

A NEW
ACCOUNT
Rich. OF THE *Salter.*
EAST INDIES.

GIVING

An exact and copious Description of the Situation, Product, Manufactures, Laws, Customs, Religion, Trade, &c. of all the Countries and Islands, which lie between the CAPE of GOOD HOPE, and the Island of JAPON.

Interspered with

An entertaining Relation not only of the principal Events, which happened during the Author's Thirty Years Residence in those Parts; but also of the most remarkable Occurrences and Revolutions in those vast Dominions, for this Century past.

Comprehending also

Many curious and interesting Particulars relating to our Commerce with those Countries, and the Affairs of the EAST INDIA Company.

By Captain ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

In Two VOLUMES.

VOLUME I.

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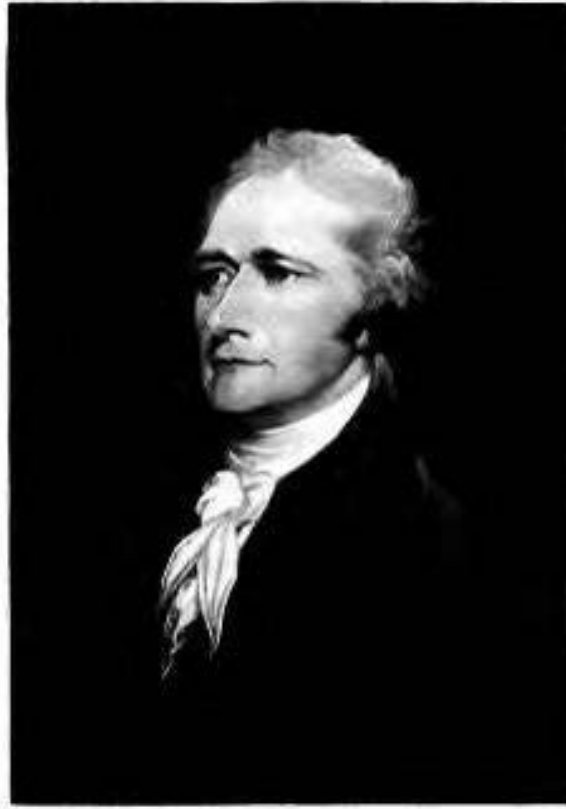


CHAPTERS XI AND XII OF *A NEW ACCOUNT OF THE EAST INDIES* BY CAPTAIN ALEXANDER HAMILTON VOLUME I

THESE ARE SECTIONS PERTAINING TO CAPTAIN HAMILTON'S TRAVELS IN SINDH.

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A Hamble

C H A P. XI.

Treats of the Mogul's Dominions on the River Indus, particularly of the ancient Kingdom of Sindy its Product and Commerce, Religion and Customs of the Inhabitants; with a Description of the River Indus.

SINDY is the westmost Province of the Mogul's Dominions, on the Sea-coast, and ~~is~~ *Larribundar* to its Sea Mart, which stands about 5 or 6 Leagues from the Sea, on a Branch

of the River *Indus*, capable to receive Ships of 200 Tuns. It is but a Village of about 100 Houses, built of crooked Sticks and Mud; but it has a large Stone Fort with four or five great Guns mounted in it, to protect the Merchandize brought thither, from the Robberies of the *Ballowches* and *Mackrans* that lie near them, to the Westward, and the *Jams* to the Eastward, who being Borderers, are much given to Thieving, and they rob all whom they are able to Master. The former are revolted Subjects of *Persia*, and the other are Subjects of the *Mogul*; but being secured from the Awe of an Army's coming to chastise their Insolency, by the marshy Grounds they live in, and the rapid Tides of *Indus*, they make but little Account of their Sovereign's Power or Orders, and so they commit Depredations on the *Cassillas* that pass to and fro between *Tatta* and *Larribundar*, notwithstanding a Guard of 100 or 200 Horse are sent along with them, by the *Nabob* or Vice-roy of *Tatta*, for Protection; but often those Protectors suffer the *Cassillas* to be robbed, pretending the Robbers are too numerous to be restrained by their small Forces, and afterwards come in Sharers with the Robbers.

Tatta is the *Emporium* of the Province, a very large and rich City. It is about three Miles long, and one and an half broad, and is about 40 Miles distant from *Larribundar*, and has a large Citadel on its West End, capable to lodge 50000 Men and Horse, and has Barracks

and Stables convenient for them, with a Palace built in it for the *Nabob*. All Goods and Merchandize imported or exported between *Tatta* and *Larribundar*, are transported on Carriage Beasts, such as Camels, Oxen and Horses. The Country is almost level, and overgrown with Shrubs and Bushes, very fit to cover an Ambuscade, which the aforesaid Robbers often make use of, and suddenly rush out on a *Cassilla*, and whilst the Guards and Carriers are fighting in one Place, either of Front, Flank or Rear, the the Robbers drive away the Beasts with their Packs. *In Anno* 1699. a pretty good *Cassilla* was robbed by a Band of four or five thousand Villains: The Guard, consisting of 250 Horse, were intirely cut off, and above 500 of the Merchants and Carriers, which struck a Terror on all that had Commerce at *Tatta*.

It was my Fortune, about four Months after, to come to *Larribundar*, with a Cargo from *Malabar*, worth above 10000 *L.* I could find no *Tatta* Merchants that would meddle with my Catgo before it was carried to *Tatta*; but agreed on the Prices of most of the Species of my Goods: And finding no other Remedy but travelling by Land, in a *Cassilla* of 1500 Beasts, and as many, or more Men and Women, besides 200 Horse for our Gnard, about the Middle of *January* we set out; and after we had marched about 16 Miles, our Scouts brought in News of the *Ballowcbes* and *Mackrans* being just before us, in great Numbers. I had thirteen of my

best Firemen with me in the Front, where my Beasts were. We being all mounted on little Horses, alighted, and set our Beasts on our Flanks and Front, to serve us for a Barricadoc, to defend us from Sword and Target-men, which were the principal Strength of the Robbers; and we, at the same Time, had Room enough to fire over our Barricadoc. We were not long in that Posture, till the Enemy sent an Herald on Horse-back, with his Sword brar'dish-ing, and when he came within Call of us, he threatned, that if we did not instantly surrender at Discretion, we should have no Quarter. I had two of my Seamen that shot as well with a Fuzee as any ever I saw, for I have seen them at Sea, for Diversion, knock down a single Sea-fowl with a single Bullet, as they were flying near our Ship. I ordered one to knock down the Herald, which he instantly did, by a Bullet through his Head. Another came presently after, with the same Threatnings, and met with the same Treatment. The next that came, I ordered his Horse to be shot in the Head, to try if we could take his Rider, that we might learn somewhat of the Enemy's Strength. The Horse was killed as- soon as he appeared, and some of our Horse got the Ride, and hewed him down, instead of bringing him to us. Our Guard of Horse continually kept in the Rear, but seeing what we had done in the Front, took courage, and getting in amongst the Bushes, met with some that had a Design to attack our Flank, and soon defeated them,

them, which put the Robbers in such Fear, that they betook themselves to Flight, and our Horse pursuing, put many to the Sword; so when they returned from the Pursuit, we went on in our Journey, and traveling four Miles, came to a Mud-wall Fort, called *Dungham*, a proper *English* Name for such a Fortification. It is built mid-way between *Tatta* and *Larribundar*, to secure the *Cassilla* from being set upon in the Night, who all lodge within it, Men and Beasts promiscuously, which makes it so nasty, that the *English* Appellation is rightly bestowed on it. There are about twenty little Cottages built close to it, who breed Fowls, Goats and Sheep, to sell to Passengers. And these are all the Houses to be seen in the Way between *Tatta* and *Larribundar*.

The News of a Victory that I had over their *Sanganian* Pirates at Sea, on my Voyage from *Malabar* to *Larribundar*, had reach'd *Tatta*, before the second Skirmish by Land, so that when I came to *Tatta*, we were received with Acclamations from the Populace, and the better Sort visited us with Presents of Sweet-meats and Fruits, ascribing the safe Arrival of the *Cassilla* wholly to our Courage and Conduct.

We were lodged in a large convenient House of 15 Rooms, and had good Ware-houses. The Stairs from the Street, were intire Porphyry, of 10 Foot long, of a bright yellow Colour, and as smooth as Glas. They were about ten in Number, and led up to a Square of 15 Yards long, and about 10 broad. Next Day we had a Compliment from the *Nabob*, of an Ox, five

Sheep, as many Goats, twenty Fowls and fifty Pigeons, with Sweet-meats and Fruit in Abundance: He, at that Time, lay encamped about six Miles from the Town, with an Army of 8 10000 Men, with a Design to punish the *Bal-lowches* and *Mackrans* for robbing the *Cassilla*, and killing his Men, as is before mentioned. He desired me let him know when we designed to drink a Dish of Coffee with him, and would send Horses to bring us to the Camp. I returned Thanks for his Civility, and sent him Word, that I designed to kiss his Hand the very next Day ; and he accordingly sent twenty fine *Persian* Horses, well equipped for my Use, ten of which I accepted for myself and Guard to mount, and the other ten were mounted with some of the most considerable Merchants in *Tatta*, who went to accompany me out of Respect ; and, to make our Cavalcade appear with the greater Grace, as soon as we came to the Camp Gate, we would have alighted, but an Officer on Horse-back told us, that it was the *Nabob's* Pleasure, that we should be brought to his Tent on Horse-back, and he riding before us, conducted us to the Tent Door, and, as soon as we got from our Horses, I was conducted into his own Pavillion Chamber, where he was sitting alone. The rest that came with me, were not admitted for an Hour after. It would take a great Deal of Time and Room to relate the Compliments and other Discourses that pass ; but I knew the Custom, not to appear before
great

great Men with an empty Hand. I desired Leave to lay a little Present at his Feet, which he permitted. It consisted of a Looking-glass of about 5 Pounds in Value, a Gun and a Pair of Pistols well gilded, a Sabre Blade and Dagger Blade gilded, and a Glass Pipe for his Tobacco, and an embroidered Standish for it to stand in. He then sent for all who had accompanied me into the Room, and shewed the Present I had made him, magnifying every Piece of it; and after some Encomiums on my Valour and Generosity, told me that I was a free Denison of *Tatta*, with the Addition of an Indulgence of being free of all Custom and Tax on all Goods that I had brought or should export, and that whoever bought any Part of my Cargo, and did not pay according to the Agreement made for Payment, I should not be liable to seek Justice at the *Cadjee's* Court, but to imprison my Debtors, and if that would not persuade them to give Satisfaction, he would sell their Wives, Children or nearest Relations to make good their Debt. This Privilege did me singular Service when the Term of Payments came, and was obliged to try the experiment of imprisoning. After three Hours Conversation, we took Leave to go, and he dismissed us with much Civility, and told me, that when he returned from that Expedition, he would repay my Visit at my Lodgings; but in three Months that I staid, he did not return, but often sent to enquire after my Welfare, and how my Affairs stood.

In

In travelling from *Dungham* towards *Tatta*, about 4 Miles short of the City, on smooth rising Ground, there are forty two fine large Tombs, which, from the Plain, appeared to be a small Town. They are the Burying-places of some of the Kings of *Sindy*, when that Country was governed by its own Kings. I went into the largest, which is built in the Form of a cupola, and in the middle of it stood a Coffin-tomb, about three Foot high, and seven Foot long, with some others of a lesser Size. The Materials of the Cupola were yellow, green and red Porphyry, finely polished, and the Stones set in regular Order, Chequer-ways, which Variation strikes the Eye with wonderful Pleasure. The Tomb is about 10 Yards high, and 7 in Diameter. I was told, that it was the Burying-place of the last King of that Country, who was robbed of his Sovereignty by *Jehan Guire* Grandfather to the famous *Aurenzeb*, in the Beginning of the seventeenth Century, who, after he had made him Prisoner, bid him ask what Favours he would desire for himself and Children, and they should be granted. He nobly replied, that all the Favour he begg'd, was, that himself, his Queen, and their Children, might be buried in that Tomb, which, in Times of Prosperity, he had built for that Purpose, and had cost him two Lack of Rupees, or 25000 *L. Sterl.* which Request his Conqueror could not well refuse.

Tatta

Tatta City stands about two Miles from the River *Indus*, in a spacious Plain, and they have Canals cut from the River, that bring Water to the City, and some for the Use of their Gardens. The King's Gardens were in pretty good Condition in Anno 1699. and were well stored with excellent Fruits and Flowers, particularly the most delicious Pomegranates that ever I tasted.

For three Years before I came there, no Rain had fallen, which caused a severe Plague to affect the Town and circumjacent Country, to such a Degree, that, in the City only, above 80000 died of it, that manufactured Cotton and Silk, and above one Half of the City was deserted and left empty. And that was one Reason why the *Nabob* had placed his Camp in that Place that I went to visit him at. The Figure of the Camp was a regular Tetragon, and ditched about with a Trench about 3 Yards broad, and 2 deep. The Ground taken out of the Ditch, was thrown upon the Inside, about 4 Foot high, and regularly built like a Parapet. It had 4 Gates, one in the Middle of each Curtain, and a straight Street from the opposite Gates, which make an exact Cross in Figure, and the *Nabob's* Tent was pitched in the Middle of the Cross. Each Side of the Tetragon was about 6 or 700 Paces in Length, and the Ditches could be filled with Water from the *Indus*, and let out at Pleasure, into a large Marsh about two Miles off the Camp.

The

The River *Indus* is navigable for their Vessels, as high as *Casmire*, that lies in the Latitude of 32 Degrees; and one Branch runs up to *Cabul* to the Westward, and others to *Penjeb*, *Labure*, *Multan*, *Buckor*, and other large Provinces and Cities to the Eastward, and all share the Benefits of the inland Navigation. Their Vessels are called *Kifties*, of several Sizes. The largest can lade about 200 Tuns. They are flat-bottomed, and, on each Side, Cabbins are built from Stern to Stem, that overhang about 2 Foot; and, in each Cabin, is a Kitchen and a Place for Exoneration, which falls directly in the Water. Those Cabbins are hired out to Passengers, and the Hold, being made into separate Apartments, are let out to Freighters, so that every one has a Lock on his own Cabin and Apartment in the Hold, and has his Goods always ready to dispose on at what Places he finds his Market. And indeed in all my Travels I never saw better Conveniencies of travelling by Water. They have one Mast of a good Length, and a Square-sail to use when the Wind is a-stern, or on the Quarter; but they never hale close by the Wind. They are obliged to carry a great number of Men for tracting them up against the Stream, when the Winds are against them, so that a Voyage from *Tatta* to *Labore*, they reckon six or seven Weeks long, but from *Labore* back, not above eighteen Days, and sometimes it is performed in twelve.

At

At *Tatta* the River is about a Mile broad, and, where I tried with a Lead and Line, it was about six Fathoms deep, from Side to Side. The Stream is not very rapid, for its Motion did not exceed two Miles and an Half in an Hour. It produces many Species of Fresh-water Fish-ee, and among them, the best Carp that ever I saw or tasted. Some of them weigh above 20 Pound Weight, and we have them alive in *Tatta* Market. They have black Cattle in great Plenty, large and good, and most excellent Mutton, of 80 or 100 Pound Weight. Their Horses are small, but hardy and swift. Deer, Antelopes, Hares and Foxes are their wild Game, which they hunt with Dogs, Leopards and a small Fierce Creature, called by them a *Sboegoose*. It is about the Size of a Fox, with long prick-ed Ears like an Hare, and a Face like a Cat, a gray Back and Sides, and Belly and Breast white. I believe they are rare, for I never saw more than one. When they are taken out to hunt, an Horse-man carries it behind him, hood-winkt, and their Deer and Antelopes being pretty familiar, will not start before Horses come very near. He who carries the *Sboegoose*, takes off the Hood, and shews it the Game, which, with large swift Springs, it soon overtakes, and leaping on their Backs, and getting forward to the Shoulders, scratches their Eyes out, and gives the Hunters an easy Prey. The Leopard runs down his Game, which often gives the Hunters a long Chase, as well as the Dogs, who will take the
Water

Water when the Game betake themselves to swimming, which they frequently do. They have Store of Peacocks, Pigeons, Doves, Duck, Teal, Wigeon, wild Geese, Curlews, Partridge and Plover, free for any Body to shoot. They have a Fruit that grows in the Fields and Gardens, called *Salob*, about the Size of a Peach, but without a Stone. They dry it hard before they use it, and being beaten to Powder, they dress it as Tea and Coffee are, and take it with powdered Sugar-candy. They are of Opinion, that it is a great Restorative to decayed animal Spirits.

This Country abounds richly in Wheat, Rice and Legumen, and Provender for Horses and Cattle; and they never know the Misery of Famine, for the *Indus* overflows all the low Grounds in the Months of *April*, *May* and *June*, and when the Floods go off, they leave a fat Slime on the Face of the Ground, which they till easily before it dries, and being sown and harrow'd, never fails of bringing forth a plentiful Crop.

The other Productions of this and the inland Country, are Saltpeter, Sal-armoniack, Borax, Opoponax, *Assa-fetida*, Goat Bezoar, *Lapis tutire* and *Lapis lasuli*, and raw Silk, but not fine.

They manufacture in wrought Silks, which they call *Jemawaars*, in Cotton and Silk, called *Cuttenees*, and in Silk mixt with *Carmania* Wool, called *Culbuleys*, in Calicoes coarse and fine, sheer and close wrought. Their Cloth called *Jurries*, is very fine and soft, and lasts beyond

beyond any other Cotton Cloth that I have used. They make Chints very fine and cheap, and Coverlets for Beds very beautiful. They make fine Cabinets, both lack'd and inlaid with Ivory. And the best Bows and Arrows in the World, are made at *Multan*, of Buffalo's Horns. They lack wooden Dishes and Tables, but not so well as in *Cbina*. The Lack is clear enough, but always clammy. They export great Quantities of Butter, which they gently melt, and put up in Jars, called *Duppas*, made of the Hides of Cattle, almost in the Figure of a Globe, with a Neck and Mouth on one Side. They are made of all Sizes, from those that contain 320 *lb.* to those of 5. and that Butter keeps, without Salt, the whole Year round, but, as it grows old, it becomes rank.

The Wood *Ligna dulcis* grows only in this Country. It is rather a Weed than a Wood, and nothing of it is useful but the Root, called *Putchock*, or, *Radix dulcis*. I never heard it is used in Physic, but is a good Ingredient in the Composition of Perfumes. There are great Quantities exported for *Surat*, and from thence to *Cbina*, where it generally bears a good Price; for being all Idolaters, and burning Incense before their Images, this Root beaten into fine Powder, and an Incense-pot laid over smoothly with Ashes, and a Furrow made in the Ashes, about a Quarter of an Inch broad, and as much in Depth, done very artificially into a great Length, the Powder is put into that Furrow, and
fir st

fired, and it will burn a long time like a Match, sending forth a fine Smoke, whose Smell is very grateful, the Powder having the good Qualities of maintaining and delaying the Fire.

The Religion, by Law established, is *Mahometan*; but there are ten *Gentows* or *Pagans* for one *Mussulman*. But the City of *Tatta* is famous for Learning in Theology, Philology and Politics, and they have above four Hundred Colleges for training up Youth in those Parts of Learning. I was very intimate with a *Seid* who was a Professor in Theology, and was reckoned to be a good Historian. He askt me one Day, if I had heard of *Alexander the Great* in my Country. I told him I had, and I mentioned his Battle with *Porus*, and his Victory. He told me, that their Histories mentioned the same, but with some Difference in the two Kings Names, and *Alexander's* Passage over *Indus*. He said, that their History mentioned *Sbow Hasander* and *Prorus*, and that *Alexander* was a great Magician, and summoning above a Million of wild Geete, they swam his Army over the River, and that *Prorus's* Elephants would never turn their Heads towards the Place where *Alexander* was.

The *Portugueze* had formerly a Church at the East End of the City. The House is still intire, and in the Vestry are some old Pictures of Saints, and some holy Vestments, which they brofered to sell; but I was no Merchant for such Bargains.

The

The *Gentows* have full Toleration for their Religion, and keep their Fasts and Feasts as in former Times, when the Sovereignty was in *Pagan* Princes Hands. They burn their Dead, but the Wives are restrained from burning with the Corps of their Husbands. There is a very great Consumption of Elephants Teeth, for 'tis the Fashion for Ladies to wear Rings of Ivory from their Arm-pits to their Elbows, and from their Elbows to their Wrists, of both Arms; and when they die, all those Ornaments are burnt along with them.

They had several Feasts when I was there, but one they kept on Sight of a New-moon in *February*, exceeded the rest in ridiculous Actions and Expence; and this is called the Feast of *Woaly*, who was a Knight errant in Time of yore, and was a fierce Fellow in a War with some Giants, who infested *Sindy*, and carried away naughty Girls and Boys, and made Butcher Meat of them. This *Wooly*, in a Battle one Day, killed fifty of them, each of them as tall as a Tree, and after he had dispatcht them, he led them down to Hell, and there they continue bound up their good Behaviour, and are never to appear again on Earth, for Fear they should scar the Kings Liege-subjects, or frighten Children.

In this mad Feast, People of all Ages and Sexes dance thro' the Streets to Pipe, Drum and Cymbals. The Women, with Baskets of Sweet-meats on their Heads, distributing to eve-

ry Body they meet. The men are bedawb'd all over with red Earth, or Vermilion, and are continually squirting gingerly Oil at one another; and if they get into Houses of Distinction, they make foul Work with their Oil, whose Smell is not pleasant; but in giving a Present of Rose-water, or some Silver Coin, they are civil enough to keep out of Doors. And in this Madness they continue from 10 in the Morning till Sun-set.

The River of *Sindy* would be hard to be found, were it not for the Tomb of a *Mabometan* Saint, who has an high Tower built over him, called *Sindy* Tower. It is always kept white to serve as a Land-mark. The Bar, going into the River, is narrow, and has not above two Fathoms and an Half, on Spring-tides: But this is only a small Branch of *Indus*, which Appellation is now lost in this Country that it so plentifully waters, and is called *Divellee*, or seven Mouths; but it disembogues itself into the Sea thro' many more.

CH A P. XII.

Gives an Account of the ancient Kingdom of Guzerat, now a Province annexed to the Mogul's Dominions, its Situation, Product, Manners and Religion; with some Account of the Pirates that inhabit Part of it, and some Observations on Diu, a Portuguese City on an Island appertaining to Guzerat.

THE next maritime Country to *Sindy*, is *Guzerat*. The *Indus* makes it an Island, by a Branch that runs into the Sea at the City of *Cambaya*. This Province, tho' Vassals to the *Mogul*, yet continue in their old Religion of *Paganism*, and for the most Part, drive the old Trade of thieving and pirating, for they plunder all whom they can overcome, on both Elements: Nor can the *Mogul* restrain them, for their Country is secure from the Marches of Armies into it, by Reason of the many Inlets of the Sea that overflow the low Grounds, and make it soft and muddy, that there is no travelling but by little Boats, in many Places.

The first Town on the South Side of *Indus*, is *Cutchnaggen*. It admits of some Trade, and produces Cotton, Corn, coarse Cloth and *Cbonk*,

a Shell-fish in Shape of a Perriwinkle, but as large about as a Man's Arm above the Elbow. In *Bengal* they are saw'd into Rings for Ornaments to Womens Arms, as those of *Sindy* wear Ivory Rings. They are in Fashion in many Countries in *India*. The Province and Town of *Cutchnaggen* are governed by a Queen, who is very formidable to her neighbouring States. The Reasons they give for choosing that Sex for their Governesses, are, that they'll be better advised by their Council than Men, who, by too large a Share of Power and Honour placed on them, become obstinate in their Opinions, and insolent in their Behaviour: But Ladies are esteemed complaisant and gentle.

The next Province to *Cutchnaggen*, is *Sangania*, which is also governed by a Princess, for the above Reasons. Their Sea-port is called *Bant*, very commodious and secure. They admit of no Trade, but practise Piracy. They give Protection to all Criminals, who deserve Punishment from the Hand of Justice. All Villains in the Countries about flock thither, and become honest Robbers, so that they are a Medley of Criminals, who flee their Country for Fear of Condign Punishment due to their Crimes. This Province produces Cotton and Corn, as all the Kingdom of *Guzerat* does; but they admit of no Trade in their Country, as I observed before, for fear of being civilized by Example. I had several Skirmishes with them. They, being confident of their Numbers, strive
to

to board all Ships they can come at by sailing. Before they engage in a Fight, they drink Bang, which is made of a Seed like Hemp-seed, that has an intoxicating Quality, and, whilst it affects the Head, they are furious. They wear long Hair, and, when they let that hang loose, they'll give no Quarter.

In Anno 1686. a small Ship of theirs, that mounted 8 Guns, and mann'd with 300 of these furious Fellows, was cruizing on the Coast of *India*, between *Surat* and *Bombay*, and the *Pbenix*, an *English* Man of War of 42 Guns, was bound for *Surat*. The *Sanganian* made towards her, and engaged her, but would fain have been gone again when they found their Mistake; but that was impossible. The *Pbenix* sent her Boats, well mann'd, to try if they could make them yield, in order to save their Lives; but they scorned Quarter, and killed and wounded many of the *English*, so that Captain *Tyrrel*, who commanded the *Pbenix*, was forced to run his lower Teer out, and sink them: And after their Ship was sunk, and the Miscreants set a swimming, yet most of them refused Quarter, and only about 70 were taken alive. (I believe Sir *George Bing* can give a better Account of the Story than I, for, if I mistake not, he was a Lieutenant then on Board the *Pbenix*, and received a dangerous Wound in the Combat, at least one of his Name, who bore a Commission, did.) *In Anno* 1717. they attack'd a Ship called the *Morning Star* in her Passage between

Gombroon and *Surat*. She was richly laden, which they were apprised of, and two Squadrons were fitted out from two different Ports, to way-lay her, and accordingly she fell in with eight Sail of those Pirates. One was a large Ship of near 500 Tuns, and three others were Ships between 2 and 300 Tuns, and the other 4 were *Grabs*, or Gallies; and *Sbeybars*, or half Gallies. They reckoned in all there were about 2000 Men in their Fleet, and the *Morning Star* but 17 fighting Men, who were resolved to trust Providence, and fight for their Lives, Liberty and Estate. The first Attack was by the greatest Ship alone, but was soon obliged to sheer off again, with the Loss of some Men, and the Captain of the *Morning Star* was wounded in the Thigh, by a Lance darted at him, that pierced his Thigh through and through. The Pirates were not discouraged by this first Repulse, but joined their Forces and Councils together, and, after a Day's Respite and Consultation, they attackt the *Morning Star* a second Time, the two largest Ships boarding, one on her Bow, and another on her Quarter, and three more boarded them two, and entred their Men over them. The Combat was warm for above four Hours, and the *Morning Star* had seven killed, and as many wounded; but kind Providence assisted her. Whilst she was on Fire in three Places, and had burnt through her Peop and half Deck, she was disengaged of them, and left five of the largest so entangled with one another, that they could

could not pursue her. So she pursued her Voyage to *Surat*, but having no Surgeon on board, she called at *Bombay*, to get her wounded Men dress'd and cured. In the Time of the Combat, while the Pirates were on board of the *Morning Star*, twenty one *Indian* Seamen went on board of them, and twenty six Merchants had gone to them, to try if they could persuade them to take a Sum, and not put it on the Hazard of a Battle. All those they detained, and carried along with them, and made them pay above 6000 Pounds for their Ransom, who gave an Account afterwards of great Slaughter done on the Pirates. And the Commodore lost his Head as soon as he landed, for letting so rich a Prize go out of his Hands.

In Anno 1698. one Captain *Lavander*, in the Ship *Thomas*, bound from *Surat* to *Mocha*, encountered four Sail of those Freebooters, and fought them bravely; but they burnt the Ship and all her Crew, because he would not yield. They are very cruel to those they can master, if they make Resistance; but to those that yield without fighting, they are pretty civil.

The next Sea-port Town to *Baet*, is *Figat*. It stands on a Point of low Land, called Cape *Figat*. The City makes a good Figure from the Sea, shewing four or five high Steeples. It is the Seat of a *Fouzdaar* or Governor, for the *Mogul*. It is a Place of no Trade, and consequently little known to Strangers.

The next maritime Town is *Mangaroul*. It admits of Trade, and affords coarse Callicoes, white and died, Wheat, Pulse and Butter for Export, and has a Market for Pepper, Sugar and Betlenut. It is inhabited by *Banyans*; and wild Deer, Antelopes, and Peacocks are so familiar, that they come into the very Houses without Fear.

The next Place is *Poremaint*, a pretty large Town on the Sea-shore, and admits of Trade, producing the same Commodities as *Mangaroul*, and its Inhabitants are of the same Religion; but both Towns are obliged to keep *Rasspouts* to protect them from the Insults of the *Sanganians*.

Those *Rasspouts* are Natives of *Guzerat*, and are all Gentlemen of the Sword, and are well trained in the Art of killing. They, like the *Switz*, employ their Swords in the Service of those who give them best Pay. They seldom give or take Quarter, and when they go on an Expedition, they carry their Wives and Children in Carts and Waggons along with them, and if they meet with a Repulse, their Wives will never suffer Cohabitation till they can regain their lost Honour by some noble Exploit.

Diu is the next Port, and is the southermost Land on *Guzerat*. It is a small Island of three Miles long, and two broad, belonging to the Crown of *Portugal*. The City is pretty large, and fortified by an high Stone Wall, with Bastions at convenient Distances, well furnished with Cannon to flank it, and a deep Mote hewn out

out of an hard Rock, to defend it on the Land Side; which is about one third Part of the City. The other Parts are fortified by Nature, having the Ocean thick set with dangerous Rocks and high Cliffs, who forbid any Approaches on that Side, and a rapid deep River, that affords a good Harbour, on the North-east Side. The Harbour is secured by two Castles; one large, that can bring above 100 large Cannon to bear on the Mouth of the Harbour, to forbid Shipping Entrance without Leave. The other is but small, and is built irregularly on a Rock in the Middle of the River, and Channels for Shipping to pass by it, within ten Yards of its Wall. It is made use of for a Magazine for Powder and other Warlike Stores.

It is one of the best built Cities, and best fortified by Nature and Art, that ever I saw in *India*, and its stately Buildings of free Stone and Marble, are sufficient Witnesses of its ancient Grandeur and Opulency; but at present not above one fourth of the City is inhabited. It contains five or six fine Churches, which are great Ornaments to the City, which stands on a rising Ground on an easy Ascent from the great Castle; and the Churches, being built wide from one another, and standing gradually higher than one another, make the *Visto* from the Sea admirably pleasant, by shewing all their beautiful Fronts that Way. And within they are well decorated with Images and Paintings.

There is a Tradition, that the *Portugueze* circumvented the King of *Guzerat*, as *Dido* did the

the *Africanus*, when they gave her leave to build *Caribage*, by desiring no more Ground to build their Cities than could be circumscribed in an Ox's Hide, which having obtained, they cut it into a fine Thong of a great Length, and over-reach their Donors in the Measure of the Ground.

After the City was built and fortified, it drew all the Trade from the King's Towns of Commerce thither, which made him heartily repent his Generosity ; and he made Proposals to the *Portugueze* to reimburse all the Charge and Expence they had been at, if they would restore that Island again, but he never could persuade them to that Bargain, and since fair Means would not do, he designed to try what might be obtained by Force, wherefore he raised a great Army, and besieged it, but was soon forced to draw off again with Loss, for the *Portugueze* large Cannon from their Walls disturbed and distressed his Camp so, that he found but little Safety for himself, and much less for his Host.

This City came to such an Height of Trade and Riches in the sixteenth Century, that it drew a very potent Enemy from the *Red Sea* ; for, about the Year 1540. the *Turks* designing to have a Footing in *India*, cast their Eyes on *Diu*, as being conveniently situated, and well fortified for their Purpose ; so they came in a Fleet of Gallies and Transports 25000 strong, from *Aden*, and landed on the West End of the Island, and laid Siege to the City ; but the *Portugueze* sent a Reinforcement from *Goa*, of twenty sail, some

ie of which were large Ships or Galleons, rich carried heavy Metal, with which they overpowered the *Turkish* Fleet, being small Vessels, many *Turks* were sunk, and the Bashaw forced to make off with great Loss and Shame, and leave their battering Artillery to the *Muguzze*, for which Misfortune and Disgrace cost his Head when he returned to *Aden*.

But about the Year 1670. the *Muskat Arabs* had better Fortune, for they came with a Fleet of Frankies, and took an Opportunity to land by Night, on the West End of the Island, without being discovered, and marched silently up to the Town, and, at Break of Day, when the Gates were opened, they entered without Resistance. The Alarm was soon spread over the Town, and happy was he who was first to the Castle Gates, but those who had their Heels were sacrificed to the Enemies Fury who spared none; so in a Moment that fair City and Churches were left to the Mercy of the *Arabs*, who, for three Days, loaded their Vessels with rich Plunder, and mounted the Cannon in a great beautiful Church, and pointed it on the Fort, but to little Purpose. The Governor, who was in the Castle, could soon be obliged them to remove farther off the Island, by the Force of his heavy Cannon, yet the Priesthood forbid him firing at the Church, for Fear of Excommunication, lest some unwise Shot should sacrilegiously have defaced the holy Image.

But

But the *Arabs*, like a Parcel of unsanctified Rogues, made sad Havock on the Churches Trumpery, for, besides robbing them of all the sanctified Plate and Cash, they did not leave one Gold or Silver Image behind them, but carried all into dismal Captivity, from whence they never returned that I could hear of. And as for the poor Images of Wood and Stone, they were so rudely treated by those barbarous *Infidels*, that they came well off if they lost but a Limb, and I saw some who lost their Heads: But by the indefatigable Industry of the Clergy, their Churches are again as well, or better furnished with well carved Images of Wood and Stone than they were before; but I saw none of Gold or Silver to supply the Places of the poor Captives.

However, before the *Arabs* had done plundering, they became secure and negligent, which the Governor having Notice of, proclaimed Freedom to all Slaves who would venture to sally out on the Enemy. Accordingly about 4000 Soldiers and Slaves made a Sally with Success, killing about 1000 *Arabs*, and made the rest flee from the Town, the Assailants losing but very few; and by that one Sally the Town was regained. Those Slaves are generally *Mosambique* and *Mombass* Negroes, whose Strength and Bravery I have mentioned before. The City still feels the dismal Effects of the Loss it then received. At present there are not above 200 *Portuguese* both in the Castle and City. The rest of its Inhabitants are *Banyans* of all Sorts.

There may be about 40000, but few of them of Fortune or Figure, because the Insolence of the *Portugueze* makes it unsafe for money'd Strangers to dwell among them. The King of *Portugal* has about 12000 Pounds *per Annum*, of Poll Money paid into his Treasury, and the Customs and Land-tax may come to about 6000 Pounds more : But if that Island were in the Hands of some industrious *European* Nation, it would be the best Mart Town on the Coast of *India*, for the River *Indus* being near Neighbours, both by *Sindy* and *Cambay*, those Commodities might be imported and exported to Advantage. And that Commerce has raised *Surat*.

All the Country between *Diu* and *Dand Point*, which is about thirty Leagues along Shore, admits of no Traffick, being inhabited by Freebooters, called *Warrels*, who often associate with the *Sanganians*, in exercising Piracies and Depredations. They confide much in their Numbers, as the others do, and strive to board their Prizes, and, as soon as they get on board, they throw in Showers of Stones on the Prizes Decks, in order to sink them that Way, if they don't yield, and they have earthen Pots as big as a six Pound *Granadoe Shell*, full of unquenched Lime, well sifted, which they throw in also, and the Pots breaking, there arises so great a Dust, that the Defendants can neither breathe nor see well. They also use Wicks of Cotton, dipt in a combustible Oil, and firing the Wick, and throwing it into their Opposer's Ship, it
burns

burns violently, and sets Fire to the Parts that it is thrown on. They have no Cities, and their Villages are small. The best of them stands about 60 Miles to the Eastward of *Diu*, and is called *Chance*. It is built about a League within the Mouth of a River, which has a small Island lying athwart it, about two Miles into the Sea. The Island has good Springs of fresh Water, but no Inhabitants. In Anno 1716. the *English* went to burn that Village, and their pirating Vessels, but were unsuccessful in their Undertaking. The *Warrels* occupy all the Sea-coast as high as *Goga*, which lies about 12 Leagues within the Gulf of *Cambay*. And the Coast, from *Dand* Point to *Goga*, is very dangerous, being thick set with Rocks and Sand Banks; and a rapid Tide runs amongst them of 6 or 8 Miles in an Hour, in a Channel that is 20 Fathoms deep in some Places, which causes Anchoring to be dangerous also.

Goga is a pretty large Town, and has had some mud Wall Fortifications, which still defend them from the Insults of their Neighbours the *Coulies* who inhabit the North-east Side of *Guzerat*, and are as great Thieves by Land as their Brethren the *Warrels* and *Sanganians* are by Sea: Nor is there any Land Army that can come into their Country to chastise them, for there are so many Rivulets made by *Indus* and the Sea, that are so soft and muddy at the Bottom that there is neither Passage for Men nor Horse to penetrate their Country. And their

Towns are environed with such thick Hedges of green *Bamboos*, which are not to be burned in a short Time, and the People so numerous and valiant, that it would be an hard Task to civilize them.

Goga has some Trade, admitting Strangers to a free Commerce in such Merchandize as are fit to be imported or exported to or from *Guzerat*. It has the Conveniency of an Harbour for the largest Ships, tho' they lie dry on soft Mud, at low Water ; but the Tides rising four or five Fathoms perpendicular, afford Water enough at high Water. The Town is governed by an Officer from the *Mogul*, who commands about 200 Men, who are kept there for a Guard to it, and are subordinate to the Governor of

C H A P. XIII.

Gives an Account of the Cities of Cambay, Baroach and Surat ; with several Occurrences that happened to them.

CAMBAY, or, as the Natives call it, *Cambaut*, about 12 Leagues from *Goga*, in the Bottom of the Gulf of *Cambay*, on a small River, that is sent by the Overflowing of the *Indus* into that Gulf or Bay, is a large City, with high Walls, and was formerly the Metropolis of a Kingdom that bore the City's Name ;
but

