

**A voyage into the Levant. A breife relation of a journey, lately performed by Master H. B. Gentleman, from England by the way of Venice, into Dalmatia, Sclavonia, Bosnah, Hungary, Macedonia, Thessaly, Thrace, Rhodes and Egypt, unto Gran Cairo / with particular observations concerning the moderne condition of the Turkes, and other people under that Empire.**

### **Contributors**

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Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
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BLOUNT VOYAGE INTO THE LEVANT 1636

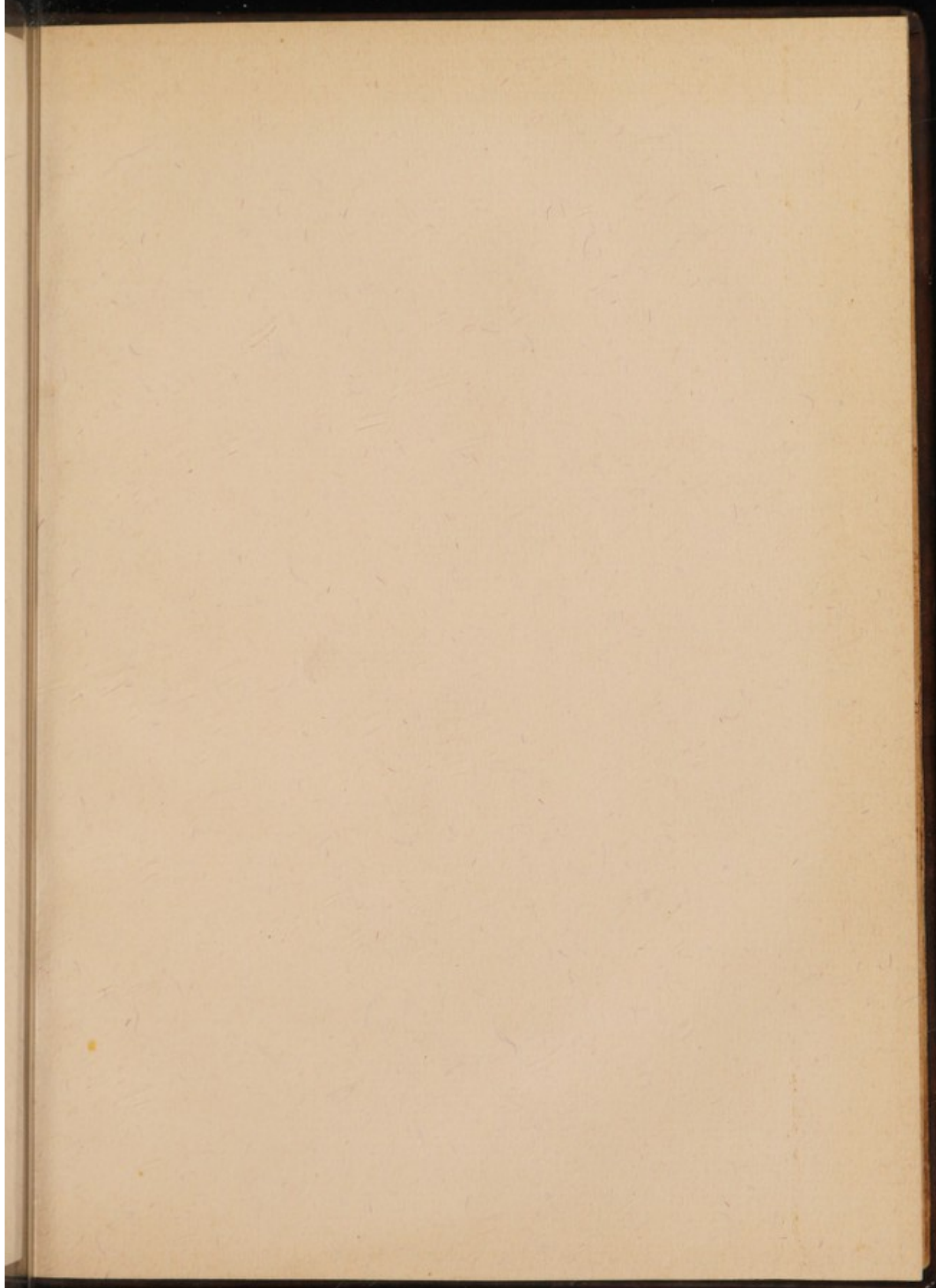


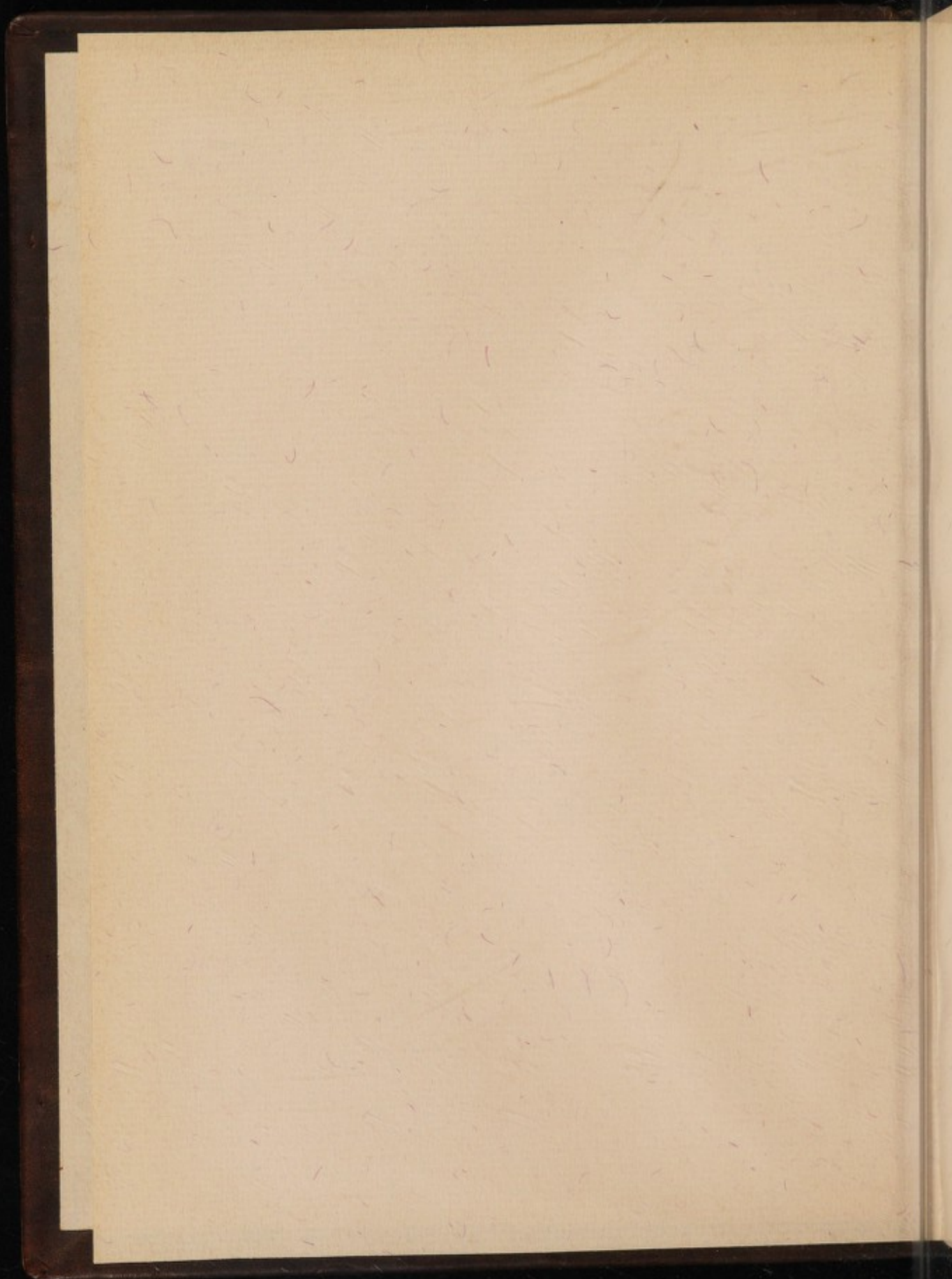






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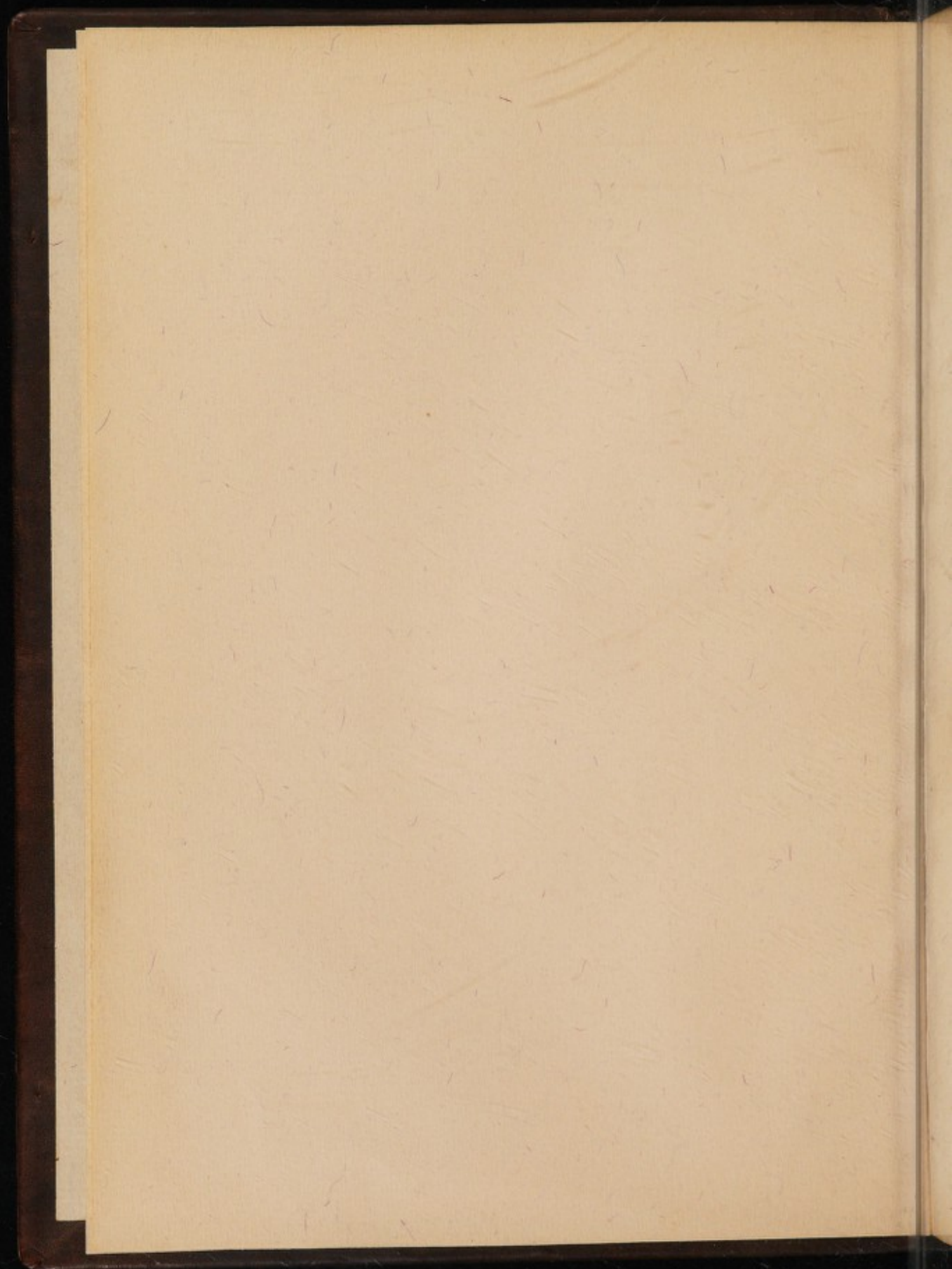












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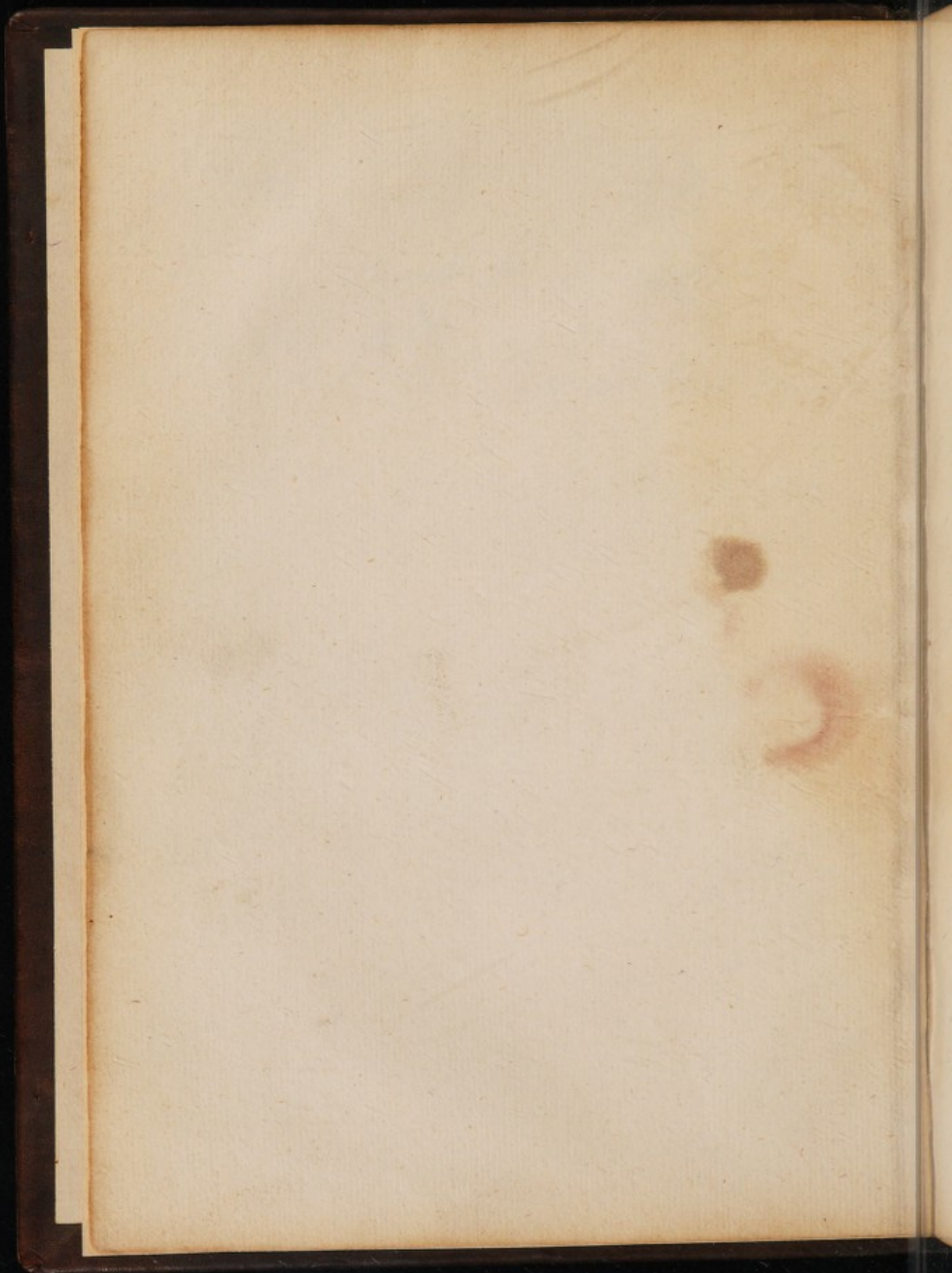
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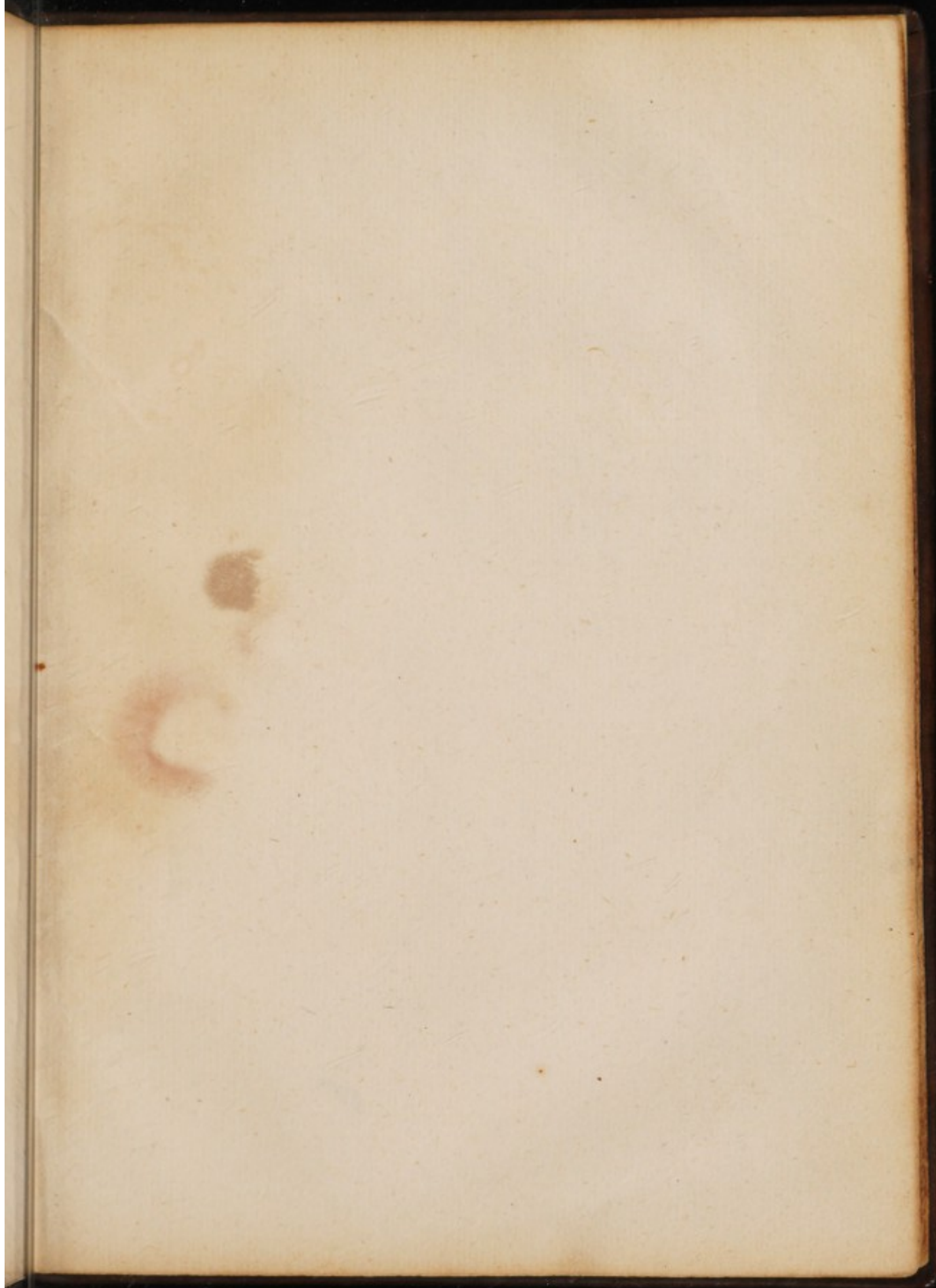
A voyage into the Levant.

London, 1636.

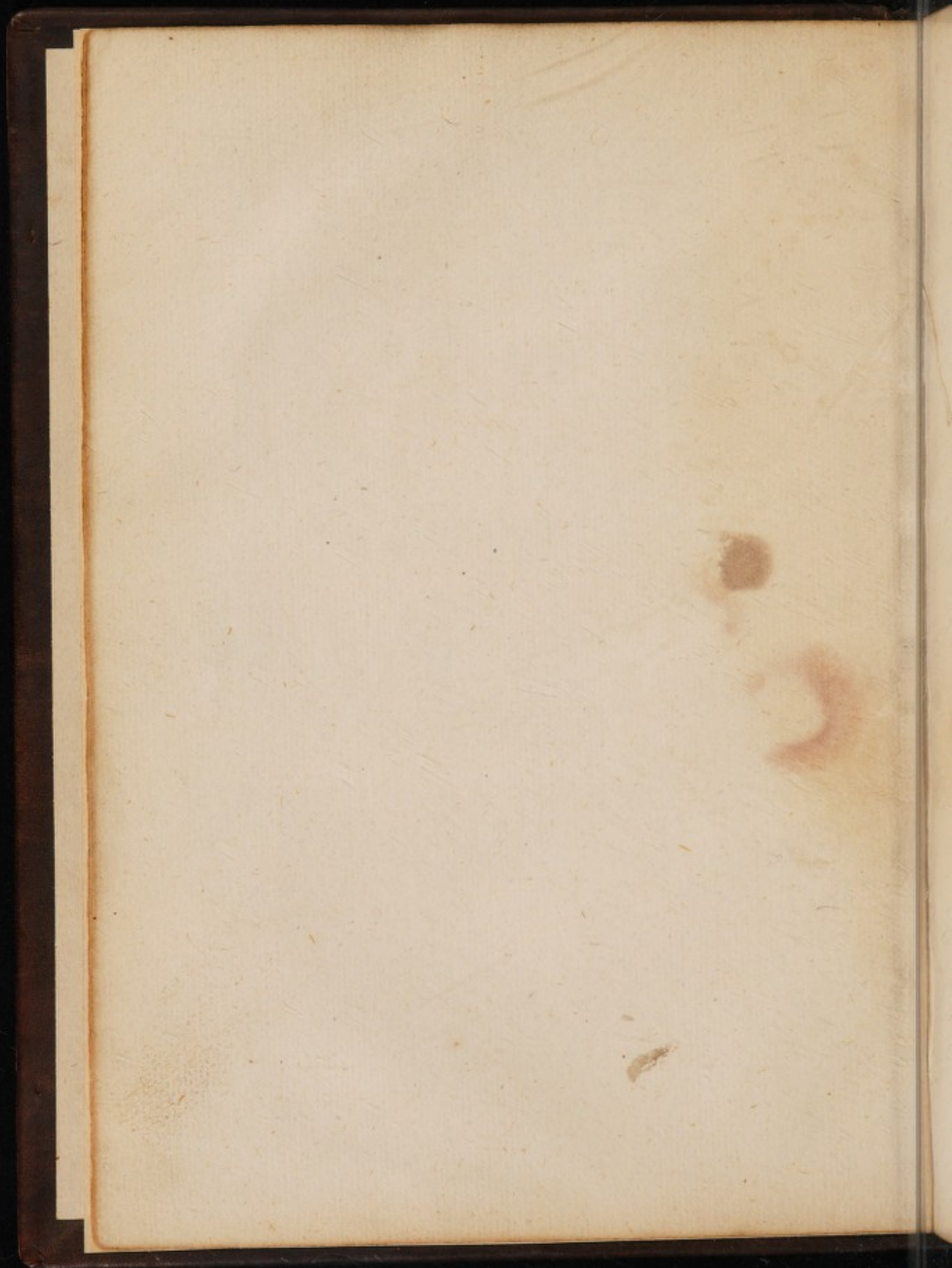
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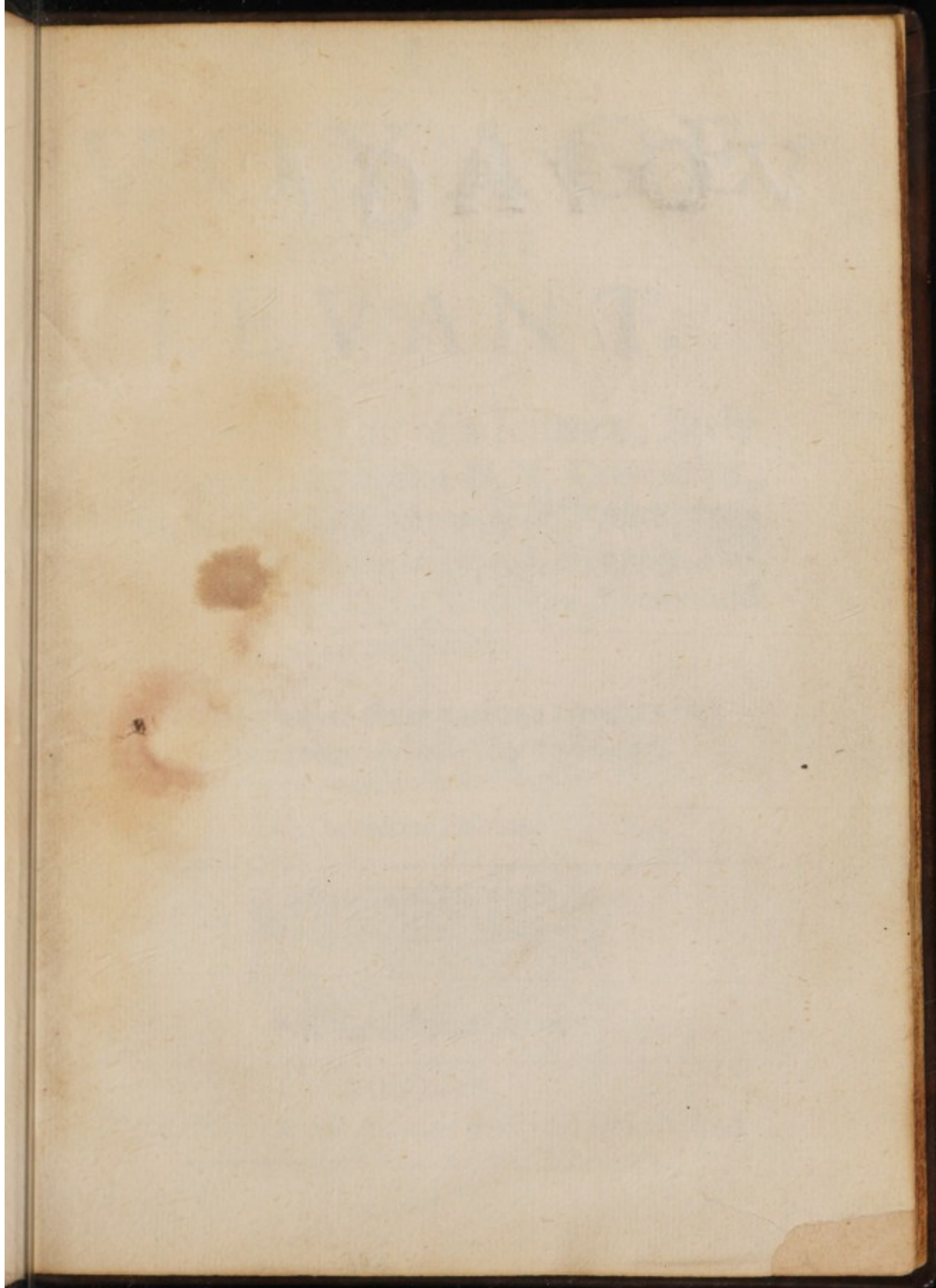


















# A VOYAGE INTO THE LEVANT.

A Breife Relation of a Iourney, lately performed by Master H. B. Gentleman, from *England* by the way of *Venice*, into *Dalmatia*, *Sclavonia*, *Bosnah*, *Hungary*, *Macedonia*, *Theffaly*, *Thrace*, *Rhodes* and *Egypt*, unto *Gran Cairo* :

With particular observations concerning the moderne condition of the *Turkes*, and other people under that Empire.

The second Edition.



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LONDON,

Printed by I. L. for *Andrew Crooke*, and are to be sold at the signe of the *Beare* in *Pauls Church-yard*.

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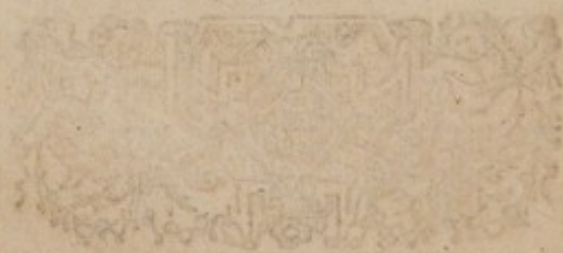
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# VOYAGE INTO THE LEVANT.

A Brief Relation of a Journey, lately  
performed by Master W. B. Gentlemen,  
from England by the way of Venice, into  
Dalmatia, Slavonia, Hungary, Ma-  
cedonia, Thessaly, Thracia, Rhodæ and  
Egypt, unto Great Cairo:

With particular observations concerning  
the modern condition of the Turkey, and  
other people under that Empire.

The second Edition.  
1663. 3. 7. 5.



LONDON,

Printed by A. A. for A. W. at the sign of the Green in St. Dunstons Church-yard.  
1663.





A  
VOYAGE INTO  
THE LEVANT.

**I**ntellectuall Complexions have no desire so strong, as that of *knowledge*; nor ~~is~~ any knowledge unto man so certaine, and pertinent, as that of humane affaires: This *experience* advances best, in observing of people, whose *institutions* much differ from ours; for customes conformable to our owne, or to such wherewith we are already acquainted, doe but repeat our old observations, with little acquist of new. So my former time spent in viewing *Italy, France*, and some little of *Spaine*, being countries of Christian institution, did but represent in a severall dresse, the effect of what I knew before.

Then seeing the customes of men are much swayed by their naturall dispositions, which are originally inspired and composed by the Climate whose ayre, and influence they receive, it seemes naturall, that



to our *North-West* parts of the World, no people should be more averse, and strange of behaviour, then those of the *South-East*: Moreover, those parts being now possess'd by the *Turkes*, who are the only moderne people, great in action, and whose Empire hath so suddenly invaded the World, and fixt it selfe such firme foundations as no other ever did; I was of opinion, that he who would behold these times in their greatest glory, could not finde a better *Scene* then *Turky*: these considerations sent me thither; where my generall purpose gave me foure particular cares: First, to observe the Religion, Manners, and Policie of the *Turkes*, not perfectly, (which were a taske for an inhabitant rather then a passenger,) but so farre forth, as might satisfie this scruple, (to wit) whether to an unpartiall conceit, the *Turkish* way appeare absolutely barbarous, as we are given to understand, or rather an other kinde of civilitie, different from ours, but no lesse pretending: Secondly, in some measure, to acquaint my selfe with those other sects which live under the *Turkes*, as *Greekes*, *Armenians*, *Freinks*, and *Zinganaes*, but especially the *Iewes*; a race from all others so averse both in nature and institution, as glorying to single it selfe out of the rest of mankind, remains obstinate, contemptible, and famous: Thirdly, to see the *Turkish* Army, then going against *Poland*, and therein to note, whether their discipline *Military* encline to ours, or else be of a new mould, though not without some touch, from the countries they have subdued; and whether it be of a frame apt to confront the Christians, or not: The last and choice piece of my intent, was to view



*Gran Cairo*, and that for two causes; first, it being clearely the greatest concourse of Mankinde in these times, and perhaps that ever was; there must needs be some proportionable spirit in the Government: for such vaste multitudes, and those of wits so deeply malicious, would soone breed confusion, famine, and utter desolation, if in the *Turkish* domination there were nothing but sottish sensualitie, as most *Christians* conceive: Lastly, because *Egypt* is held to have beene the fountaine of all *Science*, and *Arts civill*, therefore I did hope to finde some sparke of those cinders not yet put out; or else in the extreme contrarietie, I should receive an impression as important, from the ocular view of so great a revolution; for above all other senses, the eye having the most immediate, and quicke commerce with the soule, gives it a more smart touch then the rest, leaving in the *fancy* somewhat unutterable; so that an eye witnesse of things conceives them with an *imagination* more compleat, strong, and intuitive, then he can either apprehend, or deliver by way of relation; for relations are not only in great part false, out of the relaters mis-information, vanitie, or interest; but which is unavoidable, their choice, and frame agrees more naturally with his judgement, whose issue they are, then with his readers; so as the reader is like one feasted with dishes fitter for another mans stomacke, then his owne: but a traveller takes with his eye, and eare, only such *occurrences* into observation, as his owne apprehension affects, and through that *sympathy*, can digest them into an experience more naturall for himselfe, then he could have done the notes of ano-



ther: Wherefore I desiring somewhat to informe my selfe of the *Turkish* Nation, would not sit downe with a booke knowledge thereof, but rather (through all the hazard and endurance of travell,) receive it from mine owne eye not dazled with any affection, prejudicacy, or mist of education, which preoccupate the minde, and delude it with partiall *ideas*, as with a false glasse, representing the *object* in colours, and proportions untrue: for the just censure of things is to be drawn from their *end* whereto they are aymed, without requiring them to our customes, and ordinances, or other impertinent respects, which they acknowledge not for their touch-stone: wherefore hee who passes through the severall educations of men, must not try them by his owne, but weyning his mind from all former habice of *opinion*, should as it were putting off the old man, come fresh and sincere to consider them: This preparation was the cause, why the superstition, policie, entertainments, diet, lodging, and other manners of the *Turkes*, never provoked me so farre, as usually they doe those who catechize the world by their owne home; and this also barres these observations from appearing beyond my owne closet, for to a minde possesst with any set doctrine, their unconformitie must needs make them seeme unsound, and extravagant, nor can they comply to a rule, by which they were not made. Neverthelesse considering that *experience* forgotten is as if it never had beene, and knowing how much I ventured for it, as little as it is, I could not but esteeme it worth retaining in my owne memory, though ~~not~~ transferring to others: hereupon I have  
in



in these lines registred to my selfe, whatsoever most tooke me in my journey from *Venice* into *Turky*.

First, I agreed with a *Ianizary* at *Venice*, to find me Dyet, Horse, Coach, Passage, and all other usuall charges, as farre as *Constantinople*: Then upon the seventh of *May*, 1634. I embark'd on a *Venetian Gally* with a *Caravan* of *Turkes*, and *Iewes* bound for the *Levant*, not having any *Christian* with them besides my selfe: this occasion was right to my purpose; for the familiaritie of bed, board, and passage together, is more opportune to disclose the customes of men, then a much longer habitation in Cities, where societie is not so linkt, and behaviour more personate, then in travell, whose common sufferings endear men, laying them open, and obnoxious to one another: The not having any other *Christian* in the *Caravan* gave mee two notable advantages: First, that no other mans errors could draw either hatred, or engagement upon me; then I had a freedom of complying upon occasion of questions by them made; whereby I became all things to all men, which let me into the breasts of many.

The *Gally* lying that day, and night in Port at *Lio*, set Sayle the next morne, and in 24. houres, arrived at *Rovinio* a *Venetian* Citie in *Istria*: it stands in a creeke of the *Adriatique*, upon a hill promontory which hath two thirds washed by the *Sea*; the *South-East* side joyned to the Continent; the soyle rocky, and barren, as all that side along the *Gulfe*; it is an hundred miles from *Venice*, and therefore being so farre within the *Gulf*, is not fortified as against much danger, yet hath it a pretty wall, and fortresse with a small Garrison:  
from



from thence we came to *Zara*: this Citie stands in *Dalmatia*, and of all others within the Gulf, is by reason of the situation, most apt to command the whole *Adriatique*, and therefore has formerly beene attempted by the *Turke*; wherefore the *Venetians* have fortified it extraordinarily, and now though in times of firme peace, keepe it with strong companies both of Horse, and Foot: The *Generall* of the Horse came in another *Gally* with us, he was first welcomed with a volley of great, and small shot from the walles; then by three Nobles therein severall Offices commanding, he was accompanied to the *Townehall*, where his brieve Patent once read, he had the Staffe, and Precedency of his predeceffour: after a dayes view of this place, we Sayled to *Spalatro* a City of *Sclavonia*, kept by the *Venetians* as their onely *Emporium* plyed successively with two *Gallies*, which carry betweene *Venice*, and that place, such merchandize as are transported into *Turky*, or from thence brought in: it stands in a most pleasant valley on the *South-side* of great mountaines: in the wall toward the Sea, appears a great remainder of a gallery in *Dioclesian* his Palace; *Southward* of the towne is the Sea which makes an open Port capable of ten, or twelue *Gallies*; without is an unsecure Bay for great Ships, at the entrance above halfe a mile broad; yet not so renowned for the skill of *Octavius*, who chained it up, when he besieged *Salona*, as for the fierce resolution of *Vulteius*, and his company there taken: in this Towne the *Venetians* allow the great *Turke* to take custome of the *Merchandize*; whereupon there resides his *Emir* or *Treasurer* who payes him thirtie five thousand *Dollars* a yeare



yeare, as himselfe, and others told me : there are high walles, and strong companyes to guard this City; yet I heard their chiefe safety to be in, having so un-usell, and small an *Haven*, wherefore the *Turke* esteemes *Spalatro* in effect, but as a land towne, nor so much worth as his present custome, and so covets it not like *Sara*, for if he did, he has a terrible advantage upon it, having taken from the *Venetians* *Clyssi*, not above fower miles off; which is the strongest land fortresse that I ever beheld.

At *Spalatro* having stayd three dayes, our *Caravan* was furnished with horses; the first journey we began about Sunset our lodging two miles of we pitch'd upon a little hill, growne over with *Iuniper*, once the seat of *Salona* a city famous, for their bravery against *Octavius*; there is not now so much as a ruine left, excepting a poore piece of *Dioclesians* aqueduct: Hence wee passed the Hilles of *Dogliana* far higher then the *Alpes*, and so steep, as in our descent for three dayes together, it was a great precipice, then that halfe day his comming downe from Mount *Cenis*, into *Piemont*; having for the most part, rode thus nine dayes, wee came into a spacious, and frutefull playne, which at the *West*, where wee entred, at least ten miles over, is on the *North*, and *South* sides immured with ridges of easy, and pleasant hilles, still by degrees, streightning the playne, till after six or seven miles riding, it growes not above a mile broade: there found wee the City *Saraih*, which extendes from the one side, to the other, and takes up part of both *Ascents*; at the *East* end standes a castle upon a steepe rocke commanding the *Towne*, and passage

B Eastward:



*East-ward*: This is the *Metropolis* of the kingdome of *Bosnah*: it is but meanelly built, and not great, reckoning about fourescore *Mescheeto*es, and twentie thousand houses.

In my three dayes aboade, the most notable things I found, was the goodnesse of the water, and vaste, almost *gyant-like* stature of the men, which with their bordring upon *Germany*, made me suppose them to be the off-spring of those old *Germans* noted by *Cæsar*, and *Tacitus* for their huge size, which in other places, is now degenerate into the ordinary proportions of men: Hence at our departure, we went along with the *Bashaw* of *Bosnah* his troopes going for the warre of *Poland*; they were of *Horse*; and foot betweene sixe or seven thousand, but went scattering: the *Bashaw* not yet in person, and the taking leave of their friends, Spirited many with drinke, discontent, and insolency; which made them fitter company for the *Divell*, then for a *Christian*: my selfe after many launces, and knives threatned upon me, was invaded by a drunken *Ianizary*, whose iron Mace entangled in his other furniture gave me time to flee among the Rocks, whereby I escap'd untoucht: Thus marcht we ten dayes through a hilly country, cold, not inhabited, and in a manner a continued Wood, most of *Pine* trees: at length we reached *Valliovah*, a pretty little Towne upon the confines of *Hungary*, where the Campe staying some dayes, we left them behind, and being to passe a Wood neere the *Christian* countrey, doubting it to be (as confines are) full of Thieves, we divided our *Caravan* of sixscore *Horse* in two parts; halfe with the Persons, and  
Goods:



Goods of lest esteeme, we sent a day before the rest, that so the thieves having a bootie, might be gone before we came; which hapned accordingly; they were robbed; one thiefe, and two of ours slaine; some hundred *dollars* worth of goods lost: The next day we passed, and found sixteene thieves, in a narrow passage, before whom, we set a good guard of *Harquebuze*, and *Pistols*, till the weaker sort passed by: so in three dayes, we came safe to *Belgrada*.

This Citie anciently called *Taurunum*, or *Alba Graeca* was the *Metropolis* of *Hungary* till wonne by *Sultan Solymán* the second, in the yeare 1525. it is one of the most pleasant, stately, and commodious situations that I have seene: it stands most in a bottome encompassed *East-ward*, by gentle and pleasant ascents, employed in Orchards, or Vines *South-ward* is an easie hill, part possest with buildings, the rest a burying place of well-nigh three miles in compasse, so full of graves as one can be by another: the *West End* yeilds a right magnificent aspect, by reason of an eminency of land jetting out further then the rest, and bearing a goodly strong *Castle* whoses walles are two miles about, excellently fortified with a dry ditch, and out-works: this *Castle* on the *West* side is washed, by the great River *Sava*, which on the North of the Citie, looses it selfe in the *Danubius*, of old called *Ister* now *Duny*, and is held the greatest River in the world, deepe and dangerous for Navigation, runnes *East-ward*, into the *Euxine* or *blacke Sea*, in its passage receiving fiftie and odde Rivers, most of them navigable: two rarities I was told of this river, and with my owne experience, found true:



one was that at mid-day, and mid-night, the streame runnes slower by much then at other times; this they finde by the noyse of those Boat-milles, whereof there are about twentie, like those upon the *Rhoane* at *Lyons*: their clackers beate much slower, at those times then else, which argues like difference in the motion of the wheele, and by consequence of the streame; the cause is neither any *reflux*, nor stop of current by *wind* or otherwise, for there is no encrease of water observed: The other wonder is that where those two great *currents* meete, their waters mingle no more then water, and oyle; not that either floats above other, but joyne unmixed, so that neere the middle of the river, I have gone in a Boat, and tasted of the *Dannby* as cleare, and pure as a well, then putting my hand not an inch further, I have taken of the *Sava* as troubled as a streete channell, tasting the gravell in my teeth; yet did it not tast *unctious*, as I expected, but hath some other secret ground of the *antipathy* which though not easily found out, is very effectually; for they run thus threescore miles together, and for a dayes journey, I have beene an eye witnesse thereof,

The *Castle* is excellently furnished with Artillery, and at the entrance, there stands an *Arsenall* with some 40. or 50. faire *Brasse* peeces, most bearing the *Armes*, and inscription of *Ferdinand* the Emperour: that which to me seemed strangest in this *Castle*, (for I had free libertie to pry up, and downe) was a round Tower, called the *Zindana*, a crueltie not by them devised, and seldome practised, it is like old *Rome's Gemonie*; the Tower is large, and round; but within severed



severed into many squares of long beames, let on end about foure foot a sunder; each beame was stuck frequent with great flesh-hooks, the person condemned was naked let fall amongst those hooks, which gave him a quicke, or lasting misery, as he chanc'd to light: then at the bottome, the river is let in by *grates*, whereby all putrifaction was washt away: Within this great *Castle*, is another little one, with works of its owne; I had like to have miscarried, with approaching the *entrance*, but the rude noise, and worse looks of the *Guard*, gave me a timely apprehension with sudden passage, and humiliation to sweeten them, and get off: for as I after learnt, there is kept great part of the *Gran Signior* his treasure, to be ready when he warres on that side the *Empire*; it is death for any *Turke*, or *Christian* to enter; and the *Captaine* is never to goe forth without particular licence from the *Emperour*: Here the *Basha* of *Temesuar* joyning the people of *Buda*, and his owne, with those of *Belgrado*, and *Bosnah*, they were held incamped on the *South-side* of the *Towne*, yet not so severely, but the *Spahyes*, *Ianizaries*, and *Venturiers*, had leave to go before to the generall *Rendivouz*, as they pleased, though most of them stay'd to attend the *Bashas*; they there expected *Murath Basha*; he five dayes after our arrivall, came in with few Foot, but foure thousand Horse, of the *Spahy Timariots*; such brave Horses, and Men so dextrous in the use of the *Launce* I had not seene: then was made publique Proclamation to hang all such *Ianizaries*, as should be found behind these Forces: with them the next day we set forward for *Sophya*, which in twelve dayes



we reacht; The *Bashaes* did not goe all in company, but setting forth about an houre, one after another, drew out their troopes in length, without confusion; not in much exact order of *File* and *Ranke*, as neere no enemy: in this and our former March, I much admired, that we had a *Caravan* loaded with *Clothes*, *Silkes*, *Tissues*, and other rich commodities, were so safe, not only in the maine Army, but in stragling troopes, amongst whom we often wandred by reason of recovering the *Jewes Sabbath*; but I found the cause to be the crueltie of *Iustice*; for thieves upon the way are empaled without delay, or mercy; and there was a *Saniacke* with two hundred Horse, who did nothing but coast up, and downe the countrey, and every man who could not give a faire account of his being where he found him, was presently strangled, though not knowne to have offended: for their *justice* although not so rash as we suppose, yet will rather cut off two *innocent* men, then let one *offender* escape; for in the execution of an innocent, they thinke if hee be held guiltie, the *example* works as well as if he were guiltie indeed; and where a constant deniall makes the *fact* doubted, in that execution, the resentment so violent terrifies the more; therefore to prevent disorders sometimes, in the beginnings of warre, *colourable* punishments are used, where *just* ones want: this speedy and remorselesse severity makes that when their great Armies lye about any *Towne*, or *passe*, no man is endamaged, or troubled to secure his goods; in which respect, it pretends more effect upon a bad age then our *Christian compassion*, which is so easily abused, as we cannot raise

two,



two, or three *Companies* of Souldiers, but they pilfer, and rifle wheresoever they passe: wherein the want of crueltie upon *delinquents* causes much more oppression of the *Innocent*, which is the greatest crueltie of all: yet without their Army, there want not scandals; for in the way, we passed by a *Palanga*, which is a Village fortified with mud walles against Thieves; where we found a small *Caravan* to have beene assaulted the day before, and divers remaining fore wounded: for through all *Turky*, especially in places *desert* there are many *Mountainers*, or *Outlawes*, like the wild *Irish*, who live upon spoyle, and are not held members of the State, but enemies, and used accordingly: In all our march, though I could not perceive much *discipline* as not neere an adverse partie; yet I wondred to see such a multitude so cleare of *confusion*, *violence*, *want*, *sicknesse*, or any other *disorder*; and though we were almost three-score thousand, and sometimes found not a towne in 7. or 8. dayes; yet was there such plentie of good *Bisket*, *Rice*, and *Mutton*, as wheresoever I passed up, and downe to view the *Spahyes*, and others in their tents, they would often make me sit, and eate with them very plentifull, and well: The severall *Courts* of the *Bashas* were served in great state; each of them having three or fourescore *Camels*, besides fixe or seven score *Carts*, to carry the *Baggage*: and vwhen the *Basha* himselfe tooke Horse, hee had five or fixe *Coaches*, covered vvith *Cloth of Gold*, or rich *tapestry*, to carry his vvives; some had vvith them *twelve* or *sixteene*; the least *ten*, vvho vvhen they entred the *Coach*, there were men set on each side, holding up a  
rovve



rowe of *tapestry*, to cover them from being seene by the people, although they were after the *Turkish* manner muffled that nothing but the eye could appeare: beside these wives, each *Basha* hath as many, or likely more *Catamites*, which are their serious loves; for their Wives are used (as the *Turkes* themselves told me) but to dresse their meat, to *Laundresse*, and for reputation; The Boyes likely of twelue, or fourteene yeares old, some of them not above nine, or ten, are usually clad in *Velvet*, or *Scarlet*, with guilt *Scymitars*, and bravely mounted, with *sumptuous furniture*; to each of them a Souldier appointed, who walkes by his bridle, for his safetie: when they are all in order, there is excellent *Sherbets* given to any who will drinke; then the *Basha* takes Horse, before whom ride a doozen, or more, who with ugly Drums, brasse Dishes, and wind instruments, noyse along most part of the Iourney: before all, there goe Officers, who pitch his Tent, where he shall dine or lodge: when meate is served up, especially at night, all the people give three great Shoutes: These are the chiefe ceremonies I remember.

That which secured, and emboldned my enquiry, and passage these twelue dayes March, was an accident the first night; which was thus: the *Campe* being pitch'd on the Shoare of *Danubius*, I went, (but timorously) to view the Service about *Murath Bashaes* Court, where one of his favorite Boyes espying mee to be a Stranger, gave mee a Cup of *Sherbet*; I in thanks, and to make friends in Court, presented him with a Pocket *Looking Glasse*, in a little *Ivory* Case, with a *Combe*; such as are sold at *Westminster-hall* for  
foure



four or five shillings a piece: The youth much taken therewith, ran, and shewed it to the *Bashaw*, who presently sent for me, and making me sit, and drinke *Cauphe* in his presence, called for one that spake *Italian*; then demanding of my *condition, purpose, country*, and many other particulars, it was my fortune to hit his humour so right, as at last, he asked if my Law did permit me to serve under them going against the *Polacke* who is a *Christian*; promising with his hand upon his breast, that if I would, I should be inrolled of his Companies, furnished with a good Horse, and of other necessaries be provided with the rest of his Household; I humbly thanked him, for his favour, and told him that to an *Englishman* it was lawfull to serve under any who were in League with our *King*, and that our *King* had not only a League with the *Gran Signior*, but continually held an *Embassadour* at his Court, esteeming him the greatest *Monarch* in the *World*: so that my Service there, especially if I behaved my selfe not unworthy of my *Nation*, would be exceedingly well received in *England*; and the *Polacke*, though in name a *Christian*, yet of a *Sect*, which for *Idolatry*, and many other points, we much abhorred; wherefore the *English* had of late, helpt the *Muscovite* against him, and would be forwarder under the *Turkes*, whom we not only honored for their glorious actions in the world; but also loved, for the kinde *Commerce of Trade* which we finde amongst them: But as for my present engagement to the warre, with much sorrow, I acknowledged my incapacitie, by reason I wanted *language*; which would not only render me incapable

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*Commands*, and so *unserviceable*, but also endanger me in *tumults*, where I appearing a Stranger, and not able to expresse my affection, might be mistaken, and used accordingly; wherefore I humbly entreated his Highnesse leave to follow my poore affaires, with an eternall *oblige* to *Blazon* this honourable favour wheresoever I came: He forthwith bade me doe as liked me best; wherewith I tooke my leave, but had much confidence in his favour, and went often to observe his Court. In this journey we passed through a pretty little towne, called *Nisse*; where we stayed while the *Jewes* kept their *Sabbath*: here a little before night, Wine having posselt a *Ianizary*, and one other *Turke*, who rode in my Coach, they fell out with two countrey fellowes, and by violence tooke an Axe from one of them, not to rob him, but for present use thereof, which being done, I gave him his Axe againe, as not willing in that place, to have so much as the beholders part in a quarrell: These fellowes dogg'd us: the *Ianizary* they missed, but at mid-night came to our Coach where we slept, and opened the cover; whereat I speaking in *Italian*, they knew me; wherefore leaving mee, they drew the *Turke* by necke, and shoulders, and gave him two blowes with *Scymitars*, one over the arme, the other upon the head, in such sort as we left him behind in great danger of death: they fled, I was found there all bloody, and so taken, had surely the next day beene executed, but that within lesse then halfe an houre, the hurt person comming to his senses, cleared me, telling how it came, and by whom.

Thus in twelue dayes, we came to *Sophya*, the chiefe



chiefe Citie (after the *Turkish* division) of *Bulgary*, but according to the other *Geography*, it stands in *Macedonia*, upon the confines of *Thessaly*; nor hath it yet lost the old *Grecian* civility, for of all the *Cities* I ever passed either in *Christendome*, or without, I never saw any where a stranger is lesse troubled either with *affronts*, or *gaping*: it stands almost in the midst of a long, and fruitfull valley; on the *North-side* about foure miles distant, runnes a ridge of low hils; *South-ward* three miles of stands an high, and steepe mountaine, where Snow appeares all the yeare: the *Jewes* and *Christians* have here the doores of their houses little above three foot high, which they told me was, that, the *Turkes* might not bring in their Horses, who else would use them for Stables in their travell; which I noted for a signe of greater slavery then in other places.

Here is the Seat of the *Beglerbeg* or *Viceroy* of all *Greece*, by the *Turkes* called *Rumely*; with many brave *Mescheeto*s, especially the great one in the middle of the *Towne*, and another on the *South-side*, with a magnificent *Colledge*: it hath many stately *Hanes* or *Kirevanserahes*, and exquisite *Bathes*, the principall hath a hot Fountaine: Here the businesse of our *Caravan* ended, nor had my *Ianizary* much desire to take any of new; for he naturally having more of the *Merchant* in him, then of the *Souldier*, would not goe further for feare of being forced to the warre; wherefore he staid twentie dayes at *Sophya*, till the Campe was removed, and the *Grana Signior* returned to *Constantinople*; Thus I neither saw the *Emperours* Person, nor the maine body of the *Army*; only

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herein was my successe short: as soone as the *Ianizary* thought the coast cleare, we went foure *Coaches* in three dayes to *Potarzeeke*: the passage is famous for *Antiquities*: sixteene, or eighteene iniles *East-ward* of *Sophya*, we past over the Hill *Rhodope* where *Orpheus* lamented his *Euridice*: it hath divers inequalities of ground, none very steepe, all covered with Low Woods, now watched with divers, who by reason of the frequent robberies there committed, doe by little *Drums*, give the inhabitants warning of all suspicious passengers: in the lowest of those descents runnes a little Brooke, of which I conjectured, and a learned *Iew*, (to whom I owe most of my information), confirmed, that the old *Poets* had made the River *Strymon*, where the disconsolate *Orpheus* was torne in pieces by the *Thracian Dames*; for that place hath ever beene uncertainly reckoned; to *Macedonia*, *Thrace*, and *Theßaly*.

At last we came to an high, and large mountaine, of a dayes journey over; the *Iew* held it to be the *Thermopylae*; a place as stoutly contested for of old, as now the *Valtoline* with us; herewith he told me that *Easterne* custome of wearing *Turbants* came from thence; and that how once the *Barbarous* people having the *Grecian Army* at a great advantage, there was no other remedy, but that some few should make good that narrow passage, while the maine of the Army might escape away; there were brave Spirits who undertooke it; and knowing they went to an unevitable death, they had care of nothing but *Sepulture*, which of old was much regarded; wherefore each of them carryed his winding sheete



sheete wrapt about his head, and then with losse of their owne lives saved their fellowes: whereupon for an honourable memoriall of that exploit, the *Levantine*s used to wrap *white linnen* about their heads, and the *fashion* so derived upon the *Turke*.

This may be the Story of *Leonidas* with his three hundred *Spartanes*, but corrupted by time, and tradition: when I had considered the passage, it seemed capable of his relation; and this might well be the *Thermopyle*, if they were so neere the *Philippick* Fields; for beside his confession; the tradition of divers there inhabiting, and all concordance of Stories assure us, that the *Champaigne* betweene this *Mountaine* and *Philippopolis*, of above fortie or fifty miles long, was from that Citie built by *Philip*, called *Campi Philippici*, famous for the *Roman* civill warres, there decided in two Battels; the first betweene *Cesar*, and *Pompey*; The other betweene *Augustus* and *Marke Antony*, against *Brutus* and *Cassius*: the Plaine, but that it is a Valley, much resembles our Downes of *Marleborough*, where the *Saxons* as it is thought had a great Battell: for just in that manner, there yet remained the heapes where the slaine were buried, and good part of the Trenches: the two Battels were fought fixteene or eighteene miles asunder, as appears by the *Sepulchers*, and the *Trenches*; *Cesars* was next the Hill; the other neerer *Philippopolis*: which for want of other authoritie, I conjectured thus; First, in *Cesars* Battell there dyed but fifteene thousand, two hundred; in the other almost twice as many; this proportion is made good in the heaps, those toward *Philippopoli* being greater, and much



more in number then the other: then *Cæsar* Writes that after *Pompey*, and the maine of his Army was fled, a residue not yet disperst retired to a hill fixe miles of, which had a River runne under it; This squares right with a hill on the *South-side* of *Potarzeeke*, a little Towne betweene the two *Campes*, and where my two dayes abode, gave me leasure to reade *Cæsar* his Commentary thereon, which on purpose I carryed to conferre upon the Place, for the better impression: This *Potarzeeke* had it not beene remarkable for the place, was not worth mention; for it is but a small Towne reckoning not above foure thousand houses, but is very pleasant with hilles, and a River *South-ward*.

Hence we passed *East-ward*, through the rest of the Plaine along the Monuments of *Brutus*, and *Cassius* his defeature: the *Tumuli* are many, some great, some small, more or lesse close together, as the slaughter hapned, and reach at least eight or nine miles in length, extending as it seemes the flight did, towards *Philippopolis*, now in *Turkish* called *Philibee*, where in two dayes we arrived.

A little before the *Citie*, on the *North-side*, wee saw the *Gran Signior* his Stable of *Camels*, where is *Place*, and *Order* for five thousand *Camels*, which carry his provision when he Warres on this side his Empire; and then the generall *Rendivouz* uses to be in these *Philippick* Fields, now termed the Plaine of *Potarzeeke*, through which also runnes the River *Mariffa*, in some places called *Hebrus*, shallow but very broad: over this River at the North entry of *Philibee*, is a vaste Woodden Bridge, more then a quarter  
of



of a mile long; Through the middest of this *Citie*, from *North* to *South*, runnes a ridge of rocky hilles, partly taken up with buildings; the rest with Sepulchres, among which I found a little *Greeke Chappell*, built in the old *Gentilisme*; as a *Greeke* told me, and it appeares also by the round forme, with equall division of *Altars*; there remaines nothing remarkable: After five dayes stay, we went foure dayes journey through many pretty Townes of *Thrace*, till we came to the chiefe *Citie* thereof, and one of the principall in all *Turky*: This is *Andrinople* in *Turkish* *Heidriance*, of *Hadrian*, who repaired it: originally it was styled *Oreste* from its Founder; for as the *Greekes* there pretend, it was built by *Orestes* Sonne to *Agamemnon*: Vntill the conquest of *Constantinople*, it was the *Turkes* Emperiall Seat: *North-East North*, and *North-West*, lye certaine Low and easie hilles, amongst which glides the little River *Tuny*, from the *North-side*, of the *Citie* to the *West*, where meeting a branch of the *Marissa*, it passes a mile or more *South-East*, where joyning with the other branch, it runs stately through the adjoyning *Plaine*, on which *Zerxes* first Mustered his vaste Army, when he had passed the *Hellepont*.

This *Citie* among divers other names, hath beene called *Trimontium*, because it stands upon three little hilles, or rather one low Hill, with three eminencies; the middest is the highest, and largest, upon the top whereof, as the crowne, and glory of the other buildings, stands a stately *Mescheeto* built by *Sultan Solymán* the Second, with foure high, and curious *Spyes*, at each corner one, as the manner of *Turky* is;  
not



not upon the *Church* like our *Steeple*s, but from the *Ground*; each of them hath three rounds on the outside, for the *Priests* walke, and at the top a great *Globe*, and *halfe-moone* of *Gold*: The Body of the *Meskeeto* like those of *Constantinople* (though farre more curious) is at the bottome *quadrangular*, having foure *Stories* in heighth; the two uppermost so contracted, as that division which quarters the two lowest into foure *angles* a piece, casts each of them into eight; at either *angle* of the upper story is a great round *Pyramide*: they support the rooffe, in forme round, and eminent, all covered with *Lead*, upon the top whereof is set a *globe of Gold*, whereon stand a *golden pillar*, and an *halfe-moone*: at the bottome of this building are made ten *conduits* with *Cocks*, on the *North-side*, and as many on the *South*, for people to wash before *Divine-Service*; to which use also on the *West-side*, in the *Church-yard* are thirty, or fortie *Cocks* under a fountaine so *sumptuous*, as excepting one at *Palermo*, I have not seene a better in *Christendome*; on the *East-side* are the chiefe *Priests* lodgings, and garden; round the *Church-yard* are *Cloysters*, *Bathes*, a *Colledge* with lodging for *Priests*, and other necessary *Offices*, all covered with large round *Tunnells* of *Lead*: This *edifice* is not great, but of structure so *neate*, and that so advantaged by *scituation*, as renders it not only stately, and magnificent, but with such a *delicacy* as I have not seene in any other place, no not in *Italy*: Beside this *Meskeeto*, there is another brave one with foure *Spyres*, built by *Sultan Selym*, and many other of two a piece, with faire *Colledges*, *Cloysters*, and *Bathes*, equall to the *Mona-*  
*steries*



*series* of any one *Citie* in *Christendome*, for qualitie, though not in number: it hath also many faire *Hanes*, all covered in like manner; so likewise are their *Bessesteins*, or *Exchanges*, whereof it hath foure or five, some not much inferiour to ours in *London*, especially one, which I guessed halfe a mile in length, and richly furnisht with Wares: the chiefe *Bridges* are foure, vaste, and high, all of Stone: from the *South-bridge* is the best view of the *Citie*, where it makes a gallant shew. There yet remaine the walles of the *old Towne*, which now containe the fourth, and worst part, inhabited by *Zinganaes*, *Christians*, *Iewes*, and others esteemed as refuse people: A little without the *Citie North-ward*, stands the *Gran Signior* his *Serraglio*, with a Parke walled, some three miles compasse: The *Palace* is very low, all covered with *Lead* rising up for a flat, into a sharpe round, and seemes but like a *Garden-house* for pleasure: it is kept by his *Agemoglans*, to entertaine, not only the *Gran Signior* but in his absence, any *Bashae*, or other principall minister.

After ten dayes stay at *Andrinople*, we rode up and downe as businesse required, to *Burgaz*, *Churlo*, and divers other pretty Townes, all of them adorned with daintie *Meskeetoes*, *Colledges*, *Hospitals*, *Hanes*, and *Bridges*: for it is in *Turky* as in other Kingdomes; the neerer to the *Imperiall Citie*, the more stately is the countrey inhabited: having thus travelled fixe dayes, we came to *Selibree*, of old *Selymbria*; no great Towne, but bigger then the rest, and very ancient; the old *Castle* and walles not quite demolished: It stands upon the *South-end* of a long,

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but low hill : the other three points are encompassed by *Sea*, with a rocky, and unsafe Port ; from whence on the other side of the *Bay*, you may discern a round Hill, upon which remaine some ruines of the old Citie *Heraclea* : Here we stayed two dayes, then with some diversion, in three more, we reacht *Constantinople* : Thus had we made from *Spalatro* fiftie two dayes journey, and as many in severall abodes ; ever lodging upon the ground, for the most part, in open Fields ; and passing by land *fifteene* hundreth miles *English* ; not in the direct way, for that had beene shorter, but as led by the businesse of the *Iemes*, who were Patrons of the *Caravan* : *Constantinople* by the *Turkes* called *Stambole*, (which as they told me signifies *faith*, and *plentie*) hath an uncertaine originall : is famous for its ruine under the Emperour *Severus*, and its reparation by *Constantine* : Other times it hath beene sackt, but finally *Ann. 1453.* lost by another *Constantine*, as the former sonne to another *Hellen* : in this losse it may be said to gaine ; for it is since at an higher glory, then it had before, being made Head of a farre greater *Empire* : of old it was ever baited, by the *Thracians* on the one side, and *Grecians* on the other ; but now it commands over both : I stayed here but five dayes, wherefore I had not leisure for much observation : in this hast, I put my thoughts upon two points ; First, to view the chiefe *publique sights*, then to consider the judgement of those ancient *Emperors*, who so often thought of transferring the Seat of the *Empire* from *Rome*, thither : for the first ; the *Emperours* Person I could not see, who was then at *Scutari* which is as it were  
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part of *Constantinople*, though severed by the mouth of the blacke Sea a mile over: The *Seraglio* I saw as farre as Strangers use, having accessse into the second Court: The building low, and outwardly but meane; with a low *Cloyster* of many small *pillars*: the inside I saw not; but an infinite swarme of *Officers*, and *Attendants* I found, with a *silence*, and *reverence*, so wonderfull, as shew'd in what awe they stand of their *Soveraigne*: A stones cast from the outermost entrance stands that famous old Church *Sancta Sophya*; thence went I to see the other *Meskeetoes* that of *Mahomet* the Second, who wonne the *Towne*; that of *Achmat* which is the most splendid of all; into that of *Sultan Solyman* I went to view it throughout, but found it no way equall to his other at *Andrinople*, which in my eye is much more Magnificent, then any of those at *Constantinople*: Then saw I the *Egyptian Obelisk*, the *Brazen pillar* of three *Snakes*, the *aqueduct*, and many other things, with that horrid gap made by fire, *Ann. 1633.* where they report seventie thousand houses to have perished: The other, and chiefe part of my *contemplation*, consisted in the *situation*; which of all places, that I ever beheld, is the most apt, to command the world; for by land it hath immediate commerce with *Greece*, *Thrace* and from *Scutari* with *Asia*: By Sea the *Pontus* or blacke Sea, and the *Marmora* or *Hellepont*, not only furnish it with infinite store of Fish in Port; but readily carry their commodities abroad, and bring others home; and which is above all, the mouthes of both those Seas are so narrow as no passage can be forced against the *Castles*; so as for *strength*, *plentie*,



and *commoditie*, no place can equall it: Then it stands almost in the middle of the World, and thereby capable of performing commands over many Countreyes, without any great prejudice of distance; the want whereof caused that the authoritie of *Rome*, could never reach the *Parthians*, and hardly *Germany*, and raised that, that *maxime* left by *Augustus* -- *coercedos Imperii terminos*: for hee who considers the sudden accidents of *State*, with the difficulties of remote *Forces*, and other *dispatches*, must needs acknowledge the necessitie of (as it were) a *Mathematicall* correspondence from the *Center*, to the *Circumference*; this perhaps the *Crown* of *Spaine* finds too true; whose greatnesse could not else in the skirts of its *Empire*, receive such blowes, from such *pettie* enemies as it does. In that I observed no more of so great a *Citie*, I doe not much accuse my selfe; for the chiefe time I had to view, was my first two dayes, when I lodged with the *Turkes*, in the *Hane* of *Mehemet Basha*; afterward I shifted into *Christian* habit, and went over to *Galata*, where I was very courteously entertained in the house of an *English Gentleman*, to whom I was recommended; Next after I had kissed the hands of the right Honourable, *Sir Peter Weych Lord Embassadour* for His *Majesty of England*, I tooke an instant opportunitie of passage for *Egypt*, upon the *Blacke Seas Fleet*, which three dayes after departed for *Alexandria*: here I found the company of a *French Gentleman*, and a *Flemish*; we embarked upon the *Admirall Galeon*, hyring to our selves the *Gunnerys Roome*, of the Masters thereof, who were two *Renegadoes* that spake good *Italian*; strait wee set  
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Sayle forth of the *Marmora*, downe the *Helleſpont* in all 86. Veffels, in two dayes arrived at *Gallippoly*, ſo named of the *French*, whoſe fury hath many old *Monuments* in the *Levant*; here wee lay at Anchor that night, ſtaying for ſome *Commiſſions* which were to come after, or as I rather conjectured, for newes of the *Rhodian Gallies*, which the next day met us a little below the *Caſtles*, to be our Convoy againſt *Pyracy*, or *Chriſtians*: Some thirtie miles beneath *Gallippoly* is the ſtreighteſt paſſage of the *Helleſpont*, not above halfe a mile broad; a place formerly famous for *Zerxes* his Bridge, but much more glorious in the loves of *Hero*, and *Leander*: Theſe *Caſtles* called the *Dardanelli*, command the paſſage, and are the ſecuritie of *Conſtantinople* on that ſide: That upon *Europe* anciently *Seſtos*, is made with two Towers, one within the other; the inmoſt higheſt, by reaſon of the riſing ground uponwhich they ſtand, each bearing the forme of three *Semi-circles*, with the out-wall *Triangular*: The other upon the *Aſian Shoare*, is farre ſtronger, ſtanding on the Marſh levell; it is of forme ſquare with foure round *Turrets*, at each corner one; in the middle before ſtands an high ſquare *Tower* commanding over all: This formerly was named *Abydos*, not that the buildings remaine the ſame, but often reedified in the ſame place: we paſſed ſo leiſurely as gave me time to note the *Artillery*, which I found thin aloft, but plentifull at the botome upon the ground, looking out at ſeverall holes made in the foundation of the walles, which ſtriking in a levell, hits a Ship betweene wind and water, and is a plantation much more effectuell then that above.



About some fortie miles Sayle forth of that streight, on the *Asian side*, we reacht *Cape Ianizar*, anciently *Promontorium Sigaum*, where *Troy* stood, of which nothing remaines to be seene, but a piece of an old wall some fortie or fiftie paces long, hard by the Sea, and therefore said by *Virgil* to have beene built by *Neptune*: So hath that famed Towne now put on *immortalitie*, having no *existence*, but in *Poetry*: whose fictions by complying with the fancy of man, uphold themselves beyond the *Realitie* of their *Subject*: Beside the conceit of such a *ruine*, I tooke care to consider the judgement of *Antiquitie*, in the *Scituation*; which I finde not to have beene extraordinary, either for *pleasure*, *commoditie*, or *strength*: The *Promontory* makes an *angle* which hath two sides encompassed by *Sea*; from *South-west* to *West*, with a compasse turning from *West* to *North*; on the other side lyes a barren sandy *Plaine* now termed *Troade*, which some fiftene or twentie miles from *Sea*, is environed by a ridge of *Hilles*, the most eminent whereof, the *Turkes* at this day call *Ida*, whereby I acknowledged it for that *Ida*, where *Prince Paris* retiring from all wise affaires of *State*, and preferment of *Court*, lived an *effeminate*, and *luxurious* life; which clad in *Fable*, fames him there to have preferred *Venus* before *Minerva*, and *Iuno*; and to have given her the *golden fruit* of his youth, for which she favoured him in the *Rape* of *Hellen*; but because neither *Minerva* nor *Iuno* assisted that *imprease*, therefore it proved both unwise, and dishonourable: About two leagues *West-ward*, is the little *Iland Tenedos*, knowne for concealing the *Grecian Navy* at the taking of



of *Troy*: hence sayled we downe the *Archipelago*, through those *Ilands* so voyced for Antiquities--*Nul-lum sine nomine saxum*: Among them my eye sele-cted *Samos*, *Scio*, and *Pathmos*; for the wind Steering larbord drave us within discovery thereof: *Samos* is the only place in the World, under whose Rocks grow *Spunges*: The people from their infancie, are bred up with *dry Bisket*, and other extenuating Dyer, to make them extreme leane; then taking a *Spunge* wet in Oyle they hold it, part in their mouthes and part without, so goe they under water, where at first they cannot stay long, but after practise, some of the leanest stay above an houre and a halfe, even till all the Oyle of the Spunge be corrupted; and by the Law of the *Iland*, none of that Trade is suffered to marry, untill he have stayed halfe an houre under water; thus they gather Spunges from the bottome of rocks, more then an hundred fathom deepe; which with many other Stories of these *Ilands* was told me by certaine *Greeks* in our *Galleon*: *Scio* is remarkeable for *Masticke* not else-where found, and there only upon the *South-side* of the Hill, which I thought to be as a plant not enduring the cold winds, or contrary vapors of the *North*; They imputed it to *St. Theodors* teares lead that way to *Martyrdome*, yet unlesse he traversed much ground, many of those trees grow where he never came: I applauded their *beliefe* but kept my owne: *Pathmos* is renowned for many actions of Saint *Iohn*: I fancies none, till the *Greekes* pointed out a *Rocke* under which they affirmed to be a *Grot*, wherein hee wrote his *Apocalyps*: In some points things consecrated are imitated by the ordinary wayes.



wayes of men; to instance in prophane pieces *Mahomet* was two yeares in a *grot*, writing his *Alcoran*, the *Sybils* most lived and prophesied in *grots*, as my selfe have seene hers at *Cuma*, as also the study and habitation of *Virgil* in a *grot*, at mount *Posilipo*; many old Oracles were delivered out of *Cavernes*, or *Grots*; in summe the highest fancies of men, have beene produced in such places; which in those who have no Divine credit, I impute, partly to the *privacy*, and *aspect* of those retreats, which being *gloomy*, *still*, and *solemne*, settle, and contract the minde into *profound* speculation; but especially to the qualitie of the *ayre*, a thing of maine importance to dispose the *wit*: the *ayre* of those rocky *Cavernes* is not so dampe and earthy, as that of dungeons, nor so immateriall, or waisting, to unsettle and transport the *phantasie*, as that above ground; but of a middle temper, wherewith it affects the braine in such a sort as is fittest to exercise its *intellectuall facultie*, to the heighth of what its *composition* beares: Thus after we had in eleven dayes passed the *Southerne*, and greatest part of *Vlysses* his ten yeares voyage, we came before *Rhodes*, at the *East end* of the *Iland* where we entred the *Wind-mill Port*; so named by reason of many *Wind-mills* standing before it; hard by is there another *Port* more inward, for the *Gallyes*, and of entrance so shallow, as is not capable of deepe Vessels: here we stayed three dayes, which gave me some view of the place, and that so much the more by being taken for a *Spy*; for in *Rhodes* is no pretence of Merchandize for a *Christian*; and but that my excuse of going upon wager into *Egypt* seemed possible, I had here beene lost: yet in that



that *suspition*, some of them out of such a bravery, as I had once before found in their *Campe*, shewed mee the *Palace* or *Fortresse* of the *Grand Master* formerly, with the *Out-works*, and three great deepe *ditches*, all cut in the quicke rocke round the Castle, except one part where it joynes with the chiefe street: then they shewed mee a high window towards the *West*, telling me this Story; that when *Sultan Solyman* besieged the Towne, there stood in that window, the *Gran Master*, with a *Nephew* of his, and a chiefe *Engeniere*; they considering the *Camp*, the *Engeniere* told him they were happy that the enemy knew not the advantage of such a place pointing to the side of a hill, where certaine Wind-mills stand; for quoth he, if they should plant the *Artillery* there, we were lost; herewith the young *Nephew* in hopes of preferment, tooke secretly some *Turkish Arrows*, and from the window, shot them into the *Campe*, having first writ upon them this *discovery*, and his *name*: they being found, the advice was approved, and put in *execution*, which forced the Towne in three dayes to render: *Solyman* according to the Rule of *Princes* more brave, then *Politicke*, caused the Traitor to be put to death: This *Citie* on the *East*, and *North*, is encompassed by *sea*; the *South*, and *West* joyne by land to the rest of the *Iland*; it stands upon a little hill, reaching to the bottome thereof; it is foure miles from the old *Cittie*, which stood upon a steepe high hill, where now remaine part of the walles, and a poore Village.

I tooke a Boat to view the place where the *Colossus* stood, at the entry of that Haven: there is not left

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any remainder of that *Statue*; but the rocks whereon his footing was, are wide enough for two great *Ships* to passe both together: why the *Caveliers* did transfer their Seat from the old *Citie*, to the new, I could not learne, unlesse it were for the *Port*; which being obvious to all commers, they had rather occupy it themselves, then leave it to an *invader*: within the *Citie* the *Armes* of *France* are very frequent, the *Spanish*, and *Imperiall*, not in more then two or three places; ours not at all; whereby I proportioned the old *nationall* interesse in that order: The most egregious *Monuments* of any one *Grane Master*, is of *Peter d'Aubisson* a *French* man ther, egoverning above two hundred yeares since: he amongst other notable works, built a round *Tower*, with many retired circles for *Combatants*: In the *Wall* before the *Haven*, to scowre the mouth thereof, he made two huge *Brasse* Pieces, so vaste as I never saw any *sixe Cannons*, whose mettall could make the least of them: In this *Iland* the *Sunne* is so powerfull, and constant, as it was anciently Dedicate to *Phæbus*: they have a kinde of *Grape* as big as a *Damsen*, and of that colour, the *Fines* if watered beare all the yeare, both ripe *Grapes*, halfe ripe, and knots; all together upon the same *Vine*: yet that they may not weare out too soone, they use to forbear watering of them in *December*, and *January*, during which time they beare not, till after a while that they are watred againe: Vpon my first landing I had espyed among divers very *honourable Sepultures*, one more brave then the rest, and new; I enquired whose it was; a *Turke* not knowing whence I was, told me it was the *Captaine Bashe*,

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flaine the yeare before by two *English Ships*; and therewith gave such a Language of our *Nation*, and threatening to all whom they should light upon, as made me upon all demands professe my selfe a *Scotch-man*, which being a name unknowne to them, saved mee, nor did I suppose it any quitting of my *Coun-try*, but rather a *retreat* from one corner to the other; and when they required more in particular, I intending my owne *safetie* more then their *instructi-on*, answered the truth both of my *King*, and *Coun-try*, but in the ould obsolete *Greeke*, and *Latine* titles, which was as darke to them as a discourse of *Isis*, and *Osyris*; yet the third day, in the morning, I prying up, and downe alone, met a *Turke* who in *Italian* told mee, ah! are you an *Englishman*, and with a kinde of malicious posture, laying his *forefinger* under his eye, me thought he had the lookes of a designe, he presently departed, I got to my *Galleon*, and durst goe to land no more: The next morne wee departed for *Alexandria* of *Egypt*, accompanied with ten ordinary *Gallyes* of *Rhodes*, and three old ones, which went to bee sold for fewell: the weather although right in *Sterne*, grew so high, as the three old *Gal-leys* perished, two in the night with all their people, the third by day in our sight, but despairing by times made up to a *Galleon* neere ours, and saved such of her men who were neither chained, nor otherwise encombred; after three dayes full *Sayle* wee arrived in *Port*; *Alexandria* first built by *Alexander* the Great, was after beautified by many, but especially by *Pompey*: it beares yet the Monuments of its ancient glory: Pillars in great number, and Size both above  
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ground, and below, most of *Porphyry*, and other *Marble* as firme: The ancient *Egyptians* had a custome now not in use; that was to make as great a part of the house beneath ground as above: that below was the most costly with Pillars, and rich Pavements for refreshment being their Summer habitation: the upper part had the vaster pillars for shew, but not the neatest: above all the rest, there are three farre beyond any that I ever saw else-where: That of *Pompey* where his ashes were laid, upon the rocky shore hard by where hee was slaine in a Boat at Sea: it is round, all of one stone, a kinde of reddish gray Marble, so wonderfully vast, as made me salute his memory with the Poets Propheticall hayle--*Templis auroque sepultus-vilior umbra fores*: it stands upon a foure-square rocky foundation on the South-side of the Towne without the Walles: Within on the North towards the Sea are two square *Obeliskes* each of one entire stone full of *Egyptian Hieroglyphiks*, the one standing the other fallen, I thinke either of them thrice as bigge as that at *Constantinople*, or the other at *Rome*, and therefore left behind as too heavy for transportation: neere these *Obeliskes*, are the ruines of *Cleopatras* Palace high upon the shore, with the private Gate, whereat shee received her *Marke Antony* after their overthrow at *Actium*: two stones cast further upon another rocke over the shore is yet a round Tower one part of *Alexanders* Palace, where yet in the walles remains a passage of Bricke Pipes part of a *vendiduct*: The Towne is now almost nothing but a white heape of ruines; especially the *East*, and *South* parts: The walles were high, and frequently



frequently set with small Turrets, but not very strong except toward the Sea, where they stand upon great steepe rockes: The *North*, and *West* are washed by the Sea, which makes two Ports, each in forme of a halfe-Moone: betweene them runnes a long narrow necke of land joyned once by a Bridge, but now made firme land, with that then an Iland called the *Pharos*: a place which in *Cæsars* judgement did command both the Port, and Towne; of which opinion the *Turkes* now are; and therefore contrary to their usuall custome, they have there built a brave new Castle, which answers another little one on the other point of the Haven: these command the entry broad at least a mile, and halfe; but how it could be done before *Artillery* came up as *Cæsar* affirmes I wonder; nor are the Banks wider by time, as appears by the walles, and old circuit of buildings upon the shoare; on the West side of the *Pharos*, and under protection thereof, is the other Port only for *Gallies*, as too full of shelves, and rocks for deepe bottoms: Fresh water is brought to *Alexandria* in a large, and deepe channell cut by men, almost fourescore miles, through the wilderness to the *Nile*: this channell is dry till the *River* over-flowes, then runnes it into the *Citie*, but so low as they are forc't to get it up by chained buckets, and wheelles drawne with *Oxen*; so is it conveighed, and kept in *Cisternes*, whereof now there remaine but fixe hundred, of two thousand at the first: The earth cast out of those *Cisternes*, hath made two faire mounts, upon one whereof is set a Watch-tower, to give warning of *Ships*: upon the *South* of the Towne lyes that vast sandy



Plaine, great part taken up with the salt Lake *Marco-*  
*tis*: *East-ward* not farre from the Sea, we rode tho-  
 row a sandy desert, some 40. miles to *Rossetto*: All *E-*  
*gypt* where the *Nile* arrives not, is nothing but a whi-  
 tish Sand bearing no grasse, but two little weeds, cal-  
 led *Suhit*, and *Gazull*, which burnt to ashes, and con-  
 veighed to *Venice*, make the finest *Christall Glasses*:  
 yet are there many sort of trees, nourished by no  
 moisture, but the night dew which is abundant, for  
 in *Egypt* it scarce raines once in three or foure ages:  
 above all, infinite number of *Palmes* grow every  
 where with *Dates* as bigge as both ones thumbs: In  
 the Plaine, the winde drives the Sand into folds, like  
*Snow* with us; so as if any winde stirre, no tracke of  
 man, or beasts lasts a quarter of an houre, wherefore  
 to direct passengers, there are set up round Bricke  
 pillars, five, or sixe yards high, one within a mile of  
 another, which put mee in minde of the *Israelites*  
 being guided forth of *Egypt* by *Pillars*: Thus in a  
 day, and a halfe, came we to *Rossetto*, formerly *Ca-*  
*nopus*; a pretty little Citie, it stands upon the *Nile*,  
 foure miles from its entry into the Sea: once it was  
 famous for all manner of Luxury; now it want no-  
 thing thereto, but *Art*, and a soft government: Here  
 we hyred a Boat for *Gran Cairo*, 360. miles off: In  
 five dayes we arrived, through against the streame, &  
 about the highest of the *Inundation*; for the *North-*  
*west* winde helpt us well: All that long way, wee  
 scarce passed foure miles, but wee found a pretty  
 Towne upon the banks, likely one of each side, op-  
 posite; which if *Turkish* they were high built, of  
 bricke or other firme stone, but if *Arabish*, and *Egypt-*  
*tian*,



*tian*, the houses were most of mud, just in forme of *Bee-hives*: The *Nile* at the highest is ordinary neere a mile, and a quarter over, sometimes making a great plash of profitable ground; much benefit of the overflow is made by ditches, and Gardens, watered with wheelles drawne by *Oxen*: as farre as the river waters, is a blacke mould so fruitfull, as they doe but throw in the seed, and have foure rich harvests, in lesse then foure moneths: most part of the Banks, is set with daintie *Sugar Canes*, *Flaxe*, and *Rice*: In the way, the winde failing, our Water-men drawing the Boat with ropes from land, there came sixe of the wild *Arabs*, five on *Horsebacke*, one a foot; each with a *Launce*, which they can use in hand, or dart, very dextrously; our Boat-men rogues of the same race, stood still, that they might take the ropes, whereat the *Ianizary*, a stout, and honest *Turke* discharged his *Harquebuz*e at the Horsemen, who wheeling about, came speedily againe, where finding two of us with Pistols, guarding the ropes, and awing our Boatmen, they durst not come on; nor were they sudden in flight, but that the *Ianizary* let flee once more, and as seemed to us, tufted through one of their *Turbants*; then away they ran: Finally we arrived at that part of *Gran Cayro* called *Bulakho*, where wee got direction to the Palace of a *Venetian* Gentleman the *Illustissimo Signior Santo Seghezzi*, whose noble way of living gives reputation to his Countrey, & protection to all travellers in those parts: here my late companions stayed but few dayes; for overcome with heat, and spirited by devotion, they hastned to returne by *Ierusalem*: I not so impatient of the Climate, nor loving



loving company of *Christians* in *Turky*, and but reasonably affected to *reliques*, left them, and presumed to receive a longer entertainment: whereto I found an invitall freely noble of it selfe, and with much regard to an honourable recommendation of me sent by his *Excellence* the Lord *Embassador* of *Holland* at *Constantinople*, Sir *Cornelius Haga*; who having known my kinsman Sir *James Blount*, and some others of our name: was pleased in mee, to honour their *memory*: Here my abode in a Family which had there beene resident twentie five yeares, informed me of many things, with much certaintie: First, I must remember things upon *record* constantly renewed in *office*, as the multitude of the *Meskeetoos*, that is *Churches*, and *Chappels* five, and thirtie thousand; then the noted streets, foure, and twentie thousand, besides petty turnings, and divisions; some of those streets I have found two miles in length, some not a quarter so long: every one of them is lockt up in the night, with a doore at each end, and guarded by a *Musketier*, whereby *fire*, *robberies*, *tumults*, and other *disorders* are prevented.

Without the *Citie*, toward the *wilderneffe*, to stop sudden incursions of the *Arabs* from abroad, there Watch on Horse-backe foure *Saniacks*, with each of them a *thousand* Horsemen: Thus is this *Citie* every night in the yeare, guarded with eight, and twentie thousand men.

These *extravagant* proportionous, argued such a *Size* of the maine *body*, as made me desire an entire *view* thereof; which I got in severall places, but best of all from the top of the *Castle*, which is founded upon



upon a rocky *ascent*, on the *East* side of the *Citie*: it is not quite decayed, nor diligently kept; but held rather as the *Bashas* Palace, then a *Fortresse*; nor did I discern any *Artillery* therein: it was built by the old *Soldans*, and their *Mamalukes*, and that in such a fort, as testifies their government to have been *tyrannous*, and *stately*: there yet remaine in one arched place, fortie pillars of *Porphiry* as bigge as those two of *Saint Markes* at *Venize*: at the foot of this hill is a place, some halfe a mile long, where they exercise their great *Horse*; hard by stands a little House, and Garden all under the *Castles* view, therein the *Bashas* of *Gran Cairo*, when deposed are kept, untill they are either preferred, or strangled: So *Potent* is that *Office* esteemed, and so full of *State secrets*, as may not be left unassured, but by *Satisfaction*, or *Death*: beyond this *Castle*, lyes the *Plaine* sandy desert, which encompasses the *East*, *North*, and *North-west* of the *Citie*: from the *Castle*, to the *Nile* some three miles through old *Cairo*, extends an *aqueduct* farre more *stately*, and *vaste*, then either that of *Constantinople*, or the other, at *Rome*: The *Nile* runnes along the *South* of the *Towne* to the *West*; making at its first arrivall, a daintie little *Iland*, where amongst many fine buildings, stand the *Nilscope*: which is a little *Castle*, wherein is set a pillar, with severall notes declaring the *inundation* all over *Egypt*, according to each degree, which the water reaches upon the pillar; Then they fore-see the future yeares *encrease*, and rate provision accordingly.

The day when the floud begins, is constantly the *Summer Solstice*, the increase is usually betweene



fourescore, and a hundred dayes : then suddenly it  
 abates, and by the end of *November*, is within its nar-  
 rowest Banks, about a quarter of a mile broad : The  
 cause of this admirable *Inundation*, I am not credu-  
 lous enough to understand ; The whole circuit of the  
*Citie* seemed to me betweene five, and thirtie, or forty  
 miles ; a *Venetian* who was with me, affirmed it to  
 be much more, he proportioned *Italian* measure, I  
*English* : This large compasse helps other *concur-*  
*rencies* to justifie the *Turkish* reports, how that after  
*Selim* his first entry of the *Towne*, he spent 4. dayes in  
 Combate before he passed quite thorow : Those Re-  
 lations which restraine *Cairo*, intend but of one prin-  
 cipall part thereof named *Elkhayre* from the *Founders*  
 habitation therein, according to which division, that  
*Burgh* is but one of five principall, beside ten, or eleven  
 more of lesse name, and all joyned as *London*, and  
*Westminster* : This *Citie* is built after the *Egyptian*  
 manner, *high*, and of large ruffe stone, part of *Bricke*,  
 the *streets narrow* : it hath not beene yet above an  
 hundred yeares, in the *Turkes* possession, wherefore  
 the old buildings remaine ; but as they decay, the  
 new begin to be after the *Turkish* manner, *poore*, *lowe*  
*much of mud*, and *timber* : Yet of the *moderne Fa-*  
*bricks*, must I except divers new *Pallaces*, which I  
 there have seene, both of *Turkes*, and such *Egyptians*,  
 as most engage against their owne *Countrey*, and so  
 flourish in its *oppression* : I have oft gone to view  
 them, and their *entertainments*, sometimes attending  
 the *Illustrissimo* with whom I lived, otherwhiles ac-  
 companied with some of his *Gentlemen* : The *Palaces*  
 I found *vaste*, & *high*, no state or flourish outwardly :  
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the first Court *Spacious*, set with faire trees for *shade*, where were severall *beasts*, and *birds* rare, and wonderfull even in those parts; the inner Court joyned to delicious *Gardens* watered with *fountaines*, and *rivulets*; beside the infinite varietie of strange *Plants*, there wanted no shade, from trees of *Cassia*, *Oranges*, *Lemons*, *Figs* of *Pharoae*, *Tamarinds*, *Palmes*, and others; amongst which passe very frequent *Cameleons*: The entry into the house, and all the roomes throughout are paved with many severall coloured *Marbles*, put into fine figures, so likewise are the *walles*, but in *Mosaik* of a lesse cut: The Roofe layed with t'hwart beames, a foot, and halfe distant, all *carved*, *great*, and double *gilt*: The *windowes* with grates of *Iron*, few with *Glasse*, as not desiring to keepe out the *wind*, and to avoyd the *glimmering* of the *Sunne*, which in those hot cuntryes, *Glasse* would breake with too much *dazeling* upon the eye: The floore is made with some *elevations* a foot high, where they sit to *eate*, and *drinke*; those are covered with *rich Tapestry*; the lower *pavement* is to walke upon, where in the chiefe *dining Chamber*, according to the *capacitie* of the roome, is made one or more richly *gilt fountaines* in the upper end of the Chamber, which through secret *Pipes*, supplyes in the middle of the roome, a dainty *Poole*, either round, foure square, triangular, or of other figure, as the place requires; usually twentie or twentie foure yards about, and almost two in depth: so neatly kept; the water so cleare, as makes apparent the exquisite *Mosaik* at the bottome; herein are preserved a kinde of fish of two or three foot long, like *Barbells*, which have oft taken bread out of my

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hand;



hand, sucking it from my fingers, at top of the water; But that which to mee seemed more *Magnificent* then all this, was my *entertainment*: entring one of these *Roomes*, I saw at the upper end, amongst others sitting crosse-legg'd the *Lord of the Palace*, who beckoning to me to come, I first put off my *Shooes* as the rest had done; then bowing often, with my hand upon my breast, came neere, where he making me sit downe, there attended ten or twelve handsome young *Pages* all clad in *Scarlet*, with crooked *Daggers*, and *Scymitars* richly gilt: foure of them came with a sheete of *Taffaty*, and covered me; another held a golden *Incense* with rich *perfume*, wherewith being a little *smoked* they tooke all away; next came two with sweet *water*, and besprinkled me: after that, one brought a *Porcelane* dish of *Cauphe*, which when I had dranke, another served up a draught of excellent *Sherbet*: Then began discourse, which passed by *interpreter*, by reason of my *ignorance* in the *Arabicke* there spoken: In their questions, and replies, I noted the *Egyptians* to have a touch of the *Merchant*, or *Jew*, with a spirit not so *Souldier-like*, and open, as the *Turkes*; but more *discerning*, and *pertinent*: in some remote part of the house, they have their stable of *Horses*, such for *shape*, as they say, are not in the world, and I easily beleieve it, but *unusefull* in other *Countrys*, by reason of their tender *hoofes* never used to any ground but *Sand*: They have one sort of a *peculiar* race, not a jot outwardly different from other *Horses*, nor alwayes the *handsomest*; but they are rare; and in such esteeme, as there is an *Officer* appointed to see the *Fole*, when any of that race is *Foled*



to Register it, with the colour, and to take testimony of the right brood; one of these at three yeares old, is ordinarily sold for a thousand peeces of eight, sometimes more: the reason is because they will runne, without eating or drinking one jot, foure dayes, and nights together; which some Egyptians wound about the body, and helpt with litle meate, and lesse sleepe, are able to ride; this is of infinite consequence upon sudden dispatches, to passe the wilderness, where neither water, nor grasse is found: from these perhaps grew the Fable of those *Pardo-Cameli*, or *Dromedaryes*; for feldome does any raritie of Nature, escape the fabulous attaques of fancy: There are many spacious places in the *Citie*, which in the Rivers over-flow, are daintie Pooles called *Byrkhaes*, and of great refreshment, as also the *Calhis*, which is a Channell cut through part of the *Citie*, from the *Nile*, into a Plaine on the North, where it makes a fruitfull plash of at least ten, or twelue mile compasse, affording also many rivelets to the *Gardens*; in these *Byrkhaes*, and *Calhis*, towards evening, are many hundreds washing themselves, in the meane while divers passe up, and down with Pipes, & Roguy Fiddles, in Boats, full of Fruits, Sherbets, and good banquetting stuffe to sell; after the Rivers fall, those places are Greene for a while, then burn to sand: Notwithstanding the excessive compasse of this *Citie*, it is populous beyond all proportion; for as we rid up, and downe, the principall Streets were so throng'd with people, as the Masters of our *Asses*, went alwayes before, shoving, and crying *Bdaharack*, that is, make roome; such infinite swarmes of *Arabs*, and *Indians* flocke to



the plentie, and pleasures of *Gran Cairo*; so as I there heard from divers honourable persons, that not long since, they had a plague, which in one yeare swept away *eighteene hundred thousand, and odde*, yet within lesse then five yeares after, there was more throng of people, then ever they had knowne: All diseases there are rifer in Winter; especially the *plague*, which at the Summer *Solstice* suddenly ceases.

When the *winde* sits *South-ward*, (whether it bee the *Spices* of *Ethiopia*, or not, is uncertaine,) it is so odoriferous as any *Spanish Glove*, and so hot, as when it held long, it so corrupted my *stomacke*, as till the winde changed, no meate went through me, sometimes, nine or ten dayes together: on the *South-end* of the *Citie*, is yet remaining the round *Tower*, wherein *Pharaoes* daughter lived, when shee found *Moses* in the *River*, which runnes not above a Bowes shoot off: hard by are *Iosephs* seven *Granaries*, or rather some of their *ruined* walles left, and foure of them so repaired, as serve to keepe the *publique* corne: Three or foure miles out of *Towne Northward*, is a place called *Materea*, with a *Tree* of *Pharaoes Figs*, under which *Fame* goes, that the *Virgine Mary* rested with *Christ* in her lappe, and washed him in a well thereby, when the feare of *Herod* made her flye into *Egypt*: there is in memory thereof, a *Chappell* built of no long time; me thoughts the *Tree* seemed the *oldest* in the *Garden*, and so most probably chose for the *Story*: I asked my *Ianizary* how long those kinde of *Fig-trees* used to last; hee told me halfe an hundred yeares, or there about: yet I noted that if this tree should faile, neverthelesse that place hath many others



others of the same kinde, ready to take the *reputation* upon them: many rarities of living creatures I saw in *Gran Cairo*: but the most *ingenious* was a nest of foure-legg'd *Serpents*, of two foot long, blacke, and ugly, kept by a *Frenchman*, who when he came to handle them, they would not endure him, but ranne, and hid in their *hole*; then would hee take his *Citterne*, and play upon it; they hearing the *Musique*, came all crawling to his feet, and began to climbe up him, till he gave over playing, then away they ran: Nor is this stranger in *Nature*, to see such creatures delight in *sounds* delightfull to us, then to see them relish such *meats*, as relish with us: the one argues a *conformitie* to our *composition* in one of our *senses*; the other in another.

Twelve miles *South-west* of the *Citie*, on the other side of the *River*, stand the three oldest, and yet most entire *Pyramides*: The largest I entred into, downe a *descent*, some thirties paces, then creeping through a passage almost choaked up with sand, wee found a darke ascent through a passage betweene great *Marble* stones, without stayres, only little footing cut on each side; here we past with every one a *Candle* in one hand, and a *Pistoll* in the other, for feare of *rogues*, who often murder, and rife in those *Cavernes*: I found two large, square Chambers in the middle; the one emptie, the other had in the midst, a *Sepulture* open, and emptie, about a yard, and an halfe high, as much wide, and within not above two yards long: the Stone seemes a kinde of red *Porphyrie*, but is not, for it sounds better then a *Bell*: it is fixt in the foundation, nor can ever be borne away, as too bigge for  
the



the passage: This being the ancientest *Monument* in the world, encouraged me against the opinion of our decay in stature from our *forefathers*: The *Iewes* pretend those three *Pyramides* to have beene built by *Pharaoh*, who drowned in the *Red Sea*: the little one for an onely *Daughter* of his, the greater for his *Wife*: but the fairest intended for *Him-selfe*, mist of his *body*, lost in the *Sea*: I suspected them to affect a glory in the renowne of their *Enemy*: for *Herodotus* much more *authentique*, fathers the chiefe upon *Cheops*, nor is there any *Bricke*, whereof *Pharaoes* buildings consisted.

The forme is *quadrangular*, lessening by equall degrees, from almost a quarter of a mile each flat at the bottome, unto a square at the top, little more then three yards *angular*: the stones are excessive great; and as bigge above as beneath: all of an even foure-square: that which made the building easie, and held it so long together, is the *posture* of the stones, not laid in an even flat upon one another, as in other *Fabricks*; but begun at the *Basis* upon firme *Rocke*, with the first rowe of stones laid sloping, their outside a foote higher then the inside: which continues the same *posture* to the very top, and makes the whole building set inward, and so without mortar, fasten of it selfe: each upper stone retyres some halfe a foot short of that whereon it lyes; this sharpens the bulke by just degrees upward, and makes the outward *ascent* very easie: but in a *countray* where there were any raine, it would settle the water, and decay the building.

There are about sixteene or eighteene other *Pyra-*  
mides,



*mydes*, extending *South-ward*, a matter of twelue or fourteene miles: they are said to be of *Kings* farre lesse ancient then this, and yet though of the same stone, ruined extreamely; only wanting that posture of the stones: This wonderfull *Pyramide* is recorded to have beene twentie yeares a building, with three hundred thousand men and more, in continuall employment, which if the stone came from the *Red Sea*, is very credible; but perhaps part was cut from those rocks under the sand hard by where it stands: within two Bowes shoot hereof, is a *Rocke* of some fortie yards circumference, and twelue or fourteene high, cut into the forme of a *mans head*; perhaps *Memnons*, famous for its founding at the Sun-rise; the *Egyptians*, and *Iewes* with us, told us it gave *Oracles* of old, and also that it was hollow at the top; wherein they had seene some enter, and come out at the *Pyramide*: then I soone believed the *Oracle*; and esteeme all the rest to have beene such, rather then either by *vapor*, though not impossible; or *Demoniacke*, which require too much *credulitie*, for me: All that part of the *Plaine*, for betweene twentie or thirtie miles in length, and little lesse in breadth, hath ever beene the place of *Sepulture*, for those three Cities where now is *Gran Cairo*; that is *Babylon*, (not that of *Persia*,) *Memphis*, and *Cairo*: the *Souther* part belonged to *Memphis*, which was the ancientest, and stood most part on that side of *Nile*; those bodies are the best *Mummy*, and were buryed before the *Israelites* departure; one of which *Sepultures* being opened, I went downe, tyed by a cord, descending as into a well, ten or twelue fathom, leaving a *Ianizary*, and two of our  
G company,



company, at the top, to awe the *Arabs*, who often leave Strangers within, and returne when they are starved, to rifle them; the place so low as I was faine to creepe, and all full of a dry sand where moisture never comes; that preserves the bodies, as much as the *embalming*; Inſomuch as I have ſeene ſome of the *Linnen*, not touched by the *embalming*, to remaine perfect white, and ſound; ſo many *thouſand yeares*, will things endure, when untoucht by moisture, the *ſole cauſe of putrifaction*: The bodies lye, moſt of them in the *sand*, ſome in an open ſtone, with an hollow hewed therein; they are not beyond our ordinary *proportions*; in the pitch of the breaſt, is ſet a little *Idoll*, the head of humane ſhape, with a prop under the chin: they are as bigge as ones middle finger, with *Hyeroglyphicks* on the backe; and made of ſtone, or rather baked *mortar*; their being among the Dead, made me ſuppoſe them pieces *Religious*; which with their old *Hieroglyphicks*, in vaine I ſearcht to interpret.

Above all the *Antiquities* of *Egypt*, I ſought to underſtand, that admirable Table of *Isis*, not mentioned in *Plutarch*, and ſlenderly unfolded by *Pignoria*, but compleatly expreſt in the antique *Egyptian* Monument of *Brasse*, lately Printed in *Italy*: it is thought under the *Ceremonies* of *Isis* and *Osiris*, to containe that three-fold wiſdome of the old *Egyptian Kings*, and *Prieſts*: the one about the *Nature* of their *Nile*, and *Soyle*; the other concerning the *Policie* of their *State*: in the third was vayed the moſt important pieces of their *Philosophy*.

To get information hereof, I followed the old  
examples,



examples, first used by *Herodotus*, then by *Iulius Caesar*, and after by *Germanicus*; which was to enquire of *Priests*, who (if any) were like to know somewhat in their owne *antiquities*: I was helpt by an *Interpreter*, to the speech of three *Egyptian Priests*, but found them utterly ignorant of all things not *Mahometan*: Nor can I wonder; for in the course of *vicissitude*, the *Egyptian superstition* as the *ancientest* in the world, is likely to be the most *cleane lost*; and all *Superstitions*, being in effect but *juglings*, have the fate of such tricks, that is, while *new* to be *admired*, but in time to grow *ridiculous* to such as discern their *knavery*, and stale to those who doe not; thereupon the *Priests*, like other *Impostors*, when their devices began to take but *coldly*, changed them: This caused among the *Heathen new Doctrines*, and *Ceremonies Ecclesiastique* in severall ages; seldome all at a clap, but by degrees as occasion, and the Peoples gust required; nor ever happens a more sudden occasion of *Innovation* herein, then that of conquest; therefore whatsoever little memory of *old Ceremonies*, might have beene left in *Egypt*, hath utterly perished in their frequent *oppressions*; especially in those two of late ages; this of the *Turkes*; and the former of the *Circassian Mamelukes*; which beside the change of *ceremony*, have corrupted all the ingenious *fancy* of that *Nation* into *ignorance*, and *malice*: Thus is fayled that succession of *knowledge*, which by word of mouth useth to be delivered from one generation, to another; nor is there any reparation made by way of *Bookes*: The maine reasons why the naked *Mythiologicall* part of the *Heathen Religions*, was not exprest in writing,



were two: First, it would have exposed them to the *expositions* of many; whereby the severall *fancies*, and *interestes* of men, either out of *opinion*, or *designe*, would have raised pernicious *Heresies*, as appears in the *Alcoran* and *Talmud*: therefore *Numa Pompilius*, having writ *Bookes* of that kinde, caused them to be buried with him; and when (many ages after) they hapned to be found, the *Prætor* protested to the *Senate*, that they would destroy the *Religion*, if published; whereupon they were burnt: The other reason was, because the *institutions* of their *Religions* were addrest, not to the *wise*, who are so few, as not to be reckoned of, but to the *multitude*, which are *passionate*, not *judicious*: wherefore they were not put into a *rational* way of discourse, which had served them up to the *understanding*; but rather acted in such manner, as might moove the Senses, thereby raising such passions as were to the advantage of their *Religion*; Hence came the *perfumes*, and daintie *Musique* in their *Temples*; the *fantastique* vestment of their *Priests*; their solemn *Sacrifices*, *Pictures*, *Statues*, and *Processions*; which in new *superstitions*, were altered, with contempt of the former; yet in the maine point they all agreed; that was to amuse, and entertaine the *imaginative* part of the minde, befooling the *Intellectuall*; so the *Ceremonies* renewed not alwayes utterly different, nor the same; but following the *State reasons*, and *popular Gust*: just like the weeds of each yeare, not ever of the former kinde, but according to the *Soyle*, and *Season*: Now for these *passions*, those sensible *solemnities* were excellently fitted: Yet because there were some discerning  
Soules;



*Soules*; to engage them they were admitted to the inside of their *devices*, and called *Sacris initiati*, and so were either taken with the *mystery*, or at least, with the favour to themselves, and profit of the *Republique*, the latter sort in love connived; the others were conjured, as they did dread the revenge of the *Gods*, never to divulge those *mysticall secrets*; w<sup>ch</sup> also was, because they were either *cruell*, *impure*, and *horrid*, (for with such humors they complied, as well as with the vertuous) or that they contained some profound reach of *State*, or *Philosophy* beyond vulgar capacitie, w<sup>ch</sup> adores easily, but pierces not; and that credulous *reverence*, is much advanced by a solemn concealment -- *Cupidine humani ingenii, libentius obscura creduntur*: Therefore it is not *hypocrisie*, but a necessary regard to the vaine nature of man, which forces most *Religions* to muffle toward the vulgar, concealing some of their inside, either in *Hyeroglyphicks*, *Fables*, *Types*, *Parables*, or *Schoole distinctions*, and strange *Language*; all which doe equally obscure to popular capacitie, and are chosen according to the *Genius* of the Age, or *Doctrine*: Hereby were all sort of wits entertained with a reverent *Satisfaction*; the deeper in the *kernell*; the shallow in the *shell*: Thus is all light of *Egypt's* old devotion, almost quite extinct: Now as for the *Iustice*, and *Government*, it is perfectly *Turkish*, and therefore not to be set downe apart; only it exceeds all other parts of *Turkey* for *rigour*, and extortion; the reason is because the *Turke* well knowes the *Egyptian* nature, above all other *Nations*, to be *malicious*, *treacherous*, and *effeminate*, and therefore dangerous, not fit for *Armes*, or any other



trust; nor capable of being ruled by a sweet hand: Wherefore among them, are more frequent, and horrid *executions*, then in the rest of *Turky*, as *Empaling*, *Gaunching*, *Flaying* alive, *Cutting* off by the *Waste* with a *red hot Iron*, *Oynting* with *Honey* in the *Sunne*, *hanging* by the *Foot*, *planting* in burning *Lime*, and the like: in my two moneths stay, I saw divers fearefull examples; especially two; one at *Gran Cairo*, of a Fellow, who in malice fired his neighbours House: He was first *Flayed* alive, with such Art, as he was more then three houres a dying; then was his *Skin* stuffed with *Chaffe*, and borne stradling upon an *Asse* up and downe the *Towne*.

The other was of three *Arabs*, who robbed in the wilderness betweene *Rossetto* and *Alexandria*; they were taken at a place called *Maidyah*, where at my returne I saw execution done in this manner: They were laid naked upon the ground, their face downward, their hands and legs tyed abroad to stakes; then came the Hangman, who putting their owne *halfe-pikes* in at the *Fundament* did with a *Beetle*, drive them up leisurely, till they came out at the *Head*, or *Shoulder*; two of them dyed suddenly, but the third whom the Pike had not toucht neither in the *heart*, nor *braine*, would have lived longer, had not the standers by dasht out his *braines*; then were they tyed upright, to stakes driven in the high way, and so left: Now the *Turke* to breake the spirits of this People the more, oppresses them with a heavier povertie, then any of his other *Mahometan* Subjects; and therefore if there be one *Vizier*, more ravenous then other, he sends him thither, and connives at all his



his extortions, though afterwards, according to the *Turkish Policy*, he knowes how to squeeze him into the *Treasury*; so satisfying the People, the Prince dreynes them, and they discern him no otherwise, then as their *revenger*.

This *Vizier Bashae* who now governes carried with him from *Constantinople*, a Ship laded with *Tinne* at his arrivall, hee tooke a *Catalogue* of all wealthy Persons; then to every man excepting such as were ingaged in favour of the State, hee sent a piece of *Tinne*, more or lesse, according to the abilitie of the Person, and demanded of each, so excessive a price, as generally it was not worth the fift part, of what they paid: It is the custome of the *Ottoman Crowne*, to preserve the old Liberties, to all Countreyes who come in voluntary; which in *Scio*, and other *Ilands* of the *Arches*, it hath for examples sake, maintained very honourably, till just cause was to the contrary: but those whom they take by conquest, they use as a booty, without pretending any humanitie, more then what is for the profit of the Conquerour; which most Conquerours doe in effect, although not being so absolute as the *Gran Signior*, they are faine to give the world more satisfaction in the poore counterfeits of *Iustice*, *Zeale*, *Clemency*, *Publique-good*, and the like: the *Egyptians* under their *Circassian Mamalukes*, were defended against *Sultan Selim*, like a flocke of sheepe kept by fierce *Mastives*, from the *Woolfe*; wherefore his bloudy victory made him rage the more; so that after he had slaine all the *Circassians*, and topt the rest, he was not like *Pharaoh* content with the fift part, but tooke all, leaving



leaving no man owner of a foot of ground; and divided the Land into *Farmes*; the least *Farme* payes one purse, some two or three according to its proportion; each purse is eight hundred peeces of eight: the fixt rent the *Bashae* must constantly make good to the *Crowne*; he every yeare places, or displaces the Farmers, as they outvy one another in gift to him: the set Rent never alters and is eightene hundred thousand *Zeccheens* yearly; a *Zeccheene Turkish* I value nine shillings sterlin.

This is proportioned into three equall portions; one is set out to furnish the annuall Pilgrimage to *Mecha*; the second payes the *Souldiery*, with all other Offices, and Services publique for that Kingdom; the last third goes cleare into the *Checquer*: these *Farmes* are most in the hands of *Egyptians*; beside which, there want not *Timarres*, that is *Fendes* given to *Turkish* Horsemen with obligation of Service in Warre, and to awe both neighbours, and subjects.

When *Selim* had Conquered this Kingdome, he boasted hee had taken a *Farme* to feed his *Agemoglans*: wherein his judgement was the same with the *Romans*, who esteemed it the *Granary* of their *Republique*; wherefore the *Turke* at this day, employes the *Egyptians*, rather that way, then to armes; for he hath of them inroled *Souldiers*, but fourteene thousand, and when any of those dye, he continues the pay to his Wife, and Children: whereby without scandall, the Nation is made *effeminate*, and *disarmed*; which is the *maxime* he holds upon that false, and dangerous people: Hee used till within this fifteene, or twentie yeares, to make (as in his other king-



kingdomes,) most of their *Judges* of the *Natives*, but they according to that Climate, were found damnable corrupt, and dis-affectionate to the *Turkish* affaires; wherefore now having made sure of that Countrey, hee hath without any further respect of them, made a Decree, that none shall be capable of being a Judge amongst them, but a naturall borne *Turke*, whereby the Iustice is excellently reformed; especially towards Strangers, who before had no Protection, beside povertie, to save them from false witness, which shared them as a Booty betweene the *Judge*, and the *accusers*: Having thus at *Gran Cairo*, enquired of such points, as are peculiar to that Kingdom, I thought of my departure, which I purposed to direct in search of some further antiquitie; First, I asked for the famous old *Temple of Vulcan*; but could not heare any remainder of it, nor any acknowledgement of *Iupiter Hammon*, who gave *Oracles* in the *West* of *Egypt*: Then I desired to view the passage of *Moyse*s into the *Red Sea*, not above three dayes off, but the *Jewes* told me that the precise place is not now knowne within lesse then the space of a dayes journey along the Shore; wherefore I left that as too uncertaine for any observation; and went by *Camell* two dayes journey *South-east*, to see certaine great ruines some fifteen miles from the River; I had hoped they might have proved the remainder of the *Labyrinth*, or *Pyramides* built by the twelve *Kings* in the Lake of *Maris*; but I rather by the *Pillars*, and *Turrets*, guessed them to have beene some regall *Palace*: in our going thither, there hapned a little whirlwinde which drave the sand so upon us, as we were

H

almost



almost lost; for divers times passengers therewith overwhelmed, man and beast are not found, till many ages after, when another wind discovers them; our only remedy was to turne our *Camels* buttocks to the winde, till the place where they stood was become a pit, as deepe as they could well goe out off, then removing a little forward, make another stand, till we grew againe environed; in this manner passing out an houre, till the wind ceased: This fright made us returne neerer the *Nile*, where I saw two *Crocodyles* running together, in a muddy plash, the one about foure foot long, the other not above two.

At my comming backe, I began to thinke of going downe to *Alexandria*, and from thence by Sea to *Ioppa*, purposing to returne home by *Ierusalem*, which by Land is fiftene dayes journey on this side *Gran Cairo*: Then tooke I my leave of the *Illustrissimo Signior Sancto Seghezzi* whose usage of mee all this while, and now at departure, was so honourable, as might serve for patterne to each noble Spirit.

It being now forward in *November*, with the waters abatement began *Egypt's* Spring; all the bankes so greene, fragrant and delicious, as if a new *Paradice* were up; the *River* shrunke generally into little more then a quarter of a mile broad; which caused one unpleasing spectacle; that was of many wild *Arabs*, often ten or twelue together, swimming crosse to rob *Villages*, and *Passengers*: they first wrappe their thin blew Coate about their head, then tye their Lance to their side; so naked swimme over the River, which I had also seene at my going up, when the floud was nigh a mile and quarter over, but not so frequent; my



two *Ianizaries* with their *Harquebuzes*, and I with a Pistoll, awed them, that they durst not assault the Boat; nor were they able to use the Launce (swimming), more then with one hand, and that but weakely: In this foure dayes passage to *Rossetto*, I enquired of the *Delta*, and the *Niles* seven streames; the *Delta* is so named, from the forme of that Letter, and is all that part of *Egypt*, which lyes betweene the two branches of *Rossetto*, and *Damiata*; the first parting of which streames is about twentie miles below *Gran Cairo*; part of this *Delta*, I had often heard by some of the learned *Iewes*, to have beene the Land of *Goshen*.

*Nile* had of old seaven streames, five naturall, and two cut by labour, to serve onely in the overflowe, there now remaine onely three, one artificiall, which in the inundation, serves *Alexandria*: the two naturall ones are that of *elufium*, now called *Damiata*, and the other of *Canopus*, now *Rossetto*; this later is of late, so choaked, as at the entrance into the sea, shippes are faine to unlade, and after a small passage, to lade againe, another hath quite furred up within lesse then thirty yeares whereof there are three causes doubted; first the gravell borne downe in the floud, for then the water is as gravelly as a puddle in the high way; Secondly the sand blowne therein, by the winde from the bankes; if it be either of these, it may alter the course of the river, as in part it hath done formerly, which might be the ruine of the Citties, but not of the kingdome: the third reason, is some defect, or diversion from above towards the fountaine; that would be the destruction of



all; but is not generally believed; yet mee thinke, might well be suspected, because though so many streames are stopt, the rest run not higher then before; which they say the many ditches made of late ages, are the cause off: The water tastes just like new milke, but somewhat nitrous, and if dranke as in the river, troubled, it causes in strangers, a flux; which to prevent, they take a gallon, or more, of that water, and if they have not time to let it settle, they cast therein three or foure bruised *Almonds*; they in lesse then an houre clarifie it like *Christall*; which effect they have upon no other water, and thereby shew'd the *perfection* of that.

At last arrived at *Rossetto*, and so by *Mule* passed to *Alexandria*, I purposed from thence to take a voyage for *Ioppa*; which passage, I rather chose, then the other of *Damiata*, much neerer, but more infested with *Pyrats*: Here one day, I went to view the Port of *Gallyes*, but was severely prohibited: this seeming contrary to the usuall freedome of *Turky*, made me suspect some notable defect in that harbour, which might hereafter, be made use off; whereupon I went the next day secretly, unto a high decayed peece of a *Turret*, upon the wall over that Haven, to take a considerate view thereof: my accessse was espyed, and dog'd, by an *Egyptian*, one as I thinke, of the *Garrison* hard by, whose violence produced an accident that made me forget all my other *designes*, and flye for safetie of my life, unto a little *French Barke*, which I knew was that day, to depart for *Sicily*: We had not sayled above five, or sixe leagues, but we saw a *Specie* of a straine beyond the Spirit of these times:



it was thus : a *Maltese* gave chase to a *Greeke* Vessell, in search of *Turkes*, or *Turkish* goods ; the *Greeke* laded with *Turkish* goods, made up to us, who carrying no Flag, he judged *Turkes* ; but when at hand, we appeared *Christians*, and from us no helpe to be had, He yielded : upon the Vessell, were foure *Turks* ; three suffered themselves to be taken prisoners ; the fourth ( wee all looking on ) ran up to the Sterne, where taking a peece of cord, he tyed his feet, and one of his hands together ; then threw himselfe head-long into the Sea ; in which resolute end, he shewed by what a short passage, many a yeares misery may be prevented, where other reasons, or feare masked in them, enthrall not.

Our *Barke* had twice before beene taken by the *Turkes*, and ransomed ; this Voyage met none, nor any notable danger, excepting one storme, wherein we had like to have Split upon the rocks of *Candy* ; Finally, after twelue dayes, we came to *Siragosa* in *Sicily*, from whence we went to *Messina*, and so to *Palermo* ; whose delicacies, with my noble entertainment, in the house of a *French Gentleman*, there *Consull generall* for his *Nation*, stayed me to take a leisable view of that *Kingdome*, whose *Customes*, and *Government*, are so perfectly *Spanish*, as need not to be set downe apart ; especially, this *Memoriall* having not undertaken beyond the affaires of *Turky*, must not meddle with those of *Christendome* ; onely I may upon this Countrey, remember an Item given me by a very understanding *Turke* ; in one part of the *Archipelago*, our *Captaine*, who went *Admirall* to the whole *Armado*, caused many of the *Galleons* to be



linkt with Cables; this I knew dangerous among so many *Ilands*, and at length we began to fall foule one upon another; whereupon I asked the *Turke* why we rode so linked; he replied for to be ready all together, if we light upon the *Maltesi*; with that, under colour of magnifying them, I desired to learne how they understood *Malta*, and so told him I wondred they would suffer such a spot of earth to trouble them, and not rather destroy it, when they had some Spare time from greater enterprizes: He answered, that they would no more attempt *Malta*, but rather *Sicily*, which had better landing, and was abler to maintaine an Army; and whose People having suffered under the *French*, and *Spaniard* extremely, and finding no hopes in any other *Christian Prince*, are not much averse from the *Turkish* Government; then (quoth he) if *Sicily* were ours, *Malta* must come in without blows, as victualled from *Sicily*, and no way able to subsist, when we were on both sides of it: this discourse I could never esteeme to the full, till I had beene in *Sicily*, and principally once, when I heard some of them not sticke to say, that the *Greekes* lived happier under the *Turkes*, then they under the *Spaniards*: yet I must note also, that of all the *Christian* States, the *Turkes* are the worst provided to deale with the *Spanish*; for of all others, that most subsists on *Fortresses*, which would prove hard knots to the *Turke*, whose Nature and Orders Military, are not in any one point so much defective, as in that of *Siege*: from *Palermo*, I rode to *Trapany*, from thence I imbarqued for *Naples*, whose rarities entertained me some dayes, then went I by *Rome*; so by *Florence*, and



and *Bologna*, to *Venice*; where I arrived the eleventh moneth after my departure from thence: having in that time, according to the most received divisions of *Turky*, beene in *nine Kingdomes* thereof, and passed fixe thousand miles, and upward, most part by land.

Thus have I set downe such observations, as were of passage *locall*, and *naturally* borne along, with the places whereon I tooke them; Now follow the more *abstract* and generall concerning the *Institutions* of the whole *Empire*; wherein I take but the accounts of a reckoning made in hast, and therefore subject to the *disadvantage* of a hasty view, that is, to over-slip many things, and to see the rest but *superficially*: yet usually quicke glances, take in the most *eminent* peeces; amongst which there are some like the dye of *Scarlet*, better discerned by a passing eye, then a fixt; of this nature I esteeme the *morall* points of behaviour; a new *Commer* apprehends them with a judgement *fresh*, and *sincere*, which further *familiaritie* corrupts with *affection*, or *hatred*, according as it meets a *disposition conforme*, or *contrary*: The most important parts of all States are foure, *Armes*, *Religion*, *Iustice*, and *Morall Customes*: in treating of these, most men set downe what they should be, and use to regulate that by their owne filly *education*, and received *opinions* guided by *sublimities*, and *moralities imaginary*; this I leave to *Vtopians* who doating on their *phantastique* supposals, shew their owne *capacitie*, or *hypocrisie*, and no more: I in remembering the *Turkish* institutions, will only Register what I found them, nor censure them by any rule, but that of more, or lesse *sufficiency* to their ayme, which I suppose the  
*Empires*



*Empires* advancement: First, then, I note their *Armes*, because in the sway of mens affaires it is found--*Omnia esse Gladii pedissequa*; in that feare as the strongest of our *passions*, awes all the rest; Their *Infantry* consists of two sorts; First, such as are levyed upon particular *Cities*; they are more, or lesse according to *occasion*; the abilitie of the *Towne*, and *distance* from whence summoned; many of them are *Christians*, and are sent forth much better appointed in *Clothes*, then with us: each *Towne* in severall *Colours*, and their *Armes* sufficient: they are lodged, and exercised without the *Citie*, almost a moneth, before they begin to March: The other part, and chiefe strength, is of the *Ianizaries*, whose number, at my being in *Turky*, was foure and fortie thousand, which as it sayles, they use to supply upon occasion, but never exceed; the manner is to re-inforce these bonds thus; ever now and then, there are sent out *Officers* into divers *Provinces*, especially the *Northerne*, who out of all the *Christian children*, from the age of ten to eightene, or twentie, chuse without *stint* or *exception*, such as they thinke fit, and carry them to *Constantinople*; these they call *Agemoglans*; then after some observation of their *Persons*, those of most promising parts, are selected for the *Gran Signior* his *Serraglioes*, either that of *Constantinople*, or his other of *Andrinople*, where they are taught to write and reade; to understand *Arabicke*, to use their Bow, with other weapons: then cull they out the *choycest Sparkes*; who as their capacities grow approved, are instructed in *State affaires*, and by degrees, taken into highest preferments; these are called *Ichoglans*: the worst, and of  
least



least qualitie, are assigned to the drudgery of the household, to the *Gardens* and other base offices, some are made *Mariners*, and *Galeots*: the generall sort, neither rare, nor contemptible are by the *Aga* of the *Ianizaries* distributed abroad, where without charge to the *Prince*, they earne their living by hard labour, till the age of two and twentie; then so inured to endurance befitting a *Souldier* they are brought backe, taught their *Armes*, and prepared for *Service*: These are enrolled *Ianizaries*: This choice, and education of persons, apt to each use, must needs make it excellently performed, as being more naturall then the course of *Christendome*, where *Princes* put *Armes* into the hands of men neither by spirit, or education, martiall; and entrust their chiefe employments, with respects of birth, riches, or friends; which to the service intended, are qualities not so proper, as those personall abilities, which prevaile in the *Turkish Election*: These though the sonnes of *Christians*, hate that name above all others and are found, (as I have seene some of them) without any naturall affection to their *Parents*, as it were transplanted, acknowledging themselves the creatures of the *Ottoman Family*; so much are the present engagements of life too strong for all former ties of blood: their pay is perpetuall, both in *Peace*, and *Warre*; more or lesse, according to personall merit; which excites to notable attempts; other preferment they receive none unlesse it be a *Timarre*; for if any of them should be in honour, he might be too much regarded by his fellowes, whom the *Prince* will not permit to acknowledge any besides himselfe; for which respect this *Emperour*, at *Andrinople*, as it

I were



where in face of the *Army*, caused a great Person, once of this Order, to be strangled, and *Proclaimed* Traitor, when I was in *Hungary*; whereat I heard many of the *Ianizaries* speake insolently in publique, yet durst they doe *no more*, feeling this *Princes* Spirit, to great for them.

They are never cast off; for when old, or maimed, they are kept in *garrison*: This company was held devised in imitation of the *Romane Pratorian Cohorts*, or rather of the *Macedonian Phalanx*, and hath performed as bravely as either; but is now, in great part corrupt; for contrary to their *Primitive institutions*, many of them marry, others follow *Merchandize*; and whereas heretofore, they were all chose the sonnes of *Christians*, whereby that Cause was kept under, and the *Turkish* so much increased, now the *Christians* are permitted for money, to excuse their children, and the *Turkes* to preferre theirs; Some hold this an errour a *pernicious* one, as lessening that due proportion which should be maintained between the *Compellers*, and the *Compelled*; the *Turkes* rather thinke the *Christians* not now so strong, as heretofore, and therefore not to need the former *diminution*, *experience* made me of this opinion, considering that it is many yeares since most of his *Christian* Countreyes were taken in, and how every age dyes them of a more deepe *Mahometan*, then other; but should he winne any *Christian Province* of new, he would not Spare in this way to exhaust it, till it were sufficiently enervate: The mortallest *corruption* of this Order hath hapned of late yeares; that is, knowing their owne strength, and growne saucy with *familiaritie* at

Courts,



Court, they have proceeded to such *insolency*, as hath flesh'd them in the bloud of their *Soveraigne Sultan Osman*; and in *Mustapha*, they have learnt that damnable Secret of *making*, and *unmaking* their King at pleasure; whereby the *Foundation* of all *Monarchy*, that is, the due awe towards the *Bloud Royall*, is so irreparably decayed in them as like the lost state of *Innocence*, can never be restored.

This requires an erection of new *Bands* never tainted, to supplant these *Ianizaries*, who else will grow to such a Military *Anarchy*, as did the *Pretorians* of *Rome* in their *Empire*, till they reduced it to nothing: Wherefore some thinke, that the expedition, wherein the *Gran Signior* hath now engaged his Person against *Persia*, is designed with a resolution to spend the *Ianizaries* very freely.

The *Cavallery* is made up of two sorts; First, of *Spahyglans*, to the number of two and thirtie thousand: these are continually neere the Court: out of them are chose Troopes to Guard his Person Royall, upon all removes; they used not to goe to Warre, except he went himselve, but of late they are often sent with the *Gran Vizier*: the other sort of *Spahyes*, are termed *Spahy-Timarlots*, from certaine *Timarres*, or *Feudes*, given them for terme of life, with obligation to serve on Horsebacke, well appointed, where-soever they shall be summoned: This is not much unlike our old tenures of *Knight-service*, or *Escuage*; but not *Hereditary*: according to the value of the *Temarre*, the *Timariot* is to come in with one, two, three or more Horses; I have seene many bring in five or sixe; this reason till I was informed of, I



wondred to see *Cavaliers* carry to the Warres such superfluous retinue; as frequently to have men riding after them, some bearing a *Coate*, some a *Fiddle*, many nothing: These *Spahy-Timariots* besides their service in Warre, have another use no lesse important, that is, to awe the *Provinces* wherein they live, and cause them to be well *Cultivat*; wherefore in all expeditions many are left at home: they are bravely horsed managing their *Lance*, and *Bow*, with much *dexteritie*: their number is uncertaine, as ever multiplying, either upon better *Population* of old possessions, or conquest of new; so both *Peace*, and *Warre* encrease them; nothing but the losse of a *Province* doth diminish them; for their *death* is but the *preferment* of new *deservers*.

At this time, the owners of the *Timars* are about three hundred thousand, whereto added their companions, which they are obliged and never faile to bring in, they make in all, above seven hundred thousand; which number was told me, with many other of their notes, by some of the *Timariots* in the *Army*, where though held a *Spy*, they scorned to afflict mee, but rather chusing to glorifie their State in my Relation at home, informed me of all, and much against my will, forced mee in their presence to write it downe; which I did in *Italian*, and in termes so respective, as when the *Interpreter* expounded, they received me exceeding kindly, making me *eate*, *drinke*, and *lodge* in their tents all night: Beside the *Spahyes*, there are another sort of Horsemen, who are *Voluntaries*, serving at their owne charge; they are of three sorts: Some come in hopes of present *Booty*; others

to



to merit a *Timar*; the third in meere devotion to gaine *Paradice* by dying for the *Mahometan* cause.

The first of all others, the basest, mixt of *Turks*, and *Christians*, usually goe before the Army, to Spy, and Pillage; they having rather the Spirits of *Free-Booters*, then of *Souldiers*, would never stand one stroke of an encounter, but that the desperate bravery of their companies, does often engage them *irrevocably*: The second sort are forward enough, especially where the service is eminent: The third are the most *resolute* troopes of the Army; they come like so many *Decii*, men vowed for the *publique*; nor are they knowne ever to returne home, unlesse with *victory*, some of them are daily seene single to invade a whole *Squadron*; others after much assay of valour open their breasts, and stand a volley of *Muskets*; these men are heavy upon the enemy, for --- *Vincitur haud gratis jugulo qui provocat hostem*.

This *Resolution* is not the child of *Reason*, or *Honour*; but bred by way of *Religion*; for *Mahomet* knowing he had not to deale with a *Scholastique* and *Speculative* generation, but with a people *rude*, and *sensuall*, made not his *Paradice* to consist in *Visions*, and *Hallelujahs*; but in delicious fare, pleasant Gardens, and *Wenches* with great eyes, who were ever peculiarly affected in the *Levant*; Now to such as dye in Wars for the *Mahometan* faith, he promises that their *Soules* shall suddenly have given them young lusty bodies, and set in *Paradice*, eternally to enjoy those pleasures, notwithstanding any former *sinnes*, to those who dye other deaths, he assigns a *Purgatory* tedious, and at last not such an heighth of pleasure: It is scarce credible,



dible, what numbers these *hopes* bring in; I have seene troopes sometimes of above an hundred together; so effectually an *Instrument* of State in *Superstition*, and such deepe *Impressions* does it make, when fitted to the *passions* of the *Subject*; and that usefull in those whom neither reason, nor honour could possesse: The chiefe *Auxiliaries* of the *Turkes*, are the *Tartars*, who live on this side mount *Taurus*; they are by us called the *Petit Tartars*, to distinguish them from those others of *Chriem*, who have much vaster *Dominions* beyond the mountaine, but thereby of difficult *Commerce*, with these parts of the *World*.

The great *Turke* hath made frequent *affinitie*, and league with these *Petit Tartars*, and hath entayled the *Crowne* upon them, in case the *Ottoman line* should fayle; not only because when a small nation inherits a greater; the lesser is immerst in the accesse of the greater; which under colour of loosing it selfe, makes an *acquist* of its *inheritor*; but for other regards peculiar to that *Nation*, especially for their *Scituation* upon the *Blacke Sea*, in such manner, as they may at pleasure, make sudden *Excursions*, to the very point of *Constantinople* it selfe; nor had the *Turke* any remedy, when absent in *Impresses* from home: wherefore he casts many tyes upon them, and seldome goes to *Warre* without some of their *Troopes*, which beside the *ayde*, and *reputation* they affoord him, are a kinde of hostage: in this preparation against *Poland*, there came downe fortie thousand of them to the *Campe*, but were marched forward with the *Army*, before my arrivall; so that I saw none of them, save some few sicke, and *casheired* persons, who seemed more  
fallow,



*fallow*, and *ill-favourder* people then the *Turks*, not so well *cloathed*, nor so *civill*; and those *Turkes* who wished me well, forewarned me from going amongst them, telling me their hatred to *Christians* was such, as they would goe neere to *captive*, or *rifle* me: When I entred the *Skirts* of the *Empire*, the *fame* of their *Army* then meeting for *Poland*, was (as *fame* uses to be,) *excessive*, threatening no lesse then seven hundred thousand; but upon neerer accessse, it scarce held up one hundred and fourescore thousand, reckoning in the *Tartars*: whereupon I much enquired, why the *Turkish Armies* were not now so numerous as in former times: among many answers, the wisest hit upon three points, first that the *enemies* now (excepting the *Persian*) were not so *Potent* as heretofore; Secondly, *experience* had taught them, that multitudes over-vaste are neither capable of *order*, nor *provision*; wherefore to avoyde *confusion*, and *famine*, they bring no more into the Field then are *necessary*: the third was, before their *Dominions* were enlarged, they thought it better to employ their multitudes in new *Conquests*, then to leave them idle, *necessitous*, and *dangerous* at home; but since their enlarged *territories*, they are distributed into *Colonies* to people, and manage them, which thereby will in time, become more *populous*, and *potent*, then ever: Thus did none of them acknowledge any *diminution* of people, as is plainly supposed by many, who never viewed their great *swarmes* and *vaste plantations*: The *Turkish Armes*, much differ from ours: their *Harquebuze* like our *Calyver*; their *Scymitar*, a crooked flat Backe-Sword; at *sea* amongst ropes, or on *Horse-backe* against



against *Armour*, it excelles a *Rapier*, but in open fight, is much inferiour, it hath ever beene the *Easterne* weapon, as likewise their *Iron Mace*, which they use both for stroke, and hurle; they are admirable with their Bow and Arrowes; there is among other *Trophies*, at the *Castle gate* of *Belgrade*, set up a *Head-peece*, which I hold *Petronell* prooffe, (shot cleane through both sides, (and as they say) head and all, with one of their *Bowes*; the Arrow (as all theirs are) like those little red ones which our children use, I saw yet sticking in the *Head peece*: they beare no weapons but in travell; then some of them seeme like a moving *Armory*: First, the girdle stucke with three or foure *Pistols*; then on each side, a knife as long as mine arme, with another of a foot long, for ordinary uses, tuckt to his Coat: an *Harquebuze* on his shoulder; on his thigh a *Scymitar*; on the one side of the *Saddle pum-mell*, a *Petronell*; on the other a straight *Sword*, the blade hollow, long, and foure-square; by that, either a little *Axe*, or an *Hungarian Mace*, or both, at his backe, hang Bow and Arrowes: when he comes to his *lodging*, all these with his Bridle full of *Brasse gilt Bosses*, hee fastens to the *tree* or *wall* where he rests; after, upon the ground spreads a *Blanquet*, whereon hee first suppes, then sleeps in his *Clothes*, with his *Saddle* in stead of a *pillow*: *Armour* I thinke they have not so plentifull, and compleat as we; yet I know not well, for it was ever packt up on Horse, or Waggon, to three Horsemen was allowed one Waggon; I saw no *Musters*; nor *Marches* neere an enemy, and therefore have little experience of their *Discipline* in that point: They March in *Ranke* and *File*, with



with wonderfull silence, which makes commands received readily: they are alwayes provided of Bisket, dried flesh, and store of Rice, with a kinde of course Butter, so as in the greatest desarts, they are in plentie: thus their Armies passe the sandy barren Countreyes towards *Persia*, with lesse endurance then did the *Romans* in small numbers of old: One notable piece of their discipline, they told me; that is, excepting none but the *Ianizaries*, to encompassse all their other foot *Battagliaes*, in the Reare, with greatest part of the Horse, in forme of a *halfe-Moone*; they have order not to meddle with the enemy, but only to necessitate their owne forward, till they have gone through the opposite Forces, and in case of Flight, to hold them out to slaughter; which done, themselves begin upon the enemy: thus that necessitie which is the Mother of all brave performance in vulgar spirits, and which the Ancients so much sought to cast upon the Souldier, by Hills, Rivers, and such Scituations, the *Turkes* carry along in all places; thereby forcing valour, even out of feare; so serving themselves effectually of People neither valiant, nor affectionate, and that without Intreaties, Donatives, or other inconvenient indulgence of Government: Thus much of their Land Forces; their Navies are provided to the Seas within their Dominions: the chiefe are the *Blacke Sea*, and the *Mediterraneum*; the *Hellspont* I esteeme but a passage from the one, to the other: Their *Bosphoran* Fleet Trades into the *Blacke Sea*, upon severall Services; as to invade the *Moscovites*, *Circassies*, *Cossackes*, with others, returning in *July*, or *August*, laded with Honey, Waxe, and especially

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cially Wood, and Slaves, which it transports to *Alexandria*, buying therewith, Flax, Sugar, Sherbets, Rice, Tapestry, Corne, and other *Egyptian* Commodities; with which, and part of the Tribute, in *Ianuary*, they returne for *Constantinople*, so enjoying the Trade, Winds which in those parts usually in Summer sit Northernly, and in Winter Southernly.

The other part of their Navy serves upon the *Mediterraneum*; it is called the *Barbary* Fleet; it is the more Warlike, and acknowledges the *Gran Signior*, but not so absolute; for the gaines of the other Fleet goes to his Coffers; but what the *Mores* get is their owne; which makes them more earnest in *Pyracy*, and desirous to be held as *Pyrats*; to gaine a kinde of libertie, and that all *Christians* may be Prize, without any impediment by league at Court: This the *Turke* grants under their excuse of their disobedience, and *Pyracie*, hee infests those *Christians*, who being in League with him, hee could by no other pretence weaken; and this also in case of necessitie, keeps him an exercised Fleet for Warre: That this is connivence appeares plaine; for he Claimes, and Protects their Cities, though not their Persons, and they never make Booty of *Turkish* Goods, or Subject, though a *Christian*; and divers of them I saw Sayling in the midst of the *Armadoe Royall*; yet they counterfeited the *Pirate* so well, that the *Gallyes*, and *Vessels* of *Argyers*, will not come within the *Dardanelli*; and my selfe not then knowing this Art, had at *Rhodes*, by a rash mistake, almost lost my Libertie; where the Admirall *Galleon* of *Tripoly*, comming for fresh Water, Rode in the Mouth of the *Port* above three houres without casting



casting Anchor, as pretending feare of being within command; this made me judge it an *English* Ship, as likewise the Colours, which so farre off I tooke for the Kings; wherefore desirous to see my Countrey-men, I hired a *Greeke* Boatman to carry me thither, where being almost arrived, I perceived my desperate errour, from whence I was forced with entreaty, money, and my dagger at his breast, to make him rowe mee off.

The *Turks* are but ill supplied with Sea-men; for beside *Renegadaes* they have but few skilfull Saylers, and would have had fewer, but that as of old, the *Carthaginian* Hostilitie exercised the *Romans* at Sea, who else, had not so early learnt Navigation, and by consequence, could not so soone have Mastred the World; just so, (though in a farre weaker manner) doe *Florence* and *Malta* contest with the *Turke* at Sea, enough to practise, but not defeat him: to which effect, I have heard some of them by way of jeere say, that the *Gran Duke*, and *Malta*, did by the *Gran Signior*, like little barking *Dogs* about a *Lyon*, keepe him awake, and if sometimes they ventur'd to give him a nippe, it did but rouze him, without any hurt of importance; for ought I knew, they had reason; for though resistance be necessary, yet when so insufficient it is worse then none.

Their termes of Navigation are *Italian*, either to their Slaves, being most of that Nation; or that themselves *Inlanders* originally, have a *Language* defective in *Maritime* affaires: Their Vessels are either *Turkish* built, or *Prizes*; their owne built, they call *Caramuzalls*, many whereof are great Ships; all have



Rounds on the out-side, like Stayres; the Sterne, and Fore-castle, built foure or five Stories high; so as I have seene some of them carry seven or eight hundred Passengers: that forme makes them slow of Sayle, unwarlike, and easily over-set by weather. Their *Gallyes* are light, of an excellent mould, and endure an high Sea, especially those of *Rhodes*.

The maine strength of both their Fleets, are tall Ships taken from *Hollanders*; where the Cowardize of that Nation is made a Weapon against all *Christendome*; and teaches us what a vertuous crueltie it would be to Barre Ransome, or returne to all who yield their Ships, upon what oddes soever; All great examples have a little of the unjust; now though this might seeme hard measure to such, who yielded upon extreme oddes; yet were it neither so generall a mischiefe, nor so important as the contrary indulgence; and men would not only become more resolute, in those necessities, but more wary of going ill provided.

Nothing makes the *Hollanders* so faint, as the *Turkish* knowne Decree of impunitie, and libertie personall to such as render without discharge of Artillery; wherefore they seeing present safetie in yielding, and no future destruction at Home, doe easily give up other mens goods, for their owne securitie; upon these termes, the Admirall *Galleon* where I Sayled, a goodly Vessell of fortie brave Peeces, had beene taken, as the *Turkes* assured me, by two of their *Polar-kers* of ten, or twelue Guns a peece: Our Ships they doe not willingly set upon; not only for their able defence, but also because the Vessell, which uses to be



be a considerable peece of the Bootie, is to them un-  
usefull; for their employments being *Pyracy*, can  
make little use of an *English* Bottome, whose mould  
is too slow for that purpose: wherewith they asked  
me how we did in Warre at Sea, where our enemies  
might come on, or of, at leisure: I replyed, these  
which came into their Seas, were private Merchants  
Vessels of Trade, flugs made only for burden, and  
weather; But for Warre our *King* had a Navy Roy-  
all of another frame the best for Sayle, and Fight, in  
the World.

The strangest thing I found among the *Turkish*  
Mariners, was their incredible civilitie; I who had  
often proved the *Barbarisme* of other Nations at Sea,  
and above all others, of our owne, supposed my selfe  
amongst *Beares*, till by experience, I found the con-  
trary; and that not only in ordinary civility, but with  
so ready service, such a patience, so sweet, and gentle  
a way, generally through them all, as made me doubt,  
whether it was a dreame, or reall; if at any time I  
stood in their way, or encombred their ropes, they  
would call me with a *Ianum*, or *Benum*, termes of  
most affection, and that with an encline, a voyce, and  
gesture so respective, as assured me, their other words  
(which I understood not) were of the same straine:  
The Captaines chiefe Gaine in this Voyage, is by  
Passengers; yet if interest share in this behaviour,  
they are not quite voyd of it, that can act it so well:  
Nor are they irreligious; for all the Voyage, Mor-  
ning, and Evening, they Salute the *Sunne*, with three  
generall Shouts, and a *Priest* saying a kinde of *Letany*,  
every prayer ending with *Macree Kichoon*, that is, be



*Angels* present, the People answer in manner of a shout *Homin*, that is, Amen.

Thus much of the *Military* part of *Turky*; to which I adde the point of *Fortification*; Herein their proceeding is direct contrary to the *Spaniards*, he not having multitudes of his owne sufficient to Plant *Colonies*, is forced in all his Conquests, (if he will have any people to governe over,) to preserve the *Naturals*: Now they not being assured in *Affection*, must be awed by *Fortresse*; which is a way, not only unsure, but so chargeable, as makes him gaine but little by his winnings.

The *Turke* on the other side, well stored with people; First, considers what number of his owne, he will assigne for *Timariots* to each *Province* which he takes; then he destroyes all its *Nobilitie*, and so farre of the *Vulgar*, till there rest only such a proportion as may till the land, and be awed by those *Timariots* with other ready Forces; that remainder is kept to Manure the land: this thus establisht, he needs not the *Fortresse* for himselfe; nor will he leave it a refuge for *Enemies*, or *Rebels*: yet if it be a Frontier, he does not quite demolish it, but keeps it in such case, as may hold out till he might send an Army, ever supposing himselfe *Master* of the Field; wherefore as it stands in more, or lesse danger, so is it provided: Thus in *Hungary* the Castle of *Belgrade* is neither razed, nor carefully maintained; but that of *Buda* is guarded with a strong Garrison; all those within the Kingdome are pulled downe; so is it in his other Countreyes: his *Maritime* Fortifications, because of sudden accessse by Sayle, are held in the rule of Frontiers,



tiers, and withall to command the *Haven*; yet is not the care of them so diligent as in *Christendome*; they every where gave me free access, excepting *Egypt*; where the extraordinary subtil malice of that people makes more *Vigilance*, and restraint, then elsewhere: Now follows their *Religion*, wherein I noted only the *Politicke* institutions thereof; these observations moving only in that *Sphere*, cannot jarre with a higher, though the motion seeme contrary: *Mahomet* noting the outward solemnities, where-with other *Religions* entertained the minds of men; he judged them perhaps in part, effeminate; as those daintie *Pictures*, and *Musicke* in *Churches*, those strange *Vestures*, and *Processions*, and partly chargeable, as those stately *Sacrifices*, and other solemnities of the *Heathen*, and all driven already, to that heighth, as hee could not out-goe; wherefore hee refused to build his Sect thereon; Nor did hee much affect to support it with *Miracles*, whose credit frequent *Imposters* had rendred suspected to the World; but rather chose to build it upon the *Sword*, which with more assurance commands *Mankinde*: Every *Noveltie* drawes men in for a while; but where the gaine is not great, they soone grow weary, unlesse compulsion hold them on; therefore in his first beginnings, when he was asked what *Miracles* he had to approve his *Doctrine*, he drawing forth his *Scymitar*, told, that *God* having had his *Miracles* so long slighted by the incredulitie of men, would now plant his *Lawes* with a strong hand, and no more leave them to the discretion of *Ignorant*, and vaine man; and that hee had therefore sent him in the power of the *Sword*, rather  
then



then of *Miracles*: from hence is it that now, their Boyes ride to *Circumcision*, bearing an iron club in their hands: Neverthelesse, he fayled not to frame his *Sect* so as might take humane nature; not the *Intellectuall* part; for all *Superstition* subsists on weak *Hypotheses*, whose plausible reason may for a while prevaile in the World, by possessing some shallow, rash, peremptory braines, but cannot hold out long, unlesse it have better *roote*, then that of *argument*: He therefore made it comply with the maine parts of our *Nature*, *Hope*, and *Feare*: to the one he set out a *Paradice*; to the other though not a *Hell*, yet a shrewd *Purgatory*: his Preaching of *Paradice*, more then *Hell*, favours *hope* above *feare*, thereby filling the minde with good *courage*; which was much to his *Military* purpose: for hee finding the *Sword* to be the foundation of *Empires*, and that to manage the *Sword*, the rude and sensuall are more vigorous, then wits softned in a mild *rationall* way of *civilitie*; did first frame his *institutions* to a rude insolent *sensuality*; after which *education*, he fitted his future pretences just unto such capacities: wherefore seeing that Mens *opinions* are in great part, *complexionall*, and *habituall*, it is no wonder to see them taken with *promises*, which to us seeme beastly, and ridiculous; they as much despise ours; and in a more *naturall* way, every thing is received, not at the rate of its owne worth, but as it agrees with the receivers *humour*; whereby, their *hopes*, and *feares* though false, prevailes as strongly as if true, and serve the *State* as effectually, because *Opinion* which moves all our *Actions*, is governed by the *Apparancy* of things, nor by their *realitie*: Now

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to the intent that the most notable *fancies* of men might be entertained, there are foure severall *Orders* in their *Religion*, all very malicious against *Christians*; otherwise I have not noted them vicious, excepting their profest *Sodomy*, which in the *Levant* is not held a vice: each *Order* upholds its reputation upon some one peculiar *vertue*, which alone it professes, not pretending to any other: The *Calenderim* upon *Chastity*, wearing an *iron Ring* through the skin of his yard, in some I have noted it capable of being taken of with small *difficulty*; The *Haggiemlar* on *Musique*, and love-songs: The *Torlacchi* on *Revelations*, and *Enthusiasmes*, to foretell, and divert divine wrath: The most rigid spirits are the *Dervislar*, like *Baals Priests* launching themselves with *Knives*: these *Dervislar* have murdered divers *Bashawes*, & also attempted some of the *Emperours*, in the midst of their *Armies*; so dangerous are violent *spirits*, when seconded by *Religion*, which being the only pretence in its way glorified to *Vmpire Sovereigne authoritie*, is to be kept within its due limits, lest in stead of *Cooperating* with the state, it grow abused beyond that use.

All these *Sects* are governed by one Head, called the *Musty*, whose *authoritie* unites, and orders them; suppressing such disorders, as the *scruples*, or *interesse* of men raise: This *Musty* is created by the *Emperour*, to whom he is held ever subordinate; which makes the *Turkish Theology* excellently to correspond with the *State*, as depending thereon: & seemes of reason more *Politicke*, then if this head *Ecclesiasticke* were of another Countrey, or otherwise *independant* upon the *Prince*, whereby having *interestes* apart, he might

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often make *God Almighty* seeme to decree more conforme thereto, then either to the occasions of the *Prince*, or *Common wealth*: for all *Heathenish Gods* are used like *Puppets*; they seeme to speake, yet is it not they, but the man who in a concealed manner, speaks through them, what he pleases; that part is acted, by the *Expounders* of their *Alcoran* now, as of the *Oracles*, or *Sybiles* bookes of old: Hereby the *Musty* serves to animate the *Souldiers*, by colouring of *publique* impresses with *Divine* authoritie, and also to decide *Controversies*, when they are too unruly for any *arbitrement*, not held *Divine*: wherefore he frequently consults with the *Gran Vizier*, who as the *Soule* of the *State*, *inspires* him to the purpose thereof; full of that *God*, he gives his *Oracles*: They passe for grounded upon the *Alchoran*, which is given out for the Word of *God*: it is written in *Arabicke* verse, in forme of *Dialogue*, betweene the *Angell Gabriel*, and their *Prophet*, it is prohibited to be translated, which both preserves the *Arabicke* tongue, and conceales *Religion*: All set *Texts* are obnoxious to severall *Expositions*, thence growes *distractiō*: So hath this bred foure different *Sects* of *Mahometans*, each interpreting it according to the *Genius* of its *Nation*, the *Tartars Simply*, the *Mores*, and *Arabs Superstitiously*: the *Persian ingeniously*, the *Turkes* with most *liberty*: each *Nation* scornes to yeeld unto other in *opinion*, for honours sake, especially the *Turke*, and *Persian*, who intending the *Conquest* of one another, doe after the old *Custom* of *Princes*, dis-affect their *People* in *Religion* toward the *Enemy*, that they may be more fierce, and obstinate against him, In this point the *Turke* growes

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disadvantaged; for of late, his people begin to bee infected with *Persianisme*: I have heard many of them in publique acknowledge the *Persians* better *Mahometans*, then themselves: which makes the *Turkes* much braver Souldiers upon the *Christian*, then upon the *Persian*; against the one, they are carryed by zeale, malice, and *disdaine*: but against the other, only by a *Nationall emulation*: This impressiion is made deeper by many other circumstances, inso-much as divers *Ianizaries* have told me, that they goe to the Wars of *Persia*, very unwillingly, but to these of *Poland*, or *Hungary* as to pastimes: One of their *Priests* told me of an old *Prophecy*, they have: That their *Emperour* should winne the *red Apple*, and in the seventh yeare after, if they did not defend themselves bravely, the *Christians* should overcome them, but howsoever, in the twelfth, they should at the furthest be overcome by the *Christians*: The *red Apple* (he said) was *Constantinople*, though some (quoth he) hold it to be *Rome*: I holding such *prophecies*, rather cunning, then true, searched after the Plot thereof; wherefore I entreated him to tell me, how much time was contained in those yeares: he answered that each yeare, some had limited by the age of *Mahomet*, but (quoth he) in vaine, for it is prohibited us to search into the times appointed; that clause gave me some light, for I remembred, among other causes of a *States* preservation, one assigns *proximitie* of danger, his reason is, because, *apprehension* of danger causes *vigilance*, and *diligence* wherein lyes safetie: hereupon this *Prophet*, to make the *Turkes* vigilant against the *Christian*, threatens them with the seventh



yeare, yet not so *inevitable*, but valour may resist : and to make every yeare provided against, as that, therefore is it prohibited to fixe the time determinate ; then their fatall destruction not to passe the twelfth yeare, makes them in the meane while use the *Christians* as their future destroyers, with much hostilitie, as a revenge *anticipate* : which serves right to the purpose of the State : and when all comes to all, those yeares (as such *Propheticall* times use) are like to prove very long ones.

Amongst other qualities, whereby *Mahometisme* possesses the minds of men, one is its pleasing doctrine, I remember when their Prophet in the *Alcoran* asks the *Angell* concerning *venery*, and some other delicacies of life, he telles him, that God did not give man such appetites, to have them frustrate, but enjoy'd, as made for the gust of man, not his torment, wherein his Creator delights not ; These kinde of opinions will ever be well-come to flesh, and bloud, when as the contrary over-great severitie of Discipline would have pleased none, but some few austere complexions, and to the greater part would have seemed but a persecution of nature, or perhaps hypocriticall, whose reputation might soone have beene lost in scandall.

The cunning of that seconding humane inclination appeares in the different successe of two politicke acts of the *Alcoran* : the one permits *Poligamie*, to make a numerous People, which is the foundation of all great *Empires* : The other pretending a divell in every grape, prohibits *wine* : thereby it hardens the Souldier, prevents disorder, and facilitates publique provision :



provision: The first as pleasing to nature is generally received: The other is borne downe by appetite, so as more drinke wine, then forbear: Thus he maintaining his institutions by seconding of humane disposition, succeeds more readily, then those, whose ordinances by crossing it, goe as it were against the haire: Now the greatest number of men being governed by *passions*, in all *people* they have beene entertained, for the present life, with Iustice; for the future, with *Religion*: yet there were ever found some few Intellectuall complexions, in whom the Understanding prevayled above the Passions: those discerning wits could not receive the grosse supposals, upon which the Heathenish superstitions relyed; wherefore to traine them in such wayes as civill societies require, they were instructed in a seeming rationall way, wherein they were amused about an *intelligible* world, stored with rewards of *honour*, *vertue*, and *knowledge*, with punishments of *infamy*, *vice*, and *ignorance*: these were to them in steed of *Elisian Fields*, or *Infernall Rivers*, and as some scoffers thinke, but little better of assurance, onely righter framed to such capacities: by these *speculations*, *contemplative* heads, who else, might dangerously have busied themselves about State affaires, were finally *mop'd*, and *diverted*: To which purpose I have oft considered, whether *learning* is ever like to come in request among the *Turkes*; and as farre as conjecture may venture, I doubt not thereof, for *learning* is not admitted in the beginning of *Empires*--*emollit mores, nec sinit esse feros*, and so weakneth the Sword: but when once, that hath bred *greatnesse*, and *sloth*, then with other



*effemimacies* come in *letters*; thus in *Rome*, at the first *Philosophers* were banisht, as *unactive*; but upon the conquests of *Carthage*, and *Greece* they crept in: And the *Turkish Empire* consists much on those *Countrys*, whose eare makes *speculative wits*, and which of old, bread the greatest *Divines*, *Philosophers*, and *Poets* in the world; wherefore though for some ages, the *Turkish* race may retaine its owne proper *fiercenesse*; yet in time, those subtile *clymates*, and *mixture* in bloud with the people thereof, will *Gentilize*, and infect it with the ancient softnesse *naturall* to those places: I have often seene Copies of *love verses*, and some few peeces of *Mathematiques* passe amongst them with much applause: I saw one for *singing*, and composing of two or three *Sonnets*, had at a feast in *Belgrado* of *Hungary*, a Horse given him worth neere twentie pound *English*; and in the accessse of all *Arts*, *Poets* have ever made the first entry, as with their *Fictions*, and *Musicke*, aptest to charme savage braynes, thus *Orpheus* in *Greece*, our *Bards* in *England*, began the *Dance* to all other *Sciences*: *Statuary*, and *Picture* can never come into *Turky*, by reason of their *Superstition*, which not only abhorres worshipping of such *formes*, but making of them; As for other *learning*, it is like to insinuate, but by degrees, and with many repulses, as a corruption most pernicious to their *Religion*, especially the *searching* parts of *Philosophy*, which stomacke that sensuall *Paradise*, as hath beene noted in *Averroes*, *Avicenna*, and others, who could not endure it: Thereupon, the *Academy* which began to rise up at *Bagadat* was suppress: yet let no man conclude that this can hinder *Philosophy*, for there



there can never want wits able to bend it to *Religion* with them, as well as *Plato* with the *Grecians*, and *Aquinas* with the *Romanists*.

Now the naturall course of things much follows the *Sunne*, who gives life to all, wherefore this *Cyclopadia* hath beene observed to runne from *East*, to *West*: Thus have most *Civilities*, and *Sciences* come as some thinke, from the *Indian Gymnosophists*, into *Egypt*, from thence into *Greece*, so into *Italy*, and then over the *Alpes*, into these faint *North-west* parts of the world, whence if the *Inquisition* hinder not, perhaps they may passe into those new *Plantations Westward*, and then returne in their old circle among the *Levantine*s, whose Wits seeme more abstruse, and better fixt for *contemplation*, but ours more nimble and ready, so as their *discourses* are more *profound*: ours more *superficiall*, and *plausible*, and were I to account for the losse of their ancient *Authors*, I should not only accuse *Language*, *Tyranny*, *Warre*, and *Interesse Ecclesiastique*, but especially this different relish, and straine of our *fancy* from theirs, for I have found it in *conceits*, as in ayres of *Musicke*: in great part, that takes not with them which much affects us, our very *Reason* differs: Before I shut up this point of *Turkish Religion*, I must remember two principall points; one is *Predestination*, the other *Purgatory*: the first not meant in matter of *Salvation*, but of *fortune*, and *success* in this life, they peremptory permit to *Destiny* fixt, and not avoydable by any act of ours: I had two notable examples; one was at *Rhodes*, where just as we entred the Port, a *French Lacquey* of our company dyed with a great plague sore, which



which he had taken of the *Gunners Mate*, who with one running upon him, conversed, and slept amongst us : The rest were so farre from feare, at his death, as they sate presently eating, and drinking by him, and within halfe an houre, after his removall, slept on his Blanquet, with his cloathes in stead of a Pillow ; which when I advised them not to doe, they pointed upon their foreheads, telling me it was written there at their *birth* when they should *dye* ; they scaped, yet divers of the passengers dyed thereof before wee got to *Egypt* : The other was at my passage to *Andrinople* in *Thrace* ; my selfe, the *Ianizary*, and one more being in a *Coach*, wee passed by a man of good qualitie, and a Souldier, who lying along, with his Horse by, could hardly speake so much, as to intreat us to take him into *Coach* ; the *Ianizary* made our companion ride his Horse, taking the man in : whose brest being open, and full of plague tokens, I would not have had him received ; but he in like manner, pointing to his owne forehead, and mine, told me wee could not take hurt, unlesse it were written there, and that then we could not avoyd it ; the fellow dyed in the night, by our sides : and in our indemnitie approved this confidence, to be sometimes *fortunate*, how wise soever ; doubtlesse for the publiqueit causes *valour*, and prevents that *interruption* of Trade, wherewith the *office of Health* in *Italy*, ruines greater numbers daily, then any plague ever did : I thought this opinion of *fate*, had usually taken men off from all *industrious* care of their owne *safety* ; but in dangers at Sea, and other cases where diligence may evidently import, I have still found the contrary ; and  
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in such *occurrence* as these, where *industry* is not of manifest avayle; this assurane does not doe much hurt in leaving vaine care, as good in strentning the spirits whose decay yeelds a man up to all bad *impressions*: They admit no *Hell* for any but those who beleeve not *Mahomet*; their owne they affright with a *Purgatory*, which holds but till *Doomes-Day*; it is acted in the *Grave*; the paine is inflicted by a bad *Angell*, whose force is lessened by a good one, according as the parties life was led; to strengthen this good *Angell* they doe many workes of charitie: this furnisheth all *Turky* with excellent *Hanes*, *Hospitals*, and *Meskeetoes*; this makes the best *bridges*, and *highwayes* that can be imagined, and stores them with *fountaines* for the reliefe of *passengers*: These faire works doe caused, seemed to mee like daintie fruit growing out of a *Dung-hill*; but the *vertues* of *vulgar* minds are of so base a nature, as must bee manured with foolish *hopes*, and *feares*, as being too grosse for the finer *nutriment* of *reason*: These were the chiefe points I observed in their *Religion*; onely the manner of its *exercise* remaines which in brieft, is thus: To every *Meskeeto* is adjoyned a high slender *Spyre-steeple*; on the out-side whereof on high, is made a round, with a doore opening *South East*, or *East*, as the Countrey lyes towards *Mecha*; here the *Priest* entering, with his hands bowed over his eares, walking round, turning on the right hand, in a loud voyce tels the People, many times over, that there is but one *God*; this being done, all the devouter sort, (which are not many) goe to *Church*, and say their *prayers*, continually repeating--*Alloyh Valloyh-Hibilloyp*, that

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is, the severall names of *God*; their *gestures* are first sitting arosse legg'd, waisting of the body, then prostrate twice on their face, they kisse the earth; afterward they rise, and stand with their hands bowed over their eares, but never doe they kneele, or uncover the head, holding those postures unmanly; so different are the *opinions* of *Nations*, in point of *reverence*, and *decency*: this service is performed five times a day: first at *Day-breake*; then at *Mid-day*; at midst of the *After-noone*; at *Sun-set*; and more then an houre after: The first and last make a dainty show, having all the *Meskeetoes*, hung full of *burning Lamps*: this frequency of *Prayer*, requires none to the *Church*, but persons at leisure; others make their houses, or high-ways serve, and was devised by *Sergius* the *Monke*, as it is thought, in imitation of his foure times of *Pater-noster*; knowing that *Religion* runs no greater danger then of *Oblivion*, and therefore should bee often called to minde: their chiefe day is *Friday*, yet it hinders no *Market* for ought I could see, and seemed of no more regard, then the day of a *Saint* almost worne out: they have two solemne times *Byram*, and *Ramdàn*; they are both *Lents*, the first lasts three dayes, the other a moneth: their fast is according to the *Jewish* manner, not in *quantity*, or *qualitie* of meats, but in *time*; for all day long, they may neither eate, drinke, nor use any sort of *Venery*; but at the appearing of the first *Starre*, they make themselves amends, in *gluttonnesse*, *drunkenesse*, and *lust*; they have one peece of *Divinitie*, which I wonder is not *transplanted* to other *Countrys*; that is a custome of the *Priests* to sell their *merit*; some more, some lesse,



lesse, according to the *Sanctimony* of the Seller, and time limited; I once at *Sophia*, saw one sell the *ver-tue* of two yeares *hermitage* for a peece of blew cloth sufficient for two Turkish coates, and a quantitie of Rice, about five bushels *English*; price enough considering the Ware in it selfe; and yet not deare, if wee reckon the advantages of a *religious reputation*; Next their *Church*, I must place the *Tribunall*; for their *Judges* are ever *Ecclesiasticall* persons; whereby both orders joyned give *reputation* to one another; and not onely reputation, but *maintenance*; for these places of *Judicature* are the onely preferment of the *Priest-hood*; wherewith the *Priest*, and *Iudge* being maintained in the same person, two gaps are stopt with one bush, without causing any part of the land to lye dead in the hands of the *Clergy*, or otherwise impoverishing the people with *tythes*: There are divers orders of *Judges*; especially two; the *Cady*, and over him the *Moulacady* like a *Lord Chiefe-Iustice*; the supreme head of *Judicature* is the *Musty*; in great cases, there lies appeale; but none beyond the *Musty*; his Decrees the *Emperour* himselfe will not question, for indeed they are secretly guided by his *assent*, and the *Gran Viziers*; These *Judges* are all, excepting the *Musty*, limited to set Precincts, and when convicted of corruption, they are made horrid *examples*; The maine points, where- in *Turkish Justice* differs from that of other *Nations*, are three: it is more *Severe*, *Speedy*, and *Arbitrary*: They hold the foundation of all *Empire* to consist in exact *obedience*, and that in exemplary *severitie*; which is undeniable in all the World, but more notable in their *State*, made up of severall People different in *Bloud*, *Seet*, and *Interesse*, one from another, nor linkt



in affection, or any common engagement toward the publique good, other then what meere terror puts upon them; a *sweet hand* were uneffectuall upon such a *subject*, and would soone finde it selfe slighted; therefore the *Turkish Justice* curbes, and executes, without either remorse or respect; which succeeds better, then ever did the *Romans*, with all their milder arts of *Civilltie*; compare their conquests, with those made by the *Turke*; you shall finde his to continue *quiet*, and firme, theirs not secure for many ages; witnesse first *Italy*, then *Greece*, and *France*, alwayes full of *Rebellions*, *Conspiracies*, and new troubles; which were caused by their *lenity*, that did not humble the conquered soe low as it should; for rebellion is nothing but bold *discontent*; so that as there is required *discontent*, so must there bee also some strength of *Spirit*, without which the *discontent* cannot quicken into *rebellion*, but faints into a stupified *humilitie*: all victory disgusts the subdued; a milde victor leaves that disgust spirit for mischief: but the remorselesse way of the *Turke*, mortifies it, by an oppression which secures him: to this effect, I have heard divers of them boast, that *God* hath appointed them for an iron rod over other *Nations*: and in most parts of *Turky*, especially *Slavonia*, *Bosnah*, *Hungary*, *Macedonia*, and *Thrace*, the fiercest people of that *Empire* over all pvblique places, he sets a great *iron Club*, to intimate, what they must trust to; nor does hee so much relye upon the peoples *affection*, which would tye him to a respectfull, and lesse absolute *domination*, and then also be in their power to alter, as upon that strength which is in his owne hand

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makes him more himselfe, and binds with the tye of *feare*, whereto humane nature is ever enthralled: The second point wherein their justice excels, is the quicke dispatch: If the businesse bee present matter of *fact*, then upon the least complaint, the *parties*, and *testimonies* are taken, and suddenly brought before the *Judge*, by certaine *Ianizaries*, who with great staves, guard each streer, as our night Watchmen with Holberds, at *London*; the cause is ever in lesse then two houres dispatched, *execution* instantly performed unlesse it appeare a cause so important, as is allowed an *appeale* to the *Moulacady*, where also it is as speedily decided: If it bee matter of *title*, or *right*, the parties name their witnesses who shall presently bee forced to come in; for they have no old deeds, or any other reckonings beyond the memory of man; in such *cases*, *possession*, and *moderne* right carries it, without that odious course of looking too farre backe-ward into the times past: this expedition avoyds *confusion*, and cleares the *Court*; whereby it becomes sufficient for many causes, and so for a great people; now as for the particular person, though sometimes hee seeme disadvantaged by the hast, which may make *judgement* rash; yet that hast not being *passionate*, it happens not often; nor then likely, is his dammage therein worse, then with us, where after the *suspence*, *delay*, and *charge* of suit, the over-sight of a *Lawyer*, may with error of pleading cast a good cause; soe that after a man hath beene miserably detained to such disadvantage of his other affaires, as hee had better have lost his suit at first; then doth it finally depend not so much on its owne bare right, as upon the *advocates* sufficiency;



The last notable point of their *Judicature* is, they have little fixt law, and therewith flourishing, make good that of *Tacitus*--*in pessima Republica plurimæ leges*; yet they pretend to judge by the *Alcoran*; whereby the opinion of *divine authoritie* does countenance those arbitrary decisions, which without some *authentique law* to justifie them, would hardly bee endured; This *Alcoran* is manifestly no Booke of particular law cases; wherefore they pretend its study does not informe the *Judge literally*, but by way of *illumination*, which not being given to secular persons, does neatly put loosers off, from referring themselves to the *Text*: The *Justice* being arbitrary, makes it in their opinion, the more to the purpose of the publique; for the *Judges* knowing themselves but instruments of *State*, and that in its favour is their establishment, they will ever judge by the interesse thereof, if not out of honesty, yet for their owne advancement.

I must eternally remember the *Turkish* justice for honourable to *Strangers*, whereof I have twice had experience: First at *Saraih*, in *Bosnah*, where I was forced to *Justice* by a *Christian*, whom I had sore wounded, for threatening to buy mee for a slave; when the Cause was declared by two *Turkes* my companions; the *Judge* not onely freed mee with words, and gesture very respective, but fined my adversary at fortie *Dollars*, and menaced him with death, if any mischief were plotted against me.

Another time at *Andrinople*, eleven, or twelve of us supping together, all *Turkes* but my selfe; there was a *Soulack*, who is an Officer very eminent about the *Emperours* person; hee dranke so beastly drunke, as in  
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the night, hee having a lodging in the top of the *Hane*, mistooke himsele, tumbled off to the ground, and within few houres, dyed: The next morning, all the company was imprisoned, but I, who in the night, had escaped out at a decayed corner, of the *Hane*, and hid my selfe under a Bridge, without the *Citie*; every man was fined as *circumstance* did either *excuse*, or aggravate, the least payed foure thousand *Aspers*, some twice as much: The *Iudge* by reason of my flight, suspected some extraordinary guilt in me, and had sent out *Ianizaries* for my apprehension.

I seeing the outrageous drunkenness of the *Turkes*, had all my Voyage pretended for little lesse then a *Commandement* in the *Religion* of my *Countrey*, not to drinke above three draughts at a meeting; whereby, the respect of *conscience* gave mee that *priviledge* of sobriety, which no other *excuse* could have obtained; wherefore when the *Iudge* was by the rest informed of my *abstinence*, and that I had no hand in the excess, he called backe the *Officers*, and pronounced mee free: wherein, whether hee regarded mee as *abstemious*, or as a stranger, I could not learne: One *custome* in their *Iustice* I have found, which confutes our vulgar *maxime*, that sayes no commerce can bee maintained without *fidelity* of oath, for all *Turky* is but a *miscellany* of people, whose *Religions* have little effect upon the *conscience*, and that drowned in *faction* against one another, some of them as the *Zinganaes*, doe not so much as pretend too any *God*: in this case, an oath were of to slender *credit* for matters of *importance*; for hee who will commit testimony to oath, must bee sure to uphold in the people an *awfull*, and  
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tender sense of *Divine power*, or else in trusting oathes with tryals, he exalts *knavery* in the *oppression* of *truth* wherefore they put not the *witnesses* to oath, but examine them a part; wherein some wise *Daniels* may have such art of questions so *unexpected*, and of such *secret consequence* as no premeditate agreement can prevent: A *false witnessse* endures what the accused should have done, had he beene guilty: The word of a knowne *Turke* upon the faith of a *Musselman* beares downe all other *testimony*, unlesse relieved by strong *circumstance*: *Three women make but one witnessse*.

When any man dyes, the land in most parts of *Turky*, is in the *Emperours* gift, who also hath the *tenth* of his *moveables*: The rest first payes the *Widowes* their *Iointure* agreed, and inrolled; then what remaines is equally divided among his children: The sonne of any great *Commander*, neither inherits his fathers *dignity*, nor is admitted to new; thus are both *Riches*, and *Honour* hindered from continuing in a *family*; whereby none hath any credit with the people, but as instruments to the *Gran-Signior*, who being sole-giver of all, every man fits himselfe to his *employments*, without possibility of any *greatnesse unserviceable*, *independant*, or dangerous to the *Crowne*: for place, the *right hand* they hold uppermost for the *Clergy*, and the left for a *Souldier*, because it gives a man possession of his *Companions Sword*; thus doe both orders converse without the depression of either: Vpon this Body of their *Lawes*, I will set one note concerning their *Head*: Every *State* is then best fitted, when its *Lawes*, and *Governours* suit with the end whereto it is framed: A *State* ordered onely to  
*preservation*



*preservation* is then happy when its *Laws* not onely bid peace, for that is vaine, but contrive it, and when the Prince is of *Nature* peaceable: But the *Turkish Empire* is originally compos'd to amplify by warre, and for that purpose, keeps the *Souldiery* in continuall pay; wherefore it is best fitted with a *Prince* of nature violent, and warlike, of which straine the *Mahometan* Race use to bee; and when any of them hath chanced to proove *milde*, though never so *just*, and *Religious*, it hath beene found lesse profitable, and glorious to the *Empire*, then the violence of the others, although accompanied with much *Tyranny*; Therefore the supposed errors of *Sultan Murat* now reigning, being manifestly those of a stout *Spirit*, agree with *violent* nature of the *Government*, wherein they are not so pernicious as the *Christians* imagine: To these berter parts of their *Iustice*, I must attaque the maine disorder which defames it; that is, their unsatiabable *covetousnesse*; which in a *Morall*, or *Theologicall* way this discourse cannot lay hold off; but in respects *Civill*, it is a thing of dangerous effect, many times disappointing commands of greatest consequence: *Charles* the eight of *France* lost the kingdome of *Naples*, not so much by any other error, as by the *covetousnesse* of his *Treasurer*, the *Cardinall* of *San Malo* in detaining such disbursements as the *King* had appointed to the provisions thereof; nor can there be any greater defeat of *publique* designs, then when the commands whereon they relye, are by the *avarice* of the inferiour *Magistrate* made frustrate: wherefore I noted it is a pernicious piece of *Government*, that after the *Basshaes* had at *Sophya* made publique Procla-

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mation to hang all *Ianizaries* who should be found behind them; yet did I see many very confidently stay behind, and make their peace for money with the *Governours* of Provinces: some told mee that if it should come to the *Emperours* notice, hee would put those *Governors* to cruell deathes; and certainly such errours can have no lesse remedies: wherefore *Polybius*, and others as they write, that the *Affricans* were alwayes more covetous then those of *Europe*, so also doe they accuse them of more crueltie; and sometimes crueltie is not only the cure of their avarice, but the effect of it, for they gladly take any colour for execution upon those whose death affords a good confiscation: The fourth point proposed was their morall parts: Those I compare to *Glasses*: the education and *lawes* of a Country are the moulds wherein they are blowne to this, or that shape, but the *metall* is the spirit of a man, therefore with that I will begin: It hath beene maintained, that men are naturally borne, some for slavery, others to command: divers *complexions* make men *timid*, *dextrous*, *patient*, *industrious*, and of other qualities right for service; others are naturally *magnanimous*, *considerate*, *rapacious*, *daring*, and *peremptory*; No man can say, *Nature* intends the one sort to obey; the other to rule; for if *Nature* have intentions, yet is it vanitie to argue them by our modell --- *quis illi à secretis?* but sure the latter are very prone to invade the others, and they as apt to beare: This difference of *Spirit* is manifest, sometimes in whole *Nations*; as to compare the *Spanish* with the *Sicilian*; the bravery of the one, and pusillanimity of the other, seemes naturally to marke out the

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one for *Domination*, the other for *bondage*: Thus if ever any race of men were borne with *Spirits* able to beare downe the world before them, I thinke it to be the *Turke*; he is in his behaviour, (howsoever otherwise) the right sonne of *Ishmaell*; every mans hand is against him, and his against every man: betweene *Christendome*, and *Persia*, he hath all the world against him; he still designs one, or both, for his taske; and that not as other *Princes*, for *counterpoyse* with intent of Peace; but with a resolution irrevocably engaged, to bee *all*, or *nothing*: Vnto the greatnesse of their *Empire*, I doe much ascribe the greatnesse of their *Spirits*: No man can expect in *Luca*, or *Genoa* such vast sold men, as in old *Rome*; for mighty *Empires* exercise their subjects in mighty employments, which makes them familiar with admirable *examples*, and great *victories*, whereby their minds are enlarged: whereas petty *States* with their *Petty* employments, timid counsels, and frequent disgraces, impoverish, and enfeeble mens fancies, rendring them *pussillanimous*, and too straight for great thoughts: Now as all constitutions of bodies are prone to severall diseases peculiar to their frame; so have the minds of men to their divers abilities some proper way of *error*; the *subtile* use to bee *malicious*, *false*, and *superstitious*; the *Timide* encline to breach of *promise*, to base wayes of *revenge*, and the like; The *magnanimous* are apt to bee corrupt with an haughty *Insolency*, though in some sort *generous*: this is the *Turkish* way, *remorcelesse* to those who beare up, and therefore mistaken for beastly; but such it is not; for it constantly receives *humiliation* with much *sweetnesse*: This to their *honour*, and my *satisfaction*, I ever

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found: I had almost houely *experience* hereof, which my unfoyled successe makes mee not blush to remember; yet not to weary my pen, I will note onely my second dayes journey, which in the contrary entertainment of my selfe, and a *Rhagusean* gave me the first taste: I clad in *Turkish* manner, rode with two *Turkes*, an houre before our *Caravan*; wee found foure *Spahy-Timariots* by a river, where we stay'd, They were at dinner, and seeing by my head, I was a *Christian*, they called to me; I not understanding what they would, stood still, till they menacing their weapons, rose, and came to mee, with lookes very ugly; I smiling met them, and taking him who seemed of most port, by the hand, layed it to my forehead, which with them is the greatest signe of *love*, and *honour*, then often calling him *Sultanum*, spoke *English*, which though none of the kindest, yet gave I it such a sound, as to them who understood no further, might seeme *affectionate*, *humble*, and *heartly*; which so appeased them, as they made me sit, and eate together, and parted loving: presently after, they met the *Caravan*, where was the *Rhagusean*, a Merchant of quality, who came in at *Spalatra* to goe for *Constantinople*, he being clothed in the *Italian* fashion, and spruce, they justled him: He not yet considering, how the place had changed his condition, stood upon his *termes*, till they with their Axes, and iron Maces (the weapons of that *Country*,) broke two of his ribs, in which case, we left him behinde, halfe dead, either to get backe as he could, or be devoured of beasts: Not two houres after, I walking alone, on the other side of the river, met fixe, or seaven more, who espying a Dagger in my pocket, snatcht it suddenly,



suddenly, and set it against my breast; wherewith one of them speaking *Italian*, I won so farre upon them, with respective words, as they had me into a house, where wee eate, dranke, and lodged together; and though some got very drunke, none offered mee any injury, but kindly advised me, to lay aside that weapon, and use such as the Countrey permitted; finally after daily successe in the like kinde, I grew so confident of the *Turkish* nature, as when *Lances*, or *Knives*, were often set against me, I doubted not my selfe, unlesse it were by a *Drunkard*, or a *Souldier voluntier*; for drinke makes the *fancy* of the one uncertaine, and the other going to merit *Paradise* by killing of *Christians* was no safe company for mee; nor were my wayes being framed onely to receive *insolency*, able to entertaine malice, especially a *malice* engaged by *Religion*: This haughty disposition of others, makes the fashions of other *Countreys* rather despised, then *imitated*, so that in all the In-land of *Turky*, where *Christian* Merchants use not, if I appeared in the least part clothed like a *Christian*, I was tufted like an Owle among other birds: at first I imputed it to *Barbarisme*; but afterward lamenting thereof to one of the better sort, to note how they understood it; hee told me, they would have no *novelties*, and therefore would disgrace all new *examples*; then I perceived it to bee a peece rather of *Institution*, then *Incivilitie*; for they desiring perpetuall *hostility* with the *Christians*, must estrange the People from their *Customes* as utterly as may be; Now there is no innovation drawes in forreigne manners faster, then that of *Apparell*: Besides that, it seemes honourable for the *Turkish* Nation, to



retaine their ancient *habit* of clothing; for as the *French Court* gives this side of the world patterne of apparell, so does the *Turkish* to the *Levant*: Yet they to this day vary but little from that long, and loose manner of garment reported to have beene ever used in the *East*: Their houses are generally made of *bricke* dryed in the *Sunne*; poore, and low, that they may not be worth taking from the child, when the father dyes: The *publique* buildings are vaste, and stately a farre off; that also is wonderfully beautified by the abundance of *trees*; planted among the howses; so as each *Citie* seemes rather a Wood, then a *Citie*; which beside the pleasant aspect, Shelters against the Summers *Sunne*, and Winters winde: the streets are not broad, but paved with an high foot causie on each side, in the middle is passage for Carts, and Horses, from the *Caves* on both sides, is made a boorded Arche not very close, yet much defensive against *Sunne*, and *raine*: Vpon the taking of any Towne, the first thing they erect, is publique *Bathes*, which they establisth with faire revenues; so that for lesse then two pence, any man, or woman may be bathed with cleane linnen, and never attendant; it is death for any man to enter when women *bath*, which hee shall know by a Barre before the *doore*: hee or shee who *bathe* not twice, or thrice a weeke, are held *nasty*; every time they make *water* or other uncleane exercise of nature, they wash those parts, little regarding who stands by; if a *Dog* chance to touch their *hand*, they wash presently: before *Prayer* they wash both *face*, and *hands*, sometimes the *head*, and *privities*: many of their Customs have beene in *Egypt* thousands of yeares before

*Mahometisme*;



*Mahometisme*; so necessary a thing to prevent diseases, is cleanliness in hot *Countries*, and to men of grosse food; to this *Herodotus* ascribes the old circumcision in *Egypt*, and so doe I that of *Mahomet*, who had no *diviner* warrant, and cared not for bare imitation: for the *Authors* of *Superstition* when they finde *Customes* very usefull, knowing that reason suffices not to hold them in practice with the vulgar, they plant them amongst their other *ceremonies*, and make them *conscientious*, which is the onely way to put them up- on low capacities: in the skirts of each *Towne*, neere some river, or other pleasing prospect there use to bee round open *Garden-houses*, where any may sit, and passe time: Besides all former respects, there is a no- ther feate, which furnishes *Turky* with magnificent *Bridges*, *Hanes*, *Meskeetoes*, *High wayes*, and other pub- lique *structures*; that is this: When any *Provinciall Governour*, is both for *riches*, and *rapine*, notorious, he is sure ere long to be circumvented, or else layed open to the accuser, for a confiscation; Hee to prevent this, hath no fairer way, then for the good, to make some worke of eminent magnificence; wherein hee gaines two safe points of reputation, in being held Pious, and exhaust; the one stops the *Accuser*, the o- ther the *Exchequer*: Their *Diet* is very full, and grosse, they will refuse all dainties for a peece of fat *Mut- ton*; that they seeth with *Rice*, which is the most ge- nerall food they use; they call that mixture *Pilawe*, over it they put *milke* made thicke, and sower, called *Yugurt*, with *Pease*, *Rice*, and *Mutton* they make their *Porrage Churbah*: these are the three ordinary dishes of *Turky*; they want not others, as *Luxury*, or necessitie require:



require: Their mighty eating I impute to the drinking of *water*, which after awhile, makes a good stomacke, as by experience I found: They abhorre *bloud*, and things strangled, and care little for *fish*, or *fowle*, but often buy them alive, to let them goe; whereto they pretend no *Metempsychosis*, or any other reason, but that of naturall compassion; wherein they are so good, as to let *fowle* feede of their *Granaries*, especially in those of *Ioseph*, at *Gran Cairo*, a place is left open for *Birds*, and some thousands of *Ryalls* yearly scored off for the same to the *Bashah*; thus are in *Turky* all *Birds* so tame, never used to violence, as I have throwne my Coate upon *Turtle-Doves* in the high-ways, and *Quailes* would ordinarily hop upon our legges, and armes, as wee slept in the fields: Every night they shut *Dogs*, and *Cats* forth of doores; that is a piece of their *Religion*, and a cleanly one: the *Dogs* goe most together making a hideous noyse, and are dangerous by night, to *theeves*, and *drunkards*; others seldome walke among them after it is darke: The onely beastly peece of *injustice* I found among the *Turkes*, was their confidence, to catch or buy up for *Slave*, any *Christian* they finde in the *Countrey*; nor can hee escape unlesse where he bee a settled knowne *Merchant*, or goe with some *Protector*: I met with many who in such Voyages as mine had false short, and prophesied the like to me: I have divers times beene put to defend my selfe with my *Knife*, from being shovved into houses, by those who would have kept mee a *Slave*; and scarce any day past, but some or other cheapned mee with the *Ianizary*; who if he had sold mee, I had no remedy, beside what disdain of life might



might have presented: this I held the worst part of my danger, and against which, there is no preparation of assurance, but in a small resolution; yet as much as in mee lay, I used two wayes of prevention; one was when they questioned my condition, & designe, which was often; I gave them severall accounts, as I noted the *Place*, and *Auditory*; still in effect to shew me borne *rich*, but false to *povertie*, without any fault of mine; my friends all dead, and that having no ability for gaine, I had wager'd the small reliques of my fortune, upon a returne from *Constantinople*, and *Gran Cairo*: this though farre below my fortunes, yet passed with them for truth, and such a one, as embellished with fit circumstance, procured me esteeme, and compassion; and which was above all, made me appeare unprofitable to the buyer; for they buy more in hope of ransome, then service: and therefore often enquired, where I had any correspondence: my other way was to note the territories adjoyning, with the wayes for flight, to study our company: and giving *wine* to some, *money* to others, I ever kept in secret pension some of the *Caravan* who understood the *language*, and told mee all that past: then in each place of abode, I acquainted my selfe with some *Renegadoe*, whose story after he had delivered, I knew how to make him so much my friend, as in case of danger, would have helpt me to flye, or conceale: herein was the most expence, and unquiet of my *voyage*: this excepted, the *Turkish* disposition is generous, loving, and honest; so farre from falsifying his promise, as if he doe but lay his *hand* on his *breast*, *beard*, or *head*, as thy use, or chiefly breake bread  
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with me, if I had an hundred lives, I durst venture them upon his word, especially if he be a naturall *Turke*, no *More*, *Arab*, or *Egyptian*; to those I never committed my selfe, till they had engaged wife, and children for my safe delivery: They seldome travell single, but expecting till a great number be bound for the same place, goe, and lodge together: this secures from thieves unlesse they come in troopes, and then the *Governour* sends against them: Though great part of *Turky* be but of new plantation, and therefore not yet populous, neverthelesse, in every place of good pasturage, there are Shepheards, some of them with flocks of two or three thousand, feeding from one Citie, to another, which causes such plentie in Towne, and Countrey, as for an halfe-penny in most townes they sell, as much roasted *Mutton*, as one man can eat, and for two shillings three-pence, I have scene a live fat sheepe bought in places two hundred miles from any *Citie*. In most townes an halfe-penny loafe will suffice two or three men a meale: This plenty was first caused by depopulation, but will in time, breed greater numbers of their owne race: The naturall *Turkes*, and the *Renegadoes* are not subject to those taxes and tolles of *Christendome*, nor is their quiet, and plentie fit to be published among the adjoyning *Christians*; only vineyards in whose hand soever, pay to the *Spahyes*, to the *Guardians*, and others, because *Wine* is a prohibited Ware; yet after all those persecutions, it is much cheaper there, then in *Christendome*, but not every where to be had, for though in that point, *Mahomets* wise order suffer violence, yet with the better part it prevails, and makes



makes some drinke with scruple, others with danger; the baser sort when taken drunke, are often *Bastinadoed* on the bare feet; and I have seene some after a fit of drunkenness, lye a whole night crying, and praying to *Mahomet* for intercession, that I could not sleepe neere them; so strong is conscience even where the foundation is but imaginary: This want of wine hath devised other drinkes to their meate, for the better sort; as *Vsaph* which is water sod with *Raisins*, sometimes with *Honey*; but above the rest, they esteeme *Sherbets* made with *Sugar*, the juyce of *Lemmons*, *Peaches*, *Apricockes*, *Violets*, or other *Flowers*, *Fruits*, and *Plumbes* as each countrey affoord; these are dried together, into a consistence reasonable hard, and portable for their use in *Warre*, or else-where, mingling about a spoonefull with a quart of water: They have another drinke not good at meat, called *Cauphe* made of a *Berry*, as bigge as a small *Beane*, dried in a Furnace, and beat to powder, of a soote colour, in taste a little *Bitterish* that they seeth, and drinke hote as may be endured: it is good all houres of the day, but especially morning, and evening, when to that purpose, they entertaine themselves 2 or 3 houres in *Cauphe-houses*, which in all *Turky* abound more then *Innes*, and *Ale-houses* with us: it is thought to be the old blacke broth used so much by the *Lacedemonians*, and dryeth ill humors in the stomacke, comforteth the braine, never causeth drunkenness, or any other surfeit, and is a harmelesse entertainment of good fellowship; for there upon scaffolds, halfe a yard high, and covered with Mats, they sit *crossed-legg'd* after the *Turkish* manner, many times two or three hundred together,



gether, talking, and likely with some poore *Musicke* passing up and downe: The *Musicke* of *Turky* is worth consideration; through all those vaste Dominions, there runnes one tune, and for ought I hard, no more, nor can every man play that; yet scarce any but hath a *fiddle*, with two strings, and at Feasts, and other meetings, will confidently play upon it, but hee knowes not to what tune, nor can play the same twice over; this I'm sure of; for to make experiment, I have ventured to play at divers meetings, pretending the ayers of my countrey, to note whether they had skill or no, and tooke so well as they have often made me play againe; then I found their skill and mine alike, for I never understood the least touch of any instrument; Nothing could more disguise their *Genius* unto me, who was used to guesse at the *fancies* of men by the *ayres* wherewith I found them most taken, almost as much as by their discourse: I must not forget to note their *Ielousie*, wherein a *Turke* exceeds an *Italian*, as farre as he us; the cause is *Polygamy*, which makes the husband guiltie of insufficient correspondence and therein fearefull that his wife may seeke a further satisfaction; therefore their women goe muffled all but the eyes, nor are suffred to goe to *Church*, or so much as looke out at the windowes of their owne houses: The man may divorce when he will, with restitution of *loynture*, and some further satisfaction, as the *Iudge* pleases, yet not without some reasonable pretence against the woman: I saw at *Andrinople* a woman with many of her friends went weeping to a *Iudge*; where in his presence, she tooke of her *Shoe*, and held it the sole upward, but spake nothing



nothing; I enquired what it meant, one told me, it was the ceremony used when a married woman complains that her husband would abuse her against nature, which is the only cause, for which she may sue a divorce as shee then did; that delivery by way of *Embleme*, seemed neate, where the *fact* was too uncleane for *language*: There are very few beggars in *Turky*, by reason of the great plentie of *Victuals*; only one sort I wondred at, that is their *Santones* who are able cunning *Rogues*, much like our *Tom of Bedlams*; ever with some such disguise to pretend a crazed braine; but they *act* in a more grave, *sublime*, and *meeke* way then ours; why these are respected, I could never heare any reason other then compassion; but I observed such a reverence borne them, as made mee thinke it *religious*; nor is it strange, that *superstitions* should honour all *eclipse* of *understanding*, whose light discovers them too farre: There is no people more courteous of *Salutation*, then the *Turkes*; in meeting upon the *high-way*, one with a *stoope*, and his *hand* upon his *breast*, bids *Salaum Aleck*, the other with like obeisance, replies *Aleck Salaum*; and when any one comes into company, the rest salute him with a *Merahbak Sultanum*, ever sweetning their conversation, with such accent of pronounciation, and so much respective gesture, as favours of a gentle *Genius*, free from that rudenesse, whereof they are accused: Their *Sepultures* are notable; those of *Princes* or great men, are covered over with *silke*, or cloth of *gold*, with a *Turbant*, at the *Head*, and set under a vaulted Arch supported by foure *Marble* pillars; some with a little *Cocke* of *fountaine water*, and *lamps* continually burning;



ning; they are made neere the *Meskeeto*, especially if they built one, but never within it; the more ordinary, are buried in some pleasant place without the Citty, with an high stone standing at the head, and another at the feet; that at the head, hath sometimes an *Epitaph*, and if it be a man of qualitie is made at top in forme of a *Turbant*; those who bestow a Marble-stone over them, have it in the middle cut through about a yard long, and a foot broad; therein they plant such kinde of plants, or flowers as endure Greene all the yeare long; which seeme to grow out of the dead body, thinking thereby to reduce it againe into play, though not in the Scene of sensible creatures, yet of those vegetable, which is the next degree, and perhaps a preferment beyond the dust.

The *Turkish* Nation cannot yet be generally abandoned to vice, having two such great enemies, the *Christian* on this side, the *Persian* on that; were they once removed, it would soone corrupt, like *Rome* after the fall of *Carthage* and *Antiochus*, or worse; for then it would have a farre greater Empire, than ever the *Roman* was, nor is it much lesse already, nor wanting so much in extent, as it exceeds in being more absolute, and better compact. It hath ever beene, and yet is the vanitie of Nations, to esteeme themselves civeller, and more ingenious, because more curious in superstitions than other people, whose moderation, diversity, or disdaine of those follies, they terme barbarous, and beastly stupidity, incapable of such illuminations; thus of old, the *Egyptians* despised the *Grecians*, they the *Romanes*; the *Romanes* all the World; and at this day the *Papists* us, the *Jewes* them;



them; the *Mahometans* all. After this discourse of the party imperiall, I must not forget those other Sects which it hath in its subjection; they are generally *Christians*, and *Jewes*: *Christian* strangers they call *freink*, but their owne Subjects are either *Latines*, *Armenians*, *Greekes*, or of another sort whereof I have scene infinite numbers in all that tract of *Bulgary*, and *Serviah*, who are baptized onely in the name of Saint *Iohn*, their difference *Theologicall* I enquired not, but in faction I noted them so desperate malicious towards one another, as each loves the *Turke* better than they doe either of the other, and serve him for informers, and instruments against one another: the hatred of the *Greeke Church* to the *Romish* was the losse of *Belgrado* in *Hungary*, and is at this day so implacable, as hee who in any *Christian* warre upon the *Turke*, should expect the least good wish from the *Christians* in those parts, would finde himselfe utterly deceived: I often was helpt by *Turkes*, and *Renegadoes*, against the malice of their *Christians*; at *Rhodes* they informed the *Bashae* of us for burying a Boy of our company, and but for a *Spanish Renegadoe*, it had cost our libertie. The *Latines* are *Papists*, but so few, and despised, as not to be reckoned. The *Armenians* or *Chaldeans*, are also *Christians*, but have a deeper tincture of *Mahometisme* than the rest: The *Greeke Church* seemes little inferiour in number to the *Roman*, for though the *Catholickes* are thicker in *France*, *Spaine*, *Germany*, and *Italy*, than the others in *Turkie*, *Muscovie*, and *Persia*; yet their Provinces doe so infinitely exceed those in extent, as will make the *Greeke Church*, though  
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in thinner Plantations, more numerous than the other: This proportion was assured cleare before the losse of *Constantinople*, which to *Rome* it selfe, if not considered as a Corrivall, was a deepe blow. Now in all *Turky*, the number of *Christians* is wonderfully abated, for beside the slaughter in conquest, they are daily diminished by other arts. The *Turke* takes a more pernicious way to extinguish *Christianitie*, than ever the Heathen Emperours did; their hot persecutions got them the envie which followes cruelty, and made the people compassionate the afflicted cause, whereby commiseration which is a strong piece of humane nature, blew the flame of zeale, and raised more affection to the cause, than terror could suppress; thence came the saying, *Sanguis Martyrum Semen Ecclesie*: the *Turke* puts none to death for Religion, whereby none from Fire, or Gallows moove compassion to their cause, Hee rather suckes the purse, than unprofitable blood, and by perpetuall poverty renders them low towards himselfe, and heavie to one another: Hee turnes the *Christian Churches* into *Meskeetoes*, much suppressing the public exercise of Religion, especially of the *Romish*, though not utterly, so that each generation becomes lesse instructed than other, in so much that at this time (as by tryall I found) many who profess themselves *Christians*, scarce know what they meane by being so; Finally, perceiving themselves poore, wretched, taxed, disgraced, deprived of their children, and subject to the insolence of every Raskall, they begin to consider, and preferre this present World, before that other which they so little understand



derstand. This turnes so many thousands to *Mahometanisme*, and prevailes with lesse scandall, than fire and sword would doe, in as much as it goes lesse harsh with a man to forget his Religion, than to defie it ; for conscience wrought on by education, holds the minde of man, as a lace wound about a body ; the *Turkish* course unlaces it by degrees, as it had beene wound up, so bringing it off cleare ; but bloody persecution striving to pull it away at a snatch, is too sudden a violence, disordering and intangling things faster then they were. Thus if we view these affaires no further than the eye of reason can reach, hee seemes in a probable way to taint all the *Christians* under his Dominions ; but it must be the worke of time ; in the meane-while, they serve to fill his coffers, and in effect supply him with *Gibeonites*, and Husbandmen to till his Land, while his *Musselmens* are reserved to the commanding employment of the Sword. Therefore hee doth not much care for a generall conversion, as appeared in *Solyman* the second, who seeing a company of many thousands fall downe before him, and hold up the fore-finger, (as their manner of conversion is) hee asked what moved them to turne, they replyed it was to bee eased of their heavie taxations ; hee disdaining that basenesse, or not willing to loose in tribute, for an unsound accession in Religion, rejected their conversion, and doubled their taxations : Neverthelesse particular Convertites, if serious, voluntary, and Persons of important condition, are received with honour, and large reward, especially strangers ; I saw at *Belgrado* a feast carryed by aboue threescore persons, and after

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all, a Horse worth at least thirty pounds, sent from the *Bashae* to one of these at the day of his circumcision, and I was told hee had neere a thousand Dollers given by others; but hee had borne good office in *Transilvania*. I once met at a feast a youth whose Father was Governour of a neighbour Towne in *Transilvania*, some in a jesting manner threatned circumcision to us both: I knowing their interest lay all towards him, first severed my cause from his, and then jested my selfe off. But the next day, they sent to apprehend him, and if some of his Countrymen had not helpt him over the *Danubius* by night, hee had beene shut up, for beside the interesse of state, he was a handsome youth, and his Father able for ran-some, which are two strong motives, unlesse it bee upon such termes, there is seldome any compulsion of conscience, and then not by death, where no criminall offence gives occasion. I did much converse with *Renegadoes*, and had good opportunity by their Italian tongue, to sound what spirits they were, and on what motives they fell off; generally I found them Atheists, who left our cause for the *Turkish* as the more thriving in the Word, and fuller of preferment: these hate us not otherwise than in shew, unlesse where they finde themselves abhorred for their Apostacy; then take heed, for in your ruine they get both revenge, and reputation of zeale; but with a more opportune behaviour, I have wonne much courtesie from them, and upon occasion, put my life at one of their discretions, and found him Noble; these are the voluntary *Renegadoes*; there are another sort, whom hard usage, and captivity brings in, rather



ther than any ambition, or disgust at home. These though necessitate to hold on, yet they beare a great goodwill to *Christians*, and likely a deepe grudge to the *Turkes*; I first noted this by an Eunuch of the Garrison of *Belgrade*, I had with money made him to friend, against any necessity of flight, I going to visit him in his house, nigh the River *Danubius*, found him alone very drunke; hee out of that heat, and experience of my engagement, fell to rayle against the *Turkes*, and withall shewing mee how they had marred his game, well (quoth hee) doe you see that River, there seldome hath past weeke, since I have beene in this City, (which was halfe a yeare) but some night or other, I have throwne some of their children therein, and told mee that formerly in other places, hee had done many such secret revenges, for their gelding of him: before my experience of these Apostataes, I supposed that their paradise had won many from our side; but of all that I practised, there was none taken either with that, or other points of their doctrine, but manifestly with respects worldly, wherefore seeing how many daily goe from us to them, and how few of theirs to us; it appeares of what consequence the prosperity of a cause is to draw men unto it, and how uncertainly they judge of all other merit. The chiefe Sect whereof I desired to be enformed was the Iewes; whose moderne condition is more condemned, then understood by *Christian-Writers*, and therefore by them delivered with such a zealous ignorance, as never gave me satisfaction: Their *primitive* profession was Shepherds, whose innocent kinde of life had leisure for



the study of that *Hyerarchie*, which in after times, their settled possession of *Canaan*, put into act; But (as we daily see,) Necessitie makes shifts, and nothing corrupts cleare wits more then desperate fortunes, and forreine conversation; so it befell them in their frequent Captivities, wherein the malice of their estate, and corruptions of the Gentiles, did extreemely debauch their old innocence, and from Shepheards, or Tillers of land, turned them to what they now are, Merchants, Brokers, and Cheaters; hereto is added no small necessitie from their Religion, which as of old, so at this day, renders them more generally odious, then any one sort of men, whereby they are driven to helpe themselves by shifts of wit, more then others are; and so as it were bandying their faction, against the rest of Mankinde, they become better studied, and practised in malice, and knavery, then other men: This makes them thrive notwithstanding all their oppressions, to such excessive riches, as by themselves, I have heard alleadged as a testimony of divine *Benediction*: They are generally found the most nimble, and *Mercuriall* wits in the world; which in part, is descended from the originall *complexion* of their forefathers, who gave notable testimonies of a subtle generation; and hath beene much advantaged by their *Mosaicall* institution of Dyer; a thing of no small effect to refine the bloud, and spirits in so many descents; yet above all, I impute it to this uncessant necessitie, and exercise of wit, which ever keeps it up, without growing too remisse, and stupid, as usually happens, where men are not quickned by such occasions: Hereupon it is, that every *Vizier*, and *Bashae* of State



State uses to keepe a *few* of his private Counsell, whose malice, wit, and experience of *Christendome*, with their continuall intelligence, is thought to advise most of that mischeife, which the *Turke* puts in execution against us; Neverthelesse, in most of their conversation, I noted rather the dexteritie of a Cheater, or Mountebanke, then any solid wisdom; and so in their raylings at *Christ*, few invade him by any stayd politicke way of *Atheisme*, most of them prophane him with beastly tales or superstitious accounts; Divers of them read the new Testament maliciously to cavill, and elude the miracles of *Christ*, wickedly imputing them to conspiracie among the Actors, and partialitie in the Writers, as of a Legend; above all places in Scripture, they abuse that, where it is said, that when he was to goe up to the Passcover, but few dayes before his Death, his kindred, and those about him did not yet beleeeve; whereby they (not knowing faith to be the gift of grace, rather then of reason) slander his miracles for not so manifest as we conceive: Once at their celebration of a Sabbath at *Niss* in *Serviah*, I was walking with divers of their *Rabbines*, especially one, much revered by the rest, who was principall of the *Synagogue* at *Sophya*; hee would needs urge a discourse of *Christianity*, where after his malice had wearied it selfe, I asked him whether it were not an undeniable signe of Divine ayde to our cause, that with such a meeke humilitie, as that of *Christ*, had raised it selfe over all the proudest Oppressors; He (as the nature of poyson is to infect things of most contrary condition) perverting this reason, replied that *Christ*



came when the world had beene tamed by the *Romans*, whose cruell victories, and heavy yoake had broken the Spirits of most Nations, whereupon he would not build his *Religion* as the old *Heathen* had ever done, upon *Heroique* brave acts, but on the contrary meeke humilitie of contrite hearts; which being the greatest number, (especially by that time they come to governe) causes it to prevaile so well; This seeming a cold *Atheisme*, he further made vaine, with an addition concerning the severall ages of the World; comparing the case with this *Microcosme* of man, whose infancy is simple; youth brave; manhood firme; but his decaying age faints till the end shuts all up; each of these periods did hee pretend guided by Doctrines futable, and to the latter rejected *Christianity*, whose humble contempt of the World, he ascribed to the Worlds old age, (as in man) growne weary of it selfe; After answer hereto, I desired to understand somewhat of their *Caball*, which I had alwayes held the great secret of the *Jewes*; I demanded whether it consisted in that *Arithmetical* signification of *letters* as we suppose, telling him withall, that it seemed strange, how *letters*, and *words* which were imposed differently by the humor of man, could touch upon the realitie of things in themselves, which did not acknowledge our devices; He answered, that in part the *Caball* did depend upon *letters*, and *words*, but only *Hebrew*, wherein *Adam* named things when he was in state of *Innocencie*, and understood their Nature; but in languages made since the fall, the foundation wanted; they as the issue of confusion assure nothing therein; then he added  
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the story of it; telling me that *Caball* signifies *tradition*, which was the way whereby it was transferred from one age to another, and that it was in some measure a reparation of our knowledge lost in the fall of *Adam*, and againe revealed from God foure times; first to *Adam*, who upon his ejection out of *Paradice*, sitting very disconsolate, God (quoth he) sent the Angell *Raguell* to comfort him, and finding his chiefe sorrow to be in loosing the knowledge of that dependancy, and punctuall commerce which the creatures have with their Creator, and amongst one another, the Angel for his illumination therein, instructed him of the peculiar moments of time naturall, and proper to each passage, wherein things else impossible, might be brought to passe with felicity; hereat I told him, that there was not in our Bible any mention of the Angel *Raguells* comforting, or instructing of *Adam*; whereto he replied like a cursed *Jew*, that the *Popes* had (not only in that place, but in many others,) clipped, amplified, and mis-related, the old Testament, the better to conforme it with their new, for their institutions Civill, and Ecclesiasticall which depend thereon: The *Caball* (said he) held in tradition many ages, till time with the accidents of the *Floud*, and *Babell*, lost it: Then once more God discovered it to *Moyse* in the Bush; this he proved out of *Esdra*s, a Booke high in esteeme with them; where in the second Booke God is brought in, saying, --- *enarravi ei multa mirabilia, & ostendi ei temporum secreta, ac finem, & precepi ei dicens hæc palam facies verba; hæc abscondes*; therefore *Moyse* published those *mirabilia*; the Creation; the law; and the *Israelites* bringing forth  
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of *Egypt*; but those--*secreta, ac fines temporum*, he disclosed to none beside his seventy Rulers over *Israel*; these traditions soone fayled, in the oppressions under the *Philistins*; but the third time God revealed it againe; that was to *Salomon* in a dreame; for it is said of *Salomon* that he knew --*initium, & consummationem, & medietatem temporum*; by this Art, he wrote many Bookes of all things from the *Cedar*, to the *Hysop* with divers others; all which were lost in the Captivity ensuing: Therefore the last time, he pretended it restored to *Esdras*; whom as himself Writes, God made to retire fortie dayes, with five Scribes who in that space wrote 204 Bookes: the first 134, God commanded to publish for the reading of all, both worthy, and unworthy: The latter seventy were to passe private, only among the wise of the people; these latter 70 they pretend *Caballastique*, and not yet all lost: When I considered this Art, it put me in minde of what the Prophet sayes to the Church of *Israel*--*Thy habitation is in the midst of deceivers*: for although in things of inferiour natures, as well as in the passions of man, there are--*molles aditus, & apta tempora*; wherein they are better disposed for this, or that impression, then at other times, yet doe not these open them further then to an agent that comes opportune, and in a way naturally proper to the pre-disposition of the subject; thus a Feaver is easier cured at one time, then another; one medicine hits one accesse, another the next; the like may be observed in all things; but to extend this beyond its due limits, and to wayes improper, as to wishing, writing, speaking and other charmes, which cannot reach the realitie of things,

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comes to as profound a nothing, as *Hermes* his *Sigill*, or *Paracelsus* his *Spell* against *Flyes*: Their great councill of *Sanhedrin* consisting of seventie one in imitation of *Moyſes*, and his seventie Elders, not being able to worke such wonders, did nevertheſſe ſtrive to continue the reputation of the old *Thearchy*; to that purpoſe they glorified this deviſe of *Caball*, whoſe pretence of ſecret information from God, even in their forſaken times, ſerved them as *Numa* his pretended meetings with the Nymph *Egeria*, *Mahomets* raptures with the Angell *Gabriel*, and the like, to countenance their Ordinances with Divine repute among the People; This deviſe was well framed to take with the *Jewes*, who generally are light, ayeriall, and fanaticall braines, ſpirited much like our hot *Apocalyps* men, or fierce expounders of *Daniel*, apt to worke themſelves into the fooles *Paradiſe* of a ſublime dotage: They expect their *Meſſias* with an unwearyed aſſurance; and as all Propheticall delayes doe eaſily find excuſe, ſo have they; reſtoring their hope with augmentation of glory in the more perfect tryall; At his comming, they expect a temporall kingdome, whereof I heard them diſcourſe with ſo much guſt, as ſeemed to have a touch of the *Sadducey*, whoſe appetite reliſhes a preſent fruition, better then the ſtate of Reſurrection; To diſcover this fully, I told them that my thought it might ſeeme to them but juſt, that all thoſe who had lived, and dyed conſtant expecting the *Meſſias*, ſhould not by untimely Death looſe the fruits of their conſtancy, but be reſtored to Life, at his comming, to enjoy and make up his Kingdome; this they received with much applauſe, and (as flattery uſes to be) it was by them held an illumination, which they embracing of me, ſeconded with

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such a *Romanzo* of their future kingdome, as shewed a thirst of revenging their captivities, and therewith to enjoy the world in that timely Resurrection: Above all blessings given of God, they preferre that of *Increase and multiply*; To hold it a blessing they have reason; but why that should be thought the greatest, I know not; unlesse because of their *Salacity*, ever noted for *projectissima in libidinem Gens*; and so apt to grow like the sands of the Sea in number; or else for propagation of the kinde, which is the chiefe act of those who consider themselves no higher, then as parts of the World, and of that taken in the bare continuance, without any of its further operations: They may drinke water alone, but not wine mingled therewith, unlesse they have a dispensation; that which is pure wine they call wine of the Law; this perhaps was one among other reasons, why they were of old, mistaken to have worshipped *Bacchus*: when they kill any living creature, they first turne the face of it East-ward, then saying, be it sanctified in the name of the great God King of Heaven, and Earth, they cut the throat with a knife without any gap in the edge; if that be not observed they will not eate of the meate, but hold it utterly prophane; most of the fat they cast away, especially about the loyne and kidnyes; that of each Mutton, or Beefe they scarce eate halfe; these with many other restrictions of Dyet, I urged as difficulties of victualing their Armies, when the Messias should come; but they readily salved it with power of miracles, which shall save him all labour, and care: he is expected of the Tribe of *Judah*, which was settled in *Portugall*, where they boast, and in *Spaine* to have millions of their race, to whom they give compleat dispensation, to counterfeit *Christianitie*,



*stianity*, even to the degree of *Priesthood*, and that none are discovered but some hot spirits, whose zeale cannot temporize: This reverence to the *Messias* makes them throughout the whole world, breed their children up in *Portugall* speech, and make it their domestick tongue. The *Iewes* of *Italy*, *Germany*, and the *Levant*, excepting the *Banditoes* of *Spaine*, are of *Benjamin*; the other ten Tribes in the destruction of *Ieroboams* kingdome by *Salmanasser* were ledde captives beyond *Euphrates*, whence they never returned: in which destruction, perhaps worse then this of their brethren, they had the happinesse never to persecute *Christ*: Then I asked if they had there degenerate into the race, and *Gentilisme* of the *Heathen*, as our *Christians* have done in the Holy Land; whom now we know not from other *Turkes*, but by some touch of language: They ashamed of such Apostacy, told me, that those ten Tribes are not found any where, but either swallowed like *Corans* company, or as other *Rabbines* write, blowne away with a whirlwinde; so apt are light wits to imagine God lesse glorified in his owne glorious wayes of Nature, because ordinary, then in the pusses of their vaine devised miracles; wherein while they affect to seeme grave, and profound, they become fond, and shallow, not knowing the wayes of that vertue which moveth all things: In their Divine Service, they make one of the best sort to reade a Chapter of *Moyse*, then some Boy, or *Raskall* reads a peece of the Prophets; in the middle of the Sinagogue is a round place vaulted over, supported by pillers; therein sometimes one of their Doctors walkes up and downe, and in *Portuguese*, exalts the *Messias*, comforts their captivitie, and rayles at *Christ*.

They have a Cupboord made to represent the Ta-



bernacle, wherein they lay up the Tables of the Law, which now and then they take forth and kisse: they sing many tunes, but frequently that of *Adonai*, which is the ordinary name of *God*; for *Iehovah* they mention not but upon high occasions; at Circumcision, Boyes are set to yall out  *Davids* Psalmes so loud as dinnes the Infants cry: the Synagogue is hung round with Glasse lamps burning: every man at his entrance puts on a linnen Cope, first kissing it; but else they use no manner of reverence, or signe of devotion: I knowing discontent apt to disclose secrets, got straight acquaintance with one of them who had a great mind to turne *Turke*; his chiefe scandall was, that he had often seene their Elders in the midst of Service fall together by the eares, and with holy Candlesticks, Incense-pans, and other consecrate instruments, breake one anothers pates: They suffer no women to enter the Synagogue, but appoint them a Gallery without; I did impute it to Iealousie; but they told me it was because women have not so divine a soule as men, and are of a lower creation, made only for the propagation, and pleasure of man: this doctrine humbles their wives below that fierce behaviour, whereto competition, and opinion of equality might embolden them: When they turne *Turke*, which is often, they must first acknowledge Christ so farre as the *Turke* does, that is, for a great Prophet, and no more: They seldome turne *Christians*, because of *Images*, and *Swines flesh*, which they hate worse then the name of Christ: they pretend (but maliciously) that those few who we see turne in *Italy* are not of them, but poore *Christians* hired from other *Cities*, to personate that part: There is scarce any sect so poore spirited, but will sometimes pretend to a miracle; so did they;  
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for all the voyage, they boasted of an apparition in forme of an old man, to this *Gran Signior*, whom he admonished in favour of the *Iewes*, and then vanished; but at *Constantinople*, where the Scene of the Fable lay, I could heare no such thing: If they were all united, I beleeve there would scarce be found any one race of men more numerous; yet that they can never ciment into a temporall Government of their owne, I reckon two causes, beside the many disadvantages in their *Religion*: First the *Iewish* complexion is so prodigiously *timide*, as cannot be capable of Armes; for this reason they are no wheremade Souldiers, nor slaves, and in acknowledging the valour of *Dauids* Worthies, so different from the *Moderne Hebrews*, appeares how much a long thraldome may cowe posterity beneath the Spirits of their Auncestors: The other impediment is their extreme corrupt love to private interesse; which is notorious in the continuall cheating, and malice among themselves; so as there would want that justice, and respect to common benefit, without which no civill society can stand: These are the chiefe notes which I gathered in conversing with the *Iewes*; Now there remains a word, or two of the *Zinganaes*: they are right such as our *Gypsies*: I yeeld not to those, who hold them a peculiar cursed stocke: sloath and nastinesse single them out from other men; so as they are the dregs of the people, rather then of severall descent: wallowing in the dirt, and Sunne makes them more swarthy then others; they abound in all cities of *Turky*, but steale not like ours, for feare of the cruell severitie, they tell fortunes as cheatingly as ours, and enjoy as little; their true use is for sordid offices, as Broomen, Smithes, Coblers, Tinkers, and the like, whereby the



naturall *Turke* is reserved for more noble employments: few of them are circumcised, none *Christned*: they weare their rags affectedly, but wander not: their habitation is hovels, and poore houses in the suburbs: contempt secures them, and with that, I leave them: By this discourse, it appears, that the *Turkish* Empire is in effect, divided into two parts; the *Turkes*, and other Sects; unto these are applyed the two passions of man, love, and feare: so as the Government is to keepe the one sort so as they shall not desire mischief; and the other not able to effect it: to the *Turkes* it is a sweet Monarchy, maintaining them to command the rest; to the other Sects it is heavy, holding them distracted with faction betweene themselves; disarming, rifling, taking their goods, and children from them; and awing them with as much insolency, as may not quite make them runne away; Neverthelesse the *Gran Signior* hath not the inconvenience of Tyrants, which is to secure themselves against their People by Strangers, who are chargeable, and perfidious; for he without charge, is held up by Plantations of his owne People, who in discent, and interesse are linkt with him; neither hath he the uncertaintie of a civill Prince, who much subsists on fickle Popular love; for he raignes by force; and his *Turkes* are a number able to make it good; wherefore he seemes as absolute as a Tyrant, as happy as a King; and more establisht then either: yet hath he danger from both parts: love makes apt to grow insolent, therefore his governing multitudes are that way dangerous.

This hath shewed it selfe in the tumults of the *Ianizaries*, even as deepe as the bloud Royall: His danger from the enthralled Sects, is not so great; they are  
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to far stupified, and disunited for rebellion; there is more doubt of depopulation; yet to prevent that, when any province hath beene overlayed, he restores it with a gentle *Governor*, and slack exactions; and the *Timariots* themselves, that their *Farmes* may be well managed, hold up the Farmers with much care: There are two notable signes of this *Empyrs* strength; one is that most neighbouring states pay *Tribute*, or frequent presents, which is but another name of *Tribute*: The other is that although it be generally observed that two, or three successions of weake Princes are enough to ruine any Monarchy; this Crowne hath now had five weake Princes, without intervenue of any one active, yet is it in no part demolished: This present *Emperor*, though by reason of his age, and some other disadvantages, hath not yet put into action, is of *Spirit* like to equall the bravest of his predecessors: Now as all bodyes, though never so strong, are subject to blowes from without, and diseases within; so is this *Empyre* obnoxious to the *Persian* abroad, and errors of *Government* at home; One hath hapned of late years, which hath bred pernicious disorder; that was the mercy of *Achmat*, to his brother *Mustapha*; whom he seeing a book-man, and weake, did not destroy; this was contrary to the *Othoman* custome; and left a subject for ambition, and disgust, which rather then be without, would make one of waxe if it were possible; much more dangerous was it to leave one of colourable pretext, where there was so insolent a faction as the *Ianyzaries*: They forthwith served their turne hereof, who else had not beene provided of a King, and so forced to endure *Osman*, for feare of destroying that line, in whose defect, they fall under the petit  
*Tartars,*



*Tartars*, which they abhorre: This gave them occasion to taste the Bloud Royall, whose reverence can never be restored, without abolishing the order of *Ianizaries*, which hath beene the Sword hand of the *Empyre*: If this discourse might speake in a morall way, it would title this act of *Achmat* a vertue, a high one; But in such a feirce *Government*, many vertues noble, and safe in our States, are against the foundation of theirs: Thus have I set downe what I noted in the *Turkish* Customes; all instruct, either as errors, or by imitation: Nor is the minde of man a perfect Paradice, unlesse there be planted in it the Tree of *Knowledge* both of *Good*, and *Evill*.

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HENRY BLOUNT.

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