or Plume.

Wednesday 22d, we travell'd along a base stony Road, and going up an ascent of 12 Miles, came to the *Caravansera* of *Paerra* after riding 20 Miles in 8 Hours. *Thursday* 23d, we travell'd 23 Miles in 8 Hours on a plain Road to the *Caravansera* of *Assumayer*, which is built with Lime and Stone, a rare thing in *Persia*. Fifteen Miles further we came to a another *Caravansera*, call'd of *Ghezi*.

Before we set out on Friday 24th, a *Gemelli*. Dervis that dwelt in this *Caravanfera*, putting on a long Shirt, with a Sheeps Skin on his back like a Rochet, and another on his Head for a Cap, came to make a ridiculous Sermon, for an Alms of a few *Gazes*. The Road we travell'd was amidst Fields of Rice, where I saw the first Dates, and then Barren to the *Caravanfera* of *Mokak* in all 25 Miles, and 8 Hours riding. Abundance of Partridges, came tamely to the *Caravanfera* door, to feed on the Corn the Mules dropt. At this place begins the use of Cisterns, and continues to *Congo*, because there are few Brooks, and the Rivers are Salt, as running through Salt Pits. There are two *Caravanferas* at *Mokak*; the new and the old, which wants but little repair, and yet the *Mahometans* neglect it, they are so inclin'd to new Structures.

Gearon
City.

Saturday 25th, we set out again about noon, along a good Road, and riding 30 Miles in 10 Hours, when we cross'd several small Brooks, we came to the City *Gearon*. This City looks more like a Wood, because its Houses are scatter'd among abundance of Palm-trees, which yield a considerable profit with their Dates, being the best in *Persia*. It is seated in a Sandy Plain, encompass'd with high Mountains; and tho' small has a *Vizier* with ample Jurisdiction. The Gardens are pleasant, being water'd by the neighbouring Brooks, and have plenty of good Fruit, or Oranges, Grapes, and Melocotoons. The Houses are not amiss, many of them being of Lime and Stone, which is rare in *Persia*, where they are generally of Mud. By the way I kill'd abundance of Partridges, those Plains abounding in two sorts of them; the one like ours in *Italy*; and the other about the bigness of a Quail, with the Feathers of the colour of a Hawks breast.

Sunday 26th, we rested in a Noble *Caravanfera*, well built, near *Gearon*. Here at Dinner I found a roasted Line of a Gazelle very good Meat, it being as tender as the Veal at *Sorrento*, in the Kingdom of *Naples*; and of a very fragrant scent, those Creatures feeding on St. *John's*-wort, and other sweet Herbs the Fields in *Persia* are cover'd with. They have a Head like a Sheep, with Horns half a Span long, and the Body and Hair like a Goat; they live on the Mountains, which being generally bare of Grass, they come down in the Night to Graze on the Plain, as was said in the first part.

Monday 27th, we proceeded on our Journey betimes; and having scarce travell'd 5 Miles on the Plain, began to climb steep Mountains for 20 Miles to the *Caravanfera* of *Giartalk*. That day I saw such Multitudes of Partridges, only of the *European* sort, feeding on the Plain and Road, that I believe I never beheld the like. I did not go a step but I saw swarms of them, and kill'd about 20 on the Ground, without any trouble; and might have had many more, if I would, for they are not much frighted and only fly a little way, and alight again. I also saw abundance of *Garzelles*. Besides I met several *Persian* Peasants, who wore a small Cap of white Felt, cut on the two opposite sides. These tho' poor, are well manner'd, sincere, honest and simple; tho' they love Money as well as the *Turks*, they are not so false, and such Enemies to Christians, nor so haughty, being civil to *Franks*, in saluting and visiting them.

Persian
Peasants.

We set out late on Tuesday 28th, and riding 20 Miles in 7 Hours, over Hills and Plains, came to the *Caravanfera* of *Maufer*, close to which was an excellent Orchard of Palm-trees full of Dates, as also of Orange and Limon-trees, but not well look'd after. The *Caravanferas* continue all this way to be well built because of the conveniency of Timber; and so does the use of Cisterns. Travelling 25 Miles in 9 Hours all along the Plain, on Wednesday 29th, we came to the Village of *Benaru*. Five Miles short of this place we pass'd by the *Caravanfera* of *Dedomba*, near a little Village, but did not stay there, because it was not a *Caravans* days Journey, or a *Manzil* as the *Persians* call it. Two Musket shot from it along the side of the Mountain, appear'd the Ruins of many dwellings, and the Wall of a ruin'd Fort, which kept the Pass through the Mountain.

A few Miles Eastward, of *Benaru*, is the Mountain *Daray*, all of black Stone, from which distils the precious and much applauded Balsam, improperly call'd *Mummy*, which tho' at first liquid, becomes as hard as Gum, somewhat blackish, and is good to knit broken Bones, apply'd hot. Its effects are wonderful; for if a Leg or an Arm be broken, there needs only to place the Bones right, and anoint the part with the Balsam made hot, and liquid, and then bind it; and after 24 Hours the Leg or Arm will be as well as it was at first. This Mountain is guarded by the King's Order, and the *Viziers*

Mountain
of Balsam.

ziers

Gemelli. 1694. ziers of Gearon, Sciras, and Lar meet once a Year to take the Balsam out of a Trough, into which it drops and congeals, and send it to the King. To prevent any Fraud it is sent Seal'd up by them; because this Mummy is well known, and of great value in Arabia and Europe, and there are but forty Ounces gather'd in a Year. There are other Mountains in Persia that distil Balsam or Mummy, but none so good as this.

Thursday, the last of September, we set out late from Benaru, and had a bad Road, both plain, and up hill and down, all Stony; and riding thirty Miles in eleven Hours, we came to the Village, and famous Caravanfera of Beli. There were Rattars about the Mid-way, to secure the Road, but not so Insolent as those of Tauris; for if they have an Abassi given them they take it, and if not they are not Troublesome.

Friday, the 1st of October, riding twenty Miles over barren Mountains, in seven Hours, we stopp'd at the Caravanfera of Pacutel; leaving the Village and Caravanfera of Dacu, five Miles short of it.

Lar City. Saturday 2d, we Travell'd twenty Miles in seven Hours over Mountains and craggy Rocks, and then arriv'd at Lar, the Metropolis of the Kingdom of that Name. This City is seated in a Plain beset with Mountains, and at a distance looks more like a Village, it has so many Trees, and particularly Palms about it. The Houses are of Mud Walls, and Built under a Hill, on the top whereof is a Fort, whereof scarce the Walls are left standing, and some small Towers at proper distances; so that tho' it has no Cannon, this Fort much resembles that of Buda. In Lar there is an excellent arch'd Bazar, consisting of four Rows or Walks in the form of a Cross, in the midst whereof is a *Cupola*. There is also another good one with Shops for several Handicrafts and Tradesmen, and near it is a spacious Square or Market-Place, all enclos'd with Buildings. The City being subject to much Heat, they make on the top of the House a Work like a Chimney, with some Funnel's so contriv'd, that any little Wind gets in underneath, and somewhat cools the Room.

The *Vizier* of Lar's Jurisdiction is very large, extending as far as Congo, whither he sends his Deputy. They that will Imbark at Lar have two ways to the Sea, the one by Bander-Congo, and the other by Bander-Abassi.

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Sunday 3d, we rode 15 Miles in the space between two Mountains, and came in five Hours to the Caravanfera and Village of Nimba.

Monday 4th, F. Francis growing worse, we were forced to stay in this Place, to send to Lar, for a Caggiaba, which is a thing like two Chairs us'd in the Levant, on Mules or Camels, to carry sick Persons, or Women. Tuesday 5th, came the Catergi of the Caggiaba, but too late, so that we did not set out till Wednesday 6th. Riding over naked Mountains and Valleys, we came in seven Hours to the little Caravanfera of Kormut, twenty Miles from Nimba; there we Bought a Number of live Partridges, for about five Pence a-piece.

Thursday 7th, we Travell'd through a Plain strew'd with many Villages, for fifteen Miles; and then proceeding fifteen Miles further over a rugged Mountain, Lodg'd at the Village and Caravanfera of Anoe; a gentle Rain held us several Hours on the Road.

Friday 8th, we Travell'd twenty Miles in seven Hours through a plain Country; and Lodg'd at the Village and Caravanfera of Scicogi, always advancing Southward, as we had done ever since we left Ispahan. The Swallows in these Parts are of an ash Colour.

Saturday 9th, after nine Miles riding over the Plain, we had eighteen Miles among such dreadful rugged Mountains, that in some Places there were Walls Built along the Road, that the Caravans might not tumble down head-long. Our Days Journey was nine Hours, and we came to Lodge at the Village and Caravanfera of Bastak; all the way through a dry barren Country, which scarce produces some few Dates for the Sustenance of the Poor near the Places inhabited, and Barley, whereof they make Cakes as thin as a Wafer. In this Caravanfera I receiv'd a Letter from the Prior of the Augustinians at Ispahan, in which he gave me an Account that the New King had already began to break the severe Law he had made against Drinking of Wine; and that his Subjects seeing him often Drunk, made no Difficulty of following his Example. The Prior inform'd me, That among other Extravagancies he had committed in his Cups, he had caus'd several Armenian Bishops, and Priests to be cruelly Bastinado'd on the Feet, till they were Lam'd, for not paying the yearly Tribute in time, according to the Number they themselves gave in upon the last Persecution of the

Z 2

Catho-

Gemelli.
 1694.

Catholicks. In short he is the Son of a good Toper, and not like to Degenerate.

Sunday 10th, we Rode over a rugged Mountain, and at the end of twenty Miles, and seven Hours riding, set up in the Village and Caravanfera of Kuxerr.

Monday 11th, advancing ten Miles, we cross'd a small River at the foot of a Mountain; and then rode along a Road of Salt, which is made of the Salt-water, and becomes so hard, that it looks like a white Stone. Then we entred among some Hollows of high Rocks, and particularly of Mount Bassac, where the Way was so bad, and full of Precipices, that we were fain to Walk it. I need say no more, but that we spent twelve Hours in Travelling ten Miles over this Mount Bassac, and as much more on the Plain, being forc'd to stay to Load the Mules and Asses of our Caravan that fell now and then. At last we came tir'd and weary, particularly F. Francis, who, tho' Sick, walk'd part of the way a-foot, to the Caravanfera of Banicu, or Ciabuke, or according to others Sarcova, a wretched Place as being seated among dreadful Mountains, without any Village near, or any Person to look to it; so that we were forc'd to carry all our Provisions for three Days Journey, there being none to Buy.

Tuesday 12th, we Travell'd twenty Miles in nine Hours over scurvy Mountains and Valleys, and lay in the Field half a Mile from the Caravanfera of Tangn, knowing the Cisterns there had no Water. We might have stay'd half way at the Caravanfera of Hodundin, where there was Water, but then should not have made a Days Journey, and we had not so much Time to lose.

The Road was no better on Wednesday 13th, for we climb'd the high and rugged Mountain of Ciampa, at the top whereof we found the Caravanfera of Serku, newly Built. Two Miles further we began to discover the Persian Gulph, and Bander-Congo. Then we went down to the Plain along a steep dangerous

Way, where they shew'd me several heaps or hillocks of Earth for Dying, especially Red and Green. There were also pieces of both white, and red Marble, almost calcin'd by the Sun, which they make use of instead of Bole-Armoniack, and it answers. Two Miles further we came to the Caravanfera of Ciampa. Here we found an Augustinian Father, Vicar of Congo, who gave us our Supper that Night. At Table I admir'd an old Armenian, seventy Years of Age, who after filling his Belly with several sorts of Meat, Eat a great Pyramid of Pilan, which made him as tight as a Drum. I thought it would have made him Sick; but he had so good a Digestion, that at Mid-night he began again to Eat Bisket. He came as a Physician to Cure F. Francis, but I would not have trusted him to Cure my Mule. The same Father told me, That a Servant of his, three Years since, being troubled with the Gripes, this Physician Burn'd his very Entrails with a red hot Shovel, which he knew nothing of, till he saw him giving up the Ghost with his Guts out. He confess'd him, and the Mandy'd six Hours after.

Thursday 14th, we set out again four Hours before Day, and rested at fifteen Miles end in the Village of Barscia; at Night I felt as much Heat as is usual in Italy in the Dog-days. To this Village came to meet F. Francis, Joseph Pereira d'Azevedo, Comptroler of the King of Portugal's Revenue, the Factor, and Secretary, with many Servants a Horseback. We went with them to Bander-Congo, seven Miles distant, and Din'd together in the Monastery of the Augustinians, where we took up our Lodging. The Ciavattar would have eight Gazes, or Carboys, for every Mano of Tauris, which is six Pounds Spanish in weight. Every Man great or small was computed at 33 Mano's, or 198 Pounds weight. So that I paid for my Horse from Sciras to Bander-Congo thirteen Abassis; my Servant carrying my Baggage on his Mule.

CHAP. II.

Of the great Advantage the King of Portugal made of Bander-Congo, and the Extraordinary Trade of that Port.

Power of the Portugueses of Bander-Congo.

THE King of Portugal keeps the aforementioned Officers at Bander-Congo, to receive the Tribute of five

Horses, and 1100 Tomans a Year, which is about 20000 Crowns, paid him by the King of Persia, by Agreement made between



between the two Crowns, when in the Reign of King Philip the Third, of Spain, the Persians having taken Ormuz, the Portuguese with their Fleet obstructed the Navigation of the Gulph of Persia, to the great Decrease of that King's Customs. Besides half the Customs, and the five Horses, the Portuguese had very considerable Privileges granted them; as of keeping a House with the Standard erected on it, and having the Jurisdiction over all the Christians that come into the Port; but the most Remarkable of all are, That no Christian can turn Mahometan in Congo; and what is yet more considerable, that tho' a Portuguese, or other Christian be taken in carnal Copulation with a Mahometan Woman, he shall not be Subject to the cruel Law of suffering Death, or turning Mahometan, as is inviolably Practis'd by all the Princes of this Sect in their Dominions; nor are they liable to any Punishment at all, any more than if they had been taken with a Woman of their own Religion. For this Reason the Portuguese are better look'd upon at Bander-Congo, than any other Nation, and have almost as absolute a Command, as if they were in Goa, not only over their own Subjects, but all Christians who pass that way.

The Profit they make of it.

At first they receiv'd half the Duties of the Custom-House, but afterwards some Contests arising, between the Scibandar, or Persian Customer, and Portuguese Commissioner, they agreed by means of the Admiral of their Fleet for 11000 Tomans a Year. The Factor is to Receive this Mony, and lay out part of it by Order from the Commissioner, which he gives in Writing, and is Sign'd by the Secretary. The Commissioner also gives Passes to Mahometans to Sail the Indian Sea in Safety; and Sells the Prizes taken by Portuguese Ships. The King allows each of these Officers fifty Tomans Salary, five Servants paid, and their Dwelling-House. Besides 28 Tomans to the Factor for Lodging of Strangers; but he that was there in my Time, being very Sharp, put most of it in his Pocket.

English rewarded for a base Action.

The English, for lending their Ships to the King of Persia to Conquer Ormuz, which the Dutch refus'd to do, had half the Customs of Comeron, which they also Exchang'd for 1080 Tomans a Year. True it is, Scia-Abas promis'd the English great Matters to induce them to join their Sea to his Land Forces for reducing the Fortress of Ormuz; but

he kept not his Word, and only gave them half the Customs as aforesaid, for betraying Christianity. Scia-Abas carry'd away the Cannon of the Fort to Ispahan, and they are to be seen, as was said above, before the Palace, with the Austrian Arms on them; as is on some others of Iron at Bander-Congo. Some credible Persons told me, That the Persians fearing the Portuguese, should again Possess themselves of that Kingdom, still keep the Arms and Ammunition, to restore them when this shall happen, lest to be oblig'd to pay an extravagant Price for them. This does not well agree with what was said just before, that all the Cannon was carry'd away.

Bander-Congo is seated in 26 Degrees of Latitude. It is a meer open Village on the Sea-Shore, the Houses for the most part of Mud Walls; and only a few towards the Sea of Lime and Stone. It is govern'd by a Deroga, appointed by the Vizier of Lar, to whom he is Subject. When I was there, the Scibandar acted both as Customer and Deroga. He Farm'd the Customs of Bander-Congo, Cameron and Bander-Errico, of the King at 20000 Tomans a Year. This is not to be admir'd, for Bander-Congo is a Place of much Trade; abundance of Ships continually resorting thither from India, Mecca, Bassora, Arabia Felix, and other Parts, loaden with rich Commodities; and abundance of Caravans coming by Land, which carry the Commodities into, and out of Persia. This is the Reason the Place is inhabited by very rich Merchants, become such in a short time, because they get Cent. per Cent. in every Commodity they send to India.

Bander-Congo Port

But the greatest Trade is that of Pearls taken about the Island Baharen, and all about the Gulph of Persia, being the best in the World. They are Bought very Cheap in the Lump of the Fishermen, to be Sold afterwards Dear, single when they have been pick'd, and match'd by putting them through Copper-Plates full of Holes of several Sizes, to measure their Magnitude; separating those that are true Round from those that are not, and the most Oriental from those that are ill Colour'd, or Spotted. Then the Arabs with wonderful Dexterity bore the very least of them, in such manner that the Eye can scarce discern the Hole, which the best Artist in Europe cannot do.

Pearls in the Gulph

The manner of Buying the Pearls among those Infidels is also very strange. They

Way of Buying Pearls.

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1694. They stand all round with the Goods they have to Sell in the middle; when every one has view'd, and consider'd them, the Seller covers his Hand with a Cloth, and touches the Hands of the Buyers, putting a Price upon his Commodity by Signs; if he Grasps all his Hand, it signifies 1000; if he only touches the Palm of his Hand 500; if a Finger 100; if only the first Joint of the Finger 10. The Buyer answers what he bids by the same Signs; so that none of the Company can know what is offer'd. If he agrees not with the first, he goes on to the next, and so on; and if asking too high a Price, he comes to agree with none; he begins again lowering, till they come to a Conclusion. After this, the Broker joining the Buyers and Sellers Hands, gives a Stroke on them with his open Hand, and that binds the Bargain, as if it had been made by word of Mouth.

Excessive Heat.

The Profit made by the Pearls is sufficiently countervail'd by the inconvenience of Living in this Place. The Air is not only unhealthy, but so hot in Summer, that it is not only Difficult for Men to endure the Violence of it; but even the Partridges, and other Birds hide themselves in Trees to get some shelter. The mean Sort go quite Naked, only covering those Parts Modesty will not allow to be seen; those that are well to Pass wear an Extraordinary thin Silk; and both these and the others have that kind of Contrivance, we mention'd speaking of the City *Lar*, on the tops of their Houses, to Cool them. Yet I was told the Heat was greater at *Bander-Abassi* and *Comeron*, seated in 92 Degrees, 45 Minutes of Longitude, and 25 Degrees 30 Minutes of Latitude; and that the Air there is still worse by reason of the South-winds blowing off the Sea; tho' it does not Rain there in Winter above three or four times, and that at most does not last above an Hour. Nevertheless both at *Bander-Congo*, and *Bander-Abassi*, a sort of Worms, like small Sinews, or Fiddle-Strings, twenty, or thirty Spans long breed in the Muscles of the Body, which must be drawn out by degrees, rowling them upon a Stick; for if they happen to break, they cause great Swellings till they come out again, and some Persons have had them a whole Year. Some think them to be bred by the Air, and Water; but they are mistaken, for some Strangers have been there a considerable

Strange Worms.

time, and Drank the Water, and yet have had none of them; whence it is rather to be concluded to proceed from a Disposition of the Body and Humours, which are not affected in all Persons alike by outward Things.

Both in *Congo* and *Gomeron*, they use Water. Water kept in Cisterns, which must needs be Hurtful; for those few times it Rains, the Air is very Foul, by reason of the Exhalations the Earth sends forth, which infect the Water. We must not omit here to take Notice, to the greater Glory of the Divine Providence, that in the Island *Tombamar*, twenty Miles distant from the Continent of *Persia*, and nine Miles in Compass, there is not one drop of fresh Water, and yet there are abundance of *Gazelles*, Beasts before describ'd, which, as I was told by creditable Persons, when they want Drink, go down to the Brink of the Sea, and setting their cloven Foot exactly on the Edge of the Water, suck it up that way. I cannot persuade myself, that the Water passing between the Hoof should so soon lose its Saltiness; but I do not deny it may become less Preceptible. Those that had been Eye Witnesses of this Secret in Nature could give me no further Account of it.

Congo has no Harbour, but only a safe Road; that Point of *Arabia Felix*, which forms the *Persian* Gulph breaking the Fury of the Eastern Ocean. When the Day is fair, the opposite Coast of *Zulzar* is to be seen, the distance being but forty Miles. A Fort that defends this Coast is but thirty Spans Square, furnish'd with four Iron Guns, cast by *D. Constantine de Noronha*, when he was the King of Spain's Viceroy at *Goa*; it is hemm'd in by the Sea only in the Morning, the Tide then coming up. *Tavernier* is much mistaken, when he says, *Tom. i. l. 5. p. 766*. That there is not Water for great Ships, and that all the Trade is at *Gomron*, for I have seen Portuguese Vessels there of sixty and seventy Guns, and other large ones belonging to *Mahometans*: And I know further, that only the *Dutch*, and *English* resort to *Gomron*; whereas all other Nations, are willing to go to *Congo*, because of the Liberty they enjoy under the Portuguese Power and Protection.

The Port.

The Inhabitants are about 10000 Inhabitants. *Moors*, *Indians*, *Arabs*, *Fews*, and *Armenians*, who enrich the *Bazars* with their well furnish'd Shops.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Of the Pearl Fishery, and other remarkable things in Bander-Congo, and the Gulph of Persia.

Gemelli.
1994.
Pearl Fish-
ery.

HAVING given an account of the rich Trade of Pearls, it is proper I should say something of the manner and season of fishing for them. This Fishery is in the Gulph of Persia and Island of Baharen, twice a Year; the first time in March and April, the second in August and September; the greatest Sale being from June till the latter end of December. It is done five Leagues from the City, where there is between four and twelve Fathom Water, abundance of Boats following it from Morning till Noon. Every Boat has a Diver who goes down to the Bottom, with a Stone of six Pounds weight ty'd to his great Toe, and he ty'd under the Arms with a Rope fastned to the Head of the Boat. He dives immediately to the bottom by the help of the Stone (which as soon as down he slips off and is drawn up by those in the Boat) and then as fast as he can he fills a Net, that has an Iron Ring about the Mouth to keep it open, with Oysters. When he can stay no longer for want of Breath, he makes a sign to his Companions with the Rope ty'd under his Arms, and they with all possible speed draw him up; which is several times repeated for the space of ten Hours. The Oysters remain at the bottom with a Rope ty'd to them, to be drawn up at leisure. Some of them hold Oyl in their Mouths to stay the longer under Water, and see better at the bottom by letting fall a drop now and then. After Noon having drawn up their Oysters all the Boats go ashore with a fair Wind that comes up from the Sea. They take no care to open them, because they gape of themselves as they dry, no Body caring for the Fish, which is ill tasted. The poorer sort sell the Pearls immediately for a small matter; but those that do not want keep all till the fishing Season is over, and then sell them all together to Banians and Moors. These afterwards cull and sell them severally, by Abas in Persia, and by Ratis in Indostan, which is an eighth part less than our Caract in Europe, consisting of four Grains. This Fishery every Year amounts to about 110000 Crowns.

Error of
the Anti-
ents.

This shows that what the Antients writ is absolutely false; to wit, that the Pearls are bred in the Shells by the Dew

that falls from the Sky; and that there is never any more than one in a Shell; because they are fix'd at least ten Fathom under Water, whither no Dew can penetrate; and as for the number there have been seven or eight Pearls found in one Shell, tho' not all of a size, but some bigger, some less. They are bred in the same nature as Eggs in the Belly of Birds, the biggest always advancing nearest the Orifice, the small ones remaining at the bottom to obtain their Perfection; and even so it is with the Pearls, the largest being foremost and the lesser staying behind till they come to their full growth. Nor are there Pearls in all of them, for several Oysters have none.

There are Pearls taken in several parts of our Continent, but the most valuable, that is, the fairest and brightest are those of the aforesaid Island of Baharen, and the Coast of Cataia in Arabia Felix; because few of them are yellow, or misshapen. The yellowness sometimes proceeds from the Merchants, sometimes leaving the Shells fourteen or fifteen Days to open of themselves; so that some of them in this time losing their Water, Rot, and their Infection discolours the Pearl. On the other side they leave them to open of themselves, because should they do it by force, the Pearl might be damag'd or broke.

There are some also taken in Japan, but neither that Nation, nor the Chinese valuing Pearls, they do not follow the Fishery, or take care to search the Sands where they lye for the most part. There are very oriental ones found in the Philippine Islands in shallow Water, and even at the Mouths of the Rivers; but the Natives are not covetous of Pearls, nor of the Gold there is in the same Rivers; but being addicted to their ease, think it Wealth enough to have a Dish of Rice boil'd thick, like a Pudding at Noon, and another at Night. Besides they say that should they seek after them, either the Parish Priest or the Alcalde would take them away, and the other would become their Enemy, because they had not wherewith to satisfy them both. In these Islands the very Shells are brighter than in other Parts.

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A vast number is taken all along the Coast of *California*; and more especially from Cape *S. Lucar* to *Cabo Blanco*, or white Cape, by the *Indians* call'd *Alcados*. These wander about naked like brute Beasts, without Tilling or Sowing, but feeding on the Fruit, Roots, and Cattle the Country affords. They open the Shells with Fire to eat the Fish, and by that means spoil the beauty of the Pearls. The *Spaniards* also Fish from Cape *Corrientes* as far as *Acapulco*, but the Pearls are for the most part of a dusk Lead Colour and ill Shap'd, so that they will be little valu'd by the ingenious *European Ladies*; but the *Mexican Women* have their Necks, Ears, and Arms cover'd with them; not regarding their Brightness, so they have them cheap, and the Strings and Bracelets of them be weighty.

On the Coast of *Peru* and *Panama*, there are large ones, some having been found bigger than that call'd *La Peregrina*, but they are not so well colour'd as the Oriental; but are all mihapen, Black, and of a Lead Colour, by reason of the ill Bottom where they breed, sometimes but one or two Fathom deep.

Formerly there were good Pearls found in the Island *Margarita*, both Large and well Colour'd; but at present there are few; besides the Fishery is broke off. A few are also taken at *Santa-Marta* and in other Islands, but of no Value.

Fresh-Water in the Sea.

Having said enough concerning the Pearls, it is fit I should give the Reader an account of other remarkable Matters in these Parts. In the first place it is to be observ'd, that all the Water about *Baharen* being brackish, and ill tasted; Strangers who are not us'd to drink it, as the Natives are, there being no better to be had, not even on the Continent, cause fresh Water to be taken out of the bottom of the Sea, a League from the Island. Four Men go out in a Boat, two whereof Dive down into the Sea, with Vessels close stopp'd at their Girdles, when they touch Ground they unstop their Vessels, which being fill'd with the Water, that is sweet for two or three Foot above the Ground, they stop them again, and making a sign with a Rope, are drawn up by the other two in the Boat.

Strange Boats and Oars.

Their way of building Boats in *Congo* is also singular; for instead of Iron Nails, they use some Pins of Cane,

or *Bamboo*; and for the rest they join the Boards together with Packthread, and little Lines made of Rushes. Instead of Anchors they make use of a large Stone bor'd through; and for Oars, of a Pole with a little round Board ty'd at the end of it. *Friday* 15th, I saw several Watermen at work about a new Boat, like so many Taylors.

Saturday 16th, I pay'd the Visit to *Joseph Pereira de Azevedo* the Portuguese Commissioner. *Sunday* 17th, Mass was very solemnly sung in the Church of the *Augustinians* with the Gates open, as if it had been in Christendom. *Monday* 18th, walking about the Bazar I met some *Arabs* accounted rigid Observers of the *Mahometan Law*; they were asking an Alms in a Shop of *Banians*, and to get the more and that quickly, clapt burning Coles into their Mouths, as if they had been Cherries. I was told they did it by the Assistance of the Devil, to whom they had given themselves up, being Sorcerers; and that this was only *demon* Appearance, and a deceit of the Sight. But I really saw them take the Coles and put them in their Mouths.

Arabs eat Fire.

When I return'd to the Monastery, I saw two mumping *Arabs* pass by, who for a small Alms beat their Breasts as hard as they could, with an Iron Pin a Span long, the Head whereof weigh'd at least eight Pounds, and yet did themselves no harm, tho' the Instrument was fit to drive through a Wall. How this came to pass they best know, and the Devil that teaches them; but this I know, that these Cheats and Sons of Perdition would not suffer another to strike them with the same Pin; for then perhaps the Charm would have fail'd them.

Others beat themselves for an Alms.

Four Dutch Ships being under sail at *Gomron*, we sent away an Express to get a Passage aboard them, but he came too late, they being already gone for *Batavia*. That same Night the Idolatrous *Banians*, to honour the Festival of their God *Divali*, who they say took a Fortress, began to set out their Houses, and Shops both within and without with rich Hangings, and Lights. This Festival lasts three Days every Year in Memory of the fabulous Victory, and taking of the Forts; and they all cease from Labour. I went that same Night to see it, and was receiv'd with much Civility by those Idolatrous Merchants, they sprinkling my Face with Rose-water when I came in

An Idolatrous Festival.



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in, as is us'd in the East, making me fit in the chief Place, and treating me with such Sweetmeats as the Country affords. Not long after Women Dancers of *Sindi* came out to Dance, as a Prefage of a good Feast to the Merchant. They were Clad some after the *Indian* and some after the *Persian* manner, and sang in both Tongues. Those that were in the *Persian* Garb wore a Vest of strip'd Silk, down half way the Leg, but wide at bottom like a Petticoat, under that they had long Breeches down to their Ankles, with a Silver Edging about them for Ornament. Both their Fingers and Toes were set out with abundance of Gold and Silver Rings, and Dy'd with *Imma* or red Earth; as the Teeth, the inside of the Eyes and Forehead were with Black. On their Heads they had small Caps of a fine Stuff between Silk and Linnen, wrapp'd about; under which their long Tresses hung down to their Waste; a long Red or Yellow Veil cover'd their Backs, and coming about fell before the Shoulders. Besides their double Pendants, they had a thick Gold Ring run through between their Nostrials, and other Jewels hanging and stuck to their Foreheads; but I thought that of the Nose the most painful Ornament, because they had a Gilt, or Gold Nail struck quite through the upper part of the Nose where the Bridge rises, which they thought an Ornament, and to us *Europeans* was a Deformity. About their Necks they had Gold Collars, Necklaces of Pearls, according to what each could afford, and fine Bracelets on their Wrists. In this Dress they began to Dance gravely, to the noise of a Drum and two pieces of Metal, which sounded very loud, together with the Horse-Bells they wore on their Feet. Then they went on with abundance of immodest Motions and Postures; snapping their Fingers as we do Castanets very gracefully, and now and then intermixing Singing with their

Dancing. To say the truth I was so well pleas'd, that I would see it more than once, and from several Dancers, that went about from one Room to another.

Tuesday 19th, Sadling four Horses that had been receiv'd as the King of *Portugal's* Tribute, by the *Portuguese* Officers; the F. Vicar, *F. Constantine*, the Factor of *Bassora* and I went out three Miles from the Town Westward, and three from the Sea, to see a very anti-ent Fort call'd *Calaleston*, or rather a strong City once built by a King of *Persia*, on the Top of a high Rock. It is three Miles in Compass, and there is but one narrow steep way to come to it; there is never a House standing at present, Time having overthrown them all; for by what I could perceive by the Ruins they have been many Ages decaying. There are still to be seen the Tombs of *Mahometans*, and a ruin'd *Mosch*; but nothing more proves its anti-ent Splendor than three hundred good and large Cisterns, most of which are full of Earth and few of Water; of which we drank with Sweetmeats we carry'd, and found it well tasted.

An anti-ent ruin'd Town.

Wednesday 20th, hapned a strange unfortunate Accident. The *Scibandar* being offended at two rich *Arabian* Merchants, took the opportunity of their going to his House to visit him, to give them Coffee according to Custom; but Poison'd as they say there, with Powder of *Diamonds*. One of them drank it, the other out of good Manners gave it to the *Scibandar's* Unkle; both of them drank their Death in the Coffee; for the next Night they went out of this World with their Bowels rent in Pieces; the *Scibandar's* Treachery being at the same time in some measure punish'd by his own Poyson. It was not known what became of the Servant that prepar'd the murdering Potion; but it was said he had caus'd him to be kill'd that he might not discover the Truth.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Tree and Pagod of the Banians, and other things the Author saw during his stay at Congo.

A wonder-ful Tree.

Thursday 21st, I went with the Father Vicar to see the Pagod and Tree of the Idolaters, or *Banians*. This Tree is the strangest that can be seen, being so large that 1000 Persons can be

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shaded by it, sitting by a Wall three Spans high, built about it to that purpose, but square. The greatest wonder is, that it has as many Bodies as Branches, because these when they are grown to

A a such

Gemelli. 1694. such a Pitch, sink their head into the Ground, and cast out new Roots, thus becoming new Trunks, to keep up, and make the Tree ever Young, as well as increafe it continually. The *Indians* call it *Wora*, and the *Portugueses* *Graglia*; the Leaf is like that of the Plane-tree. Close by it was a small round Temple or *Pagod*, about 20 Spans in compass, and behind it another less, to receive the Offering of Butter, Rice and other things. Opposite to the little door of the first, a Span lifted from the Ground, was the Image of a Woman call'd *Vavani* sitting, who they say was most free of her Beauty, having never refus'd to satisfy any Man's desire, prostituting her self to two at the same time. Her Head and Feet were of Silver, and the small Body, buttwo spans long, cover'd with a piece of Silk from the Shoulders down to the Feet. The day being a Festival, I saw several *Banians* make three low Bows to her, touching the Ground with their Fore-heads. Their Devotion towards her is so great, that to this day they very carefully preserve her House at *Diu* a Fortrefs of the *Portugueses*. Besides the *Brachmans* their Priests, every Morning colour the Fore-head and Ears of this false Deity, with a dye of an Orange colour, made of Sandal, red Earth, and Cows Piss; which they also receive with great Devotion (as Catholicks do the extreme Unction) that the Devil may know them; it being their custom to Sacrifice to him, because he is wicked, for fear, sooner than to God that is good, for Love. Night and Morning they go down to the Shore, and having ador'd the Sea, throwing in some Rice to feed the Fish, carry some of that Water home, to sprinkle the Face and Ears of all the Family. The Men wear a Gold Ring through their Noses, but less than the Womens.

The Pagod.

Ceremonies.

Friday 22d, I din'd at the *Portuguese* Commissioners. *Saturday* 23d, I went a shooting with the Father Vicar, and we kill'd some Partridges. *Sunday* 24th, the Feast of our Lady of the Rosary, which had been put off till then for want of Priests, was celebrated in the Church of the *Augustinians*. There were Chambers fir'd, with ringing of Bells, and a concert of Pipes, and Drums beaten by *Moors* with little Ivory Sticks. *F. Francis* sung Mass, and the Vicar Preach'd. In short it was perform'd among *Mahomedans*, with the same Solemnity as is usual in Christendom. *Monday* 25th, a *Moorish*

Vessel from *Seratte*, arriv'd at *Bander-Congo*. They sail on the *Indian* Sea, at certain fix'd times; that which is proper to sail from *Bander-Abassi* and *Bander-Congo*, is from the middle of *October*, till the end of *April*. Two several Currents run along the Streight between these two Ports, and meet at the Point of the Island *Kescimi*, within the Bay. *Tuesday* 26th, *F. Sanseverino* of *Naples*, went away for *Gomron*, about some affairs of his Order.

Wednesday 27th, we rode out with the *F. Vicar*, to see *Mullah-Hamet's* Garden; *Mullah* in the *Arabian* Tongue, is a learned Man. It was small but curious, and the best about *Congo*. In it there are abundance of *European* Fig-trees, Grapes, Oranges, and many *Indian* Plants, by the *Portugueses* call'd *Palmeiras*, which bear the *Coco-nuts*. There was also another Tree call'd *Badamas*, which produces a sort of Fruit like Almonds, and grows about the Gulph of *Persia*, as well as in *India*.

A curious Garden.

After Mid-night, all the Idolaters both Men and Women, went apart to wash themselves on the Sea-Shore, the *Brachmans* preaching to the Men, and their Wives to the Women. It is perhaps some superstitious custom they observe of washing every Month, upon such a certain day of the Moon; for before the washing there is a general Fast, either as preparatory to it, or because they think to cleanse themselves of all their Sins.

Idolaters washing.

Walking out of Town on *Thursday* 28th, I met a *Cafre* or *Ethiopian*, extravagantly clad like a *Fachir*, or Strowler; that is, with a Cap on his head, all set off with Feathers at the top, and with Shells about the Border; and a Girdle with about 2000 Goats hoofs hanging to it, and jingling like so many Bells; in this ridiculous Habit, did he walk so gravely, that it was Pleasant to see him.

A Fachir.

Fryday 29th, I went to the House of certain *Banians*, to see how they match'd the several Sizes of Pearls. They first shake them through a sort of Brass Cullenders, much after the manner as we make small Shot; and then several Youths pick the round from the misshapen, and the clean from the foul. There is 30 per cent. profit, in carrying them but to *Suratte*; and therefore the Custom-house is so sharp, that they search all that go thither to the Soles of their Shooes, and their secret Parts, to find Pearls.

Sifting of Pearls.

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Pearls. And yet for all this severity the Customers are often cheated by the Merchants, who lay out 50 or 100000 Crowns at *Conso*, in this noble Commodity; and that without any loss of time, by reason of the great quantity there is to sell, and their goodness.

Saturday 30th, late at Night, the *Portugueses* privately brought in a Cow to be kill'd and divided among them; because the *Deroga* will by no means suffer a Creature so highly honour'd by the Gentils, to be slaughter'd in Publick, and they pay him considerable sums of Money from time to time, on this account. And this is the reason they generally eat, very bad Mutton, or Goats flesh.

Sunday the last of *October*, Mass was very solemnly sung in our Church; there was a great resort of Christians; as there was on *Munday* the first and *Tuesday* 2d, of *November*. *Wednesday* 3d, there was a plentiful entertainment at the Monastery, all the *Portuguese* Officers of *Congo* dining there; but I took more Pleasure alighting on *Thursday* the 4th, with the Factor of *Bassara*.

Friday 5th, an *English* Vessel came into the Harbour to take in loading for *Suratte*. The heat was so violent on *Saturday* the 6th, that I could not forbear at Night having my Bed carry'd up to the top of the House, to lye there after the Country fashion; for at *Congo* and about the Gulph of *Persia*, the Natives most of the Year, lye either in their Courts, or on the tops of their Houses built like those in *Naples*, commonly call'd *Astracci*, that is, flat Roofs. All their Bed is only a corded Bed-sted, with a thin Quilt under, and another over them.

Sunday 7th, we had some of the Country Musick in our Church, which was not altogether ungrateful to the Ear. *Monday* 8th, I din'd with and was well treated by *Joseph Pereyra*. *Tuesday* 9th, a *Moorish* Woman came to our Church to have the Gospel of *St. John* read to her, to cure her of a Fever; and they told me they had known several Persons cur'd by their Faith, in that Holy Gospel.

Wednesday 10, we diverted our selves on the Sea. *Thursday* 11th, an express came from *Ispahan*, and confirm'd all was said before, concerning the permission to drink Wine; and that the new King drank as hard as his Father had done. *Friday* 12, I walk'd along the Sea side with the *F. Vicar*, and took notice that

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there was great plenty of Game. *Saturday* 13th, there arriv'd a great Ship from *Bassora* to load for the *Indies*. *Sunday* 14th, Mass was Solemnly sung in our Church, many *Mahometans* resorting to it, to see our Mysterious Ceremonies. *Monday* 15th, a good entertainment was given in the Monastery; the same on *Tuesday* 16th at the Commissioners, this being some diversion for being detain'd in that place. *Wednesday* 17, I had the satisfaction to see a fine Dance of *Moorish* Women, who intermixt it now and then with singing in their Language, as was said before.

The *English* Vessel being ready to Sail, *F. Francis* and *F. Constantine*, who had agreed for their Passage aboard, prepar'd for their Voyage on *Thursday* 18th, and *Friday* 19th, and then on *Sunday* 20th, went away to *Bander-Abass* in order to Sail thence to *Suratte*. This they did for fear of being made Slaves by the *Moors* of *Mascate*, who were then at War with the *Portugueses*, and had 14 Men of War in that Port. The cause of this War was, because the Town of *Mascate*, having once belong'd to the King of *Portugal*, the *Arabs* had revolted from them 46 Years before this time, and chosen a Sovereign of their own call'd *Imam*, who did not only extend his Dominions up the Country, to the great prejudice of the neighbouring Princes; but also along the Gulph of *Persia*, from *Cape Ros-Algate* to *Carifa*, being 500 Miles along the Shore. He also took from the *Portugueses* the Fort of *Patti*, near *Mombas*, and fix'd his regal seat at *Nazura*. Ever since these two Nations have been at War, and committed Hostilities at Sea; both their Fleets continually seeking one another to fight, tho' the *Portuguese* has always come off victorious, with the Total destruction of the other. They have sometimes treated about Peace, but could never come to any conclusion; because besides a yearly Tribute the Crown of *Portugal* demands liberty to build another Fort near *Mascate*, to keep a Garrison there and Factory.

Thus I was left alone, to the dissatisfaction of *F. Francis*, who endeavour'd to persuade me to continue my Voyage to the *Indies* with him. I had resolv'd to Imbark aboard a *Moorish* Vessel of *Gibera*, which was to land eight Horses, receiv'd by way of Tribute from the King of *Persia* at *Damans*. Several reasons induc'd me to go aboard this Ship; the first because it was ready, and the

Mascate at War with Portugals.

A 2 2 *English*

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English Vessel not yet loaden ; but was to go to *Bander-Abassi* to lade there, which could not be done without some loss of time. The second, because the *Moors* were in Peace with all Nations, and the *English* at War with the *French*, who lay in wait to fall upon them about *Surat*, in which case I must have perhaps fled to some place I had no Inclination to go to. The third and last, because I knew the Custom-House of *Surat* to be very severe on account of Pearls, as was said before, and therefore I should have met with much Trouble. All these Inconveniencies being avoided aboard the *Moorish* Vessel, I thought better to go in it for *Damam*, a City belonging to the *Portugueses*. I spoke to *Joseph Pereyra* to agree for Mine and my Mans Passage (which according to the usual rate would have been a *Toman* for me and thirty *Abassis* for him) but he very generously got it me for nothing ; further desiring the Master of the Vessel to afford me all conveniency, which he willingly did, as standing in need of his Friendship. Tho' I never design'd to be carry'd gratis, yet I thought fit to accept of the Commissioner's favours, but designing to make the Master some return for his Civility. Sunday 21st, *Luis Mendoca*, formerly the King of *Portugal's* Factor at *Bassora*, went away for *Gomron* to overtake *F. Francis*, and go with him to the *Indies*. Monday 22d, I spent in Shooting, and kill'd some Partridges. Tuesday 23d, I prepar'd for my Voyage, which being near at Hand, the Commissioner was pleas'd to give me some diversion at his House, sending for 3 Women dancers. Their Vests were all lac'd open before, and with long close Sleeves, ty'd under the Breast with Ribbons, after the Country fashion, and bound about the Waist with a silver Girdle ; under it they wore long Breeches, like those above describ'd. On their Heads they had little Caps clos'd at top with a Ribbond and two Clasps, from under which there hung down behind a long Silk Veil, like a Nuns. They had only Glafs and Silver Bracelets about their Wrists, and others made fast above their Elbows, at which hung two Silk strings with Tossels of beaten Silver. Their Eyelids were dy'd black, for Ornament, and they had several spots of the same colour, about their Faces ; under the Eye-brows, on the Chin, and Nose, and some on the Cheeks like Patches. Their Hands and Feet were colour'd with yel-

Persian
dancers.

low, to add as they thought to their Beauty. At their Noses, which were bor'd, hung Rings with two Pearls on each side ; and between the Nostrils were bigger Gold Rings which reach'd down to their Mouths. Their Hair made into several Tresses hung down their Backs, except two Locks, which falling upon their Cheeks, were ty'd under the Chin, as it were to bridle it. Abroad they cover themselves with a piece of Stuff of several colours, and their Faces with a transparent Veil. The *Arabian* Women wear black Masks with little clasps prettily Order'd. The Floor being cover'd with Carpets, they began their dance, 1st all three, and then two, to the Musick of Pipes, Flutes, Drums and four Tabors. It would be tedious to give an account of their several grave motions, and the winding of their Bodies and Arms, which they sometimes reach'd down to the Ground. When they had all sung a while, the youngest stood up, with some small Horse-bells about her Arms, and danc'd alone, clapping her Hands on several parts of her Body regularly to make the sound more agreeable, cutting Capers, and making strange motions with her Body to provoke lasciviousness, and laughter. Then the 2d, perform'd the same with a better Grace ; and lastly she danc'd with the same actions, and motions to the sound of two great Horse-bells, like those our Messengers Mules wear, which she jingl'd artificially enough.

Whilst we were thus diverting ourselves with the Commissioner, a Messenger came from the *Deroga*, or Governor of the City, to desire in his Name he would do right to a *Moor*, who had some Mony due to him from a *Persian*, that was Servant to the Factor of *Bassora*. This made me observe what respect was given to the *Portugueses*, allowing them to exercise the same Jurisdiction, as they have at *Goa*, not only over their Subjects and other Christians, but even over the *Mahometans* that serve in the Factory ; and besides the Power of Imprisoning at *Congo* to bastinado *Mahometans*, who being summon'd by the Commissioner, do therefore make their appearance before him as punctually as they do before the *Deroga*. The *French* themselves have not so much Authority in the Ports of *Turky*.

Thursday 25th, there hapned a great Fray between the *Scibandars* Officers, and the *Arabs*, on account of a seizure of *Tabacco* ; two of the former being dangerously wounded.

CHAP.

Authority of the
Portugueses.

CHAP. V.

The Author's Voyage to Damam, in Indostan.

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1694. **A**LL Things being in a readiness, the *Nicoda*, or Captain of the Vessel came, on *Friday* 26th, to Order me Aboard, and therefore in the Evening I caus'd my Equipage to be carry'd directly Aboard from the Monastery, without being search'd by the Customer; but a *Moor* dropt a Cloak-Bag on the Strand, and wetted some of my Cloaths. Then I went Aboard with the Captain; where I found all the Provisions I had Occasion for, laid in Generously by the *Portuguese* Commissioner.

Angon
Island.

Sailing that same Evening late, we arriv'd on *Saturday* 27th at *Angon*, to take in fresh Water; which is not allow'd to be done at *Congo*, lest the Natives should want. By good Luck we found the Cisterns dry, which oblig'd us to take it in the neighbouring Island of *Kescimi*, two Miles distant. *Angon* is not Inhabited, because it was Burn'd down by a *Portuguese* General, in Revenge for the Perfidiousness of the Inhabitants.

Kescimi
Island.

Whilst they were labouring Diligently to take in Water, which was somewhat Brackish, on *Sunday* 28th, I went a Shooting, the Island abounding in all sorts of Game, both Four-footed, and Feather'd. On *Monday* 29th, I went about to see the Island. It is longish, stretching out a great way towards *Bander-Abassi*; its Compass is about ninety Miles. The Soil produces Grapes, Figs, Dates, and other sorts of Fruit for the support of the Natives; but their greatest Sustainance is Fish, for they dry abundance of Pilchards in the Sun, which they take there, and in the Island of *Angon*, to feed upon all the Year. There are good Pearls found about both these Islands; but the Natives love their Pilchards better, as being taken with more safety, and less trouble than those Jewels. The Metropolis of *Kescimi* has been quite ruin'd by frequent change of Sovereigns, and Wars that have hapned on that Account; so that at present there is only the Village of *Mifar*, and some few others. There is also a regular Fort of four Bastions, formerly Built by the *Portugueses*, and yielded up by the last Treaty to the *Persians*, who keep a Garrison in it.

Tuesday 30th, the Sea being Calm, the *Nicoda*, and other *Moors* diverted themselves, trying which of them was best at hitting a Packthread with a Buller. They Shot well, and the Captain hit it twice, and I question whether any Sportsmen in *Europe* could have hit it better.

Wednesday the 1st of *December*, we Sail'd betimes with a fair Wind; so that on *Thursday* 2d, we left the Island *Recaca*, where the *Portugueses* formerly had a Fort, astern betimes, and pass'd in sight of the Island of *Ormuz*. This small Island is at the Mouth of the Gulph of *Persia*, two *Spanish* Leagues from the Continent. Within its compass of three Miles, there grows neither Tree, nor Herb, being all over cover'd with good white Salt, which renders the Soil quite barren. It has no fresh Water but what falls from the Clouds, and is gather'd into Cisterns, for the use of the Garrison. The Sand is valu'd, because it is very Black and Bright; as also the red Clay, wherewith the Gentiles Die their Foreheads. In this Island, before the *Portugueses* Conquer'd it, there was a City, where the King of *Lar* resided, being Sovereign of it.

Friday 3d, we lay off the Mountain of *Daba*, in *Arabia Felix*; because the Wind being contrary, we rather lost than gain'd Ground. Towards Evening we advanc'd as far as *Soar*, or *Mascate*, still in sight of the Mountain *Kumumeneh* in *Persia*. At Night it blew a Storm, which on *Saturday* 4th, turn'd to so fair a Wind, that it carry'd us out of the Streight into the spacious *Indian Ocean*; but still in sight of the Continent. In the mean while, the *Moors* chief Employment was to Colour their Eye-Lids every Day, with a certain black Ointment, good, as they said, to preserve the Sight; to pluck the Hairs off their Beards with Nippers, where they would not have them grow, and Die the Nails of their Hands and Toes with red Earth. As to other Things they were very Civil, never offering that Rudeness to Strangers, as the *Turks* do; but the Captain, and all his Ship's Crew shew'd me more particular Respect, as being recommended by the Commissioner.

Hold-

Gemelli. Holding on our Course Eastward, on *Sunday* 5th, we came in sight of the Islands of *Cocalita*, *Giavar*, *Giavani*, and others inhabited by *Baluccos*; and on *Monday* 6th, pass'd that of *Goadel*, of the same People. The Wind then failing, we lay still without moving a Foot. These *Baluccos* are Pirates, who lying in wait behind their Islands in small Barks, watch to seize Ships that pass by. They have also a large Extent of Land on the Continent, between *Persia*, and the *Mogul's* Dominions. Their King or Prince call'd *Jasche*, resides in the City *Biscian*, and his Brother in another they call *Chiu*. They are *Arabs* in Religion and Manners, treating their Slaves with incredible Cruelty, even to cutting the Sinews of their Ankles, that they may not run away.

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The Balu-
lucos.

The Calm continu'd *Tuesday* 7th, in sight of desert Islands, which are Nests of Pirates. The Heat was so violent, that I thought the Winter in *India* equal to the Summer in *Italy*, tho' there be no difference as to length of Days. Whilst these Calms last, the *Persians* use to strip themselves Naked betimes, and have a great deal of Sea-Water pour'd on their Heads to wash all their Bodies, which generally stink, because of the colour'd Shirts they wear several Months, without ever Shifting.

Piscini
Island.

The Wind came up fair when it was late, and brought us in sight of the Island of *Piscini*. We still Steer'd due East, to the end that when we discover'd the Point of *Diu*, as Butting out furthest into the Sea, we might with more safety direct our Course for *Suratte* and *Damam*. The Wind continu'd fair *Wednesday* 8th, and at Noon we had a false Alarm, perceiving a Vessel make towards us. I was ready to Burst with Laughing, to see the *Moors* lay hold of their rusty Muskets, which are all Matchlocks, and the only Defence we had; for our Vessel carry'd but eight small Guns, and they had but bad Gunners to Play them. The Vessel held on its Course, putting up red Colours, to shew she was a Friend, and made away to Westward.

Sanganos
Pirates.

Thursday 9th, before Sun-rising, we discover'd a small Bark to the East-ward, which made the *Moors* very Valiant; for laying hold of their rusty Arms, they began to Bark, like Dogs at a distance; but not daring to Man out their Boat, as I advis'd them, offering to go in it. The Bark at last went away to

the North-ward, and so ended the Cries and Fear of the *Moors*. They believ'd it to be a Bark of the Pirates call'd *Sanganos* and *Ranas*, who are Gentils of Religion, and make no Slaves, but take what they find Aboard without hurting any Body. They Live in some Islands, and on the Continent in marshy and inaccessible Places, as also in Woods near *Syndi*, and the Kingdom of *Guzaratte*. They go out in small Barks, but very numerous, and Rob along the Coast, and even in the Bay of *Siratte*. Their petty King is Tributary to the Great *Mogul*, who having Conquer'd part of his Country, restor'd it to him upon that Condition. He resides in the City *Ramora*, on the Continent, and sometimes in the Island of *Sanganilet*. Another Heathen Prince of the Country of *Varel*, Borders upon him. The Calm returning, we saw about Evening a Vessel of these *Sanganos* plying about our Ship, and therefore being Jealous, with good cause of their Design in the Dark of the Night; I advis'd our *Nicoda*, or Captain, to deliver our Powder to twenty Soldiers that were Aboard, to Load his great Guns, and place Centinels; because the *Moors* Sail like Brutes, without any Precaution, and are giving out Ammunition, and charging their Fire-Arms, when the Enemy is upon them. On *Friday* 10th, in the Morning we could not see the Pirates. The Wind came up contrary, but soon falling, left us in a Calm.

It continu'd *Saturday* 11th. In the Afternoon a Sea-man took a Fish about five Pounds weight, and being the first taken that Voyage, the Mariners put it to Salt according to Custom, hanging it up at the Main Mast, to give it to the fairest Bidder. A Merchant vying with another, offer'd 22 *Abassis*, which are eight Crowns of *Naples*; and the Fish might have been Sold for more, had there been more Merchants; it hapning sometimes that they are Sold for thirty Crowns. The Mony is divided among the Seamen for a Dinner.

Sunday 12th, the Wind came up contrary, so that we made little way. The same hapned on *Monday* 13th. About Evening we discover'd to Eastward a small Vessel, suppos'd to be of the *Sanganos*; which made our Captain alter his Course to shun him; so fearful are those *Moors*. Night deliver'd us from this Fear, but a Storm that arose frighted us worse, and did not only last till Day, but blew so violently on *Tuesday* 14th,

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Flying Fish
and Dory.

14th, that it made the ignorant Master and Pilot lose all the Ground they had gain'd, and return to *Kescimi*. In sight of us was a Vessel, suppos'd by us to be the *English* Ship, Aboard which were the Fathers, *Francis* and *Constantin*, which beat it out without losing Ground as we did. This made me fret, and tho' I took never so much Pains to persuade the ignorant *Moors* to do the like, putting them in hopes the Wind would soon be Fair, I could never prevail. As I had said the Wind fell before Night, and we stood our Course again; the Captain telling me, he did it for my Sake. That Day I first saw the flying Fish which the *Portugueses* call *Aquador*. It flew for about a Musket Shot above the Water, and then dropt, the little Wings not being able to support its weight of ten, or twelve Ounces. He leaves his natural Element to save his Life; because the *Abnus*, or *Dorado*, as the *Portugueses* call it, continually pursues to devour it. This *Dorado* Fish that Lives by destroying another, is of a blewish Colour, well Tasted, and big enough to serve four Men.

Wednesday 15th, the Storm grew so violent, that we were in some Danger, and in the Afternoon it Rain'd harder than it had done the Day before, which lasting all Night, wetted those under as well as above Deck. The *Moorish* Women in the Poop wept bitterly, as did their Husbands without, calling upon their false Prophet *Mahomet* to deliver them from impending Death.

Thursday 16th, the Wind came Fair, and the Sailers thought they discover'd at forty Miles distance the Continent of *Giasch*, part of the Dominion of the *Baluccos*. We held on our Course along it; but tho' the Ship made good way, we could scarce regain what we lost the Day before, much less discover the Land of *Goader*, we hop'd to see in the Evening. Our Misfortune was, that we had an ignorant Pilot, who Sail'd by guess, without knowing what he was to do, his Business at *Congo* having been Selling of *Tabacco*. By this we may judge how barbarously the *Moors* Act in other Cases, since they commit their Lives and Estates in a Ship to a *Tabacconist*. This Consideration made *F. Francis* refuse to go with us, tho' much Courted by the Master of the Vessel. The Captain perceiving the Ignorance of the Pilot, who knew nothing of his Business, came in lofty Terms to tell me, he had stood again for the *Indies* for my Sake, and

therefore I should see whether the Vessel held her Course. I told him it did not, and that the old Pilot having swallow'd *Opium* all the Day, to add more Stupidity to that proceeding from old Age, lowering the Top-Sails, stood all Night for the Land, which was the way to be certainly lost on some Rock, and therefore, if he had not a mind to Perish, he must Tack about, and stand out to Sea. This he order'd to be done immediately, hoisting his main Top-Sail, and Fore-Sail, and then pray'd me to stand by the Compass, as being now sensible of the *Tabacconist's* Ignorance, and imagining I was well Skill'd in Navigation. Being equally in Danger with the *Moors*, and concern'd for the Safety of the Ship, tho' not much better Skill'd than the *Tabacconist*, I thought fit to comply with the *Nicoda*, or Captain, standing sometimes by the Compass, and ordering how we should Sail. Besides, I made the Men handle their Arms when any Vessel appear'd, that we might not be lost through their Ignorance and Cowardize. Thus upon every Accident they call'd for the *Aga Gemelli*, believing as being an *European*, I must understand every Thing (so great an Opinion they have of us) but I understood as good as nothing, and did nothing all Day but Steer to the South-ward; leaving the Employment at Night, when I could not lose my Sleep, to the dull *Tabacconist*, who lost at Night all we gain'd in the Day. Thus, tho' the Day before we had five Sails Abroad, and a fair Wind, yet on Friday 17th, we found our Selves in the same Place we were in eleven Days before; a Plague those are subject to, who Sail in *Moorish* Ships. Making way in the Day, we came up with the Lands of *Arabia*, *Pissinimelon*, *Sertalan*, and *Ciurna*, of the Kingdom of *Syndi*, under the Dominion of the Great *Mogul*, about the first part of *Indostan*.

The same fair Wind continuing on Saturday 18th, we made much way, because the Ship was light, and we had six Sails Abroad; the *Nicoda* taking no more Notice of the fearful Pilot, since I advis'd him to make all the Sail he could, when the Wind was Fair. At the sight of the New Moon, that had caus'd the aforesaid Storm, all the *Moors* in the Vessel in the Evening made their usual Prayers and Adorations to her, after the manner of the Idolaters, with their Hands open before their Eyes. A Gun was fir'd for Joy, and all of them shaking

Gemelli.
1694.

shaking Hands, with'd one another a happy Month.

Sunday 19th, the Wind continu'd Fair, but there was little of it. Monday 20th, it was contrary, so that we made no way. Tuesday 21st, was such a Calm, that I lost all hopes of keeping Christmas Ashore; and I had such a Contest with the Pilot, who made no way by Night, that I would meddle no more with Steering the Ship. Wednesday 22d, the Wind was Fair, but so little of it, that we could not make much way; but on Thursday 23d, it freshned, and held all Night, and Friday 24th; yet we could not discover the Continent, and I have the Satisfaction of keeping Christmas-Eve Ashore.

Saturday 25th, so great a Day for the Redemption of Man, the Sea appearing cover'd with those Weeds the Rivers carry down into the Indian Sea, we began to hope we should soon discover Land; and casting the Lead we found eighteen Fathom Water.

Sunday 26th, we began to see some Snakes of the Colour of those we call *Ceruoni*, drove out by the Rivers into the Sea; and casting the Lead, we found no bottom, which made us begin to fear Sands. About Evening, a contrary Wind started up, and disappointed our Hopes of seeing Land on Monday 27th. But before Sun-rising, on Tuesday 28th, the ignorant Sailers and Pilot began to fancy they saw the Land and Fort of *Diu*, which runs further out into the Sea than any other. Upon this joyful News, the Captain, according to the Moorish Custom, treated all the Sailers with *Cacciario*, that is, black Kidney-Beans, Rice, and Lentils all Boil'd together. They Eat this Indian Food, dipping their Hands into a Dish of melted Butter, and then filling it with the *Cacciario*, and so cramming their Mouths. Since we imagine our Selves in sight of *Diu*, it is not improper to leave the Moors to their soon fading Pleasure, and Acquaint the Reader, That this Fortrefs is seated in a small Island very near to the Continent and Bay of *Cambaya*. Its Port is capable of large Ships. The Castle stands on the top of a Rock, with only a narrow Path to it, cut out of that very Mass of Stone; so that a single Man may defend it. This Rock is all about Precipices, and has no other high Ground to Command it; for which reason the Conquest of it cost the Portuguese more Blood and Treasure, than all their other Conquests in India; but they ought to

Diu Fort and City.

spare nothing for the gaining of it, because it is a Check upon all Ships that Sail the Indian Ocean. The City is on the Continent, not far from the Fort, and Inhabited by Christians, Mahometans and Gentils. Its Liberties Extend four Miles along the Sea-Shore, till the Place where they pass the River *Bran-cavaria*. It Borders on the two Kingdoms of *Guzaratte* and *Cambaya*, both Subject to the Mogul. When *Badur*, King of *Cambaya* Belieg'd this Place, *D. Nuno d'Acuna*, Governour of *Goa*, came to Relieve it, and not only rais'd the Siege, but kill'd the King; shewing at once the Strength of the Place, and Valour of the Portuguese. *Acuna* entering the City *Diu*, in the Year 1535, found an old Man of 335 Years of Age, who had a Son of 90. He had chang'd his Teeth three times, and his Beard as often grew Grey, after having been Black. He begg'd of *D. Nuno*, a *Rupie* a Day, worth about five *Carlines* of *Naples*, less than half a Crown *English*, telling him, King *Sultan Badur* had allow'd him so much; but the Generous Portuguese instead of one, allow'd this Indian Phenix three, in respect to his venerable Age. They say, all the Accounts he gave, agreed perfectly well with the Histories of his Times, tho' he could not Read. At last he dy'd at above 400 Years of Age, as they relate in those Parts. *F. Hiacinth de Dios* tells us further, That this Indian Noah was first a Shepherd in *Bengala*, in 1230, and carry'd *S. Francis* over the River on his Back, who for his Reward gave him a pair of Beads; there are several Particulars that may render this Opinion the more improbable; but the chiefest, that we never read *S. Francis* was in India. Thence the old Man went to *Diu*, where he Liv'd many Years, and then returning to *Bengala*, convers'd, and was acquainted with several Portuguese, and Religious Men of the Order of *S. Francis*, about the Years 1605, and 1606. During the whole Course of his Life he profess'd three Religions, being first a Pagan, for 100 Years; than a Mahometan for 300; and lastly, a Catholick at the end of his Life, the said Franciscans Baptizing him in *Bengala*, as the same *F. Hiacinth* Writes. They tell us of another that Liv'd 300 Years at *Malaca*.

Having in imagination discover'd the Point of *Diu*, we stood away to Southward for *Damam*, the contrary Wind coming Fair. It continu'd so till Wednesday

A Man of a wonderful Age.

Mass. Hist. Ind. l. 11. pag. 259. lif. Decad. Port. d. India.

Vergel. de Plantos. Flores.

Decad. Portug.

Gemelli. *1695.* *Wednesday* 29th at Noon, when we were becalm'd, and the Weather was as hot as it is at *Naples* in *August*. In the Evening the Wind came fair again. Our *Tabacconist* Pilot, being as I said so ignorant that he understood neither Cart, nor Compass, all the *Moors* believ'd that some Land we saw before us on *Thursday* 30th, in the Morning had been the Village of *Maym*, near *Bazaim*, a City belonging to the *Portugueses*, and consequently that they were at the end of their Voyage. All the Sailers rejoyc'd, and the Merchants much more, as thinking their Lives and Estates in safety; and the Ignorant Pilot, vainly puff'd up with Pride, for having brought the Ship safe to *India*, went about with a Sheet of Paper in his Hand, to enter what the Passengers promis'd to give him as a reward for his care; but coming to ask what I would give, I said, I would give nothing; for he rather deserv'd to be Punish'd than rewarded; being thoroughly satisfy'd the Land we saw, was not that he imagin'd. The same day discovering a large Bark, the *Arab* Soldiers of our small Vessel had a false Alarm; a netting of Robes was made on the prow, to cover them, and our ten small Guns were loaded, but Night drawing on we lost sight of her. The Pilot was for furling the Sails to come to an Anchor, but I prevail'd with the Captain not to consent to it, as well on account of the Bark we had seen, as because *all* that Coast is infested with *Pirates*. *Friday* being the last of the Year 1694 we were becalm'd not far from Land.

Saturday the first of the year 1695, drawing near to the Shore upon the mistaken notion, that we were on the *Portuguese* Territories, the Boat was sent off to discover it. Not regarding danger, to satisfy my curiosity, I went inconsiderately aboard it, both to see the Country and hear News of *Antony Machado de Brito*, Admiral of the *Portuguese* Fleet, with whom I had been acquainted at *Madrid*. The Captain of our Ship who took particular care of me for the sake of the *Portuguese* Commissioner, oppos'd my going a long while, as not being well satisfy'd that Coast belong'd to *Portugal*, and perhaps he fear'd, if it were some other misfortune might befall me; but seeing I was obstinate, rather than displease, he suffer'd me to go. The contrary Wind which blew hard, would not permit us to make directly for the Village; but drove us ashore a Mile from it. Being

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discover'd from Land, a Bark put out to enquire what Vessel ours was, as we went to be inform'd of their Country. We were told that small place was call'd *Mangalor* in the Kingdom of *Guzaratte* 400 Miles from *Damam*. This surprising News terrify'd me; and perceiving the *Moors* in our Boat, suspected the others were *Sangalo* *Pirates*, and only persuaded us that was the place it was not, that they might carry us off, without any trouble, the *Sanganos* bordering on the Kingdom of *Guzaratte*. I endeavour'd to persuade them for our safety to cut the Rope that held us, and make away to our Vessel. They answer'd it was too late, and should perfectly cast our selves away, if the others hapned to be too swift for us, as they must be, having a better Boat and more Oars to fetch us up. There being no other remedy, we suffer'd our selves to be led away like so many Lambs before the Commander of the place. He receiv'd us not ill, as we fear'd, but with civility; giving us leave to take in Water, whereof we had much need. It was brought us in the darkest of the Night, by the Country Women in earthen Vessels, one upon another. They cover'd all their Bodies, and Heads with long Garments like Smocks of Silk; in their Ears they had Gold Rings, and about their Arms others of Glass. Nothing could be seen of them but their Feet and Faces.

The Habitation was a small Village on the Shore; I say it was but little in respect of the great *Mangalor*, a dependance whereof it is, 5 Miles distant, and govern'd by a *Nabab*, or Governor appointed by the Great *Mogul*, who they told me had two Castles there. The Inhabitants told us how much we were mistaken, informing us that the Point we took for *Diu* was the Country of the *Sanganos* *Pirates*, and the Land we saw next *Mangalorpotan*, of the same Kingdom of *Guzaratte*, not far distant from them to the Southward; opposite to which place, we lay, as was said before, three days becalm'd, and bearing up against contrary Winds.

Having taken Water, and obtain'd leave to return to our Ship; about Midnight the Bark with some *Indian* Merchants aboard it bore us Company, to persuade our *Nicodas* to stand in for the Shore, upon hopes of a good Market for his Goods; but he with good reason suspecting their Honesty, as being Borderers on the *Sanganos* *Pirates*, gave them good Words, promising so to do,

B b

the

Little *Mangalor*.



the next Day; yet at break of Day, on Sunday 2d, he set Sail with a fair Wind, which afterwards quite ceas'd, and left us becalm'd.

All the Sailers and Passengers blam'd the Pilot for his Ignorance, who instead of carrying us to *Damam*, had run us up 400 Miles higher East-ward, and almost into the Mouths of the ravenous *Sangano* Pirates, who were but thirty Miles distant. Some were for throwing him Over-Board; some were satisfy'd with Railing, and putting him by the Steering of the Ship; so that the foolish old Fellow had scarce a Word to say for himself. I told the *Nicoda* he deserv'd as many Strokes as he had agreed to Pay him *Abassis*, for his Ignorance. Twelve Merchants, and *Moorish* *Fachirs*, who went to Beg in the *Indies*, for this Reason refus'd to go any further Aboard the Ship, and being set Ashore, Travell'd along it a-Foot, thinking it less Dangerous than to continue in a Vessel govern'd by a Tobacco-Seller, who had spent 37 Days in a Voyage of 20, without coming to his Port, Steering three Days to and fro North-ward, when he should have stood South. The Wind freshing after Noon, we coasted along *Indofan*, making good way at Night.

Monday 3d, the Wind prov'd so cross that we could not reach *Diu*, as we had intended, and this because the *Moorish* Mariners are a whole Hour spreading a Sail; calling *Mahomet* to their Assistance, with a tedious Song upon every little Accident. We came to an Anchor in eighteen Fathom Water, till the Tide and Wind which were against us came Fair. The *Indian* Seas are but shallow, so that tho' we were 100 Miles from Land, we were forc'd to keep Sounding. Four Hours after Night-fall we Sail'd again, the Wind blowing hard at North, and the Sea running high; the Sky was as clear as it is the finest Night in July at *Naples*.

Tuesday 4th, the Wind came about fairer, which helped us on considerably. Being near Land at Night, we kept but one Sail Abroad, sounding continually. At last, finding twelve Fathom for a great while, we came to an Anchor, staying for Day to draw nearer the Land we saw.

Wednesday 5th, in the Morning, we thought we were between *Damam* and *Bazaim*, and the Tide being against us waited till it turn'd, which was about Noon. Drawing near the Land, the Water began to look whiter, by reason

of the Rivers that runs into it. We made some little way, and Anchor'd again because the Wind was contrary: Those Brutal *Moors* being such unskilful Sailers, that they knew not how to advance a Step, unless the Wind was very Fair. But it was my own Fault that I lay so long at Sea, because I would not follow the Advice of *F. Chiarlanton*, a *French* *Jesuit*; for had I gone Aboard the *English* Ship, I had been long before Ashore taking my Ease.

We weigh'd Anchor at Mid-night, but dropt it again on Thursday 6th, before Day, for the afore said Reason, so that when I expected to have kept a merry Twelfth-Tide Ashore, after a hard Lent at Sea, because my Provisions fell short, I was forc'd against Inclination to continue my Abstinence. We set Sail some time after, but within a few Hours Anchor'd again, because the Tide would not permit us to make way but at certain Hours.

I went again Ashore in the Boat to know what Coast it was, the Danger at *Mangalor* not having yet had the good Effect to make me more Cautious, none of the Sailers being able to give a good Account what part of the *Portuguese* Dominions we were upon. Being hindred by the Flats from coming any nearer than within half a Mile of the Shore, two Seamen swam thither to get some Intelligence. One of these who return'd, the other not daring to Swim back, brought an Account, that we were near the Village of *Nevigon*, two Days Journey for a Foot-Traveller from *Damam* towards *Bazaim*. Returning Aboard with this Relation, we weigh'd upon the Flood, and dropt Anchor again upon the Ebb about *Bazaim*.

This Current, or Tide alters twice in 24 Hours. It runs for six Hours from break of Day towards *Bazaim*, or the South; then it runs till about Evening to the North towards *Damam*; then it turns again towards *Bazaim*, and holds till Mid-night; after which it turns to the North, and holds till break of Day. 'Tis true, these Turns are not at the same Hours all the Year about, tho' the running one way or the other always continues the same time.

Friday 7th, we hoisted Sail about Noon, with an indifferent Wind, and Anchor'd again in the Evening. After Mid-night we advanc'd again, and Saturday 8th, at Sun-rising, at length came to an Anchor off *Damam*. Tho' we spread our Sails again after Noon, they were



~ were soon Furl'd through the Ignorance
Gemelli. of the Pilot, for he rather lost than
1695. gain'd Ground. Sunday 9th, we weigh'd
~ four Hours before Day, and dropt An-
chor again at Sun-rising, the Wind con-
tinuing still at North. Four Hours be-
fore Night we set forward again with
an indifferent Gale, which drove us on
a good way by Night, when we An-
chor'd.

Monday 10th, we came to an Anchor
near *Damam*, after a Voyage of 1200
Miles, or 400 Leagues; which we run
twice over through the Ignorance of the

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Pilot. I went immediately Ashore in
the Boat with the Captain. Here I had
the good Fortune to meet *F. Francis*, and
F. Constantin, the Factor of *Bassora*, be-
ing already gone for *Bazaim*; and Im-
bracing one another interchangeably,
congratulating our happy Arrival in *In-
dia*, after our parting at *Bander-Congo*,
they carry'd me to their Monastery of *St.
Augustin*; where the Father Prior very
Courteously receiv'd, and made much of
me, appointing several Servants to at-
tend me, that I might the better recover
my self after my Fatigues at Sea.

The End of the Second P A R T.

Bb 2 A VOY.