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THE  
WORLD displayed;  
OR, A  
CURIOUS COLLECTION  
OF  
VOYAGES and TRAVELS,

Selected from  
The WRITERS of all NATIONS.  
In which the  
CONJECTURES and INTERPOLATIONS

OF  
Several vain *Editors* and *Translators* are  
expunged,

Every Relation is made concise and plain,

AND  
The DIVISIONS of *Countries* and *Kingdoms* are  
clearly and distinctly noted.

Illustrated and Embellished  
With Variety of MAPS and PRINTS  
By the best HANDS.

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V O L. XV.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for J. NEWBERRY, at the *Bible and Sun*,  
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OF THE  
FIFTEENTH VOLUME.

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THE

THE  
TRAVELS  
OF

Mr. JONAS HANWAY, Merchant,

THROUGH

RUSSIA into PERSIA,

And back through

RUSSIA, GERMANY, and HOLLAND.

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CHAPTER XII.

*Our Author returns to Russia with a Cargo of raw Silk, performs Quarentine, goes to Astrachan, and from thence proceeds to Moscow. He leaves that City, and arrives at Petersburg. An Account of the Manner in which the Empress of Russia Travels. A short Description of Petersburg, and of the Court. A View of the Revenues and Number of the Inhabitants, with a succinct Account of the Nature of the Climate throughout the Year, and of the Persons, and Dress of the People.*

OUR Author having with much difficulty, and after waiting a long time, obtained a recompence for his losses, he disposed of the  
VOLUME XV. B cloth

cloth he had recovered at *Reshd*, and laid out the produce, as well as the money he had received, in raw silk. He left that city on the 13th of *September*, and arrived at *Perrybazar*, where he embarked in a flat-bottomed *Persian* boat, and on the 29th reached *Yerkie*, where he was visited by a commander of a guard-ship stationed there, by whom he was informed, that if he had any other goods on board, but such as were of the province of *Ghilan*, and did not declare them, the law made it death to the offender, besides burning the ship and cargo. As Mr. *Bakcoonin*, the *Russian* Consul, had informed the Governor of *Astrachan*, that the plague was at *Casban*, they were ordered to land on a small uninhabited island, on the east side of the entrance of the *Volga*; where a fire being made, a surgeon and his attendants took the windward of them, and desired to see their breasts, as is usual in such cases; and after he was satisfied that they had no infection, their letters were delivered to him, after being first dipped in vinegar and dried in the smoke. The next day the Commander sent for Mr. *Hanway* and the Captain to come again on shore on the same island, where they were a second time interrogated whether they had any *Casban* goods on board, and in virtue of an order he had received for that purpose, desired them to declare in writing the places they had visited since their leaving *Russia*.

Having waited here till the 11th of *October* in very disagreeable weather, without any fresh provisions, a signal was made by the guard-ship

ship for Mr. *Hanway* and the Captain to come on board ; and then they had the mortification of being ordered to perform quarantine on an uninhabited island a little to the eastward. But what affected them most was the news of the loss of all their letters, dispatches and passports, with the lives of twelve soldiers, in one of the Empress's boats, which was sent up eleven days before, and had been attacked on the way by the *Khalmucks*, who murdered the whole crew.

At length the Governor of *Astrachan*, imagining that Mr. *Hanway* might have something to communicate to him, permitted his going to that city, on condition of his remaining a week longer in quarantine, without bringing with him the least part of his cloaths or baggage. He therefore on the 20th, went up a small branch of the *Volga*, and landed on the island *Caraza*, now appointed for quarantine, where he found warehouses and habitations, with 30 soldiers. Here lodgings were appointed for him in a house detached from the crew and the other passengers. On the twenty sixth the Governor of *Astrachan* sent his barge rowed by twelve grenadiers, with some of his own cloaths ; Mr. *Hanway* was then required to strip himself entirely naked in the open air ; and to pass through the mortifying ceremony of having a large pail of warm water thrown upon him.

Having undergone this disagreeable discipline, he embarked for *Astrachan*, and on the 27th arrived in that city. He waited on the



4 *The TRAVELS of J. HANWAY, Esq;*

Governor the next day; but found his behaviour very different from what it was a twelve-month before; for he was very reserved upon the article of trade in general, though very inquisitive about Mr. *Elton*; and though Mr. *Hanway* did not come empty handed, he barely met with civility, and passed his time in a very disagreeable manner, separated from his cloaths, his servants, and the conveniencies of life, in a place that afforded no amusement.

On the 22d of *November*, he obtained leave to set out for *Petersburg*; but the *Volga* being covered with floating ice, he resolved to travel by land on the western bank of that river, and being informed that the secretary of the salt office at *Astrachan*, and several *Russian* merchants, under the convoy of five *Cossacks*, were ready to depart, he embraced the opportunity of joining them with two servants, who were all he had now with him, and crossed the *Volga*.

On the 28th they meet a large caravan going to *Astrachan*, which informed them that four persons were missing in *Zaritzen* and *Cher-noyare*, and as a bloody shirt had been found on the way, it was concluded that they were murdered. Orders were therefore given to the *Cossacks* to keep a stricter watch than usual; and some of the company who had been impatient to proceed forwards, and intended to leave the rest, now thought it improper to separate. On the second of *December* they found a *Russian* waggon, and the harnesses of several horses belonging to the five persons who had been really murdered,

murdered, and the next day they reached *Zaritzen*.

During Mr. *Hanway's* stay there he dined with the secretary, who acted as Sub-governor of the town, and presented his wife to the company, who saluted her according to custom. She then presented a salver with small silver cups of brandy, which was repeated after dinner; but she did not sit with them at table: our Author was equally amazed at the profusion of the meats, and at the badness of the cookery. The quantity of bad wine, strong and small beer drunk by his companions was also prodigious; it was however, a feast of friendship designed to reconcile the *Astrachan* secretary, and one of the principal merchants of the city, who had quarelled; and their healths being drank, the master of the house obliged them to kiss each other; they were then saluted by all the company in the same manner; after this, to complete the farce, they began to reproach each other for their past injuries.

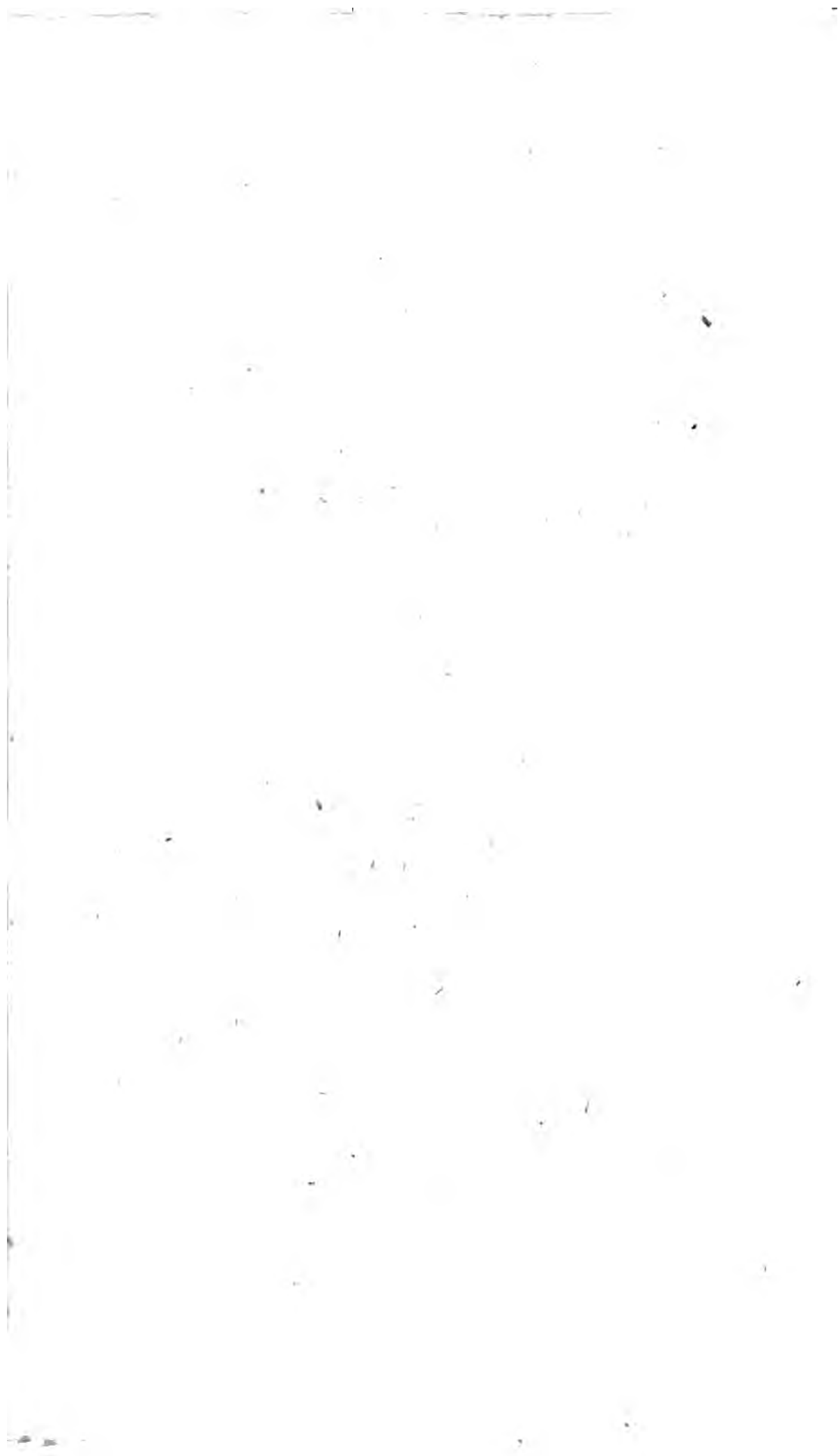
As the snow now rendered the road impassible for wheel carriages, Mr. *Hanway* caused his waggon to be placed on a sledge, and having taken leave of his *Russian* friends set out on the 6th, attended only by two servants. The next day the weather was so cold, that some strong wine froze under his feather bed; he that night reached *Casbaliens*, situated on the *Don*; the inhabitants, who are a mixture of *Russians* and *Circassians*, are poor, but blessed with liberty. The winds now blew so hard and ex-

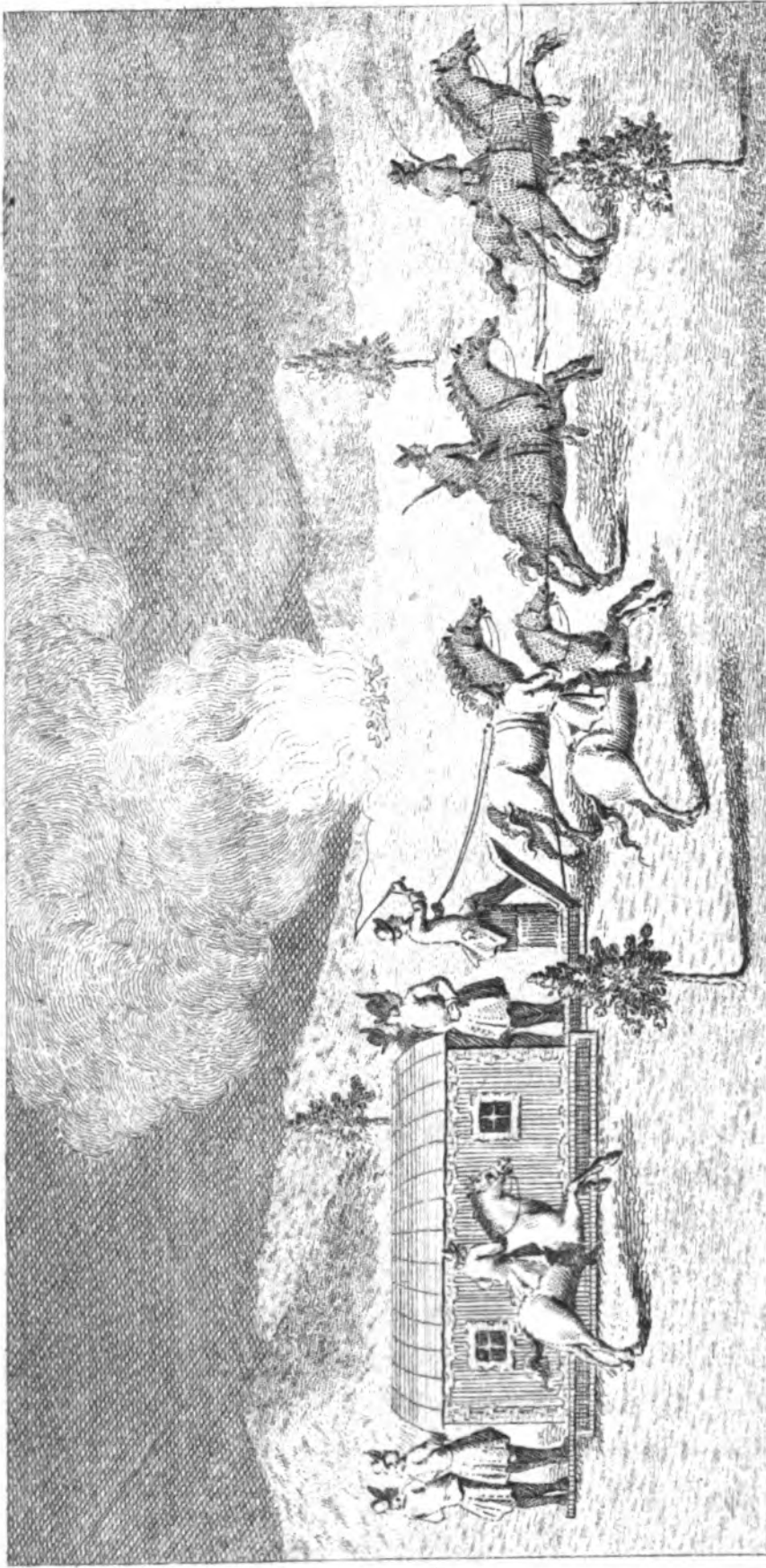
6 *The TRAVELS of J. HANWAY, Esq;*

cessive cold, that the carriers could not face it, and were frequently obliged to halt; the ground was covered with snow, and it often happens that the passengers who do not provide a compass to direct them, lose their way and perish.

On the 13th they stopped at *Brusano*, where the inhabitants informed them that a band of robbers had the night before broken into two houses, and not contented with plundering them, tortured the peasants by putting fire between their fingers, to oblige them to deliver their money. These robbers were so closely pursued, that Mr. *Hanway* and his attendants found hams and other provisions they had dropped in their flight. Upon the road they had frequent opportunities of observing in what manner the peasants render their huts habitable during the severity of the cold weather. Few of these having chimneys, the smoke of the stoves is carried out through the windows; by this means they are filled with so thick a cloud of smoke, that it is impossible to breathe at above two or three feet from the floor, till the wood is burnt to ashes; and therefore those who would not be suffocated must crawl in upon their hands and knees.

On the 22d Mr. *Hanway* arrived at *Moscow*, where he received letters, informing him of the death of a relation, who had left him a considerable fortune. He staid there till the 28th of *December*, and in the mean while provided a light sledge in which he was determined to travel post. Nothing can be more  
accom-





The manner in which the Czarina travels thro' the Snow from Moscow to Petersburg.

accommodated to ease and dispatch, than travelling in sledges in frosty weather: for in the journey our Author now made from *Moscow* to *Petersburg*, he slept without waking while he advanced 100 wersts, or 66 *English* miles. The whole road between these two cities was marked out in the snow by young fir-trees planted on both sides, at the distance of about 20 yards, which at a moderate computation amount to 128,480 trees. At certain distances were also great piles of wood, to be set on fire to give light to the Empress and her court, if they passed by in the night. On these occasions her Imperial Majesty is drawn in a large machine that contains her bed, a table and other conveniences, where four persons may take a repast. This machine is fixed on a sledge, and drawn by twenty-four post horses, and if any of them fail on the road, others are ready to supply their places. She is generally three days and nights on the way, and has several small palaces at which she sometimes stops to refresh herself. Though the distance is 488 *English* miles, *Peter* the Great once made the journey in 46 hours; but he did not travel in the same kind of carriage.

Mr. *Hanway* arrived at *Petersburg* on the first of *January* 1745, having performed the journey from *Moscow* in three days and a half. He had been absent a year and sixteen weeks, in which time he had travelled above 4000 *English* miles by land.

The court of *Petersburg* has enjoyed the reputation of being one of the most brilliant in  
*Europe*

§ *The TRAVELS of J. HANWAY, Esq ;*

*Europe* ; for in the reign of the late Empress *Anne* the countenance foreigners received, added much to its splendid appearance. The *Russians* are still fond of rich cloaths. The present Sovereign *Elizabeth Petrowna* the daughter of *Peter* the Great, on certain days appears in men's cloaths, particularly on the day of her accession to the throne, when she treats her company of life grenadier guards at supper in the grand saloon of the palace, and sits at table with her officers in regimentals, as their Colonel. This company with respect to their stature, comeliness, and the richness of their uniforms, can hardly be equalled by any troops in *Europe*.

By the admiralty, where ships of war are built, is a magnificent palace, situated on the south bank of the *Neva*, near the centre of the city, and in the eastern part is the summer palace and gardens, which abound in fine statues and delightful walks ; yet being a dead flat it can produce but little variety. Near it is the theatre, where *Italian* operas and *French* comedies are acted at the Empress's expence, to which foreigners who make any appearance, are admitted. Masquerades, balls and concerts are also frequent at court. Two poets, our Author observes, have lately started up as it were from a state of darkness, and wrote tragedies according to modern dramatic rules : *Lord Anson's* voyage round the world, *Telemachus*, and several other books have also been translated into the *Russian* language.

The

*Elizabeth Petrowna*, the daughter of *Peter the Great* by the Empress *Catharine*, is one of the most accomplished ladies of her rank, nor was her person less amiable; but time which wears off the charms of youth, has rendered her corpulent; yet she is very active, dances, hunts, and rides on horseback: she seems to delight chiefly in select companies, at the houses of her favourites.

This Empress wears the order of *St. Andrew*, which is a blue ribbon: the number of Knights of this order are near sixty; but it is not confined. The order of *St. Alexander* is inferior to this, and consists of thirty-six Knights who wear a red ribbon: there is also an order of *St. Anne of Holstein*, which is distinguished by red striped with yellow, and another of *St. Catharine*, which is red with a silver edge, and is intended only for women.

*Petersburg* was founded by *Peter the Great* in the beginning of the present century, and may now be considered as the modern polite metropolis. Though it was so lately a morass it is now an elegant and superb city, very healthy, and abounding in all the necessaries, and many of the superfluities of life. It is ranged on both sides of the *Neva*, extending near two *English* miles from east to west. At the upper end of the north side is the citadel, which is more famous for the number of lives it cost in building, than for its strength: it contains a stately church, in which are deposited the remains of its founder *Peter the Great*, and his Empress *Catharine*, and it is also a prison



prison for offenders against the State. The city has neither walls nor gates; but the marshy land near it to the north and south, and the Gulph of *Finland* to the east, render it difficult of approach for an army. As *Peter the Great* took *Amsterdam* for his model, it is divided by several canals; but from the reluctance with which it was originally begun by his subjects, and from errors in the plan, a part of it still remains unexecuted, and in others the houses are too near the canal; but there are some regular, broad, and well built streets, and several very noble edifices. The Empress's fondness for building has contributed to the beauty of the city; for besides the two royal palaces already mentioned, she has built a noble one said to be intended for the Great Duke. There is also a nunnery lately erected; and at *Czarscho Zelo*, about fifteen *English* miles distant, is another royal palace. These edifices are mostly of brick plastered over, so as to make an elegant appearance; but the work is generally done in a hurry, and the materials are not very durable. An *Italian* architect being established in *Russia*, notwithstanding the difference of climate, the taste of *Italy* is adopted in almost all their houses, and though the severity of the cold is so great, they abound much more in windows than our houses in *England*. The number of people in *Petersburg* is generally computed at 250,000, including the garrison, which is numerous; but in reckoning the subjects throughout the whole empire, it is laid down as a rule, that the hundred and  
seventy

seventy fifth male raises an army of near 50,000 men, and consequently, supposing an equal number of females, the whole may be reckoned 17,500,000; but the tributary *Tartars*, the *Russian Ukraine*, and the conquered provinces are not included in this account. The revenues of the *Russian* empire, which were formerly only five millions, are now encreased to fifteen millions of rubles, or three millions sterling, and are yet improvable, without distressing the subject.

As to the climate of *Russia*, it differs extremely in the several parts of it included in *Europe*, and still more in their *Asiatic* dominions. At *Petersburg*, *February* generally brings with it a bright sun and a clear sky, every object seems to glitter with gems, and the nerves become braced by the cold. There is then no small amusement in riding in sledges upon the snow, to those who from the length of the winter, have forgot the much superior pleasure which nature presents, when cloathed in all her verdure.

*March* is frequently attended with showers, which, with the heat of the sun, penetrate the ice: this is generally three quarters of a yard thick on the *Neva*, and in some great rivers to the north-east much thicker. This renders it like an honey-comb, and about the end of that month it usually breaks up.

The month of *April* is frequently very warm; summer seems to precede the spring; for it is sometimes the first of *June* before any considerable verdure appears, and then the intense heat brings

brings it on so fast, that the eye can discover its progress from day to day. Till the middle of *July* it seems to be one continued day, the sun not intirely disappearing above two hours in the twenty four ; but the delight which this season naturally affords, is considerably abated by the extreme heat of the weather ; however, a week seldom passes without the air being refreshed by southerly and westerly winds; which often bring gentle showers. Our Author, who resided about five years in this city, once experienced a delightful autumn to the end of *September* ; but this rarely happens : *August* closes the scene, so that there are hardly above three months of summer.

*September* generally brings rain and frost ; the severity of both is increased in *October*, and in *November* the *Neva* is always frozen. Then comes on the season for the easy and speedy conveyance on the snow, which brings fresh provisions to market a thousand *English* miles by land, and the beef of *Archangel* is often eaten at *Petersburg*. In *December* and *January* the cold is so very intense, that the poor who are overtaken by liquor, or exposed to the air in open places, are frequently frozen to death. But the abundance of birch and alders with which the *Russians* are supplied, and the commodiousness of their stoves, enable them to introduce any degree of heat into their houses.

The *Russians* are for the most part of a middle stature, though many of them are tall and comely. The common people are fond of their ancient customs, and though the majority of  
them

them submit to modern improvements, many chuse to suffer great inconveniences, and to pay additional taxes, rather than cut off their beards, and conform to some regulations with respect to religion. Women in general are not so amiable in *Russia* as in many other countries: indeed they daub themselves so much with paint, as to conceal the graces which nature may be presumed to have bestowed on them; for they generally profess, that if they have sufficient plumpness, they can procure themselves beauty.

The common people are cloathed with long coats made of dressed sheep-skins with the wool towards their bodies; their legs and feet are swaddled with a coarse cloth, secured by a cord of reeds, and their sandals are of the same materials. Their caps are lined with fur, and cover the ears and neck, as well as the head: they wear sashes round their waists, and double gloves, one of woollen and the other of leather, which take in the hand without any distinction, except the thumb, and these are an essential part of their cloathing. However, people of any rank generally dress as we do in *England*, except wearing a full great coat lined with fur, with a deep quilted or fur lined cap, when they go abroad. The women of the lower class, besides their petticoats, wear sheep-skins like the men; but those who move in a higher sphere, wear flowered silk cloaks, lined with furs, of which the most common sort is white hares. Ladies of great distinction have

14 *The* TRAVELS of J. HANWAY, *Esq;*  
them lined with rich furs, and almost constantly wear them.



### C H A P. XIII.

*Our Author leaves Petersburg. A View of the Empress's Palace at Strelna Musa and Peterhoff. A Description of Cronstadt, Revel, and Dantzic.*

**O**N the 9th of July 1750, Mr. *Hanway* left *Petersburgh*, and travelling along the banks of the *Neva*, came to the palace of *Strelna Musa*, which is about twenty wersts from *Petersburg*. It is situated on an eminence, and commands an extensive view of the Gulph of *Finland*. It was intended to be a more grand and elegant building than *Peterhoff*, and the gardens were laid out in a fine taste; but the death of *Peter* the Great, together with the badness of the foundation, put a stop to the prosecution of the design. The present Empress has caused many of her courtiers to build country houses on the south of the road between this palace and that of *Peterhoff*: among these the house and gardens of baron *Wolf* are most distinguished for their extent and beauty; however, most of these country houses are built of wood, and little expence is bestowed on the gardens.

*Peter*

*Peter* the Great left *Peterhoff* a mean building ; but it has been greatly enlarged and beautified by the present Empress. The water-works are compared to those of *Versailles*, with this difference in their favour, that the waters of *Peterhoff* are more sweet. This palace is situated on an eminence, on the south side of the Gulph of *Finland*, of which it commands an extensive prospect, as well as of the island of *Cronstadt*. The forest of Masts that appears from the basons of that island during the summer season, gives the idea of a flourishing commerce ; but the gardens of *Peterhoff*, tho' they afford a great variety of scenes, yet lying mostly on a dead flat, and the walks being of sand, they fall incomparably short of those belonging to the seats of many noblemen in *England*.

Mr. *Hanway* passing the Gulph arrived at *Cronstadt*, where being detained for several days by tempestuous weather, he had an opportunity of examining the dry dock contrived by *Peter* the Great, which is one of the greatest curiosities in the world of its kind. It extends about 700 fathoms, is sixty feet broad at the bottom, eighty feet at the top, and is forty feet deep, having flood-gates in different parts. It is intended to receive fourteen ships of the line of battle. There is a grand reservoir, which was then dug almost eighteen feet lower than the docks, and is consequently near sixty feet deep : it is about six hundred feet long, and three hundred feet broad. The island of *Cronstadt* is near fifteen miles in circumference ;

cumference ; but very barren : the town is supposed to have near 25,000 inhabitants, including soldiers and sailors.

On the 15th, Mr. *Hanway* embarked in a small yatch belonging to *Dantzic*, and on the 18th landed at *Revel*, when he was conducted to the commander of the port, of whom it was necessary, according to custom, to ask permission to enter the town. This place is the capital of *Estonia*, and is fifty leagues distant from *Petersburg* ; it submitted to *Peter the Great* by capitulation in 1710, and is only taxed with the support of a garrison of 5000 soldiers with quarters, and 3000 seamen with not only quarters, but fire and candle. Within the walls are about six hundred houses, containing near 8000 souls, and the suburbs are large and well inhabited. The people seem to be formal and reserved ; but are extremely industrious, and live in such security, that they might sleep with their doors open. The houses which are of the most durable materials, seem all prepared for the reception of merchandize : the first apartment into which one enters resembling a large warehouse. The country abounds in corn, of which they have generally great magazines. This was formerly a free town, and one of the greatest ports in the *Baltic* ; *Narva* being its only competitor. The *Russians* then brought the produce of their own country, as well as that of *Persia*, to this market ; but when our Author was there the trade was very inconsiderable.

Great part of the city stands upon an eminence, and is defended by out-works, a moat, and a wall about six feet thick, and forty in height. The streets are neither broad nor regular, but the houses are lofty, and have steep roofs to carry off the snow. The town-house is an ancient building, and contains nothing remarkable, but some fine paintings, which are in great esteem. Here are four *Lutheran* churches for the citizens, and one for the peasants of the adjacent country; also two *Greek* churches for the use of the *Russians*.

On the 19th, Mr. *Hanway* reembarked, and the next day reached the height of *Gotland*, an island about 70 miles long, and 20 broad in the middle, diminishing at each end almost to a point. It belongs to the *Swedes*, and has eighteen towns and villages: but though it was formerly very rich, it has been so often plundered in time of war, that the inhabitants are not in the most flourishing situation.

On the 24th in the morning, our Author entered the *Vistula*, which has two branches up to *Dantzic*, the deepest of which is formed into a canal, and there is a castle about two *English* miles from the town. This city is about three *English* miles in circumference, and well fortified with lofty works and a double ditch of water; where these are weakest, which is on the west side, the country may be easily laid under water. These works require twelve or fifteen hundred men to defend them; but the town cannot afford above seven hundred. By the civil behaviour of the soldiers to stran-



gers, one may easily observe the difference between troops in the immediate pay of citizens, and those under crowned heads. The houses of *Dantzic* are generally five stories high, which makes the streets appear the narrower especially as the entrance into the houses is by four or five stone steps, and a balcony, both which make a projection of ten or twelve feet: they are kept clean after the manner of the *Dutch*, though with less nicety. Many of the streets are planted with wild chestnut-trees about 30 feet high, which afford an agreeable shelter; but the inhabitants are more agreeable than their houses and trees. The women resemble the *English* in their stature, countenance and air; but the bad ones make a market of their beauty in the neighbouring countries, where they are remarkably eminent in a profession that is apt to convert beauty into deformity, and health into disease. The women of distinction affect the manners of the *Poles*, and the most respectful way of saluting a lady is to kiss her hand, if one does not chuse to stoop so low as the hem of her petticoat, as is commonly practised by the *Poles*.

A republican spirit prevails in this great trading city, which is under the protection of the *Poles*. The arsenal contains a good collection of arms; but as in most places of the like nature, it has many that are old and useless. They pretend to have 150 large brass cannon, some of which are said to weigh 15,000 pounds.

Among

Among the curiosities that most engaged our Author's attention, was the great *Lutheran* church, which is an ancient structure that has not been much changed by the establishment of the protestant religion in this city; for it was agreed by treaties to leave the crucifixes, images and pictures, as in the times of popery. They shew a very curious piece of painting on wood, of the resurrection by *Van Eyck*. It is much admired, particularly for the hands and faces, and is said to be one of the first performances in oil colours; yet is so perfect, and delicate, as to bear the nicest examination.

The most considerable branch of the trade of *Dantzic* is that of corn, which is brought by the *Polanders*, in large barks of about 50 tons burthen, down the *Vistula*. In plentiful years these barks annually amount to about 1600. As these cargoes are often exposed to the weather, it is customary to spread their sails on the banks of the river, and to dry their corn upon them. They also export bees-wax to the annual amount of near 1000 schippounds: besides narrow linens, sacking, pot-ash, pearl-ash, pipe-staves, and oak plank.



## C H A P. XIV.

*Our Author leaves Dantzic, and travels through Pomerania to Berlin, which is described. A concise Account of the King's Palace in that City, and of the Palaces of Charlottenburg, Potsdam, and Sans Souci. The Author's Character of the present King of Prussia. A Description of Wittemburg and Dresden, with an Account of the Curiosities in the last-mentioned City; the Revenues, and Expences of the Court. Of the Porcelain Manufacture at Meissen, and a Description of the Hunting Palace of St. Hubertsburg.*

**M**R. Hanway having spent a week very agreeably at *Dantzic*, provided a chariot, and took leave of his friends. The territories of this city extend westward between two or three *German miles* \*. The country is agreeable, but the soil seems mean. He then passed through a small tract of *Polish Prussia*, where the inhabitants are miserably poor.

At *Dunemorse*, which is five *German miles* from *Dantzic*, he entered *Prussian Pomerania*, where the face of things began to change much for the better. He then proceeded to *Stolpe*, a small city, surrounded with corn and meadow lands, where the inhabitants seem to wear their chains with great cheerfulness. The common people have a smattering of the *French* lan-

\* A *German* mile is in some places four, and in others five *English* miles.

guage. On our Author's entering and departing, he was examined from whence he came, and where he was travelling: this is practised to all travellers in every town throughout the *Prussian* dominions, and being performed in a very regular manner, it serves to preserve the idea of watchfulness and military discipline.

He proceeded three *German* miles to *Schlawe*, over an open pleasant country of arable lands, pretty well inhabited, though the soil is sandy, and can therefore produce but slender crops. He from thence went to *Coeslin*, which had some years before been burnt down, but is rebuilt with regularity and elegance, though with great parsimony, which the circumstances of the inhabitants rendered absolutely necessary. In the market-place is a stone statue of the late king of *Prussia*. He then proceeded to *Stargard*, the metropolis of *Prussian Pomerania*, where is a cathedral church of great antiquity, and three reformed churches, in one of which the service is performed in *French*. At three miles distance is a town called *Pyritz*, which is surrounded by an ancient fortification, and has a very large church built with brick.

He next arrived at *Koeninsburg*, a small town on the *Oder*, and from thence travelled three miles to *Angermund*, passing over the *Oder* on a bridge of timber. On the north bank is a fine palace and garden belonging to the margrave of *Schwedt*, with a very neat town of the same name adjacent. The avenue to the  
bridge

bridge and town is thrown up between meadow lands; it is planted on each side with willows, as the other side of the town is with wild chesnuts, which intercept the view of the corn and tobacco fields. Near this place Mr. *Hanway* saw the bodies of two malefactors who had been broken on the wheel: he observes, that near every town a gallows is erected on an eminence, though the good government of this country renders executions very rare.

The palace of the Margrave makes a striking figure, as it is the only object that has the appearance of grandeur or state, on the road quite from *Dantzic*. The men of family and fortune in this country all flock to court, and agriculture, from which they derive their support, receives no improvement from their personal attendance.

From hence he proceeded to *Berlin*, and the nearer he approached to that city, the more he found the face of things improve; but here are no enclosures to beautify the prospect, nor richness of soil to exhibit that perpetual verdure which *England* enjoys. From *Dantzic* to *Berlin* is fifty seven *German* miles, which are computed to be equal to 250 *English* miles. The entrance into *Berlin* is airy and elegant: the streets are regular and clean, and the houses uniform. In going towards the palace on the *Pont Neuf*, or New Bridge, which is of stone, over the *Spree*, is an equestrian statue of *Frederic William* the Great, which is esteemed a piece of exquisite workmanship; it was erected

erected by *Frederic I.* king of *Prussia*, who also built the palace, which is very magnificent. A soldier attended our Author from the gate to his lodgings, in order to examine his baggage.

This city was full of busy pleasant countenances, and there were several persons at this court famous in the literary world. The first object that strikes the stranger is the king's palace, called the castle : but one side of the interior square of this building is no ways equal to the rest, it being the old apartment once inhabited by the present king's grandfather, and has not been yet rebuilt. The walls of the grand front are seven or eight feet thick, which makes the rooms dark.

'Tis a pleasure to observe the great œconomy of this court, the apartments in the palace are adorned with silver in every shape ; but these ornaments are so massy, that the fashion is not more than 7 l. per cent. so that four millions of dollars might be realized with great ease, if the exigences of the state should require it. Here are the pictures of *Charles V.* and his Empress, the frames of which are of silver, each weighing six centners, or 660 pounds, and there is a grand crown lustre of seventeen centners. There are also pieces of three, four or five centners, and a grand music gallery finely ornamented, all of silver : one end of a large apartment, for about twenty feet high, and as many broad, is richly furnished with gilt plate : all this is merely parade,

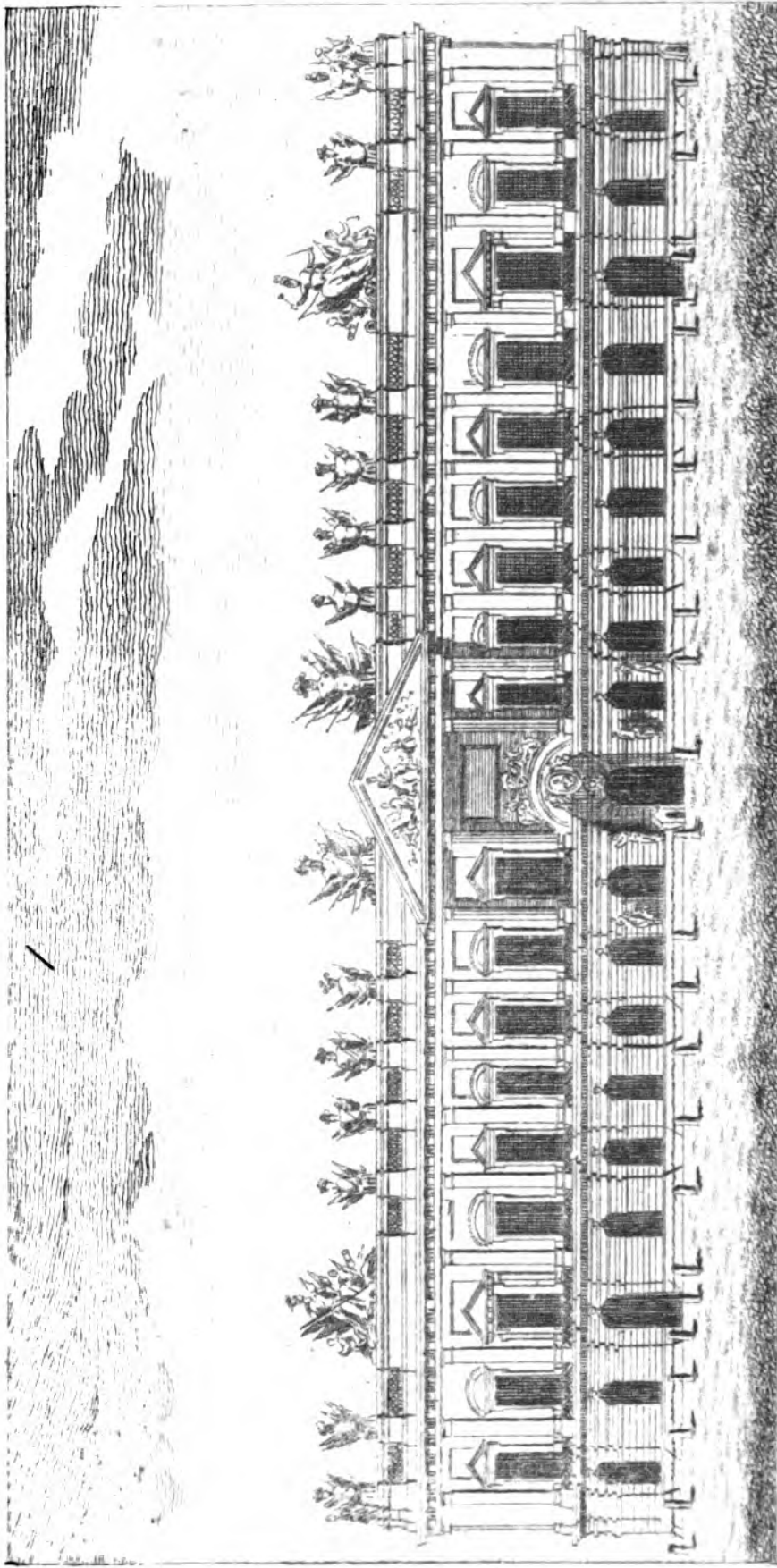
24 *The TRAVELS of J. HANWAY, Esq;*  
rade, the court having other services of plate  
for use.

The king's particular apartments are elegant; but have nothing extraordinary, the prevailing taste is white stucco and gilding. Several of the private apartments have tables, with pens, ink, and loose papers, which indicate the dispatch of business, more than the regularity and elegance one naturally expects to find in a royal palace. The hall has several good paintings, and the grand saloon is adorned with four pieces of tapestry, representing our Saviour driving out the money-changers, his washing the disciples feet, the miraculous draught of fishes, and his last supper. The throne in the audience chamber is of velvet embroidered with gold in a grand taste; but not loaded with ornaments. There is nothing extraordinary in the old quarter of the palace, except a bed of crimson velvet, which has above two hundred cyphers with electoral crowns, all set with pearls, and the chairs in this room are in the same taste. It is usual for persons of the royal blood to lie in this bed on the first night of their marriage.

The arsenal forms one side of the palace, and is said to be well furnished with arms; but as the visiting it is attended with some disagreeable ceremonies, our Author declined it. This is a very elegant structure; but has rather too great a profusion of ornaments; these are, however, extremely well adapted to the nature of the building: but of this noble  
edifice







The Arsenal at Berlin.

edifice the reader may form a more perfect idea from the plate we have here given.

From the palace, he went to the library, which, he says, would be a mean apartment for a common school. But all who appear like gentlemen have the liberty of reading here from ten in the morning till two in the afternoon. Here are 500 Bibles of different languages and editions, and one kept as a kind of reliſt, ſaid to be that which *Charles I.* king of *England* uſed when he was beheaded. It was preſented by *Dr. Juſton*, to the elector of *Brandenburg*. Here is alſo the koran in manuſcript in a ſmall octagon; the character is ſo minute, and the paper ſo thin, as to be only one inch and a half in bulk: there are likewiſe ſeveral manuſcripts on religion, morals, and politics, ſaid to be wrote by cardinal *Mazarin*.

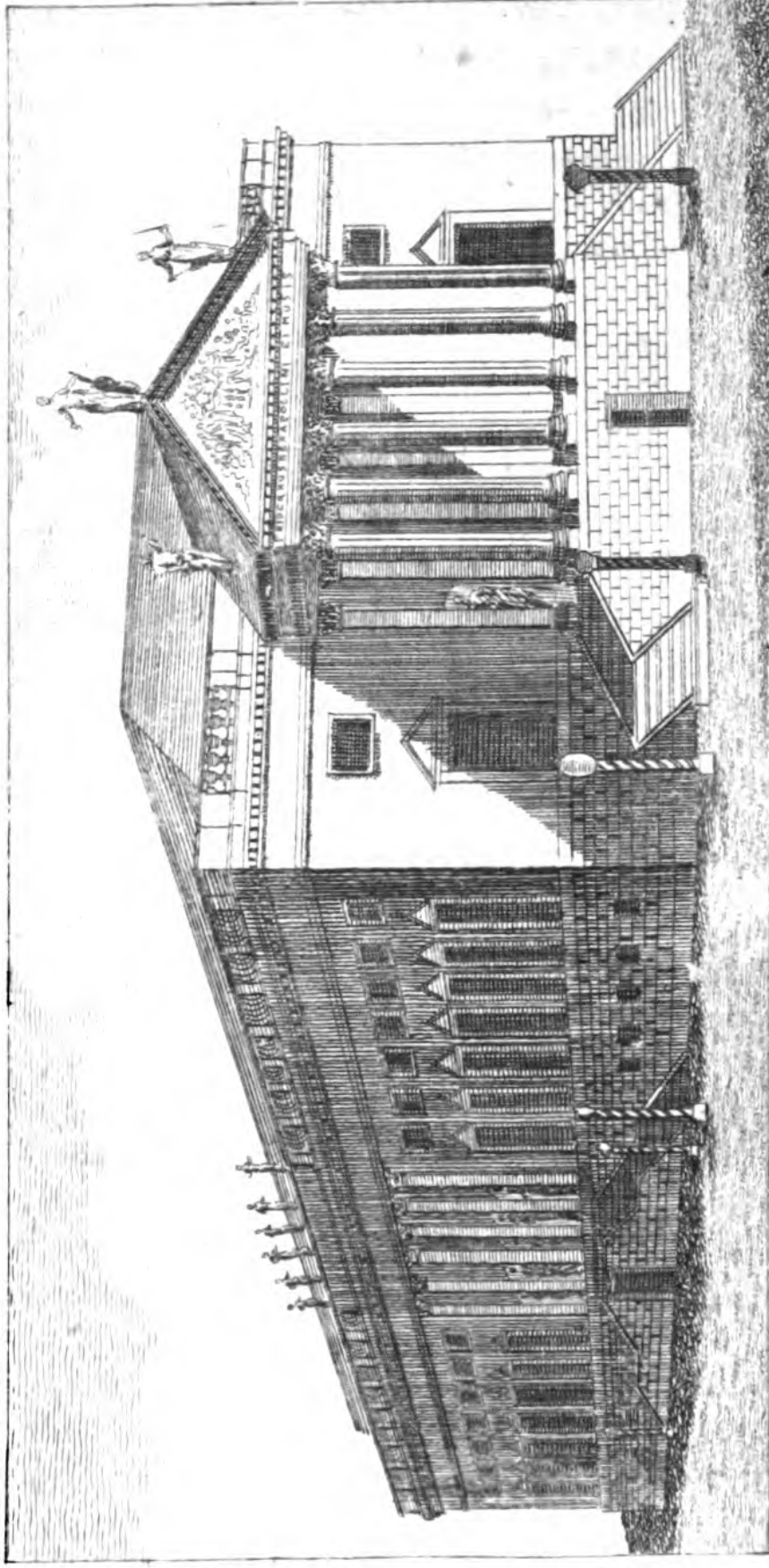
The opera houſe is an elegant modern edifice; the ſcenes are ſplendid, and in an exquisite taſte. It has three galleries, and will contain about two thouſand perſons. The columns that ſupport the roof, are calculated to throw the whole into a grand ſaloon, but are apt to obſtruct the movement of the ſcenes. The orchestra conſiſts of about 50 muſicians, who are paid a very moderate price for their labour. This amuſement is entirely ſupported at the king's expence, and rendered in ſome degree ſubſervient to the ends of government. The extreme delight the king takes in muſic, and the great knowledge he has of that ſcience, have carried this entertainment to a very high perfection.

perfection. In the upper galleries on each side of the stage, six trumpeters are seated, who salute the Queen-confort when she enters the house or retires; but the King himself, who acts in a sphere superior to the rules of pompous ceremony, forbids this salutation to his own person.

*Mon Bijou* was the residence of the queen mother, who was sister to his late majesty the king of *Great Britain*. This is a little elegant palace. Here is a pretty gallery of blue and white porcelain, and in another apartment there are several rich pieces of *Saxon* porcelain. The gardens are small, and proportioned to the size of the building.

The city of *Berlin* has a regular fortification, though it is not very formidable. Strangers remark, that *Berlin* is a little *Paris*, the *French* language being generally as well understood as the *German*. The city abounds in elegant structures and regular streets, and is near one third as big as *London*; but does not contain more than an eighth part of the inhabitants: from whence it may be easily accounted for, why grass is found growing in many of their principal streets. The people here make woollen cloth sufficient for the army, and great part of their home consumption. They are supplied with linen from *Silesia*. Many thousand *French* manufacturers having found protection in this country, gold and silver lace, and wrought silks are hardly to be bought in any other place so cheap. It was with surprize our Author learnt that the environs





The Theatre at Berlin.

virens of *Berlin* produce 400 pounds weight of raw silk. Some of the courtiers who espouse commercial schemes, flattered themselves that the climate would admit of a large production of this kind; but it does not promise the success expected.

Before Mr. *Hanway* took his final leave of *Berlin*, his curiosity carried him to *Charlottenburg*, which is about a *German* mile distant from the city. This palace was founded by the king's grandfather, and his present majesty has finished it according to his own taste, which is extremely elegant. There is a range of about ten apartments well disposed, adorned with white stucco and gilding. The ball-room is worthy of the king who is said to have designed it. It has ten windows on each side, and besides the stucco and gilding, which are here richer than in the other rooms, it is adorned with busts, statues, and large pier glasses. The gardens are laid out with taste, and the statues well disposed.

It will not be here either improper or unentertaining to give Mr. *Hanway's* character of the present king of *Prussia*, dictated by that gentleman's impartiality, and well known love of truth, at a time when the prejudices of the *English* were strongly raised against that prince. Mr. *Hanway* observes, that the king of *Prussia* was then considered as no friend to *Great Britain*; but adds, there is a pleasure in praising the worthy, whether they happen to be our friends or not. *Frederick II.* king of *Prussia* and elector of *Brandenburg*, was born on the

28 *The TRAVELS of J. HANWAY, Esq;*

24th of *January* 1712, and was the son of king *Frederick William*, by *Sophia Dorothea*, the sister of king *George II*. He ascended the throne on the 21st of *May* 1740, and was therefore 24 years of age when his father died. He had an early taste of literature and the polite arts, and distinguished himself by the delicacy of his manners, in opposition to the inelegant customs that prevailed at his father's court. The late King *Frederick* was a lover of drinking, a vice which in few countries is more familiar than in *Germany*. The prince abominated this vice, and this, with other correspondent circumstances, at length determined him to leave his father in a secret manner, and to go, as it was said he intended, to the *British* court; but the attempt was frustrated, and cost an unhappy gentleman his head.

When princes are really God's vicegerents, religion must be the basis of their government and politics: this prince is however, by many reputed a free-thinker in the worst sense of the word; but the rule of his government, and his superiority to the vanities and mean gratifications of life, does not favour so harsh a judgment. So far from adopting *Machiavelian* principles, the *Anti-Machiavel* is said to have been wrote by him, or his favourite *Voltaire*, in confutation of those maxims which ridicule a strict adherence to equity, and a disinterested love of mankind.

One might be tempted to think that commercial projects in a country so entirely military as *Prussia*, could hardly be brought to any perfection;

perfection; yet if we consider the strict discipline of the *Prussian* army, it is the more easy to be reconciled.

There is one circumstance in favour of his *Prussian* Majesty beyond any other Prince in *Europe*; I mean the great œconomy of his government and personal expence. The allowance of his table is but 30 crowns, or 5 *l.* 5 *s.* a day, fish and wine excepted, in which he is at no great expence. *Potsdam* is the favourite residence of the King of *Prussia*, who here avoids the empty ceremonies of a court. He entertains at his table twelve persons: those of his ministers most in favour are first invited, with those of foreign princes who happen to be at *Potsdam*, and his officers, even to an Ensign, fill up the vacant places: but this condescension, is not the only means he employs to recommend himself to the love of his soldiers. The meanest officer knows that his injuries will be redressed by the King: for wherever his quarters are, he need but write to his Majesty, and by the return of the post he may expect an answer, frequently wrote by this great Prince's own hand. Nay, he even sometimes goes so far as to advise where he thinks the party errs in judgment, or is influenced by some unreasonable desire. His conversation is free and easy, even to jesting; but he passes from the gay to the serious in an instant, and supports his dignity both from the fear and the affection of those about him.

He requires delicate food, but eats moderately, and mixes water with his wine: he



takes *Spanish* snuff to excess, so that his cloaths can scarce be clear of it. He used to drink liberally of champaign, and eat rich fruits soaked in strong wine; but having been several times afflicted with fevers, he is become abstemious.

He appears rather plump than corpulent; his face looks full of blood, and his countenance is inclined to the pensive; but is very expressive, in some measure indicating the incessant labour of his mind. Since the late war he is much broken and stoops, which takes off from his figure. He often appears in boots, and always in his regimentals, which are a blue frock with silver *Brandenbergs*, and he is master of only one change for the winter, and another for the summer. Our Author saw his wardrobe, which, indeed, is very mean, or very grand, according to the impression it makes on the spectator. The King is in this particular a copy of *Peter the Great*.

His bed, which Mr. *Hanway* particularly observed at *Charlottenburg*, was in a small alcove or nich, and consisted of only two mattresses under the cover of a down quilt, without the least ornament, or mark of grandeur. He often asks his most familiar favourites, if they think the condition of a King above all others most desirable? and then tells them how easily they may rectify their opinion, by observing the great labour and attention the duty of a King requires.

So little does he observe useless forms, that he has risen from his chair at his writing table,  
and

and caused his engraver to take his place, and write down the orders which he dictated standing. That he has a high sense of friendship and gratitude, Mr. *Hanway* thinks is obvious, from a single circumstance which happened during his abode at *Berlin*. Mr. *Keith*, with whom our Author was acquainted, had been obliged in the late King's reign to leave his country, for his devotion to the service of his present Majesty. On his return home that gentleman naturally expected a kind reception: but the King having now adopted other principles, was resolved to inculcate the necessity of obedience to the Sovereign; however, he allowed him a pension, gave him the rank of Lieutenant, and placed him near the Queen-mother. At length being convinced of his worth, he took an opportunity to remember his faithful servant. On occasion of a mock battle fought near *Berlin*, the king ordered a few trees, to an inconsiderable value, to be cut down on the estate of *Madam Kneephause*, the mother-in-law of Mr. *Keith*, with whom also Mr. *Keith* did not stand very fair. His Majesty seeing Mr. *Keith* at court the day after, called to him, and in very obliging terms asked him, "Will you do me a pleasure? Carry this casket to your mother-in-law, with my compliments: and here is the key of it." In it were found 10,000 crowns in gold, and a very polite letter to that lady, recommending Mr. *Keith* to her in the strongest, and most affectionate terms.

With

With regard to filial duties, “ few private men, says our Author, treat their parents with more respect than he does his mother \*, whom he never approaches covered, nor without the highest expressions of reverence : when he is in *Berlin*, he visits her every day ; nor does he treat his sisters with less politeness. He is civil to his own Queen, but nothing more : this is a part of his history, which the people do not talk of. I observed in the opera house, that he placed the Margravine of *Bareith* at his right hand ; and when he took his leave, retired backwards two or three yards.”

Besides his great skill in music, in which he composes as well as performs, he has a taste for poetry ; and after suffering all the fatigues of a General in the day, he possesses such tranquillity as to answer letters of pleasure and politeness, and even to write verses in the evening, as I was assured by one of his Chaplains. His Memoirs of the house of *Brandenburg*, are a proof of his abilities as an author.

The grand secret of life, with regard to the execution of much business of every kind is a proper distribution of the several hours of the day ; which nobody understands better than his *Prussian* Majesty. His constitution having suffered by too little rest, he now goes to bed early, and sleeps seven or eight hours : by this means he is in a condition to rise early ; and besides the business of the cabinet and parade, he can enjoy his favourite pleasures of books and

\* Her Majesty is since dead.

music. It is amazing that he can be so devoted to business, and yet so fond of music, in which few who have not a good genius arrive at any great proficiency; but of all the enjoyments of sense, says an eminent divine, this is the least sensual. When not engaged in war, he generally spends a short time in playing on the *German* flute every morning, before he goes to the cabinet; there he stays till eleven; he then receives foreign ministers, and executes business of a more public nature till noon: he then usually goes abroad, and gratifies himself in seeing military exercises, performing the duty of a soldier, and keeping up the spirit of discipline. Soon after one he dines; about three one of the secretaries reads to him, and in the evening he has a concert. This is the usual manner in which he fills up the day. There have been much talk of the secret manner in which he conducts business; but besides the execution of some important parts of it with his own hand, his secretaries have every one their private apartment, and each his particular province assigned, so that if he discovers that any of them are unfaithful, there is no difficulty where to fix it.

Mr. *Hanway* soon after observing, that the steady hand with which this prince conducts his government, promises a happy reign, adds these remarkable words, which the event seems to have rendered in a manner prophetic; "The time may come, when it will be the mutual interest of this nation, and the house of *Brandenburg*, to unite again. ---- But what-  
ever

ever changes time may produce in states ever subject to change, honour, I think, will be due to the present king of *Prussia* from us, and all mankind. He has established a reputation upon the surest foundation, was it only for that bold and generous stroke in politics, in delivering his country from the jaws of lawyers, who before his time, at least in *Brandenburg*, sported with the sufferings of the wretched, and saw unmoved the tears of the widow. In the *Prussian* dominions the decision of causes cannot now be protracted to a tormenting length. How long this will last, it is hard to say, unless the King has the art of making his subjects virtuous, as well as obedient to his edicts. The suits in *Brandenburg* are now brought to a speedy issue, at an easy expence, a regulation that could never be made but by the singular attention of a sovereign Prince.”

*Potsdam* is agreeably situated on a branch of the *Spree*; it is of considerable extent, and the buildings neat and regular; but it seems to be entirely occupied by soldiers. The palace, which has not been long built, is small but elegant, particularly the king's writing chamber and study: the last is partitioned off by balustrades of silver. The frames of the looking-glasses, and embellishments of the tables are also of the same metal. The officers dine every day in a large apartment, at the King's expence. The throne in the audience chamber is richly embroidered with the arms of the house of *Brandenburg*, supported  
by

by two *Herculeses*. In one of the apartments are two curious figures in copper of a *Chinese* man sitting, and a woman of the same country, holding an umbrella over him. These figures, which are richly gilt, stand in an oval nich laid with marble, and form a very convenient stove. In the gardens are many large and elegant statues, particularly a *Neptune* and *Amphitrite* seated in a sea car in a large basin, opposite the east front of the palace. The stables are contiguous, and furnished with good *English* hunters.

In *Potsdam* are quartered the king's guards, who are about 2000 men, of great stature and comeliness, well cloathed, and distinguished by silver-laced hats and black cockades. His present Majesty has wisely declined the oppressive measures practised by the King his father, to support this body of men of a prodigious stature, and yet they are still remarkably tall. An *English* nobleman being asked by his late Majesty, if his master had any equal number of troops who would beat these tall fellows, answered, " I don't know that my master has " any regiment that can beat your Majesty's " guards; but I dare engage he has one of " half that number that would fight them."

The *Prussian* soldiers in general are remarkable for the shortness of their coats, which at first view seems to proceed from a ridiculous frugality; but is most plainly calculated for wise ends. Their cloaths sit extremely close to their bodies, and are strengthened at the elbows with leather in the form of a heart; which

which prevents the necessity of patching an old garment. A *Prussian* soldier is never seen the least in rags; but all appear as gentlemen with respect to the cleanliness of their persons. The King's guards, and some other regiments have new cloaths every year; but in general, the army has new regimentals only twice in three years. The last King obliged the soldiers to wear white spatterdashes winter and summer; but his present Majesty observing the inconvenience of it, gave his men black for the winter. In the same season they have breeches of woollen cloth; but in summer they are of white dimity or linen, which are very light and clean. They all wear pigtails, which are easily kept in order, and are always powdered when the men are on duty. This not only serves to preserve the natural hair or wig, but gives the soldier a respect for his own person, and the rank in which he considers himself in some measure compensates for the smallness of his pay. The caps of the grenadiers, and the soldiers hats are small; but at the same time answer all the purposes of an uniform and covering; and by this means their heads are kept cooler, which must be a considerable advantage both in marching and in action. The pay of a common soldier is eight grosch, or fourteen pence a week, and out of this they are supposed to spend three pence in washing, and in materials for cleaning their arms, for which they are much distinguished: but they are allowed bread.

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As *Sans Souci*, or *Without Care*, is in the neighbourhood of *Potsdam*, Mr. *Hanway* indulged his curiosity in going to see that retreat, before he took his leave of the electorate of *Brandenburg*. The building seems intended as a summer-house and library to the palace of *Potsdam*, from which it is about an *English* mile distant. It is situated upon an eminence, and commands a fine view of the town, and a small branch of the *Spree*, which runs by the side of the gardens. The apartments are mostly on the ground floor, and are elegantly finished. From the house to the lower part of the garden is a descent of about 120 yards, by six several ranges of stone steps, and as many terrasses, the sides of which are all planted with vines, covered with glass to shelter them from the cold, and standing full to the south and south-east sun, the fruit is well ripened. The garden below has several fine statues, particularly a *Venus* drawing a net, and a *Diana* with game; the pedestals of which are finely adorned with relievo. This garden is not half an *English* mile in length, and the east end of it is terminated by an *Egyptian* pyramid, embellished with hieroglyphics. The garden, however, has but little turf, and no gravel, and the sandy walks rob it of half its beauty.

On the 23d of *August*, Mr. *Hanway* proceeded through woods and sandy plains to *Britzen*, which is the *Prussian* frontier. He then entered the electorate of *Saxony*, when the pleasantness of the verdure, and the richness of the soil, intermixed with groves, and



covered with herds of cattle, gave the idea of plenty, superior to what is found in *Brandenburg*; yet the œconomy, and happiness of the *Prussians* compensate so greatly for this inequality, that many of the *Saxons* have taken refuge in *Brandenburg*, and for the sake of the government, chuse the sandy soil of that country. Hence the towns built by the King of *Prussia* on his own frontiers, are almost entirely peopled by *Saxons*.

Our Author at length arrived at *Wittenburg*, a fortified town situated near the *Elbe*, famous for the manufactory of coarse cloth: the wool in this country is remarkably good. Cloths are sent hither from all parts to be dyed; and the blues and greens commonly called *Saxon*, are best dyed here. In this place is an academy in which are about 700 students, and here is the *Sokoloff* church, a building of about 300 years standing, where *Martin Luther* first preached the doctrine that occasioned his leaving the *Romish* religion. In this church that great reformer is also interred; but has no other monument besides a brass plate with an inscription, except his original portrait at length, painted on wood, and well preserved, since the year 1540. The people here, as in most places where the *Lutheran* religion prevails, have a strong tincture of *Romish* superstition, among other instances of which, the credulous say, that the devil visited *Luther* in the library which now belongs to the academy; but that the reformer was so unpolite as to throw his ink-stand at him.

In

In passing through this electorate, Mr. *Hanway* observed, that the richness of the soil did not seem to diminish the poverty of the inhabitants. The country about *Grossenhagen* abounds with large storks with black tails, and wings tipped with the same colour. On the 25th he passed by *Molsberg*, a hunting-palace belonging to the King of *Poland*, Elector of *Saxony*, situated on an eminence near the village of *Isingberg*, about eight *English* miles from *Dresden*. The avenue which leads to it is very long, and planted on each side with wild chestnut-trees: it has a good garden, and is encompassed with woods, where the Elector takes such delight in hunting the wild boar, that he sometimes remains there three months together. Hunting indeed, is the favourite diversion of the *Saxon* court; but by this diversion the industrious inhabitants are more distressed than the brutes. Above 30,000 head of deer are said to range in the open lands and forests, and though they break into the corn fields of the farmer, he dare not kill one, under the penalty of being condemned to the galleys. These, with the wild boars, are so great a nuisance, that the *Saxons*, says our Author, would gladly compound to support a body of 8000 soldiers extraordinary, on condition of having these animals reduced to half their present number. In every town of any note fifty of the inhabitants keep watch, five every night, by rotation, with bells to frighten the deer, and defend their corn from these devouring enemies.

The peasants of this country carry provisions a great distance to market in wheelbarrows, which are well adapted for that purpose both in height and other dimensions. The wheel is bound with iron, and is both larger and lighter than those used in *England*.

*Dresden*, the metropolis of this electorate, is situated in the midst of a plain surrounded by lofty hills about two leagues distant, the nearest of which are converted into vineyards. The city stands on both sides the *Elbe*, which are joined by a stone-bridge 540 feet long, and 36 broad, containing 18 arches: but the passage over it being horizontal, takes off from that grand effect which a curve produces in those structures. Upon it is a brazen crucifix of curious workmanship. In this city are several squares and lofty stone buildings six or seven stories high, which make an elegant appearance, but are inferior in beauty to those of *Berlin*; besides, many of the streets are narrow. Near the entrance of the new city is an equestrian statue of the late King *Augustus II.* erected on a lofty pedestal, said to be made by a common smith, and as such may be admired, though it has many capital defects, particularly in the horse's head.

The trade of *Dresden* is very inconsiderable, the most important article is the silver brought in ingots every fifteen days from the mines near *Fridburg*, to the amount of about 20,000 dollars, or 3500*l.* This silver is immediately coined into florins of sixteen grosch, which, with respect to the current money of bats, dri-  
ers,

ers, &c. is worth seven *per cent.* advance, and is therefore so speedily conveyed into the neighbouring territories to be coined again, that it is next to impossible to obtain change in this money for a single louis d'or, in the ordinary commerce of the people.

Among the other calamities under which this country labours, the jealousy arising from religion is none of the least. The established *Lutheran* clergy, oppresses the *Calvanists*, who are obliged to have not only all their marriages and burials, but even their christenings performed by *Lutherans*; while both think themselves extremely injured by the countenance given at court to the *Roman* catholics, and they think it a gross absurdity for a protestant people to be governed by a *Romish* Prince: for according to the established constitution of *Saxony*, the *Roman* catholics can no more have a church in *Dresden*, than their Elector, without being of the *Romish* church, can be King of *Poland*. A chapel, however, is connived at, by which is understood a private, or at least a modest place of worship; but what is called a *Romish* chapel here is a pompous structure, so richly adorned with statues and architecture, that art and expence seem to contend for the superiority. Our Author observes, that it was not then entirely completed. The furniture was intended to be of *Saxon* porcelain, the altar-piece and organ not excepted, and Mr. *Hanway* saw some of the organ pipes in different pieces.

Mr. *Hanway* visited the *Grane Gevolbe*, a part of the royal palace consisting of several rooms filled with curiosities collected at an immense expence.

The first chamber contains an hundred small, but curious statues, the greatest part in brass, particularly an equestrian statue of *Augustus II. King of Poland, Frederic William the Great*, after the famous statue in *Berlin, Lewis XIV. Mercuries, Centaurs, &c.*

The second chamber contains a variety of figures in ivory, and among others one of *Abraham* offering up his son *Isaac*, with the angel descending, all of exquisite workmanship; a fine crucifix; and a ship completely rigged, the ropes represented with gold-wire.

The third contains a variety of figures in silver, in particular a large fountain and four vases of great size.

The fourth contains vessels of pure gold and silver gilt. The pannels of the room are of looking-glass.

The fifth is a spacious room in which are many precious stones wrought with great art; a cup of *Lapis Nephriticus*; a statue of *Charles II. of England*; a ball of crystal six inches in diameter, without blemish; a large goblet set round with the most curious and costly antiques; several fine tables of *Mosaic*; the angel *Michael* vanquishing the devil, admirably performed in wood, and cost in *England*, where it was made 2500l. with a multitude of cups, crystals, mother of pearl, &c.

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The sixth chamber is of precious stones, with a great variety of pearls set in a multiplicity of forms; as the royal crown, sceptres, balls, &c. of the King and Queen, which are of false stones, the precious ones being taken out, and deposited in the next chamber; his present Majesty of *Poland* curiously cut in onyx; a fine piece made of precious stones representing *Janas* thrown into the sea.

The seventh and eighth chambers containing jewels of immense value, are surrounded with glass cases. Besides the jewels of the regalia, and several dozen of coat and waistcoat diamond buttons, there is a brilliant as big as a moderate sized walnut, a green brilliant above an inch long; an onyx of seven inches, valued at 70,000 crowns; a gold cup representing *Diana* in a bath; but the greatest curiosity is an exact representation of the throne of the Great Mogul, in silver figures, enamelled in colours, and adorned with precious stones. There is a view of potentates bringing presents, and falling prostrate at the throne, with elephants, servants, soldiers and attendants.

Mr. *Hanway* having gratified his curiosity by the sight of this expensive collection, went to take a view of the *Kunstammer*, or Cabinet of Curiosities.

The first chamber contains a collection of prints from the commencement of the art of engraving to the present time.

The second is the mineral gallery, in which  
is

is the earth of the different countries in the world, and ores of every denomination.

The third contains petrefactions, particularly of wood, animals, &c.

In the fourth chamber, which is a very large one, are different kinds of wood and vegetables; in particular there is a cabinet with 350 squares as big as the palm of a large hand, run in flat as drawers, of so many different kinds of wood. In this apartment are also the pictures of a man and his wife, who lived near *Tameswar*; the man was 185 years of age, and his wife 172.

In the fifth chamber is a small cabinet of skeletons, and other anatomical curiosities. The sixth contains the skins of a variety of animals stuffed. The seventh has the skins of fishes stuffed. The eighth has a great quantity of different kinds of shells. In the ninth is a cabinet of about six feet high, and four broad, every drawer of which has some natural curiosity in amber. In the tenth is a grotto with springs of water. In the eleventh are many curiosities in coral. The twelfth contains the skeletons of lions, bears, &c. of a prodigious size, and the stuffed skins of some extraordinary beasts, particularly of a horse, whose mane is said to be three ells and a half long, and his tail twelve ells and a half. Mr. *Hanway* did not measure either; but was satisfied with the greatness of the curiosity, from the apparent length of them.

From these apartments Mr. *Hanway* was conducted to another at some distance, to see a model

model of *Solomon's* temple cut in cedar, as described in the Old Testament, with all its furniture. This piece cost 12,000 crowns.

Our Author next took a view of the gallery of pictures, which is one of the finest in the world; part of the collection consists of an hundred capital pieces, which are said to be all originals, and to have cost half a million of crowns. The whole collection consists of above two thousand pieces, the capital works of *Raphael*, *Rubens*, *Corregio*, and all the great masters. They are valued at between two and three millions of crowns, or near 500,000 l.

Mr. *Hanway* next visited the *Chinese* palace, so called from the taste of the building, and the furniture. It stands on the *Elbe*, and commands a view of the bridge, and the *Romish* chapel. The ornaments of the architecture, and the relievo of the frontespiece, are in the *Chinese* taste; but this is far from being an elegant structure. It has fourteen rooms, in which are a great number of leopards, wolves, bears, monkeys, squirrels, &c. some as big as the life with elephants and rhinoceroses of the size of a dog. A prodigious variety of birds and fowl, with a curious collection of different flowers, all of *Dresden* porcelain. The Apostles near three feet high are in white porcelain. There is a representation of the crucifixion four or five feet high, with many other curious pieces: these last are intended for the *Romish* chapel. A clock is preparing for the gallery in this palace, the bells whereof are of *China*: but the hammers must be of wood.

But



But what is most wonderful, here are forty-eight *China* vases, which appear to be of no use, nor any ways extraordinary, except for their great size, and yet the present Elector's father, was so charmed with them, that he purchased them of the late King of *Prussia*, at the price of a whole regiment of dragoons.

The King's gardens, though agreeable, want the natural beauties afforded by an inequality of ground. The palace situated in them is small; but the approach to it is by a grand avenue of a considerable length. A field for tournaments is in the front, and behind is a fine piece of water. The gardens are on the sides, and are adorned with a profusion of marble statues, many of them bigger than the life. They shew the genius of the late King, who being intirely devoted to his amours, left them to after ages as monuments of his lasciviousness. The orangery, which is in another part of the town, has four hundred orange-trees of a very large size, and many exotics.

The palace of Count *Brubl* has been built at several times, and the apartments are elegant and richly furnished. They are adorned with lustres of porcelain in beautiful figures; the tables have a variety of tea equipages, and the figures of men and women, birds and beasts of porcelain. The drawing-room is pannelled with looking-glass, and his cabinet furnished with enamels and crayons. The house and gardens belonging to it are situated on the *Elbe*, near the bridge, and command a pleasant prospect. His library, which is in  
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the garden, is 220 feet long and well furnished with books: but what is most striking is the gallery of pictures, which though it does not contain a fourth part so many as the royal gallery, is incomparably more magnificent. It is 156 ells long, and the paintings are shewn to great advantage, by being ranged only on one side, and fronted by lofty windows, that afford sufficient light to shew the minutest beauties of this excellent collection. The panels between the windows are of looking-glass, against which are placed statues and busts that have a grand effect. This Minister is perhaps the greatest for the world ever produced, he has no less than three or four hundred suits of rich cloaths, which are of all the brightest colours of the finest cloaths, velvets and silks, with all the different kinds of lace and embroidery that can be procured in the different parts of *Europe*. When he dresses, he calls for his book of patterns, and chuses the suit that pleases his fancy for the day. This great man is said to have bought estates in *Poland* to the amount of twenty millions of florins, or 833,333 *l. English*.

It is pretended that there are 30,000 towns and villages in *Saxony*, of which sixty are to be seen from some eminences near *Dresden*. They also reckon that the whole electorate has four millions of people; but our Author does not imagine that they amount to half that number, especially as they acknowledge that they have only two thousand six hundred ecclesiastics, nor were there then in *Dresden* above

a hundred and ten thousand souls. The Elector's revenues amount to near 1,575,000 l. and the standing forces of the electorate are generally reckoned at between forty and fifty thousand men. The people are burthened with heavy taxes, and the expences of the court are so great, that 6500 ducats are annually allowed for sweetmeats, &c. which is near twice as much as the King of *Prussia* allows for his table. Yet *Saxony* is said to owe forty millions of dollars, the interest of which is not regularly paid; but his present Majesty is so fond of curiosities, and particularly paintings, that our Author was told, he gave half a million of dollars, intended for part of a payment due to the King of *Prussia*, for the Duke of *Modena's* pictures.

While Mr. *Hanway* was at *Dresden*, he was introduced to Mr. *Calkoen*, who had been lately Ambassador from the *United Provinces* to the *Ottoman Port*, and was now Envoy and Plenipotentiary to the King of *Poland*. He had resided some time in *England*, and professed himself an admirer of our nation. Mr. *Hanway* was at his table, in company with *Polanders*, *Italians*, *French* and *Germans*. The conversation at first turned upon *Nadir Shah*, after which this gentleman asked our Author, which of the countries he had seen, he thought most agreeable, and where a man of sentiment would chuse to live. Mr. *Hanway* modestly replied, that his knowledge of the world was very limited; that he had seen a great deal of misery in one shape or other, in every country where

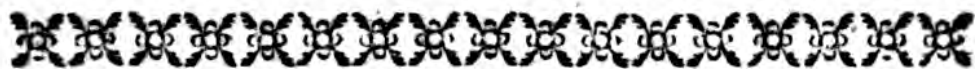
where he had been; but after a pause, determined in favour of *England*. The company seemed surprized at his hesitation, and then gave their suffrage by a loud, but polite applause: and many things were said on this occasion in favour of this happy isle.

On the 30th of *August* Mr. *Hanway* left *Dresden*, and travelled towards *Meissen*. He was delighted with the rural beauties of the country; the corn-fields, gardens, meadow-lands, and pasture produced a charming effect: the banks of the *Elbe* were adorned with a great number of vineyards, and the industry of the people made them form the steepest hills into a number of terrasses covered with vines. On approaching *Meissen* the valley grows narrow, and part of the houses of the banks of the *Elbe*, are built on rocks, which rise perpendicular from the river, and form a very agreeable and romantic scene. The castle of *Meissen*, in which is the porcelain manufactory, is situated on the western bank of the *Elbe*, three *German* miles from *Dresden*, and is a large building, capable of some defence. Our Author had an opportunity of being convinced of the secrecy with which this manufactory is conducted; for there is no admittance into the works without an order from the Governor of *Dresden*; nor are the workmen ever seen without the gates; for they are all confined as prisoners and subject to be arrested, if they go without the walls: for this reason a chapel, and every thing necessary is provided within. The workmen amount to about 700, most of

whom have not above ten *German* crowns a month, and the highest wages are forty ; so that the annual expence is not estimated at above 80,000 crowns. This manufacture being intirely on the King's account, he sells annually to the valaue of 150,000 and sometimes 200,000 crowns, or 35,000*l.*

Mr. *Hanway* passed the *Elbe* on a bridge, and after mounting a steep ascent, entered a plain country, where the soil is rich and well cultivated, towns, woods, and pasture lands are agreeably intermixed, and unite to give an idea of riches and pleasure ; yet the inhabitants are poor, for the taxes fall heavy on the labourers.

Mr. *Hanway* at length arrived at *St. Habertsburg*, another of the hunting palaces belonging to the King. The adjacent country is proper for the sport, and the King's dogs and horses are kept in order by being exercised twice a week. The hunting equipage of the *Saxon* court is the more gay, as an uniform of yellow cloth laced with silver, is on these occasions worn by every one who appears in the field. The palace is large, but not magnificent, nor was it then intirely finished. The rich apartments intended for the Queen are lined with green damask laced with gold, and those for the King, of crimson in the same taste. The dining-room, which is round, is an elegant apartment, and the gallery is of a good size, and was then ready for the fine pictures that his Majesty had marked from among his collection in *Dresden*.



C H A P. XV.

*An Account of Leipzig, and a succinct View of the little Sovereignities of Anhalt Koethen, Anhalt Dessau, Binburg, and Zerbst, with a Description of the Cities of Magdeburgh, Wolfenbittel, Brunswic, and the Palace of Saltzdahlen. A brief Account of the City of Hanover, and of the Palace of Herenhausen.*

ON the 31st of August Mr. Hanway left St. Hubertsburg, and proceeding along a pretty good road, passed by several towns and villages to Leipzig, one of the greatest trading towns in Germany, though it has no river of consequence near it. Magdeburg, which is seated on the Elbe, is fourteen German miles and a half distant, and merchandize is brought from Hamburg by that channel. The wool which is collected in this city is an important article, and greatly contributes to the wealth of the citizens, who have some rich manufactures, and are much distinguished for painted cloths in imitation of tapestry. Here are three fairs, viz. on New Year's-day, Easter, and Michaelmas; but now that of Easter is the only one very considerable. To these fairs resort the Poles, Hungarians, Bobemians, Prussians, people from all parts of Germany, the French, Italians, and even Russians, who all bring the

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produce

produce of their respective countries. But what has distinguished *Leipsic* through a long series of ages, is the liberty of conscience granted to all people. Hence the inhabitants have been industrious in the cultivation of knowledge and moral improvement; and here is an university, which is still very considerable. The inhabitants amount to about 40,000 within the gates, and the suburbs are very populous. There are six churches for the *Lutherans*, theirs being the established religion, one for the *Calvenists*, and a chapel for the *Roman Catholics*, which is in the castle. The fortifications seem rather calculated for the use of the inhabitants to walk on, than for defence. These have four stone gates, and the citizens support 200 soldiers. The city is of small extent; but the houses are very lofty, and have elegant fronts. The streets are clean, commodious and agreeable, and there are two large squares which are used as markets. The city is surrounded with gardens, in particular the *Apel* garden is in an excellent taste, and adorned with statues, which though very indifferent, are so ranged as to have a pleasing effect.

On the 2d of *September* Mr. *Hanway* departed for *Landsperg*, and in the way had a distant view of *Hall*, which is subject to *Prussia*, and famous for its university, particularly for students in physic. At *Landsperg* he re-entered the *Prussian* dominions; the passage from one sovereignty to another being in these parts very frequent; and from thence proceeded

ceeded to the city of *Koethen*, in the petty sovereignty of the prince of *Anhalt Koethen*. This is a considerable place, the inhabitants amounting to about 15,000. They have three churches, and the principal manufactory of gold and silver lace in all *Germany*. The people of the little independent sovereignties of *Koethen*, *Dessau*, *Binburg*, and *Zerbst*, in the opinion of the *Saxons*, live in the land of Milk and Honey. Indeed these petty Princes possess lands sufficient for their expences: the tax on lands is 4 per cent. which at twenty years purchase is not one shilling in the pound. By the constitution of the empire, each of these princes is obliged to support a hundred men in time of war, to defend the liberties of the Empire.

In this town the Prince of *Anhalt Koethen* has a palace. He keeps a body of 250 men who are well cloathed, and his revenues are computed at 160,000 dollars. The security with which a person travels in this part of the world is very extraordinary. The people are sober, and the duties of morality are taught not only by priests, but by parents, whence thefts and robberies in time of peace are hardly known among the *Germans*.

On the 3d, Mr. *Hanway* arrived at *Magdeburg*, where are eight *German Lutheran*, and two *Calvinist* churches. The fortifications of this city are very remarkable, and famed all over *Europe*. There are six deep fosses, which, together with the lowness of the works, renders the place very strong. *Magdeburg* belongs



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to the King of *Prussia*, and is also remarkable  
for its great magazines of merchandize brought  
from *Hamburg* on the *Elbe* which is very rapid.  
These goods are brought in flat-bottom'd boats;  
and from hence sent by land to *Leipsic*, and other  
parts. Here are fourteen floating-mills for grind-  
ing corn, with some manufactories, and re-  
markable buildings; and in the great square is  
an antient statue of the Emperor *Otbo*, who is  
said to have founded this city in the year 930.

Mr. *Hanway* was yet in the *Prussian* domi-  
nions, when his postillion attempting to pass  
by a particular way, to avoid paying the duty  
demanded on the road, an officer posted at an  
avenue to prevent this practice, rode up, stop-  
ped his chariot, and seized one of the horses  
as a trespass: nor would he desist, till our Au-  
thor alighting with a pistol in his hand, let  
him know, that whatever fault the postillion  
had committed, it could not possibly reach  
him, as he had paid for the horses, according  
to the laws, and was travelling under the pro-  
tection of those laws; and therefore if he  
presumed to detain him, he would resist him  
as a robber: upon which the officer thought  
proper to let him pass. The *German* postillions  
wear the liveries of the countries to which  
they belong; in *Brandenburg* they are blue, in  
*Saxony*, yellow. They use small *French* horns,  
and some of them play in no disagreeable man-  
ner; but the majority make a shocking noise.

He next came to *Helmstedt*, which belongs to  
the Duke of *Brunswic*, and is surrounded with  
an old fortification. Here are 200 students,  
who

who are chiefly supported by the bounty of their sovereign. From thence he departed for *Wolfenbittel*, which is four long German miles farther: the road is good, but the country hilly, and the vallies abound in cattle. There are several groves of oaks, which being kept perfectly clean, have a fine effect. The inhabitants of the towns and villages have the appearance of great health and easy circumstances. A few miles to the eastward of this road are several mines of iron, copper, silver, and some say gold.

Mr. *Hanway* arrived at *Wolfenbittel* after the gates were shut; but procured admission. The fortifications are very neat and regular; but not calculated for an extraordinary defence. The houses are low, but the streets clean; and within the walls is an ancient palace belonging to the Duke, which is rather convenient than grand; but it has several apartments well furnished, and two small galleries of pictures. In the city are a good arsenal and a library, which last our Author declined seeing, from the opinion, that the simple view of libraries, without examining their contents, is a more barren entertainment, than surveying the sky without thinking of him who made it.

The next day he travelled along a pleasant road to *Brunswic*, the walls of which are lofty, and the fortifications very considerable. This is the residence of the Duke of *Wolfenbittel*: his Majesty the King of *Great Britain* is a branch of that family, and takes the title of  
Duke

Duke of *Brunswic*. The Duke's forces in time of peace are estimated at 13,000 men; and yet the revenues of the country are said not to exceed a million and a half of dollars, or 262,000 *l*. These troops are clean, and cloathed much after the *Prussian* manner; but their arms are lighter, and their exercise not so exact. In the arsenal of the city are about sixty pieces of brass cannon, several cohorns and mortars, and ten pieces of large battering cannon of an enormous size, and a great quantity of small arms. On the ramparts is a brass mortar-piece made in 1411, which is ten feet six inches long, and nine feet two inches in diameter. It requires 52 pounds of powder, and will carry a ball of 730 pounds weight to the distance of 33,000 paces, and throw a bomb of 1000 pounds weight. Here are several churches, one of them is a very ancient gothic structure, the cieling of which is ornamented with twenty large paintings, representing the Prophets of the *Old Testament* in the clouds of Heaven, which give the edifice a very solemn air. The high altar is of marble, adorned with the statues of the four Evangelists, and supported below by *Moses* and *Aaron*.

This branch of the house of *Brunswic* is very numerous, consisting of near thirty persons. People of distinction seldom leave this court without being extremely well satisfied with their reception, and in particular, *English* noblemen are well received when they occasionally pass that way. The Duke seems more fond of ease and happiness, than of the parade  
of

of life. He generally appears in his coach with three other persons of his family. His livery is yellow laced with a blue silk and silver galoon; behind his coach are usually four footmen; two pages in blue cloth laced with silver run by its sides, and a single servant in livery rides before to clear the way.

His palace of *Saltzdahlen* is situated above a German mile from *Brunswic*, in a very mean village; but is worthy of being seen. The greatest part of the edifice is of timber, and the rooms are mostly lined with painted cloth, which gives them an air of grandeur at a small expence. Our Author here observed the magnificence of a sovereign Prince restrained by a parsimonious regard to small revenues, and to the necessary support of a family and an army. The garden is in no bad taste; but the statues are very mean. The gallery of pictures is a noble apartment, and contains many capital pieces done by the greatest masters. The left wing is furnished in a grotesque taste with *China* porcelain, ranged in an agreeable manner; another is filled with painted enamelled ware, great part of which is said to be done by *Raphael of Urbino*, when he was enamoured of the potter's daughter. Among the pictures are several curious originals: those that most struck our Author, were *Adam* and *Eve* viewing *Abel* after his death, and pulling open his eyes; this piece is by *Strudel*. *Abraham* embracing his son after the trial which God had made of his faith; piety and joy here seem to contend with

with each other, while his looks express a terrific adoration: this piece is by *Liebens-Peter* delivered from prison by the Angel, by *Steinbeck*: *Judith* and her attendant, an old woman, holding *Hollifernes's* head just cut off, the face appearing with some signs of life: *Spinola*, by *Rubens*: the famous *Rembrandt*, his wife and three children, in one piece, by himself: *Cephalis* and *Procris*, a very fine piece: the *Ascension* by *Vangermen*, which is much esteemed: *Lewis XIV.* and his two mistresses; *Prince Eugene*; the marriage of two *Hollanders*, the young man and woman looking tenderly at each other, while the parents are attentive to the notary who draws up the articles.

The dutchy of *Brunswic* carries on a trade of some consequence with *Bohemia*. The country abounds in hops, that are esteemed the best in *Germany*; and has also great plenty of turnips, of the seed of which they make good oil.

On Mr. *Hanway's* approaching the city of *Hanover*, it appeared at the distance of a long *German* mile, as if it stood in the midst of a wood. The King was then at *Ghoerd*, a hunting palace twenty-eight *German* miles from that city; and it is said that twelve hundred persons may be accommodated in that palace. The woods are cut into vistas, and are so extensive that the trees, which had been blown in a late storm, though computed at 80,000, could hardly be missed.

*Hanover* is in many respects a pleasant city, and though it does not equal *Berlin* and *Dresden*, may be esteemed elegant. It is watered by

by the *Leina*, which is a branch of the *Aller*, that runs into the *Weser*, and has consequently a communication with *Bremen*; but it has no trade worth mentioning. The fortifications are not formidable, but the walks round them are very agreeable.

The palace is situated on the banks of the *Leina*, and having suffered greatly by a fire, a considerable part of it had been rebuilt. It has several courts, and the rooms are grand and commodious: this palace is most distinguished by many of the rooms being hung with very rich tapestry. The opera house, and the theatre for the *French* comedians are both within the palace, and though antient, are commodious. The whole is rather rich, decent and elegant, than very splendid. The guard is always mounted, and an open table kept, even when the King is not in his electoral dominions, at which time the administration, composed of a council of state, is conducted with the utmost dignity. During the whole winter a play is exhibited, and a concert performed twice a week; when the courtiers, without exception, take place according to their military rank. The King's stables are magnificent; and besides his riding horses, which were then absent, they contained thirteen complete sets of coach horses, the most beautiful of their kind.

The King's forces in the electorate in time of peace are said to be twenty-four thousand, and the revenues of the electorate are about four millions of dollars, or 700,000 *l.* a considerable

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siderable part of which arises from the silver  
mines. The number of inhabitants in the  
city of *Hanover* hadly exceeds 50,000.

But nothing excites the curiosity of travellers like the palace of *Herenhausen*, situated about two *English* miles to the north of the city. The way to it is through an agreeable avenue of trees, but the road is sandy. However, Mr. *Hanway* observes, that he does not know whether he was more mortified or surprized to find that the building fell vastly short of his expectations; for tho' in *England* it is said, our hospitals are palaces, and our palaces more proper for hospitals, yet he had conceived the opinion that this palace, so much talked of, was indeed grand, and worthy of his Majesty. It was built in the year 1670, by *Ernest Augustus* the King's grandfather: the greatest part of it is of wood, and the apartments in general rather give the idea of a large ancient mansion house belonging to a private gentleman in *England*, than of the palace of a great monarch: but it has rich furniture and some good pictures. The garden however, is justly worthy of admiration. Mr. *Hanway* had seen none in *Germany* comparable to it, though it wants those exquisite charms, and that enchanting variety, capable of being produced by an inequality of ground, of which we have numerous proofs in *Great Britain*. One side of the garden has a narrow piece of water above a quarter of a mile in length. The walks, which are wide and spacious, are mostly laid with gravel. The garden is divided  
into

into large squares and basons, and in the intermediate spaces are lofty groves and orchards; the whole has a grand effect, but in our Author's opinion, is not very rural. The statues, which are mostly of stone, do not appear to be of the first rank; but the *jet d'eau* erected in 1716 by Mr. *Benson*, perhaps exceeds any thing of the kind in the whole world: it throws the water seventy feet high. Here also, according to the *German* taste, is a sylvan theatre, on which are sometimes exhibited plays and masquerades: this theatre is adorned with statues, and occasionally illuminated in a grand taste.



C H A P. XVI.

*Our Author proceeds to Zell, and from thence to Hamburg and Bremen, which are described. He arrives at Amsterdam: a Description of that City, and of the Manners of the Dutch: and also of Haerlem, Leyden, the Hague, Dort, Rotterdam and Helvoet, where Mr. Hanway embarks for England, and lands at Harwich.*

**O**N the 15th of *September* Mr. *Hanway* left *Hanover*, and proceeded to *Zell*. The chief production of the country near the road is turf, which serves as fuel for the neighbouring inhabitants. In several places he observed about three feet from the surface of the earth,



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the remains of ancient buildings, which the common people foolishly think have remained there ever since the deluge.

*Zell*, which is subject to the house of *Hanover*, is a considerable fortified place. The palace also is fortified by a wall and a moat, and being situated on an eminence, commands an extensive prospect. Here are four *Lutheran* churches, one *French*, and one *Dutch* reformed church, and one for the *Roman* catholics. The houses are mostly mean, and built of wood. The town has a small trade with *Bremen* by means of the river *Aller*.

From thence our Author travelled four *German* miles to *Weissendorf*, the greatest part of the way appearing like a desert, with only three or four mean villages; but there are flocks of sheep, and a little corn. This electorate supplies the greatest part of *Germany* with mutton, as *Brandenburg* and *Westphalia* produces hogs, and *Hungary* beef; but as each of these countries produces corn enough for its own consumption, the trade in that article of commerce is very small. On the 17th he reached *Hamburg*. The banks of the *Elbe* below that city, are in some places very high, and exhibit a delightful view of several small islands in the middle of the river, which is five or six *English* miles over. It is very unlucky for travellers who are disposed to entertain a good opinion of the electorate of *Hanover*, that the road from the metropolis cross the country to the *Elbe*, in the way to *Hamburg* has so barren and desolate an appearance.

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The districts of *Zell* and *Lunenburg* are by no means scenes of pleasure; but at some distance from the road in *Hanover*, 'tis said the lands are fertile and well peopled.

*Hamburgh* is a Hanse-town of the greatest importance of any in *Europe*; for its situation for trade, and the reputation of its laws, have long furnished it with opulent inhabitants. It stands in the dutchy of *Holstein* on the north side of the *Elbe*, where that river forms many islands, and some part of the town is so low, that the inhabitants are much incommoded by the overflowing of the water, when there are high tides, and north-west winds. The houses are strong and lofty, and many of them extremely neat; but most of the streets are so narrow as hardly to suffer wheel-carriages to pass each other: their coachmen are, however, remarkably dexterous. Indeed seventy years ago coaches were hardly known among them; but they are now very common. There are also many spacious streets; but these lying higher, and more detached from the water, are not so much frequented by wealthy merchants.

This place is, with respect to *Germany*, what *Amsterdam* is to *Europe*, a magazine of the different produce and merchandize of the trading world. Many of the houses are built on the very edge of the canals, so that ships may unload into their warehouses. The number of vessels of considerable burthen belonging to the town is computed at four hundred, of which thirty of the principal are employed in

the trade to and from *London*. The *British* factory there is possessed of as distinguished privileges, as any body of foreigners enjoy in any part of the commercial world.

The fortifications of the town on the land side are considered as very strong. The walks round the ramparts extend about four *English* miles, and in most parts are very pleasant. On the east side is a large piece of water formed by a small river called the *Alster*, within the walls, on which the town's people amuse themselves in the summer, by rowing about it, attended by bands of musicians. The citizens have also several gardens on the banks of the *Elbe* and the *Alster*, some of which are agreeable; but being mostly in the *Dutch* taste, they are very small, but kept in exquisite order, so as to appear rather like a puppet-show, than a rural scene.

The city is divided into five parishes, in which are five capital churches. The *Lutheran* is the established religion; but there is not a toleration as in *London* and *Amsterdam*: the *Roman* catholics are objects of great jealousy; but the *Jews*, who support themselves by commerce and brokerage, are indulged.

The government of the city is composed of four burgomasters, twenty-four senators, fourteen of whom are chosen from among the merchants, and ten bred to the study of the law: there are also four syndics or lawyers, who act as secretaries of state, and under these are four real secretaries: besides these, each of the parishes has three officers in the nature of  
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the tribunes of the people among the ancient *Romans*, and nothing of moment is resolved on by the senate without their concurrence. The number of inhabitants may be reckoned at 181,000, and the suburbs and adjacent villages contain half as many more. The manufactures of this place, except baking sugar, and printing calicoes, are very inconsiderable.

The better sort of people are extremely affable, most of them having travelled; but the women are very reserved: they generally go veiled with black silk, but when they have reason to entertain a favourable opinion of their own beauty, they wear them so as not to hide their faces. There is here no appearance of state and grandeur, their chief pursuit being trade. As there are no marks of regal authority to create a due subordination, the easy circumstances of the greatest part of the inhabitants have introduced a species of insolence peculiar to a republican state, and the common people tread close upon the heels of those of higher rank: it is observable, that they have here introduced the custom of giving money to servants, and thus, as in some other countries, the domestic obligations of society are converted into acts of venality.

On the 30th of *September* our Author left *Hamburg* and arrived at *Blankenefs*, which is two short *German* miles from that city, through a delightful road on the banks of the *Elbe*, which gives a fine and extensive view of part of the *Hanoverian* dominions on the west, and of the *Danish* territories in *Holstein* on the east

of that river. There is no stage for post-horses. The ferry is very small for a wheel-carriage, and the rusticity of the *Danish* boors is apt to create vexations; they very frequently staying on shore to decide, by a certain game, who shall attend the passenger. The breadth of the river here is about an *English* mile; and near the same distance up a creek is *Crantz*, a mean village in the *Hanoverian* dominions. At this place there being no post, the peasants are obliged to find horses for passengers at a certain rate. *Crantz* is but a mean place, though it extends above two *English* miles. It is built on the top of a high bank, intended to resist the overflowing of the *Elbe*, which sometimes happens. The country abounds in meadow and corn lands.

On the first of *October* Mr. *Hanway* pursued his journey to *Closter-seven* through an indifferent road. The country is but thinly inhabited. From thence is three *German* miles to *Otterberg*, through a sandy country; but as he approached towards *Bremen*, he found it much improved. Within an *English* mile of *Bremen*, he took notice of three stones, on which were the arms of the *British* crown: these serve to mark out the boundaries of the *Hanoverian* dominions.

*Bremen* is situated on a plain on both sides the river *Weser*, over which it has a bridge. The dutchy in which it stands formerly belonged to the *Swedes*; but being conquered by the *Danes*, they sold it to the Elector of *Hanover* in 1716; yet only a small quarter of the town  
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in which stands a church called the *Dome*, is subject to that electorate. The rest, with its territories, is free, and under its own laws and magistrates. These are four burgomasters, and twenty-four senators, chosen out of the citizens who profess *Calvenism*, which is the established religion; and they have five churches for the citizens of that persuasion. The inhabitants are supposed to amount to 30,000; and one would imagine that they are extremely pious, SOLI DEO GLORIA, or *Glory to God alone*, being in large characters over their doors and windows, within doors and without.

Most of the streets are narrow; but many houses make a good appearance, and the shops are well stocked with merchandize. The city has a town-house, an exchange, and water-works, by which it is supplied from the river. In the market-place is the figure of a Giant fourteen feet high clothed in armour, said to represent a General named *Rowland* or *Royland*, who they say saved the city when it was in the utmost danger from the *Swedes*. But what is most remarkable, is the great *Dome*, where the worship is performed after the *Lutheran* manner, the people of this persuasion being almost as numerous as those of the established religion. It is an antient gothic structure, reputed to be about 600 hundred years old, and under it is a vault in which are the bodies of several persons said to be deposited in it 150 years before our Author was there, and had been discovered 40 years before that time to be entire. The linen in which they are dressed,

dressed, is as light as tinder : their skins look black and parched, but their features are distinguishable : they are extremely light, and the cohesion of the parts are entire. The vault, which is about six feet below the surface of the earth, and vaulted eight or nine feet high, appears to have nothing extraordinary, except that the air seems temperate, and the walls perfectly dry. A dead cat that was accidentally thrown in through the window, was preserved as well as the human bodies. The vault is not suffered to be cleaned, from the idle opinion that it may lose its virtue. Several persons have offered considerable sums to have their bodies deposited there, to which the priests object, alledging the sentence of God, *That man shall return to dust*. However, it is probable that the magistrates do not chuse to indulge these persons, as the *Lutheran* is not the established church.

From *Bremen* is a long causeway, the country being often covered with water. About a mile from the town, Mr. *Hanway* re-entered the *Hanoverian* dominions, and after a journey of three long *German* miles, he arrived at *Wildeshausen*, a principal town, and the residence of the Great Bailiff of the district, of which there are twenty-five in the *Hanoverian* territories.

From thence he travelled to *Hasselune*, a pretty agreeable town belonging to the Elector of *Cologne*. Poverty and superstition here prevail, and there are crucifixes erected on almost every hillock. He then came to *Lingen* in the circle of *Westphalia*. This town is subject to  
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the King of *Prussia*, and has a small fortification. The breadth of the streets and regularity of the houses give the traveller a striking idea of that good order for which the *Prussians* are so much distinguished. This town formerly belonged to *William III.* King of *England*, and on his death devolved to the house of *Brandenburg*.

On the 4th of *October*, our Author approaching the dominions of the *United Provinces*, arrived at *Northorn*, where the women appeared to be almost blinded with the smoke arising from the turf, which they have here in great abundance, that part of the country producing scarce any thing else. The heaths preserved for the production of this fuel are larger than is generally imagined, considering the small extent of the dominions of the states; but except these, the hand of industry appears in a very remarkable degree: the inclosure of meadows, corn land, and kitchen-gardens, plantations of trees, and banks which are thrown up for roads, demonstrate the labour of the peasant, and at the same time afford an agreeable prospect. Their cows are red, and constitute their principal riches, by the great quantity of butter and cheese they produce. The little towns he now passed through, began to exhibit that cleanliness for which the *Hollanders* are so much distinguished. The marriages of this country are performed with a humourous solemnity: pillars and festoons of verdure, adorned with garlands and flowers are



70 *The TRAVELS of J. HANWAY, Esq;*  
are prepared for the decorations of a nuptial  
feast at the houses of the parties.

From *Northorn* he came to *Daventer*, a large  
city in the province of *Overyffel*, formerly a  
hans-town; but now subject to the States. It  
stands on the river *Yffel*, which bears vessels of  
burthen. There is a large wooden bridge over  
it, which subjects the passenger to a heavy  
toll. This river runs into the *Zuyder Sea*. The  
town is well fortified, and has a strong garri-  
son; the streets and houses are neat, and the  
shops well supplied with manufactures, and  
other necessaries. It has a good inland trade;  
but no manufactories.

From hence is a regular post four *German*  
miles, to *Voorthusen*. The soil of the country  
is various. Near the midway is *Loo*, a famous  
seat of the Prince of *Orange*. *Voorthusen* is a  
mean village, and the country has no agreea-  
ble aspect. He thence proceeded to *Amers-  
fort* two *German* miles; the first of which is  
through a sandy country, where there is but  
little cultivated land, or appearance of rich in-  
habitants; but towards *Ovelach* the country ap-  
pears worthy of the reputation it has in the  
world: here are large plantations of tobacco  
for the produce of which the land is thrown  
up in ridges two feet high. The consumption  
of this article in the *United Provinces* is very  
considerable.

*Amersfort* is an ancient and considerable town  
in the province of *Utrecht*, on the small river  
*Eems*, which runs into the *Zuyder Sea*. Here  
is a very large church that has an excellent  
set

set of chimes. The houses and streets are remarkably clean; but the manners of the people, are far from being equally delicate. They shew their rusticity in an apparent contempt of strangers. This town is supported by husbandry, and has a considerable trade in tobacco of its own growth. Many of the people wear wooden shoes, which are most convenient, for their brick floors and incessant washing.

From *Amersfort* Mr. *Hanway* departed for *Naarden*, which is about two *German* miles distant. Here turnpikes are very numerous, and passengers are made to pay regularly in many places where there is no fence. About two *English* miles from *Amersfort* is *Soesdyke*, a palace belonging to the Prince of *Orange*, that has a park said to be eight *English* miles in circumference. Being impatient to reach *Amsterdam*, he declined visiting *Utrecht* remarkable for a treaty that has blotted the annals of *England*, and aggrandized the house of *Bourbon*: but it is said to be one of the most agreeable places, and as worthy the attention of a traveller as any in the *United Provinces*.

The road to *Naarden* passes through regular plantations of trees, and the country is well cultivated and inhabited. This is the boundary of the province of *Holland*, and is situated near the *Zuyder Sea*. The fortifications are considerable, being partly composed of a broad double moat filled from the sea. From hence to *Amsterdam* is reckoned two *German* miles: the whole country consists of pastures and gardens that appear below the surface of the sea, if one  
may

may judge from the hulls of ships on the water. The road on the banks of the canals is made with great cost; and in the avenue to *Amsterdam* is a causeway, which has small villages and gardens belonging to the citizens on each side, that greatly beautify the face of this artificial country. The gates of *Amsterdam* are shut at six in the evening, but are opened to passengers till ten for a stiver each person.

The wonderful city of *Amsterdam*, as well as many other towns of the *Netherlands*, is a work of art and labour not inferior to the greatest monuments of human industry in past ages. It is situated about 220 *English* miles from *London*, and derives its name from the river *Amstel*; it being formerly called *Amsteldam*, or the dam of the *Amstel*, which is the name generally given to it in authentic records. Our Author observes, that it was then reckoned about 400 years from its first beginning, and 270 from its being enclosed with walls. In 1570 the *Dutch* began to lay the foundation of their wealth and naval strength. About twenty years before that time, they embraced the doctrines of *Calvin*, and being provoked by the oppressive measures of *Romish* bigotry, they shook off the *Spanish* yoke. The *Spaniards* exerted themselves upon this occasion, from religious, as well as political motives; but they were unable to render that confederacy abortive, which at length united the Seven Provinces, and formed a powerful republic.

About the year 1600 the love of liberty and gain caused such a conflux of people thither, that

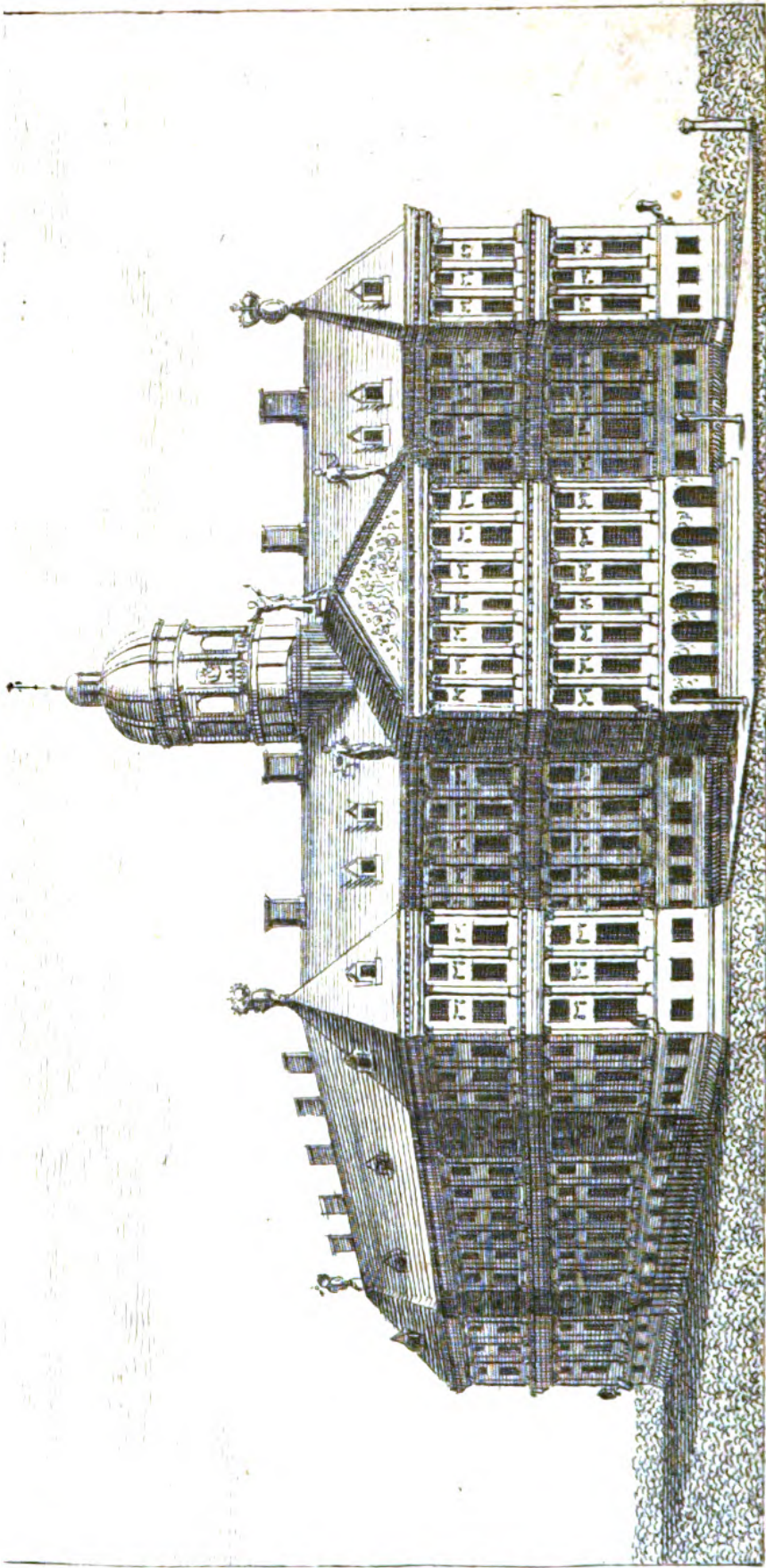
that the walls were extended, and since that time they have been farther enlarged, so that they are now about three leagues in circumference. The city is generally esteemed near one third as populace as *London* and *Paris*. Within the walls are reckoned 26,500 houses, and about 240,000 inhabitants, besides those in the suburbs which are small. The greatest strength of the place is in the difficulty of access both by sea and land; but the numerous shoals that render the entrance of the *Texel* difficult, have not obstructed the progress of commerce. One remarkable proof of œconomy is obvious in the fortifications of the city; for the bastions, which are very numerous, have each a windmill.

Most of the streets are extremely clean; but except those that have canals, they are much too narrow. However, they are rendered less incommodious by the hired coaches being set on sledges drawn by one horse. Merchandize is also drawn on sledges which are not only the most convenient vehicles for the inhabitants and their trade; but are calculated to preserve the houses, which being built on piles, might in time be damaged in their foundations, by having a great number of wheel-carriages. Gentlemen's coaches are however, for the most part set on wheels, but for this liberty they pay a considerable tax. The principal streets, or rather quays of the canals, are agreeably planted on each side with trees; but the canals sometimes smell very offensively. The houses are rather neat than elegant or com-

modious : the nature of the climate renders it necessary to wash them often : but the greatest part of the people carry this kind of cleanliness so far as hardly to afford themselves time for the necessary care of their persons. The entrance of the houses is generally by steps, which rise four or five feet from the ground, and the passage into the rooms, which runs very deep, is floored and pannelled with marble, which has an air of grandure in miniature. They have much neat, and some rich furniture, which seems rather occasioned by an ancient custom of neatness and elegance, than the effect of a luxurious and expensive taste.

Of all the buildings in *Amsterdam* the town-house is the most distinguished. It is 282 feet in front, 232 deep, and 116 high, exclusive of the cupola. It cost three millions of guilders, or three hundred thousand pounds sterling, when money was more valuable than it is now, which will be less surprising, if we consider that it is founded upon thirteen thousand large piles. This is a very grand and useful building, and yet is neither elegant nor agreeable. It contains the offices and tribunals for the execution of the laws in the several branches of the military, as well as civil government. It is very observable that the entrance of this building is very mean ; but had the doors been proportioned to the rest of the edifice, they would have been more subject to be forced, upon occasion of those tumultuous assemblies of the people, that are not unfrequent in this country. The stadthouse is guarded in the  
night





*The Stadthouse at Amsterdam.*

night by a body of the burghers, who are thus charged with the care of the great reservoir of the wealth of the *United Provinces*. In the lower apartments is the bank, in which is said to be deposited immense sums.

The exchange is two hundred and fifty feet long, and a hundred and forty broad; but it is much inferior in architecture and embellishment to that of *London*. It is supported by forty six pillars which are marked with numbers, and the merchants take their stands near particular pillars to be the more easily found. The city is guarded by a militia of the burghers.

The established religion is that of *Calvinism*, for which there are eleven churches for the *Dutch*, one for the *English*, two for the *Germans*, and two for the *French*; but the *Roman Catholics* are said to have near thirty places of worship. Besides these there are *Lutherans* and *Baptists*: the *Jews* are also numerous, and have their synagogues as in *London*; but none of these religions, except the *Calvinists*, are allowed the use of bells; and the States invalidate all marriages not performed according to the rites of the established church, unless the parties first engage themselves in form before the civil magistrate, and then they may perform the ceremony according to their respective religions.

Mr. *Hanway* passing over the *Y*, (which is also called the *Ya*,) to *Sardam*, had an opportunity of observing the immense labour saved by the means of windmills. Here they saw



timber at a very easy rate ; and he observed in one of these a tree eight or nine inches in diameter, sawed into thirty-six boards, with great exactness. This occasions their building ships cheaper than in other parts. They here grind woods and other materials for dying, make gunpowder and paper, of which here are the best manufactories in *Holland*. These mills are likewise employed in many other uses. This work is performed by very few hands, and the women are employed as well as the men ; which gives a lively idea of that industry and œconomy from which the *United Provinces* have derived their wealth. Many of these windmills are erected at a great expence, from their being built on ground that is little better than a marsh.

With respect to their dykes, the *Dutch* have lately made great improvements : they now line many of their shores with large stones. The dyke to the *Zuyder Sea* is raised about sixteen feet perpendicular, and goes off upon an easy slope. The stones are here regularly laid, and form an excellent defence against the water : but the dykes toward the north sea are said to be more lofty, and not to be supported but with piles at a great expence.

The neighbourhood of a dreadful volcano cannot render the situation of the inhabitants more precarious than that of the *Dutch* is from the nature of their country. In spite of their great skill and industry, the ocean has often past its bounds, and exhibited a lively picture of the general deluge. In 1530 a great part  
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of *Zealand* was overflow'd. In the same century seventy two villages on the coasts of *Holland* and *Friezland* were swallowed up, and near 20,000 people perished; and in 1665 an inundation broke down the dyke of *Muydenburg* and laid the whole country round *Naarden* and many places in the province of *Utrecht* under water. The dyke between *Amsterdam* and *Haerlem* and many others were also broke: but the calamity was no sooner over, than the inhabitants, in a great measure, repaired the damage.

*Amsterdam* is a prodigious magazine of corn, wine, timber, and many other commodities imported from abroad; while the inhabitants excel in sugar-baking, dying, bleaching of linen and wax, manufacturing of paper, sail-cloth, and no inconsiderable quantity of silk and wool. Their herring and whale fisheries produce immense riches, and their *East India* trade is of the highest importance to them both in *Europe* and *Asia*, the article of spices alone is a mine of gold, which they have preserved with more care and assiduity than if it were really such.

With respect to balance of trade between *Great Britain* and the *United Provinces*, the linnens, flax, sail-cloth, haberdashery goods, juniper-berries, &c. which this nation take of the *Dutch*, greatly exceed in value the tobacco, coals, lead, and tin, they take of the *British* subjects.

Though there are many *Hollanders* who think judiciously, and in some respects live elegantly,

the common people are extremely boorish. Our Author observes, that he has seen a boatman in a great city, strut up and down a room with his hat on, his hands on his hips, and, with a careless air of insolence, spit at the feet of a gentleman who was treating him with civility, and giving him an opportunity of getting a guinea for an inconsiderable service. This they mistake for liberty, while their knowledge is confined to the common means of gain, and the gratifications of the calls of nature. Cheese, beer, geneva, brandy, and tobacco are the joys that seem to crown the labours of the common people; but in their cups they are apt to mix cruelty with their rusticity.

Constant employment, coldness of complexion, and perhaps the nature of their food, may contribute to their being but little addicted to love. The women who are not of high rank, adorn their heads with gold-lace, and other of the like ornaments, but with more frugality than is generally practised in *Germany*. Except a few court ladies, they have not much taste or delicacy in their manners. Some have good complexions; but there are few beautiful: their teeth are in general bad, and most of their children are sickly till the age of eight or ten. The women in this country seldom breed after they are thirty; and as the men are remarkable for wearing many breeches, the women in cold weather use pots with live coals of wood or turf set into boxes bored full of holes, and put under the petticoats: this is not only apt to make them old from the waist downward, before

before the time ordained by nature, but the smell of the coals is offensive. Thus there is a proverbial saying, that "the dirtiest piece of furniture in the house of a *Dutchman* is his wife."

The revenues of *Amsterdam* are reputed to be one fourth of what is paid by the Seven Provinces: they generally calculate two millions of people in the *United Provinces*, and two millions sterling at the lowest computation, are annually paid in taxes.

On the 16th of *October*, Mr. *Hanway* took his leave of *Amsterdam*, and embarking at *Haerlem* gate, took the roof or cabin of the *Treck-scoot*: these stage boats are extremely commodious, as they set out at stated hours, and perform their passage at a certain time almost to a minute. The *Haerlem* canal is bounded by meadow lands, stocked with horned cattle: but there are not many houses near the banks. In two hours and a half he reached *Haerlem*, a considerable town remarkable for its cleanness; though its fortifications are in some parts only a brick wall. Here are twelve churches of which only four are of the established religion. A little to the south of this city is *Haerlem Meer*, which is a large lake; but it abounding in shallows, and being much exposed to the wind, the canal is much preferable for the commerce with *Amsterdam*.

Mr. *Hanway* having made a short stay at *Haerlem*, he embarked for *Leyden*. The banks of the canal to the last mentioned city are higher than those of *Haerlem*. Here the cows  
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are covered with body cloaths, from the opinion that by keeping their backs warm, they give a greater quantity of milk; and the scene is diversified by several country houses, plantations of trees, and agreeable walks. The distance to *Leyden* is fifteen *English* miles, and he was exactly four hours on the way. This place is well known for its university, which has students from all parts of *Europe*. The city is neat and agreeable, and the gardens about it extremely fruitful; but as most other places in the *United Provinces* have too much water, this has not enough, nor has it such a communication with the sea as to afford a proper motion by tides to keep the water sweet.

From *Leyden* our Author went in three hours to the *Hague*, which having no inclosure, is called a village. The streets are broad; several of them are without canals, and the houses for the most part are extremely well built. The number of coaches belonging to the noblemen and gentlemen, and the gay appearance in point of dress, give a very different idea of life from that of the trading cities. People here are more polite and easy in their behaviour, than in other parts of *Holland*; the most considerable persons in *Europe* meeting there, as well as the assembly of the States General, which also draws thither the greatest part of the people of the first distinction in the *United Provinces*. Indeed the *Hague* may be considered either as a great city, or as a rural scene, the environs with which it is immediately inclosed being extremely delightful, while as is cus-  
tomary

tomary in great cities, they have plays and other amusements, and at some distance a garden in imitation of *Vauxhall*. There are, however, only two churches of any consequence.

On the 22d of *October* Mr. *Hanway* left the *Hague* and went to *Delft*, a very ancient and pleasant town surrounded by flat meadow-lands of considerable extent. This town, which is well known for its earthen-ware, is well peopled, the inhabitants being computed at above 20,000.

Our Author went from thence to *Rotterdam*, which is hardly seven *English* miles distant, and may justly be esteemed the next in rank to *Amsterdam*. Indeed it has several advantages above that city, particularly with respect to the southern trade of *Europe*: besides, the navigation of the *Maese*, is more safe and commodious than that of the *Texel*, and the air and water are better. The canals here being broad and deep, exhibit the view of a flourishing trade by conveying ships of burthen into the heart of the city. Among other public buildings is a very good exchange for the use of the merchants: but the most remarkable edifice is the great church of *St. Lawrence*, in which are the monuments of several persons of distinction, particularly of their most celebrated sea officers: on the great bridge is the statue of *Erasmus*. There are in this city great magazines of *East India* goods, this city having a share of that trade. The *British* factory is very considerable, and is mostly composed of *North Britons* of the kirk of *Scotland*, who have a church here.

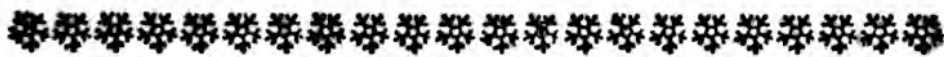
During

During the war in *Flanders* under the great Duke of *Marlborough*, an episcopal church was built by the contribution of the *English* officers, merchants and mariners, and is said to be the only regular episcopal church countenanced and established, belonging to *British* subjects, out of the dominions of *Great Britain*.

On the 27th Mr. *Hanway* went down the *Maese* in a yacht to *Halvoet Sluys*, the port from whence the *Harwich* packet sets out on *Wednesdays* and *Sundays*. Though this is one of the best harbours in the *United Provinces*, yet the town is very inconsiderable, it having only three small streets and a quay which is of considerable extent, and borders a great part of the harbour. From this place may be seen the island of *Goree* to the south, and *Zealand* to the north.

Mr. *Hanway* had here the pleasure to find a small squadron with four yachts, belonging to the crown of *Great Britain*, under the command of Lord *Anson*, his *Britannic Majesty* being expected to embark in his return from *Hanover*, in a few days: a sight which gave him the more pleasure, as he had not seen a *British* ship of war for near eight years before. He embarked on board the packet soon after his arrival, and landed at *Harwich* on the 28th, after a passage of 24 hours.

THE  
TRAVELS  
OF  
Sir JOHN CHARDIN  
THROUGH  
MINGRELIA and GEORGIA  
into PERSIA. †



CHAP. I.

*The Author sets out on his Travels, and sails through the Thracian Bosphorus into the Euxine or Black Sea : he touches at Caffa, Donflow, and Cape Cuodos ; gives a Description of the Country of the Circassian Tartars, and thence proceeds to Isgaour. An Account of the Manners, Customs, and Religion of the Mingrelians, or ancient Colchians : of the Principality of Guriel, and the Kingdom of Imeretta.*

**I** Left *Paris* on the 17th of *August* 1671, to return to *Persia*, where the late King had by letters patent made me his merchant, and ordered me to procure many jewels of value, his Majesty having drawn with his own

† This is a new translation from the original *French*.

hand,



hand, the models by which he would have them set. Mr. *Raisin*, a gentleman of great integrity, who had been my companion in my former travels, engaged again in this trade. We spent fourteen months in the richest countries of *Europe*, in search of the largest stones, and the finest wrought corals. We caused to be made the richest goldsmith's work, watches, and curious clocks, and besides, took with us 12,000 ducats in gold.

We travelled by the way of *Milan*, *Venice* and *Florence*, and arriving at *Leghorn*, embarked in a ship under a *Dutch* convoy; and sailed to *Smyrna*, which we reached on the 2d of *March* 1672, and twelve days after arrived at *Constantinople*. In this city we remained four months; but in the mean while there happening a quarrel between the Grand Vizier and the *French* Ambassador, a report was spread, that the former intended to arrest, not only the Ambassador, but all of the *French* nation in that city, when being afraid that our goods, which were very rich, would be seized, we endeavoured by all possible means to leave *Constantinople*, and to proceed on our journey to *Persia*. The caravans in those hot months did not travel; but the *Porte* being about to send a new Commander with soldiers, and the annual supply of money to the fort of *Azoph*, on the lake *Mæotis*, we obtained a passage in a *Turkish* saick belonging to the fleet, and on the 27th of *July* embarked at a port in the *Thracian Bosphorus*.

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This streight, which is about fifteen miles in length, and in most parts about two in breadth, though in others it is less, is so called, from its being supposed that an ox may swim over it. It is certainly one of the most delightful channels in the world; for the rising shores are covered with pleasure-houses, gardens, woods, parks, and wildernesses, watered with a multitude of springs and fountains. In fair weather the passage through it is rendered exceeding diverting, from the great number of barks that are continually sailing backwards and forwards; and the prospect of *Constantinople* from the top of it at about two miles distance, is more charming than can be imagined. There are four castles well fortified with great guns, two of them opposite each other, eight miles from the *Black Sea*, and two at the mouth of the channel.

On the 3d of *August* in the morning, we arrived at *Cassa*, a port in the *Tauricus Chersonesus*, a peninsula so called, from its being first inhabited by the *Scythians* of Mount *Taurus*. It is 35 leagues from north to south, and 55 from east to west. But the isthmus that joins it to the continent is not above a league in breadth. It is inhabited by the *Crim Tartars*, who dwell in cities and towns, while their neighbours the *Nogays* and *Calmucs*, dwell in tents, as the rest do on the continent.

*Cassa* is a large town in *Crim Tartary*, built at the bottom of a hill, on the bank of the sea, extending in length nearly from north to south. It is surrounded with strong walls,

and has a castle at each of the two ends, which advance into the sea, whence the town on being viewed from a vessel in the harbour, appears to be built in the form of an half-moon. The castle to the south is on an eminence, which commands all the parts about it: 'tis very large, and the residence of the Bassa: the other is smaller, but is well provided with artillery. The houses in the town are computed at about 4000, of which about 3200 belong to the *Turks* and *Tartars*, and the rest to the *Greeks* and *Armenians*: they are small, and built of earth, as are also the mosques, bazars and baths; for it has not any edifice of stone, if we except eight ancient ruinous churches erected by the *Genoese*: the soil about it is dry and sandy, bearing little fruit, and the water is bad; but the air is very pure and wholesome. All provisions are very cheap and good, mutton being not above a farthing a pound, and other things in proportion. There is a great trade carried on here in salt-fish and caviare, which being taken out of the lake *Mæotis*, at 26 miles distance, in great quantities, are transported into *Europe*. The inhabitants also furnish *Constantinople* and several other places, with corn, butter and salt; for the *Cassa* butter is the best in all *Turky*.

On the 30th of *August* we left *Cassa* in a ship bound for *Mingrelia*, and the next day arrived at *Donslow*, or the salt-pits, which are situated on the shore 50 miles from *Cassa*. Here are great quantities of salt made by letting  
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in the sea-water, and suffering it to congeal by the heat of the sun. The people say, that 200 vessels are annually laden with this salt, paying only two shillings a day to those who load it. About a mile from the shore is a village of the *Tartars*, where there is not above ten or twelve houses with a little mosque, and round about it a great number of tents with several waggons close covered, which serve them instead of houses. Some of these tents are handsome enough, being made of round poles, with others crossing them, covered on the outside with large felts drawn tight over them. They have a door of the same, and above a little window, to admit the light, and let out the smoke. The inside is hung with tapestry, and the floor also covered with it. Every family has not only one of these tents, but two others, covered with a large coarse woollen cloth, one for the servants and kitchen, in which is a pit five feet deep to make a fire in for dressing their meat; the other tent is for their horses and cattle. Their corn and forage they store in magazines under ground, which they cover so exactly that none can find them but themselves. They can remove their tents with little trouble, and in a very short time; on which occasion they carry them away in carts drawn by horses and oxen, of which they breed a great number. They profess the *Mahometan* religion; but intermix it with ridiculous opinions of divination.

From *Donslow* we sailed along the channel to *Cape Cuodos*, the *Corocondama* of *Ptolemy*, where the coasts that bound the lake *Mæotis*, which are very mountainous are seen at thirty miles distance. From *Cassa* to the streights that open into this lake, is 120 miles. The country on both sides is subject to the *Turks*, and thinly inhabited by the *Tartars*, almost all the coast being desert. From the streight to *Mingrelia* is reckoned 600 miles along the shore, which consists of pleasant woods, thinly inhabited by the *Circassian* \* *Tartars*, who are neither subject nor tributary to the *Porte*. The vessels that come from *Constantinople* to *Mingrelia* trade with this people, but do it with their arms in their hands, and by hostages; for they are remarkable for their infidelity and perfidiousness, and seldom fail to steal wherever they find an opportunity. The trade with them is carried on by exchange; the *Circassians* bringing down slaves of all ages and sexes, honey, wax, leather, jackals, and the skins of some beasts, for such commodities as they want.

*Circassia* is a pleasant and fertile country that produces great plenty of all sorts of fruit without labour, as apples, pears, cherries and walnuts; but the chief wealth of the inhabitants consists in cattle, as sheep, whose wool is as fine as that of *Spain*, deer, goats, and well-

\* The *Turks* call them *Cherks*; but they were named by the antients *Zagæans*, or *Mountaineers*, and *Pomponius Mela* calls them *Sargacians*.

shaped

shaped horses, so swift and strong, that they will tire wild beasts, and overtake them in the chase. They sow no grain but millet for their bread, and barley for their horses, and their women till and manure the ground. Their drink is water and boza, which is a liquor made of millet, as intoxicating as wine. They live in wooden huts, and go almost naked: their beds are made of sheep-skins sewed together, and stuffed with millet leaves beaten in the thrashing as small as oat chaff. They were formerly *Christians*: but now of no religion, except observing some superstitious ceremonies borrowed from the *Christians* and *Mahometans*; and they are all sworn enemies to those who live in the provinces round about them.

The *Abcas* border upon the *Circassians*, and possess about 100 miles on the coast between *Mingrelia* and *Circassia*. They are not so savage as the *Circassians*; but are as much inclined to robbery; so that the merchants are obliged to take the same precautions in trading with them. They, like their neighbours, are in want of all the conveniences of life, and have nothing to exchange for them but human creatures, furs, the skins of deer and tygers, box-wood, wax and honey.

On the 10th of *September* we arrived at *Isgaour* a port in *Mingrelia*, where all the vessels lie that trade thither. It is a desert place without any houses; the traders therefore build themselves huts and booths of boughs for the

time of their stay which is usually as long as they find themselves safe from the *Abcas*.

*Colchis* or *Mingrelia*, is situated at the end of the *Black Sea*. It is bounded on the east by the little kingdom of *Imeretta*; on the south by the *Black Sea*, and on the north by Mount *Caucasus*. The rivers *Codours* and *Rione* \* part it, the first from the *Abcas*, and the other from *Imeretta*. Its length is about 110 miles, and its breadth 60. It was once fortified against the *Abcas* by a wall of 60 miles in length, which has been long since demolished.

The inhabitants of *Caucasus* who border upon *Colchis* are the *Alanes*, *Suanes*, *Gigues*, *Caracioles* or *Cara-cherks*, that is, *Black Circassians*, so called by the *Turks*, not from their complexion, for they are esteemed the fairest people upon earth; but from their country, which is always darkened with clouds and fogs. They were anciently *Christians*, but now live by robbery and rapine, and profess no religion, having little besides speech that can intitle them to humanity. They are very tall and portly, and their very looks and speech shew their savage dispositions, they being the most resolute assassins, and daring robbers in the world.

The ancient kingdom of *Colchis* was much larger than *Mingrelia* is at present, it extending on one side to the lake *Mæotis*, and to *Iberia* on the other. Its capital city named *Colchos*,

\* Two famous rivers in ancient history, called the *Corax* and *Phasis*.

was at the mouth of the *Phasis*, a river to the west. The country is uneven, full of hills and mountains, valleys and plains: it is almost covered with woods, except the manured lands, which are but few, and those preserved by grubbing up the roots that are continually spreading into them. The air is temperate with respect to heat and cold, but as it rains almost continually, the wetness and warmth of the climate breed in summer the pestilence, and several other diseases. It abounds with rivers which descend from Mount *Caucasus*, and fall into the *Black Sea*. The soil is very bad, and produces little corn or pulse, and the fruits are without taste and unwholesome, except their vines, which thrive well, and produce most excellent wine. Did the inhabitants know how to prepare it in a proper manner, it would be the best wine in the world. The vines encompass the trunks of the trees, and rise to their very tops. In seed-time the earth is so moist, that they sow their wheat and barley without plowing; for they say, that should they plow it, the land would be so soft as not to be able to support the stalk. For their other corn they plow their lands with plough-shares of wood, which in this moist soil, make as good furrows as iron. Their common grain is gomm, which is as small as coriander seed, and resembles millet. Of this they make a paste, which they use for bread, and prefer it to wheat: this is not to be wondered at, for it is very agreeable to the palate, and conducive to health, it being cooling and laxative.



laxative. They have also great plenty of millet, some rice, with wheat and barley, which are very scarce. The people of quality eat wheaten bread as a rarity, but the meaner sort seldom or never taste it.

The ordinary food of the country is beef and pork, of which last they have great plenty, and the best in the world. They have also goats flesh; but it is lean and ill tasted. Their venison is the hart, stag, and fallow deer. They have also wild boars and hares, all which are excellent food. They have partridges, pheasants and quails in abundance, with some river fowl, and wild pigeons, which are good meat, and as big as crammed chickens: these pigeons they take in nets, and thus catch great numbers in summer.

Their nobility spend their whole time in the field, using hobbies, goshawks, &c. for their sports, to catch water-fowl and pheasants; but the pastime in which they most delight, is flying the falcon at the heron, which they catch only for the sake of the tuft upon his crown, in order to put it upon their bonnets, for they let him go again, when they have cut it off, that it may grow up afresh.

Mount *Caucasus* produces a great number of wild beasts, as lions, tygers, leopards, jackals and wolves; which last make great havock amongst their cattle and horses, and frequently disturb the inhabitants in their houses with their dreadful howlings. They have great numbers of very good horses, almost every man keeping several of them; for they cost  
little

little or nothing, as they neither shoe them nor feed them with corn. They have no cities nor towns, except two by the sea side; but their houses are so scattered up the country, that you can hardly travel a mile, without seeing three or four of them. There are nine or ten castles in the country, the chief of which where the Prince keeps his court, is called *Rues*. This castle has a stone wall; but it is so small, and so ill built, that it might be battered down by the least piece of artillery; it has, however, some cannon, which the other castles have not. They are made in the following manner: in the midst of a thick wood the people build a stone tower thirty or forty feet high, capable of containing fifty or sixty persons. This tower is the place of strength, where they shut up all the riches of the Lord, and of those who put themselves under his protection. Near this tower are five or six others of wood, which serve for magazines of provisions, and as places of retreat for the wives and children, in case of an attack. There are also several huts made of wood, others of branches of trees, and others of canes and reeds. The area in which they are enclosed is surrounded by a close hedge, and by a wood, which is every where so thick, that it is impossible to find these retreats but by the way cut to them, which is stopped up by trees, whenever they apprehend the approach of an enemy.

The houses of the *Mingrelians* are built with timber, which they have in great plenty; but  
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the poorer fort never raise them above one story, nor the rich above two. The lower rooms are always furnished with beds and couches, to lie down or sit upon, on account of the moisture of the earth; but they are inconvenient, from their having neither windows nor chimnies, and their having but one room for the whole family, so that they all lie together, and at night have also their cattle with them.

The men are well shaped, and the women so handsome, that they seem born to inspire love; yet they all paint their faces, and particularly their eyebrows. They dress themselves in as ornamental a manner as they can, wearing a *Persian* habit, and curling the hair. They are witty, civil, and full of compliments; but, on the other hand, are proud, deceitful, cruel and libidinous. The men have also many mischievous qualities; but that which they most practise is theft, and this they make their employment and glory. They justify the lawfulness of having many wives, by saying that they bring them many children, which they can sell for ready money, or exchange for necessary conveniences; yet when they have not the means of supporting them, they hold it a piece of charity to murder new-born infants, and such persons as are sick and past recovery, because by this means they free them from misery. Adultery and incest, are scarce considered as crimes in *Mingrelia*; when a man catches another enjoying the embraces of his wife, he has a right to oblige him to  
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pay a hog; he seldom takes any other method of revenge, and all the three commonly sit down to feast upon it. It is common for them to have two or three wives at a time.

As the gentlemen have full power over the lives and estates of their tenants, they sell or dispose of their wives and children as they think fit; besides, every husbandman is bound to furnish his Lord with as much corn, wine, cattle and other provisions as is in his power. Thus his riches consist in the number of his peasants. The Lords decide the quarrels of their vassals: but when they themselves are at variance, they determine the dispute by arms, and therefore all go armed with a lance, bow and sword.

Their dress is very singular. All the men, except the ecclesiastics, suffer but little of their beard to grow. They shave the top of the head, leaving only a little hair over the forehead, and down to their ears; and even that is clipped short. They wear a bonnet of fine felt, which in winter is lined with fur; but they are in general so poor, that to prevent its being spoiled, they put it in their pocket when it rains, and go bareheaded. Those in mean circumstances go almost naked, and have in general only a covering of a triangular form, at one end of which is a hole, through which they put the head; this covering, which is of strong felt, they turn to the side whence comes the wind or the rain. Over their bodies they wear shirts which reach to their knees, and tuck into a straight pair of breeches; but they  
never

never have above one shirt and one pair of breeches, which last them a year, and in all that time they never wash the shirt above thrice; however, once or twice a week they shake it for a certain purpose over the fire. Their shoes, or rather sandals, are made of the raw skin of a buffalo untanned, tied round the foot and fastened with thongs of the same skins; but when the snow lies thick on the earth, they wear a kind of snow-shoes, which spreading much farther than the feet, prevent their sinking into it.

The whole family, both males and females, eat together without distinction: the King with all his train to his very grooms, and the Queen with her maids and servants. In fair weather they dine in the open court, and if it be cold, make a large fire; for wood costs them nothing. Upon working-days the servants have nothing but gomm, and the masters pulse, dried fish, or flesh; but on holidays, or when they make entertainments, if they have no venison they kill an ox, a cow, or a hog. Both the men and women are very great drinkers, and at their feasts, make their friends drink as much as they can. Their wine is drank unmixed, and beginning with pints they proceed to much greater quantities. The men at their merry meetings discourse about their wars and robberies, and the women tell obscene tales of their amours.

*Mingrelia* is but thinly peopled, which is occasioned by their wars, and the vast numbers sold by the Nobility to the *Persians* and *Turks*.

All

All their trade is carried on by the way of barter; for their money has no settled value. The current specie are piaftres, *Dutch* crowns, and abaffis, which are made in *Georgia*, and bear the *Persian* stamp. The revenues of the Prince of *Mingrelia* do not exceed 20,000 crowns, which are raised by customs on goods exported and imported, by felling of slaves, and by impositions and fines. But this he lays up, for his slaves serve him for nothing, and his crown lands furnish his court with more provisions than he can spend. He is not able to raise above 4000 men fit to bear arms, and these are mostly cavalry, for he has not above 300 foot. These soldiers are not distributed into regiments, or companies. Each Lord and each Gentleman leads his men to battle without order, and without officers; they follow him as well in flying, as in charging the enemy. The Prince's court upon solemn festivals consists of 200 Gentlemen, but upon other days of about 120.

The religion of the *Mingrelians* or *Colchians* was formerly the same with the *Greeks*, they being converted according to Ecclesiastical Historians, by a slave in the reign of *Constantine* the Great. But the *Mingrelians* say, that *St. Andrew* preached among them in a place called *Pigaitas*, where a church now stands, whither the *Catholicos*, or Chief Bishop, goes once in his life time to make the holy oil; but yet I was unable to find a *Mingrelian* who knew what is meant by religion, by sin, the sacrament, or divine worship: for they are now

fallen into such a profound abyss of ignorance, that they look upon the life eternal, the day of judgment, and the resurrection of the dead, as mere fables : their clergy perform scarcely any Ecclesiastical Duties ; for there is hardly one of them that can either write or read, and they have in a manner lost the method of performing divine worship. They make a public profession of foretelling things to come, and persuade the people to believe that future events are revealed in their books. The *Mingrelians* are indeed so infatuated with this opinion, that as soon as any one is sick, they call in the priest, not to pray for the patient ; they have not the least notion of that ; but for him to look in his book, to see whether the sick will die of that disease, and for him to declare all its consequences. The priest then opens the book which he has brought with him, and having with great attention turned over all the leaves, pronounces with the voice of an oracle, that the Cati, for thus they call their images, is enraged against him, and has struck him with a disease ; that he will be appeased by a present ; but if a good one is not immediately made him, the patient will die. This present consists in a goat, a hog, a cow, or the like, which the poor man, under the apprehension of death, immediately gives the priest, to offer to the image.

The Catholicos of *Mingrelia*, is not only the head of all the clergy of that country, but also of *Abca*, *Guriel*, *Imeretta*, and *Mount Caucasus* ; yet the Prince appoints or deposes  
him

him at his pleasure. He has a very great revenue; for he has 400 vassals under him, who furnish his house not only with the necessaries, but with many of the superfluities of life. He sells their children to the *Turks*, and when he visits the diocesses under his jurisdiction, it is not to reform the clergy or instruct the people, but to spoil them of their goods, and rake together great sums. He will not consecrate a Bishop for less than 600 crowns, nor say a mass for the dead under 800, nor any other mass under 100. His sanctity consists in abstinence from flesh and wine in lent, and in long prayers day and night; but he is so ignorant that he can hardly read his breviary and missal. He has six Bishops under him, who generally take no care of the souls of the people, nor ever visit their churches and diocesses; but suffer the priests to live in ignorance, and the people to commit the grossest crimes. They are chiefly employed in feasting and banqueting, and are drunk almost every day. They are rich, but their principal revenues arise from the oppression of their vassals, and their selling their wives and children. They, however, like the *Greek* Bishops, abstain from flesh: for they place the whole *Christian* religion in fasting, and think that almost the only duty they are obliged to perform. Their cathedral is pretty neatly kept, and well adorned with images, which they embellish with gold and jewels, believing that by this means they satisfy the divine justice, and atone for their sins. They are clothed in scarlet and velvet,



and also differ from the seculars in wearing their beards long, and their bonnets black, high and round.

The *Mingrelian* priests are very numerous, but are a miserable sort of creatures. They till their own grounds, and those of their Lords, and are no less slaves than the seculars, nor have they any respect shewed them, except when they bless the food at meals, or say mass. Their parish churches have no bells, instead of which they call the people together by knocking with a great stick upon a board; they are kept as nasty as stables, and the images are foul, broken and covered with dust; yet the worship they pay to them is in the highest degree idolatrous, for they do not pay them a relative adoration; but pay their devotions to the material substance. They worship such most as are finest adorned, or famed for their cruelty, and if they swear by any of these, they will never break the oath. St. *Giobas* is one of their most formidable images, and him they will not approach nearer than where they can just see him, and leave their presents at that distance; for they pretend that he kills all who approach him.

They have no value for any of the *Romish* Saints except St. *George*, to whom they pay the highest reverence, as do the *Georgians*. Their mass is after the *Greek* manner. Their cup or chalice is a goblet of wood; the cover is of the same materials, and their patten is a wooden dish. They never say mass in lent, but on Saturdays and Sundays; for they hold  
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That the communion spoils their fasting. They consecrate either leaven or unleavened bread without any difference, and mix no water with the wine, except it is very strong. They annoint the foreheads of their children as soon as they are born with their holy oil, and baptize them by immersion; but this is never performed till they are able to make a feast for the priest, godfathers and guests. Their marriages are a contract by way of bargain and sale; for the parents agree upon the price with the person who desires her; and here the price of a woman who has been divorced is the lowest; for a widow more is demanded; but for a maid most of all. When the bargain is once made, the young man may keep company with the woman till the money is paid, and it is no scandal if she is with child by him. If any one has married a barren woman, or one of an ill disposition, they hold it not only lawful, but requisite to divorce her. They observe almost the same fasts as the *Greeks*, for they keep the four great Lents: the first before *Easter*, which is 48 days; that before *Christmas* which is 40 days; *St. Peter's* fast, which is near a month, and the last observed by the *Eastern Christians* in honour of the *Virgin Mary*, which continues 15 days. They make the sign of the cross when they drink wine and eat pork; but not as any mark of *Christianity*. Their prayers are all addressed to their idols for their temporal benefits, as their own prosperity and the ruin of their enemies. They offer sacrifices, observe no Sabbath, and ab-

abstain from work only at the festivals of *Christmas* and *Easter*, which they celebrate no otherwise, than by eating and drinking in their houses to excess. Their greatest festivals are when the image of a saint is carried through their country, upon which occasion they put on their best cloaths, make a great feast, and provide a present for the idol.

In mourning for the dead, the women gnash their teeth, rend their garments, tear their hair and flesh, beat their breasts, and make dreadful lamentations. The men tear their cloaths, shave their heads and faces, and likewise beat their breasts. The mourning lasts 40 days, on the ten first of which it is accompanied with the most extravagant signs of grief; which then gradually diminishes till the fortieth, when the body is interred. A feast is then made for all the relations and friends, and for all who came to weep. The Bishop says mass, and afterwards lays claim to every thing that belonged to the deceased, his horses, cloaths, arms, money, if he had any, and every thing of the same kind. For death is the ruin of the families of the *Mingrelians*. But when a Bishop dies, the Prince says the mass for the dead on the fortieth day of mourning, and takes all his moveable goods.

It must not be omitted that these people have certain Monks of the order of St. *Basil*, who wear the habit, and live after the manner of the *Greek* Monks. They have black bonnets, eat no flesh, and suffer their hair to grow, but mind nothing of religion, except observing  
their

their fasts with great exactness. They have also Nuns of the same order, who observe their fasts, and wear a black veil, but they have no nunneries, nor are under any vows, but quit the habit whenever they please.

The neighbouring nations live and act in almost all respects after the same manner, only those who live near *Persia* and *Turky* are more civilized.

On the confines of *Mingrelia* lie the principality of *Guriel* and the kingdom of *Imeretta*, the former is very small, it bordering upon *Imeretta* on the north, upon Mount *Caucasus* on the east, upon *Mingrelia* on the west, and upon the *Black Sea* on the south. It lies along the sea shore from the river *Rione* to the castle *Gonie*, which is held by the *Turks*. The inhabitants are of the same disposition and irregularity of manners as the *Mingrelians*, they having they same inclinations to lewdness, robbery and murder.

The kingdom of *Imeretta*, the *Iberia* of the ancients, is something bigger than the country of *Guriel*, and is encompassed by Mount *Caucasus*, *Mingrelia*, the *Black Sea*, the principality of *Guriel*, and part of *Georgia*. It is 26 miles long and 60 in breadth ; it is full of woods and mountains like *Mingrelia*, but the valleys are more pleasant, and the plains more fertile, they producing corn, pulse, cattle, and a variety of herbs. There are some iron mines in the country, and some money current among the people, which is coined in the kingdom. They have also several towns ; but their manners  
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and customs differ but little from the *Mingrelians*. The King has three good castles, one called *Scander*, seated on the side of a valley, and two on Mount *Caucasus*, called *Regia* and *Scorgia*, which, from their situation, are almost inaccessible. The fortress of *Cotatis* was once in the jurisdiction of this Prince; but is now in the possession of the *Turks*.

The people of *Guriel*, *Mingrelia* and *Abca*, were subject to the King of *Imeretta*, after they had all four freed themselves from the power of the Emperors, first of *Constantinople*, and then of *Trebisond*; but in the last century setting up for themselves, they become involved in continual wars, till calling in the assistance of the *Turks*, they were all made tributary to them. The King of *Imeretta* pays a tribute of 80 boys and girls from 10 to 20 years of age. The Prince of *Guriel* pays 46 children of both sexes, and the Prince of *Mingrelia* 60,000 ells of linnen cloth made in that country. The *Abcas*, however, seldom paid any thing at first, and now pay nothing.





C H A P. II.

*A Description of Isgaour. A War breaks out, and a Trade is carried on in Slaves. The Author proceeds to the Village of Anarghia, and from thence to Sippias, the Residence of some Theatine Monks, where he is visited and invited to Dinner by a Mingrelian Princess.*

**A**S soon as our vessel had entered the road of *Isgaour*, I landed with the Greek merchant who conducted me, with the hopes of finding houses, some provisions and assistance; but I was much deceived. The inhabitants had fenced round a place, a hundred paces from the shore, 250 long, and 50 broad; this was the grand market of *Mingrelia*. It had a street formed of about a hundred little huts on each side; built of branches of trees tied together. Each merchant took one, in which he lay, and there sold such commodities, as he hoped to dispose of in two or three days time: those they bought, and those they had no probability of selling immediately, were kept on board the ships. No refreshments were to be had in the market, nor was there a peasant's house in its neighbourhood. At this I was equally surprised and afflicted, for our provisions were almost consumed, and nothing was to be sold by the natives, but slaves chained together.

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There were about a dozen naked wretches, who with their bows and arrows in their hands struck every one with terror; these were the officers of the customs. But my surprize and affliction were much encreased, on my being informed that the *Turks* and the Prince of *Guriel* had taken up arms against the *Mingrelians*, and begun the war by plundering the houses of their neighbours, and carrying off them, and their cattle, wherever they found them.

On my taking the resolution to go into *Mingrelia*, I had depended greatly on the *Theatine* Missionaries, who have a house 40 miles by land from *Isgaour*, where I was told I might live in safety, and that they would speedily procure me a passage into *Persia*. I therefore sent an express with a letter to the Prefect of the mission, and returned on board much dejected.

Two days after a number of peasants who fled from the enemy passed by *Isgaour*, and raised a great alarm; by reporting that the *Abcas*, whom the Prince of *Mingrelia* had called to his assistance against the *Turks*, plundered and burnt every thing before them; and carried off all the men and beasts that fell into their hands. Adding, that they were already near the port. All were now in a hurry to carry their effects on board. Each of the commanders of the ships landed two pieces of cannon, and the men were under arms all night: but the next day they re embarked, chusing rather to abandon the wool, salt, earthen ware, and other merchandize, they had not been able to bring on board, than to expose themselves to the danger  
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of falling into the hands of the *Abcas*. About ten at night, we saw all the market in a flame, and the next morning, some men landing, they found nothing but the remains of the conflagration.

I now endeavoured to buy from the masters of the ships as much provisions as possible; but all I could purchase from the several merchants was 60 pounds of biscuit, a little pulse, eight pounds of butter, and twelve pounds of rice. This was but little for six persons; but good management made it last longer than I could have imagined. We had, however, dried fish in abundance, and scarce eat any thing else; I was wonderfully delighted when I had prevailed on my men to make a meal without bread.

At length hearing no news of the Prefect, and not being able to guess the reason, I informed my men of the necessity we were under that one of them should go to him; because none but he could secure us from the evils with which we were threatened, or deliver us from those we endured, and that were encreasing every day. My valet offered to undertake the journey. I therefore gave him letters and presents for the Prefect and his brethren, and he set out on this expedition.

On the morning of the 4th of *October* my valet returned, bringing with him the Prefect, who was a native of *Mantua*, called *Don Maria Joseph Zampy*. I immediately ran to embrace him, when he cried, "God forgive those who  
" have advised you, Sir, to come hither: you  
" are



“ are arrived at the most barbarous country in  
 “ the world ; and the best step you can take,  
 “ is to return to *Constantinople* by the first opportunity.” The joy we had conceived at seeing this priest was damped by this discourse. I took him into my cabin, and there with my comrade deliberated on what was to be done. He told us that he was come to serve us to the utmost of his power ; that he would take us to his house if we desired it : but that he had no bread ; that now no provisions were to be had ; that the air of the country was unhealthy, and the people more wicked than it was possible to imagine. I told him that I had a letter of recommendation to the Prince of *Mingrelia* ; but he replied that he was as great a villain, and as base a robber as any of his subjects : and then added, that if after this notice I was resolved to venture, he would do all in his power to preserve our persons and baggage, and procure us a safe passage into *Persia*.

I did not stay to deliberate on what the father had represented ; the evils with which I was threatened in *Mingrelia* were future, and I hoped to avoid them : but those I suffered were present, they filled my imagination, and my heart sunk under them. I therefore represented to him, that whatever misfortunes might happen to us in *Mingrelia*, they must be less than those of returning to *Cassa*, by which we must infallibly perish, and this opinion I strengthened by many reasons. He was soon convinced by my arguments, and now only consulted on the manner in which we should travel

vel. The barque wherein he had come down the river with my valet, was proper for our purpose. It was freighted for going and coming: we therefore embarked in it with all our baggage, and I gave the value of an hundred crowns in goods to father *Zampy*, who knew the price set upon it, and was to buy it for me. The baggage being embarked before noon, we immediately set sail. I was filled with joy at leaving the ship, where I could not endure the stink, nor bear the sight of the infamous commerce carried on in it. It was become a prison for slaves, in which the men and boys were chained two and two every night, and loosened every morning. The war of *Mingrelia* was of advantage to our merchants, who bought the booty and slaves taken by the *Abcas*, who were now continually coming on board, to exchange them for arms, cloaths, and other commodities. A *Greek* merchant whose cabin was next to mine; bought a woman and her sucking child for twelve crowns: the woman was twenty-five years of age; her face was extremely beautiful; her skin had the whiteness of the lilly; and I never saw a finer breast or a rounder neck. This lovely woman filled me at the same time with such envy and compassion, that giving her a dejected look, I said to myself, Unhappy beauty, thou shouldest not create these uneasy sensations was I in another state, and did I not find myself on the point of falling into greater miseries, if there can be greater, than that of being a slave. What surprized me most, was

to see that these miserable creatures were not dejected, and that they appeared insensible of the misery of their condition. As soon as they were bought, their rags were taken off; they were dressed in new linen habits, and set to work; the men and boys in doing something about the ship, and the women in sewing.

But to proceed: we had a pretty good wind, and our little barque advanced both with sails and oars. During the voyage, I agreed with father *Zampy* on the means to prevent our falling into the hands of the enemy, and of being neither plundered nor assassinated by the *Mingrelians*.

At midnight we arrived at the entrance of the *Astolphus*, one of the greatest rivers in *Mingrelia*, and called by the natives *Langur*, where stopping, we sent two of our mariners to *Anarghia*, to enquire after the enemy, and to see if the inhabitants had not fled. *Anarghia* is a village two miles from the sea, and the most considerable place in all *Mingrelia*. It consists of about a hundred houses; but they are so far distant from each other, that it is two miles from the first to the last. There are always *Turks* in that village to purchase slaves, and barques to carry them off. It is said to be built on the place where anciently stood the great city of *Heraclea*.

The next morning before day, the two mariners returned with the news that the *Abcas* had been no nearer than within fifteen miles of *Anarghia*, and that every thing there was as usual. Father *Zampy* caused the men to row hard

hard, in order to arrive early at that village, that we might all land without being seen. This happened according to our wishes. We went to lodge with a peasant who had the best accommodations of any in the place; and as we had many chests, the largest of which was full of books, father *Zampy* advised me to open it as soon as we were at our lodgings, under the pretence of looking for something, to prevent their imagining that these chests were filled with treasures; he at the same time proposed my pretending to be a religious, and that we had brought nothing with us but books. I followed this advice. The people of the house were astonished at seeing so large a chest thus filled, and I believe imagined that the contents of the others were the same.

On the 9th of October a lay *Theatine*, who was physician and surgeon to all *Mingrelia*, came to see us. The access which his art gave him to the houses of the Prince and of all the Great, had raised his vanity. I received and treated him in a manner that flattered his pride, and in return he gave me a thousand assurances of his protection and assistance. Some days after he came to inform us that the *Abcas* had returned home; and had carried off 1200 persons, much cattle, and a great booty. He then told father *Zampy* that we might all go to their house at *Sipias*, and that the Prince and Catholicos had ordered him to tell me and my comrade, that we were welcome, and that they would grant us men and horses to conduct us

into *Georgia*. Upon receiving this agreeable news, we resolved to set out the next day.

While we staid at *Anarghia* we had no scarcity of provisions, but had plenty of fowl, hogs and goats, which my men exchanged for needles, thread, combs and knives. We had every thing very cheap, and this being the time of vintage, we had wine in plenty, and nothing was scarce but bread. There was a widow lady of quality at *Anarghia*, whose husband had been Vizir to the Prince. Father *Zampy* conducted me to her, and I made her a present of some trifles. In order to obtain others, she sent me every day a cake of bread that weighed about half a pound, with some other refreshments: thus one day she sent a hog, another day a cake of wax, another some honey, another a pheasant, and on sending these she always begged for some trifles, as knives, scissars, and ribbons; she made me pay double the price of her presents. One day she paid me a visit, when she was extremely obliging, but made many demands.

Father *Zampy* made me pass for a capuchin, observing, that I should meet with some of that order in *Georgia*. To support this character, I dressed as meanly as possible, and affected poverty on all occasions. I acted my part well enough, but the conduct of my servants prevented my imposing on the people: for they broke all my measures by their cookery, and bought the greatest delicacies let them cost what they would.

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On the 14th we set out two hours before day for *Anarghia*, and proceeded two leagues up the river *Astolphus*, after which we landed our baggage, and with it loaded six small carts: besides two others filled with the provisions bought by father *Zampy*. These eight carts made a great noise; for the *Mingrelians* were not accustomed to see such a quantity of goods at a time. In less than two days the whole country was informed that some *Europeans* were arrived who had eight carts loaded with their baggage. We proceeded four leagues and a half by land, and arrived in the evening at *Sipias*.

*Sipias* is the name of two churches, one of them a parish church of the *Mingrelians*, and the other belonging to the *Theatines*, an order of Fryars who first came into *Mingrelia* in 1627, when they were admitted as physicians, and a piece of land given them, on which they built several wooden houses after the manner of the country, some with only the ground floor, and others with a room above. Each of the Fryars have one of these houses to dwell in; for they are all separate; the smallest are for their slaves, and two families of peasants who are their tenants; but though they have good employment as physicians, none will embrace their religion, the very slaves refusing to communicate with them: for they will not allow the *Europeans* to be *Christians*, because they have neither so many fasts as they, nor are afraid of images.

On the 18th the Princess of *Mingrelia* came to the *Theatines*. She was on horseback attended by about ten men and eight women, very badly cloathed, and ill mounted, with several men on foot who stood about her horse. Father *Zampy* went immediately to receive her, when she told him, that she had heard there were some *Europeans* in his house, who had brought a great quantity of baggage: that she was glad of it, and desired to see them, in order to tell them that they were welcome. I was then instantly called, and father *Zampy* told me, that I must make her a present, since it was the custom to pay in this manner for the visits of a Prince and Princess. Being told that I spoke the *Turkish* and *Persian* tongues, she called a slave who knew the *Turkish*, and asked me a thousand questions about my rank, and my voyage. I told her that I was a *Capuchin*. She caused me to be asked, if I was in love? if I had ever been in love? how it happened that I had never been in love? and how I did to live without a woman? She carried on this conversation with great vivacity, and all her retinue were very merry upon it: but for my part, I was much dejected, and would have been glad of the absence both of the Princess and her train; whom I every moment feared would pillage our lodgings; for she asked three times to see what I had brought; but father *Zampy* promising to bring her the usual present the next day, she departed, seeming well satisfied.

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The next morning she sent to invite me to dinner. She was at a house only two miles from ours ; but did not live with the Prince, who had a great dislike to her, having been forced to marry her. I found her better dressed than the day before. She was painted, and seemed to endeavour to appear lovely ; she was clothed in gold brocade, and had jewels in her head-dress. She sat on a carpet, with nine or ten women by her side, and near her were many shabby fellows half naked, who composed her court. They asked for my present for the Princess, before they suffered me to enter. It was brought by my servant, who delivered it to them, and consisted of cases of knives, scissars and other things which cost about 20 s. and was worth above 3 l. in *Mingrelia*. The Princess was satisfied, and suffered me to enter after having seen them. Near her was a bench, on which the slave who spoke *Turkish* desired me to sit. She first told me, that she would have me marry one of her friends, and that I should not leave that country ; for she would give me houses, lands, and slaves. But a stop was put to her discourse, by one coming to inform her that dinner was ready.

The house in which she lived was in the midst of five others, each at a hundred paces distance. Before one of them was a raised place built with wood eighteen inches high, over which was a small dome. Here a carpet being spread, the Princess seated herself upon it, as did her women at four paces distance on other carpets. The shabby wretches who composed her court,  
and



and were about fifty in number, seated themselves round on the grass. There were two benches near the place raised for the Princess, one of which served the *Theatines* and me for a seat, and the other for a table. When the Princess was seated, a long painted cloth was laid before her, and at one end of it was placed two large and two small flagons, four plates, and eight cups of different sizes, with a silver basin, ewer, and skimmer. Other servants at the same time laid boards before those who were seated, to serve as tables; and one was also put before the women. This being done, two kettles were brought in and placed in the middle, one of them, which was very large, was carried by four men, and was full of common gomm; the other, which was smaller, was brought in by two, and was full of white gomm. This gomm was a kind of paste, of which the *Mingrelians* make the same use as we do of bread. Two other men brought in upon a kind of bier, a hog boiled whole, and four others entered with a large pitcher of wine. The Princess was served first, then her women, then us, and afterwards her attendants. The Princess was also served with a wooden bowl of gomm, and some herbs, and with a silver dish, in which were two fowls, one boiled, and the other roasted; but both of them had very disagreeable sauce. The Princess sent me a part of the bread and sallad, and caused me to be told, that I should stay supper, and that she would kill an ox; but this was mere compliment. A little after she sent me two pieces of fowl,

fowl, and asked with a loud voice, why there never came into *Mingrelia* any of the *European* artificers who work so well in metals, silk, and wool, and why there only came Monks who had no business there, and whom they did not want. It is easy to guess at the confusion into which this question must throw the poor *Theatines* who were present. I answered, that the artificers of *Europe* laboured only for gain, and having employment enough there, had no inclination to go farther; but that the Religious having in view the glory of God, and the salvation of souls, these great concerns induced them to leave their country, and travel so far.

The repast lasted about two hours; when it was half ended, the Princess sent me a cup of wine, and caused me to be told, that it was the wine she herself used, and the cup out of which she drank. Three times she did me this honour, and was much surprized to see me mix water with my wine, saying, she had never seen that done before. Indeed, she and her women drank it unmixed in great quantities. Dinner being ended, she sent to enquire if I had brought any spices or china-ware; she also asked me for a variety of things, and finding that I had none to give her, she at last grew angry, and said she would send to examine my goods; but though I was much frightened, I answered, she might do it whenever she pleased; to which she replied, that she was only in jest. However, as soon as we rose from table, I entreated one of the  
*Theatines*

*Theatines* who had accompanied me, to make all possible haste to my comrade, and tell him what the Princess said, in order that he might prepare for all events. After dinner she again spoke of the marriage, and said she would soon shew me the woman she would give me; but I replied as before, that Monks never marry, and was going to take my leave; when unhappily, she perceived under the mean frock I wore, that I had whiter and finer linen than what they had in *Mingrelia*. She came up to me; took me by the hand; pulled up my sleeve to my elbow, and held me for some time by the arm, talking all the while in a low voice to her women. I was extremely embarrassed, and what gave me most pain was, my not knowing what she said, though I could perceive by her gestures, that she was talking earnestly about me. I was at a loss how to behave in public to a woman who had at the same time the title of Sovereign, and the impudence of a prostitute. But she soon threw me into a greater consternation; for going up to father *Zampy*, she said, you both deceive me: you shall come again on *Sunday* morning, and this stranger shall say mass. The father was going to reply; but the Princess turned her back, and bid us go home.

I returned to our lodging very sad and pensive\*; the Princess's avarice made me appre-

\* The reader will form a better idea of Sir *John Chardin's* consternation at being ordered to say mass, when he knows that he was not only no priest; but that he was a *Calvinist*.

And lest she would do me some ill turn; and father *Zampy* told me, that he was infallibly certain of it. I therefore the same night caused a pit five feet deep to be dug in his apartment, in which I put a chest that contained a clock, and a box of coral; this was so well buried, that there was not left the least sign of the ground having been opened. I then went into the church with the same design, when father *Zampy* advised me to open the grave of a *Theatine* who had been buried six years before, and to deposite among his ashes a small casket I was willing to conceal; but happily I chose to bury this casket, in which was 12,000 gold ducats, in a corner of the church behind the door, for which purpose I made a deep pit like the former. I afterwards concealed in the roof over the chamber where I lodged, a sabre and a poniard set with precious stones. My comrade and I kept about us what was of the least weight and the greatest value, and such things as were not worth a great deal, we gave the *Theatines* to keep for us.

On the 23d after dinner, a person came in to inform father *Zampy* that there were two gentlemen at the door who asked for him. These gentlemen, who were neighbours, were on horseback, and had with them thirty men, horse and foot, well armed. My comrade and I were immediately called. I could not penetrate into their design; but I knew it too soon; for on our coming up to them, they caused us to be seized and tied by their men; telling

telling the Prefect, and the other *Theatines* who came to salute them, that if they stirred, they would kill them. The Prefect being seized with fear fled; the others, however, would not leave us, and the Lay-brother not only made use of all his interest in our behalf; but though a sword was held up to his neck, he would not abandon us. Our servants were immediately seized, and one of them making resistance, and defending himself with a knife, was thrown down, and tied to a tree. They then declared, that they would see what treasures we had. To which I replied, that they must do as they pleased; we were poor Capuchins, and all our wealth consisted in books, papers, and a few ordinary goods, which, if they would offer us no violence, we would shew them. This answer succeeded, they untied me, and bid me open my chamber door.

We had kept about us, as I have already observed, our most precious jewels; my comrade had sewed his in the neck of a close coat lined with fur; but I had made mine up into two small packets, which I had hid in my chest among my books; not daring to carry them about me for fear of being robbed or assassinated on their account. I therefore desired my comrade and the Lay-brother to take the two gentlemen aside, and to amuse them by offering a little money, in order to give me time to take the two valuable packets out of my chest, and to conceal them in another place. They did so; I entered my chamber, and shut myself in. The gentlemen suspected

suspected my design, and went to the door, which I had fastened on the inside: when my comrade bid me, in a low voice, be on my guard, as they watched me through the cracks: this made me snatch the two packets out of the thatch in which I had already concealed them, for fear they had seen me put them there. I then put them in my pocket, and seeing that the villains were breaking open the door, I threw myself out of the window into the garden. In a less pressing necessity I would not have made that leap on any consideration; but a mind seized with fear, dreads nothing but the first object of its apprehensions: I ran to the bottom of the garden, and threw the two packets into a thicket of briars; but was in such confusion, that I did not with sufficient care observe the place where I put them.

I immediately returned to my chamber, which I found full of these robbers, some of whom were struggling with my companion, while others were beating with their weapons on my chests, to break them open. Knowing that there was now nothing in them of great value, I took courage, and bid them take care what they did, as I was sent for by the King of *Persia*, and that the Prince of *Georgia* would take a severe revenge for the violence that was offered me. I then shewed the King of *Persia's* passport, which one of the gentlemen took, and was going to tear it, saying, he neither feared nor valued any man upon earth; but the other stopped him; for the writing in gold, and the gilt seal inspired him with respect.

He, however, bid me open my chests, and said that no harm should be done me; but if I made any farther resistance, they would sever my head from my body. I began to reply instead of shewing my obedience; but this had like to have cost me dear; for one of the soldiers drew his sword, and was aiming it at my head, when the Lay-brother stopped his arm. I now immediately opened the chests, they began to plunder them, and every thing that pleased these gentlemen were taken away.

During the time this pillage lasted, I leaned against a window, and turning my eyes away from these wretches, that I might not encrease my grief by beholding them, I cast a look into the garden, and there perceived two soldiers removing the brambles, just where I supposed I had concealed my two packets of jewels. I ran in a rage to the place, followed by one of the *Theatine* fathers; but the soldiers, I knew not why, retired as soon as they saw us coming towards them. I instantly sought for my two packets; but the confusion I was in prevented my knowing the place where I had put them, and my not finding them, made me certain that they had discovered and taken them away. The reader may judge from the value of these packets, which amounted to 25,000 crowns, of the consternation with which I was seized. In the mean while my comrade and the Lay-brother calling me as loud as they were able, I left the garden, and ran into the chamber. On my entering it, I was seized by two soldiers who dragged me into a corner, and took every  
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thing they found in my pockets, which was of no great value. They then seized my hands, and attempted to tye them. I cried out---I resisted---I made signs that they should lead me to their master.----I caused the chief of the villains to be told, that they need not tie me, either to carry me away, or to kill me; for I was disposed to submit to whatever they did with me. They replied, that since we were Ambassadors, they would take me to their Prince. I let them know, that we would go without being tied, and that we hoped he would do us justice, as we had letters to him, to which he would certainly shew respect. It was late, the night approached, and the Prince's castle was at fifteen miles distance, they therefore released us, and only took the servant who had been tied to a tree, and whose liberty I procured a fortnight after for ten piafters.

As soon as I was out of the hands of these robbers, I went into the garden: the Priest who had followed me when I went to fetch the two packets of jewels I had concealed, told every body in the house of the misfortune I believed I had suffered, and nobody doubted but that these soldiers having observed me, had followed and taken what I had concealed among the brambles. *Allaverdy*, one of our *Armenian* valets, followed me, and to my great astonishment threw his arms about my neck, with his face bathed in tears. Sir, said he, we are ruined. Fear and the common misfortune have made us forget what we all are. I was



at first so surprized, that I took him for some *Mingrelian* who was going to strangle me, and when I knew him, I was moved by his tenderness. Sir, said he, have you made a thorough search? I have searched so much, cried I, that I am quite sure of my misfortune. He was not contented with this; he would have me shew him the place, and the manner in which I concealed them. I did so merely out of complaisance for the poor youth who shewed such affection; but was so fully persuaded that he would lose his labour, that I would not assist him. It was now night, and I was so uneasy that I knew not what I did; but at length to my great astonishment, *Allaverdy* came again to caress me, and gave me the two packets which he pulled out of his bosom. I could not help imagining that the finger of heaven was in this, and believing now that I was the care of the Almighty, I became confident of the divine assistance, and entertained those hopes of deliverance, that have ever since supported me under all my distresses.

I now went to my chamber, and told my comrade of my success. I found him putting our things in order. What they had taken consisted of cloaths, linnen, arms, brass vessels, and other things of small value, which did not amount to 400 crowns; and we agreed to conceal the recovery of my two packets from the *Theatines*, that they might think we had little else to lose.

The next morning the Prefect of the *Theatines*, and the Lay-brother, went with me to  
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the Prince, and the Catholicos, to demand justice; but neither of them could give us any satisfaction. The Prince observed, that while the war lasted, he had but little authority over the nobility; but at another time he would have done his utmost to recover what we had lost. The Catholicos, to whom we gave a case of silver haisted knives and forks, talked in the same manner, and endeavoured to comfort us. They, however, each of them appointed a gentleman to go on their parts to demand what had been taken from us; but their endeavours to find the robbers were ineffectual; from them we learnt that the Princess was concerned in the robbery, and had a third part of the spoils; and that the *Turks* had entered *Mingrelia*, and were laying waste all the country through which they passed with fire and sword.

I was now in so resigned a disposition, that this news did not much move me; the *Theatines*, however, were filled with terror, and both they and we prepared for flight. At midnight we heard the report of two great guns, fired from the fortress of *Rucks* to give notice of the approach of the enemy. At this signal every body began to fly; and at break of day we ourselves set out. I left every thing that had been buried, and concealed in the roof and other places, thinking them much safer than what we took with us. The *Theatines* had no other carriage but one cart drawn by bullocks, and two horses. In the cart was carried the baggage, the Lay-brother mounted one of the

horses, and my comrade, who was sick, rode the other, while two *Theatine* Fryars and I followed on foot, accompanied by all the slaves and servants. One of the Fryars staid alone to guard the house, in which were a thousand things that we could not take away for want of carriages. I left my books, most of my papers, and my mathematical instruments, imagining that neither the *Turks*, nor the *Mingrelians* would take the trouble to remove them. The wars there consisting chiefly in chasing and plundering, the enemy soon retires. For this reason they always leave a person or two at each house, to prevent the neighbours stealing the corn, wine, and other things that could not be carried away. These men are seldom surprized by the enemy, because they are always upon the watch, and take care to escape into the woods, which are not only near, but thick, and proper for concealment.

The place to which we retired was a fortress in the woods, like those I have already described. The Lord of the place who was called *Sabatar*, was a *Georgian*, who had been a *Mahometan*, and had turned *Christian*. We arrived at his castle, after having proceeded five leagues through the dirt and mire, in which the cart was continually sticking fast, so that it was obliged to be unloaded and loaded twenty times. Mean while we were in continual danger of being robbed and murdered. We met with a favourable reception, and the *Theatines* telling the Lord *Sabatar* that I would repay the obligations he should confer  
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on us, he lodged us in a bakehouse, a little mean hut, in which we were sheltered, but little better than if we had been in the open court, for the rain poured in on all sides. Our having it was however a great favour, as it prevented our being mingled with a multitude of miserable objects. The fortress was full of people before we arrived, and contained 800 persons, almost all of whom were women and children.

On the 27th, the Prefect of the *Theatines* left us to go to the house for some vessels and provisions we had left behind. I designed to have accompanied him; but he set out two hours before day. On entering the house, he found it full of rangers belonging to the *Bassa*, and the Prince of *Guriel* who beat him with their staves, and insisted on his opening the church, saying, he had concealed there all the treasure; but the Prefect had cast the key among the brambles, immediately on his perceiving them, and notwithstanding the ill treatment he received, he refused to tell where it was. At length, stripping him of part of his cloaths, and taking out of the house only such things as were light and of little value, they went away, without touching either my books or my papers. However, on the 29th, a gentleman of *Mingrelia* with thirty of his men, went thither in the night, and uncovered almost all the roof of my chamber, with the hopes of finding something, I might have concealed. He carried off all the chests that had been left, and my more cumbersome moveables;

in short, every thing which the *Turks* had left except what was of great value, which he happily did not discover. This rapacious wretch having no light, made a fire with my papers and books; tearing off the covers because they were finely gilt: for I had caused my best books to be curiously bound before I left *Paris*, and this villain did not leave me one.

On the 30th in the morning, I with the deepest concern, learnt these particulars. We began to be in want of the necessaries of life; my servants were reduced to despair, and we had nothing before our eyes, but the prospect of death or slavery. This made me resolve to hazard every thing in order to leave *Mingrelia* while I had strength to do it. I caused guides to be every where sought for, I promised, I entreated, I made presents, but none would conduct me. They told me that men in arms possessed all the passes of *Imeretta*, between *Mingrelia* and *Georgia*, and that it would be the greatest folly to go thither, since we should all be certainly made slaves. I then proposed to make the tour of Mount *Caucasus*, or to proceed along the sea shore; but nobody would conduct me: for it can scarcely be conceived how afraid the *Mingrelians* are of death; no reward can induce them to undergo the least danger.

*Sabatar*, to whom the fortresses belonged, had now submitted to the *Turks*, and was not only to enjoy all his lands; but to have a *Turkish* guard for the security of his castle: for which he was to pay 25 slaves, and 800 crowns, which  
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he was resolved to raise among those to whom he had granted his protection. From every family that had four children, he took one; and it was the most dreadful sight in the world, to see them torn from the arms of their mothers, tied two and two, and led to the *Turks*. I was taxed at 20 crowns.

At length I was constrained to take the resolution to go by sea, that is to take a compass of 70 leagues; for that purpose I went to *Anarghia*, a village and small port, already described, and having found there a *Turkish* felucca, I freighted her for *Gonia*, and returned to the house of the *Theatines*, to prepare for the voyage.

I left the castle on the 10th of *November* early in the morning, having agreed with my comrade on the methods I should take, in order to deliver him out of *Mingrelia*, if it should please God to give me a happy voyage. I took with me a hundred thousand livres in precious stones, and 800 pistoles in gold; with a part of the baggage that remained. The jewels were concealed in a saddle made in *Europe* for that purpose, and in a pillow. I took one of our servants with me, the same whom I had redeemed from slavery, who was a wicked drunken fellow, and whom it was not safe to leave in *Mingrelia*. Father *Zampy* accompanied me, as he had always done, and the Lay-brother also went with me to *Anarghia*. The Prefect and I walked, because, we could only hire one horse, on which was placed my baggage and my valet; but the Lay-brother  
rode

rode on horseback, he having a horse of his own. I cannot express the fatigue we endured in the two days we were upon the road, for it rained very hard, and we were obliged to wade through the mud, in which I commonly sunk above the knees. On the night of the second day we arrived at *Anarghia*, soaked through with rain.

On the 19th, Father *Zampy* received advice, that the night before, the church had been broke open, and nothing left but the bare walls; the tomb had been opened, and every thing taken out, which the poor *Theatine* who had been left in the house, had buried in it. It is easy to imagine the apprehensions with which I was seized at receiving this news; I having left above 7000 pistoles buried in the church. I immediately dispatched a messenger with a letter to my comrade, who wrote me word that they had not touched our money, and that every thing we had buried was safe. This news revived my courage, and I went to hasten the *Turks*, of whom I had hired the felucca.

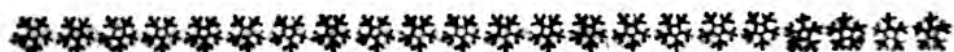
While I staid at *Anarghia* I was invited to two christenings, which were performed in the following manner: the Priest being sent for at about ten o'clock in the morning, went into the buttery where they keep the wine, and sitting down on a bench began to read an half torn octavo volume, running on very fast in a low voice, and in so careless a manner that he did not seem to regard what he was doing. In about a quarter of an hour the father and godfather brought in a boy about five years old;

old ; and the godfather having fixed up a small candle against the cabin door, scattered a few grains of incense upon a few embers. The Priest still continued reading in the same careless manner, breaking off to speak to every body that came in ; the father and godfather were all the time walking in and out, and the little boy did nothing but eat. In about an hour's time a bucket full of warm water was got ready, and the Priest having poured into it a spoonful of the oil of walnuts, bid the godfather undress the child, which being done, he was set on his feet in the water, and the godfather washed his whole body very well. The priest then took out of a leather purse, which hung at his girdle, a small quantity of the oil of unction, and giving it to the godfather, he anointed the child on the crown of the head, the ears, the forehead, the nose, the cheeks, the chin, the shoulders, the elbows, the back, the belly, the knees and the feet, while the Priest continued reading till the godfather had dressed the child ; when the father bringing in boiled pork and wine, they set down to table, with the family and the guests, and soon got drunk.

All the other acts of religion are celebrated with the same irreverence. One day as I was going by a church, the Priest who was saying mass heard me ask the way of some people who were standing at the door, and cried out from the altar, Stay and I'll shew you. A moment after he came to the door, muttering the mass as he walked ; then having asked, whence we came,



came, and whither we were going, he civilly shewed us the way, and returned to the altar.



### C H A P. III.

*The Author leaves Anarghia. The Euxine or Black Sea described. He proceeds to Gonia, where he is again reduced to great distress. But leaving that Town, he passes over Mount Caucasus, which is described. He proceeds through Acalzika and Gory, and arrives at Teflis. From thence he returns by Land in order to deliver his Comrade whom he had left in Mingrelia, and recover the Treasure buried there. The Treachery of a discarded Valet, who is defeated in his Schemes.*

**O**N the 27th of November I left *Anarghia*, and after an hour's sailing reached the sea; for the river *Langur* is very rapid, and we proceeded with great swiftness down the stream.

The *Euxine* or *Black Sea* is 200 leagues in length, nearly from east to west, and its greatest breadth from the *Bosphorus* to the *Boristhenes* is about three degrees: but the opposite end is not half so broad. The water of this sea appears neither so clear, so green, nor so salt as the ocean, which probably arises from the great rivers that discharge themselves into it. It did not receive its name from the colour of the water, but from the tempests, which are said to be there more frequent and more furious than

than in other seas; hence the *Greeks* gave it the name of *Axin*, which signifies intractable, and the *Turks* that of *Cara Denguis*, or the stormy sea; for *cara*, which properly means black, also signifies stormy.

On the 29th we reached the river *Phasis*, and proceeded a mile up it, to some houses where the master of the felucca landed, and put some goods on shore. The river *Phasis* has its source in Mount *Caucasus*, and is now called by the people of the country the *Rione*. It is confined within a narrow bed, and runs with great rapidity. I sought for the great city of *Sebasta* which geographers have placed at the mouth of the *Phasis*; but the ruins of that city, like those of *Colchis*, have no traces of them left. All that I observed to have any conformity with what the ancients have written of this part of the *Black Sea* is, that it abounds with pheasants. There are authors, (and among others *Martial*) who say, that the *Argonauts* brought those birds from *Greece*, where they had never been seen before, and that they gave them the name of pheasants, from their being taken on the banks of the *Phasis*. This river separates *Mingrelia* from the principality of *Guriel*, and the little kingdom of *Imeretta*.

On the the 30th in the afternoon we arrived at *Gonia*, about forty miles from the *Phasis*. This is a large square castle built of hard rough stones of an extraordinary size, situated on a sandy bottom on the sea shore. It has neither ditch nor fortifications, and only consists of four square walls, fortified with two pieces

of cannon, and defended by a garrison of a small number of Janizaries. Within it are about thirty small low, inconvenient wooden houses, and near it is a village that contains about the same number.

Here is a custom-house belonging to the Grand Seignor, but the officers pay no respect either to the quality of the persons who land there, or to the the Sultan's passports. Those who command in this extremity of the empire, think themselves so far from him, that his hand cannot reach them.

Our felucca no sooner came to land than my valet leaped ashore, kissed the earth, and shewed the most extravagant and frantic signs of joy; and then entering the castle, left me at a time when I most wanted him. Soon after the custom-house officer and the Lieutenant-Governor came to see my things landed, and to receive the duty: they instantly let me know that they were informed of my being an *European*, and of all the misfortunes that had happened to me in *Mingrelia*. This surprized me, for I found I was betrayed by my rascal of a valet. The officer of the customs asked me several questions, and gave orders for examining my goods; but they could find nothing I wanted to conceal. My saddle, however, weighed very heavy, and this rendered it suspected, especially as the *Turkish* saddles are extremely light. It was examined and handled on all sides; but being able to find nothing within it besides hair and wadding, they laid it down.

Of

Of the 800 pistoles I had brought, I carried half of them about me, and the other half in a wallet, fastened with a padlock, with some things, which though of small value, I knew the *Turks* would seize if they saw them, The custom-house officer and his janizaries being told of this wallet, ordered me to open it, on which I told them that I would freely do it in the house; but not on the sea shore before so many men. On which the officer of the customs took me home with him to his house, and the Lieutenant-Governor went with us. The latter made me pay the value of one *per cent.* on my goods, and the other five. The custom-house officer likewise took 22 pistoles in gold, and every thing he liked that was found in my wallet; among the rest he got from me a pair of pistols, which were the only arms I had; he, however, paid me for them, but gave me no more than half their value. After this rapacious behaviour he invited me to lodge with him; but I could not help expressing my astonishment, that he who had unjustly made me pay a duty for the gold and silver I brought, should immediately assume the mask of friendship; but he vindicated what he had done, renewed his invitation, and even promised to supply me with a guard to protect my baggage, and conduct me over the mountains. But though he renewed his entreaties, and as I afterwards found, really meant me well, yet I was afraid of accepting his invitations, for fear he should take that opportunity of causing

my saddle, and my cloaths to be more narrowly examined.

It was almost night when I left this officer of the customs, who was also Governor of the territory of *Gonia*. My valet had carried my baggage to the place where the men who came with us lodged. This was a wretched cottage, which admitted the air on all sides, and was as dirty and stinking as possible. I then received many compliments of condolence, if I may use the term, for all the men appeared sorry for my loss, and blamed me for not letting them keep the wallet for me; their goods paying no duty. While I was eating a piece of a biscuit, a janizary came to tell my valet, that the Lieutenant-Governor wanted him: my valet went, and an hour after the same janizary came for me. I found the Lieutenant and my valet sitting together both drunk. Having obliged me to eat and drink, the Lieutenant demanded 200 ducats, as due to his master from all *Christian* church-men who came there; this occasioned a long dispute; I attempted to retire, but was detained by force, and threatened to be put in irons, and was at last glad to escape by paying an hundred ducats to the Lieutenant, and four to the janizaries. But this was not all, the Lieutenant obliged me to entreat him to accept of the money, and to swear that I would not complain of him.

The next morning the officer of the customs sent a party of soldiers to my miserable lodgings to examine again my saddle, and to search me: but though they filled me with the  
greatest

greatest uneasiness, they could make no discovery. After this, I was allowed two men to carry my baggage, and a *Turk* to conduct me as far as *Acalzika*; he also gave me a passport, and advised, that I and my valet should wear a white turban, in order to be treated with the greater respect. This I did, and set out at eight in the morning, transported with joy, at leaving so wicked and dangerous a place, and at having nothing more to fear. I then began to feel some peace of mind. For five months past I had suffered the most dreadful agitations: Insult, slavery, marriage, the loss of my substance and liberty, during all this time distracted my mind by turns, and a thousand real evils had kept me under the deepest dejection. I now ascended mount *Caucasus* with a lightness which surprized my porters: for the body is literally light when the heart is eased of a heavy load; this is true without a figure; for I seemed to have been delivered from the weight of a mountain. I now proceeded four leagues together among the rocks.

The next day, which was the third of *December*, I proceeded five leagues on foot, three men carrying my baggage. We went frequently so near the most frightful precipices, that it was impossible to avoid being struck with terror. We kept constantly ascending, and in these five leagues had not a level path of two miles in extent. I arrived in the evening at a village inhabited by *Turks* and *Christians*, where

the rain and snow obliged us to stay all the next day.

On the 5th and 6th, I proceeded eleven leagues; but I could not ride above five of them, being every moment obliged to dismount, on account of difficult passages, and the roughness and sharpness of the way, where the horses could scarce keep their feet. The two following days I advanced sixteen leagues, and reached the top of Mount *Caucasus*; for the four following leagues we were continually descending. At half way of the descent, we saw the ruins of many castles and churches destroyed by the *Turks*.

*Asia* is divided by a chain of mountains, one at the end of the other, the three highest of which have been named *Taurus*, *Imaus* and *Caucasus*. The first advances farthest into *Asia*, and the whole chain in general is called by the name of *Mount Taurus*. I say in general, because each part has its particular name, by which it is called by the nation nearest it.

But to return to the description of Mount *Caucasus*; which is the highest mountain, and the most difficult to pass of any I have seen. It has frightful precipices, and in many places the roads are cut out of the solid rock. When I passed it, it was entirely covered with snow, which was almost every where ten feet deep; and my conductors were in many places obliged to clear it away with shovels: they wore snow shoes in the form of rackets without handles, which prevented their sinking in the snow, and enabled them to run with great  
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swiftness upon it. The top of Mount *Caucasus*, which is eight leagues over, is indeed perpetually covered with it. I passed the night of the 7th and 8th in the midst of the snow; where I caused some fir-trees to be cut down, and lay upon the boughs by the side of a great fire. On our arrival at the top, my conductors made long prayers to their images, to do us the favour to prevent a wind; and indeed if it had been high, we should doubtless have been buried in the snow, for as it is as small as dust, a little wind fills the air with it. The horses sunk so often into holes covered by it, that I often thought we should lose them. I almost constantly walked on foot, and did not ride above eight leagues in crossing this frightful mountain, which is thirty-six leagues over.

During the two last days, I seemed in the clouds, not being able to see twenty paces before me. 'Tis true, the firs with which the top of the mountain is covered, greatly obstruct the view. On descending it, I saw the clouds move under my feet. On our reaching the bottom, we entered a beautiful and fertile valley, three miles broad, covered with villages, and watered by the river *Kur*, which passes through the middle of it.

Mount *Caucasus* is fertile almost to the top, and its sides abound in honey, corn, fruits, hogs and large cattle. The vines twine about the trees, and rise so high that the inhabitants cannot gather the fruit from the upper branches. There are many streams of excellent water, and a great number of villages. It was the time  
of



of vintage, and I found both the grapes and the new and old wine admirably good. The peasants live in cabins built of wood, each family having four or five of them, and in the midst of the largest they make a great fire, which serves for all the cottages around it. The women grind the corn as often as they want bread, and bake the dough on round stones, about a foot in diameter, and hollowed two or three fingers deep. The stone being well heated, they put the dough into it, and cover it with hot ashes, and burning embers. In some places they only sweep a part of the hearth, place the dough upon it, and cover it with hot ashes in the same manner. Yet the crust is white enough, and the bread very good. I lodged every night at the house of a peasant, of whom I hired horses, and men to carry my baggage. The *Turk* who had been given me as my conductor, caused me to be as speedily and as well served as the place would permit. The natives supplied us with fowls, eggs, pulse, and fruit in abundance; for every house in the neighbourhood brought a great jug of wine, a basket of fruit, and another of bread. For all this nothing was demanded, and my conductor hindered me even from making them any present in return.

The inhabitants of these mountains are for the most part *Christians* of the *Georgian* church. They have very fine complexions, and I have seen among them very beautiful women. They are infinitely better accommodated than the *Mingrelians*.

On the 9th I proceeded five leagues in the fertile plain already mentioned, where the hills with which it is bounded, are covered with a great number of cattle. And at night I arrived at *Acalzika*. This is a fortress built on mount *Caucasus*, in a hollow between near twenty little hills, from which it may be easily battered down on any side. It has a double wall and towers, with ancient battlements on the top; but it has very few guns. On these eminences are about 400 houses, all of them new and lately built; the only ancient buildings are two *Armenian* churches. The town is inhabited by *Turks*, *Armenians*, *Georgians*, *Greeks* and *Jews*. The *Christians* have churches, and the *Jews* a synagogue. There is also a small caravanserai built of wood, as are most of the houses in the place. The river *Kur* or *Cyrus* passes near it; it has its source in mount *Caucasus*, and at length discharges itself into the *Black Sea*. The *Bassa* of *Acalzika* lodges in the fortress, and the principal officers and militia dwell in the neighbouring villages.

On the 13th at two hours after midnight, I set out from *Acalzika*, proceeding to the east, and having gone three leagues, found the plain of *Acalzika* contract, and the mountains approach each other, so that the plain is not more than half a league in breadth. It has there a strong *Turkish* castle built on a rock, on the side of the river *Kur*. The foot of this rock is encircled by a double wall, and about it is a little town on the land between the fortress and the opposite mountain. As there is here

an officer of the customs, I was under great apprehensions of being stopped and examined; but they suffered me to pass without opposition. This town is named *Usher*, and two leagues from thence we ascended a mountain that separates *Persia* from the dominions of the *Turks*, and then proceeded along the side of it. Upon this mountain are many villages: at its foot runs the *Kur*, and we there see the ruins of several castles, fortresses, and churches, vestiges of the former grandeur of the *Georgians*, and of the conquests of the *Turks* and *Persians*.

The two following days we passed through the delightful plain of *Surham*, by a large village, with a fortress of the same name. This plain is covered with little woods, villages, small eminences, the houses of pleasure, and the small castles of the *Georgian* Lords. This fine country is entirely cultivated. We then passed over a mountain, leaving on the right a city, which has now no more than about 500 inhabited houses; though it is said to have had formerly 12,000, and to have been the see of a Bishop.

On my descending this last mountain, I approached *Gory*, but instead of entering that town, went directly to the house of *Capuchins*, who are *Italian* Missionaries of the congregation *de propaganda fide*, to whom I had letters of recommendation. I related to those fathers the misfortunes I had suffered in *Mingrelia*; and my being obliged to leave there the things I had brought for the King of *Persia*, under the care of my comrade, and that I was come into

*Georgia*

Georgia in search of assistance; entreating them to give it me. They were touched with my distresses; with the dangers to which my comrade was still exposed, and with the hazard of our losing our substance. They assured me that they would do every thing in their power to serve me, as soon as they received the orders of their Prefect, who was at *Teflis*, the capital of Georgia. They gave me such reasons for going thither, that I resolved to set out immediately, and having hired horses for me, the superior directed a Lay-brother named *Angelo de Viterbo*, to accompany me.

This Lay-brother was both an honest man, and an able physician and surgeon. He had the happiness to cure several diseases and some wounds that were here thought incurable, on which account he was much respected and esteemed. He was well acquainted with the language, and the different parts of these countries, and being also endowed with much good sense, courage and patience, I could not have a better companion.

In two days we arrived at *Teflis*. The Lay-brother, who accompanied me, led me to the convent of the *Capuchins*, where having no time to lose, I immediately told the Prefect the cause of my journey, and gave him my letters of recommendation. He was soon sensible of the necessity of going at all hazards to endeavour to recover what I had left there. It was agreed to say, I was a *Theatine*, who had been sent by those of *Colchis*, to beg assistance of the *Capuchins*, and they were to send one of their  
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companions with me, in order to bring them away, on account of their being reduced to the greatest distress by the war.

This was no sooner determined, than I prepared for the journey; I took out of my saddle and my pillow, the jewels I had concealed in them, and putting them in a casket, committed them to the care of the Prefect. We thought we should never have been able to hire horses; for no body would go with us into *Mingrelia*; but at last by the means of money we gained over two men, and gave security for their horses and cloaths in case they should be robbed of them. I also dismissed my valet, who played me a thousand villainous pranks, and many times attempted my destruction; after I had expostulated with him on the numerous instances of treachery of which he had been guilty, I paid him for the whole time he had served me, and exhorted him to amendment. But the mildness of this treatment had no effect upon him: he was enraged at being dismissed in a strange country; and gave me room to fear something fatal from his resentment. I was tempted to lay him in irons, which I could have done for a word speaking, the *Capuchins* having such credit at *Teflis*, as to be able to do it with the greatest ease: but I pitied him; and the reader will soon see the dangerous snare he laid for me.

On the 20th of *December* I set out with brother *Angelo*, and a *Georgian* belonging to the *Capuchins*, who had frequently been at *Colchis*, and all the neighbouring countries, and whom  
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the Prefect recommended as a person on whom I might place the greatest confidence. We were only five men with four horses. Brother *Angelo* and I mounted two; the two others carried provisions, and we every where gave out, that we were going in search of the *Theatines* of *Mingrelia*. We again passed mountains covered with snow, and at length coming to the banks of a large river, crossed it in a boat; then descending a mountain, we entered a large valley, that extends into *Mingrelia*, and is watered by several streams. Here we lay in a village named *Sesano*, situated in the finest part of the country of *Imeretta*.

*Sesano* is near a castle belonging to an old lady, aunt to the King of *Imeretta*, who being now sick, and hearing that a *Capuchin* was arrived at the village, sent for him, all the Missionaries being in these countries taken for physicians, and indeed they all practise physic. Brother *Angelo* went to her, and was in hopes of making this event turn to our advantage. Two hours after he left us, to my great surprise, a *Capuchin* of *Gory* arrived on horseback with a guide, to inform us, that the valet I had dismissed had been at *Gory*, where he had discovered all he knew of my enterprize; swearing to ruin me, and that he was gone nobody knew whither. This news greatly alarmed me, and having given the *Capuchin* a thousand thanks, I prevailed on him to accompany us.

The next day we proceeded five leagues through the above plain, which contains many villages and woods; leaving on our right the

fortress of *Scander*, said by the natives to have been built by *Alexander the Great*. We afterwards passed by *Chicaris*, a village that contains fifty houses, and took up our lodging at the distance of a league from it, where we were obliged to stay two days; our carriers refusing to proceed any farther. The news of the war, with which they were entertained by every passenger, made their hearts fail them; and they were seized with the dread of being led to death or slavery. To raise their courage, we called the carriers and the *Georgian* recommended by the Prefect, and told them that they had nothing to fear; that we were well informed of every thing; that we had our lives and goods to preserve as well as they, and that we would answer for the safety of their horses and persons. One of them then spoke for the rest, and desired me to give them a writing by which I would engage to buy them, in case they should be taken for slaves, or give 120 crowns to their wives, if they should die. This I readily granted, and making them also other great promises, prevailed on them to proceed.

The next day we reached *Cotatis* and lodged at the house of the Bishop, who was not at home, but his officers knowing brother *Angelo*, gave us a very kind reception. *Cotatis* is a town built at the foot of a hill on the banks of the river *Phasis*, and contains only about 200 houses. At a little distance are those of the Lords and the King's palace. The town has neither fortifications nor walls, and is every where open, except being inclosed in part by  
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the river and a mountain, at the foot of which it is situated. On a higher mountain on the other side of the river opposite the town, is the fortress of *Cotatis*, which has a high double wall, strengthened with towers.

I stayed at the town all the next day, when while I was at dinner with the two *Capuchins*; the carriers and my guide, being also, according to the custom of the country, at table with us; I saw the rogue of a valet, enter with an *Armenian* and a Priest, who came to shew him the house. I was not much surprized at seeing him, for my apprehensions kept him constantly in my thoughts. I did not however, discover the least fear: I imagined he was turned *Mahometan* from his wearing a turbant. The villain entered with fury in his looks, and seated himself by my men, without being asked. This insolence offended me still more, and I asked, from whence he came. He replied, from *Acalzika*, whence he had come in two days. I ask'd, if the way was so easy and the mountains so little covered with snow, that he could cross them in so short a time. The way is the worst in the world, he cried, and the mountains are covered with snow like those we passed in coming to *Gonia*. You shall see, for you must come to *Acalzika*, I have orders from the Bassa to bring you to that town. You must have more force to carry me thither, said I, for I have no business there. You are ill advised; you know I paid you at *Teflis*; and if you are not satisfied, you ought to make known your demands; for without going so



far as *Acalzika* on so trifling an affair, there are sufficient numbers at *Cotatis* capable of deciding it. This I spoke with the greatest mildness possible. But the villain turned with a furious air to his companion, and bid him bring in the *Turks*. He went out immediately, but this was only an artifice to terrify me: I was indeed extremely frightened, and thought myself lost. The Priest of *Cotatis* was ignorant of what passed, because we talked in the *Turkish* tongue; but being informed by father *Angelo* of the nature of the dispute, and the equity of my proposal, he immediately interested himself in the affair, and with several *Georgians*, pressed the fellow to agree to so reasonable an offer; but the more they said, the more insolent and abusive he grew. Till at last, losing all patience, I struck at him with my sword; but they stopped my hand, and the villain fled in a great fright.

It was now resolved that brother *Angelo* should the next morning proceed forward into *Mingrelia*, while the other Capuchin and I should stay behind; the principal reason was our being unable either to buy or hire horses, and the necessity of sending one for the use of my partner.

The next day, which was the 2d of *January*, brother *Angelo* set out with all the horses and men I had brought from *Teflis*, while I returned to *Chicaris* with the Capuchin, where we proposed to wait till brother *Angelo's* return.

I had continued there a fortnight, when one morning at break of day, I was agreeably awaked

waked by my comrade. He told me that brother *Angelo* with the men and horses arrived at *Sippias* on the 9th, when to his great joy he heard of my arrival at *Teflis*, and that I was then waiting for him near *Cotatis*. He instantly prepared for the journey, dug up the chests, and took out of the roof of the house half of what we had concealed there, and having staid till the 11th, to rest the horses, set out, leaving the remainder of the treasure to the care of the most faithful of our valets, not daring to run the hazard of losing the whole at once.

Having proceeded thus far, he added :  
“ Don’t be frightened at what I am going to re-  
“ late, every thing goes well. On *Saturday*  
“ the 14th we happily arrived at *Cotatis*, and  
“ brother *Angelo* took me to the Bishop’s house.  
“ I did not know of the menaces made you by  
“ the valet you had dismissed, till yesterday ;  
“ if I had I should not have stopped at *Cotatis*.  
“ Father *Angelo* and our men, never once  
“ thinking of him, entreated me on *Sunday*  
“ morning to stay till noon, in order to refresh  
“ ourselves a little after our fatigues. I con-  
“ sented ; but while we were at dinner, the  
“ rogue of a valet entered with twenty jani-  
“ zaries. Where is my master ? he cried with  
“ a loud voice ; he attempted to kill me, and  
“ has not paid me ; but I will certainly pay  
“ him. He then looked about for you ; but  
“ not finding you, he entered another room,  
“ with the hopes of finding you concealed  
“ there. I followed him ; entreated him not  
“ to ruin us, and told him that if my comrade

" had used him ill, or had not paid him, I was  
 " not answerable for it: but that let his de-  
 " mands be what they would, I'd pay him  
 " immediately, if he would but send away  
 " the *Turks*. He answered, that he agreed to  
 " this, and when he had dismissed them, he  
 " he would come to me again.

" He then returned to the hall, and shewing  
 " brother *Angelo* to the janizaries, bid them  
 " take that man to the Governor of the for-  
 " tress. He was instantly seized. The jani-  
 " zaries looked around to see if there was any  
 " thing they could steal, and casting their eyes  
 " on our cloaks carried them off. These were  
 " all they seized, they took none of my arms,  
 " nor the bags I carried about me, in which  
 " were gold and precious stones to the value of  
 " 40,000 crowns. The moment I saw the jani-  
 " zaries out of the house, I sent a valet to follow  
 " brother *Angelo*, and conjured the carriers to  
 " fly with us immediately. We saddled and  
 " loaded our horses in an instant, and, thank  
 " God, are arrived in safety, with every thing  
 " I brought from *Mingrelia*; having lost no-  
 " thing but what the janizaries have taken,  
 " which is scarcely worth two pistoles."

It is impossible to express the joy I felt on  
 this occasion. The Capuchin went immediately  
 to the Bishop and the Queen, to complain to  
 them both, and to desire them to procure the  
 deliverance of father *Angelo*; and having now  
 obtained more horses, my comrade set out on  
 his return to *Mingrelia*, with five men, to take  
 away the rest of the treasure I left there, while

I, with the Capuchin, and three men, took the way to *Teflis*. But being arrived at *Gory*, I sent the Capuchin with a sum of money to *Cotatis*, in order to purchase the release of father *Angelo*.

On the evening of the 6th of *February* my comrade arrived at *Teflis*, with the remainder of the treasure, and the valets I had left in *Colchis*, together with a *Theatine* father, and brother *Angelo*: as soon as I had embraced them round, the latter drew me aside, to tell me the sequel of his adventure.

“ You have heard, said he, in what manner your perfidious valet had me seized by the janizaries. The Governor of the fortrefs of *Cotatis* had sent them, on his representing that you owed him 300 crowns; that you were an Ambassador; that you were going into *Mingrelia*, in search of the treasures you had left there, and that in your person he would obtain a prize that would enrich him for ever. The villain pressed the janizaries who conducted me to the fortrefs, to bind me and use me ill; but there was among them a renegado *Italian*, who caused me to be treated more mildly. I walked along as slowly as possible, and amused them to give your comrade time to fly; for I did not doubt but he would take that step. When they had brought me before the Governor, he asked the villain, if I was his master; he replied that I was not, and that he could not find him; but that I certainly knew where he was. The Governor

“ verner then examined me about you ; I told  
 “ him I did not know where you were ;  
 “ but that when you left me you designed  
 “ to go to *Teflis*. He then asked me many  
 “ questions about your quality, and told me,  
 “ that I should pay the 300 crowns it was  
 “ pretended you owed. I replied, that you  
 “ were a poor Fryar who had taken the trou-  
 “ ble to give me notice of the miserable state  
 “ to which those of your order were reduced  
 “ in *Mingrelia* ; and upon this I was going to  
 “ visit them. That this was all I knew of  
 “ you, and that every body at *Cotatis*, from  
 “ the King to the meanest of his subjects,  
 “ knew that I made a profession of poverty.

“ Upon this the Governor ordering me to be  
 “ searched, they found the girdle you had  
 “ given me, wherein was seven pistoles ; but  
 “ the jewels you had wrote to your comrade  
 “ to give me, I had happily not received. The  
 “ Governor then cried, *Wretch where are the*  
 “ *riches thou hast promised me ; hast thou brought*  
 “ *me this poor man to mock me ? Thou art a vil-*  
 “ *lain, and I'll order thee to be bastinadoed to*  
 “ *death.* My Lord, replied he, trembling, *these*  
 “ *riches are in the hands of my master's comrade,*  
 “ *who is at the Bishop's.* Dog as thou art, re-  
 “ turned the Governor, *why hast thou not*  
 “ *brought him then ? Go and fetch him.* He  
 “ went with the same janizaries. I was dread-  
 “ fully affraid that he would find him ; but  
 “ my fear was turned into joy, when return-  
 “ ing the janizaries reported he was fled. The  
 “ Governor flew in a rage against your valet,  
 “ who

“ who appeared confounded. I then related  
“ the ill offices he had done you, and how ge-  
“ nerously you had paid him his wages.

“ At night the Governor invited me to sup-  
“ per, and learning that I was a physician,  
“ made me visit some soldiers in the fortress,  
“ to whom I administered remedies. The  
“ next day the Queen and the Bishop sent two  
“ gentlemen to the Governor to demand my  
“ release, and at noon there came two others  
“ from a great Lord of the country, whose  
“ Lady being ill, and he hearing that I was  
“ confined in the fortress for debt, paid the  
“ Governor 25 crowns for my discharge; and  
“ I was released, notwithstanding the clamours  
“ of the valet, who said that you would give  
“ a thousand crowns, rather than leave me  
“ there. I now went to visit the Lady, and  
“ a few days after father *Justin* arrived at *Chicaris*,  
“ where hearing that I was with this  
“ Lord, he came to me, restored the 25 crowns,  
“ and we went together to *Chicaris*. Two  
“ days after your comrade arrived with the re-  
“ mains of what had been left in *Mingrelia*.  
“ He told us the way he had taken to avoid  
“ coming near *Catatis*; and that he had heard  
“ the rogue of a valet was confined in the for-  
“ tress, and probably would not escape with-  
“ out due chastisement.”

It was late, but my comrade and I could not go to supper till after we had some discourse on the happy success of our labours. We could not have hoped thus to save every thing, when we were surrounded with dangers that  
made

made us dread the loss of all; and yet our losses in this fatal journey had amounted to no more than about one *per cent*.



#### C H A P. IV.

*A Description of Georgia, and of the Manners of the Inhabitants. Teflis the Capital described. The Author goes to Court; his Reception, and his being invited to a marriage Feast.*

**G**EORGIA, by which I would be understood to mean the whole country of that name subject to *Persia*, is bounded on the east by *Circassia* and *Russia*, on the west by *Armenia Minor*, on the south by *Armenia Major*, and on the north by the *Black Sea*, and that part of *Mingrelia* called *Imeretta*. This is, in my opinion, the whole country distinguished by the ancients by the name of *Iberia*. It has many woods and mountains that enclose large and beautiful plains; but the middle part, which is watered by the river *Kur*, the ancient *Cyrus*, is the most fertile. The natives call themselves *Cartueli*, and it is said the *Greeks* gave them the name of *Georgoi*, which in their language signifies *Labourer*.

The air of *Georgia* is dry, very cold in winter, and hot in summer. The fine weather does not begin till the month of *May*; but then it lasts till the end of *November*. The inhabitants

are

are therefore obliged to water the earth; by which means it produces all sorts of grain and fruit in the greatest profusion. The bread is as good as any in world. The fruits are excellent, and of all sorts. No part of *Europe* produces finer, or better tasted pears and apples, nor no part of *Asia*, more excellent pomegranates. The cattle are extremely numerous, and very good; the wild boars are as common and as delicate as in *Mingrelia*; and the common people live almost entirely upon swine, which are seen all over the country, and their flesh is not only extremely palatable but very wholesome. The wild fowl are incomparable, and of all sorts. Besides the *Caspian Sea*, which is near *Georgia*, and the *Kur* which runs throught it, afford the greatest plenty of sea and fresh-water fish.

In no other country do the inhabitants drink so much, or such excellent wine. The vines grow about the trees as in *Mingrelia*, and great quantities of wine are sent from *Teflis* into *Armenia*, *Media*, and to *Ispahan*, where it is used at the Shah's table. An horse load, which is three hundred weight, sells for about the value of eight Shillings: this is the price of the best sort, for the ordinary wine does not sell for more than half as much. *Georgia* also produces great quantities of silk, which is exported to *Turky* and the neighbouring countries.

The *Georgians* are the handsomest people, not only in the east; but, I believe, in the whole world; and I never observed an ordinary person of either sex in this country:  
but



but I have seen some that have been quite angelical. Nature has given most of the women such graces as are no where else to be seen; and it is impossible to behold, without loving them. They are tall, easy, not encumbered with fat, and have slender waists. But they injure their beauty with paint, which they use as an ornament, in the same manner as among us are worn jewels and rich cloaths.

The *Georgians* have naturally much wit, and had they a proper education might possibly be distinguished by their learning, and their skill in the arts and sciences; but the neglect of all instruction, and the force of ill example, render them ignorant, dishonest, and extremely vicious. They will, with the greatest effrontery, deny what they have said and done, and assert and vindicate the most notorious falsehoods. They are irreconcilable in their hatred, and never forgive; but then they are not easily displeas'd, and never conceive a perpetual hatred without just cause of anger. They are addicted to drunkenness and luxury, which are not even esteem'd crimes. The churchmen get drunk as well as the laity, and keep beautiful slaves for concubines. Nobody is offended at this, because it is the general authorized custom. The Prefect of the Capuchins assured me, that he had heard the Catholicos, or Patriarch of *Georgia* say, that he who at the great feasts, as *Christmas* and *Easter*, does not get quite drunk, ought not to be esteem'd a *Christian*, and deserves to be excommunicated. The women are no less vicious than

than the men; their desires are warm, and they are even more to blame than the other sex for that torrent of impurity that overflows the country. The *Georgians* are also great usurers, they seldom lend without pledges, and the lowest interest they take is 2 per cent. a month. In other respects the *Georgians* are civil, friendly, and appear with great gravity. Their manners and customs are a mixture of those of most of the nations that surround them. This, I believe, proceeds, from the commerce they carry on with many different countries, and from the liberty every one enjoys in *Georgia*, of living according to his own religion and customs, and of freely defending them. Here you see *Armenians, Greeks, Turks, Persians, Indians, Tartars, and Moscovites*. The *Armenians* are even more numerous than the *Georgians* themselves; they are also more rich, and fill most of the inferior posts and employments of the state; but the *Georgians* are more powerful, more vain, and ostentatious. The difference between their dispositions, manners, and belief, has caused a reciprocal hatred. They mutually abhor each other, and never intermarry. The *Georgians*, in particular, consider the *Armenians* in much the same light as that in which many *Europeans* behold the *Jews*.

The habit of the *Georgians* is almost like that of the *Poles*: they wear their bonnets like theirs; their vests are open at the breast, and fastened with buttons and loops; their covering for the legs and feet resembles that of the

*Persians*, and the habit of the woman is entirely *Persian*.

The houses of the great, and all the public edifices, are erected on the same models as those in *Persia*. They build very cheap; for they have wood, stone, plaster, and lime in abundance. They also imitate the *Persians* in their manner of sitting, lying and eating.

The nobility exercise the most tyrannical power over their vassals, whom they oblige to work for them whole months together, and as often as they please, without giving them either pay or food. They think they have a right to their substance, liberty, and lives: they take their children and sell them, or keep them as slaves: but they seldom sell any, especially women, who are above twenty years of age.

The *Georgians* are almost as ignorant with respect to religion as the *Mingrelians*. Both these countries received the knowledge of *Christianity* in the fourth century, from a woman of *Iberia*, who embraced the *Christian* religion at *Constantinople*; and both have now lost the spirit of it. There are many bishops in *Georgia* besides the *Catholicos* or *Patriarch*. The Prince, though of the *Mahometan* religion, commonly fills the vacant sees, and generally chuses his own relations; even the *Catholicos* is his brother. The churches in the towns are kept in decent order; but in the country they are very dirty. The *Georgians*, like other *Christians* situated to the north and the west of them, have a strange custom of building most of their churches on the top of mountains, in distant,

distant, and almost inaccessible places. They see and salute them at three or four leagues distance: but they hardly ever go to them; and it is certain that most of them are not opened once in ten years. They build them, and then abandon them to the injuries of the weather, and to the birds. The reason of this custom I could never discover.

Most of the *Georgian* Lords make an outward profession of the *Mahometan* religion, some to gain employments at court, or pensions from the state: others to obtain the honour of marrying their daughters to the Prince, or only to introduce them to the service of his women. There are some of these base nobility who will themselves lead their most beautiful daughters to the Prince; for which they are rewarded by a post in the government, or a pension.

While I was at *Teflis*, a *Georgian* Lord, letting the Prince know that he had a niece remarkable for her uncommon beauty, his Majesty ordered that she should be brought to him, and he took upon himself the office of bringing her. The villain went to his sister, who was a widow, and told her, that the Prince would marry her daughter, and that she must prepare her for that honour. The mother immediately informed the poor girl of the violence that was going to be offered her, she loved a young Lord in the neighbourhood, who had an equal affection for her; and their mother had encouraged their passion. In this distress they took the resolution to condole

with the lover. They sent for him, and he arrived soon after. He found the mother and her daughter shut up by themselves, mingling their tears, and in the deepest distress lamenting the severity of her fate. The lover threw himself at their feet, and let them know that he feared nothing so much as the loss of his mistress; and the Prince could inflict nothing on him so dreadful as this loss. That the only way of preserving him from it, was their being immediately married, and that the next day, they might inform their perfidious uncle, that she was no longer a maid. The proposal was accepted, and the mother leaving the room, the lover wiped away the tears of distress that fell from the eyes of his mistress, by instantly marrying her. The uncle discovered the whole affair, and told it to his Majesty, who being enraged at his disappointment, gave express orders for bringing to court both the mother, the daughter, and the husband. But they fled, and for some months escaped from place to place. At length being convinced that they should be at last taken, they got to *Acalzika*, where the *Turkish* Bassa took them under his protection.

The fear of such accidents obliges those of the *Georgians* who have beautiful daughters, to marry them as soon as possible, and even in their infancy. The poor especially marry theirs early, and even in the cradle; that the Lords to whom they are subject, may not take them away in order to sell, or make them their concubines.

Georgia has but four fortified towns, *Teflis*, *Gory*, *Suram*, and *Aly*; of which the former is the capital of the province. It is situated at the foot of a mountain, and by it runs the river *Kur*. The city is surrounded with handsome strong walls, except on the river side, and extends from north to south. It has a large fortress on the declivity of the mountain, where the garrison only consists of native *Persians*. Here is a public square, an arsenal, and a market. This fortress is a place of refuge for criminals and debtors. The Prince of *Georgia* is obliged to pass through it, when he goes, according to custom, without the gates of the city to receive the letters and presents sent him by the King of *Persia*; because the city has no other entrance in the road from *Persia*, but through this fortress; and the Prince never passes through it, without the apprehensions that the Governor has secret orders to seize his person. *Teflis* has fourteen churches, which is a great number in a country where there is so little devotion. Six of these belong to the *Georgians*, and the rest to the *Armenians*. The cathedral, which is called *Sion*, is situated on the bank of the river, and is entirely built of hewn stones. It is an ancient building, very entire, and has four naves. In the middle is a large dome supported by four massy pillars. The great altar is in the midst of the nave facing the east. The inside is filled with *Greek* paintings lately executed by such wretched hands, that it is extremely difficult to discover what they are intended to represent. To this

edifice joins the Bishop's palace, and the principal churches of the *Georgians*: who had also a handsome church at the south end of the city; but it is now converted into a magazine for gunpowder.

Though this city belongs to the empire of *Persia*, and as well as the whole province, is governed by a Prince who professes the *Mahometan* religion, it has not one mosque. The *Persians* have indeed made use of their utmost endeavours to build them; but have never been able to accomplish it; for the people immediately rose in arms, pulled down the work, and beat the workmen. The Princes of *Georgia* were indeed glad of these seditions, though they pretended the contrary; for having abjured the *Christian* religion only to obtain the Viceroyalty, they were not willing to consent to the establishment of *Mahometanism*. The *Georgians* are naturally mutinous, fickle, and brave; and being situated near the *Turks*, the *Persians* have not been willing to come to extremities with them; hence *Teflis*, and all *Georgia*, are allowed the liberty of preserving their religion. They use bells in their churches; they daily sell pork in the market, and wine is sold at the corners of the streets.

The public buildings at *Teflis* make a handsome appearance, these are of stone, and kept in good order; particularly the bazars, and the caravanferais. The palace of the Prince is one of the principal ornaments of the city. It has grand saloons, which open upon the river, and face very extensive gardens. There  
are

are aviaries filled with a great number of birds of different kinds ; and a very noble falconry. Before the palace is a square, in which may be drawn up near a thousand horse. It is surrounded with shops, and opposite the gate of the palace is the grand bazar, from the upper end of which the square and the front of the palace appear in a beautiful perspective. In the neighbourhood of the city are many pleasure houses and fine gardens.

On the 10th, the Prefect of the Capuchins informed the Viceroy of my arrival ; which, indeed, could not be concealed from a Prince, who knows the most trifling things that happens at *Teflis* : but I was desirous of seeing him, and presenting the passports of the King of *Persia*, addressed to all the Governors of provinces, to whom I was strongly recommended ; for I made no doubt but at the sight of these orders, he would give me a good reception, and an escort to conduct me out of his dominions. This Prince, who is called *Chanavas Khan*, told the Prefect that I was welcome, and that I should do him a pleasure to come and see him as soon as I could ; and on the 12th, he sent a gentleman to inform me, that as he was entering on a week of rejoicing, during which he should every day give a public entertainment to his whole court, he desired me to come. The Capuchins intreated my comrade and I, to dress as well as possible, and on their account to make a very noble present to the Prince. To this I agreed, being very glad of an opportunity of shewing my  
grati-



gratitude for the important services I had received from them.

It was near noon when we went to the palace, accompanied by the Prefect, and one of the community, named Father *Raphael*. The Prince was in a hall about 100 feet long and 40 broad, built on the bank of the river, with an open front on that side. The ceiling was covered with mosaic work, and supported by a number of pillars between 25 and 30 feet in height, painted and gilt, and the whole room was covered with rich tapestry. The Prince and the principal nobility, were placed near three fires, which with several pans of coals, sufficiently heated the room. *Chanavas Khan* causes himself to be saluted like the King of *Persia*, by kneeling at two or three paces distance, and bowing the head three times successively to the floor. But this is dispensed with, in regard to the *Europeans*, and I saluted him without kneeling. Two gentlemen in waiting, afterwards led me to my place; but I would not sit above the Capuchins; for I was glad of an opportunity of doing them honour.

While I was bowing, a gentleman at the door of the hall took my letters patent from the King of *Persia*, which I held in my hand, and the present for the Prince, which I had brought, and had ranged in a large silver bowl. The Prince opened the patent, put it to his mouth, and his forehead, then gave it to his first Minister, for him to tell him its contents. Afterwards he looked at the present, which

which was placed at his feet, with much curiosity and pleasure. It consisted of a large watch in a silver case, chased and gilt : a crystal mirrour mounted in silver : a gold box enamelled, to hold pills of opium, which most of the *Persians* take several times a day : a very neat case of surgeons instruments, and knives with curious handles.

The first Minister, after having read the patent, in a low voice, told the Prince what it contained. All the great men admired the the words wrote in gold, and the flowered work in the margin, which was very large. It was one sheet of paper two feet and a half long, and thirteen or fourteen inches broad. Besides the writing in gold, there were words in blue, and others in red, thus the principal words and sentences were distinguished, while the rest were wrote in black.

In bowing to the Viceroy, I spoke not a word, nor did he move. A moment after I was seated, he sent me half a large loaf, which stood before him, upon a gilt dish, and ordered me to be told that I was welcome. A little after he sent to ask me, how the war went on between the *Turks* and the *Poles*.

I shall not describe the order and magnificence of this feast ; I shall only say, that a great deal of wine was drank, and that a prodigious quantity of meat was eaten. We arose from table after having sat three hours ; and yet the roast meat was not yet brought in. We made a low bow to the Prince on our retiring, when

when he sent again to tell us, we were welcome, and ordered us to be conducted home.

On the 14th the Prince sent us two great flagons of wine, two pheasants, and four partridges. The gentleman who brought them, told me, that the Prince had given him orders to enquire, whether I wanted any thing; and whether the Capuchins took care to divert us; and to tell us, that if we liked the wine he sent us, we might send every day for it to his pantry. I thanked the gentleman, and desired him to assure the Prince, that the Capuchins suffered us to want for nothing, and that we drank together the Prince's health, with the wine he sent. Indeed, we could no where drink better.

On the 16th, the Prince invited us to the marriage of his niece, which was performed at the palace. I went there with the Prefect and Father *Raphael*, one of the Capuchins; but the marriage ceremony was almost over before we arrived. It was performed in the grand saloon where we had dined before, and it being full of ladies, no other men were admitted but the Prince, and his near relations.

It is only since the *Georgians* have been subject to *Persia*, that they have forbid their women to converse with men: this, however, takes place only in the towns; for in the country, and in places where there are no *Mahometans*, they wear no veils, and make no difficulty of seeing and speaking to the other sex; but as the customs of the *Mahometans* gradually gain ground in *Georgia*, with their

religion, the liberty of the women decreases in the same proportion.

The marriage feast was on a terrace of the palace, surrounded with a sofa two feet high; and upon it was erected a grand pavillion supported on fine columns twenty-two feet in height, and about five inches in diameter. The lining was of gold and silver brocade, velvet, and painted linen, so artful joined, that by the light of the tapers it appeared like a cieling composed of flowers and mosaic work. The floors were covered with fine carpets, and the place lighted with 40 large lamps fixed on stands resembling candlesticks, most of which were forty pounds weight, and 15 inches in diameter; the four next the Prince were gilt, and the others silver'd. The stand at the height of a foot and a half, bore a cup full of tallow, which supplied two wicks with light.

The guests, who amounted to about an hundred, were ranged on sofas, extending round the room: the Prince sat on one raised above the rest, and covered with a canopy made in the form of a dome. His son and his brothers were on his right, and the Bishops on his left. The Prince made us sit with the Capuchins immediately after the Bishops, and the musicians were below. Soon after we were seated the bridegroom entered, led by the Catholicos, and having taken his seat, the Prince's relations went to make him their compliments, and to offer him a present; and this was afterwards done by most of the other guests

guests, each in his rank. This formed a kind of procession, that lasted about half an hour. The presents consisted of money in gold and silver, and in small silver cups: but all of them together did not, I believe, amount to above 200 crowns.

In the mean while supper was served up in the following manner: first, cloths of the length of the sophas were spread before all the guests. The bread was then served up, and the meat brought in large covered silver dishes, the dish and cover commonly weighing 50 or 60 \* marks. Those who brought the dishes into the hall, ranged them on a cloth at the entrance; other officers brought them to the carvers, who filled deep plates, which they presented to the guests; bringing them first to the Prince, then to the others. They first served the same meat round, then another, and so on. The feast consisted of three services, in each of which there were about 60 of these large covered dishes. The first was of all sorts of pilaw or pleo; that is, rice dressed with meat, which was of various colours and tastes; the yellow was dressed with saffron, cinnamon and sugar; the red with the juice of the pomegranate; but the white, which is the best, was of the natural colour. This pilaw is very delicate food, and extremely wholesome. The second service was of tarts, sweet and sour fricasees, and ragouts. The third, was of roast meat. All the three services were mixed with fish, eggs, and pulse for the ecclesiastics. Every thing was brought

in

\* Each Mark being eight Ounces.

in and taken away with surprising silence: for three *Europeans* at a table would make more noise than all the guests and servants in this hall, who were not less than an hundred and fifty.

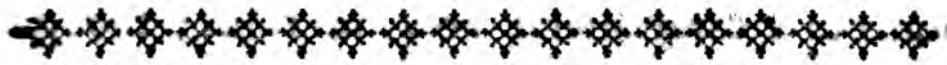
The prodigious number of drinking vessels was also very surprising; these were about 120, and consisted of bowls, cups, and horns, sixty flagons, and twelve tankards. The flagons were of gold polished or enamelled. The cups and bowls were some of gold enamelled, some of polished gold, others adorned with precious stones, and others of silver. The horns were adorned like the richest cups, and were of several sizes; but most of them were about eight inches in height, and of a bright black. Some of them were made of the horn of the rhinoceros; but the most common were of cows horns.

I do not know how long the feast lasted; for I did not stay till the end of it; we retiring at midnight, when the roast meat was not taken away. No body drank till the third service, and then they began to drink healths in the following manner. They delivered to eight persons nearest the Prince, four on his right hand, and four on his left, eight small cups of the same size and fashion full of wine. Those on the right hand drank off the wine first, and then those on the left. The others next them were then served till the health went round. After which they began again with eight larger cups. It is the custom of the country to drink the healths of the great with

the largest cups; and the guests, to shew their respect, continue this till they are quite drunk. In this manner they drank for the two last hours of my being there, I afterwards learnt that they did not break off till it was light. The Capuchins and I were exempted from drinking, and indeed had I drank as much as those who sat near me, I should have died upon the spot: but the Prince gave orders that we should drink no more than we liked.

When the healths began the instruments and vocal music struck up, with which the whole assembly seemed transported, though to me it appeared rude and barbarous.

On the 20th, I desired the Prefect and Father *Raphael* to return thanks to the Prince for the honours he had conferred upon me, and to desire him to grant me an officer to conduct me as far as *Iri-van*, the capital of *Armenia Major*; to which the Prince readily agreed. He professed to entertain an esteem for the *Europeans*, and that he should be glad to have a number of them settled in *Georgia*; and added, that if they came thither for the sake of trade he would grant them all the advantages they could desire; and that as his country extended to the *Black Sea*, they would find their advantage in travelling through it to the *East-Indies*.



C H A P. V.

*The Author leaves Teflis, and proceeds to Dilyjan, and from thence to Irivan, which is particularly described, with the Customs and Manners of the Inhabitants; and of the Governor's Camp. He then travels to Nacchivan, Abrener, Julfa, and Tauris to Ispahan.*

**O**N the 28th of *February* we left *Teflis*, our Mehemander riding before to prevent my paying any duties, and to furnish us with provisions and lodgings on the road. The next day we proceeded eight leagues through a beautiful plain, to a town named *Cuprikent*, or the Village of the Bridge, from its being built near a very fine one that extends over the river *Tabadi*. The town consists of about 150 houses, and the bridge, which joins two mountains that are separated by the river, is supported by four unequal arches that rise from two irregular masses of rock found in the river. Those at the two ends open on each side, and are hollowed out into small chambers and porticoes, for the accommodation of passengers: an arch near the middle of the river, has an opening on each side, with two chambers at the ends, and two large covered balconies, where the people may enjoy the fresh air during the heat of summer. You here descend by two pair of stairs which



are cut down from the arch. This bridge joins to a caravanferai now in ruins; though it has been one of the finest in all *Georgia*.

The three following days we passed over high mountains difficult of access, and arrived on the 4th of *March* at *Dilyjan*, a town consisting of about 300 houses, situated on a river that runs at the foot of a high and frightful mountain, which, as well as the others we had just passed, forms a part of Mount *Taurus*. On these high mountains we were much incommoded by the snow and cold; but there is every where to be found abundance of water, and here and there are small fertile plains. The goodness of the soil, and the number of the villages are almost incredible; some of these are on points of land so high, that the passengers below can scarcely see them. Most of them are inhabited by *Georgian* and *Armenian Christians*; but they are not intermixed, for they are such enemies, that they will not dwell together in the same village. In all these mountains are found neither caravanferais nor any other public houses; but we lodged commodiously enough with the peasants, who supplied us with plenty of meat and drink; for our Mehemander went before, to provide for our reception, so that on my arrival at a village, I found a house and stable prepared, a great fire lighted, and supper ready. The first day I would have given something to my landlord; but my conductor prevented me, saying, that was not the custom, and that I should rather give it to him. I therefore

therefore afterwards privately hid something for the use of the people with whom we lodged. Thus we travelled very commodiously; and at night my chamber was guarded by the men of the village who stood sentry, as well to execute my orders, as to guard me from danger, though there was nothing to fear.

Most of the houses of these villages are properly caverns; for they are hollowed out of the earth. The others are built of large beams quite up to the top, which is made flat, and covered with turf, an opening being left in the middle to admit the light, and let out the smoke; this hole they stop when they please. The above caverns have the advantage of being warm in winter and cool in summer.

The town of *Dilyjan*, and all the country for six leagues round, is called the territory of *Casac*, and depends on *Persia*, in the same manner as *Georgia*, it being always governed by its natural Princes, in a direct line from father to son. *Abas* the Great conquered all these countries at the same time that he made himself master of *Georgia*.

On the 5th, we proceeded five leagues in passing the frightful mountain already mentioned. I thought I should have died with the fatigue of this journey. I was troubled with a dysentery, which obliged me to dismount every quarter of an hour: two men supported me, and a third led my horse. The whole mountain was covered with snow, and

nothing else could be seen above us, no not so much as a tree or a plant. The road was a narrow path of snow hardened by being trampled upon by travellers and their horses: and as soon as we set a foot out of this path, we sunk up to the middle. There is no possibility of passing this mountain while the snow is falling, or when the wind blows; for then the track is lost, and thus many people perish every year. This snow never melts, and the mountain is perpetually covered with it.

The next day, though half dead, I continued my journey, and spurred on by the hopes of finding some relief at *Iriwan*, we proceeded five leagues to *Bickni*, a considerable town, situated at the foot of a mountain on the banks of the *Zengui*, and lodged at a handsome monastery belonging to the *Armenians*, built between the town and the mountain. The Monks received me with much humanity; but it being Lent, nothing could prevail on them to make me some chicken-broth, and my conductor was obliged to make use of all his authority to get me a few eggs.

The next morning at break of day, we departed, after having made a small present to the monastery, and travelled nine leagues over plains covered with snow. The travelling in these snows is attended with great pain and danger, from the rays of the sun, which falling upon it, give it an insupportable brightness, that is very prejudicial to the sight, notwithstanding all the precautions we could take,  
by

By following the example of the natives in putting a thin black or green silk handkerchief before our eyes, which only serves to lessen the evil. When we met with peasants, it was necessary to dispute who should enter the snow, for the track is so narrow, that two horses cannot pass by each other upon it. When the numbers are equal, they usually come to blows, otherwise the weakest yield. They unload their horses, and make them enter the snow, in which they sink up to their bellies, and thus stand to give a passage to the others. To this all whom we met were obliged by my conductor to submit. We passed by several towns and villages, and at night arrived at *Iriwan*.

*Iriwan* is a large dirty city, the greatest part of which is filled with gardens and vineyards. It is situated in a plain surrounded with mountains, and on the banks of two rivers, the *Zengui* washing it to the north west, and a river called *the Forty Fountains*, from the number of its sources, running to the south west. The fortress, which is at a little distance, might pass for a small city. It is of an oval form, 4000 paces round, and contains about 800 houses. None live in it but native *Persians*. The *Armenians* have shops in which they work, and trade in the day; but at night they shut them up, and return to their houses. This fortress has three walls of earth, and battlements of white bricks, flanked with towers, and provided with narrow ramparts, extending on the north to a dreadful precipice above 200 yards deep, at the bottom of which flows the

the river. This inaccessible part is only fortified with terrasses furnished with artillery. The garrison consists of 2000 *Persians*. It has as many gates and walls, all of them cased with iron, and defended by batteries, portcullises, and fortified guard houses. The palace of the Governor of the province is on the brink of the precipice, and makes a handsome appearance. On an eminence at a thousand paces distance is a fort, fortified with a double wall and artillery, that commands the fortress.

There are several churches in the city, the principal of which is the Bishop's, and another called *Catovike*, these were erected during the reigns of the last Kings of *Armenia*. The others which have been since built, are small, sunk in the earth, and have some resemblance to catacombs.

Near the Episcopal church is an old tower built of hewn stones; but I could neither learn the time nor the use for which it was built. On the outside are inscriptions in characters like those of the *Armenians*, but the *Armenians* cannot read them. This is an antique work, of a singular architecture, and around it are several ruins, which seem to have belonged to a cloister. Near the above structure is a mosque in ruins, and at some distance is a large square 400 paces in diameter, surrounded with trees. This is used for carousals, horse-races, wrestling matches, and all exercises either on horse-back or on foot. There are many baths in the town and fortress, and several caravanserais; the finest of which is within 500 paces of the castle.

castle. It was built a few years ago by the Governor of *Armenia*. The gate is 80 paces deep, and forms a fine gallery, filled with shops, where all sorts of stuffs are sold. The body of the edifice is square, and contains three great lodging rooms, and sixty small ones, with large stables, and many spacious warehouses. Before it is a market surrounded with shops, in which are sold all sorts of provisions, and by the side of it is a fine mosque, and two coffee-houses.

*Iriwan* is situated in  $41^{\circ}$  degrees 15' North latitude, and enjoys a good air; but it is thick and very cold. The winter lasts long, and the snow sometimes falls in *April*. The country is, however, extremely fertile, and the wine produced in its neighbourhood is good and cheap. The *Armenians* have a tradition, that *Noah* planted the vine near *Iriwan*, and point out the very spot. All sorts of provisions are produced in the neighbourhood of the city, and sold at a low price. The two rivers that flow by its side, and the lake of *Iriwan*, which is at three small days journey to the north-west, furnish the city with fine fish, particularly trouts and carp that are remarkably good, and famous all over the east: some of them I have seen three feet long.

The *Armenians* esteem this the most ancient city of the world, and believe that *Noah* dwelt there both before and after the deluge, when he descended from the mountain on which the ark rested. They even say, that here was the terrestrial paradise.

At

At twelve leagues from *Iriwan*, is the celebrated mountain on which almost all the people of the country are firmly persuaded that the ark rested. This mountain is so high and large, that when the air is clear, it does not appear above two leagues distant. The *Armenians* even believe that the ark is still on the summit of this mountain, and say that a Monk named *James*, being resolved to see it, or die in the attempt, went half way up the acclivity; but could go no farther, because having ascended thus far every day, he was, while asleep in the night, carried back to the place from whence he set out in the morning. They add, that this continued a long time, till God being willing to satisfy in part his desires, sent him a piece of the ark by an angel and ordered him to be told, that all access to the top was forbidden to mankind.

At the foot of the mountain is a village of *Christians*, and a monastery; for which the *Armenians* have great devotion, believing that *Noah* first offered sacrifices there after the deluge. This is called *The Monastery of the Apostles*; from its being pretended that the bodies of *St. Andrew* and *St. Matthew* were found there, and that the skull of that evangelist is preserved in the church of the monastery. The people relate a hundred other absurd particulars of this place, and of the country all around, which they make their Holy Land.

I having sent to inform the Governor of *Iriwan* of my arrival, a messenger came to tell me that I was welcome; and that he was very de-

desirous of seeing me, and a part of the jewels I had brought. I was then asked how many men I had with me, and whether I chose to lodge in the fortress, or in the great caravan-ferai. I chose the latter; because there can be no place more secure, and there is no want of company; for merchants come there from all parts of *Asia*. On this the Governor giving orders for my having one of the best apartments, I went thither the next day, with all my baggage, and about noon an officer belonging to the Governor brought me an order from the Intendant to receive daily from the proper officer, bread, wine, flesh, fish, fruit, rice, butter, wood, and other necessaries for six persons. The quantity for each is regulated; but the portion allowed for one person is sufficient for two.

On the 10th, I went, by the Governor's desire, to pay him a visit, and found him in a large handsome light closet, with several Lords of the country. He treated me with great complaisance, told me three times that I was welcome, and entertained me with sweetmeats and *Russian* brandy. I shewed him my patents, after which, he spent an hour in asking me news of *Europe*, in relation to the wars in that part of the world; the present disposition of the *Christian* Princes, and the state of the sciences, with the new discoveries that had been made. He spent another hour in examining the jewels I had brought, of which he talked like one who was well acquainted with them. He set aside those that particularly pleased



pleased him, and such as he thought would be agreeable to the Princess his wife. Having kept me to dinner, he honoured me afterwards with his conversation for half an hour longer, and then dismissed me, ordering my Mehemander to suffer me to want for nothing.

This Governor was one of the greatest Lords of *Persia*; he was beloved by the King, and revered by the court; his two sons, were his Majesty's chief favourites; and he was respected by the people on account of his justice and integrity. Indeed he well deserved his good fortune; for besides these amiable qualities, he was a man of sense, and fond of the arts and sciences.

On the 12th, I dismissed the officer belonging to the Viceroy of *Georgia* who had conducted me to *Iriwan*, on which occasion I made him a present of eight pistoles.

On the 5th of *April* the Governor went to a camp, which he had caused to be formed a league from the city, in a large and beautiful meadow, always covered with flowers during the spring. The two rivers that pass by *Iriwan*, wind in a serpentine course, with a gentle stream, forming many small islands. The Governor's quarter, that of the Princess his wife, and those of the most considerable persons who accompanied them, were separate, and each in an island; but they had a communication with each other by means of small flying bridges. The Governor's tents were extremely magnificent; they had all the accommodations of a palace, in miniature, even to baths and stoves.

His

His household consisted of 500 men, without reckoning women and eunuchs. The great are here accustomed thus to pass the spring in the country. They take the diversions of hunting, fishing, walking, and exercises on foot, and on horseback. Thus they taste the freshness of the air, of which they are extremely fond, and if they have no business that calls them to the city, they continue to enjoy these delights during the summer, in the most delicious parts of the neighbouring mountains.

On the 6th, I dined with the Lieutenant of the fortress, who was a native of *Daghestan*, an extensive country covered with mountains, on the confines of *Russia*, and I had the pleasure of hearing him relate many singularities, with respect to the manners and customs of his country. The next day the Treasurer entertained me in the same manner. I now made these gentlemen small presents, in return for the favours I had received from them. They had been of service to me at *Iriwan*, without daring to take the dues which one is obliged to pay in *Persia* to the officers of the Governors, for the money we receive from their treasuries; because their master had strictly commanded them to make no demands upon me. The caresses and entertainments they now gave me, were therefore designed to oblige me to make them a proper return; for they knew that I was too well acquainted with the customs of the country, to believe that this behaviour to a stranger, proceeded from mere generosity.

nerosity. In the afternoon I went to the camp, to take leave of the Governor, who had before appointed me a Mehemander; he now treated me with the utmost kindness, and on retiring, gave me letters of recommendation to his two eldest sons, who were the King's favourite eunuchs.

I left *Iriwan* on the 8th of *April*, and on the 12th arrived at *Nacchiwan*, once a vast city; but now a prodigious heap of ruins; but by little and little it has been in part rebuilt and re-peopled. In the midst of these ruins have arisen bazars, in which are sold all sorts of provisions and merchandize. It has five caravanserais, with baths, taverns, and about 2000 houses: but the *Persian* historians maintain, that this city formerly consisted of 40,000. Without the city are the ruins of a large fortress, and of many forts destroyed by *Abas* the Great, at the end of the last century.

Five leagues to the north of *Nacchiwan* is a large village named *Abrener*, which signifies a *Fertile Field*. The inhabitants of this, and seven other neighbouring villages, are of the *Romish* religion: their Bishop and Priests are Dominicans; but they perform the service in the *Armenian* tongue. A Dominican of *Bologna*, 350 years ago, brought this part of the country under the authority of the Pope, and above twenty other villages submitted to him; but they have since returned to their obedience to the *Armenian* Patriarch, and to their first religion. The number of those who adhere to the church of *Rome* diminish daily, on account

count of the persecution of the Patriarch and the Governors of *Nacchivan*.

The next day having passed the river *Nacchivan* over a large bridge, we proceeded through a dry and barren country, to the river *Aras*, the ancient *Araxes*, opposite the ruins of the city of *Julfa the Old*. That city was situated on the declivity of a mountain, facing the river. The avenues that led to it, which were naturally difficult of access, were guarded by forts. The city, according to the *Armenians*, had 4000 houses; but most of them appear to have been only caverns in the mountains, more fit to afford shelter to cattle, than for the habitations of men. I don't think there is any where in the world a more hideous and barren place: neither a tree nor a blade of grass is to be seen, and though there are places of greater fertility in its neighbourhood, the city could not have been built in a more dry and stony situation.

It was *Abas* the Great who ruined *Julfa*. That great and politic Prince seeing his forces unequal to those of his enemies, and reflecting on the means of preventing their returning every year into *Persia*, to make and preserve their conquests there, resolved to render all the country a desert between *Erzerum* and *Tauris*, on a line with *Iriwan* and *Nacchivan*, which was the way by which the *Turks* commonly came, and where they fortified themselves, because they found provisions sufficient for the subsistence of their army. He therefore removed the inhabitants and cattle, ruined

the edifices of every kind, set fire to all the fields and trees, and even poisoned several fountains.

But to return: The *Aras* has its source in the mountain on which it is pretended, that *Noah's* ark rested, and after dividing *Armenia* and *Media*, falls into the *Caspian Sea*. This river is large and rapid: during its course it is swelled by several brooks that have no name, and by many torrents. Bridges have been built over it above *Julfa*, and in other places; but however massy and strong they were made, they could not resist the force of the current: for when the snows melt on the neighbouring mountains; no piers or buttresses can withstand its force. Indeed the noise of the waters, and the rapidity of their course are very astonishing. We passed it in a large boat, made to carry 20 horses, and 30 persons at a time. I suffered none to pass over with me but my men and my baggage. Four men took care of the boat, and proceeded 300 paces along the bank up the river; by little and little they got into the stream, and then made use of only a long helm, to direct its course to the other bank. The boat was then driven by the current with an incredible impetuosity, and proceeded 500 paces in an instant. The boat-men were above two hours in going and coming, on account of the efforts they are obliged to make in going against the stream.

I have observed, that this river separates *Armenia* and *Media*. This last kingdom, which

which formerly held the empire of *Asia*, composes only a part of a province of *Persia* called *Azerbeyan* or *Asurpaican*.

We now proceeded to the north-west, and the next day reached *Marant*, a good city composed of 2500 houses, situated at the foot of a hill, at the end of a fine fertile plain, watered by a small river named *Zeloulou*. The gardens of *Marant* take up more room than the town itself, and produce great quantities of fruit esteemed the best in *Media*. In this country is also gathered the cochineal insect.

From thence we proceeded four leagues, constantly turning between the mountains, which in some places approach very near each other: but are no where joined; afterwards we passed through fine fertile plains, that are well cultivated, and on the 17th arrived at *Tauris*, the second city of *Persia*, both with respect to its extent, its commerce, riches, and the number of its inhabitants.

*Tauris* is situated in a plain at the foot of a mountain: it is of an irregular figure, and has neither walls nor fortifications. Through it passes a little river named *Spingtcha*, which sometimes swelling, carries away the houses on its banks. Another river called the *Agi*, passes by the north side of the city; and is salt six months in the year, from the torrents which fall into it, after they have passed over lands covered with salt. The city is divided into nine quarters or wards; the bazars, composing the heart of the city, and the dwelling houses, most of which have a garden, are on the out-

side. There are here many magnificent structures, the bazars just mentioned make as fine an appearance as in any part of *Asia*, from their largeness and great extent; from the beautiful domes with which they are covered; from the multitudes of people, and the vast quantity of merchandize with which they are filled. The finest of these, in which the jewels and most valuable merchandize are sold, is an octagon, and is called the *Kaiferie*, or Royal Market. As to the other public buildings they are equally noble. There are said to be 300 caravanserais, which are so spacious, that 300 persons may lodge in each; and the mosques and baths are answerable to the grandeur of the other buildings. There are three hospitals in the city, in which nobody is lodged; but provisions are given twice a day to all who come. Upon a hill at the west end of the city is a pretty hermitage, and at the east end are the ruins of a castle.

There is the largest square at *Tauris* I have ever seen; it being much more spacious than that of *Ispahan*. The *Turks* when they were in the possession of this city, have frequently drawn up within this square 30,000 men in order of battle. In the evening the populace are diverted there with drolls, mountebanks, wrestling, ram and bull fights; the repeating of pieces in prose and verse, and dancing wolves. The people of *Tauris* place their highest entertainment in seeing these dances; those wolves that are most expert at them are sold for fifty crowns each; and on their account great com-  
 motions

motions frequently happen, and are with difficulty appeas'd. This spacious square is in the day time used as a market for all kinds of provisions.

The number of inhabitants in *Tauris*, I believe amounts to at least 550,000 people: besides a multitude of strangers that are constantly there from all parts of *Asia*. The finest *Persian* turbans are made in this city, and I have been assured by the principal merchants, that the inhabitants annually manufacture 6000 bails of silk. The commerce of this city extends not only all over *Persia*; but into *Turky*, *Russia*, *Tartary*, the *Indies*, and to the *Black Sea*.

Though *Tauris* is situated only in the 38th deg. of north latitude, the air is cold, dry, and healthful. This proceeds from its being exposed to the north, and from the tops of the surrounding mountains being covered with snow nine months in the year; from whence the wind almost constantly blows in the evenings and the mornings. The city abounds with all the necessaries and luxuries of life; and these are extremely cheap. The *Caspian Sea*, which is not above forty leagues distant, supplies it with fish, which are also found in the river *Agi*, already mentioned. In the summer they have abundance of deer, and wild fowl: in the mountains are eagles, which the people of distinction bring down with the hawk. This kind of fowling is very curious and astonishing. All kinds of fruit are in the greatest plenty, and there are said to be above sixty sorts of grapes in the neighbourhood of the city.



city. In short, there is not any part of *Persia* where a person may live better, and cheaper than at *Tauris*.

In the neighbourhood of the city are large quarries of white marble; one kind of which is transparent; and at a small distance are two mines, the one of gold and the other of salt: the gold mine has however, been long neglected; the quantity found of that valuable metal being so small, as to be scarcely worth the labour of procuring it.

I stayed at *Tauris* for some time, during which I sold a number of jewels to the Governor; and the son of the Receiver General of the province, for which I received a thousand crowns; but they would not allow me to get any thing by them; the first placed to my account his father's interest with the Shah, and the other that of his brother's, and of his uncle *Mirza Sadec*, the great Chancellor, forcing me to take the letters of recommendation they offered me, as a recompense for giving them the profit I ought to have made. It is impossible to conceive the caresses, the flattery, the engaging and agreeable behaviour used by the great in *Persia*, to promote their own interest, even in affairs of the smallest moment. In which they act with such an appearance of sincerity, that a person ought to be perfectly acquainted with the genius of the country and of the court, to prevent his being deceived by them.

As this was the time when the *Curdes*, the *Turkumans*, and other nations who dwell in tents,

tents, and are mostly robbers, quit the plains, on account of the heat of the sun, and remove with their flocks and habitations into the mountains, in search of shade and pasture, we were advised for the greater security to wait for company: for this purpose I stayed till the 28th of *May*, and then set out with the Provost of the merchants, who had fourteen horses and ten valets.

The first night we lodged at *Vaspinge*, a town consisting of 600 houses. Several fine rivulets run with a serpentine stream on all sides, and it is adorned with many gardens and plantations of poplar and linden trees, that are raised for the use of building. The next day we proceeded through fertile plains interspersed with villages; our road then winded among the mountains, and again opened into plains, and after crossing several rivers, we arrived on the fifth of *June* at the city of *Zengan*, situated in a valley between the mountains, where they are not above half a league distant from each other.

This city is surrounded with gardens, and a pleasant country, but on the inside it is only remarkable for the extent of its ruins. It is said to have been founded several centuries before the birth of *Christ*, and that it once contained 20,000 houses. It was entirely destroyed by *Tamerlane* on his first coming to it; but he afterwards hearing that the sciences had long flourished there, and that it had produced many great men, caused it to be in part rebuilt:

built: since that time it has been frequently sacked and plundered by the *Turks*.

On the 6th we passed through the most delightful country I ever beheld, the way was even and strait, through a fine plain, watered by a considerable number of brooks that rendered it extremely fertile: we saw so many villages that we could scarce count them; with a variety of gardens and groves, through which were beautiful avenues, that afforded the finest landscapes. Having proceeded five leagues through these pleasing scenes, we alighted at a large caravanferai within a cannon shot of *Sultania*.

This city, \* which is situated at the foot of a mountain, makes a fine appearance at a distance; but on approaching it, the beauties we admire afar off vanish. There, are, however, some public edifices that are well built, and about 3000 houses. The inhabitants say that this city formerly extended half a league farther to the west, and that the ruined towers, churches, and mosques, which are to be seen at a distance, were in the heart of the city. This is not improbable, as the *Persian* historians say, that this was once the capital, and the largest city in the kingdom.

The next day we travelled through plains as beautiful as the former, and on the 8th arrived at *Ebber*, a considerable town intermixed

\* The reader may see some farther particulars relating to this city, in the *Travels of the Holstein Ambassador*. See Vol. xiv. Chap. viii.

with

with gardens, built on the banks of a small river that runs through the midst of it. Its situation is extremely agreeable; the air is good, and the soil produces abundance of fruit, and all the necessaries of life.

Leaving *Casbin* or *Caswin* to the right, we proceeded on our journey towards *Ispahan*. We had for some time set out an hour or two before sun-set, and completed a journey of five or six leagues by about midnight. People in the east generally travel in this manner during the summer, to secure themselves from the heat of the sun, which is very fatiguing both to man and beast. In the night they travel with greater speed. The servants from time to time proceed on foot, and the masters themselves are glad to walk a little to prevent their being seized with sleep, and to keep themselves warm, which eases the horses. On their arrival they go to bed, and gain in the day the sleep they lost in the night. Another advantage of travelling in the night is, that the beasts of burthen take their rest all the time when they would be incommoded by the heat of the sun, and the flies. Besides what is wanted both for man and beast may be more easily provided during the day.

On the 13<sup>th</sup>, two hours before day we arrived at *Sava*, a city situated in a sandy and stony plain, and took up our lodging in the suburb near the highway. The city is two miles round, and encompassed with a wall; but it is thinly peopled; and the houses in the suburbs are ruinous for want of inhabitants :

tants: the walls also are but ill preserved. However, the remains of some grand edifices shew that it was once a place of importance. The histories of *Persia* agree, that the whole plain of *Sava* was formerly a morass or salt-lake, like that called *The Sea of Salt*, which lies twenty leagues to the west of this city, and is crossed by a causeway extending thirty leagues, in going from *Ispahan* into *Hyrkania*.

Opposite *Sava* to the west, is a tomb rendered famous by the *Persians* going in pilgrimage to it, this is called *Echmoul*, or *Samuel*; from the opinion that this prophet was interred there. They have built over his tomb a fine mausoleum in the middle of a magnificent mosque.

At the distance of nine leagues to the east of the city, are some ruins of the ancient city of *Rey*, once the largest in all *Asia*. The *Persian* geographers say, that in the ninth century it was divided into 96 quarters, each of which had 46 streets, 400 houses, and ten mosques: that the city also contained 4600 colleges, 16600 baths, 15000 minerets belonging to mosques, 12000 mills, 1700 canals, and 13000 caravanserais. The *Arabian* authors represent it as the most populous city in *Asia*, and that except *Babylon*, no city ever exceeded it in wealth, and the number of inhabitants. Hence it obtained the pompous titles given it in history, as *The Spouse of the World*; *The Gate of the Gates of the Earth*, and the *Market of the Universe*. This city was situated in 35° 35' north latitude.

On the 13th we proceeded to *Kom*, a large city situated along the bank of a river. It has also several handsome caravanferais, and fine mosques, the most beautiful of these last, is that in which are interred the Princess *Fatima*, *Mahomet's* daughter, and the two last Kings of *Persia*. The structure of this mosque is beautiful, and its ornaments extremely sumptuous. The access is through four large and stately courts; the first of which is a handsome garden, and the last is paved with transparent marble, and surrounded with neat lodgings for the Priests. The door to each mausoleum is plated with silver, and the tombs are surrounded with grates of the same metal. Nothing can be imagined richer, neater and more magnificent than these mausolea. To that of *Fatima* the *Persians* give the name of *Massuma*, or *pure*, and hold it in great veneration. There is a revenue of 3200 tomans belonging to the place.\*

We left *Kom*, on the 16th, and three days after arrived at *Casan*, † a large town,

\* It is not improper here to remind the reader, that all this magnificence is probably no more, as it is natural to suppose, that amidst the general devastation caused by the contending tyrants, who have laid waste this fine country, and ruined the cities of *Persia*, these structures dedicated to religion have not escaped.

† This city is described by Mr. *Hanway*, where the reader will see an account of its present ruinous condition, in Vol. XIV. Chap. VIII.

the houses of which are built of earth and brick. It has several caravanserais, one of which was built by *Shah Abas*, and is esteemed the finest in all *Persia*. On the inside are four noble fronts surrounding a square court, with an arcade both above and below; that above being secured by a balustrade. The entrance is under a high and magnificent portico, which as well as the rest of the building, is adorned with *Mosaic* work. In the middle of the court is a reservoir of water, raised about five feet high.

On the 29th we left *Casan*, and on the 24th arrived at *Ispahan*, the metropolis of *Persia*, and one of the largest cities in the world; for including the suburbs, it is not less than twenty-four miles in circumference. Some persons compute the number of the inhabitants at 1,100,000, but those who make the most moderate computation suppose they amount to only 600,000, and the number of houses were at this time said to amount to about 29,460, without including the palaces, mosques, public baths, bazars, and caravanserais. The city appears as well peopled as *London*, which is the most populous city in *Europe*.\* It is built on the banks of the *Zenderoud*, over which are three fine bridges, one near the middle of the city, and one at each end. The walls of *Ispahan* are about 20,000 paces round; they are only built with earth, and are so hid by the houses and gardens, both on the inside and

\* *Ispahan* is at present thinly peopled, and the greatest part of the houses in ruins.

without,

without, that in many places they cannot be seen. The city is also defended by a ditch and a castle.

The beauty of *Ispahan* particularly consists in the great number of its magnificent palaces, handsome houses, large caravanserais, beautiful bazars, and in its canals and spacious streets, the sides of which are adorned with rows of lofty plane-trees: but the other streets are generally narrow and crooked. The worst is they are not paved; but as, on the one hand, the air is very dry, and on the other the people water the street before their houses morning and evening, they are neither so dirty nor so dusty as might be expected. They have three other considerable inconveniences. One, that the streets being over vaults made for the passage of the canals which run under them, they sometimes fall in and endanger the lives of the passengers. Another is, there being wells in the streets, the sides of which are even with the earth, by which the passengers are exposed to the same danger, if they do not take sufficient care. The third inconvenience is a very disagreeable one, which is, that under the walls of the houses are large holes for receiving all the filth, and sometimes serving as common bog-houses. The streets, however, do not stink as might be imagined; which is in part owing to the dryness of the air, and also to these pits being emptied every day by the peasants, who bring fruit and other provisions to the city, and load their



cattle with the ordure, which they carry away to manure their gardens.

The city on every side appears at a distance like a wood intermixed with large and lofty domes and minarets.\*



## C H A P. VI.

*The Author leaves Ispahan, and visits the Remains of the ancient palace of Persepolis, destroyed by Alexander the Great, which are particularly described.*

**O**N the 2d of February, 1674, having sold great part of my jewels, I left *Ispahan*, and proceed to *Mayar*, a village consisting of 300 houses, situated between two mountains, and extending from the one to the other, so that it is impossible to pass between them, without going through it. The country about it is however dry and barren, without trees or the least verdure, owing to the scarcity of the water, though the inhabitants have enough to supply their gardens.

\* As we have already given some account of this city in *The travels of the Holstein Ambassadors*, and as this city, as we have already observed, is now in a very ruinous condition, we shall neither repeat descriptions we have already given, nor describe places that no longer exist; but refer our readers to those travels in Chap. IX. and X. of Vol. XIV. of this work.

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On leaving this place the next day, the valleys extended three leagues together between the mountains. Then turning to the right, we entered a beautiful plain of a vast extent, which I have had the pleasure of crossing several times, and have found that from the middle of *March* to the middle of *November* it is covered with flowers, flocks, grain, and fruit. We stopt at *Comicha*, or *Komminsja*, a town three miles round, but full of gardens, and thinly inhabited. The finest buildings here are the dove-coats, which represent lofty round towers. 'Tis thought that this place the *Orebatia* of *Ptolemy*. Within a cannon-shot from the side of the town next *Ispahan*, is the tomb of a *Persian* saint, covered with a dome. In a court before it are two reservoirs of water, at twenty paces from each other. They are furnished with fish, some of which have rings of brass, silver or gold in their noses. The fish of one of these basons are held so sacred, that the people imagine that if any one presumes to touch them, he will immediately drop down dead.

The two following days we proceeded thro' a fine country, interspersed with rivulets and villages, and having passed through *Anamabaet*, a large town, which is said to have separated *Persia* from *Partbia*, took up our lodging at a town named *Yes-de-cas*, or *Jesdegæs*, seated on the side of a mountain, with a large valley before it. The houses rise from this valley one above the other, affording a fine prospect at a distance. On the top of a round eminence in the midst of the valley is a castle built of earth; and

and opposite to it is a large caravanfarai. The inhabitants of this town eat the best bread in all *Persia*.

The next day I was twelve hours on horseback, in proceeding eight leagues, on account of the snow, and the ruggedness of a mountain over which we were obliged to pass; though my baggage was carried on four vigorous mules, and I myself was well mounted. I afterwards passed through pleasant plains, and at length arrived on the 13th at the ruins of the ancient *Persepolis*.\*

At a distance these magnificent remains appear as in a kind of amphitheatre, the mountains forming a half moon as if to embrace

\* There are no remains of the city itself now standing; those still to be seen belonging, according to Sir *John Chardin*, either to an ancient temple, or according to Mr. *Cornelius le Bruyn*, to the celebrated palace of *Persepolis*, wantonly burnt by *Alexander the Great*. This last opinion seems best founded: and the observations and drawings of the latter, taken on the spot by the Author himself, appearing by far the most accurate, we have here followed him. It would be beside our purpose to enter into the dispute between these gentlemen on this subject. Mr. *le Bruyn* acknowledges that Mr. *Chardin's* account is more accurate than that of any other person who had before his time visited these noble remains, and Sir *John Chardin* has the ingenuity to acknowledge some mistakes; which is a proof of that candour and greatness of mind which makes a wise man more solicitous to discover truth, than to vindicate the little errors he may fall into in the search of it.

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them. They are seated in a fine plain that extends two leagues in breadth from the south-west to the north-east; and near forty leagues in length from the north-west to the south-east. This plain is usually called *Mardasjo*, and the inhabitants pretend, that it contains 880 villages, and about 1500 within the distance of twelve leagues around the ruins, including the villages seated among the mountains; some of which are adorned with beautiful gardens. The greatest part of this plain is, in the winter season floated with water, which is a very advantageous circumstance with respect to the rice that grows there at that time. The soil of this agreeable plain is mostly converted into arable lands, and watered with a number of streams that render it exceeding fertile. It abounds with many sorts of birds, and more particularly with cranes, pigeons, quails, snipes, partridges, hawks, and vast flights of crows, which are very numerous throughout all *Persia*.

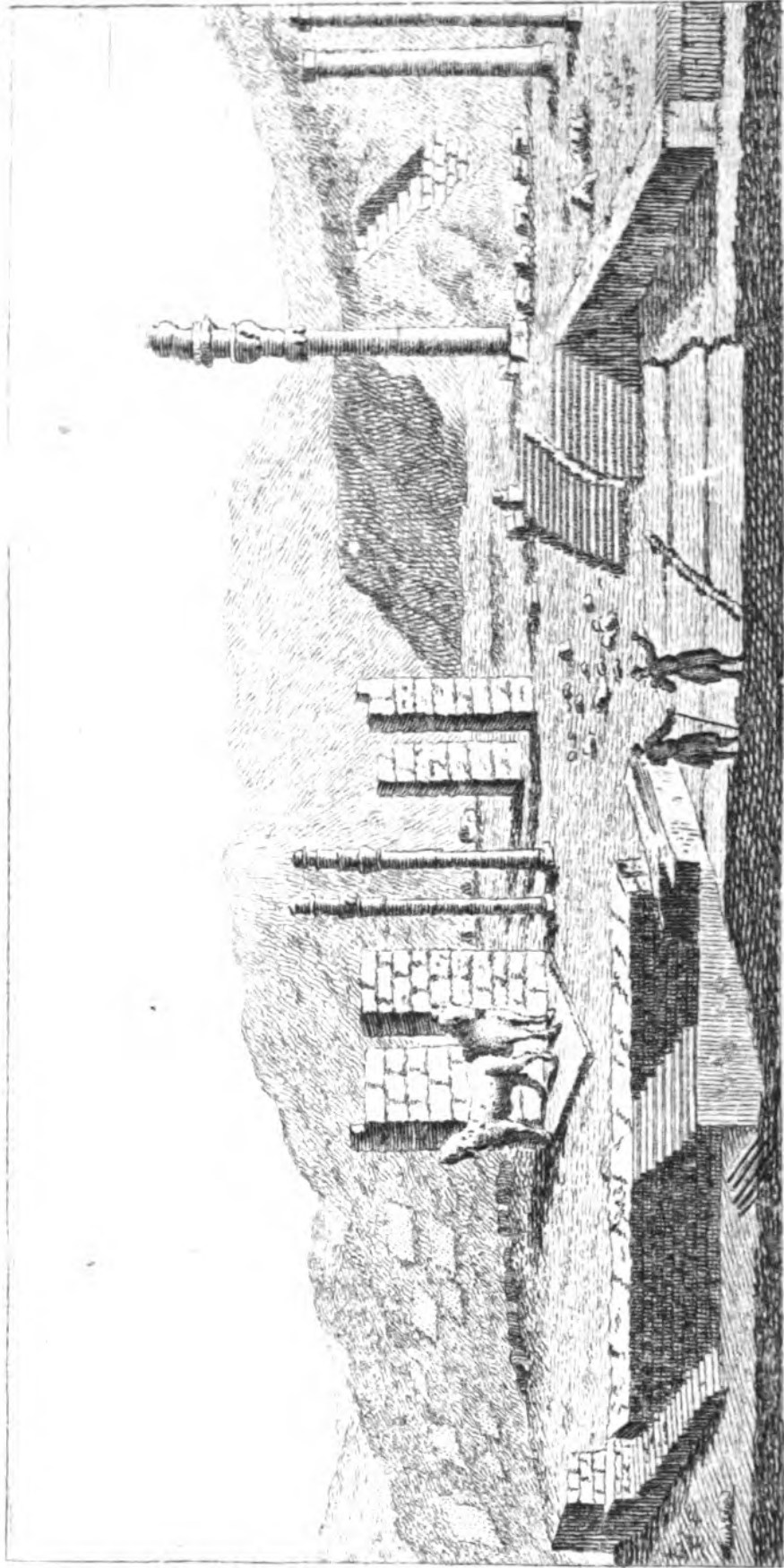
The ancient palace of the Kings of *Persia*, usually called the house of *Darius*, and by the inhabitants *Chel-menar*, or *Chil-minar*, which signifies the forty pillars, is situated to the west at the foot of the mountain of *Kuligrag-met* or *Compassion*, anciently called the *Royal Mountain*, which is entirely composed of freestone. That superb edifice has the walls of three of its sides still standing. The front extends 600 paces from north to south, and 390 from east to west, as far as the mountain, where an ascent is formed between some scattered rocks. Beyond which there appears to have been formerly  
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some other buildings, the rocks appearing in some places finely smoothed and polished.

The top of this edifice presents to the view a platform of 400 paces, extending from the middle of the front wall, to the mountain; and along three sides of this wall is carried on a pavement of two stones joined together, eight feet broad. With respect to the height of the wall, it is in some places 24 feet; but it is not every where so high, in some places the earth about it is raised, and in others the wall itself has sunk. On examining the previous remains, we must proceed as we do in examining those celebrated beauties, whom age or sickness has brought low, that is from the traces of beauty we see, form an idea of what they were. The stones of the wall are black, harder than marble, some of them finely polished, and many of them of such an amazing size, that it is difficult to conceive how they were able to remove and raise such prodigious masses.

The principal staircase is placed between the middle of the front, and the northern end of the edifice. It consists of two flights of steps that wind off from each other to the distance of 42 feet at the bottom. These steps are only four inches high, and fourteen in breadth. They are the most commodious (says M. *Le Bruyn*) I ever saw, except those of the Viceroy's palace at *Naples*; which are however, in my opinion, something higher. There are 55 of these steps on the northern side, and 53 to the south; but these last are not so entire as the others. I am likewise persuaded that there are several  
others





The Ascent to the Columns.

others under ground, that have been covered over by length of time, as well as part of the wall, which rises 44 feet 11 inches high in the front. At the bottom of these two flights of steps, is a single flight extending 51 feet four inches from one to the other, from thence the two flights are carried off from each other, and return back from the centre at an equal distance from the extreme parts of the top; and above these flights is a pavement of large stones, and another single flight of steps 75 feet in width, answering to that of the bottom, and leading up to the grand entrance of the edifice. This staircase has a very fine and singular effect, answerable to the magnificent remains of the rest of the building.

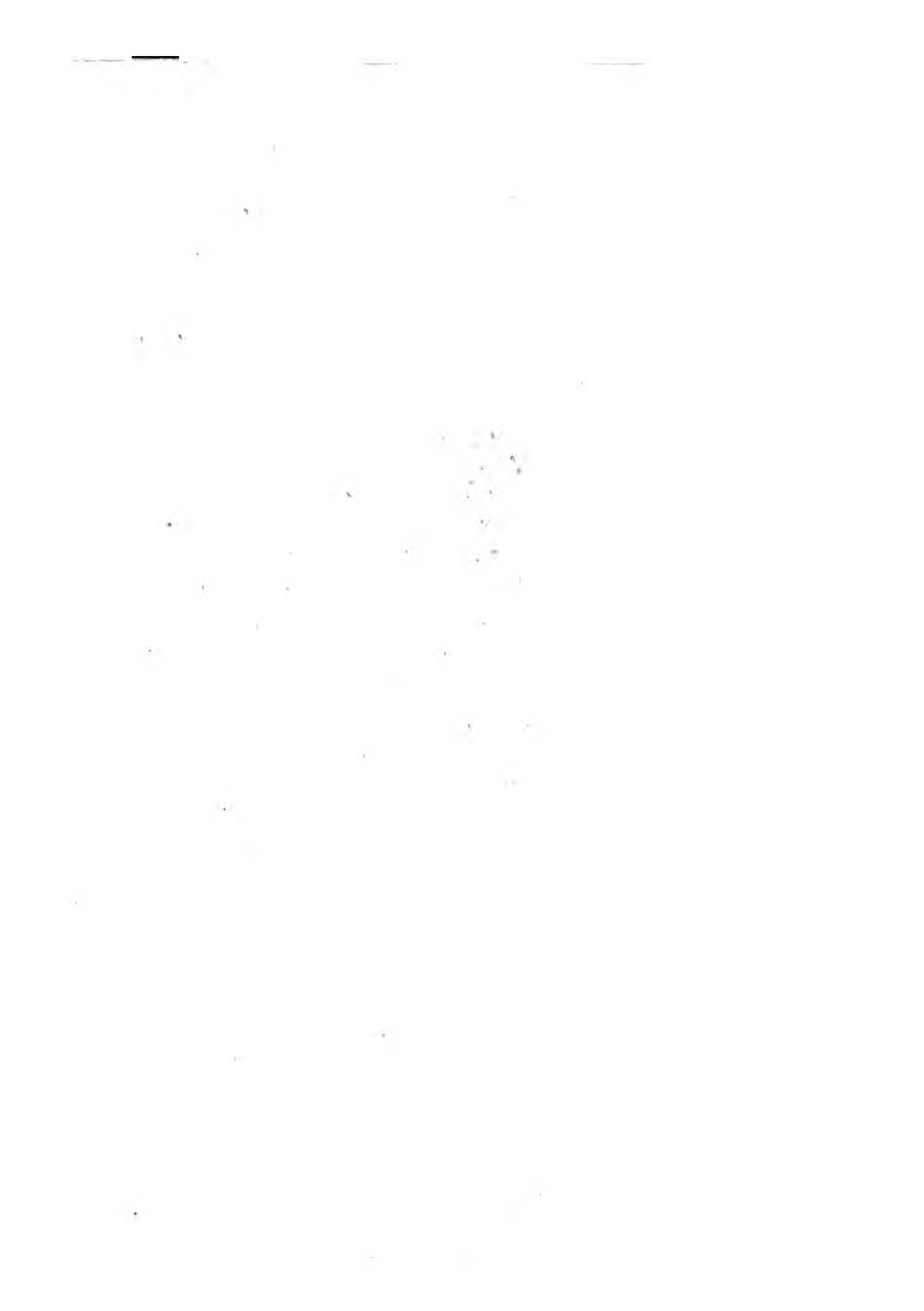
On ascending the upper steps, the spectator sees before him, at the distance of 42 feet from the front wall of the staircase, two grand portals, and as many columns. These portals are twenty-two feet four inches in depth, and thirteen feet four inches in breadth. On the inside upon a kind of pilaster on each hand is a large figure in basso relievo, they bear some resemblance to the sphynx, and are twenty-two feet from the fore to the hinder legs, and fourteen feet and a half high. The faces of these animals are broken off, and their bodies much damaged; but what is most extraordinary, the breast and fore-feet project from the pilaster. Those of the first portal are turned towards the staircase, and those of the second, each of which has wings face the mountain. Indeed it is impossible to know what these figures,

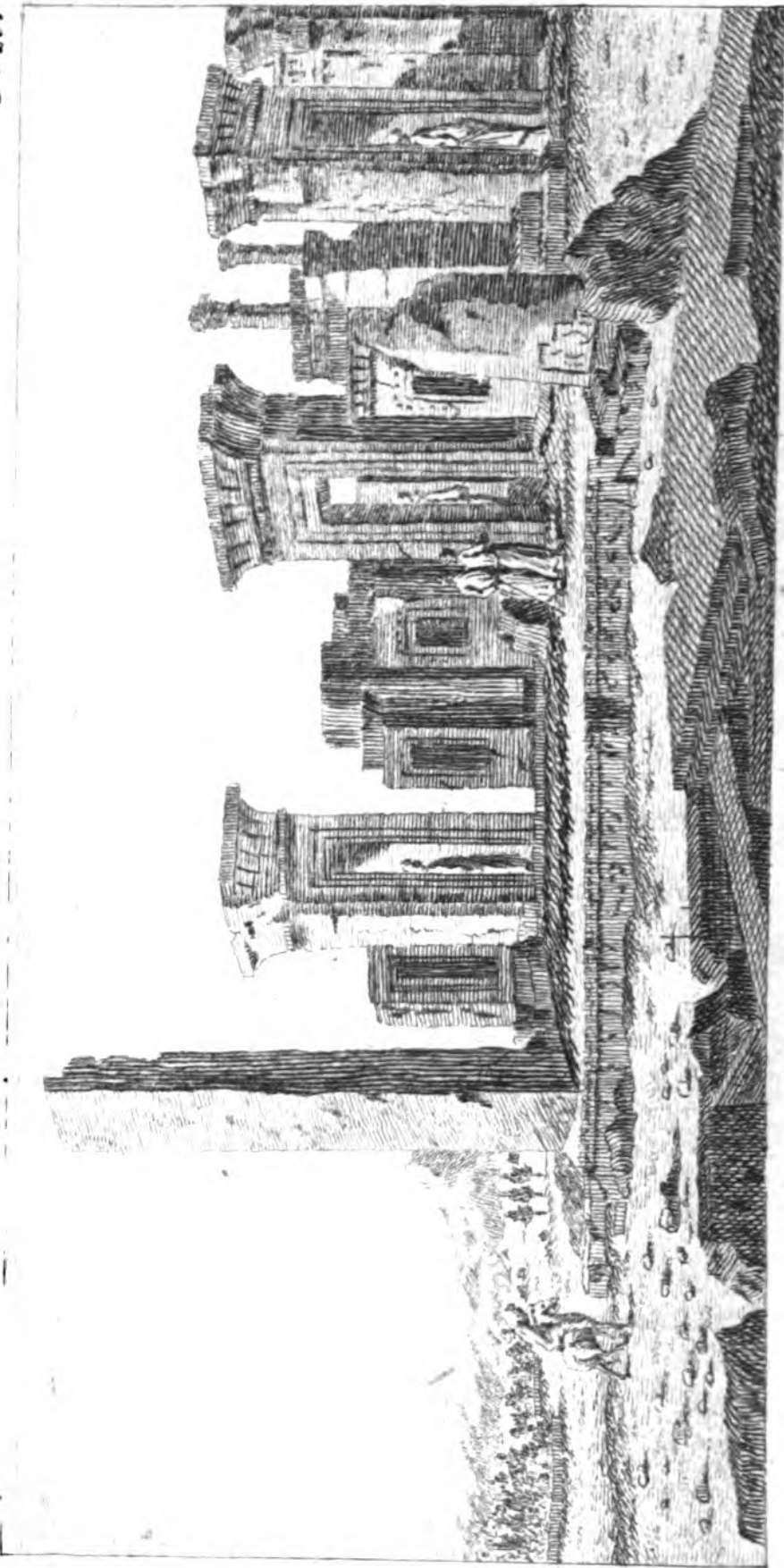


202 Sir JOHN CHARDIN'S TRAVELS

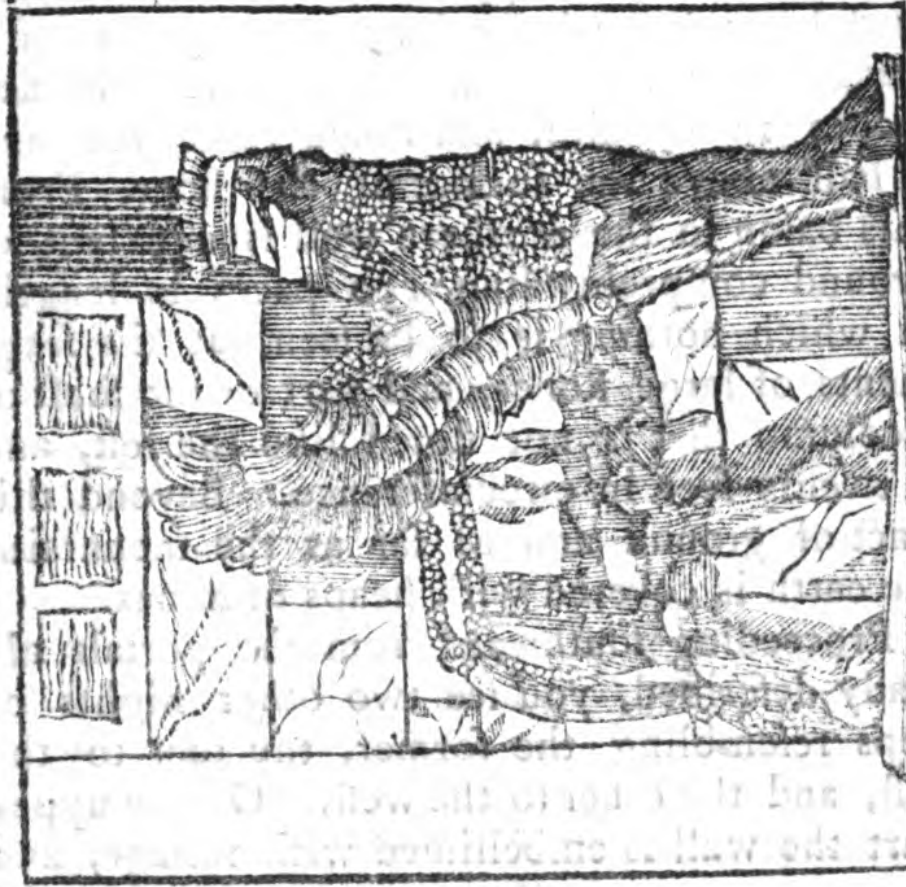
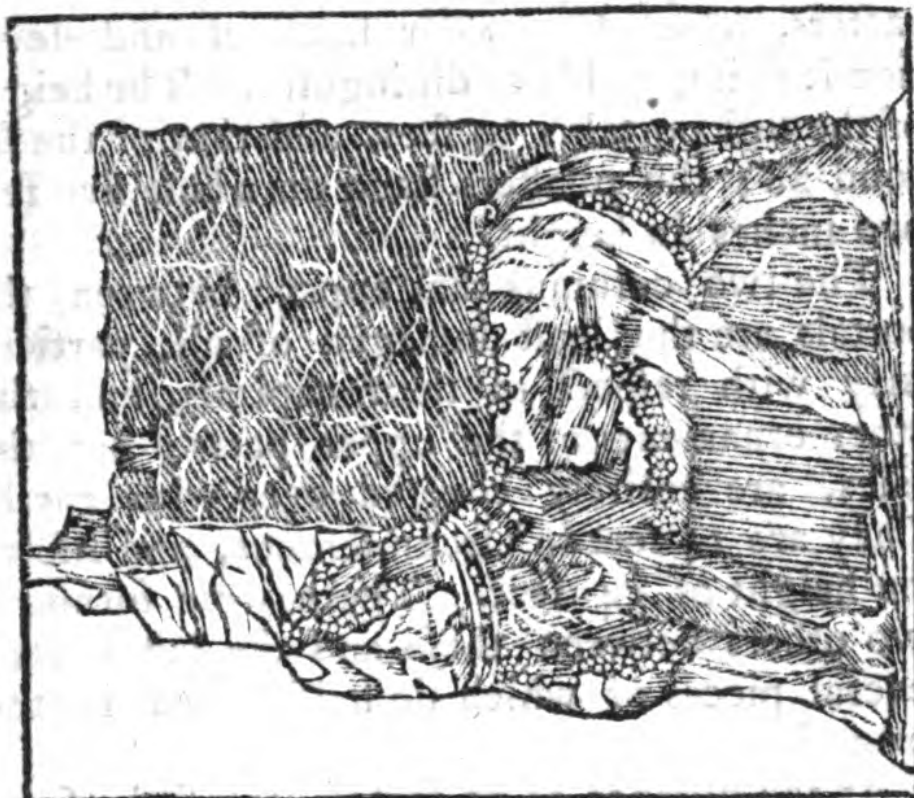
gures, thus mutilated, were designed to represent; but the bodies have some resemblance to that of a horse; but the reader will conceive a more perfect idea of these extraordinary pieces of antiquity, from the following cut, taken from Mr. *Le Bruyn's* drawings made on the spot.







*The Portico to the East.*



On the upper part of these pilasters are characters, which from their smallness and elevation it is impossible to distinguish. The height of the first portal is 39 feet, and that of the second 28; the pilasters stand on a base five feet two inches in height.

The two columns that appear between the portals are the least damaged of all, particularly with respect to their capitals, and the other ornaments of the upper parts; but the bases, are entirely covered over with earth. They are 14 feet in circumference, and rise to the height of 54 feet. There were formerly two others between these and the last portal, several pieces of which lie half buried in the ground.

At the distance of 52 feet south of the same portal is a large basin for water, cut out of a single stone 20 feet long, and 17 feet five inches in breadth, and raised three feet and a half above the surface of the floor. From this basin to the northern wall is an extent of ground comprehending 150 paces in length, in which nothing is to be seen but the fragments of large stones, and part of the shaft of a column that is not fluted like the rest, and is twenty feet in circumference. Beyond this tract of ground and as far as the mountain, the earth is covered with heaps of stones.

Proceeding southward from the portals already described, you see two other flights of steps resembling the former, the one to the east, and the other to the west. On the upper part the wall is embellished with foliage, and  
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the representation of a lion rending a bull in basso relievo, much larger than the life. There are also small figures on the middle wall. This staircase is half buried under the earth.

From hence extends a wall 45 feet in length, beyond the lower part of the staircase, and then is an interval of 67 feet, extending to the western front, which corresponds with the other, and has three ranges of figures one over the other, with a lion tearing an ass that has a horn projecting from the forehead; and between these animals and rows of figures is a square filled with antique characters, the uppermost of which are defaced. The figures are less damaged in that part of the structure, where the ground is lower: but the wall which extends from the stair-case to the western front, has not any figures. On the other side the stairs are three ranges of small figures; but those in the upper row are only visible from the waist downwards. These figures are only two feet nine inches high, and the wall which is five feet three inches in height, has an extent of 98 feet.

On the top of the steps last described, is an entrance into an open place paved with large stones, whose breadth is equal to the distance from the stair-case to the first columns, which comprehends the space of 22 feet 2 inches. These columns are disposed into two ranges, each of which consists of six pillars, but none of them are entire; there are also eight bases or pedestals, and the ruins of some others. At the distance of 70 feet 8 inches, were for-

merly six rows of other pillars, each row consisting of six: these thirty-six pillars were likewise 22 feet 2 inches distant from each other; but only seven of them are now entire; however, all the bases of the others are standing.

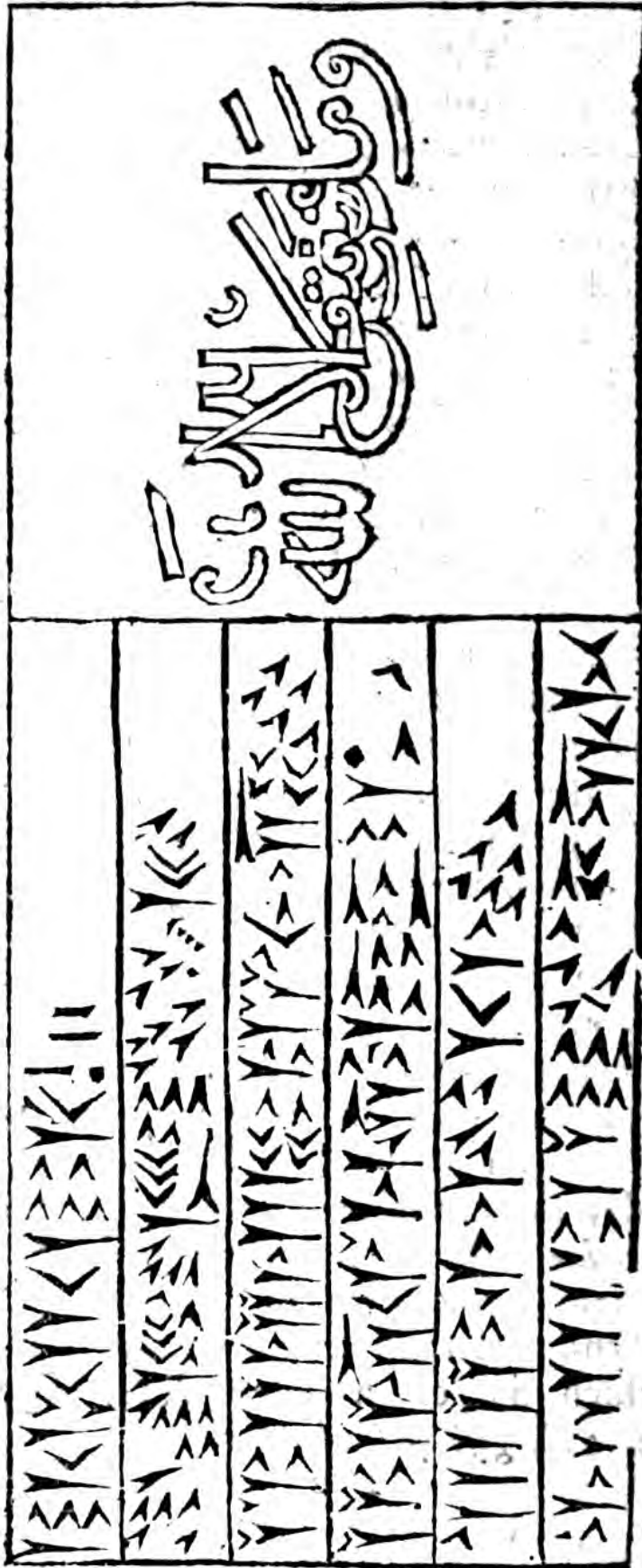
At the distance of 70 feet 8 inches from these rows of columns on the west, towards the front of the stair-case, were once twelve other columns in two ranges, each of which contained six, but only five are now remaining. The ground is there covered with the fragments of columns, and the ornaments that served for their capitals; between which are pieces of sculpture representing camels on their knees. On the top of one of the columns is a compartment representing camels in that posture.

On advancing towards the east, you are presented with a view of several ruins, consisting of portals, passages and windows. The insides of the portals are adorned with figures in bas relief. These ruins extend 90 paces from east to west, and 125 from north to south, and are 60 paces both from the columns and the mountains. In the middle of these ruins the earth is covered with 76 broken columns; nineteen of which still support their entablature, their shafts are formed of four pieces, besides the base and capital.

At the distance of 118 feet from these columns to the south, is an edifice that rises higher than any other part of the ruins, from its being situated on a hill. The front wall, which is five feet seven inch high on that side,

is composed of a single range of stones, some of which are eight feet deep; and the wall extends 113 feet from east to west, but has neither figures, nor any other ornaments. However, in the middle of the front are the ruins of a double stair-case, on the sides of which are several figures. The rest of the building, was chiefly composed of large and small portals, and is entirely destroyed. The largest of these portals is five feet wide, and five feet two inches deep. Among the rest, two portals appear to the north, with three niches or windows walled up. Under these portals are the figure of a man, and two women, down to the knees, for their legs are covered with the earth that is raised against them. Under the other gate is the figure of a man holding a lion by the mane. To the south is a portal and four open windows, each of which is five feet nine inches wide, and eleven in height, including the cornice; their depth is equal to that of the grand portals. The two sides of this gate are carved with the figure of a man, with something on his head resembling a tiara. He is accompanied by two women, one of whom holds an umbrella over his head. On the inside, three niches are covered with ancient *Persian* characters. We shall indulge the curious reader with two of these inscriptions. The meaning of the last is unknown; but the first, which is of a later date, signifies, *Strength is the gift of God alone.*





There are two other gates to the west that are not covered; within one of these is the figure of a man fighting a bull; with his left hand he grasps a horn in his forehead, while with his right he plunges a dagger into his belly. On the other side the figure, another man clasps the horn with his right hand, and stabs the beast with his left. The second portal has the figure of a man carved in the same manner with a winged deer, that has a horn in his forehead. Horns were anciently the emblems of strength and majesty; they were therefore given to the sun and moon; and *Alexander* was called by the *Oriental*s, *Dbulkarnam*, or the horned, because he made himself King of the horns of the sun, that is, of the east and the west.

Behind this edifice are the ruins of another, which exceed it in length by 38 feet. It has also niches and windows, the former of which are cut out of single stones. A little to the south is a double flight of steps, separated by walls embellished with small figures and foliage.

Farther to the south, are subterraneous passages, into which none of the natives of the country dare to enter, though they are said to contain great treasures; this is owing to a general persuasion, that all the lights carried into these places will go out of themselves. This opinion did not however intimidate either *Sir John Chardin* or *Mr. Le Bruyn*, they both examined them with the utmost care, and proceeded with lights through these passages, till they ended

ended in a narrow track, which extended a great length, and appeared to have been originally contrived for an aqueduct; but its straitness rendered it impossible to be passed.

Still farther to the south are the remains of another edifice, which extend 160 feet from north to south, and 191 from west to east. Ten portals belonging to it are still to be seen, together with seven windows and forty enclosures, that were formerly covered rooms. In the middle are the bases of thirty six columns in six ranges, and the ground is covered with large stones, under which were aqueducts.

There anciently stood another structure to the westward of the last-mentioned building. On the ruins of the wall, which still rises near two feet above the pavement, are cut the figures of men in basso relievo, each represented with a lance. The ground enclosed by this wall contains a number of round stones that were the bases of columns.

On the east side of these last ruins are the remains of a beautiful stair-case, sixty feet in length, resembling that of the front wall: but though most of the steps are destroyed by time, the wall that separates the two flights is still eight feet in height, and adorned with figures almost as big as the life. The front contains the representation of a lion encountering a bull: there are also lions of the same workmanship on the wings of the stair-case; both of them accompanied with characters and figures almost as big as the life. Columns were formerly disposed between this edifice and  
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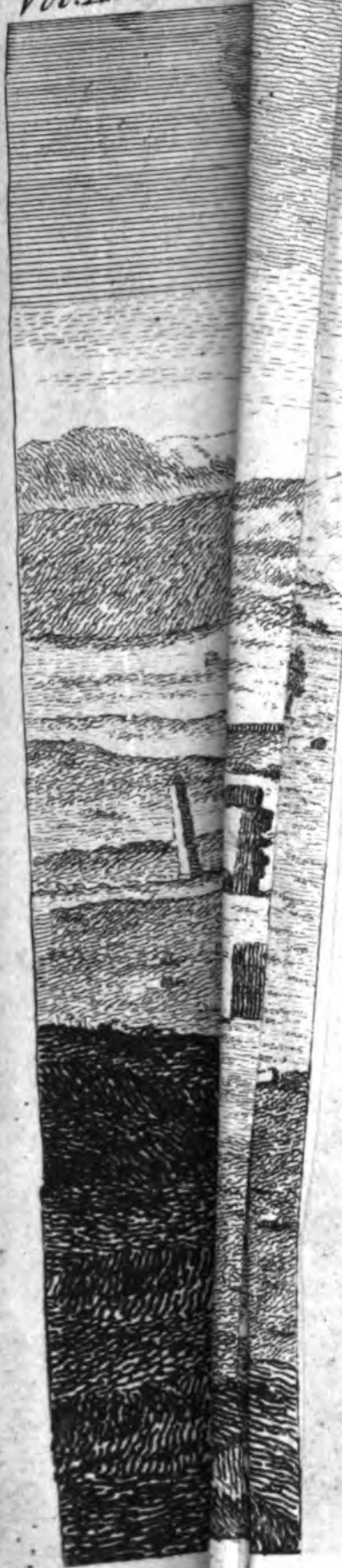
the other last-mentioned. Among these ruins are four portals, each adorned on the inside with the figure of a man, and two women holding an umbrella over his head.

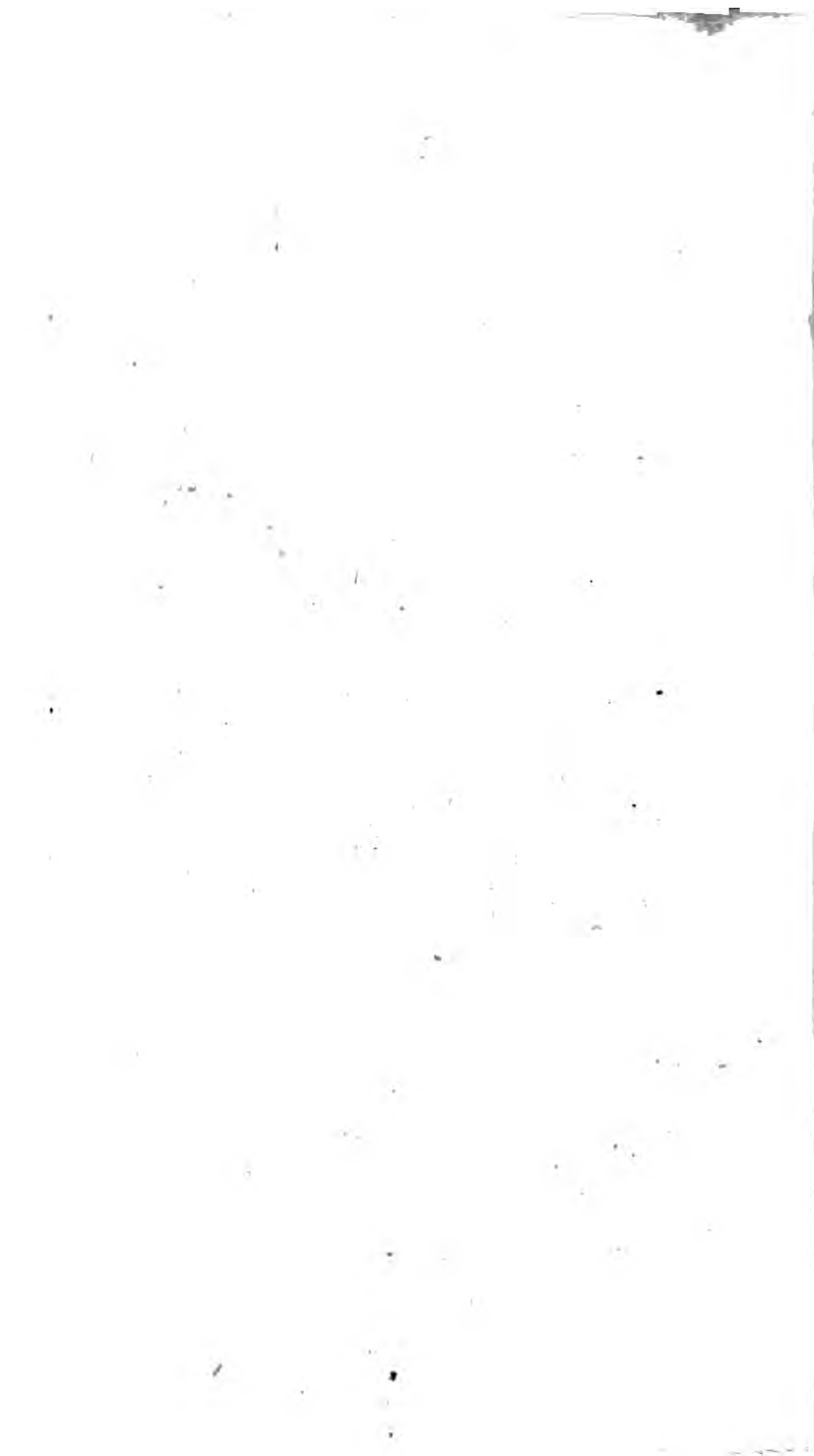
A little to the north of these two last edifices are two portals with their pilasters, on one of which is also the figure of a man and two women, one of whom holds an umbrella over his head. Above these women is a small figure with wings which are expanded to the sides of the portico. The lower part of the bust of this figure seems to terminate on the two sides with a spread of foliage, and a kind of frieze. Over the second figure a man is seated in a chair with a staff in his hand, and another stands behind him, with his right hand upon the chair. A small figure above holds a circle in its left hand, and points to something in his right. Under this portal are three ranges of figures, all of which have their hands lifted up, and over the third pilaster, which still remains, two women hold an umbrella over the head of a man. The earth is also covered with fragments of columns and other antiquities.

From hence you proceed to the last ruins of the structures on the mountain. On the south side are two portals, under each of which a man is seated in a chair, with a staff in his right hand, and in his left a kind of vase. Behind him is another figure, which holds something on his head like the tail of a sea-horse, and has a linen cloth in his right hand. Below are three rows of figures with lifted hands: four in the first and five in each of the other two.

two rows. They are three feet four inches high; but the seated figure is much larger than the life. Above this are several ornamental ranges of foliage, the lowest of which is intermixed with small lions, and the highest with oxen. Over these ornaments is a little winged figure, which holds in his left hand something that resembles a small glass, and makes a signal with its right. These portals are twelve feet five inches in breadth, and ten feet four inches deep, and the highest of the pilasters is from twenty-eight to thirty feet. On the two towards the north a man is seated, with a person behind him, like the preceding figures, and behind this are two other men holding in their hands, something that is broken; before the figure represented sitting are two other figures, one with his hands placed on his lips with an air of salutation, and the other holding a small vessel. Above these figures is a stone filled with ornaments, and below are five ranges of figures, three feet in height: these are a band of soldiers armed in different manners. From the foot of these mountains you have a full view of all the ruins, except the walls and stair-cases that cannot here be seen; and the whole appears as in the large plate.

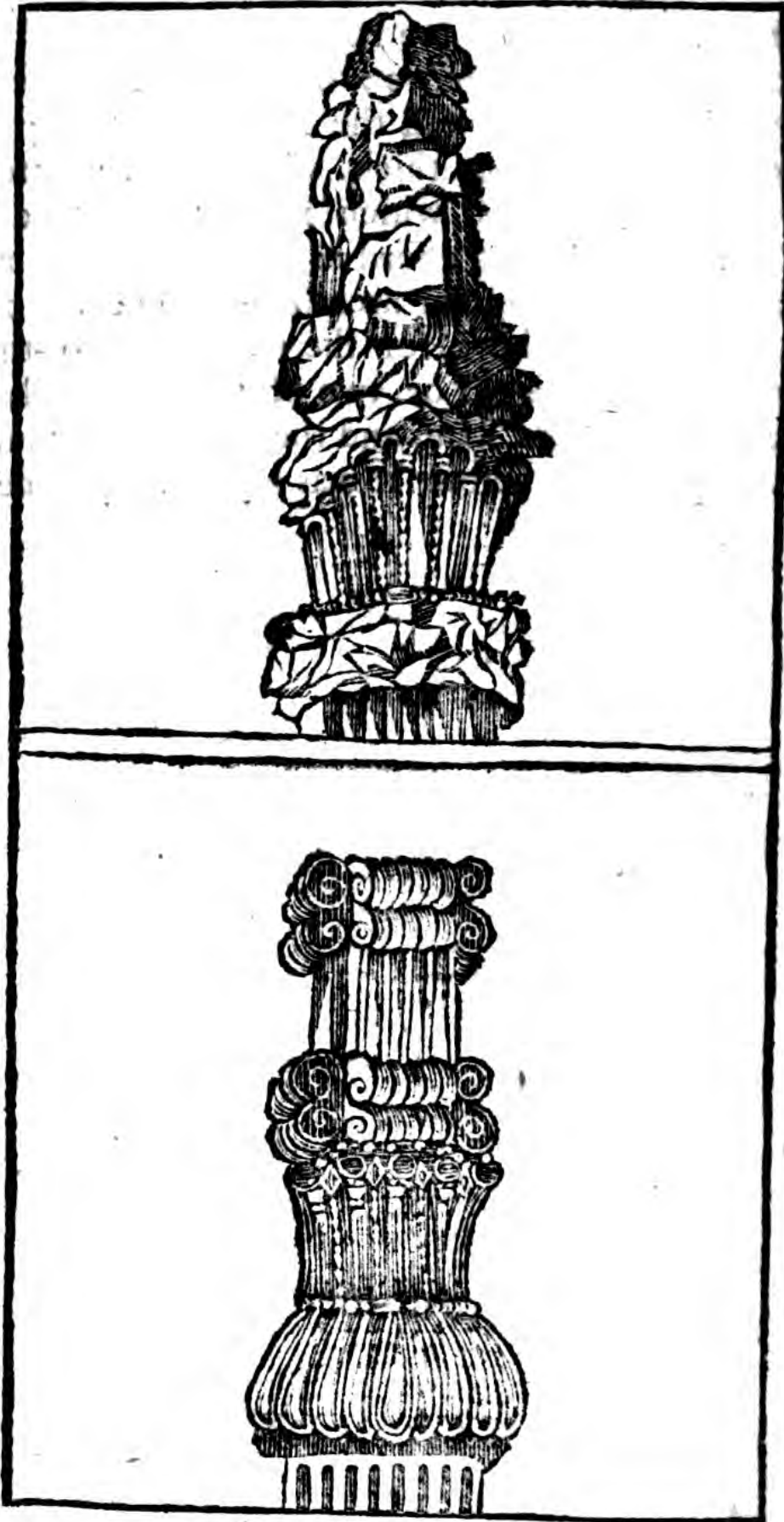
No other difference is observable in the columns, except that some of them have capitals and others have not; with respect to the elevation of those that are perfect, they are all from 70 to 72 feet high, and are 18 feet five inches in circumference, except those near the first portals.





portals. The bases are round, and 24 feet five inches in circumference; these are four feet three inches high, and the lower moulding is one foot five inches thick. They have three sorts of ornaments, which may be termed capitals. In order to afford as perfect an idea as possible of the singular architecture observed in this palace, we have for the satisfaction of the curious, given a cut or two of these capitals; one in its present state, and the other, as it must have appeared before it was injured by time.





Besides the basso relievos already mentioned, there are many others, particularly the representation of a triumph, or a procession of people bearing presents to a King, consisting of a great number of figures, with some led horses, an empty chariot, a led camel, &c. The drapery of all the human figures in this edifice is extremely singular, and has no relation to that of the ancient *Greeks* and *Romans*. Their military habits are agreeable to the mode of the *Persians* and *Medes*. The rules of art are not observed in the figures, since no muscles are visible in the naked parts, and the figures themselves have a heavy air: nothing has been observed but the contours, and this neglect causes them to appear stiff and inelegant: the draperies have also the same defects, and the whole has a tasteless sameness. However, the proportions have been finely kept, both in the great and small figures, which proves that those who made them were not entirely destitute of capacity, but were probably obliged to be too expeditious to finish them with proper care. The ornaments must, however, be acknowledged to be exceeding beautiful, as well as the chairs in which some figures are seated, notwithstanding their being now much impaired. It is therefore probable that there might be formerly some fine fragments that have been since destroyed. Besides the generality of the stones are polished like a mirror, particularly those within the portals, and that compose the windows and pavements. These are of different colours, as yellow, white, grey, red, deep blue,

blue, and in some places black ; but the stones of the greatest part of the edifice are of a clear blue.

Indeed every thing corresponds with the grandeur and magnificence of a great King's palace, to which the images and relievos give a surprising air of majesty. It is certain there have been very stately portals and grand galleries to afford a communication with all the detached parts of the structure ; most of the columns whose remains are still so beautiful, were evidently intended to support those galleries, and there even seems to be still some remains of the royal apartments. In a word, the magnificence of these ruins can never be sufficiently admired, and this structure must undoubtedly have cost immense treasures. This palace, which was the glory of all the east, owed its destruction to the debauchery and frenzy of *Alexander* the Great, who after he had preserved it from the ravages of war, above 2000 years ago, reduced it to ashes at the solicitations of *Thais* a *Grecian* courtezan.

There are two antient tombs of the Kings near the mountain, one to the north, and the other to the south, both of them are hewn out of the rock, and are noble fragments of antiquity. Their fronts are covered with figures and other ornaments. The form of both is nearly the same, and therefore a description of that to the north will serve. That part of the tomb on which the figures are carved is forty feet wide : the height is almost equal to the width below, and the rock extends on

each side to the distance of sixty paces. Below a range of four columns support the entablature on their capitals, each of which is composed of the heads of two oxen as far as the breast, with the fore legs bent on the top of each column. The gate, which is surrounded with ornaments is placed between two of these columns in the middle, but is at present almost closed up. Above the columns is the cornice and entablature, adorned with eighteen small lions in bass relief, nine on each side advancing towards the middle, where there is a small ornament resembling a vase. Above the lions are two ranges of figures, almost as large as the life, fourteen in each range, armed and lifting up their hands, as if to support the building above them; and on the side is an ornament somewhat in the form of a pillar, with the head of some animal that has only one horn. Above this is another cornice ornamented with leaves. On the left, where the wall projects, are three rows of niches, one above each other, each of them containing two figures, armed with lances, and three others on the side armed in the same manner. There are likewise two on the right side with their left hands placed on their beards, and the right on their body; on the side of these are three others in the same disposition as those on the other side. At some distance below, and between these figures and an ornament that has some distance resemblance of a round pillar, there is another figure on each side, very much impaired. Above on three steps stands a figure that has the

air of a King, pointing at something with his right hand, and holding a kind of bow in his left. Before him is an altar, on which an offering is made, from whence the flames are represented ascending. Above this altar appears the moon, and it is said, that there was once a sun behind the figure; but nothing of it is now to be seen. In the middle, and above all this appears a small mystic figure, that is also to be seen in several parts of the other buildings.

Two leagues from these ruins is a place called *Noxi Rustan*, but the traveller is obliged to take a large circuit to go thither; because a river crosses the country, which can only be passed over a bridge, that is at a considerable distance: the plain is also cut into a variety of small canals, that are so many impediments to travellers in their way thither. In this place are four tombs of persons of eminence among the ancient *Persians*, that much resemble those of *Persepolis*; only they are cut much higher in the rock. This place receives its name from one *Rastan*, whose figure is there carved to perpetuate his memory. He is said to have been a potent Prince of an immense stature; for it is pretended that he was forty cubits high; and according to the same ridiculous tradition he is said to live 1113 years.

The tombs have their bases eighteen feet above the surface of the causeway, and rise about four times that height, and the rock is twice as high as the tombs, which are sixty feet wide in the middle. Under each tomb is a  
separate

separate table filled with large figures in low relief; and on two of these tables are some traces of men fighting on horseback. Between these tombs are three other tables covered with figures, among which is a man on horseback preceded by two others, and followed by a third, which is almost defaced. There are also some figures in the space between the two last works, and three under the third, two of which hold out their hands to each other. One of these is a woman, and both of them are half buried in the earth.

These tombs possess an extent of 280 paces, and at sixty paces distance from the first of them is a little square building. The figure of a man on horseback, between the two tombs, and in the middle of the fourth niche, has his hair shaped according to our mode, with a crown upon his head, and a pointed bonnet rising above it. He is dressed after the *Roman* manner, and has a large sword by his side, with the hilt in his left hand; his right is presented to a person before him. The third figure, which is also dressed in the *Roman* manner, opens his hands like a suppliant.

The figures half buried appear on the side of the third tomb, and two of them have their hands placed in a kind of circle. That in the middle, which is on horseback, represents *Rustan* in a *Roman* dress; he has likewise a bonnet and an ornament like a crown, with flowing hair, a large beard, and his left hand upon the hilt of his sword: But notwithstanding the presence of his prodigious stature, both he and  
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his horse are of the common size. Before him is the figure of a woman with flowing hair; she likewise wears a crown. She is dressed like *Pallas*, and supports part of her drapery with her left hand. The third figure represents a military man, with a tiara on his head, and his left hand likewise grasps the hilt of his sword. The fifth compartment is an imperfect appearance of figures fighting on horseback. All these are carved in the rock.

On the western side of this mountain, at 200 paces distance, are two tables with figures, likewise cut in the rock. That to the left represents two men on horseback, one of whom grasps a circle, of which the other has quitted the hold. Some pretend that the first is *Alexander*, and the other *Darius*, who by this action resigns to him the empire. Others say, these figures represent two potent Princes or Generals, who, after being engaged in a long war, without obtaining any advantage over each other, at last agreed, that he who should wrest this circle out of his competitor's hand, should be acknowledged the victor. But no stress is to be laid on these stories.

The tomb said to have been that of *Naxi Rustan*, evidently appears to be that made by *Darius Hystaspes*, from its exactly corresponding with the description given of it by *Ctesius* in his history of *Persia*, after *Herodotus*; and with that of *Diodorus Siculus*.



*The End of the Fifteenth Volume.*

