

**The manners, lawes, and customes of all nations / Collected out of the best vvrriters by Ioannes Boemus Aubanus, a Dutch-man. With many other things of the same argument, gathered out of the Historie of Nicholas Damascen. The like also out of the History of America, or Brasill, written by Iohn Lerus. The faith, religion, and manners of the Aethiopians, and the deploration of the people of Lappia, compiled by Damianus à Goes. With a short discourse of the Aethiopians, taken out of Ioseph Scaliger his seuenth booke de Emendatione temporum. Written in Latin, and now newly translated into English. By Ed. Aston.**

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OSTON'S  
MANNERS  
LAWS &c.











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THE  
MANNERS, LAWES, <sup>86850</sup>  
AND CVSTOMES OF ALL  
NATIONS.

Collected out of the best VVriters

by IOANNES BOEMVS

AVBANVS, a Dutch-man.

*With many other things of the same Ar-*  
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*Nicholas Damascen.*

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SCALIGER his seuenth booke *de Emendatione temporum.*

*Written in Latin, and now newly translated into English.*

By E. D. ASTON.

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AT LONDON,  
*Printed by George Eld,*  
1611.

ALAN W. H. 2. 1. W. E. 2.

AND HIS WIVES OF ALL

THE

Collected out of the old Virgins

to form a Book

A new and Dutchman

The new and things of the June 21

and the new and things of the June 21

A new and things of the June 21

The new and things of the June 21

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The new and things of the June 21

By E. A. Aston.

AT LONDON.

Printed by George Hild.

1811.



TO HIS TRVLY HONO-  
RED FRIEND, SIR

WALTER ASTON OF TIXAL, IN  
the County of Stafford; Knight of  
*the honorable order of*  
the Bath.

HONORED SIR.



Eeing that it is an vsual and commendable custome amongst all writers, to dedicate their workes ( once brought to perfection ) to some worthy personage or other, to whom they are most deuoted, vnder whose patronage and protection they may better passe without controulment. And hauing now at last ( more for the benefit of such as are vnskiltul in the Latin tongue , then any priuate respect of mine owne, other then my recreation ) translated these seuerall writers into our vulgar language, by whose trauels, & indeauours, the maners, fashions & formes of gouernment of forraine and remote nations are plainly discovered; to each studious and iudiciall reader, to the deserued commendations of the Authors themselues, the expelling of barbarous ignorance, and the enriching, and enlightning of the Christian world , with the knowledge of all parts thereof. And withall deliberately weighing with my selfe , to whom ( amongst so many worthies of our daies ) I might direct, and consecrate these my labours, of whom I might conceiue some hope of acceprance, and a willingnesse to support the burthen of my weake building . I could bethinke my selfe of none so fit, nor so worthie, as your selfe ( right worthie Sir, ) both in regard that the manifold fauours bestowed vpon the poore house from whence I had my beeing, by you,



## *The Epistle Dedicatory.*

and your memorable Auncesters, and the taste that my selfe haue had of your good will to all your welwishers, and for that also the variety of matter herein contained, may happily yeeld some delight, if you vouchsafe to peruse it, imboldneth me humbly to presume, in these rude & rugged lines, to manifest my ardent deuotion and affectionate zeale I owe, & of duty ought to owe, vnto your honored self. And though the meaneesse of the gift, through the indigested phrase and ill composture, can no way merit the least place in your good likeing, yet was the poore mans sacrifice, made with salt, as acceptable to the Roman gods, as the rich mans incence, and *Sineta's* cold water, proceeding from a willing heart, (hauing no better meanes to shew his duty and deuotion) as highly regarded, and as bountifully rewarded by King *Artaxerxes* as the richest presents the Persians did offer him. Accept then (I beseech you) these my poore presentments, & by your accustomed fauour, so to giue life to them, and me, that they may passe (vnder your protection) free from detraction, and my selfe be incoraged to proceed to other enterprises, for the aduancement of your fame, and attayning to my selfe the expected end of al my labours, which is, to be inrolled in the Catalogue of your welwillers.

Thus crauing pardon for my presumption, I humbly take my leaue,

*And rest euer truly deuoted to  
your honored name.*

ED. ASTON.





## To the friendly Reader.



If the reading of Histories be so necessary, & beneficial to all sorts of people, as they be rightly termed, by some, the mirrors and maisters of our life, shewing, and teaching vs by the lawes and governments of other nations and common-weales, what orders and institutions are fittest to bee ordayned, and obserued in our own for the establishment of perfect peace, maintainance of diuine worship and excercise of moral vertues.

I doubt not (good courteous Reader) but the commendation of this Worke, and other Histories of like argument, expressed at large by the Author in his reface, will passe so currant with thee, as thou wilt willingly conclude with him, That there is nothing more pleasant, more profitable, nor more prayse-worthy, then truly, legendo, aut peregrinando, either by reading or traueilling, to know and understand the situation, lawes, customes, religion, and forme of gouernement of each seuerall Prouince in the world. And seeing also that (besides our sloth and home-lou'd idlenesse) there be so many rubbes, and impediments, to hinder and deterre vs from tranell, as it is, in a maner, vterly neglected, and we thereby deprived of the one halfe of our understandings: how much more industrious ought we to be, (for supply of that defect) to busie our selues in reading the reports of such Writers, (both an-ient and moderne) as haue spent most part of their times in that kind of exercise, and do (as it were) proffer vs their hands to lead and conduct vs through each seuerall country.

In which rancke, mine Author, and those auncient and famous writers, out of which this collection is gathered (though it cannot bee denied, but that there hath beene such alteration of states since their daies, as there is almost no one country in the world that doth wholly



## To the friendly Reader.

retaine the selfe same customes & ceremonies by them described) are not in the meanest regard, nor their sayings in any wise to be contemned, in regard of the number of late writers, who though some of them haue beene men of that fame and repute, and withal so perfect and absolute in their relations, as they haue come farre neerer vnto the truth of our present estate, yet is there no reason that a multitude of Mandiuels that wander abroad in this pamphletting age in the habite of sincere Historiographers (like Asses in Lyons skins) should dazell and dim the glory of the other, or cancel and deface their opinions so autenticke and anciently receiued. For mine owne part I must confesse my insufficiency, truly to discern betwixt the one and the other, yet thus much I may presume to say in the behalfe of mine Author, that (to my weake understanding) in al the course of his bookes, he inforceth no vnttruths to make them seeme probable, nor meere probabilities for true, but relateth things doubtful as he found them written by others, and so leaueth euery man to his discretion, to giue credit as hee sees cause: And although hee maketh mention of some ceremonies & customes vsed in certaine countries, which seeme so absurde, monstrous and prodigious, as they appeare vtterly void of credit yet is there no cause that that should distast any one, considering that (as hee well noteth in the conclusion of his third booke) all people are not indued with like ciuility, and that there is as great difference in mens liuings as in their collours.

The pleasure which I tooke by perusal of these seuerall collections, and the profit that I conceiued might thereby redound both to my selfe and others, together with the approbation of my in-deauours and commendation of the workes by some worthy, and worthily respected friends, whose Iudgements doe farre exceed mine owne, encouraged mee to vndergoe the businesse, and to proceed in that I had already begunne with more alacrity, which after much labour I haue now at length finished, and suited in this ragged livery, and made him to speake in a phrase though not eloquent, yet I hope plaine and intelligible. And albeit a tale may be much improved by a formal manner of telling, yet gold is more esteemed of for his goodnesse then for his collour, and the worthinesse of the worke ought to bee of more regarde then the elegancy of the phrase, the one being the substance, the other but the shadow.



## To the friendly Reader.

As for the nice curiosity of such word-weighing Crittickes, as will sooner find two faults in another, then amend one in themselves: I little esteeme, either of them or their censures. But if (for want of other matter to quarrell at) any Momus should accuse my pen for mercenarie: I protest, I may truly answer them with the very words of mine Author, that what I have done, was not *Spe lucri ullius, nec popularis auræ ambitione, verum enimvero tam libero, & plane otioso studio, quam rei ipsius mira dulcedine atque utilitate.*

If I have omitted or misconstrued any absolete words or sentences for their harshnesse and ill coherence, or erred in setting downe the true quantitie of weights and measures, (for avoyding whereof I have most commonly used the Latine words themselves) or in describing the disguised apparell of sundry people, as namely those rude savages called *Tovovpinambaltii*, beeing so different from all other nations, as (keeping the sence) I could hardly adapt them to our owne English phrase, or if I have shewed my selfe too affectionate in the commendation of our owne country, in my enlargement added to the chapter of England, where I supposed mine Author was too sparing: or (to bee short) if in the confession of the *Aethiopians* faith, or the Epistles written from *Prestre Iohn* to the Pope, and kings of *Portugall*, or in any other place, or by any other meanes, I have ought mistaken, or squared from the true meaning of the writers: Bee pleased (courteous and friendly Reader) in humanity patiently to passe them over, and impute such errors and escapes, rather to the want of knowledge of the truth, than want of will to expresse the truth.

And so concluding (with this one onely advertisement, that if in the whole course of these bookes, thou meete with any thing that, in thy opinion, doth overmuch exalt the ceremonies of the Church of Rome, thou wilt consider, that the Author was an absolute Papist, as well thou mayst perceine, and therefore of likelihood would by all means be could, adnance and make the best of his owne Religion: nor did I thinke it the part of a Translator, by marginall notes to suppress his opinions, but in this place rather to forewarne thee, which (as the *Proverbe* sayth) doth fore-arme thee, how to give credit in those cases. I commit these my labours to thy favourable consideration, and thy selfe to Gods holy protection: Resting thine in what he is able,

ED. ASTON.









## THE AVTHORS PRE- face to the Reader.



THE most famous and memorable lawes, cu-  
stomes, and manners of all nations, and the  
situation of each severall Countrie, which *He-  
rodotus* the father of Histories, *Diodorus Sien-  
lus*, *Berosus*, *Strabo*, *Solinus*, *Trogus Pompeius*,  
*Ptolomy*, *Pliny*, *Cornelius Tacitus*, *Dionysius*,  
*Afer*, *Pomponius Mela*, *Cesar*, *Iosephus*, and  
of later Writers, *Vincentius*, *Aeneas Sylvius*, (who was afterward  
Pope *Pius* the second) *Antonius Sabellicus*, *Iohannes Nauclerus*,  
*Ambrosius Calepinus*, *Nicholas Perottus* in his books intituled, *Cor-  
nucopia*, and many other famous Historiographers, haue confused-  
ly, and (as it were) by parts commended vnto vs in their Commen-  
taries: I haue (good diligent Reader) as my leysure would serue,  
collected, abridged, digested, and compacted together in this  
short and compendious Breuiary: wherein you may easily finde  
what euer you haue occasion to looke for; which I haue effected,  
not in expectance of gaine, nor affecting popular prayse, but free-  
ly, and without other recompence, then the pleasure and profite  
the thing it selfe bringeth with it. And herein I haue expressed as  
well the customes of auncient time, as those which be in vse at this  
day; as well the good as the bad, indifferently: that both lying o-  
pen before thine eyes, by their examples thou mayst follow and  
imitate in the course of thy life, those which be honest, holy, and  
commendable, and auoyd those which be dishonest and shameful.  
And hereby thou shalt perceiue (good Reader) in what perfecti-  
on and happinesse we now liue at this day, and how simply, rude-  
ly, and vnciuilly our forefathers liued, from the Creation of the  
world to the generall Flood, and for many ages after. When as

*The cause why  
he writ this  
booke.*

A

they



### *The Preface to the Reader.*

they, vsing no money, no merchandize, but equalling one benefit with another, had nothing proper to themselves, but sea and land as common to all, as the aire and firmament. No man then gaped after honor and riches, but euery one contented with a little, liued a rurall, secure, and idle life, free from toyle or trauell, accompanied with one or more wiues and their sweet children, hauing no other house than the heauens, the shadow of a tree, or some homely cabbin: their meate was then the fruite of trees, and milke of beasts; their drinke water, and their clothing, first, the utmost rinde or broade leaues of trees, and afterwards the skinnes of beasts vnhandfomly stitched together. They were not then enclosed in and immured in walles, nor defended with ditches, but wandring abroad at their willes, with their cattell, not then compassed in inclosures, reposed their bodies where euer night tooke them, sleeping ioyfully and securely without feare of theeuers or robbers, wherof that age was ignorant.

*The cause why  
people inhabi-  
ted neere toge-  
ther.*

All which things afterwards crept in and insued of mens variable willes, emulation and dissonant desires, when fruites gotten without labour beeing insufficient to sustaine such multitudes, and other things growing defectiue, and for the repelling and repelling the often incursions and fierce assaults of beasts and forraigne people, they were constrained to gather themselves into multitudes, to ioyne their forces together, and to apportion themselves certaine limits and territories wherein to liue; where (ioyning and vnitng their houses for neighbourhood) they beganne to liue a more ciuill and popular kind of life, to fence and fortifie themselves with wals and trenches, and to ordaine lawes, and elect magistrates for the maintenance of peace and tranquillitie amongst them: And then they began to prouide for their maintenance, not onely by husbanding their grounds, or following their flockes, but by sundry other exercises, and new inuented arts, to passe by sea with their nauies into forren nations: first, for transporting of companies to inhabit new-found countries, and then for trafficke and trading one with another: to traine vp horses for the cart, of copper to make coyne, to cloth themselves more curiously: to feed more daintily, to haue more humanity in their speech: more ciuilitie in their conuersation, more state in their buildings, and in all  
points



*The preface to the Reader.*

points to be more mild, more wise, and better qualified: and laying aside all grosse barbarisme, and beastly cruelty, abstayning from mutuall slaughter: from deuouring of humane flesh, from rapine and robbérie, from open and incestuous coupling of children with their parents, before indifferently vsed: and from many more such enormities, applyed their reason and strength to recouer the earth, which (beeing then either ouergrown with thicke woods, ouerrunne with wild beasts, or ouerflowed with standing waters) lay rude, barren, desert, vnfrequented, and inconuenient for mans dwelling, and (with their industrie and labour) playning and purging it from heapes of stones, rootes of trees, and superfluous waters, made it fertill and very delightfome to behold. And allowing the plaines and champion grounds for tilling, and the lesser hilles for vineyards, did so manure & dresse the earth, (with instruments made for the purpose) as it brought forth both corne and wine in abundance, which before yeelded nothing but acornes and wild apples, and those also sparingly produced.

*The earth recouered from  
her first rudenes  
and barrennesse,  
and made fertile.*

The valleys they beautified and adorned with most delectable gardens, and well watered medowes, leauing onely the toppes of mountaines for woods, and assigning so much soyle for the increase of fruite, as they scarce left sufficient for fuell and fodder. Then they began to people all places more plentifully, to erect new buildings, of ferme houses to make hamlets, of borowes great citties, to build temples in valleys, towers on mountaine tops, to encompassse their fountains with hewed marble stones, & inuironing them with plants on all sides for shadow, deriued their running waters thence into their cities, through pipes & conduits: to search deepe in the ground for water, where naturally it was wanting: to hold in and restraine the streames and violent riuers, with dams and bankes of earth, which before would often flow at large, to the great destruction of the Inhabitants, and (that they might bee passable, and no hidderance or impediment to mens businesse) to build ouer them strong and stately bridges, vppon bending Arches or Pyles fastened and firmly rampered in the ground, to cast downe Rockes in the sea, which whilome were woont to bee daungerous for saylers, to make hauens, inroades, and harborowes both in Ilands, and on the Continent.



## The Preface to the Reader.

*The earth com-  
pared to Para-  
dise.*

To digge Dockes and Rodes, wherein shippes might rest in secu-  
ritie, free from danger of wind or weather. And so diligently to  
decke and garnish all things both by land and sea, that the earth  
(as now it is) compared to his former filthinesse and deformitie,  
may be thought to be an other earth, different from that it was  
before, and not much vnlike that most delectable garden, out of  
which our vnfortunate first founders *Adam* and *Eue* were eiectioned  
for transgressing the diuine commandement.

Moreouer, many most noble Disciplines, and liberall Arts, were  
by men found out, which (that they might remaine to all poste-  
ritie) were by diuers Characters, and new-inuented notes of  
letters, committed to bookes and tables; and did so farre exempt  
and aduance them beyond all humane condition, as they might  
haue beene thought rather to leade the most blessed liues of dei-  
fied men, then men indeed.

*The true God  
forgotten.*

Had not Satan the Prince of the world, and enemy of mankind,  
(by sowing his most pestilent Cockles amongst the good corne)  
confounded their most intire and happie estate. For he seeing the  
multitude of people increase, and the pleasure of the world held in  
better estimation, stirred vp with enuie, first found them guiltie to  
themselues for committing damnable sins, and afterwards made  
them with curiositie to affect the knowledge of future and hea-  
uently things, from the obscure answers of Oracles: And to the end  
he might abolish all knowledge, of one true and onely God, and  
trouble all mankind with some notable euill: he taught them the  
prophane worship of false gods and goddeses, causing them to  
commit idolatry, and do reuerence vnto them, making the Del-  
phian Temples in one place, the Euboian in another; in another  
the Nafamonian, and the Dodonian okes (by his diuellish inspira-  
tion) to vtter forth Oracles. By which means he procured that di-  
uine honors were attributed to *Saturn* in Italy, to *Iupiter* in Crete  
to *Iuno* in Samos, to *Bacchus* in Thebes and India, to the Sun and

*Plurality of  
gods, & which  
god was wor-  
shipped in each  
seueral country*

Moone, (vnder the names of *Isis* & *Osiris*) in Aegypt: to *Vesta* in  
Troy: in Affricke to *Pallas* and *Triton*: to *Mercury* (vnder the  
name of *Tentus*) in Fraunce and Germany: to *Mynerua* in Himet-  
tu & Athens: to *Apollo* in Bceotia, Rhodes, Chius, Patara in Lycia,  
the



*The Preface to the Reader.*

the lesser Phrigia and Thimbra. To *Dianna* in Delos and Scythia; To *Venus* in Cyprus, Paphos, Gnydos, and Cythera: to *Mars* in Thrace, to *Vulcan* in Lipara and Lemnos, to *Priapus* in Lampsacus neere Hellisfont, and to others in many other places, whose names (for their rare inuentions and great benefits bestowed vpon their people) were then most fresh in memory.

Moreover also, after Christ Iesus, the true Sonne of the liuing God, appearing in flesh, and pointing out to the erring multitude the perfect path-way of saluation, by his word and example, exhorting to newnesse of life, to the glory of his heavenly father, and sending his Disciples forth into all the world, by their wholesome doctrine and preaching, had confounded their damnable idolatry, and spread abroad a new religion, and new institutions of life, yea and preuailed so much, as being receiued of all nations in the world, there could nothing more be desired for the obtraying of true felicity: when Satan returning into his former malice, and going about to circumuent, and get againe his habitation in mens curious hearts, which before (by the comming of Christ) hee was forced to forsake, reduced some into their former errors, and so corrupted and blinded others with new hereticall opinions, as it had beene better for them, neuer to haue tasted the truth, then so sodainely and maliciously to forsake the knowne way of saluation. For now at this day all the people of Asia the lesse, Armenia, Arabia, Persis, Siria, Assiria and Media, and in Affrick, the Aegiptians, Numidians, Libians and Muritanians. In Europe, all those of Greece, Misia and Thrace, vtterly abiecting Christ, obserue and with all honor and deuotion adore, that most accursed and Epileptical *Mahomet* and his damnable doctrine. The Scythians (which at this day bee called Tartars) a very large and populous nation, doe, some of them worship the Idols of their Emperor *Cham*: some the stars, and some others the true and onely GOD, at the preaching of Saint *Paul*: the people of India and Aethiopia, which bee vnder the gouernment of *Prestor Iohn*, hold the faith of Christ, but in a manner that is far different from ours. But the sincere and right beliefe of our Sauour Christ, wherewith (by his speciall grace) the whole world was once illumined, is retained onely in Germany, Italy, France, Spaine, England, Scotland, Ireland,

*Iesus Christ reduced the world from error.*

*The large Countries of the Mahometans.*



*The Preface to the Reader.*

*The diuersitie  
of worshipinge  
is the seminarie  
of disention.*

*The Greeke  
Philosophers  
first glory.*

*The law-giuers  
first authority.*

Ireland, Dacia, Liuania, Prussia, Polonia, Hungaria, and of the inhabitants of the Isles of Rhodes, Scicilia, Corsica, Sardinia and of some few besides. So far hath that most cruel enemy of mankind prevailed, by bringing in such diuersity of manners, such hatefull and damnable superstitious abuses in ceremonies and sacred things, that whilest euery nation contendeth by strongest arguments to prooue that the GOD which they worship and adore is the true and great GOD, and that they onely goe the way of eternall happinesse, and all others the by-path that leadeth to perdition.

Whilest also euery sect in deauoureth to aduance and set forth themselves, it insueth that (each one persecuting other with mortall enmity and deadly hatred) it is not onely dangerous to trauell into forraine nations, but in a manner vtterly bard and prohibited, which I perswade my selfe is the cause, that the names of bordering nations beeing scarce knowne to their neerest neighbors, whatsoeuer is either written or reported of them, is now accounted fabulous and vnttrue: the knowledge whereof notwithstanding hath euer beene reputed so pleasant, so profitable and so praise-worthy, as it is most manifest, that for the loue and desire thereof onely, without other cause at all, very many forsaking father and mother, wife and children, countrie and kin (and that which is more) neglecting their owne health, haue aduentured through great difficulties and daungers, care and troubles, long and tedious iourneies into forraine nations, onely to furnish themselves with experience. So as it is vndoubtedly true that not in these daies onely, but almost from the beginning of the world, All those haue bin generally esteemed men of greatest authority, wisdom and learning, and by open consent haue beene elected and chosen Maisters and Gouvernours, Councillors and Iudges, Captaines and Controuers, who hauing sometimes trauelled strang countries, haue knowne the manners of many people and cities, for euer as those auncient Philosophers of Greece and Italy, which were first founders of sundry sects wherein they instructed their Disciples & Schollers, as namely *Socrates*, of the Socratick sect, *Plato*, of the Academicke, *Aristotle*, of the Peripatick, *Antisthines* of the Cynick, *Aristippus*, of the Cyrenaicke,



*The Preface to the Reader.*

naicke, *Zeno* of the Stoicke, and *Pithagoras* of the Pithagoricke. As also those old law-giuers *Minos* and *Rhodomanthus* to the men of Creete, *Orpheus* to those of Thrace, *Draco* & *Solon* to the Athenians, *Licurgus* to the Lacedemonians, *Moses* to the Iewes, *Zamolxis* to the Scythians, and many others which wee see haue set down to their people diuers prescript ceremonies & ciuil disciplines: inuented not of those seuerall sects, disciplines and lawes, within their city walles, but learned and brought them from the Caldeans themselves (beeing the most wise men of the world) from the Indian Philosophers, the Brackmans & Gymnosophists, *The Caldeanes the wisest men in the world.* and from the Aegiptian Priests, with whom sometimes they were conuersant. To conclude, wee plainly perceiue that those most renowned worthies, *Iupiter* of Creete (who was reported to haue measured the world siue times ouer) and his two sonnes of like disire and successe, *Dionysius*, surnamed *Bacchus*, and valiant *Hercules* and *Thesens* his imitator, *Iason* with the rest of the Greekes which went with him for the golden Fleece, wether-beaten *Vlissis* and *Aeneas* the outcast of Troy, *Cyrus*, *Darius*, *Xerxes*, *Alexander* the Great, *Hanibal* the Carthaginiā, *Mithrydate* king of Pontus (expert in the language of fifty nations) the great *Antiochus* and innumerable other Romane Princes and Gouvernors, the *Scipios*, the *Marii*, the *Lentuli*, *Pompey* the Great, *Iulius Caesar*, *Octavian Augustus*, the *Constantines*, *Charles*, *Othones*, *Conrades*, *Henries* and *Frederickes*, haue by their warlike expeditions into foraine nations, purchased vnto themselves an euertlasting fame and immortal memory. Wherefore seeing there is so great pleasure and profit in the knowledge of countries, and of their manners, and also seeing it is not in euery mans power, nor yet lawfull for many causes, for euery one to trauel and behold lands far remote: thou maist (good gentle reader) as wel by reading comprehend & vnderstand, the most renowned customes of al nations, and the seuerall sytuation of each country, expressed in this booke, and that as readily, & with as much pleasure, as if, taking thee by the hand, I shold lead thee through euery nation one after an other, & faithfully relate vnto thee, in what place, and vnder what kind of gouernment, each nation haue liued heretofore and now doe liue.

Nor would I haue thee distasted or carried away, for that by some too seuerer reformer, it may bee objected and laide in  
my



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my teeth, that I haue produced for new and for mine owne, a matter written long agoe, and heretofore handled of no lesse then a thousand Authors, and that I haue vsed only their words without alteration: But if thou diligently marke my purpose, thou shalt find that (in imitation of that liberal householder, to whom Christ in the Gospell compared euery learned scribe) I haue presented thee (my kinde guest) with some things, as well out of mine owne braine, as wholly extracted from the hidden treasure of my bookes, and not onely with borrowed and vnknowne stuffe, but with sundry new dainties of mine owne deuising.

Farewel, and what euer thou findest herein accept in good part.

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To the Reader in commendation of  
*this worke.*

**N**ot Soline, Pliny, Trogius, nor Herodotus of worth,  
Nor Strabo best Geographer that Cretish Isle brought forth:  
Not true historian Siculus, nor yet Berosus sage,  
Nor any other writer else within this latter age:  
Not Siluius (after Pius Pope) the second of that name,  
Nor yet Sabellicus (whose workes deserue immortal fame)  
In volums large doe touch so neere the state of th' vniuerse  
As doth the Author of this booke in fewer words reherse:  
For here each part of Asia soile distinctly you may find,  
Th' Arabians, Persians and the Meades, the Scythians & the Inde,  
The Sirian and Assirian, and all the Parthians race,  
The Getes and Dacians (Europs Scythes) the people ecke of Thrace:  
The Sauromates, and those which in Pannonia doe remaine  
The Germaine, the Italian, the French and those of Spaine:  
The Irish and the British Isles (of Islands all the best,  
And Affricke nations all (which first old Affrican possessest)  
The Ethiops and the Carthage men, and those of Aegypt-land,  
And al the people that doe dwel, on the dry Libian sand.  
And many more inhabitants of diuers Isles beside,  
And where the sect of Mahomet most chiesly doth abide:  
What ample large and spacious lands doe honor Christ their head,  
And through what kingdomes of the world his faithfull flocke are  
FINIS. (spread.



# The manners, lawes and customes, of all Nations.

LIB. I.

*The true opinions of Diuines, concerning mans originall.*

CAP. I.



When the diuine Maiestie (vpon the first day of Creation) had finished this great and wonderfull Architecture of heaven and earth, (which of his beauty and elegant forme, is called the world,) and all things contained within the compasse thereof, vpon the sixt day hee created man, of purpose that hee might haue all other things in full fruition, and be Lord and Gouvernour ouer them, and making him the noblest of all other Creatures, hee indued him with celestiall vnderstanding, and named him *Adam*, of the redde earth or claye whereof he was framed. And to the end he should not bee alone, the Lord (casting him into a dead slumber) tooke a ribbe from out his side, and framing woman thereof, gaue her vnto him as his wife and companion, and placed them in the pleasantest part of all the earth, watered on all parts with most pleasant riuers, and delectable fountaines, which place for the euer fresh and pleasant aspect, was of the Greekes called *Paradise*, wherein for a space they liued a most blessed life, free from all euill, the earth producing all things of her owne accord: But no sooner had they transgressed the com-

*Why the world is so called.*

*The originall and appellation of Adam.*

B

mande-



The fertilitie  
of the earth  
why it was  
restrained.

Cain the first  
begotten of  
Adam.

The generall  
deluge, and  
how long it  
continued.

Noah sent his  
children and  
kindred to in-  
habite other  
countries.

mandement of their maker, but that they were expelled from that most sacred seat and happy habitation, & thrust into the earth to till the same, out of which they were taken, which being then, for a curse, restrained of her former fruitfulness, and bringing forth nothing willingly, they got their livings with sweate and sorrow, their bodies being become subiect to heat and cold, and all kinde of infirmities; Their first begotten sonne they called *Cain*, the second *Abell*, after whom they had many other children. So that the world growing richer in age, and the earth more inhabited, as the multitude of people increased, so did wickednesse waxe more rife, and men growing worse & worse, accounting iniury for innocencie, and the contempt of Gods maiesty for piety, were come to that height of iniquity, that God in all the world scarce finding *Noah* only, (whom for the reparation of mankind he thought fit to be preserved with his household) sent the generall deluge, which drowning all the world, destroyed the fowles of the aire, and all living creatures breathing vpon the face of the earth, some few seed-pares only excepted, defended by the Arke from the force of the flood. After the rage of the waters had continued for five months space, the Arke rested vpon the hils of Armenia, and *Noah* & his company going forth into the earth, (by Gods speciall grace & assistance) in short time, the almost extinguished estate of all mortall creatures was repaired. And *Noah*, because all parts of the earth might be re-peopled, sent his sonnes, nephews, and kinnsfolke, with their companies to dwell, some into one country, some into another. Into *Aegipt* (according to the opinion of *Berosus*) he sent *Esennius* with the Colonies of *Cham* *Tritamen* into Lybia and Cyrene, and *Iaphet* *Priscus* *Attobas*, to inioy the rest of Affrick. Into East Asia hee sent



sent *Canges*, with some of the sonnes of *Gomer Gallus Sabus*, surnamed *Thurifer* went into Arabia foelix: *Arabus* ruled in the deserts of Arabia: and *Petreius* in that part of Arabia called *Petreia*. *Chanaan* hee placed in *Damascus* in the confines of *Palestine*: In Europe hee made *Thuyfco* King of *Sarmatia*, from the riuer of *Tanais*, to the riuer of *Rhene*, to whom were ioyned the sonnes of *Istrus*, and *Mesa*, with their brethren, who had the gouernment from the hill *Adulas*, to *Messembria Pontica*. Vnder whome *Tyrus*, *Archadius* and *Emathius* gouerned in *Italy*, *Gomerus* in *France*: *Samotes* possessed that part of *France* betwixt the riuers *Garunia* and *Sequana*, and *Iuball* was Lord of the *Celtibers*.

That short and vntimely alienation of the children from their progenitors, (of whose life and manners they had little taste) was cause of all the diuersity which ensued; for *Cham*, beeing constrained to flye with his wife and children, for scorning and deriding his father, seated himselfe in that part of *Arabia*, which was afterwards called by his name, where hee left no religious ceremonies to his posterity, as hauing receiued none from his Father: whereof ensued, that, as in tract of time, diuerse companies beeing sent out of that coast, to inhabite other countries, and possessing diuerse partes of the world, (for the reiected seede did exceedingly increafe) many of them fell into inextricable errors, their languages were varied, and all knowledge and reuerence of the true and liuing God, was vtterly forgotten and abolished, in so much as many of them might well bee sayd to liue a life so vnciuill and so barbarous, as hardly could there any difference bee discerned betwixt them and brute beasts.

The cause of  
the variety of  
tongues and  
manners.

The exile of  
Cham.

Men lined  
like beasts.



The Sunne and  
Moone wor-  
shipped.

The Moone  
called Isis, the  
Sunne, Osyris;  
the Ayre, Iupiter;  
the Fyre,  
Vulcan; the  
Sky, Pallas;  
and the Earth,  
Ceres.

Arabia, the  
mother of ma-  
ny Colonies.

The issue of  
Sem and  
Japhet.

Why the wor-  
ship of the true  
God remained  
with so few.

The two-fold  
opinion of the  
Philosophers  
concerning the  
world.

Those which went into Ægypt, admiring the motion and brightnesse of the heavenly lights, and ascribing a certaine God-head to the Sunne and Moone, began to worship them for gods, calling the Sunne *Osyris*, and the Moone *Isis*, the Ayre they reuerenced vnder the name of *Iupiter*: the Fire of *Vulcan*: the Skye of *Pallas*: and the Earth of *Ceres*, giuing diuine honors vnto other things likewise, vnder diuerse other names and appellations; Nor did that black clowde of darknesse, hang onely ouer the land of Ægypt, but what countries soeuer were first inhabited by the off-spring of *Cham*, were vtterly ouerwhelmed in ignorance of true pietie, and wholly inthrallled in Satans slaue-rie. Neither was there euer land the mother of more Colonies, then that part of Arabia, wherein cursed *Cham* and his crew remained; so great was that destruction which the vntimely banishment of one man brought to all man-kinde.

Whereas on the contrary part, the issue of *Sem* and *Iaphet*, being lawfully instructed by their parents and elders, and contented to liue in their owne limits, wandred not abroad into all parts of the world as those others did, which is the cause that the desire of the truth, I meane the worship of the true God and godlinesse, was (vntill the comming of the *Messias*) priuately practised in one country onely.

The false opinion of the Ethnicks concern-  
ing mans originall.

CAP. 2.

**B**UT the ancient Philosophers, (beeing voyde of knowledge of the true God-head, haue written long  
fithence



sithence many Histories of Nature, ) haue otherwise thought of mans originall: for some of them were of opinion, that the world was without beginning, and incorruptible, and that the stock of humaine kinde hath beene for euer. Some others supposed both world, and worldly men to haue beginning, and to be likewise subiect to corruption, for, ( say they ) at first the nature of heauen and earth being mingled together and vnseperated, had one onely forme or *Idea*, out of which chaos each body being seperated from other, the world attained this shape it now carryeth: the ayrie being in continuall motion, the fyre part thereof, for his lightnesse, required the vppermost seate, and by the same reason, the Sunne, and all other starres obtained their courses; That part which was mixt with moysture, by reason of his weight, remained still in his propper place, which being than mingled together, of the moyst part thereof was made the sea, and the harder part became earth, though then soft and slimy; which afterwards growing harder and thicker by the heate of the sunne, the force of the heate by little and little swelling and puffing vp the superficies, or vttermost part thereof, there were in many places diuerse humors congealed together, wherein appeared certaine putrifactions couered with thin skinnies or filmes, as wee may perceiue by experience in the fennes & standing waters of Ægipt, when as the heate of the ayre vpon a sodaine warmeth the cold earth: so that heate abounding in moysture, caused generation, and a certaine winding ayre incompassing the moysture, preserued that from danger by night, which by day was made solide by the heate of the sunne: so as in the end those putrifactions being brought to perfection, & as it were, their time of birth drawing neere; the skins where-

*Light things  
tend upwards,  
and heauie  
things downe-  
wards.*

*The naturall  
creation of li-  
uing creatures.*



with they were covered, beeing burned and broken, they brought forth the formes of all creatures: of which, those that did most participate of heate, tooke theyr place in the vppermost region, and became flying fowles, those which were most neere vnto the nature of the earth, became serpents, and other earthly creatures, and those of the watery condition, were allotted the Element of the same nature, and were called Fishes.

But when the earth (with heate and wind, waxing enery day dryer then other) surceased from bringing forth the greatest sorts of creatures, those which shee had already produced, brought forth others of the same kinde, by mutuall commixtion one with another.

*The barbarous  
manner of li-  
uing of the  
first people.*

And in this manner did those Philosophers affirme, that men had their beginnings likewise, and that they, (seeking the fields for such foode, as herbes and fruites of trees did naturally yeeld them) liued a wilde, vnciuill, and brutish kinde of life.

*The diuersitie  
of toungs how  
it came.*

And being much annoyde with beasts (the better to resist them) partly mooued with feare, and partly for their common profit, gathered them-selues into companies, and ioyning their forces together, sought out fit places for themselves to dwell in. That the sound of mens mouthes being first confused, and disordered, by little and little became a distinct and intelligible voice, and gaue vnto euery thing his proper name. And that men being placed and disperfed into diuerse parts of the world, vsed not all one, but diuerse languages, and for euery language diuerse characters of letters. That the first company of men gaue beginning to euery country wherein they liued. And that those men which were first so procreated (being  
utterly



utterly voyde of succour and ayde of any thing, and not knowing how to gather the fruites of the earth, and to lay them vp and keepe them, to serue their necessitie, lead so hard a life at the first, as many of them perished in winter by cold or famine, who afterwards growing wiser by experience, found them out holes and caues in the ground, both to auoyde the extremity of colde, and to preferue fruites to defend them from famine. And hauing found out the vse of fire and other things profitable, and all other commodities of mans life beeing made manifest vnto them: and finally making necessity the mistresse of their labours, they commended to their memories the knowledge of all things, to whom were given as helpers, hands, speach, and excellencie of minde.

*Men made  
wiser by  
danger.*

*Necessitie  
the mistresse  
of labours.*

Now those which (attributing nothing to Gods providence) were of opinion, that man had this manner of beginning, did hold also, that the Æthiopians were the first of all mortall men, vsing this coniecture for their reason, that the country of Æthiopia, by reason of the vicinity and neerenesse of the heauens, did before all other lands begin to waxe warme, the earth from the beginning lying long soaked in water: whereof it happened, that of that first temperature of heate and moysture, man himselfe being first begotten, would with a better wil hold that place wherein hee was borne, than to goe seeke strange countries, all other places beeing vnto him.

*The first men  
were the  
Æthiopians.*

Wherefore beginning there, (yet first speaking a word or two, in generall of Affricke one of the the three parts into which the world and this my present worke is diuided) wee will first speake of the situation of Æthiopia, and of the customes and orders vsed in that country, and after-



afterwards wee will treat of all other lands in order as they lye, with what diligence we may.

*Of the scituation and perfection  
of the world. CAP. 3.*

*The earth de-  
uided into  
three parts:*



*Affricke deu-  
ided from Asia.*

*Europ deu-  
ided from Affricke.*

*Asia deu-  
ided from Europe.*

*The scituation  
and qualitie of  
Affricke.*

Our Ancestors (as *Orosius* reporteth) were of opinion, that the circle of the whole earth, inclosed within the borders of the Ocean, is in the forme of a Triangle, and that there be three parts thereof, Affricke, Asia and Europe. Affricke is deuided from Asia by the riuer Nilus, which running from the South into Æthiopia, and passing by Ægipt, maketh it exceeding fruitfull by his ouer-flowing, and dischargeth himselfe into the sea, in no lesse then seauen sundry places.

The Mediterranean sea deuideth Europe from Affricke, which (according to *Pomponius Mela*) making breach into the earth from the West Ocean, about *Gades* Iland and *Hercules* pillers, is not there in bredth aboue ten miles ouer. Asia is seperated from Europe by the riuer Tanais, which flowing from the North almost into the middle of the poole of *Mæotis*, meeteth there with the sea, called *Pontus*, which parteth the rest of Asia from Europe; Affricke is bounded vpon the East with the riuer Nilus, and vpon all other parts with the sea, it is shorter then Europe, and broder when it ioyneth to the sea, and fuller of hills, and holding on a crooked course towards the West, by little and little growing sharper and narrower, is then the narrowest when it is neere to an end. As much of Affricke as is inhabited, is wonderfull fertile, but the greatest part thereof lyeth desert, being eyther couered with drye barren



barren sands, forsaken for the vicinitie of the Sunne, or annoyde with sundry sorts of hurtfull creatures. Vpon the North it is compassed with the Lybian Sea, with the Æthiopian on the south, and with the sea Atlantick on the west. The whole country of Affricke was inhabited from the beginning, but of foure sundrie sorts of people, whereof two (as *Herodotus* writeth) were borne & bred in that countrey, and the other two were strangers: the homebred and naturall countymen are the Carthagenians and the Æthiopians, the one inhabiting in the north of Affricke, & the other in the south. The strangers be Pheniceans and Grecians. The ancient Æthiophians and Egyptians (if all be true which they report of themselves) were at first rude and barbarous, and feeding commonly like brute beasts with hearbes and wilde flesh, vsing neither manners, lawes nor gouernement, but wandring and straying abroad without consideration or regard, and vtterly destitute of any certaine habitation, reposing themselves wheresoeuer they were benighted: But afterwards beeing made more ciuill and humane, by *Hercules* (who is said to haue brought Colonies into that Country) and making themselves houses of those shippes wherewith they had before sayled into Libia, they beganne to dwell and inhabite together. But of this we will speake more at large hereafter.

*The incommo-  
dities of  
Affricke.*

*Affricke inha-  
bited by home  
bred people  
and strangers.*

*The people of  
Affricke made  
more ciuill by  
Hercules.*

The soyle of Affricke is vnequally inhabited, for the South part thereof, by reason of the exceeding heat, lyeth for the most part desert, and that part which lyeth next vnto Europ is very populous, the fruitfulness of their ground is admirable and wonderfull, as yeelding to the husbandman, in some places a hundred fould increase.

*The qualitie  
of the soyle of  
Affricke.*

*The fruitful-  
nesse of the  
ground.*

It is strange that is reported of the fruitfulness of Mauritania in Affricke, that there be Vines bigger then two men

*The wonders  
of Affricke.*

C

can



can fatham, and clusters of Grapes of a cubite in compass, that there be stalkes of wilde Parsley, wilde Fennell, and thistles of twelue cubits in length, and of a wonderfull thicknesse, much like vnto the Indian Cane, the knots or ioynts whereof will fill eight bushels, there are also herbes called Sperage, of no lesse notable bignesse: Their Cipres trees, about the hill Atlas be of an exceeding height without knots, and with a bright leafe: but of all, their Cytron tree is the most noble, and of the Romaines accounted most daintie. Affricke breedeth Elephants and Dragons, which lying in waite for other beasts, kill all they can catch, as Lyons, Libards, Bufles, Goates and Apes, whereof there bee great store in many places.

What kind  
of beasts are  
bred in Affrick

There bee also beasts like Camels and Panthers, and beasts called Rhizes, which bee like vnto Bulls. And (according to the opinion of *Herodotus*) that country breedeth horned Asses, besides, Dragons, Hyænaes, Porcupines, wilde Rammes, and a kinde of beast begotten betwixt the Hyæna and the Wolfe, (which is some-what bigger then the ordinary kinde of Wolues) Panthers, Storckes, Egles, Estridges, and sundry kinds of Serpents, but especially the Cerastes which hath a little body, and hornes like a Ramme, and the Aspe which is little likewise, but very venomous, against whose mischiefe the Ratte a very little creature, is by nature opposed for a remedy.

OF



Of *Aethiopia*, and the ancient customes  
of that Country.

## CAP. 4.



Thiopia is deuided into two regi-  
ons, whereof one lyeth in Asia, the  
other in Affricke: That in Asia is  
now called India, and is washed on  
the East with the red and Barbarian  
Sea, and lieth Northward next vn-  
to Libia and Ægipt, vpon the west  
it hath the inner Libia, and vpon  
the south it ioyneth to the other Aethiopia, which is big-  
ger and more southward. This Aethiopia in Affrick, is so  
called of *Aethiops* the sonne of *Vulcan*, who gouerned  
there (as *Plinie* is of opinion) or else of the Greeke word  
(*aitho*) which signifieth to burne, and (*ops*) which is the  
countenance, because that country is parched and burned,  
by reason of the neerenesse of the sunne: for the heat there  
is exceeding great and continuall, as being directly vnder  
the Meridian line. Towards the west it is mountanous, full  
of sand and grauell in the middle, and desert in the east.  
It containeth many sorts of people of diuerse and mon-  
strous countenances, and horrible shapes. They were  
thought to bee the first people that liued, and that they  
being in that country naturally bred, continued free-men,  
and were neuer subiect to slavery: the gods were there  
first honoured, and sacred ceremonies ordained: they had  
a double vse of letters, for some letters were called holy,  
and were only known to the Priests, & the other serued for  
the common people, nor were there formes of letters such  
as thereof could sillables bee framed, but either like some  
living

*Two Aethio-  
pias.*

*One Aethiopia  
is now called  
India.*

*The qualitie  
of Aethiopia.*

*The Aethiopi-  
ans were the  
first people.*

*The gods first  
worshipped in  
Aethiopia.*

*What letters  
the Aethiopi-  
ans used.*



*The election of  
their Kings.*

*The obedience  
of the Ethio-  
pians.*

*The apparell of  
the Ethiopians*

liuing creature, or the outward parts of mens bodies or resembling sundry instruments of worke-men, and euery figure or forme of letter had his proper signification, as by the Hawke was signified swiftnesse, mischiefe and craft by the Crocadile, watchfulnesse by the eye, and so like-wise of other things. Who-so-euer of their Priests was most troubled with vaine visions, him they accounted the most holiest, and creating him for their King adored him as though he were either a God, or at the least giuen them by diuine prouidence, and yet his supream authority exempted him not from the obedience of their lawes, but that hee was to doe all things according to their ancient customes, and not to reward or punish any man himselfe, but vpon whome soeuer he intended to take punishment, to him hee sent the executioner, to present him with the signe of death, which was no sooner viewed by him to whome it was sent, but forthwith (who euer he were) hee would goe home to his owne house, and there procure his owne death: for so great honour and affection did the subiect beare to his soueraigne, that if it happened at any time by an accident the King to bee weakned or faint in any one part of his body, all his friends and followers would of their owne accord weaken that part in themselves, accounting it an odious thing, that their King should be lame or blind of one eye, and all his friends not to bee in like manner blind and lame also.

Their custome was also (as is reported) that their King being dead, all his friends would willingly depriue themselves of life, accounting that death most glorious, and the surest testimony of true frindshippe: The people by reason of the neerenesse of the heauens went for the most party naked, couering onely their priuities with sheeps tayles,



tayles, and some few clothed them-selues with skinnēs, some of them also wore breeches made of haire: their greatest employments were about their Cattell: their sheepe bee very little and of a hard and rough fleese: *Their exercise.* their Dogges bee little likewise, but very sharpe and eager: Millet and Barley are their cheefest graines, which serueth them both for bread and drinke, and they haue no kinde of fruites vnlesse it be Dates, and those be very rare also: Many of them liued with hearbes and the slender rootes of reedes, they eate also flesh, milke and cheese: The Ile of Meroë was once the head of the kingdome, *Meroë was once the Kings seate.* the forme thereof is like vnto a sheeld, and it lyeth along by the riuer of Nylus, for the space of three thousand stadia.

The Sheapheards that Inhabited that Ile were great huntsmen, and the husbandmen had mines of gold: *Herodotus* saith, that those people of Æthiopia, which be called Macrobij, esteemed more of brasse than of golde, *Gold accounted baser then brasse.* for their gold they put to such base and vile vses, as the Embassadors of *Cambyses* King of Persia, being sent thither, saw diuerse offenders fettered in prison in chaines of gold. Some of them sowe their ground with a kinde of pulse, and some others plant the Lote tree, they haue Hebon wood and Pepper in great aboundance, Elephants they hunt and eate, they haue also Lyons, Rhinocerots, (which bee enemies to the Elephant,) Basilisks, Libbards, and Dragons, which winding and intangling themselues about the Elephants, destroy them by sucking out their bloud. There is found the Iacint stone, and the Chrysophrasus, (which is a greene stone mixt with a golden brightnesse) there is Cynamon gathered likewise: Their weapons were bowes made of wood that was parched in  
the



The religion  
of the Ethio-  
pians.

the fire, and foure cubits in length; their women were good warriors, the most of them hauing their lip thrust through with a ring of brasse. Some of the Aethiopians worshipped the Sunne at his rising, and inueighed bitterly against him at his going downe; many of them cast their dead bodies into riuers, some other put them into earthen vessels or glasse vessels, and kept them in their houses for the space of a yeare; during which time they reuerenced them very religiously, offering vnto them the first fruits of their increase.

The authority  
of the Priests.

Their gods.

The new cu-  
stomes of the  
Aethiopians or  
Indians.

Prester Iohn  
King of that  
Aethiopia  
which is in  
Asia.

Some say, that hee that did most excell others in comliness of body, skill in breeding cattell, strength and riches, him they elected for their King. And that they had an ancient lawe, that the Priests of Memphis, might when they pleased, deprive the King of his life (by sending vnto him the messenger that caryed the signe of death) and ordaine an other to raigne in his steed. They beleueed that there was one immortall God, and that hee was maker of the world, and gouernor of all things, any other God they esteemed mortall, who was their vncertaine King, as is said. And hee that best deserued of their city, him next vnto their King they reuerenced as God. And such was the state of Aethiopia at the beginning, and for a long continuance, these their customes and manners of their nation. But at this day, as *Marcus Antonius Sabellicus*; (out of whose history wee haue taken most matters, which wee treat of both in this and the bookes following) saith, that hee had intelligence from some that were borne in those countries, that the King of Aethiopia (whome wee call *Pretoian* or *Presbiter Ioan*, or *Iaan*, and they *Gyam*, which in their language signifieth mighty,) is so potent a Prince, that hee is sayd to haue vnder him as his vassalls three



three-score and two Kings. And that all their great Bishops and states of all those kingdomes, are wholly guided by him, at whose hands the order of Priesthood is obtained, which authority was by the Pope of Rome giuen and annexed to the Maiesty of their Kings, and yet hee himselve is no Priest, nor neuer entred into any holy orders. There be a great number of Archbishops, and euery one of them, (who euer hath the least) hath twenty Bishops vnder his iurisdiction. The Princes and other Bishops of great dignity, when they goe abroad haue carried before them, a crosse, and a golden vessell filled with earth, that the sight of the one may put them in minde of their mortality, and the other of our Sauours passion.

Their Priests are suffered to mary for procreations sake, but if they bury one wife, it is vtterly vnlawfull for them to mary an other. Their Temples are very large, and farre richer then ours, and for the most part builded vp to the topp arch-wise. They haue many religious houses and families of holy orders, as Antonians, Dominicks, Calaguritans, Augustines, and Macarians, who be all arrayed by permission of their Archbishops, with apparell of one coulour: Next vnto Almighty God, and his Mother the blessed Virgin *Mary*, Saint *Thomas* surnamed *Didimus*, is chiefly honoured in that country. They hold an opinion, that their great King whom they call *Gyam*, was ingendred of King *Dauid*, and that the race of that one family hath continued euer since, hee is not black as most of the Aethiopians are, but rather white. The citty *Garama* is now the Kings seate, which consisteth not of Bulwarkes and houses with strong wals, but of tents or tabernacles made of fine flaxe or silke, imbrodered with purple, and placed in decent and seemely order.

*Their Priests  
marry once  
and no more.*

*Saint Thomas  
held in great  
reuerence.*



The King according to his custome, liueth for the most part abroade, not contayning himselfe within the circuite of the Citty, aboue two daies together, ether because they account it absurde and effeminate, or that they are prohibited by some lawe.

*The power of  
the Ethiopian  
Kings.*

They haue in redinesse vpon any little occasion tenne hundred thousand men, well instructed in feates of armes, five hundred Elephants, besides an infinit number of Horses and Camels.

*What wea-  
pons be used in  
their wars.*

There be also throughout the whole kingdome certaine stipendary families, the issue whereof haue a gentle incision made in their skinne, and bee marked with a hot iron with the signe of the Crosse. In warres they vse bowes, speares, cotes of male, and helmets: the order of Priesthood is in greatest dignity, next vnto whome are the sages or wizards, whom they call *Balsamati* and *Tenquati*. They esteeme much also of innocency and honesty, accounting them the first step to wisdom, the Nobility are the third in honor and dignity and the stipendary the last: the Iudges discern of causes of life and death: but referre the decree to the Præfect of the citty, who is called *Licomagia*, who alwaies representes the person of the King: written lawes they haue none, but iudge according to equity and right.

*The punish-  
ment for adul-  
tery.*

If any man bee convicted of adultery hee shall pay for his punishment the fourth part of his goods, but the adulteresse shall receiue a domesticall reuenge by her husband, for he shall punish her whome it doth most concerne. The husbands assigne dowers for their wives, requiring no portion with them. There women are attired with gold (whereof that country doth much abound) pearles also, and silke, both men and women weare garments downe to the

*Husbands as-  
signe dowers  
for their wives*

feete,



feete, with sleeues, and not open in any place, all colours are alike vnto them, except blacke, which is there vsed onely for mourning garments.

They bewaile the dead for the space of forty dayes. The second courses in their greatest banquets consist of raw flesh, which beeing finely minced into small peeces, and strawed ouer with sweete spices, they feed vpon most hungerly: wollen cloath they haue none, instead wherof they are clothed either with silke or flax: they vse not all one language, but diuers, and distinguished by diuers names. They exercise them-selues eyther in husbandry or about cattle, they haue euery yeare two haruests & two summers. All the people of Lybia from this Æthiopia or India, to the vtmost part of the west, honour the impiety of *Mahomet*, and liue in the same kinde of religion, that those Barbarians practise, which are now in Ægypt, and bee called Moores (as it is thought) of their wandring or straying abroad: for that country of Libia also was no lesse hatefull than the Sarafins, in those accursed times, wherein was the greatest alteration in humaine matters, the manners of people, loue of deuotion, and names of all Nations, being for the most part changed.

*Mahomet  
worshipped  
in Libia,*

*Of Ægypt and the ancient customes of that  
country. CAP. 5.*



Ægypt a region in Affricke, or (as some will haue it) next adioyning to Affricke, was so called of *Aegiptus* the brother of *Danaus* King of Argyues, before which time it was called Aeria: This country (as *Plinie* in his first booke witnesseth)

*The denomina-  
tion and de-  
scription of  
Ægypt.*



witnesseth) ioyneth Eastward to the red sea, and to Palæstine; vpon the West it hath Cyrene, and the residue of Affricke, and extendeth from the South to Æthiopia, and from the North to the Aegyptian sea. The most famous citties of that country, were Thebes, Abydos, Alexandria, Babilon, and Memphis (now called Damietta) and the great citty Cayrus or Alcir, which is the Soldans seate; In Egypt (as *Plato* reporteth) it doth neuer raine, but the riuer of Nylus ouer-flowing the whole land once every yeare, after the summer Solstice maketh the whole country fertill and fruitfull: Egypt of many is accounted amongst the number of Ilands. The riuer Nylus so deuiding it, that it proportioneth the whole country into a triangular forme; insomuch that of many it is called *Delta*, for the resemblance it hath vnto that Greeke letter.

The Aegyptians  
had their be-  
ginning from  
the Aethiopi-  
ans.

The Aegyptian  
women do the  
offices of men,  
and men the  
offices of wo-  
men.

The Egyptians were the first that fained the names of twelue gods, they erected Altars, Idols, and Temples, and figured liuing creatures in stones, all which things doe plainly argue that they had their originall from the Aethiopians, who were the first Authors of all these things, (as *Diodorus Siculus* is of opinion). Their women were wonte in times past to doe businesse abroad, to keepe tauerne and victualling houses, and to take charge of buying and selling: and the men to knit within the walles of the citty, they bearing burthens vpon their heads, and the women vpon their shoulders: the women to pisse standing, and the men sitting; all of them for the most part ryoting and banquetting abroad, in open wayes, and exonerating and disburdening their bellyes at home. No woman there taketh vpon her the order of Priest-hood of any god or goddesse.

They enter not into religion to any of their gods, one by



by one, but in companies, of whom one is their Bishoppe or head, and hee beeing dead, his sonne is elected in his steede: The male children ayde and succour theyr parents by the custome of their country, freely and willingly, and daughters are forced to doe it, if they bee vnwilling.

The fashion of most men in funerall exequies is to rend the hayres off theyr heads, and to suffer their beards to growe vncutte, but the Ægyptians did let their lockes growe long, and shaue their beards short, they kneaded theyr Dowe with theyr feete, and made mortar with their hands. Their custome was (as the Greekes were of opinion) to circumsise them-selues and their children: they write theyr letters from the right hand to the left; and men wore two garments, the women but one: they had two sorts of letters, the one prophane, the other holy, but both of them deriued from the Æthiopians. The Priests shaued their bodyes euery third day, least they should hap to bee polluted with any filthe, when they did sacrifice: they wore paper shooes, and linnen vestiments euer new washed, and alleagded that they were circumcised, for no other cause, but for cleanness sake, for that it is better to bee cleane then comely. The Ægyptians sowed no Beanes, nor would eate any that grew in other countries; and their Priests were precisely prohibited the sight of them, as beeing an vncleane kinde of graine. The Priests washed them-selues in colde water, thrise in the day time, and twise in the night. The heads of their oblations they eate not, but cursing them with bitter execrations, eyther sould them to strange Marchants factors, or if none would buy them, they would throw them into the riuer of Nylus.

*Their manner  
of funeralls.*

*Circumsision  
used by the  
Egyptians.*

*The cleannesse  
of the Priests.*

*Beanes an  
uncleane  
graine with  
the Egiptians.*

Their



their sacrifices were with oxen and calues that were very cleane.

*The Aegyptians  
wine.*

It was not lawfull for the women to doe sacrifice, no though they were consecrated to their God *Isis*: They liued of meate made of a certaine corne which they call Wheate, and drinke wine made of Barley, for grapes there are none growing in that country. They eate raw fish dried at the Sunne, and some powdred in brine, and birds also, but altogether rawe, but the richer sort feed vpon Quailes and Duckes. When many are assembled together at meat, and that they be arose from dinner or supper, one of them caryeth about, vpon a little Beere or Chest, the picture of a dead body, eyther made of wood, or else much resembling a dead corpes, in painting and workmanship, of a cubite or two cubits long, and shewing it vnto euery one of the guests, saith vnto them: In your drinkings and merriments behold this spectacle, for such shall you bee when you are dead. Yong people bow and giue place to their elders when they meete them in the way, and arise from their seates to such as come to them, wherein they agree with the Lacedemonians. Those which incounter in the wayes salute one another with congee below the knee: They are clothed (as I haue said) with linnen garments fringed about the legges, which they call *Cassiliræ*, ouer which they weare a little short white garment like a cloake, as it were cast ouer the other: for wollen garments are so contemned, as they are neither worne in temples, nor serue for winding sheetes. Now, because all those famous men which haue heeretofore excelled in any one kinde of learning or mystery, and which haue constituted and left behinde them lawes and ordinances for other nations to liue by, went first vnto the Aegyptians,

*The Aegyptians  
salutations.*

*Wollen garments  
contemned.*



to learne their manners, lawes and wifdome ( in which they excelled all nations of the earth) as *Orpheus*, and after him *Homer*, *Museus*, *Melampodes*, *Dedalus*, *Licurgus* the Spartane, *Solon* the Athenian, *Plato* the Philosopher, *Pythagoras* of Samos, and *Zamolxis* his disciple, *Eudoxus* also the Mathematician, *Democritus* of the cittie of Abdera, *Inopides* of Chios, *Moses* the Hebrew, and many others, as the Ægyptian Priests make bragges, are contained in their sacred bookes, I thinke it very conuenient to spend some little time further in describing the manner of liuing of the Ægyptians, that it may bee knowne what one or more things, euery one of those worthy men, haue taken from the Ægyptians, and transported into other countries, for (as *Phillippus Beroaldus* writeth vpon *Apuleus* Asses) there be many things translated from the religion of the Ægyptians into the Christian religion, as the linnen vestments, the shauing of Priests crownes, the turning about in the Altar, the sacrificiall pompe, the pleasant tuning notes of musick, adorations, prayers, and many other more like ceremonies.

Many ceremonies used in Christian religion, borrowed from the Ægyptians.

The Egyptian Kings ( as *Diodorus Siculus* writeth in his second booke ) were not so licencious as other Kings, whose will standeth for a law, but followed the institutions and lawes of the country, both in gathering money, and in their life and conuersations. There was none of any seruile condition, whether hee were bought with money, or borne in that country, that was admitted to waite and attend vpon the King, nor any other, but onely the sonnes of the worthiest Priests, and those about the age of twenty yeares, and excelling others in learning, to the end that the King beeing moued at the sight of his seruants, both day and night attending vpon his person, should commit nothing

What seruants attended vpon their Kings.



*The Priests  
praised the  
good Kings  
dispraised the  
bad.*

nothing vnfit to be done by a King, for seldome doe the rich and mighty men become euill if they want ministers to foster them in their euill desires. There were certaine howers appointed euery day and night, wherein ( by the permission of their lawe ) the King might confer with others. The King at his rising receaueth all the letters and supplications that bee sent or brought vnto him, and then pausing and considering a while what is to be don, he giueth answer to euery suter in order as they came, so as all things bee done in their due and conuenient time. This done after he hath washed his body in the company of his greatest states, and put on his richest robes, he sacrificeth vnto his Gods: There custome was that the cheefe Priest, when the sacrifices were brought before the Altar, and the King standing by, praied with a lowde voice in the hearing of the people for the prosperous helth and all good succeffe of their King that maintaines iustice towards his subiects, and more particularly to relate his vertues, as to say that he obserued piety and religion towards the Gods, and humanity to man, then to call him continent, iust, and magnanimous, true, bountifull and brideling all his affections, and besides, that, that hee laid more easie punishments vpon offenders, then their crimes required, and bestowed fauours beyond mens deseruings, and holding on this prayer, at length he pursueth the wicked with a curse, and freeing the King from blame, layeth al the fault vpon his ministers, which perswade him to doe euill: Which done he exhorteth the King to leade a happy life and acceptable to the Gods, and also to follow good fashions, and not to do those things which euill men perswade him to, but such as cheefely appertaine to honour and vertue. In the end after the King hath sacrificed a bull to the Gods, The Priest recyteth out of their sacred bookes



bookes, certaine decrees and gestic of worthy men, wher-  
at the King being moued ruleth his kingdome holily and  
iustly according to their examples.

They haue there times appointed and prefixt not onely  
when to gather riches, and to iudge according to their  
auncient lawes, but also when to walke, when to wash,  
when to lie with their wiues and when euery thing else is  
to bee done: They vsed but simple diet as hauing nothing  
vpon their tables but Veale and goose, they were also li-  
mited to a certaine measure of wine that would neither  
fill their bellies nor intoxicate their braynes. In a word the  
whole course of their liues, was so modest & so temperate  
as they seemed, to be guided rather by a most skilful Phisiti-  
on for the preservation of their healths then by a law-giuer.

*The Egyptians  
simple diet.*

It is strange to see after what sort the Egyptians lead  
their liues, for they liued not as they would themselves, but  
as the law allowed them; but it is much more admirable  
to see how that their Kings were not permitted to con-  
demne others, nor yet to inflict punishment vpon any of-  
fendor, being moued therevnto either through pride, ma-  
lice, or any vniust cause whatsoever: but living vnder a law  
like priuate men, thought it no burthen vnto them, but ra-  
ther esteemed themselves blessed in obeying the law: for  
by those which follow their own affections, they supposed  
many things to be committed, that might breed vnto them-  
selves both danger & damage: for though they know they  
do amisse, yet notwithstanding they persist still in error,  
being ouercome either with loue, or hate, or some other  
passion of mind, whereas those which liue with vnderstand-  
ing and aduise, offend in few things. The Kings vsing such  
iustice to their subiects, did so purchase the good wills of  
them all, as not only the Priests, but all the Egyptians, were  
more carefull of their Soueraigne, then of their wiues or  
children,

*The Kings safe-  
ty much regar-  
ded.*



*How the Egyp-  
tians bewayle  
their dead  
Kings that  
were good.*

*How their  
Kings be buri-  
ed.*

*The auncient  
gouernment of  
the Egyptians.*

Children or any other princes else: and when one of those good Kings die all men bewayled him with equall sorrow and heauinesse of heart, and renting their clothes and shutting vp their Temples, frequented not the market, nor obserued solemne feastes, but defiling their heads with earth for the space of seuentie and two daies, and girding themselves about the pappes with fine linnen, both men and women walked about together, by two hundred and three hundred in a Company, renewing their complaints, and in a song renumerating the vertues of their King one by one, during which time they abstayned from flesh of beasts, from all things boyled, from wine and all sumptuous fare, and also from all manner of oyntments and bathes, yea their owne proper beds, and all womens companie, bewayling for those daies as much as if they had buried their owne children, In which meane space all things being provided for the funerall solemnities, vpon the last day they inclosed the corpes in a coffine and placed it at the entrance of the Sepulcher, where vsually was made a breefe narration of all things done by the King in his life time, and euery one had then liberty to accuse him that would: the Priests stood by, commending the Kings good deeds, and all the multitude of people that were present at the funerals, applauded his praise worthy actions, and with bitter exclamations rayled against his misdeeds, whereof it hapned that most Kings (through the opposition of the people) wanted the due honour and magnificence of Burial, the feare whereof constrayned them to liue iustly and vprightly in their life times: and this for the most part was the manner of liuing of the auncient Kings of Ægypt. Ægypt is diuided into many partes, euery part whereof is called by the Greeke word (*Monos*) and is gouerned by



by a Prætor or Mayor, who hath rule ouer al the people of that Prouince: The Ægyptians deuide their tribute, or custome money which is payd them by forrainers in three parts: the greatest part whereof belongeth to the colledge of Priests, which are of great authority with the inhabitants, both in regard of their seruice to their gods, as also for their doctrine, where-with they instruct others, and part of this portion they bestow in ministring their sacrifices, and the rest to increase their priuate estates, for in no case would the Ægyptians haue the worship of their gods omitted, nor doe they thinke it fit, that they that be ministers of common councell, and profit, should want things necessary to liue vpon: for the Priests in all weighty businessees bee assistant to the King, both by their labour and councell, as well in regarde of the knowledge they haue in the starres, as by their sacrifices, foretelling things to come. Moreouer they shew out of their sacred volumnes the actes and gests of worthy men, by which the Kings may know in their designes, how things are likely to succeed, and it is not so with the Ægyptian Priests, as it is with the Greekes, that one man, or one woman should haue charge of their sacrifices, but there bee many that bee conuersant about the worship and honour of their gods, which leaue the same charge of holy misteries to their children: they be all of them freed and discharged from tribute, & possesse the second place of honor and estimation after their King.

The second portion of the tribute money commeth to the Kings, which serueth them for the wars, for their maintenance, and also to reward valiant and worthy men for their prowesse and good seruice, by which meanes it cometh to passe, that their owne people are vexed with no kind of tribute: The Captaines and Souldiours haue the

D

third



third part, to the end that hauing such wages, they might haue more ready and willing mindes to vnder-goe all perils and dangers of warfare.

*Their common  
wealth consist-  
eth of three  
sorts of people,  
husbandmen,  
shepheards  
and labourers.*

Their common-wealth also consisteth of three sorts of common people, of husbandmen, shepheards and craftsmen. The husbandmen buy their ground at an easie rate of the Priests, of the King, or of the Souldiours, and apply their husbandry without intermission, all their time from their infancie, by which meanes they are farre more expert in husbandry then others, both for the precepts they receiue from their parents, as also by reason of their continuall practise. The sheapheards likewise receiuing the charge and skill of keeping cattell from their fathers, follow that kinde of exercise for all their life long: And arts and sciences amongst the Ægyptians are most exquisite, and brought to the highest straine of perfection, for the Egyptian tradesmen, (without intermedling in publicke affaires) exercise no other labour but such onely as is eyther permitted by the law, or taught by their fathers, so as neither the enuy of the teacher, nor ciuill hatred, nor any other thing whatsoever, can hinder them from that course of life they haue entred into.

*How their  
iudgments  
were giuen.*

The Egyptians censured not of things at hap hazard, but with reason and discretion, for they esteemed things rightly done to be very beneficiall for mans life, and that the onely way to auoyde euil, was to punish the offenders and to succor the oppressed, but that the punishment due for an offence should bee forborne in regarde eyther of meede or money, they held to be the vtter confusion of their publicke life, and therefore they settled the best and choifest men of the most famous citties, as at Heliopolis, Memphis, & Thebes, and set them as iudges ouer the rest, which



which sessions of Iudges were thought to be nothing inferior to the Iudges of Arcopagus in Athens, nor to the Senate or councill of the Lacedemonians, established long time after them: when these Iudges (being thirty in number) were assembled together, they made election of the worthiest man amongst them, to bee their chiefe Iudge or Iustice, in whose absence the whole company assembled, appointed an other Iudge to be his substitute: These Iudges were all maintained at the Kings cost, but the cheefe Iudge was farre better allowed then the rest, who alwayes had hanging about his neck in a chaine of gold, bedeckt with diuers precious stones, an Image which they called Truth: and when they were set in Iudgment, the Image of Truth being laid before them by the chiefe Iudge, and all their lawes (which were contained in eight volumes) placed in the middle of the Iudges: their maner was, that the accuser should set downe his accusation in writing, & the **maner of the iniury, or losse, committed and done, and how much he esteemed him-selfe damnified:** then was there a time allotted for the accused to answer his aduersaries accusations by writing, and eyther to purge himselfe that he did not the iniury, or to auerre that what he did was iustly done, or that the wrong or losse hee did was not of such value as was supposed: after this the plaintiffe replied, and the defendant made answer to his replication. So as the pleading of both parties being twise heard, after the Iudges had examined and reasoned of the matter in controuersie, the chiefe Iudge turning the signe of Truth towards him that had truth of his side, pronounced the sentence, and this was the maner of their Iudgments. And now because occasion is offered to speake of the Institution of their lawes, I thinke it not impertinent to our purpose, to make mention of the ancient lawes of the Egyptians:

*The chiefe  
Iudge weareth  
the signe of  
Truth about  
his neck.*



*The lawes of  
the Egyptians.  
against periured  
persons.*

*Against false  
accusers.*

*A law against  
parents that  
murdered  
their children*

that thereby we may know how farre they excelled others both in order and vtility. And first of all, periured persons were punished with death, as those which had committed a double offence, both in violating their duty towards the gods, and in breaking and abolishing faith and truth amongst men, which is the chiefeft bond of humaine society: if a Traueller finde one that is set vpon with theeues and robbed and beaten, or suffered any other iniury, and doth not set to his helping hand to ayde him (if it lye in his power) hee shall dye for it, but if hee could not assist him, then ought hee to make the theeues knowne, and to prosecute the iniury with his accusation; which if hee doe not he shall be whipped with a certaine number of stripes, and bee bard from all sustenance for three whole dayes together: hee which accuseth an other falsely, and is called in question for it, shall vndergoe the punishment provided for false accusers: and all the Egyptians were at certaine times constrained to giue vp theyr names in writing to the Presidents and Gouvernors, and what trade of life they exercised, in dooing whereof, if any say vnruly, or liued by vnlawfull gaine, hee was punished with death: if any one kill cyther free man or seruant willingly, he shall dye for it by the lawes: which regarding not the quallity of the estate, but the heynousnesse of the deed, and the euill mind of the dooer, deliuer men from euill, so as by reuenging the death of seruants and slaues, free-men may liue in more security.

The paines of death were not afflicted vpon fathers which had slaine their sonnes, but they were inioyned to stand for three daies and three nights about the dead corps (the public watch standing by to see it done) for they thought it vniust to depriue him of life that was author of his sonnes life: but



but rather that he should be afflicted with continuall griefe and repentance of the fact, whereby others might shunne the like offence. To Paricides was imposed a most exquisite and extreame punishment, for the lawe was, that the liuing body and the dead corps should be bound together ioynt by ioynt, vpon sharpe Pikes or stakes, and burned vpon a heape of thornes, adiudging it to be the most heynous offence that could bee amongst men, for one to doe him to death violently, of whom hee had receiued life. If any woman great with child were adiudged to dye, her death was deferred till she was deliuered, for they thought it meere iniustice, that an infant which committed no euill should perish with the guilty, or that two should bee punished, whereas but one offended. Those which in warres did eyther breake theyr array, or would not obey their Leaders and Captaines, were not punished with death, but with the reproch & ignominy of all men, which disgrace after they had blotted out by their vertue and valiant acts, they recouered their former estate and dignities, and that law brought it to passe in continuance of time, that men accounted that dishonour to bee the greatest euill could hap vnto them, and much more greuous then death: Those which reuealed any secrets to their enemies, had their tounge cut out; and those which clipped money, or counterfetted any false coyne, or altered it eyther in weight or fashon, or stamped it with letters, or defaced the letters, or forged any false deeds, were punished with the losse of both their hands: for they thought it fit, that that part of the body should suffer punishment during life, that was cheefe instrument in the offence, and that others also being warned by their miseries and calamities, might abstaine from the like lewdnesse.

*A law against Paricides.*

*Offenders in the warres punished with shame.*



*A law against  
adultery and  
fornication.*

*Bocchoris their  
law maker.*

*Mens bodies  
not liable to  
their debts.*

There were very sharpe punishments inflicted vpon those that had abused any woman, for he which defloured a free woman had his members cut off, for that vnder one fault hee had comitted three hanous offences which were iniury, corruption of bloud, and confusion of children; he that was taken in wilfull adultery had a thousand stripes with rods, and the adulterous woman had her nose cut off, by which disgrace her beauty was blemished, and shee punished in that part of her face which did most addorne it. It is reported that *Bocchoris* was the maker of those lawes which pertaind to ciuill conuersation amongst men, which lawes allow that if one lend mony without specialty, and the debtor deny that hee borrowed any, the creditor must stand to the debtors oath: for an oath is held of great moment as being a religious act: and certaine it is that those which often sweare doe abrogate their faith and credits, and therefore they will sweare but seldome, least they loose their reputations and names of honest men, moreouer the same lawe-maker (concluding all faithfulnessse in vertue) iudged, that men ought by good meanes to accustome themselves to honesty, that they may not bee thought vnworthy of trust, for hee thought it wrong to those to whome mony was lent with-out oath not to performe their faith by swearing, whether the goods be their owne or noe: The vsury which was agreed vpon by writing, forbad that the double forfeiture of the thing lent should be exacted: and all payments were satisfied by the debtors goods, but his body might not be deliuered to the creditor, for they thought fit that onely their goods should be subject and lyable to their debts, and their bodies addicted to the Citties, whose ayde and assistance they had neede of, both in warres and peace; neither was it thought



thought fit that the souldiors which ventured their liues, for their countries safty, should bee thrust in prison for interest: which law is supposed to bee translated by *Solon* to the Athenians, and by him called *Sisachthia*, prouiding that men should not loose their liues for the Cittizens vsury: moreouer the particular law and toleration for theeves amongst the *Ægyptians*, was, that those that did steale should bring their names in writing to the cheefe Preeft, and instantly disclose the theft, or robbery vnto him. In like sort they which had their goods taken from them, must write vnto the cheefe Priest, the time, day, and houre that hee was robbed, by which meanes the theft being easily found out and discouered, he which was robbed should loose the fourth part of that which was stolne, which fourth part shall bee giuen to the theefe, and the rest restored to the owner: For the lawgiuers opinion was that seeing it was vnpossible that theft should altogether bee prohibited, men should loose rather some portion of their substance, then all that was taken from them.

*The law against theeves.*

The manner of their marriages is not all alike with the *Ægyptians*, for it is lawfull for the Preefts to marry but once, but the rest may marry as oft as they will, according to their desire, and ability; and there are no children accounted bastards, noe though they be begotten of such bond-seruants as be bought with mony, for they hold that the father is the onely author of their childrens birth, and the mother to be but the receptacle, and to yeeld nourishment to the infant.

*Their marriages.*

It is most incredible to see with what small and easie cost the *Ægyptians* bring vp their children, for the norish them with the roots of bulrushes, & other like roots, raked

*The small cost bestowed in bringing up children.*

and



and roasted in hotte embers, and with hearbes growing in fennes and moorish grounds, some-times boyld, some-times broyld on the coales, and some-times rawe. They neuer weare shooes, but goe for the most part naked, by reason of the temperature of the country: so as all the cost that a father bestoweth vpon his childe till hee bee of full age, exceedeth not twenty *Drachmas*. The Priests instruct children both in that learning which they call holy, and in the other which appertaineth to knowledge and common instruction, and they bee very intentiue, and exceedingly bent to the study of Geometry and Arithmatick. They suffer them not to vse eyther wrestling or musick, supposing the dayly vse of wrestling to be vn Timer and dangerous, and that thereby their bodyes are made more feeble and weake, and musicke they condemne as vtterly vnprofitable and hurtfull in making their mindes effeminate: They cure their diseases eyther by fasting or vomiting, which they vse eyther dayly, or euery third day, or fourth day, for they are of opinion, that all diseases had theyr beginning from surfetting, and that therefore that is the best physicke to recouer health, which taketh away the cause of the disease: Souldiers and trauellers are cured for nothing, for the Phisitians liue of the reuenews of the common-wealth, and therefore are forced by the law to cure the diseased, after the strict forme set downe by the best Phisitians and most approoued writers: And the Physition that followeth the rule of that sacred booke, though hee cannot cure his patient, yet is hee blamelesse, but if he cure him by any other meanes then is set downe in that booke, hee shall dye for it: for the maker of that law was of opinion, that there could not a better course of curing bee found out, then that which was inuented,  
and

*How sick dis-  
alord of the  
Egiptians.*

*How the E-  
giptians cure  
the diseased.*



and obserued for long time by ancient Physitions.

The Ægyptians worship diuerse creatures beyond all measure, not onely while they be liuing, but when they be dead also, as Cattes, Rattes, Dogges, Hawkes, the birds called *Ibis*, Volues and Crocadiles, and many more of like kinde: neither be they ashamed to professe open honour vnto them; but account it as commendable and lawdable for them to doe it, as to doe their seruice to the gods, in so much as they will goe about into citties and other places, carrying with them Images of those beasts, vaunting and glorying what creatures they haue adored, at the sight whereof, all men in manner of supplyants, doe reuerence vnto the Images. When any of these beasts die, they wrappe the carcase in linnen cloth, and annoynt it with Salt, beating their breasts with bitter exclamations, and annoynting it againe with the Iuise of Cedar tree, and other odoriferus oyntments, that it may keepe the longer, they bury it in their hallowed places. Hee that willingly killeth any of those creatures, shall haue iudgment of death for it: but if a man kill the *Ibis* or the Car, either willingly or at vnawares, the whole multitude fall vpon him, tormenting and killing him without mercy or iudgment. The terror whereof inforceth the beholders to lament his death, and to auerre that the beast was kild without any fault of his owne. These beasts be kept with great cost and charge within the circuit of their Temples, by men of no small account, eating fine flower and porredge made of Oate-meale, which in their banquets are mingled with milke: They giue them Geese also dayly both sodde and broylde: and catch birds for those which eate raw flesh. To conclude they bee all nourished with maruelous great charge and diligence: and their deaths as  
much

*The Ægyptians  
worship diuers  
sorts of crea-  
tures.*



much bewayled of the people as the deaths of their owne Sonnes, yea and their funeralls are farre more sumptuous than their ability can afford; in so much as when *Ptolomæus Lagus* was gouernour of Ægypt an oxe dying for age in the Citty of Memphis, hee which had the charge of keeping him bestowed a great summe of mony vpon his buriall, which was giuen to him to defray that charge, besides fifty talents of siluer which he borrowed of *Ptolomy*.

The strange  
kind of burials  
amongst the  
Egyptians.

These things which we haue spoken of, perhaps, will seeme strange to some, but no lesse strange will it seeme to any that shall consider the ceremonies of the Ægyptians in the buriall of the dead: for when one dyeth there all his neere friends and kinsfolkes defile and spoyle their heads with earth, and goe round about the Citty wayling, vntill the dead body be buried, in which *Interim* they neither wash themselues nor drinke wine, nor eate any meate but that which is very vile and grosse, nor yet weare any good apparrell: They haue three formes or kinds of buriall, for some be buried sumptuously, some indifferently, and some basely: In the first manner of buryall is spent and layd out one talent of siluer, in the second twentie mine, and some small cost is bestowed in the last. Those which haue charge of the funeralls (which course of life descendeth from their auncestors as by Inheritance) bring the funerall expences in writing to the housholders, demanding at what rate they will haue the funeralls performed, and the bargaine being made, and concluded betwixt them the body is deliuered vnto them to be buried, at the charge agreed vpon: And then the Gramarian (for so he is called) the body being laid in the ground, marketh and assigneth out a place about the flank how farre from the left part the incision must bee made, after that, hee which is called  
the



the breaker vp or vnboweler, openeth his side with a sharp Æthiopian stone, so wide as by the law is permitted, which done he instantly runneth away as fast as he can, all the standers by following after, cursing him, and throwing stones at him, for they esteemed those men worthy of hate, which had mangled or misused the body of their friend: but those which haue charge and ouersight of the body, which they cal *Salitores*, they account worthy of honour and estimation, this done they carry the dead corpes into the Temple before the Priests, who standing by the dead body, on of them plucketh out of the hole, or wound in his side all the entralls, except the kidneyes and heart, al which an other washeth away with red wine, compounded with odoriferous spices and perfumes, after that they annoynt the whole body, first with iuyce of Cedar tree, and other pretious oyntments for thirty daies space and more, and then they rub it ouer with mirhe and cinamon and other like stuffe, wherby it is not only preserued the longer but yeeldeth a sweet sauour also: the body being thus dressed, they deliuer it to the dead mans kinsfolke, euery part of him, yea the heaires of his browes and eie lidds, being so preserued, as the forme of his body remaineth whole, as though he were not dead but a sleepe: before the body be interred the funerall day is declared to the Iudges and the dead mans friends saying, that vpon that day the dead body is to passe ouer the fens: the Iudges being aboue forty in number assemble them selues together, and sit vpon a round scaffold, beyond the poole, then is there a shippe prouided for that purpose, and brought thither by those to whome the charge is committed, and before the body bee laid in the coffin, euery one hath liberty that will to accuse the party deceased, and if hee bee proued to bee an euill-liuer, the iudges proceed to sentence, wherby they adiudge  
that



that his body shall bee depriued of Sepulture: and if any one accuse him vniustly, hee shall bee seuerely punished: but if no one accuse him, or that it is euident that hee was accused falsely and of malice, his kindred leauing off their mourning, fall to praying him, yet speaking nothing of his stock and parentage, as the Greekes are accustomed to doe, (for the Ægyptians account them-selues all noble alike,) but beginning at his child-hood, they recite his bringing vp and education, the beginning of his life and learning, and from that ascending to his mans estate, they remember his religion and deuotion towards the gods, his Iustice, his Continency, and all his other vertues, and then inuocating the infernall gods, they beseech them to place him amongst the Saints, to which request all the multitude make answer, extolling the dead-mans worth and renowne, as if he should liue for euer below amongst the blessed: which done, each one buryeth his friends in his owne proper sepulcher, and those which want sepulchers, bury them in the strongest walls of their house, setting the chest wherein the body lyeth on the one end. But those which are forbidden buryall, eyther for vsury, or some other offence, are buried at home without a coffin, whom his posterity (growing of better ability, and satisfying for his misdeeds) doe afterwards bury very solemnly.

*The bodies  
of dead pa-  
rents giuen  
to their  
creditors.*

The Ægyptians custome is to giue the bodyes of their dead parents as pawnes to theyr creditors, and those children that redeeme them not, shall bee disgraced and want sepulture them-selues: one may iustly maruell to see, how the authors of all these ordinances, did not onely provide for things profitable for mans life, but also regarded those things which appertained to the honour and buryall of dead



dead bodies, in so much that by this meanes, mens liues were disposed as much as might be to good manners.

The Greekes, which by their fained fables, and Poeticall fictions, farre exceeding truth, deliuered many things of the rewards of the godly, and punishment of the wicked, could not with all their writings draw men to vertue, but were rather derided and contemned themselues: But with the Ægyptians, due punishment being rendred to the wicked, and commendation to the iust, not in shew, but in substance, they did euery day admonish both the good and the bad, what things were profitable for them, for they saw before their eyes, that to euery one, according to his deeds was giuen a remembrance of his merits or demerits, which was a cause that all men imitated the best course of life, and stroue to doe well: for those are not to bee esteemed the best lawes whereby men become rich, but whereby they prooue honest, and wise. And thus much of the Ægyptians: and now of the residue of the people of Affricke.

*Of the Carthaginians and other  
people of Affricke.*

CAP. 6.



OF the Carthaginians there bee many and sundry nations: The Adrimachidæ (which bee a people of middle Libia) border vpon Ægypt, and vse the same customes the Ægyptians doe, they are attired like other Carthaginians, the wiues weare vpon each of their legges a bracelet of brasse, and suffer their locks to grow long: They

*The Adrimachidæ.*



They take the vermine from out their heads and kill them with their teeth and then throw them away, which no other Carthaginians doe but they onely.

*The Nasamons*

*The Masagetae.*

*The Nasomans  
and their marriages.*

*How the prophesy.*

There is none but Vergins giuen to the King in marriage, and of those which like him best he taketh his pleasure. The Nasamons ( a great and stout nation and spoylers of such shippes as they finde intangled in the sands,) in the Summer time leaue their flocks by the sea-side and goe abroad to gather dates at places where be great store of date-trees and those very faire and fruitfull, where plucking off the fruits from the trees, before they be ready, they dry them and ripen them at the Sunne, and then steep them in milke and eate them. They haue many wiues a peece with whom they lye openly in all mens sight, almost in the same maner that the Massagetæ doe ( which bee a people of Scythia in Asia: ) The manner of the Nasamons, is, that when one first marrieth a wife, the Bride lyeth with all her guests one after another to performe the act of generation, and euery one as they play their part, present her with some reward or other, which they bring with them for that purpose: Their swearing and diuination which they vse, is by those men which were accounted the best & iustest among them while they liued, and when they swere the touch the tombes of those men, and diuine nere vnto their monuments, wher when they haue finished their prayers they fall a sleepe, and what vaine dreame soeuer is represented vnto them in there sleepe, that they firmly beleue to bee reuealed vnto them by those men, and so put it in practise accordingly. VWhen the plyght their trothes one to another, each one taketh a Cuppe from the others hand and drinketh all that is in it vppe, but if they haue no drinke, then they take dust from the ground



ground and lick that vp : The Garamantes (which be people of middle Lybia also, and dwell aboute the Nasomons) abandon the sight and conuersation of all other people: weapons for warre haue they none, neither are they so hardy as to defend them-selues if they bee assaulted: and about the sea coast, towards the sunne setting, dwell the Macæ ( which bee a people in Arabia-foelix ) and border vpon the Nasomans : these people shaue the crownes of their heads round, and suffer all the rest of the hayre to grow long. And in their warres, in steed of Armor, they weare the skinnies of such Estridges as keepe in caues vnder ground.

*The Garamantes.*

*The Macæ.*

The Gnidanes ( be a people bordring vpon the Macæ ) the women whereof haue the skirts of their garments garded and trimmed with welts made of beasts skinnies, which ( as is reported ) are giuen vnto them by those men which haue laine with them ( for euery one which lyeth with a woman there, must giue her one of those gardes ) and she which hath the most welts vpon her garment is accounted the best woman, as beeing beloued of most men. The Machliæ ( which bee a people inhabiting about the Moore in Affricke called Triton ) weare long haire vpon the hinder parts of their heads : and the people called Auytes vpon the forepart. The Virgins of this country vpon the yearly feast of Minerua, and in honor of that goddesse, deuide themselues into two parts, and fight one side against the other ( without any cause at all giuen ) with stones and clubs, alledging, that in so doing, they obserue their country guise, in honor of her whom we call *Minerua*, and those virgins which dye of their wounds, they call false virgins : but shee that best bestowed her selfe in the fight, is preferred before all the other virgins, and adorned with

*The Gnidanes.*

*The Machlyes and Auytes.*



*The Atlantes,*

with Greekish armor and a crest or plume made of mettall of Corinth, and so placed in a Charriot, and carried in triumph round about the fenne. The men accompany with women confusedly like beasts without respect of kindred or bloud, and when a woman hath nourished her child that hee is lusty and strong with whome he dwelleth and is maintayned (for the men meete together every third month to choose their children) his sonne he is euer after reputed. The Atlantes (so called of the hill Atlas neere which they dwell,) haue none of them any proper names. They curse the sonne at his vprising, blaming and reprehending it because his heate destroyeth both them and their country, they eat no flesh nor are troubled with any dreames or visions.

*The Pastoritij.*

The people of Affricke called Pastoritij, liue of flesh and milke, and yet abstaine from the flesh of kine, because the Ægyptians doe nether eate swines flesh, nor reare any kine: And the women of Cyrene thinke it vnlawfull to strike them, by reason of *Isis* the God of Ægypt, in whose honor they Celebrate both fasting & feasting daies, but the women of Barcas do not only abstaine from flesh of kine, but from swines flesh also: & these women when their children be of the age of foure yeares, singe the vaynes vpon the crownes of their heads, and their temples with wooll that is new shorne, to the end that they should bee neuer after offended with fleme or rume, descending from their heads, by which meanes they say they bee very healthful: when they sacrifice for their first fruites, they cut off the eare of a beast and cast it to the top of a house, and after breake his necke; and of al the Gods they only do sacrifice to the Sun and Moone: All the people of Affricke bury their dead as the Grætians doe, the Nasomones excepted, who bury them



them sitting, for there when one beginneth to yeeld vp the ghost, they cause him to sit, least he should die with his face vpright: Their dwelling-houses are made of young sprouts or sprigs of lentish trees, wound and wrethed one about another.

The Maxes weare their heare vpon the right side of their heads long, and shaue the left side, They paint their bodies with red lede or vermilion, alleading that they had their beginning from the Troyans. *The Maxes.*

The women of Zabices which border vpon the Maxes, play the wagonners in the warres. *The zabices.*

The Zigantes (where Bees make great abundance of honny, and much more is reported to be made by art) be all of them dyed with red leade, and eate Apes and Munkies, of which they haue great store, liuing vpon hills. All these people of Libia liue a rude, and Sauage kind of life, and for the most part without dores, like beasts contented with such foode as they finde abroad, eating nothing that is tame and bred at home, and hauing no other garments to couer their bodies but goats skins: Their greatest Potentates haue no citties, but turrets standing neere vnto waters, wherein they lay vp such things as they leaue for their prouision: They sweare their subiects once euery yeare to their allegiance, and obedience to their Prince, and that they shall be louing to their equalls and persecute al such as refuse to be vnder their gouernment, as theeuers. There weapons are answerable to their country and their customes, for they themselues beeing light and nimble of body, and the country (for the most part) plaine and euen, do neither vse swords nor knyues nor any other weapons in their warres sauing onely euery one three darts and a fewe.



few stones in a letherne budget; and with those they will fight and conflict, both when they incounter, and in the retraite; being by practise made perfect to throw therein stones and darts right at a marke. They obserue neither law nor equitie towards strangers.

*The Troglodite.*

The Trogloditæ (which the Greekes call shepheards, because they liue by cattell) elect their King from out the people of Æthiopia: wiues and children they haue in common, the King onely excepted, who hath but one wife, and euery one that commeth to him, presenteth him with a certaine number of cattell. At such time as the wind standeth in the East, about the canicular or dog dayes, which season is most subiect to showers, they eate bloud and milke mixt together, and boyled: and when their pastures be parched, and burned away with the heate of the Sunne, they go downe into the moorish grounds, for which there is great contention amongst them. When their cattle be either old or diseased, they kill them, and eate them; for of such consisteth their chiefest sustenance.

Their children be not called after the names of their parents, but after the names of Buls, Rammes, or Sheepe, and those they call fathers and mothers, because their daily nourishment is yeilded by them, and not by their naturall parents. The meaner sort of people drinke the iuice of Holly-tree, or sea-rush; and those of the better sort the iuyce that is strayned out of a certaine flower which groweth in that countrey, the liquor whereof is like vnto the worst of our Must.

They neuer continue long in one place, but remooue and flitte often into diuers Regions, taking with them  
whither



whither soeuer they go their flockes and heardes of cattell: they be naked on all parts of their bodies but their priuities, which be couered with skinnes. All the Trogloditæ circumsise their priuie parts, like the Aegyptians, excepting those which are lame: they remoue often into strange Countreys, and are neuer cutte or shauen with razour from their infancie.

Those Trogloditæ which are called Megauares, vse for their armour, round shields made of raw oxen hides, and clubbes studded with yron, and some vse bowes and lances. They haue little regard how they burie the dead, for they vse no other ceremonies in their funerals, but wrappe the dead corps in Holly twigges, and then binding the necke and legges together, put the carcase into a hole, and couer it ouer with stones, setting vpon the heape of stones a Goates horne in derision, and so depart from it, beeing neuer touched with any griefe, though hee were neuer so neere a friend.

They contend and fight amongst themselues, not (as the Greekes do) for anger or ambition, but onely for their victualls: and in their conflicts they first throw stones, till some of them be wounded, and then taking their bowes in hand, (wherein they be very expert) they fight it out, till some of them be slaine.

And the auncient and grauest women giue end vnto those controversies, who pressing boldly into the middle of the multitude without any danger, (for it is not lawfull to hurt them by any meanes) the men forthwith cease off their strife. Those which for age bee vnable to follow their flockes, tie their owne neckes to an oxetayle, and so strangle themselues to death.

E 2

And



And if any be vnwilling to dye, he is forced to it by his fellowes, but first he shall haue warning thereof, and this kind of death they account a great benefit vnto them: those also which be sick of feuers, or of any vncurable disease, are serued in like sort, for they account it the greatest misery that may be, for any one to inioy his life, that can doe nothing worthy of life: *Herodotus* writeth that the *Troglo-ditæ* make them hollow Caues in the ground to dwell in, and that they haue no desire to possesse riches, but rather addiēt themselues to wilfull and voluntary pouerty: that they onely are delighted and glory in one kinde of stone, which we call *Hexacontalithus* (which is a little precious stone with diuerse corners): that they eate the flesh of Serpents: and that they speake not any intelligible language, but in steed of speach make a kinde of noyse or howling, rather then speach.

*The Rhizophagi*

In that *Æthiopia* which lyeth aboue *Ægypt* dwell another kinde of people, which be called *Rhizophagi*: these barbarous people liue onely vpon the rootes of weedes, which when they haue cleane washed, they bruse & teare a peeces with stones, till they waxe soft and clammy, and then make it into cakes like vnto tiles, and bake them against the sunne, and so eate them: and this kinde of meat is theyr onely food all their life time, for they haue great abundance thereof, and it is very pleasant and delectable in taste, so as peace is there perpetually maintained, and yet they fight notwithstanding, but it is onely with Lyons which ranging out of the deserts to shunne the shade, and to prey vpon other lesser wild beasts, destroy many *Æthiopians* comming forth of the fens: and surely that nation had beene vtterly destroyed by Lyons, had not nature afforded a defence against them: for at such time as the  
Dogge-



Dogge-starre ariseth and appeareth in their Horizon, the winde being calme, there flyeth into those parts an innumerable multitude of Gnatts, which offend not the people, because they flye from them into the Fennes and moorish grounds, but doe so annoy the Lyons with their stings, and terrifying them with their humming and bus-sing, as they compell them all to depart out of those Regions.

Next vnto these are the Ilophagi and the Spermatophagi; the Spermatophagi liue without labour, by gathering the fruites which fall from trees in Summer time; and when fruites are gone, they eate a certaine herbe which they finde growing in shadie places: where-with they be succourd in theyr need. But the Ilophagi, their wiues and children feede them-selues by clyming into Tree toppes, and plucking off the tender buddes from twigges and branches, which is their onely sustenance, by continuall vse and practise whereof, they grow so expert in clyming, that (a thing strange to bee reported) they will skippe and hoppe from tree to tree like birds or squirrells without danger, and trusting to their lightnesse and nimblenesse of their bodyes, ascend to the very top of slender branches: and if at any time their footing fayle them, yet will they claspe theyr hands about the twiggs, and so saue and defend them-selues from falling, and though by some mischance they should fall, yet receiue they no hurt, by reason of the lightnesse of theyr bodyes: These people goe alwayes naked, and haue theyr wiues and children in common: They fight one against another, onely for places to liue in (being weaponed with staues,) and domineere and exult greatly ouer those they vanquish.

*The Ilophagi  
and Sperma-  
tophagi.*



*The Cyneci.*

They die for the most part by famine, when their sight faileth they are depriued of that sence wherewith they sought their food. In an other part of the region dwell those Aethiopians which bee called Cyneci, they bee few in number, but of a different life from all the rest, for they inhabit the wood-land, and desolate countrie, wherein be but few fountaines of water, and they sleepe vpon the tops of trees for feare of wilde beasts: Euery morning they goe downe armed to the riuer sides, and their hide themselues in trees amongst the leaues, and in the heate of the day, when the Beefes and Libbards, and diuers other kindes of wilde beasts, goe downe to the riuers to drinke, and that they bee full and heauie with water, these Aethiopians descend from the trees and fall vppon them and kill them with staues baked at the fire, and with stones and dartes, and then deuide them amongst their companies and eate them: By which cunning deuise they deuoure many of those beasts, and sometimes (though but seldome) they are foyled and slaine themselues.

And if at any time their cunning faile them, and that they want beasts to eate, they take the hides of such beasts as they haue eaten before, and plucking of the haire laie the hides in steepe, and then drie them before a soft fire and so deuiding to euery one a share, satisfie themselues with that. Their young boyes (vnder the age of foureteene yeeres) practise throwings at markes, and they giue meate to those onely which touch the marke, and therefore beeing forced thereto by famine, they become most excellent and fine darters.

The



The people called Acridophagi border vpon the desert, the men bee something shorter, or lower of stature, *The Acridophagi.* then other Aethiopians, beeing leane and marueilous blacke.

In the spring time the West and South-west windes, blow an infinite number of flies called Locustes out of the deserts into their Country, which bee exceeding great, but the collour of their wings is foule and lothsome: These Aethiopians (as their custome is) gather out of places thereabouts great store of wood and other sorts of fuell, and laie it in a great large valley, and when, at their wonted time (as it were) a who'e cloude of Locusts bee carried by the windes ouer the valley, they set fire on the fuell, and with smoke stiphle and smother to death the Locusts which flie ouer it: so as they fal downe vnto the earth in such aboundance as are sufficient to serue the whole countrie for victualls: and these beeing sprinckled with salt (which that country plentifully yeeldeth) they preserue for a long space, beeing a meate very pleasant vnto they taste. And so these Locusts bee their continuall sustenance at all seasons, for they neither keepe cattell, nor eate fish, beeing farre remote from the sea, nor haue any other maintenance whereof to liue.

They bee nimble of body, swift of foote, and shorte of life, so as they which liue the longest exceede not aboue fortie yeeres, their end is not onely miserable but also incredible, for when old age creepeth and commeth vppon them, there doth certaine lice with winges of a horrible and vglie shape, ingendring in their bodies, knaw out, and deuour their bellies,



guts and intralls and in a small time their whole bodies: and he which hath the disease doth so itch & is so allured to scrach as he receiueh thereby at one and the same time both pleasure and paine, and when the corruption cometh forth, and the lyce appeare, he is so stirred with the bitterness and anguish of the disease as hee teareth his owne flesh in peeces with his nayles with great wayling and lamentation; for so great is the number of those vermine issuing out of the wounds, heape vpon heape, running as it were out of a vessell full of holes, as they cannot be ouercome, and by this meanes they die a very miserable death, the cause whereof is ether the meate they liue vpon, or the vnholesomenesse of the aire. Vpon the vtmost parts of Affricke towards the South dwell a people, which the Greekes cal Cinnamini, but of their neighbouring Barbarians they bee called wild or vplandish people: These haue very great beards; and for the defence of their liues, breed vp great number of Mastiues and wild dogs; for from the Summer troppicke to the middle of winter, an infinite number of Indian Beefes come into their country, the cause of their comming is vncertaine; whether it bee that they fly from other wild beasts which pursue them, or for the want of feeding, or that they doe it by instinct of nature (all which are wonderfull) but the true cause is vknowne: from these the people defend them-selues with their dogges, their owne forces being insufficient to withstand them, and kill many of them; some whereof they eate fresh, and some others they powder vp for their provision afterwards; and with these dogges they take many other beasts in like sort.

The last people, and the vtmost towards the South bee the



the Ichthiophagi, which inhabite in the gulph of Arabia, *The Ichthio-*  
 vpon the frontiers of the Trogloditæ, these carry the shape *phagi.*  
 of men, but liue like beasts: they be very barbarous and go  
 naked all their liues long, vsing both wiues and daughters  
 common like beasts: they be neither touched with any fee-  
 ling of pleasure or grieffe, other then what is naturall: Nei-  
 do the discern any difference betwixt good and bad, ho-  
 nesty and dishonesty.

Their habitations are in rockes and hills, not farre  
 from the sea, wherein they haue deepe dennes, and holes,  
 the passages in and out being naturally very hard and  
 crooked.

The entrances into these holes, ( as if nature had  
 framed them for their vse, ) the Inhabitants damme  
 vp with a heape of great stones, wherewith they  
 take fishes as it were with nets; for the flowing of the sea  
 (which hapneth euery day twise about three of the cloke  
 and nine of the Cloke ) furrownding the borders neere  
 vnto the shore, the water increasing very high and coue-  
 ring all places, carrieth into the continent an innumerable  
 company of diuers sorts of fishes, which seeking abroad  
 for sustenance at the ebbing of the sea are by those stones  
 stayd vpon dry land, those doe the inhabitants make hast  
 to gather vp, and taking them lay them vpon the rockes  
 against the noone Sunne, till they be scorched with the  
 heate thereof; and when one side is scorched inough, they  
 turne the other: when they bee thus broyled against the  
 Sunne, they take all the meate from the bones and put  
 it into a hollow stone and mingling there-with the  
 seede of holly tree, bake it therein, and make them a  
 most pleasant meate, for the meate beeing so mingled  
 they



they fashion it into Cakes like long Tyles, and drying them a little against the Sunne, sitte downe and cate them with great pleasure, and not a proportioned quantity thereof, but euery one as much as they can cate. This meate they haue alwayes in a readinesse, as it were out of a store-house, the sea affoording it in abundance in steed of bread, whereof the land is barren: But when by the raging of the sea, those places which bee neere vnto the shore, bee drowned for diuerse dayes together, so as they fayle in theyr faculty of fishing (at which time they suffer great penury of victualls) then they gather certaine great shell-fishes, and bruising their shells in peeces with stones, feede vppon the meate which is within, beeing very like vnto Oysters. And when this raging of the sea, by force of the windes, is of so long continuance, as that they can finde none of those shell-fishes, then they betake them-selues to fishe bones and sharpe finnes, which are reserued for a time of neede, the tenderer and newest sorte whereof they knaw with their teeth, and bruise the harder with stones, and so cate them like vnto brute beasts: they cate commonly a great company together (as I haue sayd) and cheere one another with an vntuneable song, and after that, the men accompany with women, each one with her hee first lighteth vppon: and beeing voyde of all care, by reason of the abundance of meate which they haue in readinesse, bestowe themselues in this manner foure dayes together, and vppon the fift day they flocke together in troupes to the riuers to drinke, making a disordered and confused noyce as they goe.

This their goeing to drinke, is not much vnlike the  
going



going of neate to water : when their bellyes are so full of water as they are scarce able to returne backe they eate no more that day, but euery one beeing full of water, and strouting out as though hee would burst, lyeth downe like a drunken man to sleepe. Vpon the last day they returne againe to their fishing, and so passing ouer their whole liues with such simple and slender dyet, they sildome fall into any disease, yet they bee shorter liued then wee, for their vncorrupted nature accounteth it their chiefeest felicity and *summum bonum* to appease hunger, expecting pleasure from no other thing : and this is the manner of liuing of those people which dwell within the gulph.

But those which dwell without the gulph, liue farre more strangely, for they neuer drinke, and are naturally voyde of all passions of the minde ; And beeing, as it were, reiected by fortune from all places fitte for habitation, and cast into deserte and desolate countries, indeuour themselues wholly to fishing.

*Men free from  
all passions of  
the minde.*

They desire nothing that is moyst, and eate their fishes halfe rawe, not that they would thereby auoyde thirst, but in a sauage manner, contented with such foode as fortune affoordes them, supposing their greatest happinesse to consist in wanting nothing they desire, or is fitte for them.

They bee sayde also to bee indued with such extraordinary patience, as if one should drawe his sworde and strike them, they would not seeke to auoyde the stroke, but willingly suffering themselues to bee injured and beaten, they doe nothing but onely looke backe vppon him that strooke them, without shewing the least signe

*Patience  
people.*



signe of anger , or compassion of their owne misery. Speach they haue none, but in lieu thereof , make signes with their fingers, and by nodding their heads, what things they want, and what they would haue.

These people doe generally loue peace , not dooing any thing to annoy others , which kinde of life though it bee strange and admirable , yet hath that nation for a long time retained it , beeing eyther therevnto accustomed by continuance of time , or else compeld by necessity. Their places of abode be not like the Ichthiophagi, which dwell within the gulph, but in diuerse fashions , for some haue theyr lodgings in hoales, situate to the North pole, wherein they bee defended from the heate of the Sunne, both by the shade and the soft winde, and coole murmuring ayre : for those places which lye opposite to the South, are for heate like vnto fornaces , therefore vnpossible to be dwelt in.

*The Amazons  
most warlike  
women.*

Those which dwell against the North pole, make them houses (to auoyde the heate) of Whales crooked ribbes, (whereof there bee many in that sea ) set hollow one against an other, and couered ouer with rett or sea-weed, necessity compelling Nature to finde out Arte for her owne defence : and this is reported to bee the life of the Ichthiophagi, which dwell without the gulfhe.

It remaineth to say somewhat of the Amazons (which in former time were sayd to dwell in Libia :) their women were hardy , strong , and valiant , and liued not after the manner of other women , for their custome was for a certaine space , to exercise them-selues in feates of armes , for preservation of theyr Virginitie , and the time of warre-fare once ended , then to couple them-selues with men in mariage for cause of procreation,  
the



the women onely did gouerne and exercise all publicke offices, and the men tooke charge of things within doores like our women, making themselves vassals and slaues vnto women, as being very expert in the warres, in gouernment, and in all publicke busineses, whereof the men themselves were ignorant. When an infint is borne, he is giuen to the father to bee nourished and brought vp with milke and other things answerable to his age: and if it be a man child, they eyther banish him, or kill him forthwith, or else breake his right arme so soone as he is borne, thereby to make him vnfit for the warres: But if it be a woman childe they singe off her breasts in her infancie, alledging that great breasts would hinder them in the warres, and therefore of the Greekes they be called Amazons, because they want their breasts: they bee said to inhabite the Isle Hesper, which is so called, as being scituated towards the West, this Isle is in the Moore called Triton, which ioyn- ing to the sea, is also called Tritonia, of a riuer that flow- eth into it: It bordereth vpon Aethiopia, and the hill At- las, the greatest mountaine of all that country: It is very large, and produceth diuerse sorts of trees, vpon the fruit whereof the Inhabitants liue.

There bee many Goates also and other cattell, whose Milke and flesh they feed vpon. They bee altogether de- stitute of Corne, nor doe they know the vse thereof if they had it.

*FINIS. Lib. 1.*

of



## THE SECOND BOOKE.

*Of Asia, and the most famous  
Nations thereof.*

## CAP. I.

*Asia why so  
called.*



ASIA an other part of the tripartite world, is so called of *Asia* the daughter of *Oceanus* and *Tethis*, wife of *Iapetus*, and mother to *Prometheus*, or (according to the opinion of others) of *Asius* the sonne of *Maneus Lidus*.

It is situated in the East part of the world, and is bounded vpon the West with two riuers, *Nilus* and *Tanais*, the *Euxine* sea, and part of the *Mediterranian* sea, and vpon the other three parts with the Ocean, which vpon the East is called *Oceanus Eous*, vpon the South *Indicus*, and North *Scithicus*: The hill *Taurus* (in a manner) deuideth the whole continent in the middle, which lying directly East and West, leaueth one part thereof towards the North, and the other towards the South, which two parts are by the Greekes called the Inner Asia, and the vtter Asia.

This hill in many places is three thousand *stadia* in breadth, and as long as all Asia, beeing about forty and fise thousand *stadia*, from the vtermost edge of the sea beyond *Rhodes*, vnto the furthestmost parts of *India* and *Scythia* towards the East. Asia is deuided into many partes, whereof some bee bigger, some lesser, and euery part is distinguished from other by a peculiar name: but so large and wide is the whole compasse of ground, contai-



contained vnder the name of Asia, as it alone is thought, to comprehend as much land as all Affricke and Europe, the other two parts of the world: The ayre is there very temperate, and the soyle fertile, and therefore it aboundeth with all kinde of cattell: It containeth many Provinces and regions.

Vppon that side which bordereth vppon Affricke, lyeth Arabia, which is situated betwixt Iudæa and Ægypt ( and according to *Plinie* ) is deuided into three parts, one part whereof is called *Petrea*, or stony Arabia, which vpon the North and West ioyneth vpon Syria, and is inclosed with *Arabia deserta* on the one side, and *Arabia fœlix* on the other, *Panchia*, and *Sabea* are also by some supposed to bee comprehended within the compasse of Arabia. Arabia is so called of *Arabus* the sonne of *Apollo* by *Babyle*: the people whereof be scattered and dispersed wide and broad, and are much different one from an other, both in their customes, and their apparell: the heire of their heads they neuer cut, but tye it vp with fillets and head-laces, & their beards they shau close to the skinne: they transferre not their arts and occupations from one to another, as wee doe, but there, each one exerciseth his fathers trade and course of life, and the Noblest man hath the gouernment ouer all the rest: all things they possesse goe in common to their whole kindred, and one wife serueth all that family, for hee which first entreth into the house and setteth his staffe at the doore, lyeth first with her, but shee sleepeth all night with the eldest, by which meanes they bee all brothers one to another, they lye also with their owne mothers, and sisters without any respect at all.

*Arabia deu-  
ded into three  
parts.*

*The Arabians  
lye with their  
owne mothers  
and daughters.*

And



And yet the adulterer is punished with death, and the lying with one of anothers kindred, is adultery, but all those which be of one house or kindred, be termed legitimate.

They celebrate their feasts for almost thirty dayes together, wherein two of their kinsmen that be good Musicians, giue their attendance in turnes, first one, then another. Theyr citties and townes liue peaceably and quietly together without walls, and fortresses for defence: they vse oyle made of the graine Sefamina, & are very rich and abounding with all other things. Theyr sheepe bee of a white fleece, and theyr neate of a tall stature, but horses they haue none, the want whereof is supplied with great store of Camels. Gold, filuer, and many sorts of sweete and odoriferous oyntments are peculiar to that country, Brasse, Iron, Cloth, Purple, Saffron, Pepper, and all workes ingrauen in mettell or stone, are brought thether from other places: theyr dead bodyes they accompt more abiect and vile then dung, and the carcase of their King they bury in a dung-hill; they be very carefull to preserue their reputations and promises with men, and they confirme theyr leagues of friendship in this manner following. When a peace and agreement is concluded betwixt two, a third man standing in the middle betwixt them both, striketh them vpon the palme of their hands, about the longest fingers, with a sharpe stone till hee draw bloud, then taking a little flock from each of their garments, hee annoynteth with the blood seauen stones, which be laide before them for that purpose, in dooing whereof hee inuocateth the names of *Dionisyus* and *Vrania*: this done, he which is the mediatour for the peace, and attonement, (the frendes of both parties being present.) causeth the stranger (or the Cittizen (if the matter bee betwixt Cittizens)

No horses in  
Arabia.



cittizens) to put in sureties to continue that truce, and the league the parties, which contract the friendship, thinke fit and iust to be obserued.

Their onely fuell is the branches of Myrrhe, the smoke whereof is so noysome and hurtfull, as it would breede incurable diseases, if they preuented them not, by burning a sweet incense or gumme called *Storax*: the sinell whereof allayeth the contagion of the smoke. The Priests first slay the beasts they intend to sacrifice, and then go to gather Cynamon, strictly obseruing, that they gather none before Sunne-rising, nor after the Sun-setting: and when they haue appeased their gods with the sacrifice, hee which is chiefest amongst them, diuideth the heape of branches which they haue gathered that day, with a forke consecrated for that vse, then do they dedicate a part of those branches to the Sunne, which (if the diuision made were equal) will be inflamed with the beames of the Sunne, and take fire and burne of their owne accord. Some of those people which liue hardly, feed vpon snakes, and bee therefore called *Ophiophagi*: they be neither vexed with care, nor trouble of mind. The people called Nomades, haue great store of Camels, which serue them both in their battels,, and to carry burthens. The people called Debæ be some of them shepheards, & some exercise themselues in husbandry, the country abounds with gold, insomuch as they find oftentimes amongst the clods of earth, certaine roundballes of gold as big as acorns, of which they make themselues iewels and brooches, very pleasant to behold, and weare them about their necks and arms. They sell gold to their neighboring nations for three times the price of brasse, & twise the price of siluer: both for the small account they make of gold, and for the great desire they haue to trafficke with other people.

F

Next



Next vnto these be the Sabæi, which be rich in Frankincense, Myrrhe, and Cinnamon: Some hold, that there be Balme trees growing in the confines of this countrey, it aboundeth with sweet Canes, and odoriferous Dates: there is also a serpent bredde in that countrey, of an hand-breadth in length, whose sting or biting is deadly, and hee lyeth altogether vnder the rootes of trees. The exceeding smell and sweet saour of things growing there, breedeth a stupiditie and dulnesse in their senses; which they cure with the perfume of a certaine lyme or pitch, called *Bitumen*, and the beard of a bucke-Goate. All matters in controuersie are there referred to the King. Many of the Sabæi are husbandmen, and some of them are wholly occupied in gathering spices, which grow vpon trees. They vse trafficke into Aethiopia with shippes couered with lether, their fuell is the barke or rind of Cynamon, which is of the nature of wood.

The Metrapolitan and chiefe citie of this kingdome, is situated vpon an hill, and is called Saba: their Kings are of one kindred, and raigne by succession, to whom the multitude yeeld honours indifferently, as well to the bad, as to the good. They neuer dare venter out of their Court, or chiefe citie, fearing lest they should be stoned to death by the common people, by reason of an answer which they receiued long since from one of their Oracles. At Saba, where the King keepeth his Court, be siluer iewels, and pots of gold of all sorts, the beds and three-footed stooles haue siluer feete, and all the household stuffe is sumptuous and rich beyond credit. The porches and galleries also bee vnderpropped with great pillars, the heads whereof are siluer and gold, the roofes and dores being set with golden bosses, intermingled with pretious stones, do manifest the  
sump-



sumptuous decking of the whole house: for here one place shineth with gold, another with siluer, another with precious stones, and Elephants tooth, and with many other ornaments besides, of great woorth and estimation: these people haue for many ages flowed in perpetuall felicitie: for they bee vtterly voyde of ambition and desire to possesse other mens goods, which bringeth many to ruine.

The people called Garræi be no lesse rich then these, *The Garrei.* for almost all their household-stuffe is of gold and siluer, and of Iuorie, whereof they make the thresholds, roofes, and walles of their houses.

The people called Nabathæi, of all men be most con- *The Nabathæi.* tinent, in getting riches they bee very industrious, but much more carefull in keeping them: for hee that diminisheth his priuate estate, hath publicke punishment. And on the other side, hee is honoured and exalted, that increaseth his patrimonie.

The Arabians vse in their warres, swords, bowes, lances, and slings, and many times axes also. That accursed stocke of the Sarraſins, which were the greatest scourges that euer happened to mankind, had their beginning in Arabia, and (as it is very credibly thought) a great part of the Arabians, became followers of the Sarraſins sect, and tooke their name. Yet now they haue betaken them to their old names againe. The Arabians that dwell about Aegypt, liue for the most part by stealing, trusting in the swiftnesse of their Camels.



## CAP. 2.

Panchaia a-  
boundeth with  
Frankinsence.



PANCHAI A is a Region of Arabia, *Diodorus Siculus* calleth it an Iland of two hundred *Stadia* in bredth, and that there be in it three stately Citties, that is to say, Dalida, Hyracida, and Oceanida, the whole countrie is fruitfull enough, liuing onely where it is sandie. It aboundeth with wine, and with frankinsence, of which there is so great store, as is sufficient to serue all the world for sacrifices : it yeeldeth much myrrhe also, and other odoriferous spices of diuers kinds, which the Panchaians gather, and sell to the Marchants of Arabia, of whom others buy them, & transport them into Phænicia, Syria, and Egypt; from whence they are conveyed into all parts of the world.

The Panchaians vse Chariots in the warres; for so they haue bin alwaies accustomed: their common-wealth is diuided into three degrees of people : first, the Priests, who possesse the prime place, to whome the artificers are added: the husbandmen haue the second, and souldiers the third, to whom the shepheards be annexed. The Priests be gouernours and rulers ouer all the rest, to whom the deciding of controuersies, and arbitrement of all publike affaires, and iudiciall causes are committed, (punishment of death onely excepted.) The husbandmen imploy themselves onely in tilling, and manuring the ground; the increase whereof goeth in common to all. Out of the husbandmen there be ten elected by the Priests, which bee most expert and industrious in husbandrie, to bee Iudges



Judges ouer the rest, aswell for the exhortation of others, in the art of husbandrie, as for the distribution of their fruites. The shepheards likewise bring all their increase, as well of such things as appertaine to sacrifices, as of all things else, to the publike vse, some by number, and some by weight: in doing whereof they be maruellous precise: and no one there possesseth any thing in priuate to himselfe, but only their houses and gardens: for the Priests receiue all the custome and tribute-money, and all other things else whatsoever into their custodie, making diuision thereof, as occasion requireth: whereof two parts is euer due vnto themselues. The Panchaians bee clothed in soft garments; for the sheepe of that countrie differ much from others in softnesse and finenesse of wooll, both men and women weare ornaments of gold, adorning their neckes with chains, their hands with bracelets, their eares with eare-rings, like the Persians, and their feet with new shooes of diuers colours. The souldiers are maintained onely to defend the countrie from forraine inuasions: the Priests liue more sumptuously, and in far greater delights then others, wearing for the most part fine light linnen vestiments downe to the foot, and somtimes garments made of the best and purest wooll.

Vpon their heads they haue myters wrought and imbrodered with gold: and in stead of shooes, sandals of diuers colours, wrought very artificially. They weare ornaments of gold also (like women, excepting eare-rings) and be for the most part continually conuersant about the seruice of their gods, reciting their worthy and memorable deeds, in laudes and hymnes. They deriue their pedegree from *Iupiter Manasses*, alledging, that when hee was conuersant with men, and gouerned the whole world, hee was

*Iupiter was  
banished into  
Panchaia.*



*The great Temple  
in Panchaia*

banished into Panchaia. The country abounds with gold, silver, brasse, tin, and iron, of which it is not lawfull to carry any out of the Iland: neither is it tollerable for the Priests to stir out of their holy Temples; for if any of them be found abroad, it is lawfull to kill them. Many oblations of gold and silver, which were long since offered and dedicated to their gods, they preserve in their temple, the doores wherof are of a very curious building, beset with gold, silver, and yuorie. The bed for their god is all of gold, being fixe cubits in length, and foure in bredth, and of a rare and wonderfull workmanship: In like maner, the table for their god (which is placed neare vnto his bed) is equall vnto it, both for state, quantity and cost. They haue one great and magnificent temple, which is all erected of white stone, vnder set with great pillars, & carued columnes, the length thereof is two acres, and the breadth answerable to the length: It is adorned with goodly Idols of their gods, composed and framed with admirable art and cunning. The Priests that haue charge of the sacrifices, haue their houses about the temple: and all the ground round about the temple, for the space of two hundred *Stadia*, is consecrated to the gods, and the yearely reuenew thereof spent in sacrifices.

*Of Assyria, and how the Assyrians line.*

CAP. 3.

**A** Sfyria a countrey in Asia, is so called of *Assur* the son of *Sem* (as Saint *Augustine* is of opinion.) It is now called



now called Syria, and hath vpon the East, India, and part of Media, vpon the West the riuer Tygris, Susiana vpon the South, and the hill Caucasus on the North. They haue seldome any raine in Assyria, but what graine soeuer the countrey affoordeth, is obtained by the waterings and ouerflowings of the riuers, which they do not naturally of their owne accords, as in Aegypt, but by the labour and industrie of the inhabitants: and yet by this ouerflowing the ground there is so exceeding fruitfull, as it yeeldeth two hundred, and in the most fertill soyle, three hundred-fold increase: the eares of their wheate and barley beeing foure fingers in breadth, and their pulse and millet in height like trees. These things though they bee certainly knowne vnto them to be true, yet *Herodotus* would haue them sparingly reported, and with good deliberation, as beeing scarce credible, especially if the relation bee made to those which neuer saw them.

They haue great store of Dates, of which they make honey and wine, they vse boates in their riuers made in fashion of a round shield, not seuered with fore-decke and sterne, as other boates be, but made (beyond the Assyrians in Armenia) of willow, or fallow tree, couered ouer with raw leather. The Assyrians weare two linnen garments, one hanging downe to the foote, and the other short, ouer which they weare a white stole. Their shooes be such, as the Thebans were wont to weare: they suffer their haire to grow long, and trimme them with head-tyres: when they go into publike places, they annoynt themselves with oyntments: euery one weareth a signet ring on his finger, and a scepter in his hand, in which is set an apple, a rose, or lilly, or some such like thing: for they hold it base and vndecent, to carry it without such a signe or cognisance in it.

Hony & wine  
made of dates.

The Assyrians  
boates.

Their apparell.



Virgins that  
be marriageable  
be sold to their  
husbands.

Of all their lawes which were in force in that countrey, this seemeth most worthie to be remembred : That the maides, as soon as they were marriageable, were (once euery yeare) brought into a publike place, and there offered to be sold to such men, as had any disposition to marry : and first, the fairest and most beautiful virgins were set to sale, and after them, those which through defect of their beauties, or their bodies, were not onely not vendible and marketable, but which no man would marrie *gratis*, were married away with that money, the faire ones were sold for.

*Herodotus* saith, that this custome was heretofore obserued in Venice in the confines of Illiria (as hee heard it credibly reported by others.) And *Antonius Sabellicus* in like manner affirmeth, that whether this custome bee yet obserued in that countrey, he is not very certaine : But sure I am (saith he) that in Venice (which at this day for riches, is the most flourishing state of the world) amongst other good orders of their cittie, it was ordained, that bastard virgins that were gotten out of wedlocke, and fondlings that were exposed and laid abroad to the aduentures of the world, should be brought vp in some close place, at the common charge of the cittie, and there instructed in some hard discipline, vntill they were marriageable, and that then those which were most beautifull, and well brought vp, should be married without dowrie, either vnto such as had escaped some great perill, or some dangerous disease, or broken their vowes: and that some Freemen also regarding their modestie and beautie, would marrie them without dower, and euer those which were most beautifull, were married with lesse portion then the foule ones, although they were as well brought vp as the other.

Another



An other law of the Babylonians being very profitable and worthy to be remembred was this, seeing they excluded all Phisitions from amongst them, it was ordained, that he which began to bee sicke, should aske counsel of those concerning his disease, that had suffred the like infirmity themselves, and that had tried some medicine for the recouery of their healthes: some others write that their custome was to bring the sicke persons into a publicke place, where the law commanded them, and that those which once had beene sicke themselves, and were recovered should goe and visit the diseased persons, and teach them by what meanes they were cured.

*A law excluding Phisitions and how they cured the sick.*

The Assyrians bewaile the dead, as the Aegyptians doe: and when one hath laine with his wife all night, neither of them toucheth any thing before they haue washed themselves. The custome heretofore amongst the Babylonians was, that the women wold once in their life times lie with strangers, besides their husbands: the maner whereof was thus: They would come a great company of them together very reuerently and solemnly vnto the temple of *Venus*, each one hauing her head bound, and wreathed about with garlands, and then the stranger with whom shee desired to lie, laied vnder his knee, as he kneeled in the Temple, such a sum of money as he thought fitting, which being consecrated to *Venus*, he leaueth behind him, & rising vp, taketh the woman into a place a little distant from the Church, and there lieth with her: There were some families among the Assyrians which liued only vpon fish, dried at the sun, and bruised in a mortar, which being moulded and laid together, & sprinkled with water, they made into lumps, like loaues, and drying them at the fire, vsed to eate them in steed of bread.

They



The officers  
amongst the  
Assyrians.

They had three head officers amongst them, one of such as had beene souldiours and were put to their pension: an other of the nobility and elders, and the King which was head ouer them all: They had their south-saiers likewise, which were called *Chaldei*, which were like vnto the Priests of Aegipt, and sacrificed to their gods: These *Chaldei* spent their whole liues in the studie of Philosophy, they were great starre-mungers, and sometimes by their diuinations, sometimes by their holy rimes, they would defend men from misfortunes. They could truly and faithfully interpret Augurations, Dreames and Prodigies, not learning their instructions in such things of maisters and tutors, as the Greekes did, but receiuing the from their parents as their inheritance. The children were taught and excercised in learning at home, that by the continuall care of their parents, they might better profit themselves. They *Chaldei* were not variable and doubtful in their opinions of naturall causes, as the Greekes were, where euery man was of a seuerall minde, and euery writer yeelded reasons, repugning one an other, but they all by one general and vniforme assent, supposed the world to be eternal, and that it neither had beginning, nor shal haue end, and that the order and ornament of al things is established by a diuine prouidence: That the Celestiall bodies be not moued of their owne accord, or by some accidentary motion, but by a certaine law and immutable decreee of some god-head: They marke by long obseruation the course of the stars, by whose speculation they prophesied of mens future fortunes: They imagined the planets to be of great power, and especially Saturne, supposing the sunne to be of most beauty, and of greatest vertue, and that *Mars*, *Venus*, *Mercury* and *Iupiter*, were to be obserued



serued more then the rest, for that they hauing each one his proper and peculiar motion, foreshewed things to come, and were the true interpreters of the gods: And of this they were so fully perswaded, as they called these foure stars al by the name of *Mercury*: They foretold many things to come both hole-some and hurtful, by winds, shewers, heate, comets, eclipse of Sunne & Moone, earthquakes, and by sundry other signes and prodigies besides: And they imagined that there were other stars subiect & inferior to these planets, of which some wandred in our Hemisphere, and some in that which is vnder vs: besides this they held the like error that the Aegiptians did, and fained to themselves twelue gods, attributing vnto each of them a month & a signe in the *Zodiake*: They prophesied of many things that should happen to their Kings, as foreshewing to *Alexander* the victory he should haue in the fight with *Darius*: to *Hircanor*, *Seleucus* and to other successors of *Alexander*: and many things after that, to the Romaine successors, whose euents proued true. They write also of foure and twenty other stars, whereof twelue be beyond the *Zodiake*, towards the North, and the other twelue towards the South, of which, those which appeare to our view, they suppose to haue dominion ouer the liuing, and the other to pertaine to those which be dead: These things & other circumstances haue those Chaldeans set forth to mens sight, as they haue noted by long obseruation, alleaging that this their doctrine hath continued for the space of three and forty thousand yeers, from the first inuentio therof to the reigne of *Alexander*: which allegation of theirs were a very grosse & impudent fable, vnlesse we should interpret, that the time of each yeere were but a month, as was amongst the Aegiptians.

of



Of Iudæa and of the customs, lawes and institutions of the Iewes.

CAP. 4.

The limits of  
Palestine.



Iudæa, or Pa-  
lestine called  
also Canaan.

Canaan pro-  
mised to Abra-  
ham and his  
seed.

The Israelites  
lawes ordained  
by Moles.

Alestinewhich is also called Iudæa, is a perticular Prouince of Syria, sytuated betwixt, Cælosiria, and Arabia Petrea, vpon the West it is washed with the Aegiptian sea, and vpon the East with the riuer of Iordan : This land, the bookes of holy Bible, and *Iosephus* their imitator, called Canaan, a land abounding with many riches, as hauing plenty of fruites, famous waters; and being well furnished with balme : It is scituated in the very middle of the world, and is therefore very temperate, neither to hot nor to cold, which for the temperature of the elements the Israelites, or Hebreues ( being a very ancient people, and with whom alone from the first Creation of mankinde the knowledge and worship of the Heauenly and true God, and the first forme of speech remained) esteemed to be that which was promised by God to their fathers *Abraham*, *Isaac* and *Iacob*; a land flowing with milke and hony.

And therefore in the fortieth yeere after the children of Israells departure out of Aegipt, vnder the conduct of their valiant captaine *Iosua*; they obtained the dominion thereof by force of their armes vanquishing and expelling one and thirty Kings, which raigned in that Contry : The Israelites retaine, and liue vnder those lawes,



laws, which they receiued frō *Moses* their first captain, & although for many ages before *Moses* daies they liued without written law, with great deuotion & sanctity, obtrayning the truth by diuine Oracles, and by the acutenesse & magnanimity of their mindes, and vnderstandings, yet that great diuine *Moses*, thought that no City could long continue in safety, without the practise of law and equity.

And therefore when by rewarding the good, & punishing the wicked, he had sufficiently exhorted his people, to imbrace vertue and eschew vice, he proposed vnto them other lawes and ciuel ordinances, founded vpon those ten chiefe heads and grounds of lawes, pronounced by God himselfe in mount Sina, & written in two Tables; of which lawes (being so many, as they alone wold be sufficiēt matter to fill a whole volume) I will onely touch those which be most worlhy of remēbrance, & they that desire to know the rest, let them read *Iosephus* & the bookes of the Bible.

First *Moses* ordained, that young children as soone as *Moses lawes*, they were able to conceiue, should bee instructed in the lawes, seeing they contained in them the best kind of discipline: That whosoeuer blasphemed the name of God, should hang all a whole day, & be cast out at night without burial: That no sacrifice should be solemnized vvith money gotten by whoredome: That there should be 7: chiefe gouernors in euery city, which were most noted for Iustice & vvifdom, & that two of the leuitical Priests shold sit in iudgment with them, & if in discerning cōtrouersies, the Iudges would not condiscēd to that which vvas right, the vvhole matter should be decided by the discretion of the Priest & Elder: That the testimony of one man should not be currant to conuince an other of any crime, nor yet of two, vnlesse their honesties vvere approued, but the



the testimonie of three should stand, and yet neither slaue nor woman should be sufficient witnesse, because in one the basenesse of his fortune, in the other the weaknesse and lightnesse of her sexe, might rightly bee suspected: that the fruite of trees new set or planted, should not bee medled withall before the fourth yeere, and that then they should pay for tithes the tenth part of the increase: That neighbours and strangers should haue some part also, and that the residue should remaine to him that planted them. That they should sow cleane seed vpon their grounds and not mingled, because the land would not like with seed of two sorts: That trauellers should not bee restrained and interdicted from fruites, but that they might gather as much as they pleased and their present necessity required, and that if they were ashamed to take it the owners should offer it vnto them: That the woman that gained vnlawfully, or married her selfe to an other, besides her lawfull husband should not bee regarded as a wife: That shee that was supposed to bee a Virgine, and was found defiled in her bodie with any man, and convicted of the crime, should either bee stoned to death, or burned aliue.

If one deflowred a Virgin espoused to an other man, though she consented, yet both parties should suffer extreame punishment, and if he rauished her forcibly, that then onely the author of the iniury should bee punished: That, if a man die and leaue no children behinde him, his widdow should marry the brother of her deceased husband, and by that matrimony bring forth issue to succeed them in their stocke: but if the brother refused to marry her, hee should shew the cause of his refusall before the elders, and if his cause were approued good, hee should haue



haue liberty to marry whom he pleased: That they should bewaile and lament for the dead, for the space of thirty daies, and no more, which time he thought sufficient for a wise man to lament the losse of his friends: That the sonne which was iniurious to his parents should be hanged without the Cittie: That the enemy that was slaine in battaile should not want buriall: That if a creditor receiue a pledge or pawne of a poore man, hee should restore it againe before night: That if one buy one of his kindred as a slaue, the bond-seruant should be free the sixth yeere after: That hee that found gold or siluer, should make proclamation thereof by the mouth of the Crier: That if cattell went astray, they should either be brought backe to the right owner, or else kept till the right owner were knowne: That no Israelite should make or temper any poyson, nor buy any that was made elsewhere: And that he which mingled poyson, to the end to poyson another, beeing convicted of the offence should drinke the same poison himselfe: That he which wilfully and wrongfully pulleth out an other mans eye, should bee punished with the losse of an eye: That if a bull kill a man with his horne he should bee stoned to death, and his flesh cast away and not eaten: That a thing committed to an other to keepe, should be kept warily as a thing holy: That the sonne should not bee punished for the fathers offence, nor the sonnes offence be imputed as a fault in the father: And these were the domesticall lawes ordained by *Moses*, and in warfare these following: That before warre were offered, the goods wrongfully taken away should be demanded againe, by Ambassadors and Heralds, and if they were not restored, that then (if they pleased) they might warre lawfully: That the whole charge and gouernment  
of



of the warres, should be committed to him that most excelled others in strength and wisdom: that the strongest souldier of all the campe should be sent as Ambassador: That if the enemy were besieged, their fruit trees should be spared, for the trees themselves (if they could speake) would certainly reprehend and reprove him that destroyed them. That the conqueror might kill all such as were rebels, but the rest which he overcame & vanquished should be made tributary and pay yeerely pensions: That during the time of war no woman should touch her husbands priuities, nor no man his wiues: that it should be utterly prohibited for the Israelites to eat blood: That those which were either infected with leprosie, or which had caused any fluxure of their natural seed should be expelled the city.

Menstruous women, in like manner, were kept out of the city, for seauen daies after the beginning of their disease, and might returne in the eight: and so many daies were they forced to absent themselves, that had their houses defiled and polluted with any dead body: That the Priest should sacrifice tow eue Lambs for him whose naturall seed flowed from him in his sheepe, and that the party should be washed in cold water: and by the same sacrifice was he purged and hallowed that had lainc with his wife at vnlawfull and prohibited times: That a woman after she was deliuered of a child, if it were a man child, should be restrained from comming to the Church for the space of forty daies, and if it were a woman child, for the space of eighty daies.

That he that supposed his wife to be vnchast, should for a certaine measure of barley meale called *assarim*, and, that then the wife being placed at the postes  
of



of the temple, should sweare after the Priest, whether shee had defiled her chastitie or no; and if she swore false, shee should dye for it, hauing her right hamme disioynted, and her wombe putrified, but if shee were chaste and swore truly, she should bee deliuered of her childe in the tenth month, without harme of her wombe, and that then the Priest of God blotting out her name from out the scedule, should giue her drinke out of a pottle with a wide mouth. That the paines of death should bee inflicted for adultery, incest, and the sinne of Sodome. That the Priest that was lame or weakned in his body, should be forbidden to ascend the Altar, and that hee should be maintained notwithstanding with the holy oblations. That if the Iewes attained to the land of Chanaan, they should suffer their grounds to lye lea and vnplowed euery seuenth yeare: that such fruites as the earth did naturally produce, should euery fortith yeare, (which was called the yeare of Iubily) be common, as well to strangers and forreners, as to their owne kindred; and that, in that yeare, money which was owing should be released and forgiuen, slaues and bondmen made free and infranchised, and possessions gotten with small cost, restored to their first owners. With these institutions and ordinances both for home and abroad did *Moyse* instruct the Israelites, not long before his death, adding moreouer a solemne prayer for the good successe of those that obserued and fulfilled his lawes and ordinances, rightly, and as they ought, and bitter execrations, and curses against the transgressors and offenders thereof.

And last of all, hee bound the people with an oath, that they should for euer obserue and keepe those diuine, and humaine lawes which he had instituted and ordained,

G

and



and that if any one did violate them, they should not suffer him to goe unpunished: And now seeing it is manifest that there was neuer any people more ceremonious and religious then the Israelites, I thinke it worth while, briefly to expresse the manner of their sacrificing, as it was first ordained.

The manner  
of the Iewes  
oblations.

The Iewes had two sorts of sacrificing from the beginning, the one whereof was done by the better sort of people, and that they called *Holocaustus* (that is a sacrifice layde whole on the Altar) and was done in this manner, hee which intended to doe sacrifice eyther with Oxe or Lambe, or what thing else hee meant to offer (for the beast which hee sacrificed must bee a male beast, and of one yeare old,) brought the beast to the Altar, and then the Priest powring forth and sprinkling the blood of the sacrifice vpon the Altar, and cutting the oblation in peeces, burned it whole vpon the Altar.

The other sort of sacrificing, was for the common people, wherein they offered beasts of aboue a yeare old, the blood whereof beeing shedde, and the kidnees, fatte and suet, set on fire on the Altar, the hearts and right legges were giuen to the Priests, and the residue, they, for whom the sacrifice was solemnized, did eate within two dayes after. Those which were poore might offer two Pigeons, or two Turtle Doves, whereof the one serued for a whole burnt sacrifice, and for the other, the Priests did cast lottes. Hee which offended vnawares, did sacrifice for satisfaction of that sinne a Yew Lambe of an yeare old, or else a Kidde, and those which were guilty of any secret fault in them-selues, were (by the very letter of the law) to bee purged by offering vp a Ramme. The flesh of which oblations, whether they were publicke or priuate,



private, the Priests did eate in the Temple: one measure containing a peck of the finest flower, was allowed for the oblation of a Lambe, for a Ramme two, and for a Bull three: There was also allowed Oyle, which was powred vpon the sacrifice: A Lambe was publickly sacrificed euery morning and euening, and vpon euery seuenth day, which was called their Sabbaoth, and which (by their law) they held most holy, there were double sacrifices offered vpon their Altars: In the beginning of the month were offered for reconciliation, two Oxen, seauen yearling Lambes, one Ramme, and one Kidde, to which were added two Kiddes more, the one whereof was sent out of the bounds of the Citty, and there offered as a satisfaction for the sinnes of the multitude, and the other was burned skinn and all in the purest place of the suburbes of the Citty.

The Priests gaue a Bull sanctified for that purpose, and a Ramme for a whole burnt sacrifice. There was also other sacrifices mingled with ordinary ceremonies, and holy dayes, such was the fifteenth day of the month (which the Macedons called *Hypererethens*: ) and vpon the returne of Autumne, they fixed their Tents or Tabernacles, and keeping that day holy, offered yearely whole burnt offerings, the dooers thereof vpon the moneth Xanthicus, which is Aprill, carryed in their hands the boughes of Myrrh, Willow, Palmes, and Peach tree; where-vpon the yeare tooke his beginning vpon the day of the full Moone, the sunne then entring into the signe *Aries*.

And because at that time the people of Israel were deliuered out of the land of Egypt, they sacrificed the mysticall



Lambe, and celebrated the feasts of vnleuened bread, or sweete bread, in the full Moone, some few dayes after: vpon which dayes were euer burned, for a whole burnt sacrifice, two Bulls, one Ramme, and seauen Lambes, wherevnto was added one Kidde, for satisfaction for their sinnes: in the second day of Sweete-bread, were offered the first parts of their fruites, and a measure of Oyle, and in the beginning or springing of their fruites, a Lambe for a whole burnt sacrifice. Their dayes of Penticost also were certaine, which time they called *Asarthan*, that is to say *Quinquagesima*, or the fiftieth day: and then they offered leuened bread made of drie meale; two Ewe lambes, two Calues, and two Rammes for a whole burnt offering, and two Kiddes in recompence of their misdeeds: The Heathen writers disagree from the Ecclesiasticall, concerning the Iewes, and *Moses* their Captaine: for *Cornelius Tacitus*, in the one and twentieth Booke of his Diurnalls, attributing the departing of that people out of the land of *Ægipt*, not to Gods diuine will and power, but to necessity, writeth thus of them. The scabbe and noysome itch beginning in *Ægipt*, saith hee, *Bocharis* the *Ægyptian* King desired a remedy in the Temple of his god *Hamon*, where hee was admonished to purge his kingdome, and to banish those people (meaning the Iewes) which were hatefull to their gods, into other countries: Wherevpon they beeing expulsed, and a great multitude of them which had the scabbe least sitting together in waste and desolate places, most of them beeing almost blinde with weeping, *Moses*, one of those which were banished among the rest, admonished them not to expect any helpe of goddes, or men, but onely

to

The opinion of  
Heathen writers  
concerning the  
Iewes.



to relye and commit them-selues wholly to him as their guide and Captaine, wherevnto they assented and agreed, and so beeing vtterly ignorant what would become of them, tooke their iourney at aduentures, wherein aboute other things they wanted water, and that they watching all night in the open fields, not farre from destruction, saw a flocke of wylde Asses going from feeding; and sitting downe vpon a rocke ouer-growne with thick woods, these *Moses* pursued and tooke, and therevpon and to the end that he might for euer bee assured of that people, he gaue vnto them new lawes and ceremonies, contrary to all other nations: for those things which wee hold for holy, they account as prophane, and allow of those things which with vs are poluted.

They hollowed and worshipped within their houses the picture of a beast, the sight whereof expelled both thirst and error, and sacrificed a Ramme in despite of the god *Harmon*: they offer also an Oxe in derision of the god *Apis*, which the Aegyptians worship vnder the forme of an Oxe: They abstaine from Swines flesh for auoyding the scabbe, because that beast is dangerous for that disease.

They rest vppon the seuenth day, because that day brought end to their labours: and yeelding to slouthfulnesse, the seuenth yeare also is spent in Idlenesse, the honor whereof is by others attributed to *Saturne*, by reason of hunger and fasting: their bread is altogether vnleauened: these lawes how euer they were brought in, are there defended: and though mercy and firme faith are in great request amongst them, yet they carry deadly hatred against all other nations. They bee seperated in their banquets, and seuered in their beds: They are much



giuen to lust and yet they abstaine from the company of women of other nations, but hold nothing vnlawfull amongst them selues.

They ordained circumcision of their priuities, that by that difference they might bee discerned from others, and the first lesson they learne is to contemne the gods: The foules of those which were slaine in battell or by punishment, they suppose to be eternall.

Three sectes of  
the Iewes,

The Pharises,

They haue the like regard of Hell and perswasion of Heauenly things: on the other side the Ægyptians worshippe diuers beasts and wrought Idols, but the Iewes in their hearts and minds acknowledge but one onely God, accounting those prophane which faine or pourtray the images of their gods in the forme of men. These and many other things hath *Cornelius Tacitus* and *Trogus* in his seauen and thirty booke, written of the Iewes. Three sects of the Iewes were seuered and distinguished one from another by their vsuall manner of liuing, which were the Pharases, the Sadducees and the Esseians: The Pharases liued very austerely and sparingly, instituting new traditions, by which they finished and abolished the traditions of *Moyse*: They carried in their foreheades and vpon their left arme certaine frontlets and papers, wherein was written that decalogue, which the Lord sayd, thou shalt haue, as it were, hanging betwixt thine eyes, and in thy hand, and these they called Philacteries of the Greeke word *Philatein*, which signifieth to fulfill the law.

These also fastned the edges of their vestures to the rest of their garments with thornes, that beeing pricked therewith as they went, they might remember Gods commandements.

They



They thought all things to be done by GOD and by destiny, and that to doe or neglect things that were lawfull and iust, consisted in the will of man, but yet that in all things fate was a furtherer, whose effects they esteemed to proceed from the motion of the Heauenly bodies.

They would neuer contradict their elders nor superiours: They beleeued the general iudgement, that all soules were incorruptible, that onely the soules of the good did fitte and remoue into other bodies, vntill the resurrection and last iudgement, and that the soules of the wicked were detained and imprisoned in euerlasting dungeons: and these were called Pharises, because in their habits and linings they differed from the common disposition of other men.

The *Saduces* denied fortune and destiny, saying that *The Saduces,* God saw all thinges, and that it was in the will of man to do either good or euill; they denied that the soules after this life suffered eyther punishment or pleasure: they denied also the resurrection of the dead, supposing their soules and bodies to perish together, nor did they hold that there were any Angels, and yet they receiued the five bookes of *Moses*; they were seuer without measure and nothing sociable amongst themselves, for which seuerity they named themselves *Saduces*, that is to say iust.

But the *Esseians* liued altogether a monasticall life, vt- *The Esseians,* terly despising wedlocke and the company of all women, not because they thought it fitte by forbidding carnall copulation, to destroy the succession of mankind, but that they should beware of womens intemperance, supposing no womā to be faithfull & true to her husband. They had all thinges in common; oyntments and bathes they



accounted a reproach, and esteemed a deformity in their trimming, to bee an ornament vnto them, so as they were alwayes arrayed in white garments: they had no certaine citty, but dwellings in euery place: They spake no prophane words before the sunne rising, but praied for his rising, and after that, workt vnto the fift houre, then washing their bodies in water, they ate together with few words: They accounted an oath as periury, and allowed none to be of their sect vnder a yeares probation: and after the first yeares tryall, when they were admitted, they tryed their manners other two yeares also, in which time if they were found in any sinne, they would driue them away from them, that eating grasse like beasts, they might repent till their deaths. When ten of them sat together no one would speake if nine of them were vnwilling, they would not spit in the middle, nor on the right side: They obserued their sabboth so religiously, that vpon that day they would not so much as purge their bellies: They carryed with them a wodden Pickax, where-with they digged a hoale in the earth in some secret place to ease them-selues in, and couered themselues diligently with their long garments, least they should doe iniury to the diuine lights, for which cause also they filled the hole againe presently. They were long of life, by reason of the simplenesse of their dyet, for they liued for the most part with Dates, they had no vse of money, and they adiudged that death the best which happened to a man for Iustice sake. They hold, that all soules were created from the beginning, and incorporated for a time in mens bodies, and that the good soules after they departed from the bodyes, liued beyond the Ocean, where ioy is reserued for them, and that the euill soules are assigned boystrous  
and



and stormie places towards the East: Some of them could foretell things to come, and some vsed the company of wiues, but very moderatly, for they supposed, that if they should altogether abstaine from women, the whole stocke of humaine kinde would perish. There dwell in Syria at this day Greekes, which bee called Gryphoni, Iacobites, Nestorians, and Sarasins, and two people of the Christian Religion, which bee the Syriani and the Marouini; the Syrians sacrifice as the Greekes doe, and were some-times obedient to the Church of Rome, but the Marouini agree with the Iacobites, and vse the same language and writing the Arabians doe. These sundry sorts of holy men inhabite the hill Libanus, the Sarrafins dwell about Ierusalem, they be valiant in warre and expert in husbandry. The Syrians bee vnprofitable people, and the Marouines most valiant men, though they be few in number.

*Of Media, and of the manners  
of the Medes.*

CHAP. 5.



**MEDIA** a region in Asia, is so called (as *Media, why Solinus* reporteth) of *Medus* the sonne *so called.* of *Medea*, and *Aegens* King of Athens, and the people thereof be called *Medi*: But *Iosephus* is of opinion, that they be called *Medes* of *Medeus* the sonne of *Iaphet*.

This Region (according to *Ptolomeus*) is bounded vpon the North with the Hyrcan sea, vpon the West with the great Armenia, and Assyria, with Persia vpon the South,  
and



and on the East with Hircania and Parthia. Their chiefeſt exerciſe, and which is almoſt peculiar to that nation, is ſhooting and riding: Their Kings in ancient time were of great authority, their head attires, their round caps, and their garments with ſleeues, remooued with the Empire and gouernment vnto the Perſians. It was proper to the Median Kings to haue many wiues, which cuſtome was ſhortly put in praetiſe amongſt priuate men, in ſo much as it was not lawfull to haue leſſe then ſeuē wiues. In like manner it was thought fitting for women to haue many husbands, and to haue leſſe then five they deemed a miſerie. The Medes make leagues and confirme frienſhip after the maner of the Greekes, and alſo by ſtriking their armes about the ſhoulder blade, and then to lick vp each others bloud. That part of Media which is towards the North, is barren, and therefore they make them a kinde of paſte of Apples, dryed and bruſed in morters, bread of roſted Almonds, and wine of the rootes of hearbes, and liue for the moſt part vpon the fleſh of wilde beaſts.

*Of Parthia, and the manner of liuing  
of the Parthians.*

CAP. 6.

*The confines  
of Parthia.*



He Parthians which were baniſhed out of Scythia, and obtained this country by deceit, called it after their names Parthia: It hath vpon the South Carmania, on the North Hyrcania, on the Weſt Media, and Aria on the Eaſt: The cōuntrie is full of woods and hills, and very barren of fruites:



fruites : The people during the time the Medes and Assyrians possessed the Empire, were accounted base and of no credit nor estimation, but when the kindome of Media was translated to the Persians, this people also as a barbarous nation without name, was a prey vnto the vanquishers, and lastly became subiect to the Macedonians : but in tract of time they grew of such vertue and valour, and were so prosperous and successfull in their designements, that they governed not onely the countries neere adioyning, but making warre against the Romaines, (which then were conquerors of all Countries,) overthrew them with great destruction and slaughter of their men. *Plinie* reckoneth foureteene kingdomes vnder the government of the Parthians : *Trogus* attributeth vnto them the Empire of the East, as if they had made diuision of the whole world with the Romaines : This people after their reuolting from the Macedonian Empire, were governed by Kings, which were all called *Arfaces* of *Arfax* their first King, next vnto the Maiestie of their Kings was the order and gouernment of the people, out of which were elected both Captaines for the warres, and Gouernors in time of peace.

*Foureteene  
kingdomes vnder the Parthians.*

They haue a mixt language borrowed of the Medes and Scythians, and compounded of them both : at the first their habites were answerable to their abilitie, and after their owne country fashion, but waxing richer, they were as curiously clothed as the Medes, their weapons were after the custome of theyr owne countrey, and like vnto the Scythians.

Their armies consist not of free-men, as in other nations, but for the most part of slaues, which sort of base people doe dayly increase, for they bee all bondmen borne,



borne, and no power of manumission permitted them, yet bee they brought vp with as great care and industry as if they were free-men, and taught both to ride and shoote, and euery one, as hee is in riches, traineth vp and setteth forth with the King, when hee goeth into the warres a great company of horse men according to his abilitie, in so much as when *Antonius* made warres vpon the Parthians, and the Parthians incountring him with fifty thousand horsemen, there were not found in all that whole troupe aboue eight hundred free-men: They cannot indure the single combate, nor to remooue the assault from Citties besieged, but their chiefeft fight is with their horses running forward, or turning backward, and some-times also they faine them-selues to flye, that thereby they may wound those which vnwarily pursue them: The signe of battell is not giuen them with a trumpet, but with a Timbrill, or Drumme, neither can they indure long fight, for surely they were not to bee resisted, if their courage and continuance were answerable to the assault and first brunt of the battell, and often-times they will leaue the battaile in the very heate of the conflict, and shortly after returne againe and begin a fresh, so as when the enemy thinketh himselfe most secure, he is oftentimes in greatest danger: The munition for their horse-men are Brigandines, or coates of maile imbrodered, and with such bee their horses harnessed likewise. In times past they had no other vse of siluer nor golde then in their weapons: All of them haue many wiues, being mooued therevnto with the pleasure of the variety of women, nor is there a more greuous punishment for any offence, then for adultery, and therefore they forbid their wiues not onely to banquet with other men, but euen the very fight



sight of them also. There bee some of opinion, whereof *Strabo* is one, that if the Parthians cannot beget children of their wiues them-selues, they will giue them in mariage to their friends, thereby to raise them issue to succeed them. They eate no other flesh but what they get by hunting, and they be euer carryed on horse-back, for they ride to their banquets, they buy and sell, conferre together, and execute all publicke and priuate offices on hoif-back. And this difference in the dignities and degrees of the people is very singuler and worthy to bee noted, that those which bee of a seruile and base condition, goe euer on foote, but the better sort of people and free-men ride continually.

The flesh of their dead bodyes instead of buriall is commonly rent in peeces and deuoured, cyther of byrds or dogges, and they couer the bones, when they be bare, with earth. They haue their gods in great reuerence and regarde: they bee of a haughty and proud disposition, sedicious, deceitfull, and malepart, and very violent in all their actions, but yet women bee somewhat more courteous then men, they bee alwayes busied cyther in externall or ciuill broyles: They bee naturally slowe of speach, and farre more apt for action then vtterance. They will neither bragge of their prosperity, nor dispaire in aduersity: they obey their Princes for feare, not for shame; they bee much giuen to lust, and of a sparing dyet, and there is no trust nor confidence to bee reposed in their words nor promises, but so farre as is expedient and behouefull for themselves.

of



## CHAP. 7.

The Confines of  
Persia, and  
why so called.



The Persian  
gods.

PER SIA a country in the East, is so called of *Persis* the sonne of *Iupiter* and *Danaë*, of whom also *Persepolis* the Metrapolitan and chiefe City of that nation, taketh his name, and the people thereof be called Persians: This country (as *Ptolomeus* writeth in his fife booke) is bounded on the North with Media, on the West with *Susiana*, on the East with the two *Carmanias*, and on the South with the Persian sea. Their chiefe townes were *Aximia*, *Persepolis* and *Diospolis*. The Persians beleue in Heauen, and in *Iupiter*: they haue the Sunne also in great veneration, whom they call *Mitra*, and worship the Moone, *Venus*, the Fire, Earth, Water, and windes, as gods and goddeses: They haue neither Temples, Sanctuaries, nor Idols, but doe their sacrifices without doores, in some high place, with great reuerence and deuotion, hauing the hoast for sacrifice brought to the Altar, with a crowne or garland on his head: they sacrifice to their gods nothing else but the heart of the oblation, neither do the gods (as they suppose) require more at their hands, and yet the custome of some in that countrie is, to put the Intralls of the sacrifice into the fire also: when they sacrifice, they make a fyre of drye wood, the barke or rinde being first pulled of, and then casting vpon the wood some sweet tallow or suet, and infusing a little oyle thereon, set it on fire, not blowing with their mouths but with bellowes, for if any presume to blow the fire with his mouth, or throw therein any dead carcasse, or any other filthy



filthy thing, hee dyeth for it. The Persians neither wash themselves in water, nor pisse, nor spitte into it, nor throw any dead carcassee into it, nor prophane it any other kinde of way, but worship it most religiously, and that in this manner. When they come to a lake, riuer, or brooke, they make a little ditch or pond, seuered from the other water, and there they kill the sacrifice, hauing speciall regarde that none of the other water bee touched with the bloud, least all should be polluted: this done, and the flesh layde vpon a mirtell or lawrell tree, the Priests or *Magi* make a fire with little twiggs, and therewith burne the sacrifice till it be consumed, and then sprinkling and infusing it with oyle mingled with milke and hony, they pray for a long space together, not to the fire, nor water, but to the earth, holding in their hands all the while a bundle of Mirtle rods. They create their Kings out of one family, and hee which is not obedient vnto the King, hath his head and armes cut off, and is cast out without buriall. *Polycritus* reporteth, that al the Persian Kings haue their houses builded vpon hills, and that there they hide all the treasure, and tribute which they exact of their subiects, for a monument of a well gouerned state: And that of the people that dwell vpon the sea coast, they exact siluer, and from the inhabitants of the middle part of the land, such other commodities as the country affoordeth, as colour, medicines, wooll, or such like, and somtimes cattel also: It is not lawfull for the King to put any man to death for one onely cause, nor for one Persian to commit any heynous offence against another of his owne family or kindered: The Persians haue many wiues a peece, and keepe diuerse concubines besides, for increase of issue, and the Kings reward those most liberally, that haue begot most children

*The Persians  
create their  
Kings all of  
one family.*



children in a yeare, nor bee their children once brought into their fathers sight, before they bee five yeares of age, but all that while are brought vp with their mothers, chiefly for this cause, that if any of them in those yeares of education, should miscarry and dye, their losse should be no greefe or molestation to the father. They celebrate their mariages all at one time of the yeare, that is, in the vernall *Aequinoctium*, and the Brides-groome eateth nothing the first night he lieth with his wife, but an Apple or the marrow of a Cammell. The Persian children from the first yeare of their age to the foure and twentieth, practise nothing but riding, shooting, throwing the dart, and chiefly to learne to speake the truth. Their schoole-maisters are men of great continencie and seuerity, and such as sometimes in rime, some-times in prose, rehearse vnto them (for their instructions) tales and histories, containing the commendations of their gods, and the deeds of worthy men. They haue a place appointed them to practise in, whether they are summoned by the sound of some winde instrument at vsuall houres, and their teachers are often demanded and examined by others, how their children do profit. They practise running also, choosing one of the Princes sonnes to be their Captaine and guide, & the field wherein they run their races, is at the least thirty *stadia* in length, and that they may the better indure both heate and cold, they often exercise themselves in swimming and wading ouer great waters, insomuch as they will eate their meate and go about their husbandry, and other businesse, with weapons in their hands, and wet garments on their backs: their meate is the gumme, or turpentine that issueth out of Firre trees, Acornes and wilde Peares, but that which they vsually eat after their runing & other exercises of



of their bodies, is a kinde of heard bread, and salt herbes called garden Cresses, and flesh either broyled or boyled, and their vsual drinke is water: They hunt alwaies on horsebacke with darts, bowes and slings. In the fore-noone they either plant trees, dig vp rootes, make weapons, or practise fishing: their children be adorned with gold and many other dainties. The stone Pyropus (which is a kind of Carbuncle stone of a firy rednesse) is with them in great estimation, & therefore they apply it not to any dead bodie, nor yet the fire, for the great honor & reuerence they yeeld vnto it: from the twentieth yeere vnto the fiftith, they be souldiours and follow the warres: they haue no vse of pleading, neither doe they buy or sell any thing: They bee armed in the warres with a kinde of target in form of a wheele, and besides their quier of arrowes they haue weapons called sangars, and short swords, caps with high crowns, and on their breasts rough brest-plates ful of skales: The Princes weare a kind of garment that is three double about their shoulders, and cotes with sleeues hanging downe to their knees, the out-side whereof is of diuers collours and the lynning white: In the Sommer time, the Persians be clothed in purple, and in winter in changeable collours: The head attires for their Priests or Magi be like vnto Bishops miters: The common people bee clothed with two coates, hanging downe to the middle of their legs, and a great bundel of linnen cloath bound about their heads: Their beds and pots be trimmed with gold & siluer: They consult of no serious matter but when they be halfe drunke, esteeming that consultation to be more firme thẽ that which is with sobriety, & deliberatiõ; kinsmen & equals salute one an other with a kisse, & the baser sort of people reuerence their betters by bowing their bodies vnto them.

H

They



They bury their dead bodies in the earth, annoynting them first with wax, but their Priests or wise-men they cast out without burial to be deuoured of birds; their custome was also for sonnes to lie with their owne mothers, and these in times past were the manners and customes of the Persians. *Herodotus* also reciteth more of their maners, very worthy of remembrance: as, that it was held a horrible and heynous offence, to laugh, or spit before the King: That they scoffed at the Greekes, who were of opinion that the gods tooke their original from men: That whatsoever was vnlawful to be done, was by them thought unfitting to be spoken: That it was a vile thing to bee in debt, but to lie was most abominable: That they did not bury their dead bodies, before they were pulled in peeces by dogges, and (which in the opinion of other nations was thought most absurde) that parents being brought to pouertie, might get money by being Pandars to their owne daughters, which custome was allowed amongst the Babylonians also.

The Persians at this day being ouercome by the Sarra-  
fins, and infected with the madnesse of *Mahomet*, liue al-  
together in darkenesse: It was once a warlike nation, and  
had for a long space the gouernment of the East: but now  
for want of excercise in armes, it sayleth much of his an-  
cient glory.



*Of India, and of the monstrous and prodigious  
customs and manner of living  
of the people of India.*

## CAP. 8.

**I**NDIA, a Country in the East, and the vtmost bound of all Asia, is so vast and large a country, as it is thought to be the third part of the whole world: Pomponius writeth, that it is as much in compassse by the sea shore as a ship will saile in forty daies and forty nights with a full winde: It is called India of the riuer Inde, where it finisheth his course vpon the West part, and beginning at the meridionall sea, stretcheth out vnto the vttermost part of the East, extending Northward to the hill Caucasus: It containeth sundry sorts of people, and hath such great aboundance of Cities, and walled townes therein, as some are of opinion, that there is no fewer then five thousand, nor may it seeme strange, that it hath so great numbers of people and Cities, considering that the Indians of all other people neuer departed from their native soile. The most famous riuers in that Country are Ganges, Indus and Hypanis, but the greatest of them is the riuer Ganges: The Country by reason of the Westerne windes is most holsome: they haue two haruests in the yeere, and the wind bloweth Easterly all winter: wine they haue none, although there be that affirme, that the Musican soile yeeldeth some wine: in the South part of India is great store of Narde, Cynamon, Pepper and Su-

*The description  
on and big-  
nesse of India.*

*Five thousand  
Cities and  
walled townes  
in India.*



*The long liues  
of the Indi-  
ans.*

*The Indians  
haue neither  
written lawes  
nor learning.*

gar-cane, as in Arabia, and Aethiopia: It produceth Ebon-trees, Parrots and Vnicornes: and aboundeth with precious stones, as Berrils, Chrysophases, Adamants, Carbuncles, Lychnites, Pearles and Vnions: There be two Sommers, as it is said: the winds be gentle and calme, and the ayre temperate: they haue plenty of ground and abundance of water, & therefore some of them, & namely the Musicans, liue till they be a hundred and thirty yeers of age, & the people called Seres be longer liued then they: All the Indians weare long lockes, and coloured, either blew or yellow. Their trimming is for the most part with precious stones, and they be not clothed al alike, but some in wollen and some in linnen garments: some goe altogether naked, some couer onely their priuities, and many of them haue for their apparel the barks or rines of trees, made flexible and bending towards their bodies: Their bodies, for the most part be blacke, for by the disposition of the seed generatiue, they be of such hew in their mothers wombes, as those be which begot them, & their seed of generation is black like the Aethiopians: they be tall of stature and very hardy & valerous: they be very frugal & thrifty in their liuing: They be curious in their apparel as I haue said, & abstaine greatly from theft: they vse no written lawes, nor know any letters, but administer al things by helpe of their memories: and by reason of their simple and thrifty manner of liuing, all things succeed very prosperously with them: They drinke no wine but in their sacrifices, for their vsuall drinke is made of Ryce and Barley, and their meate for the most part is thinn Ryce-pottage: That there is great simplicity in their covenants, and contracts, may well be gathered by this, that the people bee not litigious nor giuen to quarrelling,

for



for they haue no lawes to recouer a thing committed or left in an other mans keeping, neither do they need witnesss or seales, but credit one an other simply without intent of fraud or guile. In so much as they will leaue their houses when they goe abroad with the doores open and no body in them: All which be manifest signes that they be maruelous iust and continent: no man there may bee admitted to liue alone, & to dine and sup when he pleaseth himselfe, but they ought to eate and drinke all at one houre, for such things they coniecture doe best dispose them to social & ciuil conuersation. They excercise their bodies by rubbing thē with combes made of sweet wood for the purpose, & addorne themselues with Ebon-wood: In making their tombes and sepultures, they bee very sparing, and in their apparel maruellous costly and curious, for besides gold, precious stones & very fine linnen cloth, or cambricke, wherewith they be arraied, they carry about with them fans or shadowes, to preserue their beauties from the sun. For they are so desirous to seeme faire, as they do al things that appertaine to the beautifying of their faces: truth & vertue are with them much esteemed, and they yeeld no more honor to old men then to others, vnlesse they excell others in wisdom: They haue many wiues, some wherof they buy of their parents for a yoke of oxen, some they marry for obedience sake, some for cause of procreation, & some for pleasure and voluptuousnesse, and vnlesse their husbands inforce them to liue chaste, it is lawful for thē to play the harlots at their pleasure: No Indian doth sacrifice or burn incence with a garland vpon his head, neither do they cut the throats of the sacrifices, but strangle thē to death, that their offrings to their gods may be whole and not maimed: he that is conuicted of



*Their Kings  
are commit-  
ted to the  
keeping of  
women.*

false witnesse bearing, hath the vtmost ioynts of his fingers cut off, & he which depriueth an other of any member, is not only punished with losse of the like member, but hath his hand cut off besides, and to depriue an artificer of hand or eye is death: the body of their King is committed to the keeping of hyreling women, who only haue the custody and charge of him, & none else do euer come into his presence, and if any of these women kil the King when he is drunke, for her reward, she shall marry his successor, and their sons do euer succeed them in their Kingdomes: It is not lawfull for the King to sleepe in the day-time, and hee is constrained to change his lodging at certaine houres in the night, for feare of treason. If hee be not in campe, he oftentimes goeth abroad, and sitteth in Iudgement and heareth causes: and if it be at such a time as his body is to be rubbed with a rubbing combe, he hath three to rub his body and heareth causes all the while: He issueth forth also sometimes to doe sacrifice, and sometimes to hunt, and then he is compassed about, and inclosed with a great troupe of women, after the manner of *Bacchus*, his gard remaining without the Court gate, and the way into the house is couered with cords, and snares, and if any one offend with any of the women which stay at home, he shall die for it: The King when hee hunteth hath going before him, drums, timbrils and little bells, and when he hunteth in parkes and inclosed grounds, he is assisted with two or three women armed, and when in forests and open fields, he shooteth from an Elephant: some of the women ride in chariots, some on horsebacke, and some on Elephants, & in that maner they make wars: also they be exercised in al kind of weapōs, but therein they much differ from our women: There be some writers that  
affirme,



affirme that the Indians worship shewry *Jupiter*, the riuer Ganges, and the spirits of men deified, and that when the King washeth or shaueth his beard, they celebrate that time very solemnly, and sending great gifts, striue one to an other, who shall shew the greatest pompe, ioylity and magnificence: The whole people of India were heretofore deuided into seuen orders, the first whereof was the order of Philosophers, who though they were fewest in number, yet in honor and dignity with their Kings, they excelled all others: These Philosophers were freed from all labours, they serued no man, nor were serued of others, and for that they were beloued of the gods, they receiued of priuate men al things necessary for them to do sacrifice, and to bury the dead bodies: There were great Prophe- siers and negromancers, and therefore had many gifts and honors bestowed vpon them, for that by their knowledge the Indians receiued great commodity, for they would assemble themselues together in the beginning of the yeere, and then foretell of drought, raine, winds and diseases, and other accidents, the knowledge whereof was exceeding profitable vnto the people, so as both the King & people hearing what occurents were likely to happen that yeer, might thereby the rather auoide future euils, & follow such courses as by probability might proue good, and no other punishment was inflicted vpon any of those Philosophers that prophesied falsly, but onely that he was put to perpetual silence: The second order is of husband-

*The people of India once deuided into seuen orders.*

*The first was the order of Philosophers.*

*The second order of husbandmen.*



beare to doe them any iniury or damage, by which means the husbandmen, liuing voide of feare, and tilling the land in security, their labors yeeld them great plenty of increase: they come not at all into the Cities, but liue altogether in fields with their wiues and children: They pay tribute vnto their Kings ( for all India is gouerned by Kings ) and it is not lawfull for any priuate person to possesse any grownds without tribute, and besides this tribute they yeeld vnto their Kings the fift part of the increase of all their fruites.

*The third order is of shepheardes.*

The third order consisteth of shepheards of all sortes, which liue neither in Cities nor villages, but in tents and tabernacles, and practise hunting and fowling, whereby the country is free and safe both from rauenous birds and wild beasts, for by this excercise they make all India more ciuill, abounding otherwise with many and diuers sorts both of birds and beasts, which would be much hurtfull to the husbandman: Artificers supplie the fourth place, whereof some are occupied in making weapons and armour, some in making instruments for husbandry, and some in prouiding things necessary for themselues: these be not onely free from tribute, but haue all their bread corne allowed them by the King.

*Artificers the fourth order.*

*The fifth of souldiers.*

Souldiers be the fifth in order, but the second in number, they bee excersised in all manner of warlike discipline, and be wholly deuoted to armes, and both they their Horses and Elephants, be wholly maintained at the Kings cost and charge.

*Tribunes in the sixth order.*

The sixth order is of Tribunes, or Protectors of the commons: Whose speciall office is to spie and inquire, what things are done throughout all India, and to make report thereof vnto the King,

In



In the seventh rancke be those which bee of the common Councell, they be the fewest in number, but in Nobilitie and vnderstanding they exceede all the other Orders: out of this Order be elected the Kings Councillors, which are to gouerne the common-wealth, and to discern and iudge in doubtfull matters: Princes moreouer, and captaines are chosen out of this company. The common-wealth of India beeing thus distributed into these seuen Orders, it is not lawfull for a man of one Order, to marry a wife out of another Order: neither is it lawfull for any one to alter his function; as for a souldier to become a husbandman, or for an artificer to play the Philosopher. There be also certaine Presidents or head Officers appointed amongst the Indians, to defend and protect aliens and strangers from iniury, and oppression: and these (if any strangers be sicke) are to procure Phisitians to cure them, and if they dye, they must bury them, and giue their money and goods to their nearest friends: The Iudges determine controuersies, and punish offenders: there be none of the Indians of seruile condition; for it is ordained by a law, that none of them shall be seruants; and so all being free-men, are worthy of equall right and honor, so long as they neither go about to excell others, nor to iniure any man, but settle themselues to indure all chances of fortune alike. For it seemeth a ridiculous thing, that lawes should bee ministred to all alike, and that their fortunes should not bee alike also.

*The common  
Councell the  
seventh order.*

*No slaves  
amongst the  
Indians.*

But now because there bee fundrie sorts of people in India, which by reason of the spacioufnesse and large extent of the Countrey, differ both in forme and language: all of them therefore do not liue in that ciuil manner, as I haue here declared.

But



but some are of a more barbarous and rude behaviour, of which sort some be situated towards the Sun-rising, and be much giuen to breeding cattell, or other such like course of life: and some liue altogether in moorish grounds, and feede on raw fishes, which they take by going out in botes made of Canes or Reedes, that be so great, that a bote is made of the space that is betwixt two ioyns of the reede. These Indians weare garments made of flags or sedge, that groweth in riuers, which they plat together, and make in fashion of a marre, and weare them as an armour for their bodies.

*The Pade kill  
their friends  
when they be  
sicke.*

Next vnto these East-ward, be certaine Indians, which be heardf-men, or breeders of cattell, and be called Pade, they feed on raw flesh, and are sayd to liue in this manner: when any citizens, either man, or woman is sick, their most nearest and familiar friends kill him, alleaging, that his languishing in sicknesse would make his flesh corrupted and vnwholesome for those which should eate it: and although he deny himself to be sick, yet they wil not pardon him, but kill him forth with, and feed vpon him: and in such manner as men are vsed by men, be women that bee sicke dealt withall by women, that be their nearest friends: And such also as liue in health till they be old, be then killed and eaten by their friends: and therefore, both for this cause, and for that they be killed when they be sicke, there be very few of them that liue till they be old. Another sort of Indians haue a custome different from those which I haue spoken of, for they kill no creature, they neither sow nor plant, nor prouide houses, but liue onely by herbes: They haue a certaine graine much like vnto millet, which naturally springeth out of the earth in a huske or codde, which they gathering, cod and all, boyle them and eate them.



them: when any of them falls sicke, hee goeth into some desert place, and there lyeth downe, and whether he languish or die, no one regardeth him: and also these Indians which I haue spoken of, accompany with women in the sight of all people, after the manner of beasts.

In India bee certaine Philosophers called Gymnosophists, which (as *Petrarch* writeth) inhabite the vttermost and shadie parts of the region, and going euer naked, which is the cause they be so named. And wandring all abroad in the wildernesse, do there teach Philosophie: abiding in one place from the Sunne-rising, till his going downe, euer fixing their eyes, and beholding the circle of the brightest starre: seeking out some secrets in the fierie globe. They will stand vpon their feete all day long, vpon the hote sands, without shew of any grieve at all, patiently induring both the cold of the snow, and the heate of the Sunne.

*The Gymnosophists.*

Amongst whom be people called Brachmans, who (as *Didimus* their king writ to *Alexander* king of Macedon, when he was minded to make warre vpon them) do liue very vprightly and simply. They be not allured with delectations of any novelties, nor desire any thing else, but what the law of nature inforceth them: their diet is nothing daintie, not such as to satisfie their luxurie, is sought out in all places, but such as the earth produceth without labour or toyle furnisheth their tables with wholesome and vnhurtfull diet, by which meanes they be very healthfull, and vnacquainted with the names and nature of sundrie diseases. No one imploreth helpe of another, where no one liueth to himselfe, but all in common. They haue no superiour, but be all equals, and therefore voide of enuie and emulation: for the equality of pouerty maketh them



them all rich: condēnations they haue none, because they do nothing worthie of correction: nor be they led by any law, for that they commit no crimes: onely this one law is generall to them all, not to transgresse the law of nature, which nourisheth labour and industrie, exerciseth no auarice, and flyeth idlenesse: They giue not their bodies to lust, thereby to weaken them, and they possesse all things they desire not, esteeming couetousnesse to bee a plague and scourge most cruell, which impouerisheth all those shee layeth hold on, and finding no end of obayning, the more rich shee groweth, the more is her beggerie. The Sunne yeeldeth them heate, the deaw moisture, the riuers asswage their thirst, and the earth affoordeth them beddes; where carke and care approach not neare their couches, nor be their minds wearied or vexed with vaine cogitations. Pride hath no power amongst them, being al men of one condition: nor is any one oppressed with other bondage, but only this, that their bodies prostrate themselues to do seruice to their soules. They make neither lime nor bricke wherwith to build them houses, but rather chuse to inhabite in holes digged in the earth, or vnder the hollownes of hils, where they neither feare force of winds, nor rage of tempest: but suppose that the couerings of houses are not so sure a defence against showers, as their holes, whereof they haue a double vse; for they serue them for houses while they liue, and for buriall when they die. Costly apparell they haue none, but couer their members with rushes, or to speake more truely, with shamefastnesse. Their women be not adorned to please others, neither do they affect more beautie then they bee borne with: the men accompany with women, not for lust, but for loue of increase.

They



They haue no war, but continuall peace, which is confirmed not by force, but by friendship: the father followeth not his sonne to his sepulchre, nor is there any monuments made for the dead, nor the ashes of their burned bodies inclosed in costly coffins, which things they account as a punishment, not as an honour vnto them.

These Brachmans (as is sayd) bee not oppressed with any pestilence or other disease, because they defile not the ayre with their beast-like acts: but with them, nature is euer agreeable to the season, and the Elements hold on their course without offence: a sparing and moderate diet is their purest Phisicke, which is a readie medicine, not onely to cure, but to preuent all diseases whatsoever. Pastimes and Enterludes they affect not, but when they would view any spectacle, they remember the monuments of things done, and bewaile them as most ridiculous.

They be not delighted (as many of vs be) in old wiuers tales, but in the goodly order of the frame of the world, and the disposition of naturall things: they haue no trafficke into other Countries, nor do they studie the art of Eloquence and Rhetoricke, but haue one simple and common Dialect amongst them, teaching them only to speake the truth. They frequent neither Court nor Scholes, whose doctrine, beeing repugnant, defineth nothing certain and stable. Some of these people account honestie their *Summum bonum*, and some pleasure. They kill no harmelesse beast to performe their diuine Ceremonies, saying, that God accepteth not of sacrifices made with the blood of things polluted, but that he is rather delighted in the vnbloudy sacrifice, and appeased by prayer, for they hold that God is like men in this, to be delighted in his own likenes.

In



The people cal-  
led Cathæ.

In India also be a people called Cathæ, the men of that countrie haue many wiues, who (when their husband is dead) appeale to the iudgement of certaine graue Iudges, and plead their deserts towards their deceased husbands, and she that by the sentence of the Iudges is approved to haue bene most officious and deare to her husband in his life time, goes away reioycing at her conquest, and attiring her selfe in her best apparell, ascendeth the pyle, and layeth her selfe downe by the bodie of her husband, imbracing and kissing it, and contemning the fire, (when it is put to the pyle) in respect of her chastitie, she is there, with the carcase of her dead husband consumed to ashes, and all the other wiues suruiue with shame and infamie. Their children be not brought vp in their infancy according to the will of their parents, but at the discretion of such as are publickly inioyned to that busines, who by their office are to looke into their features and dispositions, and if any be found slow or dul-spirited in their non-age, or decrepit or weake in any part of their bodies, they suffer them to liue no longer, but kill them out-right. They marry their wiues, not by wealth or Nobilitie, but by beauty: and not so much for pleasure, as for procreation of children.

In some part of India is a custome vsed, that those that are not able, by reason of pouertie, to place their daughters in mariage, should bring them in the prime and flower of their age into the common market-place, playing before them with pipes, and other instruments of musick, where the multitude beeing summoned and assembled together the maid comming neere vnto them, first yncouereth the hinder part of her bodie, vp to the shoulders, and after that the fore-part, and then if any one conceiueth liking



liking of her, she is giuen him in mariage. *Megasthenes* writeth, that vpon certaine hills in India, be a manner of people with heads like dogs, armed and fenced with nayles, and clothed with beasts hydes: they haue no humane voyce, but a sound like the hoarse snarling or barking of dogges. Those which liue about the riuer of Ganges, eate no meat at all, but liue onely by the smell of wild apples. And when they trauell into other places remote, they take of those apples with them, that the smell of the apples may preserue their liues: but if at any time their bodies receiue any noysome or stinking ayre, they die instantly: and some of these people were sayd to liue in *Alexanders* campe. Wee reade of some people in India that haue but one eye, and of other some that haue such long ears, as they hang down to their heeles, and that they may lye downe and infold themselves in either of their eares, by the hardnesse whereof they pull vp trees by the rootes: that there be some also that haue but one foot, and that so broad, as when they lye with their faces vpwards, the shadow of their foot defendeth them from the heate of the Sonne. You may read in *Croesus* the *Cnidian* Philitian, of certaine women, that bring forth children but once in their life time, and that their childrens heads become hoarie or gray, as soone as they be borne: and that there is a kind of people whose haire be hoarie or gray in their youth, and waxe blacke in their age, and yet they liue longer then we do. It is sayd also, that there is another sort of women, which bring forth children when they be five yeares of age, and liue not aboue the age of eight yeares. There be some people that haue no neckes, and haue their eyes in their shoulders, and besides those which I haue alreadie spoken of, there be certaine wild people liuing in woods, with heads like dogges, and

*Monstreus and  
prodigious peo-  
ple.*



and their bodies couered with rough haire like bristles, and make a very hideous and terrible noyse: but these things and others of like kind, which are spoken and written of India, and of the sundrie sorts of people therein, (because he that should giue credit vnto them, behooued to be of a very strong beleefe) are to be reported more sparingly, lest those which reade forraine writings, should be more nice, vnlesse they be mooued thereunto with great earnestnes, to giue credit to those things, which are in a manner apparent before our eyes.

*The Cathaians*

The Cathaians do now inhabit that part of India, which lyeth betwixt Gedrosia, and the riuer Indus, which by them is now called Cathaia. The people be of the Scythians race, in whom may be perceiued great alteration of manners, from that the Scythians were in the beginning, if all be true which *Armenius Aitonius* reported of them in his Historie: For (saith he) they be very wise, and report of themselves, that of all men they onely see and discern with two eyes, and that all other people bee altogether blind, or of one eye at the least. The quicknesse of their wittes is great indeede, but their boasting and ostentation is greater.

They be generally perswaded, that they excell all men in the subtiltie and knowledge of arts: they be naturally white and pale of complexion, with little eyes and no beards, they vse letters in forme like vnto the Romain letters: some of them be blinded in the folly of one superstition, and some in another; but all be voide of the true religion: for some adore the Sunne, some the Moone, some Idols made of mettrall, and many of them an oxe: through which diuersitie of false worshipping, monstrous superstition is disperfed throughout the whole nation. They haue



no written lawes, nor know not what faith is, and though they shew great wit in their works, yet haue they no knowledge thereby of diuine matters. They be a timorous kinde of people, and feare death greatly, yet they make warres, but it is with more policie then fortitude. They vse darts in their warres, and other sorts of weapons, which to people of many other nations be vnkowne. They haue paper money foure square, and stamped with the Kings Image, which when it waxeth old, they change with the king for coine that is new stamped: their houthold stufte is of gold, siluer, and other mettall. They haue very litle oyle, and with that the kings do onely vse to annoynt themselues. And thus much of the Indians, now will we speake of the Scythians, which be next vnto the Indians.

*Of Scythia, and of the barbarous manners  
of the Scythians.*

## CAP. 9.



Cythia, a countrie in the North, was so <sup>Scythia, why</sup> called of *Scythia*, the son of *Hercules*, (as <sup>so called.</sup> *Herodotus* reports:) but according to *Berosus*, it was so called of another that was begotten of *Scythia*, of old *Araxis*, who was the wife of *Noa*. These people at their first originall possessed but a small portion of ground, but afterwards by their vertue and valor, increasing by litle and litle, and subduing many nations, they obtained in the end great glory and gouernment: for first they beeing few in number, and contemned for their basenes, contained themselves about the riuer *Araxis*, but after they had gotten them a valiant Prince to be their king, they amplified  
I their



their possessions: so as now they enioy all the vplandish, and hilly Countries, vnto Caucasus, and all the champion ground vnto the Ocean, and Mæotis poole, and other places euen to the riuer of Tanais; from whence Scythia stretcheth out in length towards the East, the hill Imaus lying in the middle, and diuiding it into two parts, maketh thereof as it were two Scythias, whereof one is called Scythia within the hill Imaus, the other, Scythia without Imaus.

The Scythians were neuer inuaded, or at the least neuer vanquished by any forraine gouernement: for they forced *Darius* king of Persia most shamefully to retire and flie from Scythia: they killed *Cyrus* with all his hoast, they ouerthrew the Captaine of *Alexander* the Great, with all his Companie: and as for the Romanes, they might well heare of them, but they neuer felt their forces. The people be of great strength of bodie, and very rude both in their wars and workes.

The Scythians at the first were not distinguished into Companies, nor seuered one from another, for that they neither possessed any grounds, nor had any seates or houses to dwell in, but wandered through wildernesse and desert places, driuing their flockes and heards of beasts before them, and carrying their wiues and children with them in carts. They were subiect to no lawe, but liued iustly one with another of their owne accords, and no offence throughout their whole nation was accounted more haynous then theft, because their cattell lay abroad in all mens sight, not inclosed with walles or hedges. They vsed neither gold nor siluer: milke and honie was their vsuall meate: they defended their bodies against the extremitie of cold with the skinnes of myce or rattes, and other



other wilde beastes. And the vse of wooll and woollen garments was vnkowne vnto them.

This was the manner of liuing of most of the Scythians, but not of all: for many of them, as they bee farre distant from others in dwellings, so be they as different in their manner of liuing, as maintaining customes peculiar to themselues; of which hereafter wee will relate in particular: for as yet we shall speake of such customes as be generall to them all.

Most of the Scythians delight in humane slaughter, for the first man a Scythian taketh in the warres, his bloud he drinketh, and of all those which he slayeth in battell, hee presenteth the heades to the King: for the heades beeing cut off, how euer he tooke them, he shall be partaker of the prey, but not otherwise. And he cutteth off the head round like a circle about the eares, and then shaketh out al which is within the skull: after this he pulleth off the skinne from the bodie, and mollifying it with his hands, like the hyde of a beast, vseth it as a mantle, and hangeth it at his bridle raines, triumphing and glorying of such a prey. And hee which hath the most of those mantles, is adiudged the worthiest man. There be many also which sow mens skins together, like beasts skinnies, and thereof make them short garments or cloakes, and weare them. Some others flea the right hands of their slaine enemies, and with the same make couerings for their quiuers: and many flea the whole bodies, and stretching out the skinnies vppon blockes of wood, carrie them about vpon their horses: the heads being cut off in this manner, as I haue sayd, they couer the vtmost side of them with Oxe leather, and those which be rich, guild them within with gold, and so vse them for pots to drinke in.

*The Scythians  
delight in hu-  
mane slaughter*



The Scythian  
gods.

And such men of estimation as giue intertainement to strangers, will shew vnto them, that those were the heades of such men as they had vanquished in the wars, bragging thereof as a point of great man-hood. Once euery yeare all the Princes and gouernors of the region, fill a pot full of wine, of which all the Scythians which haue slaughtered any of their enemies, do drinke, but they which haue done no notable exploit, tast not thereof, but sit by without honor or regard, which among them is the greatest ignomie that may be. And those which haue committed the most slaughters, shall drinke of two pots which they haue there readie prouided for the purpose. Their gods which they worship and adore, are the virgin *Vesta* as principall: next vnto her, *Iupiter* and *Tellus*, (for *Tellus* they suppose to be the wife of *Iupiter*) after these they honor *Apollo*, *Venus*, *Mars*, and *Hercules*: but they thinke it not fit to make Idols, Altars, or Temples, to any of these gods or goddesses, but onely to *Mars*, to whom they sacrifice euery hundredth captiue, to the rest of their gods they sacrifice beasts, and especially horses. Hogges are in no account amongst them, neither breed they any throughout the whole region. When the King punisheth any man by death, hee spareth none of his male-children, but slayeth them all, but he hurteth no woman-kind.

When the Scythians confirme friendship, or make a league or peace one with another, they put wine into a great earthen pot, and then cutting some part of their bodies which make the peace, with a knife, or with a sword, they mingle their bloud with the wine: after that, they dip their swords, arrowes, axes, and iauelins into the cuppe, which when they haue done, they vow friendship one to another with many protestations.

And



And then is the wine drunke vp, not onely by those which make the league, but all their followers and partakers, which bee of most dignitie and estimation, drinke of it also. The maner of buriall of Kings which is vsed of the people, that inhabite about the riuer of Gerrus, where Borysthenes is now nauigable, is in this maner: when their King is deceased, they digge a great foure-square hole in the earth, and there lay him for a space, after that they take the dead bodie and bowell it, and ceare it with waxe, and fill it full of ozier branches brused, a sweet perfume called red Stirax, the seed of percely, smallage, and annis-seeds, and so sow it vp againe, and then putting the carcase into a cart, they conuey it into another country, where it is vsed as before, and so interred.

But the Scythians cut off their dead kings eares, clip his haire round, cut his armes about, wound him in the forehead and nose, strike his left hand through with a dart, and then carry the carcase into another nation, which is vnder their gouernment, the people whereof attend vpon them vnto another country. And when they haue beheld all nations, and the kings corps with them, they leaue it to bee buried of those people that inhabite the vttermoſt parts of their kingdom; who when they haue put it into a coffin and laid it vpon a bed, they sticke downe certaine speares, and laying him vpon the speares, couer him with a coat: then do they strangle one of his strumpets which he loued most dearely in his life time, one groome, one cooke, one horse-keeper or muletor, one sergeant, one butler, or cup-bearer, and one horse, and bury them altogether, with golden cups, and the first fruites of all their increase in the spaciousnesse of the Tombe or Sepulchre. And when hee hath lye[n] there a yeare, they take the most neere of the

*How the Scythians bury their kings.*



kings household seruants: (and all the Scythian seruants attending on the king be free borne, and by him commanded to serue: and no seruant bought with money doth minister to the king.)

And after they haue strangled fiftie of these men-seruants, and as many of the best horses, the mens bowels beeing first taken out, and their garments stretched abroad, and sowed together, they set vp, round about the circuit of the Kings tombe vppon arched worke, those fiftie horses, and the seruants fitting vppon their backs: so as they may seeme afarre off to the beholders, like a troupe of horsemen keeping their dead King. And this is the manner and custome of interring and sepulture of their Kings in Scythia.

Private men also obserue a certaine custome in their burials: for when one dyeth, all his neighbours laying him in a cart, carrie him about to his friends, and each one of his friends receiuing him, maketh a banker, as well to his neighbours and kinsfolke, as to the rest which accompany the coarfe. His bodie beeing thus carried from place to place, for the space of fortie dayes, is then interred, his head beeing first emptied and cleane washed: about the bodie they set three stickes bending one towards another, vppon which they set wollen cappes, as many as they can, and then they put the carcase into a chest or coffin, made of one tree like a trough, and set it vnder the cappes, and so fill vp the coffin with bright stones.

The men of Scythia do neuer wash themselves, but their wiues infusing water vppon their bodies, rubbe them against a rough stone, with Cypresse, Cedar, or the wood of Frankinsence, and after their bodies are rubbed, and beginne to smell, they besmeare their faces over  
with



with medicines or oyntments; these oyntments make them to haue an odoriferous smell. And the next day after, they remooue those medicines, and make their faces cleane and bright againe.

Their manner of swearing and ministring an oath to others, is by the Kings throne, whereby if any one be conuicted of periurie, (by the Deuinors which make triall thereof, with willow rods or wands) hee is put to death without delay, and forfeiteth all his goods to those which prooued him periured.

The Massagetae, a people of Scythia in Asia beyond the Caspian sea, in apparell and liuing be very like vnto these Scythians, and therefore supposed of many to be Scythians indeed: They fight both on foote and horse-backe, and in both sorts of fight be almost invincible. Their weapons be darts and speares, and a certaine sword or weapon which they vsually weare about them, called a fangar, they vse gold in their belts, sword-hangars, and head attires, and in gilding their pottes: they put vppon their horses breasts, brest-plates of gold, their bridles and trappings be all of gold, and their speeres be poynted and their quiuers trimmed with Brasse, for of Iron and siluer they haue no vse. Euery one hath his wife, and they accompany with women openly, which is vsed by no other Scythians, but onely they, if they be iustly accounted Scythians: for when any one there lusteth after another woman, he hangeth his quiver at his chariot, and lyeth with her without shame. The people haue no time prefixt them how long they shal liue, but when one waxeth old, his friends assemble together, and sacrifice him with certaine sheepe, and boiling the flesh together make a banquet thereof. And this kind of death they account most blessed: but they eat none

The Massagetae



*The Seres in  
Scythia.*

which die by any disease, but bury them in the ground, esteeming them damned, because they could not be sacrificed. They neither sow nor plant any thing, but live of beasts and of fishes, which the river Araxis affords abundantly: their usuall drinke is milk. Of the gods they worship only the Sun, to whom they sacrifice horses, thinking it fit to sacrifice a beast of the greatest speede, to a starre of the swiftest course. The people called Seres in Scythia, of all others live most curteously and quietly among themselves, they avoid the company of all other men but themselves, and despise the intercourse of merchandize with other countries: for their merchants have no communication for buying and selling with strange Merchants, but onely set downe a price vpon their goods, and deliuer them by racke of eye, without buying any thing of others: with the is neither, whore, adulterer, nor theefe brought to triall: neither is any man there put to death at any time: but the feare of their lawes with the is of more force, then the constellatiō of their natiuities. They inhabit in the very beginning of the world, and that they may the better live chastly, they be neither afflicted with canker or corruption, nor with haile or pestilence. When a woman is conceived with child, no man requireth her company, nor till she be purified: no one eateth vncleane flesh: they know no sacrifices, and all men iudge of themselves according to iustice and right: wherefore they be not chastised with such punishments, as are inflicted vpon men for their offences, but liuing a long space yeeld vp their breaths without sicknesse.

*The Tauro-  
Scythians.*

The Tauro-Scythians (so called of the hill Taurus about which they dwell,) sacrifice al those which suffer ship-wrack vnto a virgin which they worship as a goddesse: as also all the Greeks which be brought thither, in this manner.

After



After they haue finished their praier, they cut off his head whom they meane to sacrifice, and (as some say) throw his truncke head-long downe a Rocke (for their Temple is scituated vpon a steepe Rocke) which done they naile the head vpon a crosse or gybbet. Some agreeing that their heads bee fastned to a crosse, as is said, doe notwithstanding deny that their bodies be throwne head-long down a Rocke, but affirme that they bury them in the grownd.

The spirit or goddesse to whom they doe sacrifice, they terme to be *Iphigenia* the daughter of *Agamemnon*. Euerie one likewise cutteth off the heads of his enemies, which he taketh in the warres and carrieth them home to his house, and fixing them vpon poles setteth them vpon the highest part of his house, and for the most part vpon the funnel of the chimney, and the reason why they set them so high, is for that they say the heads be the keepers and watchmen ouer the whole house: these people liue by rapine and stealth, and by the wars. The *Agathirsi* be a ve-  
The *Agathirsi*.

ry exquisit and well adorned people, their garments for the most part be of gold. Their women bee common to them all, so as they be all cosins and kinsfolke one to another, there is neither enuy nor strife amongst them, but in their liuing they much resemble the *Thracians*.

The *Neury* vse the *Scythian* customes: these in the Summer before *Darius* expedition, were constrained (for  
The *Neuri*.

the multitude of serpents which ingendred in their soile) to alter their seate: they perswade themselues so firmly, as they will sweare it to bee true, that for certaine daies euery yeere they become *Volues*, and againe after a while returne into their former habite and shapes.

The



*The Anthro-  
pophagi.*

The Anthropophagi ( that it is to say eaters of mans flesh) vse the most sauage and rudest manners of all men: they haue neither lawes nor ordinances to liue vnder, they exercise themselues about cattel: there garments be like the Scythians, and they haue a language proper to themselues.

*The Melanch-  
leni.*

The Melanchlæni goe all of them in blacke attire, (which is the cause they be so called) and as many of them as feed onely on humane flesh, liue after the manner of the Scythians.

*The Budini.*

The Budini be a great and populous nation, there Bodies be redish or yelowish, and their eyes gray like Cats: The City Gelon (the people whereof be called Gelloni) is the chiefe city of their Nation: They solemnised certaine feasts euery third yeere in honour of *Bacchus*. They were once Greekes, but being remoued from thence they seated themselues in this Country, and their language they now vse is a mixt speech betwixt the Scythian and Greeke tonge: The Budini differ from the Gelloni both in life and language, for the Budini being borne in the Country, breed vp cattel and eate such fruites and herbes as the coutry naturally produceth, but the Gellony excercysing husbandry liue vpon corne, and plant orchards, & gardens, & be nothing like the Budini, either in collour or countenance: The country is wel stored with trees, & out of a great and huge poole which they haue, they take Otters, Beuers & many other wild beasts, of whose skins they make themselues clothes. The Lyræ liue only by hunting which is on this manner, they clime vp into the tops of trees (which be very plentiful in that country) and there lie in waite for wild beasts: each huntsman hath his dog and his horse, which be taught to couch down low vpon their bellies,

*The Lyræ.*



bellies, the better to intrappe the wild beast, and after hee which is in the tree top hath spied the beast and stroke him with a darte, hee leaueth the tree and pursueth him on horse-backe, with his dogge, vntill hee haue taken him.

The Argyphæi inhabite vnder the bottoms of high hills, they bee a kind of people that bee balde from their birthes, both men and women, they haue flat nostrells, a great chinne and a speech peculiar to themselves: They be apparelled like the Scythians, and liue by fruites of trees, little caring for cattell, whereof they haue no great store: They lodge vnder trees, and in the Winter-time they weare white caps, but none in the Sommer: There is none that will wronge them, for they bee accounted a sacred people, possessing no weapons of defence: They determine such controuersies as arise amongst their neighbours, and whosoeuer flyeth vnto them is in safety. *The Argyphæi.*

The Issedones were reported to vse this custome, when any man had his father deceased, all his kinsfolke presented him with beasts, which when they had killed and cut in small peeces, they chopped his dead father that inuited them to the banquet in peeces also, and mingling all the flesh together made thereof a solemne feast, then would they take the dead mans head and flea it, and put out all the braines within the skull, and couering it with gold, vse it as an Idoll doing vnto him yeerely ceremonies and sacrifices: these things did the sonne to the father, and the father would doe to his sonne as the Greekes celebrate the daies of their natiuitie. *The Issedones.*

These people also bee accounted iust, and that the  
wiues



wiues bee of equall strength with their husbands : And such heretofore were the manners of the Scythians : but afterwards being subdued by the Tartarians, they followed their fashions, and liue now like vnto them, and bee all called by one name Tartarians.

*Of Tartaria, and of the customes  
and power of that  
people.*

CAP. 10.

*The scituation  
of Tartaria.*



*Tartaria why  
it is so called.*

TARTARIA (which according to Vincentius is also called Mongal) is scituated in the North-east part of the world, and hath vpon the East the land of the Cathaians and Solangans, vpon the South the Sarraſins, the Naymans vpon the West, and is compassed on the North with the Ocean sea : it is called Tartaria of the River Tartar which runneth through it, and the Country for the most part is verie mountanous and full of hilles : as much of it as is Champion, is so mingled with sand and grauell, as it is very barren, but onelie where it is watered with running waters, which bee very rare and geason : And for this cause it is much of it desert and vn-inhabited with people.

There be no Cities or great townes in the whole country, but onely one called Cracuris : and wood is so scarce in most places there, as the inhabitants be constrained to burne and boile their meate with horsdung & beasts dung. The weather there is very intemperate and most strange,  
for



for in the Summer-time they haue such horrible and terrible thunders and lightnings, as many men die for very feare: it is euen now maruellous hot and by and by there will be extreame cold and snowes: and the stormes and winds oftentimes bee so boysterous, as people bee not able to ride against them, but that they blow men downe from their horses, pull trees vp by the rootes, and doe the people many and great dammages: It neuer raineth there in Winter, and but seldome times in Sommer, and then so small a raine as it scarce moystneth the earth.

The Country otherwise aboundeth with all kinds of beasts as Camels, Oxen and such like, and laboring beasts and Horses in such abundance, as it is thought that all the residue of the world hath scarce so many besides. *Tartaria aboundeth with cattails.* Tartaria was first inhabited of foure sundry sorts of people, *Foure sorts of Tartarians.* one sort whereof were called Iecchamongall, that is to say great Mongals, the second Sumongall which is watry Mongals, and those called themselves also Tartars of the riuer Tartar, neere which they dwelled, the third were called Merchat, and the fourth Metrit, they had all like forme and lineaments of body, and spake all one language.

The ancient Tartarians were of a rude behauiour, and liued without manners, lawes or other ornamentes of life, and beeing of an obscure name, and very basely esteemed of amongst all the Scythians, followed their cattails, and paide tribute vnto them for their dwellings.

Shortly after, this people being deuided as it were into certaine tribes or kindreds, were first ruled by captaines, who had the sole gouernment ouer them, they paying tribute



*Canguista*  
first King of  
Tartaria.

tribute notwithstanding to their next bordering neighbours the Naymans : But when by a certaine Oracle they had elected and created *Canguista* their first King, hee taking vpon him the Empire, did first abolish the worship of all euill spirits and false gods, and made an Edict that all the Nation should worship the true God, by whose prouidence hee would haue all men thinke, that hee receiued his Kingdome. Hee commanded likewise that all that by their age were able to beare armes, should bee ready to attend the King at a certaine daie, where when they were assembled, the army was distributed in this manner. First that the Decurions which were captaines ouer tenne souldiours, should obey the centurions, which were captaines ouer an hundred foote-men, the centurions should be obedient to those which were Captaines and Coronels of a thousand men, and those againe should be at the command, of those which were gouernors of tenne thousand: and then to trie the strength of his Empire, and to haue experience of his subiects hearts, hee commaunded that seuen of those Princes or Gouernours sonnes, which ruled the people before hee was ordained King, should bee slaine by the hands of their owne fathers.

This command of the King the fathers fulfilled ( although it seemed very bitter and cruel ) both for feare of the multitude, and also for religions sake, for they verily beleeued that the God of Heauen was first author and institutor of their Kingdome, and that if they should not performe his command, they should not onely transgresse and violate the law of a King, but the law of God also. *Canguista* being thus fortified, and putting confidence in his power, first subdued by battaile the Scythians, which



which were next vnto him, and made them tributary, and with them, all those to whom the Tartarians themselves before that time paide tribute: from thence going forward to people more remote, he had such prosperous and happy successe in the warres, as hee subdued with his forces all Kingdomes, Countries and Nations from Scythia to the Sunne ryfing, and from thence to the mediterranean sea, and beyond, so as now he may iustly be said, to bee Lord and Emperour of all the East: The Tartarians of all men be most deformed in body, they bee for the most part little men, hauing great eyes standing farre out of their heads, and so much couered with eye-lids, as the sight or opening of the eye is maruelous little: their faces be broad and without beards, except that they haue some few stragling haire vpon their vpper lips and chinnes, they be all of them commonly slender in the waste, and shauie all the hinder partes of their heades from one eare to the other, and vppe to the crowne, they weare the rest of their haire long like vnto our women, of which long haire they make two strings or cords, bynding or winding them ouer both their eares, and in this manner be all Tartarians shaued, and all those people also which liue amongst them.

Moreouer they be very nimble and actiue of bodie, good horse-men, but bad footemen, and they neuer goe afoote, but the poorest of them, whither euer he hath occasion to goe, rydeth either on horse or oxe-backe, their women ride also vpon geldings, and such as will not strike or kicke: their bridles bee richly decked with gold, siluer and precious stones.

They hold it a glorious thing to haue little belles hanging



hanging about their horse neckes, they haue a very ill fauoured and clamerous kinde of speech: for when they sing they howle like Woules, and when they drinke they shake their heades, and they drinke very often and for the most part vntill they bee drunke, for to bee drunke they account a great commendations vnto them.

They neither dwell in Citties nor Townes, but in the fields vnder tents and Tabernacles, after the auncient custome of the Scythians. They bee (for the most part) all shepheards and heardsmen: In Winter they lie in the plaine and champion grounds, and dwel vpon the hilles in Sommer, liuing there vpon the profits of the pastures; They make themselues mansion places in manner of tents or pauillions, either of little sprouts or twigges, or else of cloath sustained vp with small timber, in the middle whereof they make a rounde window, which serueth both to giue light and to let out the smoke, and they make fires for all vses, the men take great delight in shooting and wrestling. They bee wonderfull good huntsmen, and be armed from the toppe to the toe when they goe a hunting, and when they see any wilde beast, they presently inclose him in rounde about on euery side, and stopping and hindering him with dartes, kill him and so take him by that meanes: bread they haue none, and therefore they haue no vse of baking, neither doe they vse any towelles, napkins nor table-clothes: They beleue that there is one God, and that hee is the maker and author of all things visible and inuisible, yet doe they not worship him with any ceremonies or religious rites, but rather making themselues certaine Idoles, either of cloth or of silke in the forme of



of men, and placing them vpon each part of their Pauilions, pray vnto them to bee defenders of their Cattell, and giuing them great reuerence, offer vnto them of the milke of al their sheepe and Cattell, and before they begin eyther to eate or drinke any thing, they set part thereof before those Idoles: what beast soeuer they kill to eate, they lay his heart in a platter all night and in the morning boyle it and eate it, they worshippe also and doe sacrifice vnto the Sunne, the Moone, and the foure elements, and most religiously adore *Cham* their King and Lord, esteeming him to bee the Sonne of God, and to him they doe sacrifice and attribute so much honor, as they suppose him to be the worthiest man in all the world, nor will they suffer any one els to bee compared vnto him: all other people they do so much contemne and despise, and thinke them-selues so farre excelling others in wisdom and goodnesse, as they scorne to speake vnto them, but dryue them from them with rebukes and disdain.

They call the Pope and all Christian men dogges and Idolaters because they worshippe stockes and stones, they bee much giuen to Diuinish and Magike arts, and obseruing dreames haue their wise men to expound and interpret them, who do aske and receiue answeres of their Idols, for they perswade them-selues that GOD hath conference with their Idolls, and therefore they doe all things by Oracles, they obserue certayne tymes, and especially when the change of the Moone is, yet they doe worshipping nor honour no one time beefore another, eyther by Feasting or Fasting, but esteeme of all alike.

The Tartarians bee so much giuen to coueteousnesse

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and



and auarice, as when any one of them seeth a thing, that hee hath a desire to, if hee may not haue it by the good will of the owner, hee taketh it by force, so it bee not belonging to one of their owne country men, supposing it lawfull so to doe, by the commandement and ordinance of their Kings, for they haue this power giuen them by *Canguista* and *Cham* their first Kings, that what Tartarian foeuer, or Tartarian seruant, shall finde vpon the way any horse, or meete any man or woman not hauing the Kings passport, or letters of safe conduct, hee may challenge them to him-selfe and euer after vse them as his owne.

They will lend no mony to those that want, but for an excesssiue and intollerable gayne, as taking a penny for tenne pence for euery monthes vse, and vsury vpon vsury if the payment bee deferred, and they molest and greeue those which bee tributary vnto them, with such payments and exactions, as it was neuer reade of any nation that did the like, It is incredible to bee reported how they couet and extort, as if they were lords of all, but giue nothing, not so much as an almes to beggars, yet in this they are to bee commended, that they exclude and put backe noe guest that cometh to them to dinner or supper; but rather inuite them and giue them to eate very curteously and charitably.

They bee of a very vncleane diet, for they haue neither table-clothes nor napkins as is sayde, neither doe they wash their hands, bodies nor apparell: They make no bread for they eate none, neither doe they eate hearbes or any kinde of graine but the flesh of all beasts, as dogges, cattes, horses and rattes, and to shew their barbarous  
bas cruelty



cruelty and desire of reuenge, they some-times rost or broyle the bodies of their captiue enemies vpon the fire, and in their sollemne bankets teare and deuour them with their teeth like wolues; and sauing their bludds, power it into a potte and drinke it, and some-times also they drinke milke, the country yeeldeth noe wine, but what is brought to them from other places, and that they drinke most greedily, they eate the vermine from one anothers heads, or other places, in eating whereof they vse to say these wotds *sic inimicis nostris faciam*, this wil I doe vnto our enemies.

It is accounted a great offence, that eyther meate or drinke should bee spoiled, and therefore they throw not their bones to dogges before they haue taken out the marrow, they be so sparing and niggardly as they will eat no beast while he is whole and sound, but when they bee lame or begin to languish, either through age or some other infirmity.

They bee exceeding frugall and thrifty and content with a little, insomuch as they will drinke in the morning a bole or two of milke, and some-times neither eate nor drinke more of all the day after. The men and women bee almost apparelled alike, for the men weare shallow Miters vpon their heads, made blunt before, and a taile or labell hanging downe behind, of a hand bredth in length, and as much in bredth; and that they may stay vpon their heads, and not bee blowne of with the winde, they haue strings sowed to them about the eares; and those they tie vnder their chins. The married women weare vpon their heads a certaine round cappe, made like a basket of a foote and a halfe in length, and plaine vpon

*How the  
Tartarians are  
apparelled.*



the toppe like a barrell, wrought eyther of party-coulered filke, or of Peacocks fethers, and adorned about with great store of golde and precious stones, vpon the rest of their bodyes they weare such garments as their abilities bee able to affoord them, the richer sort of women goe in Purple and filke, and their husbands likewise: their coates bee of a very strange fashion, for the slitte or hole whereby they put them off and on is vppon the left side, and buttoned with foure or fīue buttons. In the Summer they weare black garments, and in Winter and rainy wether, white, and their clothes come downe no lower then their knees: they weare garments also made of skinned, but not as wee doe with the hayrie side inwards, but with the flesh sides towards their bodyes, and the hayrie sides outwards, shewing the hayre for comliness and decencie: maides by their apparell can hardly bee discerned from married women, nor the married women, be distinguished from the men, for there is no great difference betwixt them, eyther in habite or behauour, for all weare breeches alike. When they prepare themselues to the warres, some of them couer their armes (which otherwise bee naked) with yron plates lincked together with Letherne thongs, and some with diuerse foldes of Lether, with which also they make defences for their heads: shields they haue none, and but few of them eyther launces, or long swords: yet they haue swords, but not about the length of ones arme, and made with an edge vpon the one side like back-swords wherewith when they fight, they strike with that side which is sharpe, they be very light and perfect horse-men, and maruelous good archers, and he is accounted of the greatest courage and



and valour which is most obedient vnto gouernment.

They serue in the warres without wages, and bee very subtil and cunning both in the warres and other businesles, and ready to take vpon them any charge, or to vndergoe any matter of importance whatsoeuer, the Captaines and gouernors enter not into the battell them-selues but standing aloofe incourage & exhort their souldiers diligently, foreseeing and considering what is necessary to bee done, and to the end their army may seeme the greater, and more terrible to the enemy, they bring their wiues and children into the army with them, and sometimes the images of men set fast vpon horses, nor do they thinke it a disgrace for them to fly if it bee either behouefull, or necessary: when they shoote they disarme their right armes, and then their darts fly with such vehement forces, as they will perce any kind of armor: they begin the battell in order, and keepe their aray in retyring euen, then destroying and slaying with their darts their enemies which pursue them, and if they perceiue the number of those which pursue them to bee but small, they sodainly returne into the battell, wounding with their darts both men and horse, and euen then they get the greatest conquest, when they were thought to haue beene conquered: When they intend to inuade or make warre vpon any country, they deuide their army into sundry companies and giue the assaulte on euery side, so as they can hardly bee incountred or resisted, nor any of the inhabitants escape; and by this policie they haue alwaies the victory in their owne owne hands.

And they vse their victory very proudly and cruelly sparing neither old men, women, nor children, but put all to the sword without difference, artificers onely



excepted, which they reserue to worke for them. They deuide them to bee slaine by the Centurions, assigning to euery seruant for his part of the slaughter, tenne, or more, or lesse, as the number of the Captiues bee, which when they haue butchered with Axes, like Swine, for a greater terror to others, they take euery thousand Captiue, and turning his head downe-wards, hang him vp by the heeles vppon a stake made fast in the ground, in the middle of those which bee slaine, as if hee should then admonish and aduise his friends, whilst the most of those murderers, approching to the slaine bodyes, doe with their mouthes swill vp the bloud which springeth from their greene wounds.

They keepe their faith and promise with none, how euer they bee obliged vnto them, but rage towards their owne subiects in this manner, and farre more greuously: It is lawfull for them to deflowre as many young Virgins as they will or can get, and those which bee any thing beautifull, bee carryed away with them, and constrained to serue continually in extreame penurie of all things. The Tartarians of all men be most incontinent, for although they may marry as many wiues as they will, or as they bee able to keepe, and that they bee not forbidden mariage with any degree of affinitie, or consanguinity (mothers, daughters, and sisters onely excepted) yet bee they exceedingly giuen to the sinne of Sodome, accompanying both with their owne sex and with beasts, as vilely as the Sarrafins, without eyther difference or punishment: They account not the woman which they marry for their wife, nor yet receiue her dower before shee hath had a childe, and if shee bee barren it is lawfull



lawfull for them to put her a way and to marry another. And this is strange, that although many women haue but one husband, yet they neuer fall out for him amongst them-selues, although one bee preferred before another, and hee sleepeth now with one, and by and by with another, and euery one of these wiues haue their abyding place by them-selues, and euery one keepeth her owne family. They liue most chaste from other mens wiues, for as well the men as women which bee taken in adultery, suffer death by their lawe: those men which bee not trayned vp in the warres, keepe Cattell in the fields, practise hunting and wrestling, without doing any other domestick businesse but commit all to women vpon whose care it resteth to provide all things necessary both for victualls and clothing.

This nation obserueth many superstitions, for to put a knife into the fire, or at the least to let it touch the fire, or to pull flesh out of a pottle with a knife, is held a great offence, moreouer they cut nothing with a hatchet neere vnto the fire, least they should hurt it any manner of way, for they honour the fire most religiously, perswading them-selues that there-with all things ought to bee purified and clensed.

They greatly abhorre to lay either their body or armes, when they sleepe or take their rest, vpon a whippe where-with they driue their horses, (for spurres they vse none) or to tuch their darts with a whip; and yong men doe not onely auoyd the killing of birds, but the taking of them also: they will not beate a horse with his brydle nor breake one bone with an other, nor yet spend ether meate or drinke out of measure and especially milke, noe one dare pisse within his pauillion or mansion house, for if



any one doe it abstinately, he is put to death without mercy, but if necessity constrain one to doe it, as oftentimes it happeneth, then the tent or pauilion wherein it was done, and all things within it, ought to bee purged and clenſed, on this manner: Firſt they make two fires three paces diſtant one from another, betwixt which they faſten two forkes or iauelins vpright in the ground, by each fire one, then drawing a cord from the one fire to the other, they carry forth through the middle of the iauelins, as it were through a gate, all things which are to be purified, two women (to whome the buſineſſe is committed) ſtanding vpon the other ſide, one ouer againſt an other, caſting water vpon the ſtuffe, and muttering out certaine verſes to themſelues.

No ſtranger is admitted into the kings preſence, of what eſtate or dignity ſoeuer he be, and be his buſineſſe of neuer ſo much importance, vnleſſe he bee firſt purified: he that ſpurneth with his foote at the threshold of the pauillion, wherein the Emperour, or any Prince dwelleth, is ſlaine in the very place: moreouer if any one bite a bit of any thing which he cannot ſwallow downe, but is forced to vomit it vp againe, all the people fall vpon him, and digging a hole vnder his pauillion drag him through it, and ſo kill him moſt cruelly, there bee many other ſuch friuolous things which they account as ſins that cannot bee purged, or appeaſed, but to kill a man, to enter vpon another mans poſſeſſion, to take other mens goods violently, without right or equity, and to neglect the commandements of God, they account as little or no offences.

They belecue that after this life they ſhall liue eternally in an other world, but what that world is they cannot deſcribe, and that they ſhall there  
bee



be rewarded according to their merits. When any one is sick, and draweth neere vnto death, they set a speare at the tent doore, wherein hee lyeth, with a black cloth at the end of it, to the end that those which passe by, seeing it, may forbear to enter in, and no one dare come in though hee be called, if he see the speare: but when the sick person is dead, all his family meeting together carry the coarſe priuily out of the tent, into a place (chosen before for the purpose) where is made a great large pit, in which pit they build a little pauillion, and set in it a table furnished with diuerſe dishes of meate, then setting thereat the dead corps attired with rich and gorgious garments, they forthwith couer them altogether with earth, he hath also one labouring beast, and one trapped horse buried with him: The great men choose out one seruant in their life time, vpon whom they set their owne marke, with a marking yron, to bee intombed with him when hee is dead, and this they doe, that they may make vse of them in another world. After all this, the mans friends that is dead take an other horse, and killing him, and eating his flesh, and then filling the hide full of haye, and sowing it vp againe, they set it vpon foure stakes vpon the topp of the Sepulcher, to shew that there the dead man lyeth, which done, the women burne the horses bones for the expiation of the dead mans ghost. But the richer sort cut the horse hide into slender thongs, and extending them in length, measure out there-with a circuite of ground round about their dead friends Sepulcher, beleeuing that the dead man shall obtaine so much ground in another world, as by his friends shall bee measured out vnto him, with those thongs: all these ceremonies performed, vpon the thirtieth day they leaue of their mourning.

There



*Some Tartari-  
ans are Christi-  
ans, but very  
bad ones.*

*How the Tar-  
tarlans elect  
their Kings.*

There be some Tartarians which be a kind of Christians but very bad ones, and these to hasten their fathers deaths when they waxe old, cram and feed them with fat meate, and when they be dead burne them, and gathering vp the ashes as cleane as they can, esteeme them as a very precious relicke, seasoning their meate daily therewith. Now with what pompe and iollity the Tartarians after the death of their King, elect and appoint another in his roome, because it is ouer-troublesome to be writ at large, and perhaps as tedious to be read, I will vnfold in few words: the Princes, Dukes, Barons, and all the people of the kingdom, assembling themselves together in a place in the open fields, fitte and accustomed for that purpose, place him to whom the kindome is due, (either by succession or election) in a throne of gold, and all of them prostrating themselves before him, cry out with a lowd voice, and with one consent, in this maner. We wish, will, and command thee, to be our gouernor, to whom hee answereth; If you will haue it so, I must needs be content, but then be you ready to do what euer I command, to come when I call you, to goe whether I send you, and who euer I bid to be slaine to do it without feare, and to giue and commit all the whole kingdom into my hands: and when they haue answered, we are ready and willing: he saith againe vnto them; you shall hereafter stand in as much awe of my word, as of my sword, at which speach the people giue a great applause: then the Princes taking him from his Kingly throne, and causing him to sitt downe humbly vpon a cloth laid vpon the ground, say thus vnto him; looke vpwards towards heauen and acknowledge God, and behold downwards the cloath, whereon thou sittest, if thou gouerne well, thou shalt haue all things according to thine owne desire,



desire, but on the other side, if thou rule naughtily, thou shalt bee so humbled and spoiled of all thou hast, as thou shalt not haue left thee so much as this little cloth, whereon thou fittest: which said they giue vnto him that wife which he loueth best, and lifting them vp both together vpon the cloth, salute him as Emperour of all the Tartari-ans, and she as Empresse, then is hee forthwith presented with gifts from all people, ouer whom hee is Emperour, and all those things which the dead King left behind him, be brought vnto him likewise, of which the new Emperor giueth vnto each Prince some, and commandeth the rest to bee kept for himselfe, which done, hee dissolueth the company: all things be in the Kings hands and power, no man can or dare say this is mine, or that is his, nor no one may dwell in any part of his dominion, but where hee is assigned; the Emperor himselfe distributeth a proportion of land to the Dukes, the Dukes to those which bee Captaines of thousands, the Captaines of thousands to the gouernors of hundreds, the gouernors of hundreds to the rulers of ten, and the rulers of ten, distribute to all the rest. The seale which the King vseth hath this inscription, *Dens in caelo & Chuichuth Cham in terra*: the strength of God, and Emperor of all men. He hath fise very strong and puissant armies, & fise Dukes by whom he maketh warr with all that resist him, hee neuer speaketh with the Legats or embassadors of other nations, nor admitteth them into his presence, vnlesse both they & their gifts (for without gifts they dare not come) be first purged by certaine women assigned to that businesse: he answereth in the middle of the people, and all men to whom he speaketh ought to listen vnto him, kneeling vpon their knees, when & how long foeuer his speech be, and so diligently to attend his words  
as



as they misconster not his meaning in any point, for it is not lawfull for any to alter the Emperours words, nor in any sort to contradict or gaine-say the sentence hee pronounceth: hee neuer drinketh in any publick assembly, nor yet any other Tartarian Prince, vlesse some doe sing and play vnto him vppon a harpe before hee drinke, and men of great worth when they ride, are shadowed with a certaine fanne or curtaine, fastned to a long speare and caried before them, which custome is said to be vsed also by the women: And these were the customes and maner of liuing of the people of Tartary, about two hundred yeares sithence.

*The Georgians  
a kinde of  
Christians.*

*The Armeni-  
ans were Chri-  
stians likewise,  
till they were  
vanquished by  
the Tartarians*

The Georgiani (whom the Tartarians ouercame much about that time) were worshippers of Christ; obseruing the custome of the Greeke Church, they dwelt neere vnto the Persians, and their dominion extended a length wayes, from Palestine to the Caspian hilles: they had eighteene Bishopricks, and one Catholicke or vniuersall Bishop, who was instead of a Patriarch: at the first they were subiect to the Patriarch of Antioch, the men be very warlike, their Priests heads bee shauen round, and the lay-men foure square; some of their women were trained vp in the warres, and serued on horseback. The Georgians hauing disposed their armies, and entering into the battell, were wonte to carouse a gourd as bigge as ones fist, filled full of the best wine, and then to set vpon their enemies with greater courage: The Cleargie bee much addicted to vsury and symonie; there was mutuall and perpetuall enmity betwixt the Armenians and them. The Armenians were Christians also, vntill the Tartarians, after they had subdued the Georgians ouer-came them likewise, but they disagreed in many things from the faith, and



and approoued fashion of the true Church : they knew not the day of our Lords natiuitie , for they obserued no feasts, nor no vigils, nor yet the foure Ember weekes, they feasted not vpon Easter Eue , alledging that Christ rose from the dead, about the euening of that day: they would eate flesh vpon euery Friday , betwixt the feasts of Easter and Pentecost, yet they fasted much , beginning their fast so strictly and precisely in Lent , as they would neither vse oyle, wine, nor fish , vpon Fridayes and Wednesdayes throughout the whole Lent, holding it a greater sinne to drinke wine on those dayes, then to lye with a strumpet in a brothell house: Vpon Mondayes they abstained wholly from all meates, vpon Tuesdayes and Thursdayes they did eate once, and receiued no sustenance at all vpon Wednesdayes and Fridayes , but vpon Saterdayes and Sundayes they would eate flesh , and refresh themselves well. They would not celebrate the office of the Masse throughout all Lent but vpon Saterdaies and Sundaies, nor vpon Fridayes throughout the whole yeare, for thereby (as they were of opinion ) they brake and violated their fasts: Infants moreouer of the age of two months, and all others what soeuer were indifferently admitted to their communion, and they put no water into the Sacrifice. In the vse of Hares, Beares, Choughes, and such other like creatures, they imitated the Iewes, as well as the Greekes, they celebrated their Masses in glasse and wodden Chalices , and some hauing no paraments nor Priest-like vestiments at all, some of them also wore Miters belonging to Deacons or Subdeacons : both Clergie and Lay-men, allowed of vsury and Symony , as well as the Georgians : the Priests exercised themselves in Diuinations and Negromancie, they vsed more drinking then lay men, and all of them

had



had, or might haue wiues, but after the death of one wife, as well lay-men as the clergy men were prohibited to marry againe, the Bishops gaue liberty to any to put away their wiues that were found in adultery, and to marry another: they beleeued not that there is a purgatory, and obstinately denied that there was two natures in Christ. The Georgians report, that they erred in thirty articles from the right path and diameter of Christian religion.

*Of Turcia, and of all the manners, lawes and ordinances of the Turkes.*

CHAP. II.

*The limits  
of Turkie.*



That country which is now called Turcia or Turkie, hath vpon the East the greater Armenia, and extendeth to the Cilicke sea, vpon the North it is bounded with the Euxine sea: *Aitonus* calleth it *Turquia*, it consisteth of many Prouinces, as *Lycaonia*, wherein *Iconium* is the chiefe towne; *Cappadocia*, where *Cesaria* is chiefe city of the Prouince; *Isauria* where *Seleucia* is head; *Licia* now called *Briquia*: *Ionia* now called *Quiscum*, wherein standeth the city of *Ephesus*, *Paphlagonia* where *Germanopolis*, and *Lenech* where *Trapezus* be chiefe cities: All this vast country which is now called Turcia, is not inhabited by one onely people, but by Turkes, Greekes, Armenians, Sarrafins, Iacobitans, Nestorians, Iewes & Christians, all of them for the most part, living after the lawes and institutions, which that false Prophet *Mahomet* a Sarrafin, ordained for the people of Arabia, in the yeare of our Sauour Christ 631. This *Mahomet* some say was an Arabian, some a Persian, but whether he was it is doubtfull, but his father was certainly a worshipper of euill spirits,

*Turkie inhabited by people  
of sundry  
nations.*

*Mahomet his  
parentage.*



rits & his mother an Ismaelite, and therefore not ignorant in the true law : now whilst his father and mother instructed him in both their lawes, they distracted the boy, and made him doubtfull and wauering betwixt both, so as being trained vp in both religions, when hee grew of mans estate, he followed neither of them, but being a very crafty fellow, & of a subtile wit, and long conuersant with Christians, he framed and inuented out of both those lawes, a religion most dangerous and pernicious to all mankind. First he affirmed, that the Iewes did very ill in denying that Christ should be borne of a Virgin, seeing that the Prophets, men of wonderfull sanctity and integrity of life, & indued with the spirit of God, did long before prophesie and foreshew that it should be so, and that hee was to bee expected : on the other side, he condemned the Christians folly, in beleeuing that Iesus the deere friend of God, & borne of a Virgin, would suffer reproches & punishments of the Iewes : *Martinus Segonius Norimontanus* hath written thus of the Sepulcher of Christ our King and Lord. The Sarracons and Turkes (saith he) (by the ancient preaching of *Mahomet*) laugh the Christians to scorne, which attribute any honor to that Sepulcher, affirming that the great Prophet Christ proceeded from the spirit of God, that he was voide of all earthly blot or sinne, and that hee he shall come to be iudge of all people, but that they may approach vnto his true Sepulcher, they vtterly deny, because his glorious body, conceived by the diuine spirit, was altogether impassible : thus much hath *Segonius* written, & more to the same purpose, which the *Mahometans* are wont to cast in our teeth, with as much folly as impiety : when that false Prophet *Mahomet* had infected his people & nation, with these pestilent euils, he made & established a law, and (least by men of vnderstanding it might be resisted



*Sergius the  
Monke a hel-  
per of Ma-  
homet.*

*Mahamets  
Laws com-  
pounded of  
diuerse sects.*

resisted and abrogated) hee ordained a capitall punishment against the breakers thereof, commanding and decreeing in his Alcaron, that no one should presume vpon paine of death to dispute thereof, by which ordinance and decree, it appeared most evidently, that in that law was no sincerity, which as a hidden mystery hee couered and sealed vp so closely, that all men were forbidden to meddle with it, so as the people should not by any meanes know what that was which hee had done. In the dooing whereof, and in setting his new sect, hee chiefly vsed the councill and helpe of *Sergius* a Monke, and a Nestorian heretick: and to the end his law might be more populer and better esteemed of all nations, hee tooke some-thing out of all sects, of euery nation, holding first that Christ is much to bee praised, and affirming him to bee a man of great sanctity, and of singular vertue, and that hee was of more then humane condition, calling him sometimes the word, some-times the spirit, and some-times the very soule, life, or breath of God, and that hee was borne of a Virgin: then did he greatly extoll the Virgin *Mary*, assenting to the myracles written by the Euangelists, so farre as they disagreed not from his Alcaron. The Gospels hee said were corrupted by the Apostles Disciples, and therefore ought to be corrected by his Alcaron, and the more to win and allure the mindes and affections of the Christians vnto him, he would needs bee baptised by *Sergius*, and then to procure the good-will of other sects, he denied the Trinity with the Sabellians, affirming with the Manechees, that there were but two persons in diuinitie: hee denied that the Sonne is equall to the Father with *Eunomius*; with *Macedonius* he held that the holy Ghost is a creature: with the *Nicholites*, that it is lawfull for one

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man to haue many wiues, and hee allowed of the old Testament, although (saide he) it is faulty in many places: with these circumstantiall tales, he couered an incredible allure-ment wherewith mens mindes bee sonest intysed, which was, the giuing to his people free liberty and power to pursue their lustes and all other pleasures, for by these meanes, this pestilent religion hath crept into innumera-ble Nations, so as now how few the number of true be-leeuers is, in respect of the great multitude of misbelce-uers, may well bee gathered by this. That not all Europe professe Christ, but the greatest part thereof, together with all Asia and Affricke, belecue in *Mahomet* and his ac-cursed religion.

The Sarraſins which first imbraced the impiety and madnesse of that false prophet *Mahomet*, inhabited in that part of Arabia which is called Petrea, there where the land vpon the one side ioyneth to Iudæa and Aegipt, and they bee called Sarraſins of a place called Sarracus neere vnto the people called Nabatheï, or (as they them-selues would haue it) of *Sara* the wife of *Abraham*, where-vpon they yet perswade themselves, that of all men they bee the legitimate and sole successors of the diuine pro-mise. Some of them were husbandmen, some followed their flockes, but the greatest part were souldiours, and bee-ing hired and retained by *Heraclius* to serue in the Persian warres, and finding themselves deceiued by him, after hee had obtained the victory, they (incenced with ire and ignominie) departed thence into Syria, hauing a *Ma-homet* for their captaine and counsellor, where they won Damascus, and then, their army and prouision necessary for the warres increasing more and more, they made warres vpon Aegipt and brought it to subiection, after

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that



that they subdued Persis, Antioch and Ierusalem, and so augmenting and increasing euery day both in fame and force, voide of all feare of any that could resist them, the Turkes, a cruell and barbarous nation of Scythia, beeing by their neighbours expulsed from the Caspian hilles, descending by the narrow passages of the hil Caucasus, first into Asia the lesse, and after that into Armenia, Media and Persis, by their force and armes brought all those people vnder their subiection and gouernment, when the Sarrafins to defend the confines of their Country, went forth to meete the Turkes, but being not able to make their partie good and to encounter them, they were in very short time brought to such desperations, as they were contented the Turkes should raigne with them in Persia, so as the would imbrace the faith of *Mahomet*: so as whether nation had the greater losse can hardly bee iudged, either they that departed from such a Kingdome, or those which for desire of rule were forced to receiue so pestilent a religion.

And both Nations beeing thus bound with the bonds of one religion, were for a space so confounded in name, as there was no difference betwixt Turkes and Sarrafins, yet now the name of Turkes is onely knowne and the other vtterly abolished and forgotten: There bee diuers sorts of horsemen that serue in the warres amongst the Turkes: As first the Thimarcini, which bee such as dwell in Citties and pay tribute, and are to the number of fourescore thousand: and these by the Kings leaue and permission possesse (in the nature of pay or wages) townes, villages and castles, each one as hee deserueth, and bee euer readie at the call of the Sensachus (that

*The manner of  
the Turkes  
warfare.*



(that is hee, that is captaine of that Prouince to whom they pay tribute:) they bee now deuided into two armies, one in Asia, the other in Europe, vnder the conduct of two great captaines, whereof one gouerneth in Asia and the other in Europe: Which captaines in their Countries speech bee called *Bassaes*: the other sort of souldiers bee naturall, and are called *Aconizie*: These serue in the warres without wages, and alwaies goe before the company of foormen for prey, yeelding the fifth part of their prey vnto the King, in the name of the chiefe captaines or generalls part of the bootie, and of these there be about the number of some fortie thousand.

The third sort bee the Charrippi, the Spahiglani and the Soluphtari, the best of which bee they Charippi, and the most famous souldiors in dignity; these continually attend vpon the King, and be about eight hundred in number, all elected out of the Scythians and Persians, and of no other nation else, and these are to fight venterously, in the presence of the King when need requireth.

The Spahi and Soluphtari, are such as at the first when they were children attended vpon the King to doe some vile and dishonourable businesse, but when they once become to bee of mans estate, the King giueth them power to marry wiues, so as they growing greater by their wiues dower and by their wages, doe for the most part execute the Office of Orators, garding and attending vpon each side of the King, when hee goeth abroade, and of these there bee a thousand and three hundred: out of this order be elected, for the most part, all the chiefe Gouvernours, and men of great authority and dignity.



Three sorts of  
footmen.

There bee three orders of footemen, first the Ianizaries, who while they be young vnder the age of twelue yeeres, bee elected out of the whole Empire by the Serchers, Inquisitors or Muster-maisters, and for a space trained vp in military discipline in publicke places of exercise, and then sent into the warres cloathed in short garments, and round cappes, turning vpwards, and armed with shields, swords and bowes, these defend the camps and besiege Citties, and are more in number then twentie thousand.

The Asappi be of the second order, which be footmen armed with a light armor, they vse swords, shields & long speares, and weare red caps to distinguish them from the Ianizaries, these gal the enemies horses in battaile, and the number of them is answerable to the greatnesse of the army, and at the least 4000. of them goe with the King, and it is decreed that their wages shall surcease, when the wars are ended. The regall army consisteth of two hundred thousand fighting men, but the company of footmen, which be either voluntaries, or such as haue bin dismissed from the wars, and bee sommoned to serue againe, serue without wages, & with these be mixed slaues, pages, skul lions and drudges, carpenters, pioners and victuallers of the campe. These make waies euen and plaine in rugged and rough places, build bridges ouer rivers & pooles, erect Rampires and Bulwarkes against the enemy, and make all others things ready, which be profitable for the assaulting and conquering of Citties: Vsurers, Bankers, Exchangers and Brokers that sell garments for souldiors, and an infinite rabble of such like people, follow the campe also, least any thing should bee wanting that is necessary for the souldiors.

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But their is no one thing so much to bee admired and wondred at in that people, as their celerity in action, their constancy and perseuerance in dangers, and their obedience of gouernment: for they loose their liues for the least offence that is: they wil swim deepe riuers and whirlepits, clime the steepest hils, and when they be commanded run head-long through thicke or thin, rough or smooth, not so much regarding their liues as the will of the commander: they most patiently endure both watching and want, their is no sedition, no tumult, no clamors or outcries rayfed in their armies, and in the night time there is such continual and husht silence in their campes, as they wil rather suffer captiues to escape, then to haue any tumults or hurly bury raised amongst them.

Of all men now liuing the Turkes make warres most orderly, so that it needs not seeme strange to any, what the cause should bee that hath raised them to this height at this day, that about two hundred yecres since there was no nation like them. For it may bee truely said of them that they bee an inuincible Nation, vnlesse they bee vanquished by some great plague or pestilence, or else by ciuill dessention amongst themselues.

The souldiours bee attired verie comely, wearing nothing that is lyndecent or vn honest: in their saddles and bridles is neither curiositie nor superfluity, and none of them goe armed but when they be in fight, and at other times they haue their armour carried after them in cariages. They vse no Standards or Ensigns, but Launces, vpon the tops whereof hang downe certaine threeds of diuers fundrie collours, by which each captaine is knowne of his company, yet they vse drummes and phyfes to summon and incite them to fight: the battaile



finished, all the army is set in readinesse, and viewed by the Register (who is one of the noble men) that they may know, who and how many were slaine in the fight, and for the ordaining of others in their places.

In all their assemblies and banquets they pray for the souldiours, but more deuoutly for such as were slaine in defence of their country, esteeming those happy and blessed, that died not at home, amidst the sorrow and lamentations of their wiues and children, but abroad amongst the out-cries of their enemies, clattering of armour, and shattering of speares.

They describe, extoll and chaunt out the victories of their ancestors, thinking thereby to make their souldiours more forward and couragious: Their buildings and dwelling houses bee made for the most part of timber and mortar, and very few of stone, vnlesse the houses of great men, Bathes and Temples, which be commonly builded of stone, & yet there be some of the Plebeians, or common people, of such exceeding wealth, as some one alone is able of himselfe to furnish and set forth a whole army, but beeing (as indeed they are) very frugal, and shunning all sumptuousnesse, they cherish humility, and patiently indure this voluntary pouerty. And for this cause they vtterly renounce all pictures, and so much abhorre and detest the caruing of Images, as they terme Christians Idolaters, because they bee delighted in these things, contending that they affirme the truth in saying so: They vse no seales at all to their letters, neither the King nor no man else, but giue credit so soone as they heare the name of him that sent it, or view the stile of the writer, neither is there any vse of belles, no not so much as any of the Christians that dwelleth amongst them



them are once permitted to vse them. They play at no game for money or any thing else, but persecute all gamesters with many ignominies and reproaches, no man of what dignitie, estate or condition soeuer hee is of, desireth to sit vpon any stoole, forme or seate, to sustaine him from the ground, but disposing and placing his bodie, and garments, in comelie and decent order, sitteth him downe vpon the ground, as children doe: The table wherevpon they eate their meate, is made (for the most part) of an oxe-hide, or of a stagges skin yndrest and the haire on, beeing made rounde and some foure or fise handfull in breadth, and with many iron rings sowed vnto the sides thereof, through which they put a leatherne thong, by which deuise, it is opened, shut and carried like a purse.

No one doth enter into any house, Church or other place wherein they may sit, but they must first put off their shooes, for they account it vn honest and vndecent, for any one to sit with his shooes on, and therefore they vse such manner of shooes as they can easily put off and on.

The places wherein they sit either in their houses or Churches are couered with course woollen blankets, or else with mats, and sometimes by reason of the basenesse and vncleannesse of the places, they be bordered or plancked. Both men and women weare long and large garments, made open with a slit before, that they may the better couer, and bend themselues when they purge their bodies of there naturall excrementes, in doing whereof, they bee very precise that they turne not their faces towardes the Sunne rysing, which way the doe turne themselues when they pray, they bee very carefull



likewise, that in doing thereof, no one see them, least their shamefull and vncleane partes should bee discouered, the men make water as the women doe with vs, bending themselues, for if any man doth pisse standing, hee is of all men held either for an Idiot or an hereticke: They bee compelled by a law, to abstaine from wine as the nurse, garder, or seminary of all sinne and filthinesse, yet they eate grapes and drinke Muste.

*Friday a solemne holy day with the Turkes.*

They abstaine likewise from all swines flesh and swines bloud, and from all carraine, and things that die of themselues, eating all other things that bee to bee eaten and mans meate, the Turkes keepe Friday holiday with as much deuotion and religion, as wee do our Lords day, or the Iewes their sabboth.

In euery Cittie is one principall Church, into which vpon that day in the after-noone, all people assemble themselues to praier, and praier beeing solemnly ended, they haue a sermon, wherein they acknowledge one God and that there is none like or equall vnto him, and that *Mahomet* is his faithfull Prophet.

All the Sarrafins or Turkes ought to pray euery daie fise times, with their faces towards the Sunne rysing, and before they goe to praier to haue their bodies perfectly cleere, and decently to wash both fundament, yarde, hands, armes, mouth, eares, nostrils, eyes and the haire of their heads, and last of all their feete, and this they ought to do more strictly & precisely, after their compayning with women, and purging their bodies, vnlesse they bee either sicke or traueling, but if at any time water bee wanting to wash in, which happeneth but verie seldome, or neuer ( for that in euery Cittie be



be baths for that purpose) then they supply the want thereof with the dust of cleane and fresh earth: and hee which is defiled with any pollution, permits no one (as much as is possible) either to speake vnto him, or yet to see him before he be washed and made cleane: they fast fīue weeks in euery yeare very strictly, neither eating nor drinking any thing of all the day before Sunne-setting, nor accompanying with women: but from the Sunne going downe, vntill his rising the next morning they spend the whole time at their pleasures, in eating, drinking, and vnerie: vppon the sixtieth day from the beginning of their fast, they celebrate their Passe-ouer, in memory of the Ramme, which was shewed vnto *Abraham* for a sacrifice in his sonnes steade: and in memorie of a certaine night, wherein they dreame their *Alcoran* was giuen them from heauen.

The Turkes ought once euery yeare also to go to the Temple which is in Mecha, both for the profession of their religion, as also to yeeld the annuall honors due vnto *Mahomet*, whose sepulchre is there kept and worshipped.

The Sarrafins force no man to forsake their faith, and Religion, neither will they perswade any one to theirs, although their *Alcoran* command them, to afflict, and by all meanes to prosecute their aduersaries in Religion and their Prophets. Whereof it commeth to passe, that in Turkie dwell people of all Sects and Religions, and euery Sect doth sacrifice vnto his God, according to their owne customes.

Moreouer, there is no great difference betwixt the Priestes, and the lay-people, betwixt their Temples, and their ordinarie habitations and dwelling houses: for it is sufficient for the Priestes to know the *Alchoran*,  
and



and what things appertaine to prayer, and the worship of their law, without spending any time in meditations, or obtaining of learning, neither do they take vpon them the cure of soules, or care of churches: Sacraments they haue none, they make no obseruation of Relickes, sacred Vessels or Altars, but possessing wiues, children and families, apply their time like lay-men, in husbandrie, merchandize, buying and selling, hunting, and such like labours and exercises, to get their liuing: there is nothing vnlawfull for them to do, nor any thing prohibited: they be freed from seruitude and exactions, and be reuerenced and honoured of all men, as those that vnderstand the ceremonies of their law, gouern their churches, and be able to instruct others. They haue many and great scholes, wherein be great multitudes instructed in the ciuil lawes ordained by their kings for the gouernement and defence of their kingdome, of whome some be afterwards made rulers of Churches, and some of other secular offices.

In that sect be diuers sorts also of religious persons, of which, some liuing in woods and deserts, flie the fellowship and conuersation of all men: some other liuing in cities, practise hospitalitie towards poore trauellers, allowing them house-room and lodging at the least, if they haue not meate to refresh them, for they themselues liue by begging. There be some others likewise, that wandring through the citties, carrie wholesome and fresh water in certaine bottles, giuing thereof to drinke to euery one that demandeth. For which religious act, if any one giue them any thing, they will receiue it, though they desire nothing at all, carrying such boast and ostentation of sanctitie and religion, both in their words and deeds, manners and behauior, as they may rather be thought Angels then men,



men, and euery one carieth a certain badge or signe, whereby he may be discerned of what profession hee is of. The Sarrafins or Turkes be very strict obseruers and maintainers of Iustice: for he that sheddeth another mans bloud, shall haue the like punishment himselfe: he that is found in adulterie, shall (together with the adulteresse) be stoned to death without mercie or delay: there is an expresse punishment also for fornicators; for hee that is found guiltie of fornication, shall suffer eight hundred stripes with a whip: A theefe for the first and second offence shall suffer the like punishment; for the third fault he shall haue his hand cut off, and his foote for the fourth: he which iniureth another shall make him satisfaction according to the quantitie of the wrong done. In case of extortion of goods and possessions, it is ordained by a law, that the thing required shall be prooued by witnesses, and that the defendant shall purge himselfe by his oath. They admit no witnesses, but such as be honest and fit persons, and whose testimonie may be taken without oath. There bee throughout the whole nation diuers Inquisitors or searchers, who finding out those that neglect the forme of prayer, to which they are all inioyned, afflict and punish them, by hanging about their neckes, a table or paper with many foxe tayles, and so leading them throughout the citie, dismisse them not, vntill they haue payd a certaine summe of money for ther libertie. And this ignominie and reproch is accounted an extreame punishment: no one that is of full age, may liue vnmarried, and euery one may haue foure lawfull wiues, and (mothers and sisters onely excepted) may marry whom they list, without respect of kindred, and besides the foure lawfull wiues, they may haue as many concubines as they please, or be able to maintaine: and as wel  
the



the children that be borne of their concubines, as of their lawfull wiues, shall equally inherit their fathers goods, only this is obserued, that one sonne shall haue as much as two daughters: no one may keepe two or more wiues in one house, nor yet in one cittie, for auoyding of scolding, contention, and vnquietnesse that would bee amongst them: but in euery city they may keepe one, and the husbands haue liberty to be diuorced from their wiues three sundrie times, and so oft to take them againe: and the woman diuorced may stay with her husband that receiueth her againe, if she please. The Turkish women be very decent in their apparell, vpon their heades they weare myters, set vpon the top of their veiles, wherewith their heads beeing bound in a comely fashon, one side or edge of the veile hangeth downe vpon the right or left side of their heades, wherewith if they go from home, or come into their husbands presence at home, they may foorth-with couer or maske their whole faces, but their eyes: for the wife of a Turke dare neuer come where a company of men be gathered together: neither is it lawfull for them to go to markets to buy and sell. Likewise in their great Temple, the women haue a place farre remote from men, and shut vp so close, as no one can come to them, nor hardly see them. Which closet is not allowed for all women, but onely for the wiues of noble men or heade Officers, and that onely vpon Friday, at their noone-tide prayer, which they obserue with great solemnitie (as is said) and at no times else. There is seldome any speech or conference betwixt men and women, in any publike place, it beeing so out of custome, as if you should stay with them a whole yeare, you shold hardly see it once, but for a man to sit or ride with a woman, is accounted monstrous:



monstrous: married couples do neuer dally or chide in the presence of others, for the husbands do neuer remitte the least iot of their authoritie ouer their wiues, neither will the wiues omit their obedience towards their husbands. The great Lords that cannot alwaies tarry with their wiues themselves, depute and set Eunuchs to be keepers ouer them, which obserue and watch them so warily, as it is vnpossible for them to talke with any man but their husbands, or to play false play with their husbands.

To conclude, the Sarrafins yeeld so much credit to *Mahomet* and his lawes, as they promise assured happines and saluation to the keepers thereof: to wit, a paradise abounding with all pleasures, a garden situated in a pure and temperate Climate, watered on all parts with most sweete and delectable waters, where they shall enioy all things at pleasure; dainties of all sorts to feede them, silkes and purple to cloath them, beautifull damsels euer readie at a call to attend them with siluer and golden vessels, and that Angels shall bee their cuppe-bearers, and minister vnto them milke in golden cuppes, and red wines in siluer.

And on the other side, they threaten hell, and eternall damnation to the transgressors of his lawes. And this also they firmly belecue, that though a man haue beene neuer so great a sinner, yet if at his death, he onely beleue in God and in *Mahomet*, he shall be saued.

Of



Of the Christians, and of their originall,  
and Customes.

## CAP. 12.



CHRIST Iesus (the true and euerlasting Sonne of God the Father omnipotent, the second Person in the holy, indiuidual, coequall, and eternall Trinitie, by his incomprehensible decree and mysterie hidden from the world, to the end that hee might raise and reduce vs miserable, and vnfortunate wretches, lost and forlorne by the disobedience of our forefathers *Adam* and *Eue*, and therefore for many ages exiled and excluded out of the heauenly countrie, and in heauen to reparaire the auncient ruine of *Lucifer*, and the Angels for pride expelled thence, (for supply of which vacancie we were chiefly created,) was, one thousand, sixe hundred and ten yeares since (by the co-operation and working of the holy Ghost) conceived man, and borne in Iudæa of the blessed Virgin *Mary*, being of the house and lineage of *Dauid*: from the thirtieth yeare of whose age vnto the 34. (at which time through the enuie and hatred of the Iewes, he was crucified,) he trauesed ouer all the land of Iudæa, exhorting the Iewes, from the ancient law of *Moses*; and the Gentils, from the prophane worship of Idols, vnto his new doctrine and religion: those followers which he could get, he called his disciples; out of which, electing twelue, and appearing vnto them aliue after his death, (as hee had fore-told them he would) he gaue them commission, that as his Legats and Apostles, they shold go into all places of the world, and preach to all people such things as they had seene and learned of him. *Simon Peter* (who long before was



was by Christ ordained chiefe head & ruler of his Church after him, when (after the receiuing of the holy Ghost) the Apostles went some to one people, some to another to preach, as they were allotted and sent) came first to Antioch, where consulting and erecting a Church, *or chiefe seat or Chaire for the practise of Religion*: he, with many other of the Apostles which often repaired vnto him, celebrated a Councel; in which, amongst other things, it was decreed, that the professors and imbracers of Christs doctrine, and true religion, should after him be called Christians. This chiefe Chaire of the Church beeing afterwards translated from Antioch to Rome, he and his successours were very carefull and vigilant to reduce the Christian religion (being as yet indigested, vnpolished, and little practised) and the professors thereof into better order & vniformity. Out of the law of *Moses*, (which Christ came not to abolish, but to fulfill) out of the ciuill and politick gouernment of Romans, Greeks, and Aegyptians, and out of both sacred and prophane rites, lawes, & ceremonies of other nations, but most especially by the wholesome doctrine and direction of Christ Iesus, and the inspiration of the holy Spirit: when they had vndertaken this busines, and saw that not only among the Hebrewes, but in al other nations else, the people be diuided into religious and laitie, and that all of them by an excellent subordination, are in dignity and degrees different one from another: as that the Emperor of Rome was Monarch of the whole world, and that next vnto him were Consuls, Patricians, & Senators, by whose direction and aduice, the state and common-wealth was well gouerned. Again, that in euery other country of the world were Kings, Dukes, Earles, Presidents, Lieutenants, Deputies, Tribunes of souldiers, Tribunes of the common-people, Prætors,



Pretors, Captains, Centurions, Decurions, Quaternions, Sheriffes, Treasurers, Over-seers, Portars, Secretaries, and Sergeants, and many priuate people of both sexe. That in the temple of the fained gods, the king was chiefe sacrificer, and that there were Arch-Flammins, Proto-Flammins, Flammins, and Priests. That also amongst the Hebrewes the High Priest was chiefe sacrificer, vnder whome were inferiour Priests, Levites, Nazareans, Extinguishers of lights, Exorcists, Porters, Clerkes, and Singers. That amongst the Greekes were Captaines of thousands, Captaines of hundreds, Captaines of fifty, Gouvernours ouer ten, and rulers ouer fise: and that besides these, as wel amongst the Greeks as Latines, there were diuers sorts of conuents, and religious houses both for men and women, as the Sadduces, Esseyes, and Pharifies, amongst the Iewes: the Salij, Diales, and Vestales amongst the Romanes. All the holy Apostles, (as *Peter*, and those which succeeded him in the chaire of Rome) agreed & established, that the vniuersal, Apostolike, most holy, and high Bishop of Rome should euer after be called the Pope, that is to say, the father of his countrie: and that he should proceede and gouerne the Catholike Romane Church: as the Emperour of Rome was Monarch ouer the whole world, and that as the Consuls were next in office and authoritie to the Emperour, and were euer two in number, so should there bee foure Patriarkes in the Church of God, that in degree and dignitie should be next vnto the Pope: whereof one was seated at Constantinople, another at Antioch, the third at Alexandria, and the fourth at Ierusalem. That the Senators of Rome should be expressed by Cardinals, that such Kings or Princes as gouerned three Dukedomes, should be equalled with Primates that should gouerne there Arch-



Archbishops, and that the Archb. or Metropolitans should be compared to Dukes: that as the Dukes had Earles vnder them, so should Bishops be vnder the Archbishops.

That Bishops likewise should be resembled vnto Earles, their Assistants and Suffragans vnto Præsidents, and Provofts vnto Lieutenants: Arch-priests should supply the place of Tribunes of the soldiers: for Tribunes of the people were ordained Chancelors, and Arch-deacons were put in the place of Prætors: for Centurions were placed Deanes, parish Priests for Decurions and other Prelates, and Ministers for Aduocates and Attorneys: Deacons represented the Ædiles, sub-deacons the Quaternions, Exorcists the Duumviri, *hostiarii* or dore-keepers, the treasurers, readers, singers, and Poets, the Porters of the Court, and Acolites, and Priests, Ministers, the Secretaries & Taper-bearers: decreeing, that all these sundry Orders of Church-officers should be called by one generall name, *Clerkes*, of the Greeke word (*Cleros*) a lotte, or chance, whereby at first they were elected out of the people for Gods part, or portion of inheritance. This done, they ordained, that seuen sorts of these Clerkes should be of more speciall name and note then the rest, as hauing euery one his peculiar function, habit and dignitie in the church, and that they should be al readie to attend vpon the altar, when the Bishop of Rome doth sacrifice, to wit, the Pope himself, Bish. Priests, Deacons, Subd. Priests, and singing men.

*Whereof the  
Clergie be so  
called.*

The office of Bishops, is to giue orders, to veile virgins, to consecrate Bishops, to confirme children by imposition of hands, to dedicate Temples, to degrade Priests frō their functions, and to put them in againe vpon their reformation, to celebrate Councils, to make Chrismes & vnctiōs, to hallow vestiments and Church vessels, and to do any

M

other



other things which meaner Priests may do as well as they, as to cathechise and baptize, to make and consecrate the Sacrament of the Altar, and to communicate it to others, to pronounce absolution to the penitent, to restrain the stubborn, and to preach, and declare the Gospel of Christ.

The crownes of their heades must bee shauen round like the Nazareans, and they ought neither to weare lockes, nor long beards: they are bound to perpetuall chastitie, and they haue the command and preheminence ouer other priests: their liuings and maintenance ought to be onely of first fruites, tythes, & oblations: nor may they meddle or busie themselves in worldly matters, their appa-  
rell and conuersation should be decent, comely, & honest, and they are tyed onely to serue God and the Church, and to occupy and employ themselves seriously in reading the holy Scriptures, that thereby they may perfectly know al things which belong to Christian Religion, wherein they are bound to instruct others.

There be diuers conuenticles, and houses of religious persons, both men & women, as Benedictines, Friars preachers, Franciscans, Augustines, Bernardines, Antonians, Ioannites, Carthusians, Premonstratentians, Carmelites, Cistercians, & many others, euery one of which Orders, haue distinct habits and customes different one from another, by the rules which they haue priuately set downe, and prescribed for themselves to liue vnder. And all of these professe perpetuall chastity, obedience, and wilfull pouertie, & liue for the most part a solitary life: for which cause they were called Monkes, as men liuing a monasticall kind of life. Some of these Orders haue for their heads and gouernors of their houses and societies, Abbots: some Prouosts, and some Priors, but the Bishops be onely subiect to the

Bishop



Bishop of Rome: most of these Orders weare hoodes or cowles, though not all of one colour, and abstaine wholly from flesh. Bishops when they offer vp the sacrifice of the Masse, were cōmanded by that sacred Synod, to bee attired in holy vestures; which for their perfection are borrowed out of the law of *Moses*: & of these garments be 15. to wit, the Sandals, the Amice, the long Albe that reacheth down to their anckles, the Girdle, the Stole, the Maniple, the purple Coate with wide sleeues, the Gloues, the Ring, the Linnen garment called *Castula*, the Napkin or Sudary, the Pall or Cope, the Myter, the Crozier staffe, & a chaire standing nere the altar for him to sit in: of these 15. church-ornaments, six were made common, as well to other inferiour Priests, as to Bishops, that is to say, the Amice, the long Albe, the Girdle, the Stole, the Maniple, & the *Castula*: besides these 15. sundry sorts of garments, the Pope (by the donation of the Emperor *Constantine* the Great) weareth in the celebration of the Masse, all the Robes vsed by the Emperors of Rome, as the scarlet coate, the short purple cloake, the scepter, and the triple Diadem, and with these he is arrayed in the Vestry: when he saith Masse vppon any sollemne festiuall dayes, and from thence goeth to the Altar attended with a priest on his right side, and a Deacon on his left, before him goeth a sub-Deacon, with a book in his hand shut, two taper-bearers, & one with a censor burning incense: when he approacheth nere to the Altar, hee puts off his myter, and kneeling down with his attendants vpon the lowest step, pronounceth the *Confiteor*, or publike confession of sinners, and then ascending vp to the altar, he openeth the booke and kisseth it, and so proceedeth to the celebration of all the ceremonies belonging to that sacrifice, the sub-deacon reading the Epistle, and the deacon the Gospell.



Bishoppes, and all other eminent Priests, bee likewise bound to prayse God euery day seuen times, and to vse one certaine order and forme of prayer, and not onely to do so themselues, but to giue commandement to all inferior Priests whatsoeuer, vnder their charge and iurisdiction to do the like, as to say Euen-song in the afternoone, Compline in the twy-light, Mattins in the morning, and their houres at the first, third, sixt, and ninth houre of the day, and that all this (if it be possible) should be done in the Church, humbly kneeling or standing before the Altar, with their faces towards the East: The Lords prayer, and the Apostles Creed were then vsed to be sayd, as they are now at this day.

Saint *Hierome* (at the instance of Pope *Damasus*) distributed and digested the Psalmes by the dayes, assigning to euery houre his proper Psalmes and their number, as nine at nocturns vpon holy dayes, and 12. vpon working daies, for the laudes at Mattins five, five at euen-song, and at all other houres three: and it was chiefly he, that disposed and set in order the Gospels, Epistles, & all other things which as yet be read out of the old & new Testament, sauing only the hymnes. *Damasus* diuiding the Quire of singing men into two parts, appointed them to sing in course the Anthemes written by S. *Ambrose* Bishop of Millaine, & added *Gloria Patri* to the end of euery Antheme. The Toletan & Agathon Councils allowed the lessons & hymnes which be read before euery houre: The prayers, grails, tracts alleluias, offertories, communions in the Masse, anthems, versicles, tropes, and other things sung and read to the honor of God in the office of the Masse, as well for the day as night, were penned by S. *Gregory*, *Gelasius*, *Ambros.* and diuers others of the holy Fathers, not all at once, but at diuers times.

The



The Masse (for so is that sacrifice called) was celebrated at the first in that simple furniture and plaine manner, as it is now vsed vpon Easter Eue. Pope *Celestinus* added the Priests manner of entrance to the altar, the *Gloria in excelsis* was annexed by *Telesphorus*, the hymne which begins *Et in terra*, was composed by *Hillarie* Bishop of Poictiers, and was afterwards by *Simachus* ordained to be sung.

The salutations taken out of the booke of *Ruth*, which the priest pronounceth 7. times in the Masse, by saying, *Dominus vobiscum*, were appointed by *Clement* & *Anacletus*: *Gelasius* disposed the rest to the offertory, in the Order they be now vsed, except the *Sequentie* which are said after the Masse, and these *Nicholas* added, & the Apostles Creed which *Damasus* annexed vnto them out of the Constantinopolitan councell. The Sermon which is preached to the people, by the priest or deacon standing in a pulpit, vpon holy-daies, was rather vsed by tradition, after the examples of *Nehemias* or *Esdras* then instituted by any other, in which Sermon the people that be present at Masse, bee admonished to communicate, as in duty they are bound, and that they should imbrace mutual loue, that they should be purged from their sins, & not be polluted with vices, when they receiue the Sacrament of the altar: and for that cause he concludeth his Sermon, with the publike confession of sinners: he declareth moreouer vnto them the contents of the old and new Testament, and putteth them in mind of the ten Commandements, the twelue Articles of our beleefe, the seuen Sacraments of the Church, the liues and Martyrdomes of Saints, the holy-dayes, and fasting daies instituted and ordained by the Church, the vices and virtues, and all other things necessarie for a Christian to know.



Pope *Gregory* added the Offertory to the Masse, and *Leo* the Prefaces, *Gelasius* and *Sixtus* the greater and lesser Canons, and *Gregory* the Lords prayer out of the Gospell of Saint *Mathew*: *Martial*, Saint *Peters* Disciple, instituted, that Bishoppes should giue the benediction: and *Innocentius*, that inferior Priests should offer the Pax: *Agnus Dei* was adioyned by *Sergius*, the Communion by *Gregorie*, and the Conclusion, in these wordes, *Ite, missa est, Benedicamus Domino*, or *Deo gratias*, was inuented by Pope *Leo*.

The Creed.

The twelue Articles of our Faith, which the holy Apostles haue commanded euery one, not onely to acknowledge, but most constantly to beleue, be these following: The first, that there is one God in Trinitie, the Father Almighty, Maker of heauen and earth: the second, That *Iesus Christ* is his onely begotten Sonne our Lord: the third, that he was conceiued of the holy Ghost, borne of the Virgin *Mary*: the fourth, that he suffered vnder *Pontius Pilate*, was crucified, dead, and buried: the fift, that he descended into hell, and the third day rose againe from the dead: the sixt, that he ascended into heauen, and that there hee sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: the seuenth, that he shall come againe in glorie to iudge both the quicke and the dead: the eight, that there is a holy Ghost: the ninth, that there is a holy Catholike Church: the tenth, that there is a Communion of Saints, and remission of sinnes: the eleuenth, that there is a resurrection of the flesh: and the twelfth, that there is an eternall life after death in another world.

The 10. Commandements.

The tenne Commandements which were written with the finger of God, and deliuered by the hands of his seruant *Moses*, to the people of *Israel*, and which he willed



vs to obserue and keepe, be these following. The first, to beleue, that there is one God: the second, not to take the name of God in vaine: the third, to keepe holy the Sabbath day: the fourth, to honour our fathers and betters: the fift, to do no murther: the sixt, not to commit adulterie: the seuenth, not to steale: the eighth, not to beare false witnesse: the ninth, not to couet other mens goods: and the tenth, not to desire another mans wife, nor any thing that is his.

The seuen Sacraments of the Church, which bee included in the last five Articles of our faith, and which the holy Fathers haue commanded vs to beleue, be these following: First, Baptisme, and this Sacrament heretofore (as it was established by a canonicall sanction) was not ministred vnto any, (vnlesse vpon very vrgent necessitie) but vnto such as were afore-hand well instructed in the faith, and sufficiently catechised and examined thereof seuen sundrie times, to wit, vpon certaine dayes in Lent, and vppon the vigils of Easter, and Pentecost, beeing the vsuall times for consecration in all Parishes. But this Sacrament beeing aboue all the rest most necessarie vnto saluation, and least any one should depart out of this life, without the benefit thereof, it was ordained, that as soon as an infant was borne, he should haue God-fathers procured for him, to be his witnesses or sureties, and that then the child, beeing brought by his God-fathers before the church doore, the Priest, (standing there for the purpose) should demand of the child, before he dippe him in the holy Font, whether he will forsake the Diuell and all his pompes, and whether he stedfastly beleue all the Articles of the Christian faith, and the God-fathers affirming on his behalfe, the Priest bloweth three times in the

*The seuen Sacraments.*



Infants face, and when he hath exorcized and catechized him, he doth these seuen things in order vnto the child: first, he putterh hallowed salt into his mouth, secondly, hee annointeth his eyes, eares, and nostrils with earth moystened with his spittle, thirdly, (giuing him his name after which he shall be called) he marketh him with the signe of the crosse vpon his breast and backe with hallowed oyle: fourthly, inuocating the name of the blessed Trinitie, the Father, Sonne, and holy Ghost, (in whose name all other Sacraments are ministred) three times, he dippeth or ducketh him into the water, or else powreth water vpon him three times in forme of a crosse: fifthly, (dipping his thomb into the holy Chrysm) he signeth his fore-head with the signe of the crosse: sixthly, hee couereth him with a white garment: and seuenthly and lastly, putteth into his hands a burning candle.

It was ordained by the Agathon Councell, that Iewes before they were baptized, shold be instructed in the Christian faith nine moneths, and fast forty daies, and that they should refuse all their substance, make free their bond-seruants, and put from them their children, (if they had any such) as were circumcized after the lawe of *Moses*: and for those causes it is no maruell, that the Iewes bee so hardly induced to receiue the Sacrament of Baptisme.

2 The second Sacrament, is Confirmation, which is giuen onely by the Bishop in the Church before the altar, to children of fourteene yeares of age or vpwards, and if it may be, while they be fasting; in this manner: All the children which come to be confirmed, beeing there present with their god-fathers, the bishop (hauing said a prayer ouer each of them) dips his thombe into moist Chrysm, signing



signing euery one of their foreheads with the signe of the crosse, *In the name of the Father, and of the Sonne, and of the holy Ghost*, and for their better remembrance, and to the end they should not require this Sacrament againe, he giueth euery one a blow vpon his right cheeke, and then the Godfathers (for feare least the moist vnction should runne off or be wiped away through negligence or carelesse-ness) bind their foreheads with a linnen cloth, (which they bring with them for that purpose) and that cloth they may not put off vntill the seuenth day after. And such force haue the holy fathers attributed to this Sacrament, as if a man dislike of his name he tooke in his Baptisme, in taking of this Sacramēt he may haue it changed into an other name by the Bishop.

3 The third Sacrament is the Sacrament of holy orders, which in the primitiue Church was likewise ministred by the Bishop, and that only in the month of December, but now it is ministred at six times in the yeer appointed for that purpose, that is to say vpon the Saterdaies of al those 4. feasts called Ember weekes, which were ordained for that end, vpon the Saterdag called (*Sitientes*) which is the Saterdag before passion Sunday, & vpon the eue of the blessed Passouer: and then to men only, and to such whose condition of life, hability of body, & quality of minde is sufficiently knowne and approued: There be seuen orders of Priests or (according to some) nine, all of which (as the holy fathers haue euer bin of opinion) haue imprinted in their hearts, by their holy orders, such special characters of grace, as they be euer after held holy & sanctified: which be singing men or organists, doorekeepers, readers, Exorcists, Priests, Ministers or Acolits, Subdecōs, Deacons, Priests & Bishops, & yet it is held to be but one  
Sacrament



Sacrament, not many, by reason of the finall office, which is to consecrate the Lords body : Euery one of these nine orders of Priests hath his peculiar office in the Church, & ornaments allowed him by the Toleran councel, to distinguish him from the rest, for the doore keepers, or sextons are to defend and keepe the Churches, and to open & shut them, and therefore a key is giuen vnto them when they be ordained : to the readers that haue power to read the old Testament, and holy histories, is giuen a booke; the office of Exorcists is to dispossesse such as bee possessed with euil spirits, and haue a booke giuen vnto them, wherein be contained those exorcismes for a marke to signifie that office. The office of the Acolites is to set the candlesticks vpon the Altar, and to light the tapers, as also to set in redinesse the vyoles or pots of water, & to carry them away when masse is done, and therefore be they manifested by carrying a candlesticke with a taper in it, and an empty vial or cruet. The Subdeacons are to take the oblations, to handle the chalice and patin, and make them ready for the sacrifice, and to administer wine and water to the Deacons in the vials, and therefore the Bishop giueth them a chalice and a patin, and the Archdeacon, cruets ful of wine & water, and a towel. The Deacons proper function is to preach the word of God to the people, and to be assistant to the priests in the holy misteries of the Church, and to them is giuen the booke of the New-Testament & a stole cast crosse ouer one shoulder like a yoake. The power of the priests is to consecrate the Lords body, to pray for sinners, and (by enioyning them penance) to reconcile them againe vnto God, and therefore is he honored with a chalice ful of wine, a patin with the hoast vpon it, a stole hanging on both shoulders, and the linnen garment called Castula.



stula. What is giuen to Bishops at their consecrations, you haue heard before, and they be euer ordained & consecrated, about three of the clocke on the Lords day at the celebration of the office of the masse, before the reading of the Gospel, by three other Bishops whereof the Metropolitane to be one, who doe it by laying there hands, and a booke vpon his head: In the primitiue Church there was little difference betwixt Bishops and other priests, for al of them by common consent did ioyn together in the gouernment of the Church, til such dissentions grew among them, as euery one would call himselfe not of Christ, but rather of him by whom he was baptised, as one of *Paule*, another of *Apollo*, a third of *Cephas*. And therefore for the auoiding of schismes, & maintayning an vniformity in the Church, the holy fathers though it necessary to establish a decree that al which should euer after be baptised should be called by one general appellation Christians, of Christ, and that euery Prouince should bee gouerned by one Priest, or more, according to the quantity & bignesse, who for their grauity and reuerence should be called Bishops, and they should gouerne and instruct both lay people & clergy that were vnder their charge, not after their owne wils and pleasures as was vsed before, but according to the prescript rules, canons and ordinances of the Church of Rome and holy Councils, and then by the permission & furtherance of good and holy Princes, all Kingdomes throughout the Christian world were deuided into Diocesses, the Diocesse into Shires and Counties, and they againe into seuerall parrishes, which good and godly ordinance both for clergy and laytie, is yet of that validity & estimation as the people of euery village yeeld there obedience to their parish Priest, the parish Priest to the Deane,



Deane, the Deane to the Bishop, the Bishop to the Archbishop, the Archbishop to the Primate or Patriarch, the primate or Patriarch to the Legate, the Legate to the Pope, the Pope to general councils, and general councils only vnto God.

4 The fourth Sacrament is the most holosome Sacramēt of the body & bloud of our Lord & Sauour Iesus Christ, and euery priest that is duly called & ordained according to the rules of Church, and intendeth to consecrate, may (by obseruing the vsual forme of words vsed in the consecration) make the true body of Christ of a peece of wheaten bread, and of wine his right and perfect bloud. And this Sacrament the same Lord Iesus Christ in the night before he suffered his bitter passion, did celebrate with his disciples, consecrating it, and ordaining that it should euer after be celebrated and eaten in remembrance of him. It behoueth euery one that receiueth this Sacrament to bee strong in faith, that he may beleue and credit these thirteene things following: First that he beleue the transmutation or transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the body and bloud of Christ: Secondly that though this be done euery day, yet is not the body of Christ thereby augmented: Thirdly that the body of Christ is not diminished, though it be eatē euery day: Fourthly that though this Sacrament be deuided into many parts, that yet the whole and intire body of Christ remaineth in euery little particle: Fifthly, that though it be eaten of wicked & malicious men, yet is not the Sacrament thereby defiled: Sixtly, that to those which receiue it worthily, & as they ought, it bringeth saluation, & eternal damnation to those which receiue it vnworthily: Seuenthly, that when it is eaten it conuerteth not into the nature & property of him that eateth



eateth it, as other meate doth, but rather conuerteth the eater into the nature of the Sacrament rightly, that being eaten it is taken vp into heauen without hurt: Ninthly that in euery little forme of bread and wine is comprehended the great and incomprehensible God and Man Christ Iesus: Tenthly. that one and the same body of Christ is receiued and taken at one moment in diuers places of diuers men, and vnder a diuers forme: Eleuenthy, that the substance of the bread being turned into the true body of Christ, and the substance of the wine into his bloud, the natural accidents of bread and wine doe yet remaine, and that they are not receiued in forme of flesh and bloud: Twelfthly, that vnto those that eate it worthily, it bringeth twelue great commodities, which are expressed in these verses following.

*Inflamat, memorat, sustentat, roborat, auget*

*Hostia spem, purgat, reficit, vitam dat, & vnit,*

*Confirmat fidem, minuit, fomitemq. remittit.*

The effect whereof is, that the hoast inflameth, remembreth, sustaineth, strengthneth and augmenteth our hope. It purgeth, refresheth, quickneth and vniteth: It confirmeth our faith and mitigateth and vtterly quencheth in vs all concupiscence.

Lastly, that it is wonderfull good and profitable for all those for whom the priest specially offereth it as a sacrifice, be they liuing or dead, and that therefore it is called the communion or Sacrament of the Eucharist: In the beginning of Christian religion, & yet in some places, there was consecrated at one time such a loafe of bread, as being afterwards cut into small mamocks by the priest, and laid vpon a sawcer, or plate, might well serue all the  
commu-



communicants that were present at the sacrifice, and at that time did Christians communicate thereof dayly. And afterwards they were limited to receiue it only vpon sundaies, but when the Church perceiued that this sacrament was not taken euery sunday so worthily and with such due obseruation as was fitting, it was ordained that euery Christian man of perfect reason & vnderstanding, should with all diligence he could, and with his best preparation both of body and soule, receiue the same thrice a yeere, or at the least euery yeere once at Easter, as also when hee found himselfe in any danger of death, as a ready preparatiue against al perils, by which name it is often called.

5 Matrimony ( which is a lawfull coniunction of man and wife, instituted and ordained by the law of God, the law of nature, & the law of nations) is the fift Sacrament: and the holy fathers in Christian piety haue commanded, that but one marriage shall be solemnized at one time, and that it shal not be done in secret, but publikely, either in the Church or Church-porch, but most commonly in the Church-porch, where the priest meeting the parties that are to be married, first asketh of the man, and then of the woman whether they be willing to be contracted, who answering that they are content and agreed (which is a thing most necessary in that Sacrament) he taketh them by the right hands, & ioyning them together in the name of the blessed and indeuided trinity in vnity, the Father Sonne, and holy Ghost, hee admonisheth and exhorteth them, that being euer mindefull of this vnion and holy communion they neuer after forsake one an other, but to liue in mutual loue, honor and obedience one to an other, that they should not desire one an others company for lust, but for procreation of children, and that they should  
bring



bring vp their children honestly, carefully, and in the feare of God, this done he marrieth them with the ring, and sprinkleth holy water on them, and then putting on his stole which is thither brought him, he leadeth them into the church, and causing them to kneele humbly before the Altar, there blesteth them (if they were not blessed before) the woman when she is married hath her haire tied vp with a red fillet or headband, and a white veile ouer it, without which veile or head couer, it is neuer lawful for her after that time to goe abroad, or to be in the company of men: There be twelue impediments that hinder marriage before it be solemnized, and dissolue it after it is contracted, that is to say, the error or mistaking of either party, the breach of some condition, kindred, a manifest offence, disparity of religion, violence or forcible rauishment from their parents, holy orders, breach of reputation, publike defamation, affinity, and dissability to performe the act of matrimony.

6 The sixt Sacrament of the church is penance, which is giuen by Christ as a second repaire of our shipwrake, and euery Christian man is bound vndoubtedly to belcene, that this Sacrament consisteth of these foure things, to wit, repentance for sins past, canonical confession, absolution, and satisfaction; for he that will be partaker of this Sacrament must first of al repent & be sorrowful in his very soule, that through his grievous and heinous sins hee hath lost that purity and innocency which he once had, either by the Sacrament of Baptisme, or by this Sacramēt formerly receiued, & his grieve must be so hearty & effectual, as he must thereby assuredly hope to bee reconciled againe vnto God, then must he humbly acknowledge, and make verball recitall vnto some reuerent priest his confessor



feſſor(as vnto the vicar and miniſter of God)of al theſe ſins & offences,as were cauſers of the loſſe of that innocency, & ſtirred vp the wrath of God againſt him,& then let him firmly beleeeue , that ſuch power and authority is giuen by Chriſt vnto his prieſts & miniſters on earth,that they can cleerely abſolue him from al ſuch ſins as he confeſſeth & is heartily ſory for . Laſtly for a ſatiſfaction & amends for al his ſins,let him with alacrity & cheerefulnes vndergo & do whatſoeuer his confeſſor ſhall enioyne him, beleeuing moſt ſtedfaſtly that he is abſolued from al his ſins,as ſoone as the prieſt hath pronounced the words of abſolution.

7 The ſeuenth and laſt Sacrament is the Sacrament of extreame vnction,which is miniſtered with oyle,which for that purpoſe is yeerely conſecrated and hallowed in euery Dioceſſe by the biſhop himſelfe vpon the thurſday before Eaſterday as the holy Chriſtine is cōſecrated by the prieſt. This Sacrament according to the counel of the holy Apoſtle Saint *Iames*,& the inſtitutiō of Pope *Felix* the 4.is miniſtered only to ſuch as are at the point of death & of full age,and not then neither,vnleſſe they deſire it,and by the preſcript form & repeating of the words of the Sacramēt,& often inuocation of the Saints thoſe parts of the body being annointed which are the ſeats of the ſiue ſences,ſeeing, hearing, taſting, ſmelling and touching,and are the chiefeſt inſtrumēts in offending,as the mouth,eyes,eaes,nose hands and feet; the holy fathers haue bin euer of this opinion,and firme beleefe,that he which is ſo anointed & receiueth it worthily,is not only thereby remitted & purged frō al his light and venial ſins, but is either ſodenly reſtored to his former health,or elſe yeeldeth vp his ſpirit in more tranquility and peace of conſcience.

The feſtiual daies which were cōmanded to be obſerued in  
the



The festiuall dayes which were commanded to be obserued in the Church throughout the yeare, begin with the Aduent of our Lord Iesus Christ: In which by the institution of Saint *Peter* (in the month of December,) the continuall exercise of fasting and prayer was commanded for full three weekes and a halfe together, before the feast of the Natiuity of our Lord, with vs called Christmas, which with all ioy and solemnity is celebrated all the last eight dayes of December. The yeare is deuided into 52. weekes, the weekes into twelue months, and euery month (for the most part) into thirty dayes: vpon the first day of Ianuary the Church celebrateth the circumcision of our Lord, according to the law of *Moses*: Vpon the third day after is represented vnto vs, how our Sauour Christ, by the adoration of the three Kings, and his beeing Baptised of *Iohn* in the riuer Iordane, laid the foundation of the new law: vpon the second of February is shewed how his immaculate mother, shewing her selfe obedient to the ceremonies of the Iewes, presented her sonne Iesus in the Temple, and was purified, in memory whereof there is on that day a solempne procession vsed by the Church, and all the tapers and wax lights bee then hallowed: Vpon the 25. day of March is represented vnto vs the Annuntiation of the birth of Christ to the Virgin *Mary*, by the Angel; and how he was conceiued in her wombe by the inspiration of the holy ghost, at which time is commended vnto vs also the remembrance of the forty daies, which our Sauour, when he liued here on earth amongst vs, vouchsafed to fast, willing vs likewise to fast that time after his example, & then to celebrate his passion and death, which willingly he offered himselfe to suffer, to enfranchise and redeeme vs from the thraldome and flauery of the diuell. Vpon the last day

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of

*The festiuall  
dayes, through  
out the yeare.*



of which feast (which often falleth out in Aprill) is solemnized the greatest of all feasts, how Christ hauing conquered death descended into hell; where after hee had overcome the Diuell he returned aliue againe to his Disciples and in a glorified body appeared vnto them. In May is solemnized his Ascension into Heauen, by his owne vertue in the sight of al his Disciples, at which time by the ordinance of Saint *Mamertine* Bishoppe of Vienna it was instituted that throughout the whole Christian world Pilgrimages and processions should bee vsed vpon that day from one Church to an other. In Iune, and sometimes in May is the feast of the comming of the Holy Ghost, who being before promised was on that day infused vpon all the Disciples of our Sauour Christ appearing vnto them in the forme of fiery tongues; by vertue whereof they spake and vnderstood the languages of all nations. The eight day after is the feast of the blessed Trinity, and then out of the first decretal of Pope *Vrbane* the sixt, the feast of *Corpus Christi* was instituted and with great solemnity generally celebrated the fifth day after Trinity Sunday, as a perpetual memoriall of the most wholesome Sacrament of the body and bloud of Christ, by him bequeathed vnto vs in his last supper, vnder the formes of bread and wine, and continually of vs to be scene and eaten after his departure: vpon the fifteenth day of Iuly wee are put in minde (by a new festiuity) of the departure of the blessed Apostles according to their seuerall allotment, the twelfth yeare after the assention of our Lord into heauen, to preach the Gospell vnto all nations of the world: The death of the Mother of Christ is celebrated the fifteenth day of August and her natiuity the eight of September: How, being presented in the Temple, she continued in the dayly seruice of  
God,



God, from three yeares of age till shee was maryageable, is shewed the one and twentieth day of nouember: vpon the eight day of December the Church reuerenceth her immaculate conception of her long barren parents. And the second of Iuly how passing ouer the Mountaines shee visited her Cousin *Elizabeth*. There are likewise holy-daies dedicated to the memory of the twelue Apostles, of whom some were martirs, some confessors, and some Virgins, as namely the twenty foure of February to Saint *Mathias*, the twenty five of Aprill to Saint *Marke* the Euangelist, on which day Saint *Gregory* ordained the litanies, called the greater litanies, to be said. To Saint *Philip* and *Iacob*, the elder, the first of May, to Saint *Peter* and *Paul*, the twenty nine of Iune, the twenty foure day of which moneth is dedicated to the natiuity of Saint *Iohn Baptist*, the twenty five of Iuly to Saint *James* the younger, to Saint *Bartholemew* the twenty foure of August, to S. *Mathew* the twenty one of September, the twenty eight of October to S. *Simon* and *Iude*, the last of Nouember to Saint *Andrew*, the twenty one of December to Saint *Thomas*, and the twenty seauen of the same month to the Euangelist Saint *Iohn*, the next day before Saint *Iohns* day is dedicated to Saint *Steuen*, the first Martir and the next after to the blessed *Innocents*: the tenth of August to Saint *Lawrence*: the twenty three of Aprill to Saint *George*: To Saint *Martin* and S. *Nicholas* onely of all the confessors are dedicated particular feasts, to the one the sixt of December, to the other the eleuenth of Nouember: the twenty five of nouember to Saint *Katherine* the Virgin, and to Saint *Mary-Magdalen* the second of Iuly. They haue likewise appoynted one day to be kept Holy and dedicated to all the blessed Angells, in the name of Saint *Michells* feast the Arch-Angell and the



first of Nouember, as a generall feast and common solemnity to all the Saints and elect of God.

Furthermore vpon euery seuenth day, called by the name of Sunday, they haue commanded all Christians, (as the Iewes did on their Sabbath) to abstaine from all seruile labours, which day they must onely spend in the seruice of God, and hearing of Masse in the Church, to heare the Gospell and precepts of faith explained and taught by the Priests in their Sermons, and to pray and make satisfaction to God for all such offences, whereby wee haue cause to feare that wee haue in the other sixe dayes any way prouoked the wrath of God towards vs. In times past euery fift day was in this manner kept holy, but least wee should seeme to leane vnto the custome of Idolaters, who on that day did sacrifice to *Iupiter*, it was otherwise determined. Moreouer the Priests and people did vse euery Sunday and Thursday, before Masse, to goe on procession about the Church, and then the Priests sprinckled holy water vpon the people, and this ceremony did Pope *Agapite* institute, in remembrance of the Ascension of Christ in that glorious day of his resurrection, which is celebrated with a perpetuall festiuitie, Sunday after Sunday, as it were by so many *Octaues* all the yeare about. All the Cleargie and people by the institutions of the Church, were wont to watch all those nights which went before the principall solempne feasts, but in respect of sundry enormous scandalls and crimes committed in the darke, by lewde people, vnder pretext of watching, that vse was taken away and prohibited, and insteed thereof the day immediatly before euery such solempne feast, was commanded to bee fasted, which fasting dayes doe yet retaine the name of Vigils.

The



The ancient Fathers haue determined, that the Church shall represent vnto vs foure things in her yearly seruice, from *Septuagesima* Sunday (so called of the seauenty dayes included between that & Easter) the Church representeth vnto vs, the fast of our Lord Iesus Christ, his passion, death and buriall, and besides these, the miserable fall of our forefathers, as also those grosse errors of mankinde, through which being drawne from the knowledge and worship of the true God, they haue fallen to the prophane worship of Idols, and malicious diuels, together with the slavish, and intollerable seruitude, which the people of Israel were subiect vnto vnder *Pharoa* King of Egypt, for which cause the bookes of *Exodus* and *Genesis* are read in the seruice of the Church, which all that time weareth a mourning habite both in her seruice and ceremonies: from the *Octaues* of Easter, till the *Octaues* of Whitsuntide, the Church celebrateth the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ, and the comming of the Holy Ghost, and withall the redemption and reconciliation of mankind, to God the Father by his sonne Christ, of all which the Reduction of the children of Israell to the land of Promise was a figure; wherefore the bookes of the New Testament are then read, and all things expresse mirth and reioycing. From the *Octaues* of Whitsunday till Aduent (which is twenty weekes and more) wee are appointed to celebrate the miracles and conuersation of our Sauour Christ, whilest hee liued amongst vs in the world, as likewise that long peregrination of mankinde, from generation to generation, since the redemption of the world, euen to the last day thereof; Wherefore in respect of the multitude of vncertainties, through which wee are tossed like a ship in the raging sea, the Church exceedeth neither in ioy nor sadnesse, but



to the end that we should walke warily, and be able to resist all turbulent stormes, she readeth for our instruction and hartning, diuerse bookes of the New and Old Testament.

Moreouer, from the time of Aduent to the feast of the Natiuity, wee are put in minde of the time betwixt *Moses* and the comming of the *Messias*, in which *interim* mankinde beeing assured of their saluation by him, out of the law and Prophets, did with most ardent desire expect his comming and future raigne ouer them, for which cause they haue caused the Prophets to be read, and this time to be fasted, that the Church being instructed in the one, & exercised by the other, should both worthily and ioyfully as it were with one continuall solemnity, celebrate the natiuity of Christ her Sauour (which alwayes falleth the weeke after Aduent) till *Septuagesima*, receiuing him into the world with all deuotion, and with condigne ioy and exultation, accepting the first apparance of their saluatiō. The Oratories or Temples which are vsually called Churches, they would not suffer to be erected without licence of the Bishop of the Diocesse, whose office is (after all things necessary for the buildings bee prepared, and the place where it shall stand agreed vpon) to blesse the first corner stone of the foundation, to put on it the signe of the crosse, and to lay it Eastward towards the Sunne rising, which done, it is lawfull for the workemen to lay on lime, and to goe on with their building. This Church is to bee built after the forme of mans body, or of a crosse: The Quire in which the high Altar is to bee placed, and where the Clergie doe sing (whereof it is so called) must represent the head, and it is to bee built towards the East, and to bee made rounder and shorter then  
the



the rest of the building, and because the eyes are placed in the head, it is therefore to be made more lightsome, and to be seperated from the body of the Church, with barres as it were with a neck: adioyning herevnto, must stand a steeple, or more properly two, on cyther side one, instead of eares, and in these ought bells to be hanged, to call and summon the people by their sound to diuine seruice. The lower part of the building must be euery way so disposed, as that it may aptly expresse and represent the armes and feete, and the rest of the body, with a conuenient length and breadth. There ought to bee also a priuate roome with partitions, which is vsually built vnder one of the Turrets, hauing a doore opening into the Quire, in which the holy Vessels, ornaments and other necessities belonging to the Church may bee kept: This priuate roome is called the Vestery. There must bee two rowes of pillars, vppon the toppes whereof the roofe must rest and bee supported; and the Altars must leane to the lower parts.

The Altars are alwayes to bee decently couered with two liinnen clothes, hauing a crosse set vpon them, or a shrine, containing the Relicks of Saints, two Candlesticks on each end, and a booke. The walls both within and without must bee fretted and carued with variety of sacred Images: In euery parish Church there must be a hollow Font stone, in which the hollowed water to baptize withall is preserued and kept. Vpon the right side of the Altar must stand a Pix or Custodia, which is either set vp against the wall, or carued out of it, in which the blessed sacrament of Christs body, holy oyle to annoint the sick, & Chrisme for those which are baptised, is to be kept fast shut vppe: Furthermore in the midst of the Church must be placed



a pulpit, out of which the Curat on festiuall dayes teacheth the people all things necessary to saluation: The Cleargie onely are permitted to sit in the Quire, and the laitie in the body of the Church, yet so deuided, as that the men take place on the right side, and the women on the left, both of them behauing them-selues modestly and deuoutly, and diligently auoyding whatsoeuer is opposite to good manners and Christian religion: In the Primitiue Church the manner was both for men and women to suffer their haire to grow long without cutting, and to shew their naked breasts; nor was there much difference in their attire. Saint *Peter* the Apostle did first command, that men should cut their hayre, and women should couer their heads, and both should bee apparelled in distinct habites: That there should bee layde out to euery Church a peece of ground, in which the bodies of Christian people, deceased, should be buried, which peece of ground is called the Church-yard, and is hallowed by the Bishop, and hath all the priuiledges belonging to the Church it selfe.

The funeralls of the departed are not solemnized in all places alike; for some weare mourning apparell seauen dayes together, some nine, others thirty, some forty, some fifty, some an hundred, and some for the space of a whole yeare. The Toletan Councell hath decreed, that the dead body shall be first washed and wraped in a shrowd or sear-cloth, and so carried to the graue with singing by men of the same condition, as Priests by Priests, and lay folkes by lay folke, and that a Priest should goe before the coarfe incensing it with Franckincence, and sprinckling holy water on it, and that it should bee laide in the graue with the face vpwards, the feete to the East, and the head  
to



to the west, the Priest vsing certaine imprecations all the while the Sexton is covering the dead body with earth. And to shew that a Christian is their buried their must be erected at the gate a crosse of wood with a wreath of Ivy cypresse or bayes about it. And these bee the institutions of the Christian religion.

*The end of the second booke.*



## THE THIRD BOOKE.

*Of the most famous countries of Europe  
the third booke.*

CAP. I.



EXT vnto Asia order induceth mee to speake of Europe, the third part of the world, which is so called of *Europa* the daughter of *Agenor* King of Phœnicia, who was rauished by *Iupiter* & brought into Creet.

*Europe so by so called.*

It is bounded on the West with the Atlanticke sea, with the Brittish Ocean on the North, on the East with the ri-  
uer Tanais, the poole of Mæotis, and the sea called Pontus  
(which

*The limits of Europe.*



The commen-  
dations of Eu-  
rope.

(which is the Sea betweene Mœotis and Tenedos) and with the Mediterranean Sea on the South.

The soyle of Europe is of diuerse sorts and qualities, very aptly besitting the vertue and disposition of the people of each seuerall Prouince, euery one transferring the commodities of their owne countries vnto other nations: for Europe is all habitable, some little part onely excepted, which (by reason of the extremity of colde) can hardly bee indured, which is that part that is neereſt vnto the riuer Tanais, and the poole of Meotis, as also those that dwell vpon the bankes of Boryſthenes, which liue altogether in Chariots.

That habitableſt part of the Region which is also extreame cold and mountanous, is very hardly inhabited, and difficult to dwell in, and yet all the difficulties and extremity thereof is well mitigated and appeased by honest and good gouernors, euen as wee see those Greekes which dwell vppon mountaines and rockes, liue indifferently well, by reason of their great care and prouidence of Ciuitie, Artes, and vnderstanding how to liue.

The Romaines also receiuing vnto them many people out of those cragged and cold countries, (or vnfrequented for other causes) which naturally were barbarous, inhumaine and infociable, haue so reclaimed them, by mingling them with other people, as they haue learned those rude and sauadge people to liue together soberly and ciuilly.

The Inhabitants of so much of Europe as is plaine and hath a naturall temperature, are apt to liue orderly; for those which dwell in temperate and fortunate Regions, be quiet and peaceable, but the rough and difficult places are inhabited by quarrellous and cumbersome people,  
and



and yet all of them participate their commodities one with an another, some helping and furnishing others with weapons, some with fruites, and some with arts and instructions of manners; the inconueniences and hinderances which happen to those that vse not this reciprocal ayd is most apparant, for that the other by meanes of this mutuall intercourse of commodities are of sufficient power & puissance to carry weapōs, wage war, and defend themselves, so as they bee neuer vanquished, vnlesse by a greater number. And this commodity also is incident and naturall to all Europe, as that it is plaine and euen, and distinguished with hills, wherby it is in al parts limitted, well ordered, ciuill and valiant: and (that which is more) well disposed to liue in peace and tranquillity: so as what first by the Grecian forces, next by the Macedonians, and lastly by the Romaines, no maruæile though it hath atchiued great conquests and notable victories, by which it plainly appeareth, that Europe is sufficient of it selfe, both for war and for peace, as hauing a competent and sufficient number of able fighting men, and husbandmen and Cittizens enough besides.

Europe moreover aboundeth with the best fruites and those which be most profitable for mans life; and all manner of mettells whereof is any vse, besides odors for sacrifices, and stones of great worth, by which commodities, both poore and rich haue sufficient meanes to liue: It yeeldeth also great store of tame Cattell, but very few rauinous or wild beastes.

And this is the nature of Europe in generall, the first Particular part whereof East-ward is Greece.

of



Of Greece and of Solons lawes which hee made for the  
Athenians and which were after establi-  
shed by the Princes of Greece.

CAP. 2.

The discription  
of Greece.



Thermopile.

Greece (a country of Europe) was so called  
of one *Grecus*, who had the gouernment  
of that country: It begineth at the  
straights of Isthmus, and extending north  
and south, lyeth opposite to that part of  
the Mediterranean sea which is called *Æ-  
geum*, on the East, and on the West to  
the sea *Ionium*: as the hill *Apennyne* deuideth *Italy* in the  
middle, so is Greece seperated and deu-  
ided with Moun-  
taines called *Thermopilæ*, the toppes of the hills stretch-  
ing in length from *Leucas* and the *Westerne* sea, to-  
wards the other sea which is Eastward.

The Region of  
Greece.

The vtmost hills towards the west bee called *Oeta*, the  
highest whereof is named *Callidromus*, in whose valley  
there is a way or passage into the *Maliacan* gulfe, not a-  
boue threescore paces broad, through which way, (if no  
resistance bee made) a whole hoste of men may bee safe-  
ly conducted: but the other parts of those hills bee so  
steepe, craggy and intrycate as it is not possible for the  
nimblest foote-man that is to passe ouer them: there hills  
bee called *Thermopilæ*, of the piles or bankes that stand  
like gates at the entrance of the hills, and of the hot waters  
that spring out of them: by the sea side of Greece ly these  
regions, *Acarmania*, *Ætolia*, *Locris*, *Phocis*, *Bæotia* and  
*Eubæa*, which are almost annexed to the land: *Attica*  
and *Peloponesus* runne further into the sea than these  
other



other countries do, varying from the other in proportion of hills : and vpon that part which is towards the North it is included with Epirus, Phirrhæbia, Magnesia, Thessalia, Phithiotæ and the Malican gulfe.

The most famous and renowned citty of Athens, the nurse of all liberall sciences and Philosophers, (than the which there is no one thing in all Greece of more excellency and estimation, ) is scituated betwixt Achaia and Macedonia, in a country there called Attica, of *Atthis* the Kings daughter of Athens, who succeeded *Cecrops* in the kingdome and builded Athens. *Athens, and why so called.*

Of this *Cecrops* it was called *Secropia*, and after *Mopsopia* of *Mopsus*. And of *Ian* the sonne of *Xutus*, or ( as *Iosephus* writeth ) of *Ianus* the sonne of *Iaphet*, it was called *Ionia* : and lastly Athens of *Minerua*, for the Greekes call *Minerua Athenæ* : *Draco* was the first that made lawes for the Athenians, many of which lawes were afterwards abrogated by *Solon* of Salamin, for the too seuerer punishment inflicted vpon offenders : for by all the laws which *Draco* ordained, death was due for euery little offence, in such sort as if one were conuicted but of sloth or Idleness, hee should die for it, and he which gathered rootes or fruits out of an others mans grounds, was as deeply punished as those which had murdered their parents. *Solon* deuided the citty into societies, trybes or wards, according to the estimation and valuation of euery ones substance and reueneus, In the first rancke were those whose substance was supposed to consist of five hundred medimni : those which were worth three hundred medimni, and were able to breed and keepe horses, were counted in the second order, and those of the third degree were equall in substance to the second, the charge of keeping horses onely

*Draco's lawes to the Athenians.*
*The citty of Athens diuided into societies by Solon.*



onely excepted: And of these orders were all magistrates and high officers (for the most part) ordained, and, those which were vnder these degrees were in the fourth rancke, and were called mercenary, and were excluded from all offices, sauing that they might haue the charge of pleading and decyding causes: This institution of ciuill gouernment, *Seruius Tullius* is supposed to haue followed and imitated at Rome.

*The councill in  
Areopagus.*

Moreouer *Solon* appointed a Senate or Councell consisting of yearely Magistrates, in Areopagus: (though some haue reported that *Draco* was the founder of that assembly) And to the end that hee might take away all occasion of ciuill dissention, that might happen at any time afterwards, and that the inconsiderate multitude should not trouble the iudiciall sentences, by their doubtfull acclamations, (as vsually they did,) out of those foure trybes that were then in Athens, hee made choyse of foure hundred men, an hundred out of euery trybe, giuing them power to approue the acts and decrees of the Arreopagites, if they were agreeable to equity, if other-wise to councell them and annihilate their doings: by which meanes the state of the citty (stayde as it were by two sure anchors) seemed secure, vnmoueable and of likelyhood to continue: if any were condemned for parricide, or for affection and vsurping the cheefe gouernment, they were excluded (by *Solons* lawe) from bearing rule, and not there onely, but all those also were barred and prohibited to beare offices, that if any sedition were set a foote in the citty, stood neuter, and tooke nether part: for hee thought it an argument of a bad Cittyzen, not to bee carefull of the common good and peace of others, when hee him-selfe hath settled his owne estate and designs in safety: amongst



Amongst the rest of *Solons* acts this is most admirable, *A strange law for women.* whereby he graunted liberty that if any woman had married a man vnable to beget children, shee might lawfully, and without controulement, depart from him and take vnto her any one of her husbands kindred whome shee liked best.

Hee tooke away all vse of mony-dowries from amongst them, so as a woman might take nothing with her from her fathers, but a few clothes and other trinkets of small worth, signifying thereby, that marriages should not bee made for mony, but for loue and procreation of children, least their euill life might bee a blotte and skandall vnto them after their deaths. *Mony dowries forbidden.*

If any man flaundersed his neighbour, ether at the solemnization of their diuine ceremonies, or at their sessions and publike assemblies, hee was fined at foure drachmas : *Against flaunderers.* Hee graunted power and authority vnto Testators, to dispose and bequeath legacies of mony, and goods amongst whome they pleased : whereas before ( by the custome of the country ) they were not to bequeath any thing from their owne families, and by this meanes friendshippe was preferred before kindred, and fauour before allyances: Neuerthelesse this was done with such caution and prouision, that noe one could graunt such legacies, beeing mooued there-vnto either through their owne franticke madnesse, or by the subtill and vndermyning perswasions of other, but meerey of his owne accord and good discretion.

Hee forbad all mournings and lamentations at other mens funeralls, and enacted that the sonne should not bee bound to releue his father, if his father had not brought



brought him vp in some arte, or profitable occupation: nor that bastards should nourish or releue their parents, and his reason was this, that hee which forbearth not to couple with a strumpet, giueth euident demonstration, that he hath more care of his owne sensuall pleasures then of the procreation of children, and thereby hee becometh vnworthy of reward or releefe of such children, if the fall into pouerty.

The punish-  
ment for  
adultery.

Besides these, *Solon* iudged it meete, that the adulterer apprehended in the deed doing, might lawfully be slaine: and that he that forced and rauished a free-borne Virgin, should be fined at ten Drachmas. He abrogated and tooke away their ancient custome of selling their daughters and sisters, vnlesse they were conuined of whoredome: and amongst others of his acts and decrees, these are likewise to be found: that whosoeuer was victor in the games of *Istmos*, was rewarded with an hundred Drachmas: and he that got the best in the games of *Olimpus*, had five hundred: He that killed a Dogge-wolfe, had five Drachmas out of the common treasury: but hee that killed a Bitch-wolfe had but one: for the rewarde due for slaying the Dogge-wolfe was the worth of an Oxe, and the price of a sheepe for killing the shee-Wolfe: and their ancient manner was to persecute these kinde of beasts, as enemies to their cattell and grounds.

A law for the  
maintenance  
of souldiers  
children.

He ordained that the children of such as were slaine in the warres, should be brought vp at the common charge, (that men by that meanes, beeing assured that their children should bee cared for, though themselues miscarry, might bee more thoroughly encouraged to fight, and behaue themselues valiantly and venterously:) commanding also, that those which lost their eyes in the warres, should  
euer



ever after be sustained by the common purse: and withall he very worthily provided, that the overseers or they that had the ward of Orphanes should not keepe together in the same house with the childrens mothers, and that none should be gardians that might by possibility inherite the Orphanes goods, if they should hap to die during their nonage and wardship. Furthermore he forbad all Jewellers to reserue in their custody the stampe or scale of any ring, after they had sold it. And that hee which putteth out an others eye should loose both his owne eyes: adiudging it also a capitall offence for any one to take vp that which is none of his owne and keepe it to himselfe.

*A law for the  
benefit of Or-  
phanes and  
Wards.*

Furthermore hee established that Princes or rulers being found drunke, should be punished with present death: advising the Athenians likewise, to reckon and account their daies according to the course of the Moone.

Of all fruites and commodities, he only permitted wax and honey to bee transported out of Attica into other countries: and he esteemed no man meete or worthy to be made free of the Cittie, vnlesse he were an artificer and would with his whole familie come dwell at Athens; or such as were doomed from their natie soile to perpetuall exile and banishment: These lawes being ingrauen and recorded in wooden tables, were by *Solon* established to continue for a hundred yeeres, presuming that if the City were so long inured with them, they would ever after remaine without alteration: but *Herodotus* is of opinion that these lawes which *Solon* made for the Athenians, were enacted but for ten yeeres continuance.

Now that these lawes might be esteemed more sacred and bee more carefully obserued and kept. *Solon*, after



the manner of other law-givers which fathered their statutes and decrees vpon some one god or other, as *Draco* had done before him, auouched that *Minerva* was the author and inuentor of his lawes, and so caused both the Senatours and people to sweare themselves to the performance therof, at a stone which stood in the Senate-house.

The original of  
the Athenians.

The Athenians were not strangers at the beginning, nor was their City first inhabited by any rabble of wandering people, but in the same soile they now inhabite, there were they borne, and the selfe same place which is now their seat and habitation, was also their original and foundation.

Their inventions.

The Athenians were the first that taught the vse of clothing, and of oyle, and of wine, instructing those which formerly fed vpon acornes, how to plow, plant, sow and gather fruites: In a word, Athens may iustly be termed the temple and sanctuary of learning, eloquence and ciuil conuersation.

The three  
lawes made by  
*Cecrops* against  
women.

The three lawes which *Secrops* enacted against women, (for the appeasing of god *Neptunes* wrath, for that by womens suffrages *Neptune* was scorned, and *Minerva* preferred before him) were then in force and obserued, which were these. First, that no woman should enter into the Senate-house. Secondly, that no child should be called after his mothers name, and the third that no one should call women Athenians, or women of Athens, but women of Attica.

How the A-  
thenians bury  
those which  
are slaine in  
the warres.

Those which were slaine in the warres (according to *Thucydides*) were buried in this manner following. First they pitched vp a tent, or pauillion three daies before the funerals, wherein were put the bones of those which were slaine,



flaine, euery one laying some thing (what he thinketh fittest) vpon his dead friends relikes, thereby to know him againe, then were the bones of al those which were flaine of each feuerall tribe, inclosed in chestes, or coffins made of cypres tree, and euery coffin carried by a feuerall coach, or carre belonging to the tribe, whereof the dead parties were: after this there was an empty bed, or herse brought with them, purposely for such as were missing, and could not be found amongst the flaine bodies, which done, all those which were present, as well Citizens as strangers, indifferently, conueied them forth, and interred them in a publike monument, or sepulcher neere vnto *Calistus* tombe, in the suburbes of the City (the women all the while weeping and lamenting the losse of their friends) which is the vsuall place for buriall of all such as perish in battaile: vnlesse they were of the Citie of *Marathon* who for their singular and extraordinary valor and prowesse were intombed in their owne City.

*Marathon is  
a city not far  
from Athens.*

When they were thus interred, some one choyse Citizen, esteemed for his wisdom, and by reason of his dignity and worth fit for such an imployment, was elected and assigned, to pronounce a funerall oration, or sermon, in the due commendation of those which were flaine: which being ended euery one departed to his feuerall home.

And this was there vsuall forme of buriall of such as were flaine in the warres.



Of Laconia and of the customes and ordinances  
of the Laconians or Lacedemonians.

## CAP. 3.



ACONIA (a Prouince in Pelopone-  
sus) is also called Oebalia, and Lacede-  
monia, of *Lacedemon* the sonne of *Ju-  
piter* and *Taygete*, by whom a famous  
and mighty City was builded in that  
country, and called after his name *La-  
cedemon*: This Citty was likewise called *Sparta* of *Spar-  
tus* the sonne of *Phoroneus*, and was the Palace or Court  
of *Agamemnon*.

*Lycurgus*  
law giuen to  
the *Lacedemo-  
nians*.

Eight and  
twenty Elders  
elected, De-  
mocratin.

When *Lycurgus* that famous Philosopher, brother vn-  
to King *Polydictes*, gouerned in Laconia, (as tutor or pro-  
tector vnto his brother *Polydictes* sonne) hee altered the  
state of that City and Country, and adorned them with  
wholesome lawes and good ordinances, the people wher-  
of before his time were the worst mannered, and had the  
least gouernment (both in their owne cariages & towards  
strangers) almost of al the people of Greece, as vsing no  
commerce, custome nor conuersation with other people.

*Lycurgus* therefore couragiously taking the matter vp-  
on him, abrogated and disanulled all their auncient lawes,  
ordinances and customes, and in their steed instituted  
lawes more ciuill and much more lawdable: And first he  
elected certain of the most ancientest, wisest & sagest men  
of al the common-wealth, to consult and aduise with the  
Kings (whereof there were euer two created) of all matters  
of state and gouernment, which were chosen of purpose  
to



to be Arbitrators and indifferent vmpires betwixt the power of the Kings, and the force of the multitude, to the end that neither the one should rebel through contumacie and stubbornesse, nor the other oppress by reason of their gouernment and greatnesse: of these Seniors or elders (according to *Aristotle*) there were eight and twenty, who were euer assisting and aiding the Kings, carefully prouiding that neither the gouernment of the people should be of two great force, nor that the Kings should tyrannize ouer the commons, and that all the rest of the multitude should be made acquainted with whatsoeuer was decreed by this order.

Many yeeres after this, vnto the gouernment of the people was added the power and authority of the Ephori, or Tribunes (which were Protectors of the liberties and benefits of the commons against the power of the Nobles) which kinde of gouernment in the Greeke tongue is called *Oligarchia*, that is the gouernment of a few: and this manner of gouernment was purposely ordained as a bridle, or restraints vnto the administration of the Kings and Elders when they seemed ouer violent and outrageous towards the commons, and was annexed vnto the other, in the hundreth yeere after the death of *Lycurgus*, when *Theopompus* reigned in Lacedaemonia.

*Oligarchia* or  
gouernment of  
the Tribunes.

One institution ordained by the *Olygarchia*, or Protectors of the commons, was the diuision of their grounds, for those Protectors perswaded the multitude of the commons, that euery one should yeeld vp al the grounds they formerly had in their possession & occupation, & that the to each one shold be distributed an euen & equal portion. For their opinion was that euery Citizen should contend



The diuision of  
their land  
by the Olygar-  
thy.

The vse of mo-  
ney prohibited  
and iron mo-  
ney made.

to excell others in vertue and vnderstanding, and not in riches and ryoting. The whole land was therefore de- uided into nine and thirty thousand parts, the fields ad- ioyning to the City and belonging to the Citty into nine thousand, and the rest of the land which lay in the country, and was occupied by farmers, was three times as much & more: so that euery portion was such as would yeeld seuenty measures of corne caled *Medimni* yeerely to a man, and to a woman twelue. *Lycurgus* was once in a minde to make like diuision of all moueable goods, but fearing the enuy that for that cause might insue (for many seemed to take it discontentedly) hee forbore to doe it, yet he vtterly tooke away all vse both of siluer and gold from amongst them, and brought in iron money, and stamping it crosse wise like the letter X commanded that it should be of little value, whereby all occasion of stea- ling was auoided: and to the end that the iron, whereof that money was coyned, should not be desired for other purposes, he caused it when it was burning and glow- ing hote, to be quenched with vineger, that being there- by mollified and softned, it might serue to no other vse: This done he reiected all arts, as things meere vn- profitable and friuolous, which were then easie to be reiected, for the vse of siluer and gold being once pro- hibited, the artificers departed thence of their owne ac- cord, considering that iron coyne would stand them in no steed in other places.

After this (that he might vtterly extirpate and roote out of the City all ryotting and excesse) he instituted publike feasts, wherein he commanded that both poore and rich should sit and eate together in one place, and at one table, without difference or exception of persons:

And



And if any came to that diet, in that publike place, so gallant and gorgeous that his queasie stomake would not serue him to eate with such companions, or that he would not be pleasant at his meate, hee was chidden and reuiled of all those that sat at the Table with him, as an vnthrif, and a waster, by which ordinance all pompe and sumptuousnesse was vtterly auoided: at this institution the great and welthy men beganne to grudge and repine, and were so much incensed against him, as in a rage they violently rushed vpon him and strooke out one of his eyes with a staffe, wherevpon hee ordained that no Spartane whatsoeuer, should euer after that time come to meate with any staffe or other weapon. This their manner of dyeting together, they called (*Philiis*) which is as much to say as friendship, for doubtlesse it was an argument of publike friendship and great humanity, and might well be tearmed (*Phiditia*) that is fellowship, or fraternitie: besides that by this their dyeting together, they were very much giuen to sparingnesse and parsimony.

Those which by reason of their sacrificying, or hunting were absent from their meales, were permitted to dine and sup at home, but all others ought to bee there present, all excuses set apart, and euery one allowed for the vpholding and maintaining of this common diet, yeerely, a certaine measure full of fine meale or flower called *Medimnum*, eight measures called (*Corus*) full of wine, five pounds of cheese and two pound and a halfe of figs.

Children also frequented this common banquetting place, as the schoole or vniuersity of temperance and all



ciuil discipline, for there they accustomed to commune and confer together soberly and discreetly, there they learned to iest and bourd pleasantly and merily, and to quippe and taunt one another without scurility or offence.

*Men called  
their wiues  
their mistres-  
ses.*

The Spartans in their wiuing, and accompanying with women (by reason of their continuall warres) regarded not chastitie, so much as procreation and increase of issue, and the husbands were so louing and obsequious to their wiues, as they would call them their mistresses.

*Maides exer-  
cises.*

Maides practised and exercised themselves in running, wrestling, throwing stones, slinging and darting, that (flying and shunning idlenesse, and all womanish nicenesse) they might bee thereby more strong and lustie, and better able to indure the paines of child-bearing: in doing which excercises, they went naked like boies in sight of all men, and would daunce and sing at solemne feasts in the presence of young men: which nakednesse was neither inconuenient, nor dishonest, for they were couered with shamesfastnesse, without the least touch of impudency or wantonnesse: and hereof insued a towardnesse and naturall aptnesse in the women of Laconia, for any action: They which liued single and were neuer married, were excluded from those publike games and excercises of naked virgins, and (the more to disgrace them) were constrained to goe naked themselves about the market place in the winter season, least they should haue as much honour, and estimation with young men as those had which were married.

The marriageable virgins were married, or rather stolne away perforce, and the bride being conducted into her chamber



chamber, sheared the haire of her head close to the skin, and then the bride-groome going in to her, vnlooseth her girdle, and accompanieth with her in the night time onely, without once seeing her in the day time, before he hath got her with child. The care and regard of their children and issue was committed to worthie men, and it was lawfull for any old man (for cause of increase and procreation) to bring some young man that was honest and well thought of, to lye with his wife, and if she conceiued with child by the stranger, he would repute it as his owne child, and bring it vp as his owne, nor was it accounted a shame for any to perswade such old men that had chaste wiues, and fit to bring forth children, that they might bee with them to bring forth seed out of so good a soyle: for they laughed at the folly of some people, that would put their mares and bitches to couple with the best makes they could get, (of their kind) sometimes for hire, and sometimes for loue and fauour, and to keepe their wiues so warily vnder watch and ward, that none might lie with them but themselues: whereby their issue be either mad and distracted, or otherwise very weake and feeble, vnfit for any exercise.

*Old men that  
had young  
wiues permitted  
young men  
to lye with the.*

Parents might not bee allowed to educate and bring vp their owne children themselues; but so soone as they were borne, they were brought into the streetes amongst the people, vnto a certaine place there called (*Ieschen*) where they were nourished, vntill they were of some stature, and then the formes and lineaments of their bodies, were perused by certaine ouer-seers, and whosoeuer was allowed by these ouer-seers, had assigned vnto him one of those 9000. portions of ground, into which the soile belonging to the city was diuided: but those which were weake  
and



and deformed, weare brought vnto a steepe rocke not far from Taygetum, called Apotheca, where they were throwne down headlong as vnprofitable for the commonwealth. The women vsed not to wash their children with water, but with wine, by the application of which liquour, it is most certaine, that their bodies would be weakned and made feeble, if they were any wise subiect to the falling euil, nor would they apply any thing to them, to strengthen and keepe their naturall heate, nor wrap them in swathing clothes, or vse them to whittles, or rattles, but brought them vp in solitarie and darke places, and therefore (by reason of this seuerer education) many people of other nations would haue their children nourished and brought vp by Lacedemonian nurses.

These children when they accomplished the age of seuen yeares, began to exercise themselves in the companie of their equals, and to get such learning as was necessarie for them, attaining to all other disciplines by their owne industrie and indeauor, they were shorne and shauen to the skin, and went bare-footed, and bare legged, and when they were twelue yeares of age, they allowed them one cote, but they were prohibited bathes, and all things else that might nourish their naturall heate: the beds whereupon they tooke their rest, were made of reedes, wherein (in the winter time) they accustomed to put a kind of thistles which they called Licophona's. There was one created and ordained to be gouernor and tutor ouer the children, whom they called *Iren*: this *Iren* taught them of the bigger sort, to get and prouide wood and fuell, and the lesser sort to steale and carry it away, to intrude themselves into the company of their betters, when they were at their bankets, and from thence to filch and purloine what they could



could get, and those which were apprehended and taken in the deed doing were whipt and driven away, not for because it was an offence to steale, but for that they did it not warily and aduisedly. Some he would command to sing, some other to propose subtile and witty questions, the answerers whereof must be both sharpe and sudden, and if any were found negligent in performing their exercise, the *Iren* would bite them hard by the thombe in the way of correction. Moreouer, they were taught to vse graue speeches, but such as were mixed with some mirth: and in few words to comprehend whole sentences, in such manner as it was an vsuall proverbe to say, That it is more easie to play the Philosopher, then to imitate the concise manner of speaking of the Lacedemonians.

It is worth the labour to expresse and set downe the exercises of each seuerall age, and what contention and emulation was amongst them, who should most excell in vertue. The whole people were distinguished into three companies or quires, according to their ages, and first, the troupe or assembly of old men, (when in their solemne sacrifices they began to sing) pronounced with a shrill voice these words following, We were once young and lustie, to whom the young men following after, make this answer, And we now are young and lustie, and thereof you shall make trial if you please. And lastly, the Quire of children comming hindermost, pronounce and say, We shall once be as good as you and better.

*Plutarch* reports, that a certaine modulation and measure in musicke, which was obserued and practised by the Laconians, continued vntill his time, and which they were accustomed to sing to their flutes or pipes, when they set vpon their enemies. *Thucidides* also (the reporter of this  
Laconian



Laconian institution) hath written, that those muscicall songs, and harmonie set vnto their flutes, were vsed in the wars, but hee denyeth, that they were vsed in any ceremonies of Religion, or for the performance of diuine seruice, nor yet thereby to encourage mens minds, or to incite and prouoke them to fight, (as the hornes and trumpets were wont to do amongst the Romaines) but that at their meeting together, they might enter into the battell by little and little, as it were, with equall and measured paces, and not to suffer their orders and ranckes to be broken or scattered.

There is a verse extant of the Lacedemonian Poet, whereby it appeareth, that the Spartans vsed not onely the fluite and pipe in the on-set of their battels, but the muscicall sound and consent of the harpe also. Which custome may seeme to be deriued from the Cretans.

*Herodotus* writeth, that *Haliattes* King of Lydia, in the warres hee made against the Milesians, had not onely pipers and minstrels in his campe, to delight his eare, but (a thing vnfit to be reported, because it seemes somewhat incredulous) the daintiest fare that could be gotten by any possible meanes whatsoeuer. The Romaines (besides the noyse of hornes and trumpets) beganne their battell with exceeding great clamor and showting of souldiers, which is farre different from that which *Homer* writeth of the people of Achaia: For they (saith hee) guarding and defending their forces, enter into the battell with quietnesse and silence.

The French-men (as *Polybins* and *Liui*e report) vse dancing, tripping of the toe, and shaking their sheelds ouer their heades: and there be some barbarous people that enter into battell with howling and crying: by which variety of



of customes wee may gather, that but few other nations follow and imitate the Spartans in their consorts and symphony in musicke, which they vse in their wars.

Moreouer, the Spartans fashion was to keepe their haire and beards long from their youth, according to that memorable and worthie saying of the Law-giuer himself; which was, That mens bodies bee much more beautifull and comely, when their heades bee thicke growne with haire, and smoothly combed, then otherwise they would bee, if their haire were shaggie, rugged, vncombed, and neglected.

The King when he beginneth battaile, sacrificeth a shee-goate to the Muses: They vse one certaine and strict kind of liuing, both at home, and in the warres: For they held, that they were not borne onely to themselves, but for the good of their Countrey: They practised no gainefull and commodious arts, but were wholly employed in the studie of matters belonging to martiall discipline; spending their spare time in sollemne banquettings, by which meanes it came to passe, that (as *Plutarch* hath very well noted) the Spartans neuer would; or if they would, yet they knew not how to liue priuately, with a selfe-regard, but were wholly deuoted to the common good of their countrey.

The Spartanes as they differed from all other nations in many other things, so did they in giuing their voyces for electing of Officers: For there were a few picked out from the rest to vndergo this businesse, who were inclosed in a Chamber next adioyning to the Councel-house, where they should neither see nor bee seene of any, and then as the names of the Competitors were particularly drawne out one after another, and at happe-hazard they

*The manner of  
electing offi-  
cers.*



they did diligently marke and obserue the applause and assent of the people vnto euery name, aduisedly noting and setting downe in a table, who had the greatest applause, and who the least, which beeing afterwards openly reade, it was thereby knowne which of the competitors had the most voyces.

Furthermore *Lycurgus* was the first that (remoouing all superstition) permitted the Cittizens to bury the dead bodies in the cittie, allowing the plots of ground about the Temples, wherein to erect their monuments: but it was not lawfull for any one to engraue or imprint the name of either man or woman vpon their sepulcher, but the names of those onely which were manfully slaine in the wars: nor to lament for those which were dead about the space of eleuen dayes.

The citizens moreouer were restrained from trauelling into other countries, lest they should bring into their cittie strange customes and manners: and all strangers and trauellers which arriued there, were bar'd and excluded from out their citty, (vnlesse their presence were profitable to the common-wealth;) lest (as *Thucydides* saith) forraine nations should learne, and be partakers of the Laconian discipline, which may iustly be tearmed a very inhumane part; or else (as *Plutarch* writeth) lest by the mutuall concourse and passage too and fro of strangers, new speeches and languages might creepe into the cittie, from whence might proceed new iudgements, and dissonant desires, which to the common-wealth would bee matters most pernicious and dangerous. Young men hee allowed to weare but one coate throughout the whole yeare, nor might any one go finer, or fare more daintily then others did. He commanded, that nothing should be bought with  
readie



readie money, but by exchange of wares and commodities: & that children (when they were of the age of twelue or fourteene yeares) should not be suffered to come into the market-place or chiefe part of the cittie, but were brought into the fields, to the end they should not spend the prime of their youth in luxurie and wantonnesse, but in labour and painfullnesse, ordaining that they shold haue nothing layd vnder them to sleepe vpon, and that they should eate no pottage nor gruell, nor once returne into the cittie before they were men.

He ordained also, that maydes should be married without portions, to the end that none should couet wiues for their wealth, and that husbands might carrie the more feruoritie ouer their wiues, when they could not vpbraide them with the greatnesse of their portions, and how much they were aduanced by them: that men shold be esteemed honourable, not for their riches and greatnes, but for their age and grauitie; for old age was held in more reuerence and reputation amongst the Spartans, then in any other countrie besides.

To the Kings he granted power ouer the wars: to the Magistrates, iudgements and yearely succeSSIONS: the keeping and custodie of the lawes to the Senate, and to the people, power and authoritie both to elect the Senat, and to create Magistrates whom they pleased.

Now for because these new lawes and institutions (all former customes beeing dissolued and abrogated) seemed very harsh and difficult, he fained, that *Apollo* of Delphos was the author and inuentor of them, and that frō thence (at the commandement of that god) hee brought them to Sparta, thinking thereby, that the feare and reuerence of religion, would vanquish all tediousnesse and irkesomnesse  
of



*Lycurgus exiled  
himself volun-  
tarily.*

of vsing them. And finally, (to the end his lawes might remaine and continue to all eternitie) he bound and obliged the cittizens by an oath, that they should alter none of those lawes which he had made and established for them, vntill he himselfe returned back vnto them; alledging, that he intended to go to Delphos, to aske counsell of the Oracle there, what he should alter or adde to his lawes, which done, he tooke his iourney to Creete, and there liued in perpetuall exile, commanding, when he lay vppon his death-bed, that as soone as he was dead, his bones should be cast into the sea, lest by any chance they might be conueyed to Lacedemon: whereby the Spartans might suppose themselves absolued and released from that oath which they had taken, not to alter those lawes before his returne vnto them.

It is not amisse in this place to describe, and set foorth, what honors and dignities the Spartans were wont to giue to their Kings. And first, they had two Orders or Estates of Priests, attending vppon them to do sacrifices, one of the Lacedemonian *Jupiter*, and the other of the celestiall *Jupiter*: and their law of armes was, that vpon what people or country the Kings intended to make warres, it rested not in the power of any of the Spartans, to prohibite or gaine-say it: for if they did, they offended so haynously, as they would hardly purge themselves: that in their marching and setting forward to the warres, the kings should go foremost, and be last in the retraite. And that they should haue an hundred choice and select men to be their guard: that in their expeditions and setting forward on their voyages, they might haue what beast they would for sacrifice, and that they might take to themselves the hides and skins of the beasts that were offered. And these were their



their priuiledges in the warres. And the honors and dignities attributed vnto them in time of peace, were these, when in their Common-wealth, any banquets were made for the death of any great man, the Kings should sit downe first, and be first serued, and that they two alone should haue betwixt them twice as much meate, as all those that sate with them, besides the skinnes of all beasts sacrificed. Moreouer, in the Kalends of euery moneth, they had each of them a beast giuen them from out the reuenues of the cittie, to be sacrificed to *Apollo*, a measure of fine wheate flower called *Medimnum*, containing fixe *Modia*, and a measure of wine, called a Laconian quart.

In the beholding of single combats, the Kings preceded and gouerned certaine places, hauing for their assistants what Cittizens they pleased: And each king might choose two Pitheans, which were such as were wont to be sent to Delphos to aske counsell of the Oracle, and these did commonly diet with the Kings. The Kings allowance when they came not to meales in the vsuall place, was, two measures full of fine flower called *Chenices*, or *Chenia*, (which is much about halfe one of our peckes) and a measure full of wine called *Cotyla*, that is as much as *Sextarius*, (which is about a pinte and an halfe English:) but when they were present, they had double in quantitie as much of euery thing as all the rest that sate with them.

The Kings were to determine who should be husbands of orphane maydes, whose parents were deceased, whether he to whome the father bequeathed her, or hee on whome the mother bestowed her: they had power also ouer common wayes, and ouer such as made adopted sons against the kings minds: they had seates in the Councill or Senate-house, (which consisted of 28. Senatours,)

P

wherein



wherein they might sit at their pleasures: but if they would not come thither, then two of the Senatours which were most neere and deare vnto them, represented their persons, and had power to pronounce to voyces or suffrages for the Kings, and two other for themselues. And such were the honors and dignities giuen to the Kings, by the Common-wealth of Sparta, while they liued, and when they were dead, these following.

First, certaine hors-men proclaimed and divulged the Kings death, throughout all Laconia: the like was done also by certaine women which walked vppe and downe about the cittie, striking and beating vpon pots or kettles: which done, there must of euery house two, (one man and one woman, and both free borne) be stayned, soyled, and defiled with weeping and lamenting, which if they refused to do, they were seuerally punished.

The Lacedemonians vsed the same orders in their Kings Funerall, as the barbarous people of Asia did: for in this manner did most of those barbarous people bury their Kings.

The death of the King beeing thus divulged, the cittizens of Sparta summoned all their friends and kinsfolkes out of all the Countrey of Lacedemonia to the funerall. And after many thousands both of them and of their seruants, as also of the Spartans themselues, were there assembled, (both men and women mingled together:) they lamented and wept, beating and striking vpon their foreheads, and roaring, and howling most bitterly, concluded their lamentation with this saying: That this last deceased king was the best of all their kings. And if any of their kings were slaine in the wars, they fashioned and pourtrayed an image like vnto him, and (laying it vpon a bed very richly furnished)



furnished) spent some ten dayes in the interring thereof, during which time there was continual vacation and ceasing from prosecuting lawes, and exercising iustice in places iudiciall, nor was there any Sessions of Magistrates or Officers in all that time, but continuall lamentation and bewayling. And in this the Lacedemonians agreed with the Persians: for when the Lacedemonian King was dead, he which succeeded him, pardoned and released euery Spartane of all his debt, what euer it was, that he owed either to the King or Common-wealth. And so likewise in Persia, he which was newly created king, remitted and forgauē vnto all the Cittizens their tribute which they owed.

In this also the Lacedemonians imitated the Aegiptians: for in Lacedemonia, as wel as in Aegipt, both Cryers, Minstrels and Cookes succeeded their fathers in their arts and occupations,; so as a Cooke was begott by a Cooke, a Trumpetter by a Trumpetter, and a Cryer by a Cryer. Nor did any intrude themselues into another mans function or calling, but perseuered and continued in their fathers trade and vocation.

*Of the Ile of Creete, and of the customes most  
common amongst the Cretenians.*

## CAP. 4.



REETE, (which is also called Candy) *The discipline of Creete.* is an Iland situated in the Mediterranean sea, and very famous and renowned for hauing in it an hundred Citties. This Iland (as *Strabo* writeth) is compassed vpon the north with the Aegean & Creetish sea, and with the Libican or Africane sea vppon the



South: it lyeth towards Egila, and Cythera vpon the west, and hath vpon the East the Ile Carpathus, which lyeth in the midst betwixt Rhodes and Creete.

The whole Iland containeth in length two hundred and seuentie myles, and fiftie myles in breadth: and the circuite or compasse round about the Island, is five hundred, eightie and eight myles. The most renowned Cities of Creete, be Gortyna, Cydonea, Cnossus, and Minois or Minon, which is the Kings seate: And of all the hilles in the countrey, the hill Ida is most famous, as being of an exceeding and wonderfull height, the length whereof (as *Apollodorus* saith) is two thousand, and three hundred *Stadia*, and five thousand and more in compasse: but *Artimedorus* saith: That it is not so much in compasse by a thousand *stadia*.

No venomous  
creatures in  
Creete.

In Creete liue no noysome or offensive creatures, there be neither Serpents, nor owles bredde, and if any be brought thither from other places they dye instantly. There be abundance of Goates, but few or no Deere at all: it yeeldeth great store of the best and daintiest wines, and produceth an herbe called *Diptamus* (which is a byting and drawing hearbe, and by vs called Dittanie, Ditrander, or garden Ginger:) and the *Alunosa*, which beeing eaten, is a present remedie against extreame hunger. It bringeth foorth also the poysoned and venomous *Sphalangi*: and a pretious stone called *Idaus Dactylus*.

It was first called *Cureta*, of the Inhabitants of *Curetes*, and now by contraction, Creete: Some others say, it was called Creete of one *Cres*, (who was sonne vnto *Iupiter* king of the *Curetes*) and some, of *Crete* the Nymph, who was daughter to *Hesperides*.

The people (at the first) were very rude and barbarous, till



till *Rodomantus* reduced them to more ciuilitie and better manners, after whome succeeded *Minois*, who adorned and furnished them with more equitie and iustice. *Plato* sayth, that the Lacedemonians and other auncient cit-tries of Greece, deriued their lawes and ordinances from Creete.

But the good estate of that nation, was ouerthrowne and turned vp-side downe, first, by the gouernement of Tyrants, and afterwards by the robberie and warres of the people of Cilicia: For the Cretans were very studious in diuers sciences, and desirous of libertie, which they esteemed their *Summum bonum*, and supposed they possessed all such things as were not subiect to the wanton lusts, and vnlawfull desires of Tyrants.

They had a great care, prouident respect, and regard of Concord and Amitie, as they be mortall enemies to Discord and Sedition, which are the nurses and fosterers of Couetousnesse, and vnsatiable desire of riches: and therefore the people of Creete in auncient time, liued very moderately and sparingly: their children frequented those meetings and assemblies, which they called *Greges*. And their young men (when they came to mans estate) haunted and celebrated publike feastes, practising feates of armes, for the good and generall commoditie of the Common-wealth, and exercising and inuring their bodies (in their youth) to all kind of labour and extremitie whatsoeuer, as heate, and cold, stormes and tempests, both by sea and by land, to runne through thicke woods and vn-euen pathes, to prouoke and stirre vppe brawles and contentions in places appoynted for their exercises: To bee skilfull and experienced in shooting and darting and vsually to practise and frequent a certaine forme of



dancing in armour and weapons, inuented by *Pyrrhus*, and therefore called the *Pyrrichan* dancing or vaulting, in which dancing they vsed to bow and bend their bodies, the better to shunne and auoide weapons and wounds: Their garments were short Clokes or Cassockes, and soldiers shooes; and they esteemed of weapons and armour, as most rare and pretious gifts.

Moreouer, they were so skilfull and expert in sea-faring matters, as that it was an vsuall Prouerbe, if one dissembled, that hee knew not that which hee knew right well, to say, No more is a man of *Crete* acquainted with the Sea.

All Marriages were made and solemnized betwixt equals: and it was lawfull and tolerable for Virgins to chuse and elect them husbands out of that troupe of young men: But the custome was, that their husbands should not take them from their fathers houses, before they were fit to gouerne an house, and play the good hous-wiues at home: And their dower was, (if they had any brother) the one halfe of the patrimonie.

Children by their law were instructed in learning, singing and musicke, and brought to the Feastes called (*Systia*) where men were assembled, and there made to sitte downe vppon the ground, apparelled in base attire, and to fall out and brawle amongst themselues; and the boy of the best courage was made captaine ouer the whole companie: And euery one as hee was of power, got the most companions vppon his side. Then would they go a hunting, and practise running. And vppon certaine dayes, the whole companie of children were put together, and taught to sing to the pipe and harpe, as is vsed in warres.

Some



Some report, that the custome of this countrey-people was, to note their luckie and fortunate dayes with a white stone, and their dismall and unhappie dayes with a blacke, though other-some ascribe this custome to the Thracians.

*Of Thrace, and of the barbarous  
manners of the people  
of Thrace.*

## CAP. 5.



**T**H R A C I A (which is now called Romania) is a Region of Europe, and accounted as part of Scythia: It lyeth next vnto Macedonia on the one side, hauing vpon the North the riuer Ister, the seas called Pontus and Propontis vpon the East, and the sea Aegæum on the South. It was once called Scythion: and after that Thracia, of *Thrax* the sonne of *Mars*, or else of the peoples rudenesse, and barbarous manners: for the Greeke word (*Θρακη*) signifieth rudenesse and inciuiltie.

This Countrey (as *Pomponius* writeth) hath neither fruitfull soyle nor temperate ayre, vnlesse in some places nearest vnto the sea side: for it is maruellous cold and hardly bringeth forth any fruite that is planted or sowed: for there be few trees which yeeld any increase at all, and though they haue many vines, yet the grapes neuer ripen and come to perfection, vnlesse they be couered with leaues, to keepe the ayre and cold from them.

The Citties of Thrace which heretofore were of grea-



test fame and renowne, were Apollonia, Aenos, Nicopolis, and Bizantium, (which was afterwards called Constantinopole, of the Emperour *Constantine*) who reedified and enlarged it, making it the chiefeſt ſeate of his moſt glorious Empire, and the head Cittie of all the Eaſt) Perinthos alſo, Lyſimachia, and Calliopolis. The chiefeſt ri- uers are Hebrus, Neſſus, and Strymon, and the greateſt and higheſt hilles, Hæmus, Rhodope, and Orbelus.

The countrey is very populous, and the people very fierce and barbarous, in ſuch manner as if they were all ſubieſt vnto the gouernement of one man, or that they were all of one mind, they were then (as *Herodotus* the father of Hiſtories, is of opinion) a people inuincible, and the moſt valiant of al Nations: but becauſe this is too hard a matter to bee hoped for, and too vnpoſſible to be expected, therefore be they weake and of little force.

In Thrace be many and diuers Regions, diſtinguiſhed by ſeueral names, but all of them indued with like manners and opinions: the Getæ and Trauſi onely excepted, and the people that dwell aboue Creſtonæ: of which three ſorts of people, the Getæ are of opinion, that they ſhall neuer die, but that (after their departure out of this lyfe) they goe inſtantly vnto *Zamolxis* their god: This *Zamolxis* was once the Diſciple of *Pythagoras*, who (vppon his returne into Thrace) perceiuing how rudely, vnciuilly, and ſottiſhly the Thracians liued, (hee himſelfe beeing formerly inſtructed of the manner of gouernement in Ionia) taught and furniſhed them with manners, lawes, and ciuill inſtitutions, and after perſwaded them, that thoſe which kept and obſerued his lawes and ordinances iuſtly, and as they ought, ſhould after their deaths come vnto him into a place, where he would ſtay for them, and that there they ſhould



should euer liue and enioy his presence & all other things that good were, by which meanes (hauing settled in them a conceit of his god-head) he withdrew himselfe from their sight, and (vanishing away they knew not whether) left the in a great desire and longing after him. And vnto this *Zamolxis* their god do the people as yet send messengers, the manner of which superstition is thus, first they elect by lot one to vndergoe that businesse, and (putting him into a ship furnished with fīue watermen or owers) they instruct him in those things which they cheefly want, and which he shall desire of their God & so send him away: Then doe they giue charge vnto the mariners, that some of them shal hold three darts or iauelins vpright, and the rest to take the messenger that is sent to *Zamolxis* by the legges and aimes, and to hoise and tosse him vp vpon their pikes or iauelin points, & then if he die sodenly they imagine that their god is appeased and well pleased with them, but if he die not instantly, but languish and linger long, then they accuse the messenger as a wicked and lewde fellow. Whom after they haue accused and blamed they forthwith send an other, giuing vnto him the like charge vnto the first.

These Thracian *Getæ* when it lightens and thunders, shoot arrowes and sling dartes vp towards heauen menacing and threatning, as it were reuenging themselves of God, and for that they belecue that there is no other God in deed but theirs.

The *Trausi* agree with the Thracians in all other things, sauing onelie concerning their birthes and deathes: wherein this is their order. As soone as a child is borne into the world, presently all his kinsfolke

and



and friends flocke about him, bewayling greatly his nativity, and saying, that seeing he is borne, he must of necessity suffer and indure all humaine and worldly calamities, and againe, when one is departed out of this life, they commit him to the ground with great ioy and exultation, shewing what and how many euills he hath escaped, to liue for euer in eternal happinesse.

But those which dwell beyond the Crestonæ haue many wiues a yeere, and when a man dieth, there is great controuersie amongst his wiues (all their friends being accited to giue their iudgements of the matter) which of those wiues was best beloued of her husband, and she that is adiudged to haue beene deereft vnto him in his life time (which shee esteemeth a great honour vnto her) is both by the men and women, adorned and gallantly decked vp and so brought vnto her husbands tombe, and there killed by one of her own deereft friends, and interred with her dead husband, all the other wiues lamenting, and accounting that a great crosse and disgrace vnto them.

All other Thracians in generall sell their children openly, nor be virgins there restrained from accompanying with their neereft kin, no not with their owne fathers, but may lie with whom they please, and yet husbands be very chary of their wiues chastity, for they buy them of their parents with great summes of money, and the signe them in the foreheads with certaine markes, which kind of marking is held a very generous and worthy thing: but to be without those markes is an argument of ignominy and basenesse: where diuers maides are to be married, those which be most beautifull be first taxed and prized, and beeing once prized their parents will not by any meanes



meanes giue them in marriage for lesse money then they were rated at: and when all the fairest bee bought, then those which be deformed be sold at more easier prices, so as in conclusion all goe away.

In their banquets both men and women sit round about a fire, whereinto they cast the seeds of certaine herbes, which grow in those parts, the very smell and sa- uour whereof doth so stop and stifle them, as their senses be dulled, and they as pleasant and iocund as if they were merry drunke. To liue idly, and by theft, they account an honest course of life, but to labour and husband the ground, they hold base and ignoble. The gods which they chiefly worship and religiously adore, be *Mars*, *Bacchus*, *Diana* and *Mercury*, but they sweare onely by *Mars*, accounting him as the author, and orignall of their race.

The people of Thrace exceed all other men in bignesse and stature of body, their eyes be gray, their lookes grim, frowning and menacing, their speech terrible, and themselves long of life. Their buildings be very low and base, & their diet is nothing dainty: they haue no vines, but great store of apples: the King is elected as well by the voices of the commons, as by the nobility: and they elect such a one as is of approued good manners, singular clemency and (by reason of his age) of very great grauity, and one that hath no children, for hee which is a father, is not admitted amongst them to bee a gouernor, bee his life and conuersation neuer so vpright and lawdable, and if at any time in all his raigne, he chance to haue a child, he is therefore depriued of his gouernment: For by no meanes will they admit that their Kingdome should become hereditary: and though the King be neuer so iust and rightfull.

Yet



No King admitted that  
hath children  
because their  
Kingdome shal  
not be heredi-  
tary.

The King that  
offendeth is  
famished to  
death.

Yet will they not allow him the whole power in his owne hands, and to rule as he list himselfe, but he must bee assist- with forty Rectors or Iudges, to the end he should not be sole Iudge in capital causes, and if the King himselfe bee found faulty of any offence he is punished with death, yet not with such a death as any one shall lay violent hands vpon him, but (by the common consent of all) he is deposed from his Kingly authority, and then famished to death, whom (when hee is dead) the great men bury on this manner.

First they lay forth his body vpon the ground for the space of three daies, and then fall to banquetting and slaying of all sorts of beasts for sacrifices, which done they weepe ouer him, burne his body and bury his bones in the ground, and lastly vpon his monument they proclaime and set out combats of all sorts, and especially the Monomachia, which is the single combat or fighting of two hand to hand.

The armour and weapons which (as *Herodotus* writeth) they vsed in the warres against *Darius*, were helmets made of foxes skinner, souldiours coates, and short cassockes ouer them, and vpon their legges they wore buskins made of fawnes skinner, their weapons wore dartes, targets, short poyniarden and bowes, wherein they bee so skilfull and expert as they alleadge that they were the first inuentors of that weapon: Their language and the Scythians is al one.

*Pliny* writeth, that all Thrace was once deuided into fifty Stratageas, which are counties or captainships: that part of Thrace which was once called Getica (where *Darius* the sonne of *Hydaspis* was wel-nigh ouerthrowne) is



is now called Valachia of the *Flacci*, a family of Rome. For the Romaines after they had overcome and utterly vanquished the Getes, sent thither a Colony vnder the conduct of one *Flaccus*, wherevpon the countrie was first called *Flaccia*, and afterwards by corruption Valachia, which opinion carrieth more likely-hood of truth, for that the Romaine language is yet spoken in that Countrie, but they speake it so corruptly, as a Romaine can scarce vnderstand it, the Romaine letters also bee there vsed, sauing that the forme or fashion of the letters is somewhat altered, their rites and ceremonies of Religion doe ioyntly agree, cohere, and are all one with the Greekes.

The Daci afterwarde possessed this Countrie, of whom for a certaine space it was called *Dacia*, but now it is enioyed by the Almaines, the Siculi, and the Valachians.

The Almaines or Teutones were a verie valiant and hardie people, sent thether out of Saxonic, by *Charles* the Great, who in their owne naturall language and dialect were called *Seibemburges*, of the seuen Cities which they inhabited. The Siculi or Sicilians were an ancient people of Hungaria, and such as (abandoning their owne Countrie) first came thither from out of Scythia, and seated themselues in that Countrie.

Of the Valachians were two sortes of people, and of two fundrie factions, the *Dragulæ* and the *Dani*, otherwise called *Davi* (for there doe some Greeke writers reporte, that the Getes and Dauis, were the names of seruantes, which in times past came thither from other places.

The



The Dragulæ being neither equall nor matchable to the Danes, nor able to make their partie good with them (not much aboue a hundred yeere since) brought the Turkes into that coutry, by whose force & armes the *Dani* were almost vtterly killed and vanquished, had not that valiant man *Iohn Huniades* brought aide vnto them, who rescuing them, and recouering the land againe from the enemy, tooke seisure thereof for himself: the chiefe excercise of the Valachians is husbandry and keeping of cat-taile, which argueth and declareth the originall of that people: They pay tribute to the Kings of Thrace, and but once to euery King, and then (by the Kings declarati-on) each family giueth him an oxe in the name of a tribute: and the number of families in Valachia, is said to be aboue sixtie thousand: Those which be commanded to goe to the warres and refuse to goe, are punished with death.

Valachia vpon the West bordereth vpon Transiluania, and runneth East-ward into the Euxine sea, vpon the North-east and North it ioyneth to Russia, and vpon the South it is washed with the riuer of Ister, about which whatsoeuer those wandring people be that therein inhabit, the ayre is very intemperate and cold, and their winter in a maner continuall, the soile in Valachia was heretofore very barren, yeelding them but slender sustenance, and their chiefe defence against raine and ill wether, was either reedes or leaues, they would goe ouer great pooles and waters vpon the Ise, and their victuals was such wild beasts as they could catch: mansion houses or set places of abode they had none, but rested where euer they were weary.

Their diet was very vile and base, by reason of the horrible



horrible intemperatnesse of the aire, and they went alwaies bare-headed.

*Of Russia or Ruthenia, and of the latter manners  
and customes of the Russians.*

## CAP. 6.



VSSIA (which is also called by two other names Ruthenia and Podolia) is divided into three parts (*viz.*) Russia Alba, Russia superior, and Russia inferior. That part which extendeth in lengthwise towards Sarmatia or Poland, is bounded North with the riuer Peucis, towards the East lieth the riuer Moscus, and Westward are Liuania and Prussia, the furthest partes of Germany.

The bounds and limits of the Ruthenians or Roxallians (for by that name they bee also called) at this day, is the space of eight daies iourney ouer, from the riuer Tanais to the North Ocean, and from the Germane Ocean (which they call the Balthean sea) to the Caspian sea, is the space of aboue ninty daies iourney.

The country is so fertill and fruitfull, as though the soile bee but rudely and vnhusbandlike tilled, and corne throwne vpon it will yeeld increase three yeeres together, and that without plowing the two latter yeeres, for the corne which shedeth at reaping, will be seed sufficient to yeeld an other haruest, and the second a third likewise: and the graine which it produceth groweth vp a ful perch in height; There is such great store of Bees in Russia, that for want of hiues and hollow trees, they build in rockes

*The diuision  
and bounds of  
Russia.*

*One seed time  
yeeldeth three  
haruests.*

*Russia abound-  
eth with  
Bees.*

and



and holes of the earth, there is great store of the bast Meth and waxe, which is, carried thence into diuers other countries in great abundance.

The Russians store not their ponds and pooles with fish, because (as they say) fishes doe their naturally breede, and multiply by the influence of the heauens. In a certaine lake there called Katzibe (when the wether is drie) is salt gotten, for which there is much warre betwixt the Russians and the Tartarians, and it is very strang which is reported, that in the Country of the Chelmenses, if the armes and braunches of pine trees, be cut off from the trees, and lie vpon the ground for the space of two or three yeeres, they will bee hardned and turned into stones: there is also good plenty of chalke.

*Wood turned  
into stone.*

And towards the riuer Tanais and Mæotis poole, groweth great store of sweete cane or reed, called Calamus Aromaticus, or Callamus Reuponticus, and many other herbes and rootes which bee not found in other places.

There chiefe Citty and Kings seat is called Moscouia, it is sejtutated vpon the riuer Moscus, and is foureteene miles in circuit: coine or stamped siluer they haue none in that City: and in the middle of the market place, standeth a foure-square stone, vpon the toppe whereof, hee that can clime vp and ascend, and in performance thereof, bee not violently thrust downe by others, obtaineth the principality and gouernment of all the City: where vpon oftentimes arise great contentions and debate amongst the people, each one indeauouring to supplant his corriuall, that himselfe may ascend: The Country is so populous and strong, that not long since, in a certaine warlike assembly in the Kings campe, were numbred  
and



and reckoned a hundred and twenty thousand horsemen, euery one whereof were able to leade an armie.

In their warres they vse bowes ( which weapon by longe vsage is most familiar and proper to that nation ) and launces of twelue foote long: their horsemen which serue in compleat armour, weare iron brest-plates vpon their brigandines or cotes of maile, with the belly or middle standing out: In steed of helmets, they haue hattes made sharpe vpon the crowne, and this kinde of horsemen bee more seruiceable and in greater request in the warres, then footemen.

Some foote-men fight with a certaine weapon called Scorpio, because it is like a scorpion, wherewith they shoote small arrowes or quarrels ( it is the same which the Italians call Balista, and with vs a Crosse-bow, Stocke-bow, or Tiller ) some others doe vse for to shoore leaden bullets out of brazen peeces, after the manner of the Almaines.

The Russians cannot indure for to haue their Gouvernors called Kings, but Dukes, as beeing a name more popular, and hee that is Duke hath the dominion and gouernment ouer the whole nation, betwixt whom and the Nobles, there is no difference in their apparell, sauing that the Duke weareth a cappe some-what higher then the rest: Their garments bee of all collours sauing blacke: and both men and women are apparelled in fine linnen cassockes or shirtes, hanging downe to their knees.

This garment they trimme and garnish rounde about the necke with gold and redde silke, it is wide and loose and but little differente from those which the Grecians

Q weare:

*The Russians cannot indure to call their Governour a King, but a Duke as a name more popular.*



weare: the like also is worne by the Turkes and all the Northerne people, but that the Ruthens garments haue wider sheeues, and bee hemmed or garded with gold about the breasts and shoulders, & edged or welted round about the skirtes with Otters skinne.

None but onely the wife, lamenteth and bewaileth the death of her husband, and then is her head couered with a white linnen cloath, hanging downe to her elbowes: the richer sort of people haue a banquet made them vpon the fortieth daie after the funeralls, in remembrance of him that is dead, but the poorer sorte bee feasted five times within the fortie daies: the daies of their deathes be likewise obserued, wherein they celebrate yearly feastes. And those which suruiue keepe a register of all their friends which bee dead, to the end they may know vpon what daies the obites and Annuall feasts are to bee celebrated, for euery one that is departed: the dead bodies bee buried and interred with weeping and lamentation.

The women vsually hange at their eares pearles and precious stones, which in men is not so commendable: but onelie while they bee children, and then it is decent inough: a woman that hath had two husbands may bee thought chaste, but shee that hath bene thrice married, is condemned as lewde and lasciuious, and yet it is no impeachment to mens credits though they haue had three wiues.

Maides before mariage suffer there haire to hange down behinde them, but when they bee married they couer it carefully, and men cut theirs short, rounde about their eares, esteeming all trimming of there haire to be a reproach vnto them.

This



This Nation is generally addicted to venery and drunkenness, for to bee drunke they hold a glory vnto them, and esteeme of lust and lasciuiousnesse as of a thing lawfull, and commendable, so as the marriage bed be not defiled. Vsury also is there very common and vsuall, and not held to bee deceite in any one, not so much as in the Clergie.

A great part of the Russians be bond-men and seruile, and that willingly, for many of them, and those sometimes of the better sort, set to sale themselves, their wiues and children, other, for because they may thereby liue more idly, or enioy greater pleasure.

*Many Russians make themselves bondmen.*

The inferior priests weare blacke copes (after the manner of the Gretians) and the better sort of them weare white, hauing hanging at their breasts, tablets or bulions, wherein bee written the decalogue or precepts of the law diuine. The holy Virgins, or Nunnes (whereof there is but one family or order, which is the order of Saint *Anthonie* the Abbot) by the ordinance of the same Saint *Anthonie* their author and first founder, bee apparelled in blacke stoles.

The Russians haue a speech peculiar to themselves, but whether it bee the Scythian tongue or no I am not able for to Iudge, their letters are not much vnlike the Greeke characters: they doe for the most part learne musicke and gammer after the Greeke manner, and haue all other arts in contempt.

Touching matters of faith, they belecue as the Greekes doe, vse like ceremonies in their seruice, and like honour to the Saints. There bee twelue men chosen and elected for to doe Iustice and determine controuerfies, whereof



one first searcheth out the quality of the crime, and then maketh report thereof to his fellowes, and sometimes to the Duke himselfe. And if the matter bee of greater weight or difficulty, then can well bee discerned and decided by that councell, or that it rests doubtfull, so as the accused cannot bee convicted, then the defendant is inforced to try the matter with the plaintife by combat, and hee which is vanquisher shall haue double the value in money of the vanquished as the wronge supposed to be done, was valued at.

They bee very much giuen to husbandry, they plow with horses, and their soile is very fruitfull of all things but wine, there drinke is a kinde of beere or ale made of millet and barley boyled together, which kinde of liquor is most commonly drunke in all the Northerne partes. They make oyle of hempe-seed, poppie and nuts: olive trees they haue none, nor is the iule or liquor thereof brought thither from other countries, Russia breedeth many sorts of wilde beasts, whereof diuers bee of rich fures, and highly commended of ancient writers: there is great store of fish, amongst which, is a most excellent one called Seldis, which is taken in a lake called Pareflacus, and is very like the fishes that bee caught in the lake Benacus (which is a lake neere Betrona in Italie.)

In Ruthenia be seuen famous lakes, and nine great riuers, one of which is by some coniectured to bee the riuer Borysthenes by reason of the wonderfull things they report of the bignesse and nature thereof.

of



Of Lithuania, and of the man-  
ner of living of those  
people.

## CAP. 7.



**L**ITHVANIA ioyneth vpon the East vnto Poland, it is nine hundreth miles about, and the greatest part thereof is either moores, fennes or woods, which is the cause that it is very hard and difficult to come vnto, and in a manner inaccessible, all the whole country being ouerflowed with moorish waters.

*Lithuania is  
full of moores  
and fennes.*

There is no other fit or conuenient time for merchants, strangers, to trade and trafficke in this Country, but in winter, onely then the fennes beeing all congealed, and frozen together, and the ice of an exceeding thicknesse and couered with snow, euery place is passable, and all the whole country beeing of a sea, they can finde no more certaine way to any place, but as they be guided by the starres.

In Lithuania bee very few townes, citties or villages: the inhabitantes chieft wealth is cattaille, and skinnes of diuers kindes of wilde beasts, as of the Harmoline and Zobelline, whereof there bee great plentie in that country: Of waxe and honey there is great abundance, but they haue no vse of money. The women haue their chamber-mates & friends by their husbands permission, & those they cal helpers or furtherers of matrimony,

but



but for a husband to commit adultery is held disgracefull and abhominable : Marriages there bee very easily dissolued, by consent of both parties, and they marry as oft as they please.

This people is so different from all other nations in their manner of liuing, as they hold with the absurde opinion of *Aristippus*, which is, that honestie consisteth not by nature but by custome : Wine is very scarce and geason amongst them, the want whereof is supplied with milke, by reason of the great aboundance of beasts, and there bread is browne, beeing neither sifted nor bouted, they speake the Slaunian language as the Polonians doe, which language is common to many other nations besides, whereof some follow the rites and ceremonies of the Romaine Church, as the Polonians, the Dalmatians, the Croatij and the Carni : some others the Greeke Church, as the Bulgarians, Ruthenians and most of the Lituanians, and some againe hold certaine opinions differring from both Churches, as the Bohemians, Morauians and Bosnienses, of which some follow the opinion of *Iohn Husse*, and many others the sect of the Manachies : and there bee some which as yet continue still in their paganisme and superstitious blindnesse, by worshiping of Idols, and such bee many of the Lithuanians.

*Ierom* of *Prage* who (in the time of Pope *Eugenius* the forth of that name) preached the gospel in the country, & was the first that acquainted vs with the manners and ceremonies of that people (before that time vtterly vnkowne vnto vs) reported that diuers of the Lithuanians (amongst whom hee first arriued) had certaine serpents euery



euery house-hold one, to whom they sacrificed as to their house-hold-gods, and that hee wrought so farre with the worshippers of them, that they destroyed and killed them all, one onely excepted, which could not bee burned: some others worshipped the fire, and from it receiued their diuinations, and many others the Sunne, in the forme of a huge iron mallet, accounting that to bee there guide, and giuing it to name *Magnus*.

These people bee oftentimes subiect to the King of Poland: the chiefe Citie of the Region is called Vilna, it is a Bishops seate, and as bigge as all Cracouia with the suburbes: the houses whereof ioyne not together, but stand one a good distance from an other, as they doe in the Countrie, hauing orchardes and gardens betwixt them.

There bee in it two very stronge castles or holdes, one scituated vpon a hill, and the other lower vpon the plaine or champion ground: This cittie of Vilna is distant from Cracouia, the chiefe citie of Poland, one hundred and twenty miles.

About the Citie there are certaine Tartarians haue places assigned them for to dwell in, who tilling and manuring the ground after our manner, doe labour and carry commodities from one place to an other.

They doe speake the Tartarian tongue and worship the Religion of *Mahomet*.



Of Liuania, Prussia, and of the souldiors  
called Mariani in Spaine.

CAP. 8.



**L**IVONIA (now professing the true and sincere religion) ioyneth Northward vnto Ruthenia, and the borders of Sarmatia, or Poland. The Tartarians a people of Scythia, haue made often incursions, into that Country: The people of Liuania were first made pertakers of the Christian religion, by souldiors of Spaine called Mariani of *Marianus*, whereas before they acknowledged and adored no other god, but euill spirits.

There hath beene very much controuersie and wars about the possession of that countrie, sometimes one, sometimes an other getting the vpper hand and government.

It is inuironed vpon the West part thereof with the Sarmatian sea, and with a gulph of an vnknowne bignesse, the mouth whereof Westward is not very farre from Cimbrica Chersonesus, the which is now called Dacia or Denmarke: about this gulfhe Northward there doth dwell or inhabite a sauadge and wilde kinde of people, which (beeing voide of any language vsed in other lands) doe exchange there Merchandise by signes and beκες: Prussia (the inhabitantes whereof bee called Pruteni) pertaketh now with Germania and Sarmatia, which countries it incountreth vpon the West.

This



This land (if *Ptolomeus* report a truth) is washed with the famous Riuer Vistula, from the Cittie Tornum to Gedanum, where it falleth into the Baltean sea, it lyeth beyond Germany, and reacheth from the riuer Vistula, to the Sarmaticke Ocean.

Vpon the East and South, is the Prouince of the Massouitæ, (the inhabitants whereof be Polanders) and the Saxons vpon the West: Prussia is an exceeding fruitfull countrey, well watered, and very populous. It is pleasant withall, and abounding with cattell, there is vety good fishing, and much hunting. *Iornandes* writeth, that this land was inhabited by a people called *Vlmerigi*, at such time as the Gothes remooued from the Iland of Scandinavia, into the continent and maine land: And *Ptolomeus* reporteth, that the Amaxobij, the Aulani, the Venedes, and the Gythones, dwelt neere the riuer Vistula or Vixell.

The people of this Countrey were worshippers of euill Spirits, vntill the time of the Emperour *Fredericke* the second: and than our Ladies souldiers, which bee also called *Deiparini*, or *Mariani*, after they had lost the towne of Ptolomais in Siria, returned into Germanie, and beeing men of haughtie and noble spirits, and very expert in feats of armes; and to the end their courages should not be danted, and they out of vse by ouer-much idlenesse, they came vnto the Emperour, declaring vnto him, that the people of Prussia which border vpon Germanie, were vtterly ignorant of the Christian Religion, and that they made often incursions vpon the Saxons, and other their bordering neighbours, stealing from them whole heards of cattell: shewing him moreouer, that they had a desire to suppress that barbarous nation; wherunto the Emperour consented, and gaue the kingdom to his two brethren, as their  
lawfull



lawfull inheritance, if they could conquer it by armes: the Dukes & Gouvernors of Massouia, (which before had proclaimed themselues Lords of that land) surrendered their estates and titles foorthwith to the Emperours brothers; which gift was thankfully taken by the Emperour himselfe, who commending his brothers intent, gaue vnto them what letters and commission they desired, signed with the golden seale. These breethren providing themselves for the warres, in a short time brought vnder their subiection, all the Countries which were vnder the Prussian gouernement, on each side the riuer Vistula; who being conquered by battell, willingly submitted themselves to their subiection, and imbraced the true faith, and Christian Religion therewithall, exchanging their speech for the Almaine tounge. Nere vnto the riuer Vistula grew an Oke where the victors atchieued the conquest, and there they first erected a Castell, which shortly after (as many things in time grow great of small beginnings) grew vppe into a great towne, and was called Maryburge: it is now the chiefe cittie of the Countrey, and his seate which hath the gouernement of that whole order of souldiers; which holy order of warfare, had his beginning from the Almaines, and there is none but Almaines, which enter into that order or bond, and those too must be nobly or worshipfully descended: at their entrance into that order, they are enioyned to be alwayes in readines to fight against the enemies of the holy Crosse of Christ: they be cloathed in white cassockes, with blacke crosses sowed on them, all of them suffering their beards grow long, but onely such as be Priests, and are employed in their seruices. The souldiers in steade of the Canonick houres, repeate the Lords prayer, for they bee altogether vnlearned, yet bee they



they very rich, and their power as great as if they were Kings. They haue many conflicts with the Polonians, for inroaching vppon the Confines of their countrey, in which sometimes they haue the better, and sometimes the worse, and they will neuer refuse to submit all their forces to the hazard of the warres, what euer the euent or successe be.

There is a little Region bordering vppon Prussia, and *Samogithia*. Lithuania, called Samogithia, it is closed and enuironed round about with woods and waters, and is fiftie myles in length: the people thereof be very tall, and of a comely stature, and yet very vnciuill, and of rude behauiour: they marry as oft as they will, and without respect of kindred or blooud: for the father beeing dead, the sonne may marry his step-mother; and one brother deceased, his other brother may marry his wife. Money they haue none; their buildings be base and low, and their houses for the most part made of hempe stalkes and reedes, and fashioned like boates or helmets, vppon the ridge or toppes whereof is made a window to giue light to the whole house, and in euery house is but one fire, which is euer burning, both to dresse their meate and drinke, and other necessaries belonging to their bodies, as also to expell the violence of cold, which is there very vehement and extreame, a binding frost continuing for the most part of the yeare. These houses haue no chimneys in them, for all the smoke goeth out at the window.

The people bee much inclined to diuination and witchcraft: the god in whome they repose most confidence and trust, and which they especially honour and adore, is the Fire, which they perswade themselues to be most holy, and euerlasting, because it is fedde with continuall fuell, and



and there was a fire kept euer burning by the Priests vpon the top of a high hill neere vnto the Riuer Meuiasa.

*Vladislaus* King of Poland, (who first reduced that nation to the Christian Religion) quenched that fire, and ouerthrew the turret wherein it was kept, together with all the woods, which the people of Sarmatia held to be as holy as the fire, and worshipped them with as much deuotion, and Religion, esteeming and accounting them to bee the dwellings and habitations of the gods, according to the saying of the Poet:

*The gods inhabited and kept the woods.*

Nor did they worshippe and reuerence the fire and woods onely, but euery other thing likewise, which vsually remained and abidde in the woods, as birds, and wilde beasts: and if any one violated and contemned their witchcrafts and Inuocation of diuels, their heads and feete would incontinently close and shrink together, by the deceit and illusion of their euill spirits. Within the woods each family had a place or hearth, wherein they kept a fire for all that family; in which fire their custome was, to burne their dead bodies, with their horses, saddles, and best garments: firmly beleeuing, that in that place those which be dead and burned, meet together in the night, and therefore they made them settles or benches to sit vppon of Corcke tree, and placed them in readines, the best meath, and a kind of meate made of paste like vnto a cheese, for them to eate.

Euery yeare vppon the first day of October all the people of the whole countrey assembled and mette together in those woods, and there (vsing all kind of deuotion) celebrated a sollemne Feast, each family feeding in his owne cottage, vppon the daintiest fare, and most delicious viands



viands they could get. At which feast they sacrificed by the firesides, vnto all their goddes, and especially vnto one whome they called *Percumo*, which in their language signifieth thunder.

Their language is all one with the Lithuanians, and the Polonians, for the Priests preach vnto the people in the Polonian tongue: they obserue the Customes of the Roman Church, although there be some Ruthens towards the South, and Muscouites which dwell farre north, which obserue the Ceremonies of the Greeke Church, yeelding their obedience to the Bishoppe of Constantinople, and not to the Bishop of Rome. Vppon the North side of this Countrey lyeth Muscovia, it is five hundred miles in compasse, rich in siluer, and vppon all sides so garded, environed, and defended with such strong holds, as not only strangers, but their owne natieue countrey-men, be interdicted and prohibited to passe in and out at their pleasures without the Dukes letters of safe-conduct. The countrie is even, and plaine, no hils, but great store of woods and marish grounds: it is watered with many great riuers, as Occa, Volha, Dzuuina, Boristhines and Dinaper, and therefore affoordeth as many fishes and wild beasts as Lithuania, from which it differeth not much, neither in customes nor situation, sauing that it is somewhat colder, because more North-ward, and therefore bee their cattell little and small, and for the most part halting and lame of their lims.

The Metropolitane and chiefe Cittie of the Region, is Moscua, it is twise as bigge within the compasse of it, as Prague in Bohemia, the building is of timber as all their other Citties bee, it hath many streetes and lanes, but they stand straggling with broad fieldes betwixt them,  
the



the riuer Mosca runneth through the middle of it, and diuiderh it into two parts, and in the midst of the Cittie standeth a castell or tower, builded vppon leuell ground, wherein be seuentene turrets, and three bul-warkes or Blocke-houses, so strong and so stately, as there be but few such to bee found: within this Castell bee seuentene Churches, whereof those three which be dedicated to our blessed Ladie, Saint *Michael*, and Saint *Nicholas* bee walled about with stone, but the rest be made of timber: there is also in it three large and spacious Courts, for Noblemen and Courtiers to spend their time in, a stately and beautifull pallace also for the Duke to dwell in, builded after the Italian fashion, but not very large.

The Countrey containeth many famous Dukedoms, out of which, vppon any occasion, in the space of three or foure dayes, they will get together in a readinesse two hundred thousand able men: Their vsuall drinke is water and meath, and a certaine leauened or sowre liquor, which they call *Quassatz*: they plow with wooden ploughes, and harow their ground with branches of trees, or thorns. Their corne (by reason of continuall cold) ripeneth but slowly, and therefore they drie it in hote houses, and so thresh it.

Against the extremitie of cold, they vse diuers spices, and make a kind of water to drinke of oates, hony and milke; so strong, that they will sometimes be drunke with it: Wine and oyle they haue none; and to auoide drunkenesse, the Gouvernour of the countrey forbiddeth the drinking of all strong drinckes, vppon paine of death, except twise or thrice in a yeare, and then it is tolerable for them to be drunke.

They haue siluer coyne of two sortes, a bigger, and a lesser,



lesser, it is not made round, but somewhat long, and with foure corners: This coyne they call *Dzuvingis*.

They speake the Slauonian language, and in religion follow the Greeke Church: Their Bishops bee vnder the Patriarch of Constantinople, and by him bee confirmed. They be all Christians sauing the Kosannenſes, which worship *Mahomet*, like the Sarraſins: there dwell ſome Scythians alſo towards the North, which ſpeake their owne language, and worship Idolles, and one Idoll aboue the reſt, which they call *Zlota baba*, that is to ſay, the image of an old woman made of gold: this Idoll they do ſo highly reuerence and adore, as euery one that paſſeth by it, falleth downe and worſhippeth it, offering thereunto a haire from their garments, if they haue nothing elſe to offer.

And although the Slauonian tongue be generally ſpoken throughout the whole nation, yet is there ſo great difference in their ſpeech, (it beeing ſo mixt, confounded and corrupted with other languages) as they can hardly vnderſtand one another.

In the time of Idolatrie they had one high Priest or Biſhop which they called (*Crine*) his dwelling was in the citie Romoue, ſo called of *Roma*. And this cuſtome was generall to all the whole nation, not onely to ſell their ſeruantſ and ſlaues, like beaſts, but their ſonnes and daughters likewise, yea & ſometimes themſelues, ſuffering the to be carried into other countries, in hope of better meanes to liue: for in their owne, their diet was groſſe and bad.

of



Of Polonia, and of the latter customes of  
the Polonians.

## CAP. 9.



**P**OLONIA, a vast countrey of Europ,  
is so called of his plainenesse and eeuen-  
nesse, for (*Pole*) in the Slaunian tounge,  
which is spoken by the Polanders, signi-  
fieth plaine, leuell, or eeuen: it is other-  
wise called Sarmatia: Vppon the West  
it bordereth vpon Slesia, vpon Prussia and Massouia vpon  
the North, vppon the East lyeth Ruthenia, and Hungaria  
on the South.

The hill Carpathus (which is there called Crapack) di-  
uideth the Countrey into two parts, whereof that part  
which is next vnto Saxonie and Prussia, is called the grea-  
ter Polonia, and the other the lesser, lying ouer against  
Russia and Hungaria.

The whole kingdome is diuided, as it were, into foure  
seuerall and distinct Prouinces, all which the king visiteth  
euery yeare, in course one after another, and each of them  
maintaineth the king and his whole court for three mo-  
neths together, but if he stay longer then three months in  
any one part of the kingdome, it is at their choice whe-  
ther they wil yeeld him any further maintenance or no.

The kings seate is the great and famous cittie Craco-  
uia, where is preserued and kept all the wealth of the king-  
dome: and all the other citties are meane and simple in  
comparison of it: most of their houses be made of rough  
stone, rudely compacted and heaped together, without  
mortar or clay, and dawbed with mudde: the countrey is  
full of woods, and thickets, the people bee prudent and  
wise



wise, courteous towards strangers, and exceeding great drinkers, (as most of your Northerne people bee) yet is there small store of Wine, as hauing no Vines in all the whole country: instead whereof they drinke a kinde of counterfet Ale made of Wheat and other graine, for the soyle is very fertile, and affoordeth great store of wheat, it is also very commodious and fitte for feeding, yeelding large grounds for beasts to pasture in. There is very good hunting, as namely of wilde horses, which haue hornes like Harts, and the wilde Bull, which the Romaines call Vrus: mettall mines there bee none but onely of Ledde, but Salt is there digged out of the ground in such abundance, as no one thing yeeldeth more custome to the King then that doth: and there is so great store of honey both in Poland and Russia, that they haue not spare places sufficient wherein to keepe it, for all their trees and woods bee couered blacke ouer with Bées. The forme of their letters is much like vnto the Greeke Character, their ceremonies of religion are indifferent betwixt the Romaine and the Greeke Church, and both men and women in their apparrell doe much resemble the Greekes.

*Of Hungaria, and of the institutions  
and manner of liuing of  
the Hungarians.*

CAP. IO.



HUNGARIA is the same which was once called Pannonia, although it was not so large and spacious a countrey when it was so called, as now it is, all betwixt the

*The limits of  
Hungaria.*

R

giuer



the riuer Laytha and the riuer Savus, is knowne by the name of the inferiour or lower Pannonia. Hungary beyond Danubius reacheth vnto Poland and comprehendeth all the country which was inhabited by the Gepidae and Daci, so as the limits of the Empire is now farre larger then the name of the nation.

This land ( as auncient writers report ) is deuided into nine parts or diuisions, which in the Germane tongue be called ( Hagas, ) euery one whereof is compassed and inclosed with walls, made of blockes or piles of oakes, beech or fyr tree fixed fast in the ground, twenty foote high and twenty foote broade. The soyle is full either of hard stones or stiffe clay, and all the vallies be couered ouer with turfes, vpon the borders or marches of the land, be many trees or shrubes planted and set, which beeing cut vp and cast away will not-with-standing beare leaues and flourish.

Euery one of these nine circles or diuisions of ground, be twenty Germane miles distant one from another, although they be not all of one length, but some one shorter than other some, and in euery part of them be Citties, Castells and Villages, builded in such good order and vniformity, as a man may be heard speake from one Castell Towne or village to another.

Their buildings be compassed and inclosed with strong walls, but their gates be ouer narrow for them to goe in and out at their pleasure, to steale and filch from others. Euery one of those Circles or inclosed portions of ground called haggas, were wont to giue signes vnto others of euery accident, by the sound of a trumper.

The Pannonnes (long since called Pæones) were first that inhabited that land, after whome it was possessed by



by the Huns a people of Scythia, and after them by the Gothes, which came out of the Ilands of the Germanic ocean: when the Gothes were gone it was possessed by the Longabards, which came from Scandinavia an island of the Ocean also; And lastly by the Hungarians, who came from out the other Hungaria in Scythia, which is not farre from the head of the river of Tanais, and is now called Iuhra: This Scythian Hungary is a miserable cold country, as being situate wholly vnder the Frigid zone, it is tributary to the Duke of Muscovy: the tribute which the inhabitants pay is neither gold nor silver, (for thereof they haue none) but rich Skins and furs of sundry wild beast as of Sabells and such like.

They neither plow nor sow, nor haue any kind of bread, but liue only vpon flesh of wild beasts and fish, and drinke water: and their lodgings bee cabbins made of twigs and bowes, in groues and thicke woods: wherevpon it insueth that men liuing in woods with wilde beasts, weare neither linnen nor wollen garments but skins only either of harts beares or wolues. Some of them addore the Sunne, some the Moone and other Starrs, or what euer first commeth to their vew; they haue a proper and peculiar language to themselves.

They fish for coralls that grow in the sea, and fishes called Balenæ of whose skins they make coaches and purses, They haue exceeding fat Bacon whereof they sell much to other nations. Vpon that side of this Hungary in Scythia which is neere vnto the Ocean, bee sundry little hills or cliffes, vpon which certaine fishes called Mors or death fishes, making offer by meanes of their reeth, to clime to the toppe of the rockes, when they bee almost at the highest their hold fayleth them and they



fall downe and kill themselves with the fall. These fishes doe the Inhabitants gather vp and eate, reseruing their teeth which bee very white and broad, which they exchange with strange Merchants for other commodities, of these fish teeth bee made very good knives hafts.

But Hungaria in Europe hath vpon the west Austria and Boemia, vpon the South that part of Illyria which is next to the Adriaticke sea; vpon the East lyeth Seruia (once inhabited by the *Triballii* and *Misii*) and now of many called *Sagaria*) and vpon the North and North-east, Poland and Muscouie. The chiefe Citty and Kings seate is Buda, so called of *Bada* the brother of *Attila*: the soyle of the country (so much thereof as is errable) is very fertile, and there bee many veines of gold and silver. It is strange that is reported by the Inhabitants, that there is a riuer in Pannonia, whereinto if Iron bee often-times dipped, it will bee turned into Copper. The men weare garments that bee made hollow about the shoulders, and linnen coates or shirts vnder them, the collers whereof appeare about their necks higher then their vppermost garments, and bee wrought with silke and gold: They bee indifferent what manner of stockings they weare, for that they euer haue buskins ouer them. They be very curious in annointing and trimming of their haire, and they euer go in linnen hatts, which they seldome put of, or once remooue from their heads, vnlesse when they sit still and bee idle: but womens peticotes bee made more straiter to their bodyes then mens coates bee, and reach higher towards their chinnes to couer their neckes and breasts, ouer which they weare gownes, and their faces bee masked with linnen Veales richly wrought and imbroidered, so as you can see no part of them but their



their noses and eyes : Their heads be covered with linnen kerchers or coyfes set with pearls and precious stones, and they as well as men weare buskins that come vp to the calues of their legges. Their time of mourning in Hungary is for some a yeare, and for some two, and they shaue of their beards all but the vpper lippe : They iudge of matters concerning the true religion according to their law: but in disciding of other matters, their course is (if the matter in question be difficult or doubtfull, and cannot other wise be determined) that the plaintife or defendant shall fight it out by combat in the presence of the King or his deputy, who is to iudge of the victory, for of his tryall by batell death doth not alwaies follow, for it is conquest sufficient for one, if his enemy ether faint, or fight vnwillingly or fly out of the lists appointed for the combat: The horsemens fight in Hungary is first with lances and then with swords, and foote soldiars fight naked on all parts but their priuities ; They haue a proper speach but not much differing from the Boemian language, and though they haue a forme of letters of their owne, yet vse they altogether the Roman character. They be a cruell kind of people, very hardy & valiant in war, & much more fit to fight on foote than on horsebacke : They be vnder the gouernment of a King or rather a Duke, that hath Kingly authority : They vse barbed horses in the wars, but weare light armor themselves, and they fight one after another, and not all together. And surely there is no one Christian country in the world that hath held warres so long against the Turke, as the Hungarians haue don; the other Hungary in Scithia which is the mother of this Hungary, is almost like vnto this in language and manners, sauing that the people be more barbarous and liue still in Idolatry.



Of Boemia, and of the manners  
of the Boemians.

CAP. II.

The limits of  
Boemia.



BOHEMIA is a country on the North side of Germanie, and included in the limits of Germany, it hath vpon the East Hungaria, Bauaria on the South, Noricum on the west, and Poland on the North: It is (in a manner) as broad as it is long too, and about three dayes iourney either way, beeing on all sides compassed and inuiro- ned with the Hircanian wood, as with a naturall wall. Through the middle thereof runneth the riuer Albis, and an other riuer called Multaui, vpon the banckes whereof standeth that goodly Citty Praga, the chiefe and Metro- politan Citty of the whole nation: The country affoor- deth great store of Wheate and Barley, and aboundeth with all kinde of victualls, both flesh and fish, Oyle there is none, neither there nor in any other part of Germany, nor doth it yeeld much Wine, but great store of Beere, and that of the best of any other country, which for the goodnesse is carryed thence as farre as Vienna in Austria.

The Boemians notwithstanding they bee hemmed and compassed round about with Germanes, yet doe they not speake the Germane language, it beeing expelled thence by the comming of the Dalmatae, for their Chro- nicles report (as *Volateranus* affirmeth) that two bre- thren borne in Croatia, departing thence, and seating themselues one in Boemia, the other in Poland, altered the countries both in their names and languages, and yet there



there bee many in Boemia at this day, that obserue and retaine both the language, and ancient customes of the Germanes: for in their Sermons the Germane tongue is spoken, and the Boemian in their funerals. And Friars Mendicant of all others onely, had power heretofore when there was any Friars there, to preach & instruct the people in what language they listed. The people be very licentious, as hauing no strict lawes nor statutes to re-  
strain them, but euery one doth what best pleaseth him-  
selfe, without controuement, for they haue reiected the  
authority and rites of the Romaine Church, and receiued  
the Waldensian doctrine, which they defend tooth and  
naile: This doctrine not many yeares since was first prea-  
ched by one *Hus*, and by him generally receiued, where-  
by the traditions of the Romaine Church, are at this day  
there, vtterly neglected and derided, for this is now their  
practise of religion: First they esteeme of the Bishop of  
Rome no otherwise then of other Bishops, denying him  
to be of any more reuerence and authoritie than other  
Bishoppes are, holding also that there is no difference  
among Priests, and that it is not the dignity of Priest-  
hood that maketh one better, but his deserts and well li-  
uing. That soules as soone as they bee departed out of  
the bodyes, goe instantly cyther to perpetuall paines, or  
eternall pleasures. And that there is no Purgatory at all,  
to purge and purifie them of their sinnes after this life.  
To pray for the dead they account foolish and absurde,  
and a thing inuented onely for the profit of Priests.

The Images of our Sauour Christ and of his Saints,  
they vtterly abandon and contemne, and deride and scoffe  
at the Benedictions and hollowings of Water, Palmes, or  
any other things whatsoever: They hold that the religion



and practise of Fryers mendicant, was inuented by the Diuell : and that the Priests ought to bee poore and not to possesse mony nor substance, but to liue onely of the almes of the people : that euery one hath free power and liberty to preach and expound the word of God : That no mortall sinne is in any sort to bee tollerated, although by the committing of that sinne a greater inconuenience may bee avoyded, and that hee that is conuincd of deadly sinne, is not worthy to possesse and inioy any secular office nor Church dignity, nor is fit to be obeied : confirmation and extreame vnction they exclude from the number of the Sacraments, and esteeme of auricular confession as friuolous and vayne, and that it is sufficient to acknowledge their sinnes vnto GOD secretly in their chambers.

That Baptisme is to be ministred with water onely without any commixtion of holy oyle : That Church-yards are vayne and superfluous, & iuvented onely for couetousnesse, and that no one place is fitter for buryall than other, (for that the whole world is the vniuersall Temple and open Sanctuary of God,) And that those which build and erect Churches, Monasteries and Oratories do goe about to restraine and limit Gods power and Maiesty: That Preefts Vestiments, Ornaments for the Altar, Palls, surplices, Chalices, Patines and such other like vessells, are trifles and trash of no moment, and that the Priest hath power to consecrate the body of our Lord at all times, and in euery place, and to minister it to those which desire it, and that it is sufficient onely to pronounce the words of consecration.

That we ought not to pray to Saints to be intercessors for vs vnto Christ, and that it is lost time that is spent in singing



singing or saying the Canonickall houres. That no dayes should be kept holy from labour, but the Lords day only; that no feast daies should bee celebrated in honour of the Saints, and that (by the institutions of the Church) fasting is of no merit, The report also is, that the Boemian Priests do minister the Sacrament of the body of our Lord, vnto infants and to all others indifferently, vnder both formes, which is a greater sacrifice than that which is vsed in the Church of Rome, and one *George Poggebratius* is said to be the Author of this Ministration: One *Picardus* comming out of France, infected this nation with this monstrous and abhominable madnesse, for hee hauing intised a great number of the baser sort both of men and women, to bee his followers, instructed them to goe naked, and (as the author of all licentious living) called them Addamites, by whose instructions venery was openly practised without difference of kindred or allyance, and many other most horrible offences: some of which sect are said to remayne as yet, for there bee some Bohemians (which bee therefore called Gruebenhamer) which choose out for the exercising of their religion, vauces and hollow caues in the ground, and when their Priest (according to their custome) hath pronouced this part of *Genesis crescite et multiplicamini et replete terram*, that is, increase and multiply and replenish the earth, instantly they put out all their lights and fall to their lechery in the darke, euery man with the woman hee first lighteth vpon, without respect of age or kindred, and when they haue finished their businesse they light their lights againe, and goe euery one into his owne place and so bee their ceremonies ended. This execrable custome of that damnable sect, is not much different frō those feasts called Bacchanalia, which were first celebrated

in



in Hetruria and afterwards in Rome, by women in the night time, who hauing pampered them-selues with wine, and banketting, accompanied with men in secret corners without difference or respect either of kindred or age, whereby grew such confusion, as oftentimes the mothers were defiled by their owne children, and many other enormous villanies were perpetrated and done, which they tooke their beginning as from the warehouse of all wickednesse. The ringleaders of this preposterous celebration were first cut of at Rome, when *Quintus Martius*, *Philippus* and *Posthumius Albinus* were consulls (as *Sabellicus* reporteth in his first Aenead and seauenth booke) but this irreligious impiety and horrible heresie of the Boemians, could not bee extirpated and rooted out, in the raigne of foure Kings, *Venceslaus*, *Sigismundus*, *Albertus* and *Vladislaus* although they opposed them-selues against it with all their force and power.

Of Germany and of the customes of  
the Germaines.

CAP. 12.

The ancient  
limits of Ger-  
many.



GERMANY is the largest nation of all Europ, it lieth farre North, and is deuided from France with the riuer of Rheyne, from Rhetia and Pannonia with the riuer Danubius, from Sarmatia and Dacia with certaine hills, but more with the feare which one nation hath of the other, and vpon all other sides it is inclosed with the ocean: But the limits of Germany at this day exceed these bounds & extend further, comprehending vnder that name Rhetia, Vindekitia, Norica & the vpper Pannonia, the Alpes, part of Illiria & euen to the gates of the Citty of Trent. All the country of Belgia in like



like sort, (which was heretofore vnder the French gouernment) and all about the riuer of Rheyne, are vnited to the Germanes, imbracing both their law and language, and forgetting, or not daring, or else scorning to call themselves French: The Heluetians likewise by little and little haue almost lost both their name and speech, and become perfect Germanes, & Germany challengeth as her own, a great part of transalpine France: besides all these the souldiers of Germany haue (within the space of three hundred yeares) brought vnder their subiection the Pruteni a barbarous and cruell nation, waining them from the worshiping of Idols, to their owne language, and the Christian religion: this country therefore as now it is, compared vnto what it was before, it will appeare that it hath added more to it selfe from forraine nations, then was formerly comprehended in his owne limits.

All Germany was once deuided into two parts, wherof that part which is nearest vnto the Alpes, was called the higher Germany, & the other the lower which lieth northward and towards the Ocean: this partition doth yet continue, and the higher part is now called Alemania (as some thinke of a certaine lake or riuer called Alemanus) and each of these parts consisteth of sundry Prouinces, for the higher Germany (going vpwards from the riuer Morganus, which runneth along by Franconia) containeth Dauaria, Austria, Styria, Athesis, Rhetia, Heluetia, Sueuia, Alsatia, and the Prouince of Rheine, vnto the citty Mentz in Almania. The inferior or lower Germany hath in it Franconia (a good part wherof towards the South is held to be in high Germany) Hassia, Lotharingia, Brabant, Gelderland, Zeiland, Holland, Frysland, Flanders, Westphalia, Saxonie, Dacia, Peninsula, Pomerania, Liuania, Prussia,

*Germany deu-  
ided into  
superior and  
inferior.*



Prussia, Sletia, Moravia, Boemia, Mysnia, Marchia, and Thuringia.

Germany (although some parte thereof seemed better than other) was first (as *Cornelius Tacitus* writeth) for the most part ether ouer-growne with woods, or ouer-flowne with waters, being more base and barren towards France, and more subiect to stormes and tempests towards Noricum Styria, & Pannonia, so that it yeelded neither fruite nor grayne, onely it bred good store of cattell, but such as were both little and low: gold and siluer it affordeth none, and therefore as a poore and base country, it was dispised and very little regarded. But surely *Cornelius* was either much deceyued, or else the country is much altered from what it then was, for Germany at this day, is so pleasant and so plentifull of all things, so beautified, strengthened and adorned, with famous Citties, strong Castels and stately buildings, as it is nothing inferior either to France Spaine or Italy, for the heauens smyle vpon them, the fields affords them store of fruites, the Sunne solaceth himselfe amongst her hills, shee hath whole mountaines of vynes, woods at wil, and all kinde of graine in abundance, being watred on all sides with Rhene, Danubius, Moganus, Albis, Neccharus, Sala, Odera, and with many other great and famous riuers and brookes: there be fountaines like-wise of sweete waters, hot bathes and mines of Salte, and it is equall to any other country for all sorts of mettals yea all Italy, France, and Spaine, store them-selues with siluer and other mettalls out of Germany: and there is some gold gotten, so as if those old writers were now liuing, and beheld the present estate of Germany, as now it is, they would doubtlesse thinke it strange and wonder to see such alteration, to perceiue each place so holsome and

conue-



conuenient to dwell in, the ayre so temperate, the soyle so fertile, such aboundance of wine, and all kinde of graine, such planting of trees, such beautifull buildings of Citties, Temples and Sanctuaries, such aduancement of religion, such ciuility amongst citizens, decencie in apparell, experience in seates of armes, such furniture and prouision for warres, and such store of all manner of ornaments, besides the extraordinary sincerity and perfection of the Peeres and Nobility, if ( I say ) they beheld and marked all these things well, I am of opinion they would not condemne the ground as barren, rude, ill fauoured, or little beholding to the heauens, yea they should see how true that saying is; That good things are spoiled for want of workmanship and well husbanding: the ayre is there more calme and temperate in winter, then in other countries, and therefore it produceth more excellent fruites, yet be their summers more intemperate, through which intemperature many of those fruites be often-times corrupted and spoiled, besides there bee many venomous beasts, and other creatures pernicious and hurtfull to the inhabitants, and yet for all this, is it hardly to bee iudged, what Prouince may be compared vnto it, much lesse preferred before it.

The reason why this country assumeth the name of Germany, is, for that there is such a sympathy and concordance amongst all the people, both in the disposition of their bodies, their manners and courses of life, as all of them agree and liue together like brothers and equalls. It was first called Teutonia of *Tuisco* the sonne of *Noë*, and *Alemania*, of *Mannus* his sonne, who were said to be the first authors and originall of that nation: though some be of a contrary opinion, and affirme, that Germany was first

*Germany why  
so called.*



first inhabited by such as were there bred and borne, and not by such as were brought from other places; of which opinion is one which hath written thus.

Well situated toward the North, doth lye the Germaines soyle,  
 A people famous through the world, that neuer felt the foyle  
 Of farrren fies: no heate nor cold, nor pines can them molest,  
 For that they scorne to spend their time in idlenesse and rest.  
 Borne certes in that land they were, with first that were alive:  
 Nor but from Demogorgons lynes can pedigree deriue.  
 These did the Greekes Adelphi name, whom Latins Germans call:  
 Because in vnity and lone, they liue like brethren all:  
 A name which vnto noble hearts doth yet grea honor yeeld,  
 Large lims hath lawfull nature lent, their bended trunks to weld,  
 Vnto their bodies answerable, that be both tall and straight:  
 Their necks and all their body else is Alablaster white,  
 Their eyes their haire and bushie locks of yellow color be,  
 In temperature their members all, and bodies doe agree:  
 What inwardly is thought or meant, their outward voice forth shewes  
 Their tongues be traytors to their hearts, their secret to disclose.  
 Their speach is not effeminate but lustie bigge and strong,  
 So that their valiant warlike hearts, may knowne be by their tong,  
 They loue to wander much abroad, to hunt and eke to ride,  
 And some by Arts and Sciences, their linings doe prouide,  
 Some Bacchus tender budding sprouts do winde on naked piles,  
 And some do till the fertile earth that barren was ere whiles,  
 Some men in trauell much delight their youthfull dayes to spend,  
 And other to Minervaes lawes their course do wholly bend.  
 Or hoysing up their sailes aloft do cut through forren flouds,  
 And store their wants with sundry sorts of far-fetche strangers goods.  
 If forren foes be wanting, then within themselves theile iar,  
 A light occasion will suffice to stir them up to war,  
 And all the while that cruell Mars doth bloody flag display,  
 They hold it then no iniury to ravish, filch and prey.  
 Some in Hircinian woods delight to hunt the tusked Bore,  
 And some the brazen-footed Hart with yelping Hounds to gore,  
 Through



Through forrests, woods and mountains *some* pursue the cruell Beare,  
 And some with Faulcons talents seeke the silly birdes to teare:  
 And pluming of their fethers cleane disperse them in the ayre.  
 No enterprize so doubfull is, but they will hazard all.  
 Nor can the feare of grisley death their valiant mindes appall,  
 If wrongs be done, they seeke reuenge: but for their countries good,  
 Or kin or friends, they will not stick to spend their dearest blood.  
 They constant be in Christ his faith, and him do duely serue:  
 Nor from sincere religion, doe sele or neuer swerue,  
 Their dealings honest, true, and iust, all lying they detest,  
 And euermore their tongue declares whats hidden in their brest.

The Germaines before they began their battels, vsed to chaunt forth a song or holy hymne, in honor of *Hercules*, holding opinion that he was once in that country: when they ioyned battell they would crie out with a most grieuous and clamourous noyse, not so confused and dissonant, as terrible to their enemy. Their eyes bee (for the most part) blew, their lookes sterne, and their hayre red or yellow, they be tall of stature, and naturally very sodaine and head-long in all their enterprises, but they cannot away with much labour and toyle, nor can they indure heate and thirst, so well as the Frenchmen can, but cold they can indure passing well. Of gold and siluer they made no account, for the plate and Iewels of siluer which were sent them from forraine Princes, they esteemed as base and vile as earthen vessels: But since by trafficke and trading with other countries, the vse thereof hath crept in amongst them. And there bee some hold opinion, that there is neither siluer nor gold gotten there as yet, and but small store of Yron, which was the cause that they vsed no swords in the warres, but long Speares or lauelins with short Yron pikes, being a very fit and handsome weapon to fight withall both aloofe and neere at hand.

Their



Their horsemen fought with shields and those short speares, and footmen with stones and darts, and both of them naked, or in little short gabberdines or cassacks: the souldiers were distinguished and knowne one from another by the coulour of their shields, which were painted with select and curious coulours, and but few of them wore either priue coates, helmets, or head-peeces. Their horses were neither well shapt nor speedie paced, nor could they runne the ring, or career like Italian horses, but onely straight forward: hee that lost his shield in fight was seuerely punished, for hee was vtterly excluded from their sacrifices, and not admitted to come into the Senate or Councill house, and many were so deeply touched with that indignitie, as they would violently procure their owne deaths, rather then indure such disgrace.

Their Kings were elected for their worth and Nobility, and their power and authority was not altogether free, but limited and restrained: the worthiest souldiers, and men of greatest valour, and such as could effect more by their good examples, then by all their force and authority, were ordained leaders and conductors of their armies. There was none had power to chastice, beat, or punish another, but the Priests only, for they held that reuengment belonged only vnto the gods, whose ministers the Priests were. They would pourtray the Images of their gods, and carry them with them into the warres, as a speciall incouragement to fight. And their friends and kinsfolke likewise were placed neere vnto the battell, that in their presence they might either archieue a glorious victory, or end their dayes with honor: and their parents, wiues and children were eye-witnesses of their valor and prowesse, and euer as any of them that fought were wounded, they  
were



were brought vnto their mothers and wiues, and other friends that were lookers on, who were euer readie and willing to heale and cure them, and to supply the soldiers with victualles, exciting and encouraging them to fight manfully: through which exhortations (as some haue written) the battell hath renewed and begunne a fresh, when the souldiers were almost spent and wearied out: for they esteemed their women to be of great sanctitie and prouidence, and therefore their Councels were not to be contemned, nor their aduises despised. Vppon certaine dayes they vsed to sacrifice men vnto *Mercurie*, and beasts to *Mars* and *Hercules*, and they were generally giuen to forcerie and witch-craft.

Trifling and pettie causes were managed and decided by the Rulers and Magistrates of the citties; but all great busineses and difficult affaires, were handled by the whole body of the city in generall. They would neuer begin any busines, but when the Moone was either in the change or in the full, and they reckened their computation not by the dayes, but by the nights.

They came armed into the Councell-house to decide controuersies, and to maintaine the right of causes, and hee vppon whose side the sentence passed, and was commended, had a Iaueling shaken and brandished against him; which manner of sentence giuing, they accounted to be most honorable, and againe those whose causes were nought, were condemned by the Iudges frownes and sterne lookes.

All traytors and turne-coates, and such as fled to the enimie, were hanged: Sluggards, dastards, and such infamous persons, and those that had any noysome disease, were laid vpon a hurdle, and dragged till they were dead.



No Magistrate would execute any publike or priuate businesse, but when he was armed: there was great emulation amongst them about their diet, and they were incredibly giuen to affectation, for he carried the greatest credit and estimation amongst his friends and neighbours, that was best attended and accompanied with young gallants, when hee went abroad about any businesse. If the Prince that was Generall or Leader of the armie, departed out of the field without victorie, he liued in discredite and infamie all his life time after, for the Prince fighteth only for victorie, and the other Noblemen for the safetie of the Prince.

They would oftentimes take occasion to make warres without cause giuen, onely because they could not indure to liue quietly and peaceably. For they held it a point of sloth and sluggishnesse, to get their liuing by their labors, if they might get it by warres, though it cost them their liues: if they had no warres, the valiantest men of them all, spent their times wholly in eating, drinking, and sleeping; committing both houses and husbandrie to the care and guidance of old men and women.

So as it seemeth strange to see two such contrarie dispositions in one people, to be both louers of idlenesse, and yet enemies to peace and quietnesse. Their dwellings were in villages, and euery one in seuerall houses, their appa-  
rell, short cassockes, or souldiers coates, buttoned together with claspes, or pinned with thornes, and the richer sort were knowne and distinguished from others by their clothes: for they wore their coates so close to their skins, as you might plainly perceiue the perfect proportion of each lim and member, and the selfe same fashion of appa-  
rell which serued men, was worne by women likewise.

Most



Most part of the Germaines which dwelt towards the East and North side of the countrie, contented themselves with one wife a peece, some few excepted which had many; and the wife was not indowed by the husband, but the husband by the wife; nor was their dowers of such dainties as were onely fit to make them fine and gay, but of such things as they had most vse of, as yokes of oxen, horses, with their furniture, shields, swords, Iauelings and such like.

The women were wonderful chaste and modest, and their looks nothing wanton to procure allurements: they frequented no banquets nor common feasts, so as (though the nation were very populous) there was few women found offending in adulterie; but if any were thereof convicted, her owne husband would pull her headlong out of his house starke naked, before her neighbours and friends, and whip her round about the towne, nor was there any place for pardon for such lasciuious strumpets, no not their youth, beautie, nor riches could any whit priuiledge them, or reconcile them to their husbands. It was not tolerable for any one to scoffe at vice, for thereby they thought they both corrupted others, and were corrupted themselves. And as euery woman had but one bodie and one life, so should she haue but one husband, nor ought she to haue any idle cogitation or wanton desire, as if shee more regarded the act of matrimonic, then her husbands loue: so as more good was done by their manners and examples, then in other places by wholesome & strict lawes. Yong men were not very prone to lust, & especially when their youthfull dayes drew to an end, and maides were not married til they were of good yeares, that they might bee more strong and able to beare children.



*The punishment  
for murder.*

Murder was punished with a certaine number of cattell, which the murtherer must giue to al the dead mans friends as a satisfaction for his death: They were very desirous to diet together, and to keepe good hospitalitie, accounting it an vn honest and vndecent part to forbid any one their houses or tables. Rewards were willingly taken and giuen, nor would they vpbraide any one with that they had giuen, nor thinke themselues in any matter beholding for what they receiued.

*Drunkennesse  
a commendation  
amongst  
the Germanes*

They would spend whole nights and dayes in drinking and carowing, esteeming and accounting it a credit to be drunken: and oftentimes after their gluttonie and gormandize, they would brall and fall out one with another, exchanging ill words, and sometimes blowes, whercof oftentimes insued mayming and murder. They consulted of all serious matters, touching both warre and peace, amidst their banquets, deeming their iudgements more acute, and themselues more carefull at that time, then at any other, and more fit to vndergo any notable enterprife.

The people were plaine and simple, without craft, dissimulation or cunning, and easily drawne to lay open and discouer the very secrets of their hearts: They would call to mind the day after, what they had done before, considering of the matter more deliberatly, when they knew not how to alter it, shewing then what their intent was, when they could not be deceiued.

They drunke a corrupt drinke made of barley, in stead of wine, but those which dwelt nere vnto great riuers had wine brought them out of other countries: their meat was simple and grosse, as wild apples, new dow, thicke milke, or clotted Creame: but their drinke was much more immoderate: They delighted to behold and see young men



men naked, amongst swords and speares, and other militarie weapons belonging to warre, and to see how finely and nimbly they could deliuer themselves out of the danger of them, the often practise whereof made them skilful, and their agilitie and skill was a great ornament vnto them. They were so exceedingly giuen to dicing, as when they had lost all that euer they had, they would aduenture their owne liberties vppon one chance at dice; and if they lost, they would willingly become slaues, and suffer themselves (though neuer so strong and lustie) to be bound and sold like beasts. They diuided the yeare into Winter, Spring, and Sommer, making no reckning of Autumne, by reason of their scarcitie of wine and fruites.

*The Germanes were great dicers.*

In their Funerals they made little shew of sorrow, by weeping and outward lamentations, but the dolor and grieve of their hearts continued long, and women onely bewayled the dead, it being enough for men to remember them. And these in times past were the customes of the Germanes, and their manner of liuing.

But how much they bee altered from what they then were, (as well as other nations) may bee gathered by this their present estate: for now the whole state and condition of the Germanes, consisteth of foure sortes of people: the first sort or Order is the Clergie, which be of two sorts likewise: that is to say, secular Priests, and religious persons; both of them beeing indowed with great and large rents, reuenues, and riches, and held in great honour and estimation with the people, both for that they offer sacrifice vnto God, extoll the prayes of the Saynts, and haue cure of soules; as also for that they vnderstand the Scriptures and holy VVrit, bee able to interpret and expound them, and leade a single life; for those which haue not all

*The later manners of the Germanes.*

*The Germanes diuided into foure sortes of people whereof the first is the Clergie.*



these good parts in them, are despised and contemned of the vulgar sort of people: And euery order of religious persons, haue their garments made of their owne fashion, very decent and comely: The secular, or lay-Priestes weare loose Coates, for the most part black, or russet, and linnen myters on their heads, not very high crowned, but sticking close about their eares. And when they go abroad, they cast about their neckes, for decencies sake, a broad lace, either of silk or linnen, which hangeth downe on each side their shoulders: Vpon their shooes are pumps: they weare Pantofles or Sandals, putting them off euer when they come home.

Most of them liue very idly, bestowing little time in obtaining learning, but spending all the after-noones in gaming and drinking. The inferiour Priests, if any one in- iure them, complaine vnto their Bishoppe, and sometimes to the Court of Rome: whereby they worke their owne security, and condigne punishment is inflicted vpon the offenders.

*The second or-  
der is of the  
Nobilitie.*

The second estate or condition is of the Nobilitie, wher- of there bee many degrees; as Princes, Earles, Barons, and Knights, which is the lowest degree of that Order: the Princes excell all the other degrees, as well in dignitie and bloud, as in power and strength, as hauing very large lands and ample possessions.

The Earles, Barons, and other Nobles liue dispersed a- broad in the cuntry, some in one place, some in ano- ther, flouishing like so many flowers in a greene field. But that which is very strange & worthy to be obserued in the Nobilitie, is this, that both Princes & Earls acknowledge a soueraignty: & yeeld their obedience vnto the Emperour; so oft as necessitie, or the Emperour himselfe requireth it: and yet



yet the Knights say, that they be exempted, and that they will not serue any one, nor suffer those which be vnder the to serue, but for wages and stipend, yet notwithstanding they acknowledge and say, that the Romaine Emperour is their Soueraigne Lord and Gouvernor. The Nobilitie in generall, thinke it a great discredit vnto them, and a blemish vnto their kindred and house, to exercise merchandize, or any mechanicall art, or to take a wife from among the common people, or that is their inferiour, or to liue in a strange citty like townsmen: for they (skorning all company and commerce with cittizens) liue freely with their wiues and families, in stately castels, strong holdes, and beautifull pallaces, situated some vppon mountaines, some in woods, and some in champion countries. Some of the Nobles frequent the Courts of Kings and great Princes, and follow the warres, and some others liue at their owne houses vppon their Rents and reuenues.

They be much giuen to hunting, affirming, that by continuall custome, and their auncient libertie, they only are allowed to hunt, and all other interdicted and deprived of that pleasure; for, for a priuate man to hunt either hares, ro. buckes, kids, hynd-calues, or stagges, in some place is punished with the losse of his eyes, and in some other places with the losse of his head: but it is lawfull for euery one that can, to take such wild beasts that be noysome and hurtfull.

Moreouer, they fare daintily, and be sumptuously clothed, as well men as women, both at home and abroad, beeing decked and adorned with gold, siluer, and filkes of sundry colours: When they walke abroad they are attended with a troupe of their friends and familiars, and they may easily be knowne and discerned from the common-



people, onely by their gate, it is so graue and demure: They neuer go farre from home but on horse-backe, for to take a iourney on foot they account a great dishonor vnto them, and a plaine demonstration of pouertie: but if they stand in want of any thing, they will straine courtesie to take it from others, either priuily or by force. They seldom go to law with any one for iniuries done vnto them, but rather gather a troupe of their friends together, and reuenge themselves, either by fire, sword, or rapine: thereby compelling the wrong-doers to make what satisfaction they thinke good.

The third order is of citizens.

They be proude, turbulent, and couetous, practising how to get Church-mens goods by deceit, and wracking their slaues and clownes of the country, with an vnrelenting authoritie. It is almost incredible to be spoken, how they vex, pill and poll those miserable and vnfortunate caytiues, & surely Germany were an hundred times more happie, if those Centaures, worse then *Dionysius* and *Phalaris*, were either vtterly expelled the land, or at the least, their tyranny and power so restrained & abridged, as they might be inforced to liue priuate like vnto the Nobility in Heluetia. The 3. estate or order of the Germanes, is of citizens and townsmen: and of these, some be onely subiect to *Cesar*, and some to other Princes and Prelates of the church. Those which yeld obedience to the Emperor, haue many priuiledges, lawes, and customes common to themselves: and every yeare (by the voyces of the cittizens) is one chiefe magistrate elected; who for his yeare hath a soveraign authority ouer them all, and hee of himselfe hath power to punish any one of the same order with death.

When an offence is committed, the offender is brought before the magistrates elected, where beeing sette in Councell,



council, the accuser is called for, who hauing set downe his accusation, the defendant hath free liberty to plead for himselfe; and when both parties be heard, at large, the Iudges proceed to sentence, which is not by any course of law (for that these manner of magistrates be ignorant of the lawes) but as they be induced by reason, and as the custome hath beene afore-time in like cases: the like forme of Iudgement is vsed in ciuill causes likewise, sauing that in ciuill and criminall causes, the party accused may appeale vnto *Cesar*, which offenders in other causes may not doe.

In euery Imperiall Citty bee two sorts of Citizens, the one of Gentlemen, the other of Plebeians: the Plebeians or comminalty of the city, be occupied in trading and keeping shops, but the Gentlemen (which bee also called Patritians) liue only vpon their patrimony & reuenues, in as good fashion as the Nobility or Knights of the country do, if any of the comminalty wax so rich, that he (either by custome or commerce) will intrude himselfe into the society of Gentlemen, he is (notwithstanding his wealth) discarded their companies, whereof it proceedeth that each of these orders of Citizens, haue for many yeeres, continued in there owne estate without alteration. And yet for all this the administration and gouernment of their commonwealth, is commune and permitted as well vnto the Plebeians as Patritians, so as the communalty is no way in subiection to the gentility, but euery one hath his owne substance in safety, with free liberty (not transgressing their lawes) to liue as they list: and Iustice is ministred (for the most part) throughout al the whole country, by men which haue little learning or none at al, for in euery City (and in many townes likewise) bee elected 12. Iudges,



Iudges, which be such as be most notorious for vprightnesse and integrity of life, not respecting whether they be learned or no, which twelue must of necessity take vpon them the office of Iustice and Iudgement, for which they expect no other wages nor reward, but onely honour, and they be so diligent in performing their duties therein, that (for the common good) they will not sticke to neglect al priuate affaires and businesse whatsoeuer (be they neuer so vrgent) to obserue the times appointed for Iudgment and hearing of causes. And they bee all of them sworne to minister Iustice vnto euery one, according to right and equity, from whose sentences in times past, they would neuer appeale, esteeming it a great indignity vnto them, to contradict the decrees of such men as executed their offices *gratis*, but now adaies appeales be vsuall, which were the more tollerable a great deale, if the Iudges to whom the appeales be made, would in their Iudgements obserue the customes of the former Iudges, but their doinges are so little regarded, that their sentences, though neuer so iust and vpright, be retracted and wholly altered, onely because they seeme to repugne their written lawes, whereby the Iudges of the former rancke, are vnderstandedly taxed of ignorance, their good indeuours reprooued, and blemished, and the parties to bee releued oftentimes oppressed: which kinde of Iudgement, how corrupt it is, themselves may easily perceiue.

Furthermore the Citizens liue and accord together very familiarly and friendly, meeting and assembling themselves, sometimes in publicke places, sometimes in priuate houses, where they spend their time, some in buying and selling, some in conference one with an other, some in feasting and banquetting, and some in gaming and



and disporting, in all which sundry actions can hardly be discouered any deceite or contention.

They be very curteous and affable, for at all times and in all places, bee they men or women, so often as they meete together, so often doe they salute one an other. Vpon working daies they be very frugall and sparing, both in their diet and apparell, but vpon festiuall daies they will goe more gallantly and far more daintily. Those which labour eate foure times a day, and playmen but twise; the mens apparell for the most part is wollen, and the womens linnen, and each of them so much differrent one from an other, both in collour and fashion, as you shall hardly finde one man or one woman appparelled like an other, for they be so new fangled as they will fall into euery new fashion, imitating the Italians, but more vsually the French men, from whom now of late yeeres, the men haue gotten their broad nosed shooes, their coates with wide hanging sleeues cut, and wouen cappes (which they call Pyrethia.) And not long since, they wore shooes with sharpe snoutes, short coates cloose to their bodies, and hoods with tayles or flappes behinde: This sparingnesse in apparel heretofore vsed by men, is now descended vnto women and by them practised, for whereas they were wonte to weare many kerchers vpon their heads, which made their heads seeme great, by reason of their many folds of linnen, they now weare but one onely: They bee also more modest in all their other clothes then heretofore, they haue beene in a manner vterly reiecting gold, siluer and pearles, and all sumptuous garding of their garments with rich furies and silkes.

I need not speake of their long traines carried vp behind them, which (though they were common) bee now onely



onely worne of the Nobility, and the women be now so decent and comely cloathed, as they cannot iustly bee reprehended for any thing they weare, sauing that some womens gownes bee ouer wide and to much hollowed about the necke.

In their funerals and celebration of their friends obitues, they be attired in blacke, and their time of lamentation is thirty daies, within which space they doe sacrifice for them three times, the first day, the seuenth day and the thirtieth day.

They be so deuout and religious a people, that euery artificer before he begin his worke, wil goe to the Church and heare masse, yea both men and maide seruants be by their masters compelled therunto, for they hold it a beastly and hatefull thing, for any one to neglect his seruice to God, either for idlenesse, or for any businesse whatsoever. In giuing almes they be very charitable, for there is almost no City but it hath in it a couent of Mendicant Friars, and a common house to relecue and harbor poore Pilgrimes and strangers. There bee also fostred and brought vp many yong youths that haue left their owne countries and fathers houses, to attaine learning in Germany, of which sort of striplings and yong students, you shal see so many in one City as you will thinke it strange how they should be maintained; And these bee onely nourished and brought vp, by the almes and charity of the Citizens, and goe singing from house to house for victuals, whereof they haue inough giuen them, for because they frequent the Church daily, and helpe the Priests to singe masse, and bee afterwards made priests themselves.

In euery parish is one publike house or free schoole, wherein



wherein as well these, as the Cittizens sonnes, be brought vp in learning, their maisters and tutors be such as bee both learned and vertuous, who chastice those which be shrewde, or neglect their learning, sometimes with words and sometimes with stripes.

Their dwelling houses for the most part be ioyned together, and builded according to euery mans ability, some high, some low, but al aptly and conueniently disposed for their trading, the rich mens houses be builded stately with lime and stone, and poore mens with timber and morter, and all of them couered either with tile or slate, which whether it be done for state, or to preuent danger of fire I am not able to say.

In Saxony and diuerse other places besides, they couer their houses with smooth shingles, which maketh their building seeme more base and more subiect to burning: The streets (for the most part throughout all the Cities of Germany) be paved with flint stone, and vpon the gates of euery City stand high turrets or watch-towers, wherein (in the day time) be placed certaine skouts, to giue notice vnto the warders below, by the sound of a trumpet, of all horsemen they perceiue comming towards them, to the end, that hauing warning afore-hand, they may bee more prouident to prouide for the safety of the city: Their cities (for the most part) be defended both naturally & artificially, being scituated either vpon the tops of hils, or by winding riuers, such as be scituated vpon the plaine ground, be compassed and immured with strong wals and trenches, & defended with innumerable towers and bulwarkes: the fields also about many of their cities, be so inclosed on all sides with deepe and large ditches, as they serue for a sufficient defence against the inuasion of forraine enemies.

The



The fourth order  
is of husbandmen.

The fourth last and lowest estate of the Germaines, be of such as dwel in country villages, and follow husbandry, and be therefore called clownes or bores, whose estate and condition of all others is most hard and miserable, for they liue basely by themselues, vnterly seperated from all other sorts of people, so as they haue no fellowship with others, but their owne families and their cattaille. Their dwelling houses be low cottages made of timber and clay, and couered with straw, their bread is meane and course, their meate either oatmeale pottage or sodden beanes or pulse, and their drinke is either water or whey: their apparell a Canuas frocke (such as our Carters vse in England) high shooes or startvps and coloured caps.

These clownes be a very turbulent, toylsome and beastly kinde of people, they carry into Citties neere adioyning them, all their fruites and increase that arriseth from their corne and cattaille (other then what their Landlords haue, for they themselues doe scarce taste of any fruite of their trauaile that good is) where they sell them, and make their prouision of such things as they haue need of, for amongst them dwel few artificers or none at all. Euery village hath a Church in it, whether in the forenoone vpon holy daies, all the people resort to heare seruice, and in the afternoone, some of them meete together in one place or other, where they fall to chopping and chainging, or conferring of other busnesse, the youth fall a dauncing after the minstrels, and old men a tipling in tavernes: and none of these clownes will goe abroad amongst other people, but with weapons about them, for they haue their swords ready at all assaies: Euery village chooseth out two or foure of the most substantial



tial men amongst them, whom they call their maisters, these be indifferent men to decide contentions and controuersies growing by contracts, and haue the disposing and ordering of their little common-wealth next vnto their Land-lords, for it is they that haue the sole gouernment and authority ouer them all, other then what is by them permitted to these chosen præfects, which in their vulgar tongue they call *Scutteti*. These clownes liue in great drudgery and slavery vnder their Land-lords, for they plow their grounds, sow their seedes, get in their haruest, prouide them fuel, repaire their houses, skoure their ditches, and maintaine their fencing: in a word, there is no slavery whatsoever, but is wholly imposed vpon those bores, nor dare they for their liues once refuse to doe any thing their Land-lords command them, for if they doe they shall be soundly punished, and yet there is no one thing that oppresseth them more neerely, then that the farmes they possesse be none of their owne, but that (notwithstanding they be euery way else slaues vnto their Land-lords) they must pay vnto them yeerely a great part of their corne and graine for rent: And these bee generally the manners of the Germanes at this day and this their course of life.

*Of Saxony and how the Saxons liued in times past  
and how they now liue.*

## CAP. XIII.

**SAXONIA** (a particular Prouince of Germany) is *The limits of*  
bounded vpon the West with the riuier Visera or (as *Spaine.*  
some will haue it) with the riuier of Rheine, vpon the  
North



North with Dacia and the Baltean sea, with Franconia on the South (against which lie opposite a longth-wise Boiarie and Bohemia) and with Prussia on the East within which bounds and limits how many sundry sorts of people, distinguished by sundry names, be at this day comprehended, and included, may easily be vnderstood by the precedent description of Germany, all which are said to liue vnder the Saxon law.

*Saxony why so  
called.*

This country was named Saxony of a people called Saxons, who (according to the opinion of some writers) were the remnant of the Macedonian army, which followed *Alexander* the Great, and at his death were disperced into all parts of the world. Some others affirme that they were wandring Britans, and such as had no certaine habitations, and that they forsooke their natiue soile to seeke them better seates, and getting shipping and arryuing in Germany, expelled thence the Thuringij and possessed their land. For at the first the people of Saxony were turbulent and troublesome, il and ouerthwart neighbours vnto all those which dwelled neere vnto them, yet were they at home peaceable and quiet, and maruellous vigilant and industrious for the good of their country and common-wealth, besides that they had a very prouident care and extraordinary regard, for doing any thing that should be a touch or debasement to their stockes, or against their honours, holding it a stain and pollution to their bloud to marry with women of other nations, or with any inferior to themselves, and indeuouring their vttermost to make themselves a people proper and naturall without mixture of other nations, and onely like vnto themselves; whereof insued that though the number of them were great, yet in their externall habites, in  
the



the stature and proportion of their bodies, and collour of their haire, they were almost all alike.

The Saxons were deuided into foure sorts or differences of people, which were noble men, freemen, libertines (that is such as had beene slaues, and obtained their freedom and manumission) and bound-men or slaues, and to the end that each of these orders might remaine in his owne Estate, it was established by a law, that no man of one estate, should marry or take to wife a woman of another, but that the Nobility should match with nobility, the free-men with free-men, the manumitted with those which were manumitted and the slaues with slaues: the penalty for the transgressing of which law was present death. They had many good and holesome lawes for the punishment of malefactors.

*The Saxons  
deuided into  
noble-men  
free-men, li-  
bertines and  
slaues.*

They were vpright in condition, sincere in life, and of vncorrupted and irreprehensible manners, doing nothing but what was profitable, honest and agreeable to the lawes of nature: all which had beene sufficient for their saluations, if withall they had knowne and beleued in the true and euerliuing God. But they were great Idolaters, worshipping trees, and fountaines of water, but more especially a huge stock of wood set vp an end, which they accounted for a god, calling it in their language (*Irminsaul*) that is to say a vniuersall and generall pillar or colume, whereby all other things are sustained & held vp: *Mercury* also they obserued and honoured as a god of-  
fring vnto him vpon certain daies humane sacrifices, nor did they hold it fit or lowable (by reason of the great dignity and diuinity of their gods) to include them in Temples and Churches, nor to figure them in the proportion of men, but they consecrated vnto them, woods & groues,  
T calling

*Mercury ob-  
serued as a god  
by the Saxons.*



calling them after their names, and they neuer perused those secret and mysticall places, but with great deuotion and reuerence: Witchcraft and socery was much in practice amongst them. Their manner of taking aduise whether a thing were to bee done or not done, was thus, first they would cut from a fruite tree, diuers little sprigs or young sprouts, marking and distinguishing them each from other, with certaine notes or differences, and so cast them sodainely and at aduentures vpon a white garment.

And then (if the consultation were general for them all) the priest, if priuate, the goodman of the house-hold, lifting vp his eyes towards heauen, and praying to their gods, taketh vp those branches one by one, and layeth them downe againe three sundrie times, and euer as hee taketh them vp, he expoundeth and interpreteth what is to be done, according to the note or impresse written vpon them; and then if the priest or good men of the house forbid it to bee done, they aduise no more of the matter that day, but if they allow it, the people were so stronge of beleefe as they would put the proiect in practice what euer they euent proued: they gathered and coniectured of many things by the chirping and flying of birds, and oftentimes made experiment of forewarnings and admonitions of horses, which (to presage of things to come) were nourished and kept in those woods and groues dedicated to their gods.

These horses were white and neuer did any manner of worke, and (beeing coupled together and set before the holy Chariot) they were attended and followed either by the priest, the King or chiefe ruler of the city, who diligently marked and obserued their neying, why-



whynying and froming, and this manner of prediction or foreshewing of things to come, was of all others in greatest credit and estimation, both by the Princes, priests and people, for they held them to bee the ministers of the gods, and partakers of their diuine counsels.

They vsed also an other sort of sooth-saying or witchcraft, whereby to know aforehand what successe they should haue in the warres, which was in this manner: when they tooke a captiue of any nation against whom the waged battaile, they compelled him to fight with one of their owne people, and as the victory went betwixt them two so would they iudge of the insuing warres. The Emperour *Charles* the Great was the first, that by continuall warres, compelled this impious people to admit the Christian religion, which both they and all other Germanes doe now most religiously adore.

In Saxonie be many sumptuous and Princely palaces, and magnificent and stately Temples, Churches and Monasteries, as one in Alberstadium consecrated to our blessed Ladie, whereinto neuer entreth any prophane or unhallowed person, but onely such as bee professed in Religion and to the seruice of God, except vpon Ashweddnesday, and then is there one of the people brought into the Church, who must euer bee such a one, as in the eye of the world is of most wicked and abhominable life and conuersation, this man beeing brought into the Church all in blacke, and his head couered, is placed where hee may heare masse, which beeing duely solemnised, hee is cast out of the Temple, and inforced to wander vp and downe the citie bare-footed, all the time of Lent, visiting all the Churches one after an other,

*A Temple in  
Alberstade de-  
dicated to our  
Lady.*



during which time, he is maintained by the priests, and by them brought againe into the Church vpon Easter-day, where (hauing first an almes giuen him which he offereth with great deuotion to the Church) after the consecration of the oyle, he is expiated and hallowed by the whole Clergie, and so dismissed. This man they commonly called *Adam*, comparing him for his innocency, vnto *Adam* our first father and founder, who was voide of all sinne, and by him they suppose their city to be purged and purified.

The soile of Saxony is very fruitfull of all things but wine, and hath diuers mines of silver and basse: toward Gosleria, and in many places besides be brine-pits, and fountaines of salt water, whereof they make a fine white and most delicate salt, which yeeldeth them a large commodity yeerely.

*The Saxons  
immoderate  
drinkers.*

They haue great store of barley and wheate, whereof they make very fine white bread, and a kinde of ale or beere to supply the want of wine, which they drinke so immoderately and out of measure, as when they bee at their feasts and banquettings, and that their ordinary cups and drinking glasses will not hold sufficient for them to carouse at one draught, those which doe giue attendance at the table, will set before them a great pail full of that drinke with a dish in it, wishing euery one to bee their owne skinkers and so to drinke what they please, and it is almost incredible to report how much of that liquor those immodest and drunken people will deuoure and swallow vpp at one sitting, vtging and inforcing one an other to drinke, till they bee worse then brutish swine, not thinking they haue enough, when they are so drunke as they lie wallowing in their  
owne



owne vomit, but euen then they will sticke close to it night and day, vntill they be sober againe, and he which drinketh most, and out sitteth them all, is not onely highly extolled and commended of the rest, for that notable exploite, but also in signe of victory and triumph, hath giuen him a garland or nosegay made of roses and sweete flowers, or else some other reward for which they contended.

This their wicked and beastly custome of drinking, is now (the more pity) disperced ouer all Germany, so as all of them in generall, doe now drinke stronge wines as liberally, as the Saxons doe their ale, to their inspeakeable hindrance and hazard of their healthes, in such sorte, as (not content to doe ill themselues) if any stranger or other come into the roome where they bee drinking, they will rise vp and reach him their cuppes, perswading him very earnestly for to sit downe and to beare them company, accounting him their enemy if hee looke for much bidding or inuiting, or refuse to drinke, without shewing iust cause, which hatefull disorder is oftentimes the cause of bloud-shed and murther.

These quaffing Saxons fare very hardly and fluttishlie, for their vsuall meate is small guttes or chitterlings dried, rawe onyons, fat bacon and salte butter, and they seeth their meate vpon sunday to serue them all the weeke after.

They feed not their young children as we do, with pap or pottadge made of milke and flowre, but with more solide and stronger meates, which is first champed or chewed in the nurses mouth, and so giuen the children to swallow downe, which kinde of diet when they be young maketh them more stronge and lusty, and better able to indure extremities.



The Saxons haue a peculiar language to themselves, but in their apparel and other things, there is no difference betwixt them and the Germanes.

*Of Westphalia, and of the manner of Iudgement ordained for the Westphalians by Charles the Great.*

## CAP. 14.

The bounds of  
Westphalia.



WESTPHALIA is comprehended and included within the bounds and limits of Saxony, hauing vpon the East the riuer of Rhene, Visurgus or Visera vpon the West. Frizland and Holland vpon the North, and vpon the South the hils of Hassia, which *Ptolomeus* calleth *Obnobij*; out of which hils springeth the riuer Amasis, which running by the two renowned cities, Padeburne & Monasterium, diuideth the Prouince as it were into two parts, and so passing by Frizland is carried into the sea.

Secret Judges  
ordained by  
Charles the  
Great ouer  
the Westphalians.

There is also the riuer Sala which is famous for the notable ouerthrow of *Drusus*, sonne in law to *Augustus*: This country (as *Strabo* writeth) was first inhabited by a people called *Drueterij*, and (as others write) by the *Sicambry*: This people beeing subdued by *Charles* the French King, surnamed *Charles* the Great, was by him induced, or rather inforced to imbrace the Christian religion, whereto they were hardly drawne; and being a mutinous and rebellious people, euer when they rebelled, they would returne againe to the worshipping of Idols, nothing regarding the true faith, nor their othes whereby they were obliged to obserue and keepe it, which when *Charles* perceiued, to the



the end that he might bridle and restraine their temerity and rashnesse, with feare of corporall punishment, he ordained secreat Iudges, and gaue them full power and authority to execute Iudgement at their pleasures, without tryall or purgation, vpon all such as had either violated their oths, abrogated their faith, or otherwise committed any notable villany: In choosung of which Iudges he had a speciall care and regard, to elect iust and vpright men, that the guiltlesse and innocent might not be punished without cause. This law and manner of execution thereof, strooke a great terror into the Westphalians, and at length inforced them to continue in the faith, seeing before their eyes both noble men and meane men hanged and trust vp in trees without any accusation or trial at all, and vnderstanding that they were executed either for breach of their faith or some such other heinous offence. This kinde of Iustice or martiall law, is yet in force and is called, *Iudicium vetitum*, or *Iudicium occultum*, a hidden or secret sentence, and the Iudges or executioners of that law, be called Scabini, who be now growne so presumptuous and insolent, as they would challeng and vsurpe the like liberty and iurisdiction ouer all Germany.

They haue secret customes and hidden lawes, knowne to few more then themselues, whereby they doome men to death, and it is very hard to finde out their manner of proceedings, for neither feare nor reward can allure any one of them to reueale their secrets.

The maior part of those Scabini be not discouered what they are, but goe vp and down the country (like Promooters) noting mens faults, and accusing them for their offences in places of Iudgement; and arraiging them (as their custome is): which done the malefactors be condem-



ned, & their names inroled in a catalogue, and so deliuered to the Iunior Scabini, to whom the execution belongeth, by which meanes many euil doers loose their liues, that neuer knew of their condemnations.

But this their manner of Iudgement, is now much altered and degenerated from his first perfection, for sometimes very base and meane persons be admitted into that office, and those whose power and function was onely to find out offenders, and punish misdeameanors, doe now busie and occupy themselues in al other ordinary busineses. The country of Westphalia is cold, and very bare of wine and al kind of graine, their bread is brown & course, and their drinke or beere made of barley, for the wine which is brought vnto them by the riuer of Rhene, is maruelous deere, and therefore little vsed, vnlesse of the wealthier sort of people. The natural inhabitants be both warlike and witty, whereof insueth this prouerbe. That Westphalia breedeth more flatterers then fooles, it is vnder the iurisdiction of the Bishop of Colen.

*Of Franconia and of the nature and  
customes of that Country.*

CAP. 15.

*Franconia why  
so called.*



*The bounds of  
Franconia.*

**F**RANCONIA, or East France is a part of Germany, & scituated in the very heart & middle of the country, it was so called of the Sycambrians, who expelling thence the *Alani* in the raigne of the Emperor *Valentinian*, were after called *Franci*. It is inuironed on the south with *Suenia* & *Boioaria*, with the riuer *Rhene* on the west, vpon the east lieth *Bohemia*,



Bohemia, and Hassia, and Thuringia, (two Prouinces of Saxonie) vppon the North. This cuntry is on all sides so inclosed with huge thick woods, and cragged mountains, as the passage into it is both dangerous and difficult, yet within it is very euen ground, garnished and adorned with an innumerable sort of Citties, walled townes, and fortified Castels and Villages. It is inuironed round about with the Hyrcanian wood, which with his high hilles incloseth and defends it on all sides like a naturall wall; and through it runne Sala, Thuberus, Neccharus, and the nauigable Riuer Moganus. These Riuer passe by many wide and large Valleys, vppon the bankes whereof on both sides be planted great store of vineyards, which yeeld wines so rare, and of so great worth, as they be transported into other countries far remote.

The land is fertile enough, and not sandy and over-  
growne with Fearne, as (*Aeneas Sylvius* reporteth) sauing The fertility of Franconia.  
that part of the cuntry which is now called Norica, or in some places neere vnto riuers.

It yeeldeth great increase of barley, wheate, and all other kind of graine and pulse, and no one part of Germanie affoordeth so many and so great Onions, Rape rootes, and Rape stalkes as this doth: besides, about Babenburge grow such great store of Lycoras rootes, as they be caried away by cart loades.

It is full of gallant medowes, and goodly Orchards, very populous and abounding with beasts, there is much fishing by reason of the multitude of Riuer, and better hunting, for the great store and varietie of wild beasts: for the Princes preferue them of purpose in woods and forests, making them stables and dennes to lye in, and to defend them from winters boysterous and cold stormes,  
allowing



allowing theſe meate alſo if need be, and no priuate man may be ſuffered to take or hunt any of theſe beaſts.

*The Princes of Franconia.*

The whole countrie of Franconia is vnder the dominion of ſiue princes, whereof two be ſecular or lay Princes, that is to ſay, the Burgraue of Norinburg, and the Count Palatine of Rhene, and the other three bee eccleſiaſticall Gouvernors, to wit, the Biſhops of Babenburg, Herbipolis, and Magnus.

*The Biſhop of Herbipolis, one of the Princes of Franconia.*

The Biſhop of Herbipolis holdeth his Duke-dome, by hauing a naked ſword, and an enſigne or flag placed before him vppon the altar, while he is at Maſſe. And the firſt day that he entreth into the Metrapolitan or chiefe cittie, and taketh vppon him the Epiſcopall ſeate, he is vſually attended with a great troupe of gallant and excellent horſ-men: and when he is admitted and entred into the cittie, he lightheth off his horſe in the very gate of the cittie, and there diſroboth himſelfe of his vppermoſt garment, and putteth on a poore and baſe coate, and girdeth himſelfe about the waſt with a cord: and in this humble manner bare headed and bare handed, he goeth vp into the pallace, vnto the Canonick or Regular Priests, who after they haue done their fealtie vnto him, exalt and install him in his ſeate, but before his instalment, hee is conducted to the picture of ſome deuout Biſhop that is dead, where he is ſeriously and carneſtly admoniſhed to follow and imitate his examples, who being elected of a poore ſtudent, did notwithstanding gouerne the State of the Church vprightly, & as it ought. And none of the linage of either Dukes or Earles may poſſeſſe this Cathedrall ſea, but onely ſuch as be of the inferior Order of Nobilitie: not for that it is not ſufficient to maintaine a Prince, (for the poſſeſſions and reuenues bee very large and great) but becauſe none may enioy the

Bishop-



Bishoppicke, but onely such as be canonicall or regular persons, which are for the most part of the meanest degree of Nobilitie. To be Bishoppe of Herbipolis, is a title of maruellous great dignitie and honour: and when a Bishop is new created, the custome is, that at his first entrance into his Bishoppicke, he should progresse ouer all his dominion, and visit all the townes and villages which pay him tyth, and in euery towne he bringeth out into the streetes whole hogsheads of wine, with dishes for euery one to drinke that will.

The Franconians do nothing differ from the rest of the Germanes, either in their apparell or shape of their bodies: They be very laborious, and none of them giuen to idlenesse, but the women aswel as men plant in vineyards, and yet (by reason of their pouertie) they sell their wines, and drink water themselues: Beere they cannot indure nor will haue any brought vnto them, yet in Herbipolis vpon fasting daies, those which will drinke no wine, may buy it in dockes and roades without the cittie, to drinke in steade of water.

The people be insolent, arrogant, and proude, contemning all others in respect of themselues, and so much giuen to cauilling and brawling, as no stranger can indure to stay with them, vnlesse he can flatter and dissemble, and behaue himselfe discretely and soberly: but those which can indure their floutes and taunts, and pocket vp their iniuries with patience, may safely dwell with them: for such they account and esteeme honest and sufficient men, and permit them to marry wiues, and enter into consanguinitie with them, by which meanes many Suevians, Bavarians, and Hassians do dwell, and continue in Franconia.

They



They be very deuout, and religiously giuen, and yet subiect to two horrible and execrable vices, which are, swearing and filching: for they will glorie and vaunt themselves in blasphemie, and horrible prophanation, and account stealing, a thing honest, commendable, and lawful, because long vsed as a custom. They obserue many strange ceremonies, which I wil here set downe for the more credit and better approbation of such things as be written and reported of them by strangers.

In the nights of those five dayes of Aduent, which go immediatly before the day of our Lords Natiuitie, all the children of the towne, both men-children, and women-children, go vppe and downe the strettes from one house to another, knocking and beating at euery ones doore, wishing them a happie and prosperous new yeare, and shewing them in a song, that the birth-day of our Sauour Christ is nigh approaching, and euery household giueth them either apples, peares, nuttes, or money, or some other thing that they can best spare.

But with what ioy and exultation, the birth-day of our Sauour Iesus Christ is solemnized in their churches, both by Priests and lay-people, may be vnderstood by this Ceremony following: for then they place vppon the Altar the image of a young child, in representation of the new birth of the babe Iesus; which done, the young men and maydes daunce and hoppe round about the Altar, and those which be married, and old folkes sing a song or hymne: which kind of ceremonie is not much vnlike to the triumph and exultation, which (as Poets faine) was vsed by the Coribants in a caue in the mountaine Ida, about the image of their god *Iupiter*. In the Kalends of Ianuarie (which by their computation is the beginning of the yere)

is



is a sollemne meeting of friends and kinsfolkes together, who ioyning their hands, and lifting them vp to heauen, with one heart and consent, pray for a prosperous and happie new yeare, spending all that day in pleasant congratulation, meriments, and drinking. Which done they send new yeares gifts to their friends which bee absent, which gifts, the Romaines in their Feastes dedicated to *Saturne*, (which were solemnized about that time) called *Saturnalia*, and by the Greekes, they be called *Apophoreta*, that is to say, presents or things giuen to guests to bee carried away with them.

This custome and ceremonie of theirs, was described by the Author of this booke, in these verses following:

*O Christ the World of Father deare, &c.*

*In honor of thy blessed birth we celebrate eight dayes:*

*All which we spend in holy hymnes, and chanting forth thy prayse.*

*And following thy examples true, we gifts do often send.*

*Fat Capons, Hares, or some such thing vnto each louing friend:*

*Fine wafers stamp't with Images and Pictures rarely sign'd:*

*Or basket full of Oranges, doth argue friendly minde:*

*Ten Oranges that plun'de and topt be with greene boxen crest,*

*And spices rare of sundry sorts in honor of this Feast.*

Vpon the Feast day of the Epiphany of our Lord commonly called Twelfte-day, euery family maketh a cake of flower, hony, ginger, and pepper, and therewith they elect and choose them a King, in this maner following: the good wife of the house kneadeth and maketh the cake, and in the moulding shee putteth a penny into it, without consideration into what place of the cake she putteth it, but euen at aduentures, then doth she rake away the fire  
and



and bake it vppon the harth, and when it is baked, shee breaketh it into as many peeces, as there be men in the whole houshold, and so distributeth vnto euery one apart, assigning one part thereof vnto Christ, another to our blessed Ladie, and three portions more to the three Wisemen, for, and in the name of an almes. And in whose part soeuer the penny is found, him doe the rest set in a chaire, and lifting him vp on high three times, with great iollity and mirth, they salute him as their king: and all the while hee is lifted vppe, hee hath in his right hand a peece of chalke, with which he maketh a great many crosses vppon the roofes of their chambers and parlours; and these crosses they haue in great estimation, thinking, that by them they escape many dangers.

And there is no house throughout the whole countrey of Franconia, especially if it be a dwelling house, but in some one of these twelue nights which bee betwixt the Natiuitie of our Lord, and the Epiphany, it is perfumed either with Frankinsence, or some other sweet smelling perfume, against the deceits and illusions of Diuels and Sorcerers.

It were in vaine to mention in particular, in what manner of Epicurisme, the Franconians spend the three daies next before Lent, if you knew what generall and wilfull madnesse possessed all the rest of Germanie at that time, (wherein the Franconians do equall them,) and in what licentious manner all of them then liue, for all those three dayes the Germanes practise nothing else, but eating, drinking, and playing, plying it so lustily, as though they should neuer eate or drinke more, or, as if (with the Epicure) they should say, I will take my pleasure, I will eat and drinke my belly full to day, for to morow I shall die.

Euery



Euery one will inuent some new deuice or other to delight their minds and senses withall, and to hold them in admiration, and to the end they should not blush, nor be dashed out of countenance, in acting their apish toyes and interludes, they maske their faces, and change their habites, the men wearing womens apparell, and the women mens, some represent Satyres, and some play the diuels part, beeing made blacke with woade or inke, and cloathed in loathsome apparell like Diuels indeed. Some others go starke naked, imitating the Priests of *Pan*, of whome (I thinke) the Germanes haue learned that yearly custome of doting and vnnaturall madnesse. This their manner of reuelling differeth not much from the Feastes called *Lupercalia*, which the noble young Romane gallants were wont to celebrate in the moneth of Februarie, in honor of the Licæan *Pan*. For as those Romane youths went round about the Cittie naked, and their faces besmeared with bloud, lashing all they met with cords and whips, in rude and barbarous manner most loathsome to behold, euen so the Germanes strike those they meete, with bags stufte full of sand or ashes.

There is a strange custome vsed in many places of Germany vppon Ash-wednesday: for then the young youth get all the maides together, which haue practised dauncing all the yeare before, and carrying them in a cart or tumbrell, (which they draw themselues in stead of horses,) and a minstrell standing a top of it playing all the way, they draw them into some lake or riuer, and there wash them well fauouredly.

What the reason of this ceremonie is, I cannot perceiue but as I coniecture, they imagine the doing of this, to be a purgation and satisfaction to God, for practising such  
light



light and wanton behauour, vppon Sundayes and Holydayes, directly against the Canons and precepts of the Church.

In the middle of Lent, at which time they be commanded by the Church to reioyce, the youth of Germany where the Authour of this present Worke was borne, make an Image of straw, resembling the picture of Death; and hanging it vppon aspeare, carry it vp and downe the streetes, with great showing and exclamations, and many giue them good intertainment, offering them such things as they vsually eate, as peason, milke, and mellow peares; and when they be wel refreshed, they retorne home again: but some others on the contrarie part, giue them *Iohn Drums* intertainment, reuiling and beating them away frō their houses, deeming the picture of death to bee ominous and a foretelling of their deaths indeed. The like custome to this, is vsed by the Franconians, and at the same time: for there the young men take an old cart wheele, and couer it all ouer with straw, and then (being a great troupe of them together) they cary it to the top of a high hil, where, after they haue sported themselues most part of the day, vnlesse the cold driue them soone home, in the euening they set it on fire, and set it going downe the hil burning, beeing a sight able to astonish the beholders, that know not what it meanes: for it tumbleth into the valley all of a flaming fire, with such a pudder, as if the Sunne or Moon should tumble downe from heauen.

Vppon Easter day, some one of the wealthiest amongst them, causeth certaine cakes to be made, and giueth one or two of them to the young men, and as many to the maydes, and when they be all mette together a little before night, in a plaine medow, in the presence of an infinit  
number



number of spectators, those which bee most nimble of footmanship, runne for those cakes, the yong men against yong men, and the maides against maides.

Then haue they their solemne ceremonies at the dedication of their parish Churches, which (by the Institutions of the Church) ought to be solemnized by all the parishioners, once euery yeare, with great ioy and banquetting: to which solemnization come many yong men out of other parishes, not for any deuotion they beare vnto the Churches, but onely to dance, drinke, and reuell, for their manner of comming argueth little deuotion, but rather an intention to brawle and quarrell, for they come all well weaponed, and Minstrils playing before them, and often-times they fall out and goe together by the eares, and part with crackt crownes. The like kinde of meetings and assemblies we haue in many places of England, which we call wakes.

Vpon Munday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Rogation weeke, or crosse weeke, (when as generall Letanies and Processions are vsed to bee said ouer all the Christian world) there meete together at one Church in most parts of Franconia, many crosses (for by that name bee the whole company of parishioners called that goe the preambulation with the Procession, and haue a banner with the signe of the crosse caried before them) & when many feuerall crosses or companies be mette together in one Church, they sing not altogether, but each feuerall company hath a feuerall quire, and a feuerall place to sing by themselves.

The yong men and maides bee arrayed in their holy day apparell, with wreaths or garlands of flowers about their heads, and willow staues in their hands: The Priests



and Ministers of the Church stand by giuing diligent eare to their singing, and which of the Quiers they thinke haue song sweetest, and made the best melodie, they adiudge that the other Quiers shall giue vnto them certaine bowles of Wine.

And vpon Whitsunday this is their order: euery one which hath either a horse of his owne, or can borrow one, doe meete in one place, and ride together, to view the bounds, and limits of their fields, hauing with them a Priest, with the body of our Lord Iesus Christ put in a pursse, and hanging at his neck, and all the way as they ride they sing and pray, beseeching God of his great mercy, to defend and preserue their corne, and to send such temperate and seasonable wether, as they may receiue the fruits of the earth to their comfort and sustentation.

Vpon Saint *Vrbins* day, all the Vintners and maisters of Vineyards, set a table either in the market steed, or in some other open and publick place, and couering it with fine napery, and strawing vpon it Greene leaues and sweete flowers, doe place vpon the table the Image of that holy Bishop: And then if the day bee cleare and faire, they crowne the Image with great store of Wine, but if the wether prooue rugged and rainie, they cast filth, mire, and puddle water vpon it, perswading themselves that if that day be faire and calme, their grapes (which then begin to florish) will prooue good that yeare, but if it bee stormie and tempestious, they shall haue a bad vintage.

Vpon Saint *Iohn Baptists* day at night, in euery village and streete in Germany be common fires, (or as wee call them heere in England bone-fires) about which all the people gather together, both men, women and children, dancing and singing, and vsing many other superstitions,



as wearing vpon their heads garlands made of Mugwort and Veruin, and flowers in their hands wreathed and pleated together in fashion of a spurre, (which wreathes they call military spurres) and they dare not looke vpon the fire, vnlesse they looke through those spurres, firmly beleeuing that by that meanes their eyes be preserued all the yeare after from all paines and diseases, and euery one as he goeth away, throweth the garland hee wore about his head into the fire, vsing this coniuration, *Goethy way and burne, and all my ill luck perish and burne with thee.* The like fashion is vsed by the Bishop of Herbipolis seruants and courtiers, for they cause a great fire to bee made before the tower, which standeth vpon a hill about the citty of Herbipolis, and throw into the fire many wooden hoopess bored full of holes, which when they bee all of them on a red fire, they put crooked stickes into the holes of the hoopess, and cunningly and forceably hoysse them vp into the ayre a great height, so as they flying from the top of the hill ouer the riuer of Moganus, which runneth vnder the hill, seeme to bee fire Dragons, to those which neuer saw the like before.

At the same time of the yeare their manner is to make earthen potts, with so many holes in them as they will hardly hold together, and these potts doe the maides buy and couer them round about with red Rose leaues, and then put Candles into them, and hang them vpon the toppes of the houses, instead of Lanthornes: the yong men at that time bring into their villages each one a Pine tree, with all the little shootes and vndermost branches lopped off, and garnishing and trimming the vppermost boughes with little hoopess, garlands, glasses and glittering rayes or plates of golde or copper, they



they set their trees fast in the ground, where they must stand all summer, resembling many poles in England.

In Autumne when their Grapes wax ripe, they gather not their Grapes one, one day, and an other, an other day, but all the owners of a Vineyard are appointed to pull their Grapes all at one time, to continue pulling till they haue all done that Vineyarde, for they haue not power to pluck them when they please them-selues, but when they be allowed by those to whom the tithe is due: And these tithe-maisters appoint such a hill of Grapes to bee got such a day, and such a Vineyard such a day, and their tithes be euer brought by the owners of the Vines, into the valley at the hill foote; but those which neglect to gather their Grapes at the time appointed, ought and are inforced, whether they will or no, to carry the tithe into the Lords Wine-presse, at their owne cost and charge: But about the citty of Herbipolis, the owners of tithes bee more precise, for they (distrusting that the Vine-maisters will not tithe truly) set a boy ouer euery one of them, to marke their manner of tithing, and to see that their master haue his due, and when haruest is done, and all the Grapes gathered, all those boyes meete together in the field, and euery one beeing couered all ouer with strawe, and a Torche or two in his hand, they kindle their Torches a little before night, and so come singing with their Torches burning into the citty. And in this sort they say they burne and make cleane Autumne.

The Franconians celebrate the feast dayes of the two pillars of the Church Saint *Martin* and Saint *Nicholas*, with great ioy and triumph, but after a diuerse maner, for the one is solemnized in Churches and Altars, the other in victualing houses and tauernes: and there is not one through-



throughout all the whole country be hee neuer so needy, or neuer so niggard, but vpon Saint *Martins* day hee will haue some roste meate, or boild meat, and it be but Hogs intrailles, or Calues intrailles, & glut themselues with wine, for then they tast of their new wines, from which till that time they haue abstained; and all their households drinke wine with them: and vpon this day in Herbipolis and in diuerse other places besides, is much wine giuen to the poore for charity: then haue they their publike shewes and pastimes, as to haue two or three Boares put into a place together, and to behold them fight and teare one another with their tuskes, till their guttes traile about their heeles, deuiding the flesh when the Boares bee dead, some to the common people, and some to the Magistrates.

But vpon Saint *Nicholas* day, all the yong fry and Schollers, choose out three amongst them, one to represent the person of a Bishop, and the other two Deacons, he which is elected in the place of a Bishop, is solemnly vpon that day conducted into the Church by all his Schoole-fellowes, decked and trimmed with a Bishops Miter, and all his other ornaments, and so sitteth in place of authority, as Lord and Protector ouer them all the while Masse is in saying, and when the sacrifice is finished, hee chooseth out a few of them from amongst the rest, and hee and they goe singing vp and downe the towne from house to house, collecting and gathering money, and alleadging that the money they gotte by this meanes, is not taken as an almes or beneuolence, but giuen franckly for the maintenance of the Bishop.

Vpon Saint *Nicholas* Eeue Parents will aduise their children to fast, and the more to incite them there-vnto



they perswade them, that if they set their shooes vnder the table ouer night, what so euer they shall finde in them in the morning, is sent them from that bountifull Bishop Saint *Nicholas*, which causeth the children to fast so truly and so long, as their parents bee faine to compell them to eat for being sick with ouer long fasting: and these bee the most vsuall customes of the Franconians; these their annuall ceremonies.

*Of Sueuia, and how the people of that country  
liued heretofore, and how they now line.*

CAP. 16.

*The limits of  
Sueuia.*



*Sueuia, why  
so called.*

VEVIA a Prouince of Germany, is at this day limited and bounded vpon the East with Baioaria, vpon the West with Alsatia and the riuer of Rhene, it hath the Alpes vpon the South, and Franconia on the North. Sueuia (as *Antonius Sabellicus* is of opinion) was so called of a certaine people called Sueui, who departing from that part of Scythia, which is now called Liuania & Prussia, obtained this country to dwell in: which opinion of *Sabellicus*, *Lucan* seemeth to confirme, where he saith: He brought the yellow Sueuians from the vtmost Northern coast: Before it was named Sueuia, it was called Alemannia; of the lake Lemannus which is also called Lausanensis. Sueuia is the vtmost part of all Germany, and is watered with two notable riuers Rheine and Danubius, whereof the one running slowly falleth into the sea Westward, the other running a contrary course, passeth by many regions, and falleth at length into the sea called *Pontus*.

The



The country is some part of it plaine and euen, and some part cragged and mountanous, and all of it fertile and fruitfull, sauing lakes, mountaines and woods. There be great store of woods, and therefore very good hunting, and especiall good fowling, by reason of the multitude of riuers and lakes: Of cattell there bee great abundance, and plenty of all kinde of graine, it is also full of gallant and flourishing valleis, watered and manured with brookes, riuers and running waters, some running one way, some an other, ouer-flowing and fatting the soyle: all which disburthen themselues either into Rhine or Danubius. The land is very wholsome and healthfull, and well replenished with stately cities, townes and castels, aspiring towers likewise, walled and fortified both by arte and nature: and for the aduancement of Christian religion, it is sufficiently furnished with beautifull and rich temples, parish Churches and Chappels, Bishops Pallaces, Colledges, and monasteries, containing sundry orders of religious persons, both men and women: vpon the hills bee mines of Silver, Yron, and diuerse other mettals: it is very populus, and the people very hardy, strong & valerous; they be tall of stature, yellow haire, faire and well fauoured, and marueilous ingenious, so as *Plutarch* concludeth them in a word, for the most famous people of all Germany.

The glory and fame of this people grew once to that height, as they obtained the Empire and gouernment of the world, and in that honour and renowne continued for one age, but afterwards beeing destitute and depriued of their Princes, I know not how it came to passe, whether by the ficklenesse and variety of fortune, or by their owne folly and sloth, but their gouernment ceased, and their power and strength in short time became so



weake and feeble, as they could hardly hold their owne and defend themselves, much lesse extend their fame to her former greatnesse, in such sort as noe one considering their present estate, would thinke that euer they had beene Lords and Gouvernors of the world.

*Iulius Caesar* in the fourth booke of his commentaries, writeth of this people thus. The Sueuians (sayth hee) the worthiest and warlikst people of all Germany, are sayd to haue a hundred Citties, great Burrowes or townes, out of euery of which hundred citties & townes yearely is furnished and set forth to the warres a hundred thousand armed men, well appoynted, These hundred thousand men wage warrs abroad, and be maintayned by those which remaine at home, and at the yeares end returne home againe to husbandry, and send forth as many more of those which were at home, so as going to the warres and remayning at home in course, they bee all well excercised in husbandry and skilfull in feats of armes, and hauing noe grounds nor possessions priuat to them-selues, they yeeld reciprocall Maintaynance one to another, for it is not lawfull for them to remayne and abyde in one place longer than one yeare.

Their vsuall foode is bread, milke and flesh, they bee much giuen to hunting, as well for their dayly excercise and liberty of life, which they much regard, (for they bee neuer from their infancy vnder the rule and correction of any or constraigned to doe any thing against their wills,) the practise of hunting also maketh them more feerce and couragious, and their bodies more strong & able to indure all extremities, as (although they dwell in a very cold clymate) they will wash and bath them-selues in cold riuers, and



and weare no other garments but skins, and those so little, as the most part of there bodies bee starke naked, if any marchants trafficke thether, it is more to buy such things of them as they haue got by the warres, than for any great desire the Sueuians haue of their commodities: besides they haue great store of laboring beasts, more than they haue vse for, which the French men much desire, and pay deere for them, and those beasts which with them bee naturally froward, ill fauored and almost good for nothing, by much vse and handling bee made fit and able both to draw and carry, or to be employed in the warres: for their horses be so well mand and taught, as when the skirmish is at the hottest, their riders for their better adrantage, will oftentimes skippe of their backes and fight on foote, and finde their horses againe in the very same place they were left, when they haue occasion to vse them: nor doe they esteeme any one thing more ilde or more ilbeseeming them, than to ride vpon horses that bee harnessed, or haue saddles on their backes, by continuall vse whereof (though they bee but few) they dare and boldly will aduenture to incounter with a troope of armed men and harnessed horses, though the number of them bee very great.

The Sueuians will suffer no wines to bee brought vnto them, supposing that the drinking of wine maketh men more effeminate, and lesse able to indure labour: they hold it a generall commendations to them, to haue their feelds and territories of their citties large and wide, signifying thereby that their forces bee not able to maintaine such a multitude of citties, for which cause in Sueuia the feelds be said to extend a thousand and six hundred paces from their citties on euery side.

*There may no  
wines bee  
brought into  
Sueuia,*

*Cornelius*



*Cornelius Tacitus* writing the scituation of Germany, and the manners of the people, speaketh thus of the Sueuians, The Germanes (saith hee) haue distinguished the greatest part of Germany, by sundry names and nations, although they be al called by one general name, Sueuians, and the property of that people is to plat their lockes, and then to knitt and bind them vp on a knot, by which marke and token the Sueuians be discerned and knowne from other Germanes, and the Freemen from slaues: There vse is to turne vp their curled lockes, vntill they waxe so old that their haire grow white, and oftentimes they will bynde it on a knot vpon the crowne of their heads, in doing whereof the better sort of people bee most curyous.

They obserue a certaine time by tradition from their fathers, ( which ceremony they esteeme so reuerent as they dare not omit it ) that all the people of one stocke or kindred, assemble themselves and meete together, in a certayne woode (consecrated and made holy after their fashion) there to doe sacrifice, which (as a most barbarous and horrible ceremonie and detestable sacrifice) is euer solemnized by killing of a man: This woode, or holy groue they reuerence another way also, for there is none of them will aduenture to goe into it, vnlesse he bee bound hand and foote with a corde, that they may perceiue the power of their Gods, and if any of them happen to fall, it is not lawfull for him to be taken vp, or to re-enfore himselfe to rise againe, but hee must bee rowled or tumbled thither vpon the ground: And all this their superstition tendeth to no other ende, but to know thereby the originall of their nation, where God the gouernor of all things is, and of all inferior things that are in subiection, and yeeld



yeeld obedience vnto that God. Some of the Sueuians as *Cornelius* also reporteth doe sacrifice vnto *Isis* : And as for all their other customes, though heretofore neuer so peculiar, they bee now common to all the rest of the Germanes : But so it is, that at this day, not onely the manners of the Sueuians, but almost of all other nations else, bee changed and turned cleane topsie turuy, and (that which is most to bee lamented) altered from better to worse, for now most of the welthiest men of all Sueuia bee marchants, and a great company of them compact and confederate them-selues together, euery one disbursing a summe of mony to bee employed in Marchandize, wherewith they doe not onely buy vp and get into their hands spices, silkes and other things of great value, which bee brought thither by sea from forren countries, but sometimes also they will deale with things of small worth, as spoones, needles, spectacles, and puppets, and many such like tryfles and trinkets, ingrossing vp much wine and graine likewise, which manner of trafficke is not to bee commended, for it is not onely greuous and hurtfull to crafts men and husband men (who bee constrayned to sell their wares and commodities to these grypors, (as I may terme them rather than Marchants,) before they can make the best profit of them, when neede shall afterwards inforce them to buy the same of them againe for dubble the price,) but preiudiciall also to all the whole country in generall.

For whereas the people were wont to make their prouision of such things as they wanted, from their neighbour Princes, at the cheapest rate, they haue so fed and bribed those corrupt Princes and gouernors, of the contry, that



that nothing shall be bought but of themselves, either in Stutgardia, or in other places where they keepe Marts and faires. And yet these rich men doe not traffick themselves but by their seruants and common factors, who gathering in the moneys disbursed with the increase, yeeld an account thereof, at such time as they bee called therevnto, rendring vnto euery man truly and faithfully his owne money, and his part of the gaine.

Much cloth  
made in  
Sueuia.

The common people of Sueuia doe most of them practise dressing of Toe and spinning, which maner of worke they apply so busily, and vse so generally, as in the winter time in some parts of Sueuia, you shall not only see maids and women, but men and boyes also with Spindles and Distaffes in their hands: They make a kinde of cloth, the warpe whereof is linnen, and the oose filke, which they call (*Pargath*) and an other manner of cloth which they call (*Golsch*) and that is all linnen, of these manner of clothes they make great aboundance, for it is knowne to bee true, that the Vlmenfes onely doe make euery yeare a hundred thousand of these clothes, and if so many bee made in one part of the country, which is but a handfull in respect of the whole, one may easily coniecture that the number which is made in the whole land is almost infinite. These clothes bee carryed to nations farre from them, and especially twise a yeare to Franckford Marte, from whence the people of Sueueland receiue great custome and tribute. Moreouer (as euill things bee often-times mingled with good, and no one thing is perfect in all points) the Sueuians be meruailous lecherous people, the women as willing to yeeld as the men to aske, yea both sides bee apt to slide, but slow to repent; and surely I thinke, that this vice is generally fauoured,  
both



both in Sueuia and throughout all Germany, for neither there nor in any other part of Germany, is any punishment inflicted, nor any one excommunicated by the Ecclesiasticall censure, either for open fornication, adultery, nor yet for rauishing of women: And thereof ariseth this Prouerbe, that Sueuia onely is able to yeeld whores inough for all Germany, as well as Franconia affordeth good store of theeues and beggars, Boemia hereticks, Bauaria pilferers and slaues, Heluetia Butchers and Bawdes, Drunkards in Saxonie, periurers in Frisia and Westphalia, and gluttons about the Rheine.

*Of Bauaria and Carinthia, and of the lawes and  
customes of those people heretofore, and  
how they line at this day.*

CAP. 17.



**B**AVARIA, a Prouince of Germany, <sup>Bauaria, why</sup> is so named of a people called Auarij <sup>so called.</sup> by putting therevnto the letter B, who being a remnant of the Huns, expelled thence the Norici, and possessed their country. It is also called Boioaria of a people of Cisalpine France called Boij, who were once said to inhabite those parts, before which time it was called Noricum.

Vpon the East thereof lyeth Hungaria, and Sueuia vpon the West: Italy ioyneth vnto it vpon the South, and <sup>The bounds of Bauaria.</sup> Franconia and Boemia vpon the North. The famous river Danubius comming from Sueuia runneth through Bauaria, and vnder the name of Bauaria at this day, is comprehended Austria, Suria, and Carinthia; the people whereof



whereof bee all a like both in life and language: whereas heretofore it contayned noe more than that onely which was called Noricum. That good and holy King *Lucius* King of Britaine, was the first that instructed them in the Christian religion, and after him Saint *Rupertus*, and lastly they were confirmed in the faith by *Beniface* Bishoppe of Moguntinum.

Bavaria heretofore governed by Kings but now by Dukes.

Bavaria is devided into foure Bishoppes seas, that is to say, Saltzburga, Patauia, Phrisinberge and Ratisbon, it hath in it more famous Citties than are in any one prouince of Germany besides, the Metropolitan wherof is Saltzburge heretofore (as is surmised) called Iuuania: Schiren was once the Dukes seate, but now it is translated to Monachium.

This land before it was reduced into a Prouince, was governed by Kings of their owne nation, vntill the raigne of *Arnolphus* the Emperour: And as all the Kings of Parthia were named *Asaces*, and the *Aegyptian* Kings *Ptolemies*, so was euery king of Bavaria called *Cacarnus* but after it was subdued by *Arnolphus* and annexed to the Empire the gouernment was committed to Dukes, which manner of gouernment remayneth still: and all the Dukes for many successions together, haue beene elected out of that most worthy and renowned family of the

The lawes vsed in Bavaria which they received when they received Christianity.

*Agilolphingij.*

The manners and customes of that people may bee vnderstood, by the lawes which were giuen them when they first receiued the right faith of Christ, wich were these following: first that if a freeman borne would bestow any thing towards the maintenance of the Church, whether it were lands mony or goods, hee should make a deed thereof in writing, and seale and subscribe it with his owne hand



hand and scale, and put to the names of sixe witnesses to confirme it, and then deliuer it as his deede in the presence of the Bishoppe, by which act both hee him-selfe, and all his posterity were vtterly bard for euer after to inioy or repossesse the same againe but by permission of the Church: And whatsoeuer was so giuen to the maintenance of Gods holy Church, was committed to the Bishoppes custody, and by him defended and protected: If any one wronged the Church or any thing there-vnto belonging, hee incurred the iudgement of God, the displeasure of holy Church, and was constrayned (ether by the King or Prince for the time being) to render restitution, and forfeited three ounces of gold besides, but if he denied the fact, he was brought before the Altar and there in presence of Preeft and people, swore and deposed what wronge hee had done and of what value: He that perswaded another mans seruant to runne away from his Maister, (were he man-seruant or maid-seruant) was inforced to fetch him againe, and to put an other into his place as a pledge till he came, and was fined at fifteene shillings besides.

If a seruant did priuily burne any Church goods, hee had his hands cut off, and his eyes puld out, that he might neuer after see to commit the like villanie, and the maister of such seruant made good the value of that which was burnt: But if a Freeman committed such a fault, he restored againe the full value of the losse, and forfeited for his folly three pound; and if hee denyed the fact, hee was to purge him-selfe by the othes of twenty foure men; who standing by the Altar before the defender of the Church, layed their hands vpon the holy Euangelist, and swore whether they thought him faulty or noe.

If



If an offendor tooke sanctuary for refuge he was secure, nor was it lawfull for a Maister to fetch his seruant thence, otherwise to hurt him, for if hee did, the Iudge would compell him to pay forty shillings to the Church, as a recompence for infringing his priuiledges: Hee that injured any one that was in any inferiour order in the Church, made satisfaction with twise the value of the injury done, which was paide ouer vnto his parents or nearest friends: But if the wrong were to one of an higher order, he paide three times the value.

Hee that killed a Priest, forfeited and paid forthwith to the Church where he was Minister, three hundred peeces of gold, and he that killed a Deacon, two hundred; and if he were not able to pay such a summe of money, hee was deliuered both himselfe, his wife, and children into bondage and seruitude, and detained in slavery, vntill he could make shift to pay the money. No one might offer violence to a Bishop although hee did him wrong, but might make his complaint, and commence his suite before the King, Duke, or commons, whether it were for homicide, fornication, or consenting to the enemy; and if it was prooued that he would haue brought in enemies to inuade the country, or sought the spoyle of those he ought to preserue, he was either deposed or banished.

Hee that contrary to the lawes of the Church, married a recluse or Nun out of her Cloyster, was compelled to restore her thither againe, and to leaue her where hee found her: and the Bishop (by the Dukes assistants) would thrust her into the Nunry againe whether shee would or no, and the man (if there were no hope of his amendment) was banished the country.

It was not lawfull for either Priest or Deacon to keepe



in his house any strange woman, lest by often companie and familiaritie with her, he might happen to be polluted, and so offer an vnworthie sacrifice vnto God, and the people be plagued for his offences. If any difference or controversie arose betwixt Priests, Deacons, or other Clergie men, the Cannon-law committed the deciding thereof to the Bishops: farmers, husbandmen and seruants payd tribute and tyth to the Church, euery one according to his abilitie, as euery tenth bushel of graine, euery tenth perch of land, euery tenth faggot, the tenth part of their honey, and for euery foure pullets fiftene eggs. They were bound also to bring stone, timber, and lyme for the reparations of the Churches, but yet with this speciall care, that no man should be taxed more then he was wel able to indure.

If any one were false vnto his Duke, and by treason procured enemies into the Prouince, or betrayed any Cittie, and was thereof conuicted by three witneses, all his goods were confiscate to the Duke, and the Duke had power to vse him at his pleasure: but to the end that no one should be ouerthrowne or spoiled by anothers enuie or malice without cause, there was this prouision made, that the accused might challenge the single combat with one of his accusers; and if he ouercame the other he scaped free, and forfeited nothing. He that killed his Duke, was killed himselfe, and all his goods confiscate for euer without redemption: and he that stirred vp sedition against him, forfeited to the Duke 600. shillings. When an armie was conducted into the enemies land, the souldiers had no cause to fall out amongst themselves for prouision; for euery one might take what would serue his turn: but he which wrangled without cause, was forced either to yeeld himselfe to the law of armes, in that case prouided, or suffer fifty stripes with



a truncheon before his Lieutenant. And the Lieutenants and Gouvernors were to haue a special care euery one with in his limits or county, that the souldiers did not spoile & prey vppon the enemie, before they were commanded by the Duke: for if any fault were committed through their negligence, they were to make it good. If a free-man damaged, or wronged another, he was constrained to make good as much as the party was hindred, and was amerced besides at 40. shil. but such offences were death in seruants, and their master made restitution for them, because they forbade them not the committing of such crimes. If a seruant stole or purloyned any thing from the soldiers in the campe, and was therof conuicted, he lost his hand for that offence, and his master notwithstanding restored the value of the goods stolne: and a free-man for such a fault, was mulcted at forty shillings ouer and aboue the due restitution of the thing stolne.

○ If any one were commanded by the king or duke to kill another, and he did it, the king or duke which commanded him, ought for euer after to defend and protect him from danger: & if the king or duke which was his protector died his next successor did take vpon him the like warrantie and protection of that man. If the Duke were so stubborn and rebellious as to contemne and despise the decrees of the king, he was depriued of his Duke-dome, and was vtterly void of all hope euer to recouer his former estate and dignity. If the Duke had a son so froward, foolish, or arrogant, as (through the counsell and abetting of lewd and euil persons) he went about to depose his father from his gouernment, so that his father were yet well able to gouerne, to conduct an armie, to get vp vpon his horse, and to carry armes, and was neither deafe nor blind, & well able to performe



forme the kings command, he was disinherited, and for euer after vncapable of the Dukedome; or, (if his father pleased) he was banished to perpetuall exile, for offending his father in so high a degree against the law.

He that by rashnesse, indiscretion, or drunkennesse bred a scandall in the Dukes Court, forfeited forty shillings, and was for euer after lyable to make good the value of the inconuenience that arose of that ill example: but a seruant for such a fault lost his hand.

If any thing were found in the Dukes Court, and taken vp, and concealed one night vnreuealed, it was accounted theft, and such an offender forfeited into the Dukes Exchequer fifteene shillings, because the Dukes house was accounted a publike house.

He that detracted, or by his ill speeches depraued the Dukes gouernement, was punished at fifteen shillings: and forced to finish and make perfect all that he was commanded to do, that all pleas or suites might be dispatched and ended euery fifteenth day, in each seuerall Countie of the countie; for the doing wherof, all the free-men assembled together, and they which neglected the meeting, forfeited fifteene shillings: the Iudge (to the end hee might do iustice, and iudge vprightly) had a booke of the law lying open before him, which serued as a rule and pattern whereby to iudge of all controuersies.

And if the inditement were without partialitie, and that he iudged vprightly without respect of persons, or rewards, hee then had, and enioyed to himselfe the ninth part of the composition, but if the iudgement were partiall, or smelled of briberie; he forfeited the double value of that which by his false sentence and corruption, was payed, and was fined moreouer at forty shillings.



He which killed the Duke, payd either vnto his friends or vnto the king for composition, 1460. shillings, whereof his friends had six hundred. And it was euer obserued, that the composition for the death of the Duke, was three times as much as for the death of any of his friends.

The Agilolfingi (out of which family the Dukes be euer created) had the fourth part of the composition, and then the Huosi, the Trozzi, the Sagavi, the Hahilingi, and the Aennonni had the one halfe of that which remained. Hee that killed a free-man, payd (either vnto the Duke or vnto his parents that was slaine) 8. pounds, hee that put out a free-mans eye, or cut off his hand or foot, payed 40. shillings: he that lamed him payd 12. shillings, and for a maim 20. shillings, for a wound 3. shillings, for striking out a cheeke tooth, or grinding tooth 12. shillings, and for euery other tooth 6. shillings. They were very strictly forbidden to molest or hurt strangers, in so much as he which iniured any of them, payd vnto the party griued the double value of the wrong sustained, and besides forfeited 8. pounds into the Dukes Exchequer: & he that slue a stranger, forfeited an hundred pounds in gold. If a seruant molested or sold a free-man, & were complained of to the Iudge, he escaped not without some great punishment, as the losse of hand or eye. Libertines which had bin manumitted & made free, had more easie compositions by the one halfe, then those which were free-born. All incestuous marriages were there vtterly prohibited, so as it was not lawful for any man to marry his first wiues mother, his sonnes wife, his daughter-in-law, his step-mother, his brothers or sisters daughter, his brothers wife, or wiues sister, and those which offended in any of these points, all his goods were confiscate by the Iudge.

Hee



hee that prophaned the Lords day with any manner of worke, after the first warning and admonition, had fiftie lashes vpon the backe with a whip, and if he offended againe the second time; he forfeited the third part of all his goods, and for the third offence he lost his libertie: for it is fitting, that he which will not be free vpon that day, shold be a slaue for euer after. A seruant for labouring vpon the Lords day was beaten, but if he held on his course without amendement, his right hand was cut off. And a stranger for the like fault, hauing beene warned aforehand, paid 12. shillings. He that detained a freeman against his will in seruitude and bondage, or forcibly tooke away his inheritance or goods, was forced to restore what euer hee violently tooke away, and forfeited forty shillings besides. If any one lay with another mans wife that was a free-woman, he payed vnto her husband 7. pounds for amends, and if he were taken in the deed doing and slaine, his death was not to be reuenged.

He that committed fornication with a free-woman by her consent, and refused to take her to his wife, payed 12. shillings. If a seruant offered violence to a free-woman, his master deliuered him to the womans father to be punished, who might iustly kill him if he pleased. He that rauished or stoale away a free-woman, without her parents consent and her owne, forfeited 11. shillings, and if shee that was stoln away were manumitted, he forfeited 8. shillings, but if she were a seruant, the forfeiture was but 4. shillings. If a free-man put away his wife being a free-woman without iust cause, he paid vnto her parents 40. shillings, and duly repayed vnto the woman her dower and full portion, she brought with her, according to the family out of which she came. If a freeman were troth-plight to a freewoman,



and afterwards forsooke her and married another, he paid vnto the wenches parents 24. shillings, & brought twelue men to sweare with him, that he forsooke her not for any fault of hers, nor for any malice he bore to his parents, but onely for the great loue and affection he bore vnto the other. He which stole away another mans wife, restored her againe, and payed eight pounds vnto her husband for amends. If a bond-woman gaue a potion to a woman that was with child, to procure an abortiue, shee had two hundred lashes with a whippe; and if she were a free-woman that tempered the poyson, shee lost her freedome, and became a slaue for euer. If a woman with child were stricken and brought forth an abortiue, and died her selfe of the blow, he or she that stricke her, was reputed and taken as an homicide, and if the woman liued, and the abortiue not liuing at the time of the stroke giuen, the partie that gaue the blow, payd her twenty shillings: but if the abortiue had life, the forfeiture then was fiftie Weregelds, three shillings, and a Tremissis. If a Free-man stole any thing out of the Dukes Court, Churches, shoppes, worke-houses or Mills, which be publike places of resort, he was constrained to sweare what the value of that was which he stole, and was forced to restore nine times the worth, or else to fight hand to hand with the party griued, or his champion. If a theefe were taken stealing in the night and flaine, his death was not reuenged: and hee that allured, perswaded, or inticed another mans seruant to steale from his master, or otherwise to wrong him, and was thereof detected, was condemned as a theefe, and paid nine times as much as the master was damnified: the seruant also restored what he tooke away, and was openly whipped besides, with two hundred stripes, but the master suffered no preiudice.

And



And all felons for all thefts whatsoeuer, were brought before the Iudge, and suffered such punishment as the law ordained in such cases: but they first made composition and satisfaction out of their owne goods, vnto those they had wronged sundry times, before they were adiudged to die for stealing. He that bought any thing in the Prouince, was first diligently to enquire, whether it was stolen or no: for he which bought stolne goods was bound to restitution, and forfeited twelue shillings into the Dukes Exchequer. The same penaltie was inflicted vpon him that took any stolne goods committed to the charge or custodie of another. And no man could make composition with a theefe, but before the Iudge: for he which did it in hugger mugger of purpose to conceale the theft from the Iudge, was accounted and punished as a theef himselfe. As oft as any contention arose amongst them, about the bounds or limits of their grounds, there were certaine surueiors appointed to view and find out the auncient meares and markes betwixt land and land; against which prescription, or long continuance of possession was of no force: and if no markes could be found, then he that sold the land, shewed the meare-stones to the Surveyors: but if the controuersie were such, as it could not otherwise be decided, and the parties appeased, they then fought it out hand to hand: And no one partie might set downe a new meare-stone or marke, without the consent of the other, and that in the presence of the Surueior: for if a free-man offended herin, he was fined at fixe shillings, and a slaue was openly whipped with two hundred lashes. If one free-man pulled down the wall or ditch of another free-man, he forfeited 3. shillings, and vnto the party griued, as much as he was damaged, and he which pulled downe either post, pillar, beam,



or rafter, forfeited 3. shillings likewise, and 12. pence for either shingle or tyle, or any other part of the house, besides restitution for the losse sustained.

It was not lawfull for any one to take a pledge or distresse without the Dukes permission: for hee which did, was forced safely to restore the pledge or morgage so taken to the owner, and payd vnto the Duke 40. shillings for a fine: and if the thing so morgaged or distrained, happned to miscarrie in his hands, hee then made satisfaction to the owner, at the discretion of the Iudge. He which cut downe another mans standing corne that was ripe, paid for composition sixe shillings; and if he denied the fact, he was deposed himselfe, and produced sixe men to bee sworne with him, that hee tooke a true oath. Hee which destroyed another mans corne or graine by enchantment or sorcery, and was thereof conuicted, forfeited 12 shillings, and was forced to provide food for his whole family, that had his corn so destroyed, for all the yeare following, and restored vnto him ouer & aboue, the value of that which was destroyed: but if he denied the fact, he then either purged himselfe by the oath of 12. men, or by battell. If any man either by his meanes or abetment, inticed another mans seruant to run away from his master, he was inforced to bring him again, and forfeited for a man-seruant 12. shillings, and six shillings for a maid: but if he denied it, he purged himselfe either by the oath of a full Iury, or by combat.

No one might either kill or hurt another mans cattell, though he found them in his owne grounds dammagefant, but he might impound and detaine them, vntil he had made it knowne vnto the owner, or vnto his neighbours, what losse he had sustained, and then the owner of the cattell was to set him foorth as much other ground, as that which



which was eaten. In gathering in of their haruest, euery one that was dammified by an others cattaille, was recompenced by the owner of the cattaille, who ought not to make the offence greater then it was, but he which killed an other mans cattaille in breach of this law, tooke the dead carkasse himselfe, and gaue vnto the owner an other beast as good as his was. If hee strooke out his eye, he paid vnto the owner the third part of the price, that the beast was worth, and if he cut off either taile or eare, hee paid twelue pence & a tremissis for euery horne. But hee which committed any of these outrages, either for hatred, contempt, or despite, his penalty was doubled, hee which tooke an other mans horse or oxe to keepe for hire, and lost him by his owne default, paid the full price for him, and had no hire, but if hee purged himselfe by his oth, that the beast was not lost by his neglect, then hee had the hide allowed him.

Hee which receiued into his house an other mans goods (were it gold, siluer apparell or any thing else) either to sell or to keepe, and that his house, together with those goods were burned by misfortune, if hee would depose that his owne goods were burned with them, and that hee had no profit nor commodity by those goods so committed vnto him, hee made no restitution for them.

If a house were on fire, and one making shew to quench the fire, did steale and purloine any thing thence, he paid fouretimes the value of that which he stole, and made composition besides according to the Statutes.

If a thing was in contention betwixt two to whom the propertie belonged, it was not lawfull for any one whatsoeuer either to giue it or sell it, vntill it was decided



to whom the right property did appertaine. If a woman buried her husband and remained a widdow afterwards, she had an equall portion with one of his children, both of the goods and of the yeerely profit of the liuing, but if shee married an other husband, she then tooke such goods onely as she had of her owne, and her dower, and departed the house the same day shee married, and that portion which was allotted vnto her, after the death of her husband, during her widdow-hood, was equally deu-  
uided amongst her children.

If a man had children by diuers wiues, they all of them equally inherited, but the mothers children inherited such goods onely as belonged vnto her, and the sonne of a bond-woman might not inherit with the sonne of a free-woman. If a man died without issue and made no will, his wife so long as shee kept her selfe widdow, enioyed the one halfe of all her husbands goods, and the other halfe remained to his kinsfolke: But if she died, or married againe, shee then presently departed, and carried with her such goods onely as were her owne, and due vnto her by the law, and that part which she had was distributed to her husbands kinsfolkes likewise. If either man or woman died and neither deuised their goods by testament, nor gaue them away in their life time, and had no kindred liuing within seuen degrees, then were all their goods confiscate and escheated into the Dukes Exchequer. He which sold any thing and tooke money for it, was to confirme the sale either by writing, or in the presence of two witnesses at the least, and no sale was firme and good, vnlesse hee which sold it did it voluntarily and vnconstrained. Hee which sold an other mans goods without the owners consent or priuity, restored the same  
again,



again, and an other as good as that was besides, but if the thing so sold could not be gotten again, then he paid two other things as good as that was which he sold. Hee which bought any thing and gaue earnest for it, was forced to stand to his bargain, vnlesse the other party were willing to release him, or else he lost the thing hee gaue earnest for, and paid the full price agreed vpon, notwithstanding: If a man sold a thing which was nought, hee was constrained to take it again at any time within three daies, or else hee was deposed and brought one other to sweare with him, that hee knew not of the fault, and so the bargain stood currant.

If a bond-man purchased his free-dome by his owne purse, and not with his maisters money, and the deceite were discerned, hee was restored again to his maister, because his maister receiued no other thing for him, but that which was his seruants, which hee knew not of. And the same law that was in buying and selling, was likewise in exchanging.

If any one entred into an other mans ground, and claimed it for his owne, hee paid for his rashnesse sixe shillings, and restored the ground to the owner again: A witnesse produced to giue testimony, neither could nor ought to bee resisted, vnlesse in case of one that is dead, in which case hee was to make good his euidence by bat-taile, and if he hap to get the victory, hee was then credited, and no longer impugned. If there were many witnesse, then one was elected by lot to sweare, and the manner of his oth was thus: I am elected as a witnesse, and I offer my selfe to be deposed, and as God shall helpe mee and him whose hand I hold, I am produced as a witnesse to speake the truth, touching this matter now in question,  
and



and then ioyning all their hands together to sweare and protest the truth, hee alone holding in his other hand one other that sweareth with him, deposed as seemeth him good, and if hee swore false and was conuicted of perjury, hee restored and made good vnto the partie damni- fied by his false oth, as much as hee was hindred thereby, and paide twelue shillings more for composition, or else defended his innocency by battaile.

If one champion killed the other in battaile, if he were a free-man, then the party that vniustly procured him to vndertake the combate, paide twelue shillings for composition, but no more. He which solde any thing from a free-man that was dead and buried, paide vnto his parents or friends forty shillings, and restored that which hee stole away. He that murthered a freeman secretly, casting his body either into a riuer or other base place, whereby hee was depriued of due funerals and exequies, did first pay forty shillings, and afterwards a were-geld. If a freeman was flaine and cast into a riuer, or into the sea, and after his body hapt to be cast vpon shore, if any one tumbled him into the water againe, hee forfeited forty shillings. And if a seruant or bond-man were so flaine and cast vp, then hee which aduentured to throw him in againe forfeited nine pounds. Hee which slue a man and tooke his apparell from him, paide twise the worth of his apparell, and hee which cut or mangled the carcasse of a dead man paide twelue shillings for every member hee so cut or mangled. Hee which found the body of a dead man, and out of his compassion affoorded it buriall, lest it should bee deuoured by beasts or birds, the friends or maister of the dead man gaue him twelue pence for his paine. He which remoued an other mans ship or boate out of his place, restored



restored vnto the owner either the same againe in as good plight as it was, or an other as good. But if he tooke it out of the water, and concealed and denied it being asked, it was accounted as theft, and he then paide for it as if he had stole it: He which stole a hound restored him backe againe, or an other as good and paide sixe shillings besides, and three shillings for a sheap-herds cur: And these were the lawes that the Bauarians liued vnder not many ages since, and diuers of them be yet in force at this day.

The Bauarians be earnest & deuout Christians, & wil goe on pilgrimage by great troups, to Churches and Monuments a far off, and especially to a Temple in Aquigrane: And within their owne Prouince there be two notable & famous places, both for miracles of the Saints, & great concourse of pilgrimes, which are the blessed Virgin *Mary* of Ottinga and Saint *Wolfgangus*. The country yeeldeth no vines, vnlesse some few in the south part thereof, for it is ful of mountaines and great woods, the trees whereof affoord great plenty of Acornes, and wilde Apples, by which meanes they haue great store of hogges, so as Bauaria furnisheth other countries of Europe with as many swine, as Hungary doth with oxen, and the people themselves bee very hoggish and perticipate of a swinish nature, so as in compariso of al other Germans, they may iustly be tearmed barbarous and sauadge, and surpassing al others in two horrible and abominable vices, that is to say cruelty, and theft: Their apparel is for the most part blew, and they goe more commonly in bootes then in shooes: vpon that side of Bauaria towards Austria, lieth part of Carinthia & part of Stiria: Carinthia is a mountainous country, and bordereth East-ward vpon the people called Carni, and vpon the West & South vpon Stiria, & so reacheth to the Alpes of Italy, and Forum Iulij.

In



In Carinthia bee many fruitfull vallicies and hils for wheat and other graine, there be many great meeres and riuers, the chiefe whereof is the riuier Drauus, which running by Stiria and Pannonia falleth into Danubius, and is not much inferior to the riuier Savus.

*The manner  
how the Ca-  
rinthians elect  
their Duke.*

This country is vnder the dominion of the Archduke of Austria, and when a new Prince is ordained and taketh vpon him the gouernment of their common-weale, they obserue a strange solemnity, the like whereof is not vsed in any other country, the manner of it is this. In a large valley neere vnto the towne of Saint Vitus, are remaying the ruines of a decaied City, neere vnto which place in a plaine field standeth there on end a great marble stone, and when a new Archduke is to be created, a country clowne (to whom that office descendeth by inheritance) standeth vpon the stone, hauing vpon his right hand a blacke Cow in Calfe, and a Mare vpon his left, so leane as she is nothing but skinne and bone, and round about him stand a great rable of country people, and others gazing at him, in which interim a great multitude of nobles and gentlemen in gallant and sumptuous attire, hauing the ensignes of principality carried before them, conduct the new Prince towards the stone, the Prince himselfe beeing meanelly arrayed in a clownes cap, high shooes and a sheap-heards staffe, and seeming indeed rather a silly sheap-heard then a powrefull Prince: when the clowne vpon the stone perceiueth him comming so gallantly attended, hee crieth out with a lowde voice in the Slaunonian tongue (for the Carinthians be Slaunonians) who is this that commeth so proudly? to whom the whole multitude make answere that the Prince and gouernor of the country is comming, what is hee (saith the clowne)



clowne) is hee a iust and vpright Iudge? Doth hee regard the welfare of his county? Is hee of a free condition and worthy of honour? Is he a professor and defender of the Christian religion? And all the people auerre that hee both is and will be such a one, then the clowne againe demaundeth: how or by what right hee can displace him from his seate, to whom the maister of the Dukes household answereth and saith: the Duke shall giue thee for thy seat sixty pence and these two beasts which stand on each side of thee, besides that thou shalt haue all the Dukes apparel he now weareth, and both thou and all thy family shall for euer after be free from tribute, which said the clowne giueth the Duke an easie blow vpon the cheeke, willing him to bee an vpright Iudge, and so receiuing the rewards promised, hee departeth from the stone, and the Duke getteth vp into his place, and there drawing a naked sword, and brandishing it round about vpon euery side, he speaketh vnto the people, and promisseth them to bee an equall and iust Iudge and gouernor, the report is also that they giue him drinke in a clownes cap, which hee drinketh in token that euer after hee will bee sober, and continent.

After this hee goeth thence to the Church of Solemnensis, that is scituated vpon a hill neere adioyning, and is dedicated to our blessed Lady, and called after her name, and there hee heareth masse, which done hee putteth off the base attire which hee wore till then, and putting on a coate armor, hee banketteth and feasteth with his nobles, and lastly hee returneth againe into the same field, and there sitteth in Iudgement, doing right vnto euery one, and casting and reckoning his yeerely reuenues.

This honour of inuesting the Prince is giuen vnto clownes,



clownes, for because they were the first in that country that imbraced the Christian religion, the Nobility and Princes remayning in error vntill the time of *Charles the Great*, in whose daies they were baptized, and became earnest followers of the faith likewise.

*A severe punishment against theues.*

The Duke of Carinthia was maister of the Emperors hounds, wherevpon the deciding of all controuersies and contentions, concerning huntsman and hunting, was referred vnto him. And when any one is accused before the Emperor for any such cause, he must answer his accusors in the Slaunian tongue. They haue an other custome in that Prouince which is chiefly put in vse about the towne called *Klagen* concerning theft, which is most strickt & seuerer; & withal very vnreasonable, for there if one be but suspected of theft he is instantly trussed vp, & the next day after hee is hanged they inquire of the suspition, and then if hee prooue guilty in deed, they suffer him to hang stil, vntil hee rot and fal downe peccemeale, but if it appeare that he was vniustly put to death, then is he buried, and his funerals performed at the common cost of the citty. The Carinthians weare for the most part cloakes made of such wooll as their owne country sheepe beare, and selfe colloured, and cappes vpon their heads, their language is the Slaunian tongue.

*The description of Stiria.*

But the *Stirij* be a more rude and rusticall kinde of people, hauing maruelous great throates, yea their throat boales are so bigge as they are an impediment vnto their speech, and that which is more (if it bee truly reported of them) the women that giue sucke will cast their throates behinde their backes like a wallet, to the end they should not hinder their children in their sucking: the cause of this strume or great throates, they attribute to the

water



water and ayre whereof they drinke, and bee nourished. The Stirians resemble the Germanes both in speach, habit and behauour, excepting those that dwell about the riuer Dravus, that speake the Slauonian tongue. There is much Salt made which they carry into other countries, and exchange it for other commodities. There bee also mines of Iron and Siluer, though but little gotten, which happeneth through the negligence and carelesnesse of the Princes and gouernors.

This country was once called Valeria, it is very mountainous and craggie, excepting the East part thereof next vnto Pannonia, and there it is very plaine and euen.

*Of Italy, and of the manners of the Italians:  
of Romulus also and his  
ciuill institutions.*

CAP. 18.



ITALY a Region of Europe, was first <sup>Italy first called Hesperia, and then Oenotria.</sup> called Hesperia, of *Hesperus* the brother of *Atlas*, who beeing expelled by his brother, left his name both vnto Spaine and Italy: But *Macrobius* is of opinion, that it was called Hesperia of the starre *Hesperus*, which is their euening starre.

It was also called *Oenotria*, either for the goodnesse of the wine which is made in Italy, for *Oenum* in Greeke signifieth wine) or else of *Oenotrius* King of the Sabines. And lastly it was named Italy of *Italus* King of Scicily, who taught them the Arte of husbandry, and gaue them lawes to liue vnder, for he comming into that part wherein *Tur-*

Y

proued



prooued by *Virgil* in these verses thus translated by mai-  
ster *Phaer*.

*There is a place the Greekes by name Hesperia do call,  
An ancient land, and fierce in warre, and full of soyle withall:  
Out from Oenotria they came that first did till the same,  
Now Italy men say 'tis call'd so of the Captaines name.*

*Italy why so  
called.*

But *Timeus* and *Varro* hold opinion, that it was called  
Italia, of the great store of goodly Bulls which bee there  
bred, aboue other places, for Bulls in the ancient Greeke  
tongue were called *Itali*. That part of Italy which is next  
vnto the mouth of Tyber is called *Latium*, euen as that  
part is called *Aufonia* (according to *Aristotle*) which is  
next vnto the Tyrrhen sea.

Italy is in forme like a crosse, and situated betwixt the  
Adriaticke and the Tuscan sea; and extending from the  
Alpes and the hill Appenine, reacheth vnto the city  
Rhegium, and the Brutian shores: Towards the end it de-  
uideth it selfe into two parts, whereof the one looketh in-  
to the Ionian sea, and the other into the Scicilian: in the  
vtmost part whereof standeth the city Rhegium.

*The length  
of Italy.*

The length of Italy from Augusta Prætoria, passing by  
Rome and Capua to the city Rhegium, (according to  
*Salynus*) is a thousand and twenty miles, and the bredth  
where it is broadest, foure hundred and ten miles, and  
a hundred thirty and six where it is narrowest, hauing as it  
were a belly ietting further out then the rest; in *Agro  
Rheatich*, which now is confined with the riuer Rubicon,  
fliding by the side of the Adriaticke sea.

*Italy deuided  
into many  
Provinces.*

Italy is deuided into many Regions, for from the riuer  
Vatus to the riuer Macra is Liguria, where Genoua is the  
chiefest city: from Macra then to Tyber is Hettruria, the  
Metropolitan city whereof is Pisa; from Tyber vnto Ly-  
tis



ris is that part of Italy called Latium, wherein standeth Rome: and the citty Antium (which wee call Netnut) is situated within the prouince vpon the shore side: from Lyris vnto the riuer Sarnus is Campania, where Naples is chiefe citty: from Sarnus to Silarus, is the country called Picentum, the two greatest townes whereof bee Surrentum and Salernum, betwixt Silarus and Laius is Lucania, of which prouince the most notorious townes bee Pestum and Buxentum, with vs called Belvedere: from the riuer Laius to the promontory of Leucopetra, is the country called Brutium, wherein standeth the citty of Rhegium Iulium: from the promontary of Leucopetra to the promontory of Iapigium, otherwise called Salentinum, is the borders or frontiers of great Greece, wherein are situated the two famous citties Croton and Tarentum: from Iapigium to Brundusium is Calabria, wherein is Hydruntum: from the citty Brundusium to the hill Garganus now called *Saint Angelus* hill, is Apulia, wherein stand the citties Barium or Barry & Salapia: from the hill Garganus to the mouth of the riuer Sarnis, is the country of the Frentani, in which Prouince Iſconium is chiefe citty: frō the riuer Sarus to the riuer Aperiſus is the coast of the Marrucini, and therein is the citty Orton: from Aperiſus to the riuer Æſius, whilom the vtmost bounds of Italy dwell the Piceni, whose citty is Ancona: from Æſius (or Aſius as others write it) to Rubicon, the latter confines of Italy, bee the Senones, whose chiefeſt townes are Phanum fortunæ, Piſaurum and Ariminum: from Rubicon to the mouth of the riuer Padus, liue the people called Boij, amongst whome is the citty Rauenna: betwixt Padus and Tilia vemptum, is the Venetians country, wherein standeth the famous and renowned citty of Venice: from Tilia vemptum to Natifon, are the



people called Carni or Foroiulienſes, and in that prouince is Aquileia : from Natifon to Arſia are the Iapyges and Iſtri and therein is the citty of Tergeſtum, and the riuer Formio which is now the vtmoſt limits of all Italy.

The hill Appen-  
nines diuideth  
Italy into two  
parts.

The hill Appenynne deuyderh all Italy as it were into two clymates or regions, leauing the one part towards the weſt and South, and the other towards the North and Eaſt : This hill taketh his beginning from the Alpes, and from thence runneth into Liguria, and after that it parteth Ciſalpine France and Picenum, from Hetruria and Sabinia and ſo paſſeth to the Citty Ancona, from whence it auerteth his courſe and extendeth into Apulia, and the hill Garganus, ſeperating the countries of the Marucini, the Peligni, and the Frentini, from Latium and Campania, and ſo finiſheth his race from the hill Garganus, when it comineth to the promontory of Leucopetra, hauing vpon the one hand Apulia, Calabria, the confines of great Greece and Picenum, and the Lucani and Brutij vpon the other. Italy of all other countries is moſt whoſome and healthſome, both for ſweetneſſe of the ayre and temperature of the heauens, it aboundeth with all ſorts of mettall, *Ceres* adorneth her feelds, and *Phæbus* dallyeth vpon her hills : the forreſts, parkes and chaſes bee ſafe and ſecure for paſſengers, and replenished with goodly trees of ſundry kinds, which yeeld great variety of fruites and commodities to the inhabitants: of wyne and oyles there is plenty, and exceeding great ſtore of all ſorts of grayne, their ſheepe cary very fine fleeces, and their oxen and bulls of all other places bee moſt beautifull, their riuers, lakes, and pooles be cleere and full of fiſh, and delightſome : of hauens and port townes there bee great abundance, the land her ſelfe in ſundry places making (as it were) Roades and

The praiſe of  
Italy.



and breaches into the sea, for the exceeding desire shee hath to auaille man-kinde, whereby she becommeth (as I may say) the lappe and bosome, that openeth and offereth trafficke and trading into all countries, so as shee is iustly termed of some, the nurse of all other nations, and elected by Gods diuine prouidence, as parent and Princessse of all other Prouinces, and such a one as should gather together vnder one head, and gouernment, all dispersed dominions, and should assuage and mitigate the rage and rudenesse of many barbarous people, and (by the diuine helpe of learning and the Latine tounge) should vnite and bring to sociable conference, all nations, though neuer so different in life and language: for to passe ouer many people and kingdomes which the Romaines haue wone and conquered with their armies and eloquence, the Citty of Rome alone is as amply stored with examples of all vertues, as the Grecians with all their eloquence are with precepts, yea they themselues deuining (as it were) that their land should become the head and gouernor of all others, when they surnamed one part therof great Greece.

*Italy the nurse  
of all nations.*

*The commendations of  
Rome.*

In a word, it was not without the diuine prouidence ordained, that where that most wise and omnipotent God had reiected all other nations, it pleased him to make that the chiefe Empire, fortresse and defence of all people, that should afterwards bee the seate, throne and chaire of the head of Gods Church, and the Christian religion: The Italians differ much amongst themselues both in countenance and stature, for in Cisalpine France, and about the gulfe of Venice, the people be of a pale complexion, neat in their apparell, and curious in their speach: but the inhabitants of Hetruria, Latium, Campania, Lucania and the Brutij be of a more browne and swartie complexion, and their

*The stature  
and complexion  
of the Ita-  
lians, and how  
they differ.*



their haire black, in stature they be lower and withall very leane, and in apparell and speech more plaine and simple. The Piceni and those which dwell on the skirts of the Adriaticke sea, vntill you come to great Greece, haue much resemblance to the former, but in Apulia, Calabria, and in the vppermost parts of Italy towards Greece, their speech and behauour doth little differ from the Greekes.

Three sorts of  
Cittizens.

Three orders  
of Free-men.

The Dictator  
their chief, &  
officer.

Throughout all Italy, and in a manner throughout all Europe, it is not lawfull for any man to haue more wiues than one, and all diuorces betwixt man and wife, had their originall from the Citty of Rome, for there it was that *Spurius Carbillus*, complaining of his wiues barrenesse, was the first that euer was diuorced from his wife. The Cittizens heretofore consisted of three sorts of people, that is to say, slaues, libertines (which were such as were once slaues, and were manumitted and made free) & freemen. The freemen were likewise deuided into three orders or ranks, to wit, the Plebeians, the Equestri, and the Patritij; the solemnizing of their sacrifices and sacred rites was committed to Priests and Flamins, besides whom they had diuerse colleges and societies of religious persons, wherof some did sacrifice to one God, and some to an other. The Dictator was most honored of all other officers, and bore the greatest sway amongst them, from whom no appeale was sufferable, for he bearing a Kinglike gouernment, they had no higher officer to whom they might appeale: the dignity of the Dictator continued but halfe a yeare, & for the most part they came to that high office by degrees, as being first Questors or Treasurers, then *Ædiles*, or ouer-seers, & after that *Prætors* or chiefe Iustices, then were they made Consuls, then Censors, & then they attained to the highest office of all, which was Dictatorship. But yet it did not alwaies necessarily follow, that the Dictator had born  
all



all those offices before recited, for he was oftentimes elected out of some inferior office for his valor & worthinesse, yet he had chiefeft power and authority ouer all those ciuill gouernors, as likewise ouer all officers that bore rule in the warres, for in military affaires they had their degrees of gouernors, aswell as in domesticall busineses, for there the common soldiours yeelded obedience to the Centurions, the Centurions to the Tribunes, the Tribunes to the Lieutenant, the Lieutenants or deputies to the Consuls, or vnto their Vice-presidents by them assigned to rule in their steeds, and all these together with the Captaines and conductors of horsmen, were subiect to the authority of the Dictator. In warres that were lawfully begun, souldiours might continue for the space of ten yeares, if in all that time they neuer skirmished with the enemy, nor were summoned away to wage wars in other countries. Besides this lawfull making of wars, whereof I now speake, there was an other sort of warfare called *Causaria*, which was when the army for some reasonable cause was dismissed, and the campe remooued. This latter maner of warfare as it was not so honorable as the first, yet did it carry with it no touch of ignominy nor disgrace, because they were called thence for some speciall cause; *Seruius Tullius* ordained, that none should be soldiours but such as were betwixt the age of seuentene yeares, and eight and forty: those which were men of peace went alwaies in gownes, and the souldiours in short cassocks and coate armors. When they intended to make battell against any country, they would first send an herald or officer at armes to denounce warrs, and being once entred into it, they might not leaue it but for some lawfull cause.

All the citties of Italy were either confederats with Rome, or such as were newly inhabited by those that came out



Three sorts of  
Citties.

of Rome, and were called Colonia, or Municipia, which were such Citties as had liberties and priuiledges proper and peculiar to themselves: of which sort some were made by plurality of voyces, and some otherwise, and those Citties called Municipia, were euer governed by their owne decrees, but the Citties called Coloniae were accounted as members of Rome, and liued vnder the Romaine law. In the citties or corporations called Municipia, where there were Burgesses and Free denizens together, their chiefeft officers were called Decurions, which were the same that Senators were at Rome. The order of the Patritij were distinguished from the Equestri by their purple robes, and the Equestri were knowne from the Plebeians, by their gilden garments, if he which had the chiefeft authority, and bore the prerogatiue royall amongst them, had misdemeaned himselfe, his cause was discerned by the whole body of the citty, and the hearing and determining of all other capitall offences, was committed to certaine Iudges elected by lots to that dignity, out of that band of souldiers which were assistants to the Magistrates in matters of life and death for that yeare: The deciding of all ciuill contentions, belonged to the Prætor of the Centumviri, and so in like sort other crimes were committed to the consideration of other Magistrates: And such generally were the manners and customes of all the people and citties of Italy, which institutions and forme of gouernment, they receiued from *Romulus*.

Now *Romulus* (after he had finished and perfected the walls, ditches, forts of defence, and all other necessary buildings of the Citty of Rome:) ordered and disposed the state of the citty in manner following. First hee deuided the whole multitude of people into three parts or rancks,



ranckes, selecting out of euery of those orders or degrees, How Romulus disposed the cittyzens of Rome into sundry orders and degrees. the chiefeft and worthiest men to gouerne and rule the rest. After this he made a subdiuision, distributing each of those three seuerall parts into ten equall and indifferent portions, and setting as gouernours ouer euery portion the best and most substantiallest men amongst them; hee called the three greater parts Tribes, and the lesser Curia or wardes: the gouernors of the Tribes hee likewise called Tribunes, and the Presidents of the wardes, Centurions: The Curia or wardes were lastly deuided into lesser bands, called Decuria, and their wardens or leaders he named Decurions.

All the people beeing thus deuided into Tribes and wardes, he then made like partition of the land, deuiding The ground deuided into thirty equall parts. it into thirty equall parts or portions, and allotting vnto euery ward their part thereof, he reserved onely so much for himselfe, as was sufficient for him wherein to build Temples and places for sacrifices, leauing also some little in common to them all: And thus this first partition both of the people and ground, wrought a common equalitie amongst them. This done, he made a second diuision of the people onely, giuing vnto euery one stipends and honors, according to the worthinesse and dignity of their persons, and seuering those which were honorably descended, and of approued vertues, and that were wealthy withall, and had issue to inherit after them, from those which were poore, needy and ignoble, hee named those men of basest and meanest condition Plebeians, and the Nobility he called *Patres* or fathers, whereof insued, that the whole discent and posterity of the *Patres*, were euer after them called Patritians.

When *Romulus* had thus seperated the better sort of people



*The office of  
the Patritij.*

*How the Pa-  
tritians and  
Plebeians be-  
haved them-  
selves one to-  
wards an-  
other.*

people from the worse, the rich from the poore, the noble from the ignoble, he then ordained them lawes to liue vnder, allotting vnto euery of them their proper offices and functions, according to their degrees and calling. To the Patritij he gaue power to doe sacrifice, to beare offices, to decide controuerfies, and to see that euery one had his right, to participate with him in the gouernment of the common-weale, and to haue a vigilant regard and prouident respect of the safety of the citty: the Plebeians or comminallty (both for that they were poore and wanted experience) were eased from bearing offices, and onely imploied some in husbandry, some in feeding of cattell, and some in handy-crafts, or other profitable trades. And to the end that all these seuerall sorts of people should liue peaceably, and free from contention one with an other, and neither the poore iniured by the rich, nor the rich enuied by the poore, hee committed the Plebeians to the care of the Patritians, permitting euery one of the comminallty to choose one of the Patritij whom hee pleased, for his Advocate and defendor, calling that a Patronage or protection. And thus the poore being taken into the protection of the Patritians, he instituted for them both, their proper duties one towards an other, which was that the Plebeians should reuerence their patrons, and the patrons defend their clients whom they had taken into protection, and so he vnited them together in friendly affection and ciuill coniunction, making it vn honest and vtterly vnlawfull for either of them to accuse the other, or for the one to giue testimony against the other, or that there should be any hatred or enmity betwixt them; by which meanes, vnity and mutuall concord was most firmly settled and established amongst the Romaines.

*After*



After this hee elected an hundred Councillors, out of the Patritians, the maner of their election was this; First hee himselfe assigned and nominated one to bee his vice-roy, or Lieutenant in the gouernment of the common-wealth, when he went to the warres, out of the confines of his owne country: then hee commanded the Tribes to choose out of euery Tribe three, of the best esteeme amongst them, for grauity, wealth and honor: after which nine so elected by the tribes, he likewise commanded the Curia or wards, that euery warde should choose three of the Patritians, whom they thought most fit for that purpose, which done, adding to the ninety elected by the thirty wards, the nine that were chosen by the three Tribes, and that one chiefe Captaine or Commander assigned by himselfe, they all of them made vp the compleat number of a hundred Councillors, which number of Councillors were by the Romaines in short time after their institution called the Senate of Rome, and they themselues for their reuerence and authority called Fathers, and for their age and grauity Senators: Moreouer after all this, hee elected out of the most generous and renowned families, three hundred yong men, of the choysest and strongest amongst them, which were first prickt and nominated by the suffrages of the Curia or wards, euery warde nominating ten as in the former election of the Senators, and this their election was afterwards by him confirmed: And those three hundred young men stood euer in readinesse about him as a Court of garde to defend his person, and were all of them called by this generall name *Celeres*, for their speedinesse and readinesse at all assayes to execute the Kings command.

*The Centum viri elected, which were after called Senators of Rome.*

*The election of three hundred yong men called Celeres.*

Further.



The office of  
the King.

Furthermore, the offices and duty of the King were prescribed as followeth; First by his authority regall hee was chiefe head and principall gouernor of sacrifices, sepulchers and temples consecrated to diuine seruice, wherein he ought not doe any thing that redounded not to the glory of their gods: next hee was in duty bound to obserue and keepe the lawes and customes of his country, he had also power to sommon a Senate, to assemble the commons, and in military affaires, hee had chiefe Empire and command ouer all: To the Senate was giuen power and commission to heare and determine all complaints and controuersies that were brought before them, which was done by voyces of the Senators, and the sentence was euer giuen on his side that had the most voyces.

The office of  
Senators.

The priuileges  
of the Plebeians.

The Plebeians or cominalty had also these three priuileges, to create Magistrates, to make lawes, and determine of warres when the King was so pleased, nor was this power absolute in themselves, but it must euer bee approved and allowed by the Senate, neither yet had euery person his perticular voyce, but euery warde was called seuerally, and that which was agreed vpon by the maior part of the words, was referred to the consideration of the Senate. But now this manner of giuing voyces is changed and altered in most places, for neither hath the Senate power to discern and giue allowance of the ordinances and decrees of the commons, but rather the commons haue authority to alter or allow the statutes established by the Senate.

The office of  
Celeres.

By this diuision of *Romulus* the three hundred yong men of his garde called *Celeres*, did not onely accomplish his commands in matters concerning the ciuill estate and gouernement of the Citty, but they had also the mana-



managing of military affaires, so as when the King intended to rayse an army, it was needeleffe for him to create Tribunes ouer the Tribes, decurions ouer the wards, or gouernors and præfects of his horse-men: but it was inough for him to commande the Tribunes, and they the centurions, and then the Decurions by their instructions were to bring forth such souldiors as they thought fittest for that purpose, by which meanes they would be altogether in redinesse at an instant: He elected also a thousand fighting-men which (as some write) he called *Milites*, because they were a thousand in number.

And then the more to shew his Maiesty, and to bee thought more honorable in the eyes of his people, hee ascribed and tooke vnto him-selfe tytles, markes and ornaments of Empire and honour, as to goe in sumptuous attyre, and to haue euer going before him twelue Sergeants or Ministers of execution, which hee called *Lictores*, *The Milites elected.* carrying euery one a bunch of rods in their hand: In ordering these Sergeants or executioners to march before him, it may seeme his intent was by them (being in number twelue) to represent the twelue Augures or sooth sayers, which told him by diuination and coniectures of things to come, which manner of diuiners he called *Vultures*, though some bee of opinion that in that ceremony he imitated the Hetrussi or Tuscans, who being Twelue sorts of people in number, when by generall consent they elected a cheefe Magistrate, that should haue the soueraigntie ouer them, euery one of those twelue Trybes or sorts of people, would present vnto their gouernor such a Sergeant, Bedell or apparytor, to make way before him, and to bee euer in redinesse for execution of any proiect, *The lictores ordayed.*  
from



from whence likewise were vndoubtedly deryued the little Chariots with chaires of estate in them, wherein the Romaine Kings vsed to ride: their kirtles or robes which they wore vnder their mantles of estate, and all their other ensignes and ornaments of honour: Now *Romulus* the better to settle, secure and strengthen the state of this Citty, invented and deuised this honest pretence and stratagem following (intending it wholly to the honour of his Gods) for he erected and builded vp a Temple, or Church in a darke and shadowed place, into which if any stranger did fly and take sanctuary hee would vndertake and secure them (in argument of the awe and reuerence he bore vnto his Gods) that their enemies should not wronge, molest or disturbe them, promising further that if they would stay with him hee would make them partakers of the priuileges of his Citty, and giue them a portion of the ground which hee had gotten by the warrs to liue vpon: Then did hee make an institution that no citty gotten by the sword, should bee vtterly ruinated and destroyed, or brought into bondage and slavery, but that there should bee colonies and competent companies of people sent thither from Rome, answerable to the quantity of ground so gotten, there to inhabite and dwell, and that those conquered Citties, should bee accounted as vnder Citties vnto Rome, and within the compasse of the common-weale.

*Lawes made  
by Romulus.*

But after the death of *Titus Tatius* (which whome *Romulus* raigned siue yeares both ouer the Sabinians and the Romaines who were then vnited together into one people) hee began to bee more religious, and instituted diuers new statutes and decrees as well priuat as publike.

first



first hee made a law concerning Matrimony, that the wife should haue equall power with her husband ouer all their mony and goods, and as much authority in their sacrifices, and that shee should liue in as good sort as her husband and be called Mistris ouer the house, as well as he Maister, and that if hee dyed without Issue his wife should succeed him, and inherite all his goods and possessions, and if hee left children behinde him, yet shee should haue an equall share with them: That if shee were conuicted of adultery it should bee lawfull for her husband or his kinsfolke to kill her, and that if she drinke any wine at her owne house, shee should bee punished as an adultresse: by meanes of which institution, arose this custome amongst the Romanes, that the husbands when they had beene a broode and came home to their houses, should imbrace and kisse their wiues and daughters, of purpose (as *Portius Cato* interpreteth it) to smell whether they had drunke any wine, thereby approuing, that as corruption is the beginning of madnesse, and frenzie, so is drunkennesse the forerunner of rottennesse and corruption.

Then hee ordayned that parents should haue full power ouer their children, to dispose of them as they pleased, to restrayne and keepe them vader, to beate them and bynde them and set them to all drudgery, yea it was lawfull for them to slay them, or sell them for slaues, and if any were sold by his father, and of him selfe regained his liberty, his father might sell him againe, and againe after that, if hee were so disposed; The contents of this law was three hundred yeares after the institution thereof written in twelue tables, but yet the rigor and authority was first mitigated and abridged by *Numa Pompilius*, next King

*Wives made  
equall to their  
husbands.*

*It was Death  
for a woman to  
drinke wine*

*What power  
parents had ouer  
their children.*



to *Romulus*, for he ordained, that if the sonne did marry by his fathers consent, all the authority his father had ouer him before, was then extinct; from this seuerelaw *Romulus* proceeded to other ordinances, establishing that no free-man should exercise any arte or occupation, wherein his worke was done sitting, as Taylers, Shoemakers, Scribes, &c. and that the Cittizens should practise themselves in husbandry, as well as in martiall discipline, whereby in after-times it was a great commendation for one to be accounted both a good souldier and a good husbandman, for the King thought it a point of great imperfection, in any man, to be ignorant in either of these exercises, but that to be skilfull in manuring and tilling the ground, and expert in feats of armes, should inseperably go together, according to the law of the Lacedemonians, and in time of peace his will was that they should wholly giue themselves to husbandry, permitting them notwithstanding to buy and make prouision of such things they wanted, when necessity constrained them therevnto. And in argument that hee was not vnmindfull of matters of religion, hee ordained and made Temples, Altars, and Images of the gods, adding there-vnto festiuall dayes, and times of solemnity, oblations, sacrifices, holydayes, fayres and martes, wherein as well to buy any thing they wanted, as also to vnderstand their lawes and many other things, pertaining to the honor of their gods, excluding notwithstanding out of the cittie all forraine and out-landish sacrifices, and especially those which were solemnized after the ceremonies of the Greekes, those onely excepted which were dedicated and celebrated in honour of *Hercules*, and were long since instituted in the dayes of *Euander*.

*Dionisius*



*Dionysius Halicarnassens*, following the opinion of *Varro* herein, saith that *Romulus* ordained three score priests to make publike sacrifices, through euery tribe and euery ward, annexing vnto them as their assistants, the diuiners and soothsaiers: euery ward likewise had his proper Genius, or spirit, which they supposed did defend them, and their proper ministers to doe sacrifice vnto them: but the goddesse *Vesta* was generally worshipped of all.

And lastly hee deuided and digested the yeere into tenne monthes, by all which ordinances and decrees it may easily bee gathered and plainly perceiued that *Romulus* was most skilfull and expert in all matters both diuine and humaine, and that they detract much from his glory and wisdom, which report that the people of Rome liued without morality amongst themselves, or religion towards their gods, vntill the raigne of *Numa Pompilius*. And these were the ciuil institutions ordained by *Romulus*.

But *Numa Pompilius* that afterwards succeeded him in the Kingdome, in some part altered and in some part added vnto his Statutes, and first in following the course of the Moone, hee disposed the yeere into twelue monthes, whereas before *Romulus* made it to consist but of tenne, and altering the order of the monethes, hee set Ianuary and February before March (whereas till that time March was the first month and the beginning of the yeere) and so hee made March for to bee the third in order and ranke: Next hee appointed some daies to bee festiuall and holy, and some other as disinal, ominous and vnluckie, wherein he would not any way meddle with the people or beginne any businesse.

*Numa Pompilius and his lawes.*



After this hee created one chiefe Flamin or Priest to doe sacrifice to *Iupiter*, whom he called (*Dialis*) and honored him with a roabe of dignity and chaire of state, hee then created two other priests, one to sacrifice to *Mars* and the other to *Romulus*, and these were also called *Flamines*, for the caps of honour which they wore vpon their heads: moreouer he elected the Virgine *Vestals*, which for the first ten yeeres did nothing but learne the rites and manner of sacrificing, the next ten yeeres they spent in doing sacrifice themselves, and the third ten yeeres they taught and instructed nouisses and fresh commers into that profession, and then at the thirtith yeeres end it was in their choise, whether they would mary or continue still in that course of life.

And those Virgin *Vestals* were maintained at the common cost of the City, and reuerenced with titles of perpetual virginity, and other ceremonies, but if any of them were conuicted of incest, her sentence was sorrowfully pronounced by the Citizens, that shee should bee set quicke in the ground, at the gate called *Collina*, which is in the hill *Quirinalis* and there couered with earth till shee were dead. Hee dedicated also vnto *Mars* twelue other priests which hee called *Salij*, whose office was vpon certaine daies in the month of March (which tooke his name of the god *Mars*) to lead a solemne dance in some of the principall places of the City, they were cloathed with coates of diuers collours, and their vppermost garments were red and changeable, they had swords by their sides hanging in brazen belts, in their right hand they carried launces and rods, and brazen bucklers in their left, and vpon their heads they wore high hats waxing sharpe towards the crowne.

These



These priests which for their solemne dancing the Romaines called Sallij( according to the opinion of *Dionysius*) did little differ from the Coribantes or Sibilles priests, which the Greekes called Curetes : finally he created a Bishop or high priest, to whom he gaue supreme authority ouer all infreior priests, and in him it lay to appoint what oblations should bee offred, vpon what daies and in what Temples. Besides all these holy orders of priests and religious persons, hee ordained the Feciales or her-  
The Feciales  
ordained.  
 raulds to denounce warre or peace, and they were to haue a speciall regard that the Romanes should not make warres against any vniustly, and if the Romaines were iniured or robbed by any others, these Feciales were to require restitution of the goods wrongfully taken and detained, but if they denied to make restitution, then were they to denounce open war against them.

Their power was likewise to deliuer offenders to bee punished, to those whose goods they had iniuriously taken, if wronge were offered to Legats or Ambassadors, they were to correct it, and if the causes were honest and iust, they might conclude a peace, and breake it againe if it appeared that the League was vnlawfully established.

And if either the captaine, or chiefe conductor of the army, or the whole army in generall, had done any thing contraty to their oths and alleagance, in them it rested wholly to punish the offence.

This done he limited their times of mourning, commanding that the death of infants vnder three yeeres old, should not bee lamented at all, and that for elder children they should bewaile them as many monthes as they were yeeres old, so as it exceeded not ten monthes,



which was the vttermost time prescribed for mourning for any ones death.

When *Numa Pompilius* had established these lawes, for the gouernment of the common-wealth, he then seuered and distributed the people into sundry companies and societies, according to their arts and profession, as minstrels, crafts-men, head-carpenters, dyers, shoemakers, tanners, masons, potters, &c. making of diuers of those arts one fraternitie or bodie politicke. *Seruius Tullius* deuided the whole multitude of citizens into sundry orders, ranckes or armies, which he called *Classes*, and into centuries or bands consisting of a hundred men, the manner of his disposition of them was thus.

The people deuided into sundry bands called *Classes*, and centuries.

The first *Classis*.

In the first order or degree he inroled those who were taxed in their subsidie bookes at a hundred thousand *Asses*, and of this order there was fourescore centuries, consisting indifferently of young men and old, so as the old men should euer remaine at home to saue and defend the city, and the youth were to try the fortune of warres abroad; he then commanded them both, to weare armor and weapons both of defence & of offence, as helmets, shields, priuie-coates and bootes to defend themselues, and speares and swords to offend the enemy: to this first ranke or degree hee added two centuries of workemen, or pioners, which were to cast trenches, build rampiers, and to make all their engines and instruments of warre, and they euer went vnarmed, to bee alwaies in redinesse for any labor.

The second *Classis*.

The second order or degree consisted of twentie centuries, and were such as were taxed betwixt seuentie five and a hundred thousand *Asses*, they were deuided into young and old as the former order, and tollerated

to



to weare the same armor and weapons the other did, saue onely the coate of fence which they might not weare.

The third order was of such as were taxed at fifty thousand Asses, & they consisted of as many centuries as the other, and did nothing differ from them in their weapons, sauing that they wore no bootes.

*The third order or Classis.*

The fourth order was taxed at five and twenty thousand asses, and they wore no other weapons but little Iauelins or darts. And the fift and last degree consisted of thirty centuries, their warlike weapons were slings and stones, and they were valued at forty thousand, and with these were cessed and taxed the cornetters and trumpeters, which were three centuries in number, the rest whose substance was but small, hee both spared from the wars, by reason of their pouerty, and remitted their tribute.

*The fourth classis.*

*The fift and last degree.*

After this diuision he ministred an oth to the Citizens, that they should make a iust estimation of their goods, and declare out of what family & stocke they were descended, what children they had, and of what age and by what names they were called, and whether any of them had wiues, and where euery of them dwelt: and if any of them dealt doubly with him, and falsified their othes and fidelity, all their goods were (*ipso facto*) confiscate and taken from them, and they themselues first whipped and then sold for slaues.

The companies of footmen being thus distributed, hee elected out of the chiefeest of the Citizens, nine orders of horsmen, so as the whole number of horseme reckoning those that were ordained by *Romulus*, and those which were afterwards added by *Tarquinius*, were now two and twenty centuries: to euery centuary hee allowed ten thousand peeces of money out of the common treasury.



treasury, to buy them horses, and two thousand peeces a yeere to keepe them, besides, all the widdowes of the city paide vnto the horsemen yeerely pensions towards their better maintainance, euery one according to her ability: And so all the whole number of horsmen and footemen were a hundred ninty and three centuries, and euery century kept their place and dignity in giuing their voices, & they that were best able bore the greatest charge in the warres, and gaue their voices first. For *Seruius* thought it fitter that the centuries should pay tribute according as they were valued, and not perticularly by the pole, as they did before.

The centuries of horsemen were to mingle their voices, amongst the centuries of the first ranke of footemen, which were fourescore centuries as is saide before, and so *Dionysius* reckoneth, that there were fourescore and eigh-teene centuries, that had the first place in giuing their voices, which were more then all the centuries of the other orders, whereof insues, that what euer was concluded by the suffrages of the first order, was immutable, but if the voices of the first degree were deuided, which happened but seldome, then the centuries of the second order were called, and if they could not agree, then the others after them in their course, but it was very rare that euer it should come to the centuries of the last order.

And thus by the wisdom of King *Tullius*, all the orders seemed to haue an equality of voices, but yet the priority was granted to those which were at greatest charge, and though none were excluded, yet was all in a manner done by the centuries of the first order, and the *equites* or horsmen: For they created magistrates whom they pleased, they established lawes and denounced wars, which



which three priuiledges and prerogatiues were before by *Romulus* giuen to the Plebeians or communalty.

But when *Taquin* the last Romaine King, was deposed and banished Rome, the forme of this gouernment was cleane altered and changed: for in steed of Kings they created Consuls, who had all the types and ornaments of honour giuen vnto them, that the Kings had before, sauing onely the crowne, and the gowne wrought with palmes, which the Kings vsed to weare after they had atchiued any conquest: And when *Brutus*, the defender of their liberties, was by the voices of the centuries made fellow Consul with *Collatinus*, hee bound the Citizens by an oth, that they should neuer after that suffer any one man to raigne ouer them as their King: Then hee ordained three hundred Senators, and one chiefe ruler ouer the sacrifices, whose office was to performe all things belonging to sacrifices, that the King before was wont to doe.

*The Kings put  
downe and  
Senators or  
dained.*

*Valerius* (who was the third Consul) permitted it lawfull to appeale from the Consuls to the communalty, forbidding vnder paine of death that no one should accept of any office, without the consent of the commons, and that the Citizens should bee eased of tribute, which made men more willing to fall to trading and other labours; adding therevnto an other law, whereby it was present death for any one to affect any kinde of gouernment for his owne priuate profit: Hee then appointed the Temple of *Saturae* to bee the common treasury, wherein to keepe the reuenewes of the City, and suffered the people to create two Treasurers, or Chamberlanes, to see the disposing thereof: Not longe after this they agreed to haue such a magistrate, as from whom



The Dictator  
elected.

they might not appeale, and him they called a Dictator, (*a dictando*) by reason of the authority hee had to command, or rather (*a dicendo*) because he was not elected by the voices of the people, but by him onely that bore the chiefest sway in the city.

In ordayning this high office of Dictatorship, the Romanes may seeme to haue imitated the Greekes, who (as *Theophrastus* writeth in his booke *De regno*) were wont to make certaine chiefe officers whom they called *Esimneteres*, to rule ouer them for a time limited. For the Dictator of Rome continued in his place and dignity but halfe a yeere, and was neuer created but in time of warre, or other imminent danger of the Citie, and then hee had power to elect new magistrates and officers vnder him, as the maister or captaine of the horsmen, who in authority was next vnto him, especially ouer the horsemen and best souldiors, and was assistant to the Dictator as the Tribune was to the King: And when *Spurius Cassius*, and *Posthumius Cominius* were Consuls, they gaue the people commission, to choose them magistrates of great reuerence and authority, to bee their protectors against the violence of the Consuls, expressely forbidding that no Patritian should take that office vpon him, and these high officers were called the Tribunes of the people.

Tribunes of  
the people or-  
dained.

These Tribunes grew in short time so proude and insolent, as they would cassire and make voide the decrees of the Consuls and Senate at their pleasure, vnlesse they agreed with their humors, and of them at the first (whether it were by general consent, or foreshewed by diuination, or whether religion mooued them) were but two in number created, shortly after there was an other added to them, and in the end they came to bee five.

There



There was in Rome three sorts of Parliaments, or societies of people to chuse officers: the first called *Curiata*, or assembly of the wards, which was euer summoned by the Lictors or Sergeants: the second *Centuriata*, which was of such as were diuided into sundry Centuries or degrees, according to their age and abilitie, as is said before: and to this they were called by a trumpeter or cornetter. And the third was of such as dwelt in diuers parts of the country, & payd tribute vnto the cittie. By the Parliament or conuocation-house of the Centuries, where the Consuls put downe, and the *Decemviri* created, to whom all the power and Empirie of the Senate descended, euen as the authority of the Consuls was first deriued from the Kings: nor was it lawfull in any case, to appeale from them. These *Decemviri* when they went about to make any new lawes, would do it in this manner: first, one of them had a whole day allowed him to consider what was fitting to be don; in which day he bore the greatest authority, and when hee had set downe his opinion in writing, the next day was allowed for another, and to haue the like prime place in gouernement: and so likewise the rest euery one his seuerall day: and when euery one had had his day, and their opinions, and doings written in seuerall tables, and layd before them altogether, they then collected and confirmed what they thought good out of euery ones sentence, and so calling them the lawes of the ten tables, they published them to the people.

And there went euer before him, that had the chiefest Iurisdiction, twelue men carrying bundels of roddes, and the other nine had euery one his Vsher going before him.

But this kind of gouernement continued not long,  
for

*The Decemviri created, and Consuls put downe.*



for euen as the power and authority of the Tribunes was vtterly banished out of the citie by the Decemviri, so (vp-pon mature consideration) it seemed good to the Patricians, that the Tribunes in requitall should extinguish and put downe theirs. And then was there a law ordained, that whatsoeuer was decreed by the Plebeians, should go currant through all the people: and if any one hindred or impeached the Tribunes or Aediles in their iudgements, his head should be sacrificed to *Iupiter*, and his whole family that were free, should be sold for slaues at the Temple of *Ceres*.

The two Cen-  
sors created.

After this there was another Councell created out of the Plebeians, and then was it made lawfull and tolerable for the Plebeians to marry, and enter into consanguinitie with the Patricians. Besides these, there were created two Censors, who had the charge ouer the Scribes, the keeping of the tables, and the order and forme of taxing, and leuying of money, and mustering souldiers committed vnto them.

This pettie office beeing but meane at the first institution, grew in proceesse of time to an incredible height, in so much as the whole raines of correction and ciuill discipline, were in conclusion let loose into their hands: for the gouernement of the Senate, the Equites and Centurians, were so curbed and restrained, as they had power onely to decide controuersies touching honour and reproch: and in the Censors consisted the chiefeest soueraignty, as to view and ouersee publike places, to giue pensions to the people, and againe to taxe them with exactions and tribute: to consecrate sacrifices euery fift yeare for the purgation of the cittie, to displace and thrust the Senators out of the cittie, or to defame them: and these continued in  
their



their office for five yeares, and then new were created in their roomes. Then was there another Magistrate created to heare and determine matters, whom they called a Prætor, and to him was committed power and authoritie, o-  
uer all publike and priuate dealings, and to constitute and ordaine new lawes and statutes, and to abrogate and repeale the old: Of these Prætors there was first but one created, and he was called *Urbanus Prætor*, because he had the gouernement of the cittizens, to whome (he alone beeing not able to vndergo so great a burthen, by reason of the great accessse of strangers that daily resorted thither to dwell) there was afterwards another Prætor added, and him they called *Prætor peregrinus*, as hauing the charge ouer aliens and strangers, and this kind of gouernement was called *Ius honorarium*, for the great honour and dignitie that belonged to the Magistrates: for they had all the ensignes and ornaments attributed vnto them, that before belonged to the Kings, and their apparel and furniture was almost equall to the Consuls.

*A Prætor ordained.*

In this state did the cittie of Rome continue vntil *Iulius Cæsars* time, who reduced the gouernement into a Monarchie againe, by taking vppon him the name of *Imperator*, which kind of gouernement by Emperors did long after continue, and then began to be celebrated at Rome the playes called *Ludi Circenses*, the solemnitie whereof was thus: The whole traine of Players issuing orderly from out the Capitoll, passed by the *forum*, into a great circle or rundle of ground, like a theater, made for the Spectators to behold the games; And first went the sonnes of the *E- quites*, that for age, strength, and agilitie were most fit for exercises, both on foote and horsebacke, riding vppon horses, and distinguished by their companies and Centu-  
ries,

*The manner of celebration of the games called Ludi Circenses.*



ries, to shew vnto strangers and forrainers, the great hope the citty conceined of her future happinesse, by the exceeding aptnes and towardnes of their youth: after them followed the wagoners with chariots, some drawn with foure horses, and some with two, and some others leading little low horses, that would stand without the bridle.

And after them followed the champions that were to try the masteries, as wrastring, running, and the whirlabout, called *Cestus*, which was done with plummets of lead, being all of them naked sauing their priuities, then followed the troupe of dancers, leapers and vaulters in their companies, the men first, the young striplings after, and then the children: in the next ranke vnto these followed the trumpetters and minstrels, some playing vpon flutes, some vpon pipes, and some with a kind of luory harpes with 7. strings called Dulcimers: the leapers and vaulters were apparelled in red coates, girded in the wast with brazen belts, and swords at their sides, and the mens swords were shorter then the others, they had also brazen helmets, & great plumes of fethers: before euery company went men that were skilfull in those kind of exercises, to shew them the maner of that dancing and skipping, and other more violent and warlike motions, by words in meeter consisting of foure syllables. They practised also the Enoplian dancing, otherwise called the Pyrrhichian dauncing, inuented (as is supposed) by *Pallas*, though some of a contrarie opinion thinke, that the Curetes were the first authors of that kind of dancing. Then followed the troupe of the *Satyrisci* with an Enoplian dance: these *Satyrisci* were figured into *Sileni* and *Satyres*, and they vsed taunting and scoffing motions in their dancing, & had also a consort of musick following after them. Then went there a company with cen-  
fors



fors in their hands, casting round about them sweet odors, amongst whom were diuers that carried vpon their shoulders the images of their gods, all gilded with gold and silver: and last of all followed the chiefe Magistrates of the city, attended with great troupes, making shew by their easie pace, and demure lookes, of great deuotion & religion. The place or circuit of ground appointed for both these sort of dancers to practise in, was three *Stadia* and a halfe in length, and foure akres in breadth: so that whole compasse of ground lying betwixt *Pallatinum* and *Auentinum*, hauing gates in three seuerall places to go in and out, was able to hold an hundred & fifty thousand spectators, which were orderly placed vpon Skaffolds round about the Theater: there were also acted within this Theater diuers Interludes, the beginning whereof at Rome was thus: there were certaine fencers, or such as could flourish a two-hand sword, sent for from *Hetruria*, who dancing there after the stroke of the musick, made diuers sorts of motions after the Tuscan manner: these fencers or dancers, the youth of Rome did afterwards imitate, pronouncing at the first their iests & deuises in harsh verses, their motions also being as disagreeable, as their voyces were vtuneable, but in tract of time, by much practise, they came to more perfection: so as they were as cunning in those exercises, as the *Hetrurians*, and then the professors thereof were called *Histriones*; for *Hister* in the Tuscan tounge, is *Ludio* in Latine, which signifieth a player: and in time they vtterly abandoned those disorderly and confused kind of verses, which they vsed at the beginning, as most scurrill and dishonest, and beganne to settle themselues to more ciuill & decent motions, pronouncing their speeches & Satyrs with more harmony, and singing pricke-song to their instruments.

*Lucius*



*Lucius Andronicus* digressing somewhat from these Satyres, deuised fables vnto their arguments, and caused the to be pronounced with a low voice, hee appointed a boy also to sing before the minstrell, and at his side hee set the players to act their parts, and so by little and little it grew from a ridiculous toy to be an art, and then the Romaine youth leauing off the dancing and mimicke actions, vsed by the *Histriones*, or players, fell to acting of Comedies composed in good verses, and this was the beginning of their fables and merry interludes, and these kind of playes being deriued from the people called *Osci* in Campania, were euer after put in vse, and the *histriones* forbidden the practise of those sorts of playes.

Now the Romanes deuised their Emperors.

Now the manner how the Senate and people of Rome did consecrate and deifie their dead Emperours, was thus: first (as *Herodianus* writeth) they placed in the portall or entrance into the Emperors pallace, an image made like vnto the dead Emperor, vppon a bed of iuorie decked and garnished with gold, so as the image lay vppon the bed pale and wan like one that were sicke; and about the bed vppon the left hand, for the most part of the day, sate all the Senate attired in blacke, and the Noble mens wiues vpon the right hand in white, (for white was then vsed by women for mourning attire) and they then vsed no curiositie at all in their apparell: and thus they did for seuen dayes together: the Phisitians all that while visiting the Image, as though it had life, and telling them that his death was neare approching: at the end of the seuen dayes (as though the Emperour had then died) all the youth of the Order of the *Equestri* and Senatours, carried the bed betwixt them, whereon the image lay, by the way called *sacra via*, where none might passe but liuing Priests and dead



dead Emperors vnto the *Forum*, and there placing it in the pulpit, wherein they vsed to pleade and make orations, a great sort of boyes and girles of the order of the *Patricii*, (the whole company being orderly placed on each side of the pulpit) did sing in a mournefull and lamentable Ditty certaine hymnes in commendation of the dead Emperor. Then did they carry the Iuorie bed with the Image on it from the *forum*, to *campus Martius*, (which is a field nere Rome, wherein they vsed all manner of exercises) and there placed it vppon a high throne of estate made of wood, and foure square, and rising higher by degrees, and narrower towards the top, in manner of a watch-tower, all the troupe being decked in gold and purple, and adorned with images and ensigns of iuorie, and diuers other pictures: within the hollownesse of which throne was set a great pile of dry wood: then was the image placed vpon the second step or degree of the throne, with all sorts of odors and sweet perfumes, which were brought thither from all parts of the cittie, and the noblest young men of the Order of the *Equestri*, clothed and attired in linnen garments, rode round about the throne with a Pyrrhichian motion, and solempne gate, and with them all the Nobility in chariots and coaches: and last of all the successor of the deceased Emperor brought a torch readie light, and deliuered it to the people, who set the pile on fire at the bottome of the throne. And when the fire began to burne, they had a deuise, that an Eagle should fly out frō the top of the building, which wilfully and foolishly they supposed to bee the soule of the Emperor, flying and ascending into heauen, & all the Roman Emperors that were consecrated by these absurd ceremonies, they euer after superstitiously honored as gods: And thus much of the state of the cittie. All parts of Italy be



be now perfect and religious Christians, and obseruers of the ceremonies of the Romane Church, some few excepted, which dwell in the vttermost part towards Greece, which indeed be more then halfe Grecians: no man may haue more wiues then one, from whom they may not bee diuorced, but by the permission of the bishop of Rome. The eldest sons of Princes and Noble-men inherit their fathers possessions, but amongst priuate men all the issue male do equally inherit, so as they be legitimate, (like our gauelkind in Kent:) The law of Italy is of three sorts: first, the spirituall law, wherof the Bishop is head, then the Emperors law, which is generall ouer all, and the particular lawes and orders of each seuerall city: which particular customes do much differ one from another, & yet all concur for the good gouernment of their cities. In some cities the examination of all ciuill matters, is committed vnto certaine Iudges, and in some againe to the Magistrates of the same city, for euery cittie hath not one & the same forme of gouernement. The chiefeft of the Nobility of Italy addict themselues vnto the wars, and the meaner sort vnto learning: & to be a priest is a more venerable title, then to be a Nobleman: for of al learned men, the Diuines be best esteemed, and next vnto them the Lawyers: the Phisitions liue in greater wealth then admiration: & Mathematicians, Logicians, Astronomers, and Poets, bee more famous amongst themselues, then amongst the people, but Gram-marians of all others be lesse esteemed, who only liue and dye among children. Merchants liue now in as great fame as euer they did, and painters, caruers of images, and bell-founders be better esteemed then husbandmen; although husbandry in times past was preferred before al trades. The Romans of all the Italians be most giuen to breeding cat-tell,



tell, and yet they busie not themselves therewithall, but haue them looked to and kept by strangers and hirelings.

Their fashions in apparell are not euery where alike, for *The apparel of the Italians.* the Venetians go sumptuously in long loose garments, and the cittizens of Venice more rich then other citties of that state. The Florentines and Hetrurians bee very neate and ciuill in their attire, but not so costly as the Venetians, but about Millain, and in Aemilia and Liguria, they go very gallant, but their garments be shorter then in Venice. And the Courtiers of Rome excell them all in length of their garments and variety of colours, but the cittizens of Rome be more sparing and frugall, yet fine enough, and especially the women: and in the Realme of Naples, they go neate but not so gorgeous, and strange fashions bee there in more request then their owne. In all other partes of Italy their apparell is more simple and plaine, but of sundry fashions and altering euery day: In Aemilia and al Cisalpine France the better sort of women imitate the Spaniards in their apparel, and the Noblemen the French. The women of Rome of late do much affect the Tuscan fashion, and the Venetian Ladies were wont to lay open their brests, armes, and shoulders, but now degenerating from their owne customes, and following the Spaniards, they couer all with loose sleeues: The auncient Romane coyne and images of mettall, do argue, that the Italians were wont to go euer bare headed, and bare legged, al but souldiers, and that in time of wars only, but now they vse both hats and stockings, & the custome of covering their heads may seeme to be deriued from some other country.

In times past they vsed no placards, nor stomachers, as as by the proportions of their old statutes and pictures may be gathered, but now that attire is much taken vppe



by the Romaine youth. The language now vsed in Italy is not the same it was heretofore, nor altogether differing from it, but growne more barbarous, and composed of diuers languages, according to the sundry sorts of people, that haue possessed the Prouinces: for they which dwell about the shore of Histria, speak the Venetian tounge, which is very eloquent and graue, but compounded of sundrie tongs (and so is euery seuerall speech in Italy) yet heretofore it was more simple, and not so pleasant to the eare, as now it is. In Corinth they haue a mixt language, and somewhat different from the Italian tounge: but it is not so harsh in sound, as the speech vsed in Taruifium, Patauium, Verona, Vicentia, Mantua, and Ferrara, and in all of them the citizens vse finer termes than the country-men: but in Cisalpine France they be almost meere strangers to the Italian tong, though otherwise there is no gallanter a country in all Italy. Their speech in Rauenna, Ariminum, Pisaurum, Fauentia, Bononia, Flaminia, and throughout all Aemilia, is very Rhetoricall, and the Tuscans speech is very concise, like as it is in Laconia, and soundeth better in strangers mouths then their owne: moreouer, at Rome by reason of the great concourse of people, that flock thither daily from all parts, their language is well improued. The Piceni, the Sabines, and Marfi speak thick & short, & in Vmbria, Apulia, and Lucania, together with the Brutii and Samnites, and the rest of Italy their speech is more barbarous, and but little borrowing of strange languages, sauing that in the Realm of Naples they much affect the Spanish tong. And to conclude with the opinion of *Antonius Sabellicus* herein, in his 11. *Aenead*, and first booke: *Search* (saith he) *throughout all Italy, and you shal find no one people, sittie, nor Prouince, but they somewhat differ in language one from another.*

Of



*Of Liguria, and of the ancient manners of the  
Inhabitants of that country.*

## CAP. 19.



**LIGURIA**, a mountenous Prouince of Italy, is situated betwixt the riuers Varus and Macra, hauing on the one side the hill Appennine, and the riuier Po on the other, and so adioyneth vnto Tuscia. The chiefe citty of this Prouince is Genoua: this contry was called Liguria, of *Lygistus* the sonne of *Phaeton*, by turning Y into V, (as *Fabius Pictor* is of opinion.) The first inhabitants of this countrie (as *Thucydides* supposeth) were people called Siculi, who once inhabited a great part of Italy, and beeing thence expelled by those people of Italy, called the Oenotrians, they seated themselues in the ile of Sicily: The people of this Country liue very painefully and hardly, for their grounds be ouer-grown with thicke woods, the trees whereof be maruellous good timber for shippes, and of such a thicknesse, as they be eight foote square at the least, for which cause many be employed in felling of woods, and breaking of timber, and many others in ridding their grounds from stones, whereof they haue such store, as they can hardly plough or dig for them, by which meanes although they take great paines, yet recciue they but smal profit of their great labour, whereof it proceedeth, and from their sparing diet, that their bodies be generally very leane, but strong withall, and the women as well able, and as much accustomed to vndergo any labour, as the man: They be much giuen to hunting of wild beasts, the flesh whereof supplieth their wants of fruites and graine, & by



reason of their continuall snowes, and often hunting and running ouer craggie and steepe mountaines, they be both nimble and strong: their chiefe diet is either the flesh of wild beasts, or home-bred cattell, and their drinke is for the most part water: many of them also liue vppon such herbes and rootes as their country affords, being in a manner destitute both of bread and wine, the most necessarie nourishments, & profitablest prouision for mankind: their beds for the most part is the bare ground, without couerture of either house or coate, vnles they repose themselves in such hollow caues, as nature hath prouided for them: & this is their maner of life which they haue euer vsed. Their women moreouer, be as strong as other countrie men, & the strength of their men is almost equall vnto beasts. And the report is, that the gallant and lusty French-men haue bin often foiled in single conflicts, by these leane and macilent Ligurians: their armor is more light then the Romanes, their souldiers coates be short, and their sheelds long. Some of them also weare Beares skins, and Lyons skins, and arming swords, & some haue altered their weapons and armor to the fashion of the Romaines, whome they haue imitated in that point. They be a cruell & stoute people, and exceeding ingenious, not onely in warlike affaires, but in all other businesses: at this day they be much giuen to merchandize, and trauelling by sea, wherein they be so expert and hardie, as they will saile by the maine sea of Lybia and Sardinia, in hulkes or cockboates, so badly rigged and furnished, as in any mans iudgement, they are not able to brooke the sea; willingly opposing themselves to all dangers of the sea, which be so many as they bee oftentimes in extreame hazard in stormes and tempestuous weather to be cast away.

They



This people (as *Sabellicus* writeth in his first booke and 7. Aenead) is yet so proud, rebellious, and reuengefull, as they haue much exercised the Romanes in warres, to their no little preiudice. Their chiefe victuals at this day is flesh, milke, and drinke made of barley.

*Of Tuscia, and of the ancient manners  
of the Tuscans.*

CAP. 20.



**TUSCIA**, a famous country in Italy, was so called of their sacrifices: (as some suppose) for the Greeke word *Thuein* doth signifie to sacrifice, or else of the latine word *Thus*, which signifieth Frankincense, by reason that Frankincense is much vsed in sacrifices. Other ancient Writers are of opinion, that it was called Tuscia, of *Tusculus*, the sonne of *Hercules*. It was once called *Tyrrhenia*; but whether it was so called of *Tyrrhenus*, the sonne of *Atis*, or of the sonne of *Hercules* and *Omphales*, or (as some others affirme) of the sonne of *Telephus*, who conducted Colonies into that country, it resteth doubtfull and vncertaine. *Dionysius* will needes haue it to be called Tuscia, of those circles made without the walles of citties, for men to solace themselves in, called *Tyrres*, which is a manner of building the Tuscans much vse. The Romanes call the people of this nation, sometimes Tuscans, and sometimes *Hetruscans*, but the Greekes call them *Tyrrheni*.

The ancient wealth of this people is well declared by the name of their sea, stretching all along by the side of Italie,



and also by the confines of their country, extending from the Tuscan to the Adriaticke sea, and in a manner to the top of the Alpes: so that it is manifest, that all that compasse of ground that lyeth betwixt the Alpes and Appennine, was once inhabited by the Vmbri, who were thence eiected by the Tyrrheni, and the Tyrrheni by the French: the French were likewise displaced by the Romans; and the Romaines by the Longobards, who lastly left their name vnto that nation: so as for as much as concerneth their name, all those which were called Latini, Vmbri, and Ausones, were once called by the Greekes by this generall name Tyrrheni. There be some hold opinion, that the city Tyrrhena, is that which is now called Rome. These people of Tyrrhenia were of an exceeding strength, & of large dominions, and erected many stately and rich citties: they were also very strong by sea, insomuch as they were lords thereof so long, till the Italian sea had lost his name, and was by them called the Tyrrhen sea. They be able likewise to make an infinit army of footmen fit for the warres, and they were the first that inuented the trumpet, which is so necessarie an instrument for the wars, and by them is called *Tyrrhenum*. They giue and ascribe many honors and titles of dignity vnto their Captains, & conductors of their armies, as Liētors, or Sergeants to go before them, to do execution vpon offenders, litle drayes or carts made like chariots, with chaires of estate, which they called *Prætextæ*, and Officers called *Fasces*, that carry bundels of rods before them, an Iuorie scepter, and many other things: besides, they may haue porches or galleries annexed to their horses, for their seruants and attendants to sit and repose themselues in, which kind of building was afterwards imitated by the Romanes, and by them bettered, & translated into



into their Common-wealth. The Tuscans be great scholars, and much giuen to diuinity, but more to the studie of naturall Philosophie; wherein, and in the interpretation of the thunder and lightning, and in the art of Southsaying, they excell all others so farre, as at this day they be admired throughout all the world, and their wise-men much sought vnto. Moreouer, they be very expert in their sacrifices, insomuch as the Romaines which haue euer beene very studious and carefull, not onely to maintaine and uphold, but to increase and augment the true and sincere Religion, did send yearly (by the decree of the Senate) vnto the Tuscans, ten of their chiefe Princes and Magistrates sons, there to be instructed in their manner of sacrificing.

From thence came vnto the Romanes that vaine and idle talke of euill spirits: And from thence likewise came the celebration of the Feasts of *Bacchus*, which by the consent of all good men, & due punishmēt inflicted vpon the first authors and inuentors, is now vtterly rooted out of Italy, as a thing most pernicious and hurtfull. The ground in this countrie is sufficient fruitfull, yet by their studie or industrie it is much amended. They eate vsually twise a day, and then they fare very daintily, and feed liberally, vsing to couer their tables with curious carpets, and fine table cloths, distinguished and set with flowers, cups of gold of sundrie fashions to drinke in, and great store of ministers and seruants to attend vppon them, which are not all slaues, but many of them free-men and cittizens: This people is generally more superstitious then warlike.



Of Galatia in Europe, and of the old  
customes of that country.

CAP. 21.



Galatia why so  
called.

**GA**LATIA, a spacious countrie in Europe, lyeth (as *Diodorus Siculus* writeth) beyond that part of France called Celtica, and extendeth South-ward to the Ocean, and the shore adioyning, and to the hil of Hircinia in Germany, and from the bounds of Ister or Danubius, vp vnto Scythia: It was so called of *Galatis* the sonne of *Hercules*, and of a certaine woman of Celtica, it is inhabited of many sorts of people, and lyeth very farre Northward, and therefore so cold in the winter, as all their waters be frozen ouer, and the ice so exceeding thicke, as whole armies with horses, chariots, and munition may safely passe ouer the riuers without perill: Galatia hath many great riuers running through it, some taking their beginning from deepe standing pooles, and some from springs issuing out of rockes and mountaines, whereof some disburthen themselves into the Ocean, as the Rhene, and some into the sea called Pontus, as Dannbius, and some others into the Adriaticke sea, as Eridanus, which is also called Padus or Po, and all these riuers be so congealed and frozen ouer all winter, as all passengers may securely go ouer them, especially if chaffe or straw be throwne vpon the ice for slipping.

By reason of this violent coldnesse, the countrey is vtterly and altogether destitute both of oyle and wine, instead whereof they make a certaine drinke of barley, which



which they call Zitum, they vse also to drinke a certaine water or meath wherein they wash or steepe their honey combes.

They take great delight in drinking wines, buying it of merchants, and drinking it without putting any water to it, and they be so weake brainde, that a little of it will ouercome them, and make them drunke, and then they be either lion drunke and fall a raging, or swine drunke and goe to sleeping: This their inordinate desire of wine maketh many Italians, in hope of gaine, to bring it vnto them both by water and by land, and they bee so greedie of it as for a measure of wine called Amphora, they will sell one of there owne sonnes to make a page or wayting boy of.

Siluer there is none in Galatia, but gold in great abundance, and that so naturally, as when the riuers that flow out of hils exceed their bankes, and ouer-flow the meadowes, they leaue behinde them vpon the grasse, a golden sand, or grauell, which beeing afterwarde tried and forged, and the pure gold seuered from the drosse, both men and women vse it to addorne themselves withall, making thereof bracelets, ringes and chaines all of massie gold, whereof they weare great store, gilding their brest-plates, curets, and armor with gold also.

The richer sort obserue a ceremony peculiar to themselves, & withal very strang, which is to skatter gold vpon the flowers and pauements of their Churches, which they offer as an oblation vnto their gods, and it is strang to see, how that the common people (notwithstanding they bee couetous and greedie of gold) bee so zealous and religious, as they will not once offer for to take



vp one peece of that gold so carelesly disperced abroad,  
or so much as touch it.

The people of Galatia be tall of stature, soft skind and pale of complexion, and though their haire be naturally red, yet will they seeke out meanes by art, to bring that naturall collour to a deeper die: they curle and frizzell their haire with a curling pin or crisping wire, casting the lockes of their fore-heads behind them on their shoulders, so as at the first sight, they looke like boies, Satires or wood gods, vsing such art in making their lockes bushy and thicke, as they differ but little from horse-manes: some of them shaue their beards, and some suffer them to grow long, and especially the nobility, who doe not so much as cut the haire of their eye-lids, and for their beards they suffer them to grow in such a length and breadth, as the will almost couer their bodies, so as they can neither eate nor drinke, but that the meate will sticke in their beards, and the drinke trickle downe as from a conduit pipe.

They eate their meate sitting, but not vpon stooles and formes, but vpon wolues skinnes, and dogges skinnes cast on the ground, and they bee attended by little boies, ha- uing their fiers made close by them, wherewith they boile and rost their meate, and euer the best men eate the best meate, as the Poet writeth, that the greatest honor was by the nobles attributed to *Ajax*, whē he ouercame *Hector* in single combat. Such meate as they haue, they wil giue vn- to their guests, but they will first know the cause of their com- ming. And their manner is when they haue filled bellies to fall a brabbling, and oftentimes vpon light occa- sations they will fight very desperatly, for so naturall is their inclination to wrangling, as it is growne into a habit. This opinion of *Pythagoras* is crept in amongst them, and  
by



by most of them plainly maintained, that the soule is immortall, and that after a certaine time that it is departed out of the body, it goeth into an other, and therefore some of them will write letters, and cast them into the pile of wood prepared to burne the dead body, as though they should read them when they bee dead: When they trauell, and when they fight they bee carried in Chariots drawne with two horses, having one to sit before the waggon to guide the horses, and an other to goe by to driue them; and when the battaile is begunne, they first incounter their enemies, by casting darts from their Chariots, and when their darts be spent they alight from their Chariots and fight on foote: And some of them be so desperate and carelesse of death, as they will fight naked: Their watch-men and gard for their bodies be the porest sort of freemen, which they vse also for waggonners and to carry their shields, and their place is to goe in the fore-front of the battaile, prouoking and challenging the hardiest and stoutest of their enemies to fight with them hand to hand, euer shaking and brandishing their naked blades, the more to terrifie and daunt their foes: and when any captaine or common souldior behaueth himselfe valiantly, and archieueeth any notable victory, they cease not to extoll and commend both him and all his ancestors, giuing vnto euery souldior commendations due for his valour and merits, and detracting from the acts of their enemies, as base and contemptible, though neuer so worthy of honour.

They cut off the heads of their vanquished enemies, and hange them about their horse-neckes, besprinckling and goring with bloud their spoiles, armor and furniture; and then giuing them to their seruants, who set them as  
signes



signes of conquest ouer their maisters gates, with as much exultation and triumph, as many doe the skinnes and heads of wilde beasts they haue taken in hunting: but if they happe to vanquish any noble men, they cut off their heads, and spice and season them with sweete spices, diligently preseruing and keeping them in bags and cases, to shew them for a vante to their guests and strangers, and after sell them for a trifle to their parents, children or other friends to keepe as a memorall.

The Galatians garments (to make them seeme terrible) be of skins with the haire on & vnshorne, these garments bee of sundry collours, and by them called (Braccas) they weare also cassockes or short clokes, stripped or rayed either with gold, or some other thing and well lined, and thicke for winter, but against summer they haue them slender and thinne, they vse also thicke earthen vessels distinguished with flowers.

Their warlike weapons and armor be long shields, proportionable to the stature of their bodies, and trimmed according to euery ones seuerall deuice, for some haue the shapes of beasts figured in brasse, and set on the tops of their shields, which is both an ornament to the shield and a defence for the bodie: their helmets bee all of brasse decked with more brauery then their shields, vpon the crest whereof standeth either some hornes, or else the picture of some birde or beast: they haue trumpets in like manner, but very ill fauoured ones, and such as yeeld a rude, harsh and vntuneable sound: some of them weare iron brest-plates, and some other againe no other armour but what nature affoordeth them, going naked and wearing long two-handed swords guided to their right sides with chaines or girdles of brasse, some



some weare short coates trimmed with gold and some silver girdles, and their dartes which they vse in the wars and callances, haue iron pikes aboue a cubit long and two handfull broad, and their swords bee almost as long and as big as hunting staues, or bore-speares, whereof some be streight and some crooked, beeing very fit both to anoy their enemies, as also to dig & make holes in the ground. In countenance they bee terrible and austere, in speech graue and seuer, their language is breefe and obscure, and for the most part carrying a double sence and doubtfull vnderstanding: they be great boasters of themselues and dispisers of others, menacers, braggarts and detractors, proud and puffed vp in their owne opinions, sharpe-witted and learned withall: They haue a certaine manner of Poets or Musitions which they call (*Bardi*) that sing vnto Organs and winde Instruments, as others doe to the Harp or Lute, praying some in their songs and sonnets and dispraying others: but those that bee of greatest estimation and honour amongst them, bee the Philosophers, which they call *Saronide*: Diuyners and South-saiers bee also there in great request, and highly honored and obeyed of the common people; these (by their sorceries and sacrifices) foretel things to come, vsing (when they consult of any weighty affaires) a ceremony most horrible and execrable, and almost incredible, for they cut a mans throte with a sword, and when he fainteth, they iudge of future euent, both by his falling and sincking downe, as also by ripping vp his members, and opening his intrals and bowels, and by the effusion of his bloud.

And they will neuer offer sacrifice without some one of these Philosophers, supposing that no sacrifice can bee acceptable, vnlesse it bee offered by some of those nature  
serchers,



serchers, beeing ( in their opinions ) men most neere to the Gods. And their Poets be of such reuerence and estimation, as when the battaile is set in aray, their swords drawne, and their darts throwne, if any of these Poets approach neere vnto the battaile, the whole hoast, yea and the enemy himselfe, will at his comming abstaine from fight: so as euen amongst these rude and barbarous people, anger will yeeld to wisdom, and *Mars* giue place to the Muses.

The Galatian women be equall vnto the men both in strength and bignesse of body: there boies be for the most part white, and old men carry a very graue and fatherly aspect: The Galatæ that dwell vnder the North-pole and be neere vnto Scythia, and therefore more barbarous then the other, are said to feed on mans flesh, like vnto those that inhabited that part of Britany called Iris. These Northerne Galatians, through their courage and cruelty, are reported to be those people, that once overrun almost all Asia, and were called Cimmerij, and are thought to be the very same that afterwards by corruption of the name, for Cimmerij were called Cimbri: they liue after their old accustomed manner by rapine and stealth, little regarding such things as they haue of their owne, for the great desire they haue to steale and filch from others.

And these Galatæ be they, who (after they had sacked Rome and spoiled the Temple of *Appollo* at Delphos) subdued and made tributary vnto them a great part both of Europ and Asia, vtterly ruining many Kingdomes, and possessing their lands: for those that came into Greece, called that part of the country they inioyde there, Gallogretia, or the Region of Galatia in Asia the lesse: It is bounded



bounded on the East with Cappadocia, and the riuer Hal-  
lis, with Asia and Bythinia on the West, on the South li-  
eth Pamphilia, and Pontus Euxinus on the North: But  
those Cimbri whereof now wee speake, were people of  
an intollerable cruelty, vsing such blasphemous and im-  
pious ceremonies, in their sacrifices of their gods, as is  
strang and incredible, for they had euer following  
and attending vpon their hoastes, certaine women priests  
that were very skilful in diuinations, the haire of their  
heads was hoare and gray, and their garments white, and  
they had vnder those white gownes yellow smockes made  
of fine linnen, and clasped together with brazen buttons  
or copper claspes, they had girdles about their waistes and  
went bare-footed: and if any captiues were taken and  
brought into the campe, they were incountred by these  
the priests with their naked blades, and by them lug'd and  
drawne vpon the ground vnto a place where stood a  
brazen pot or kettle, conayning twenty Amphora's, ouer  
which stood a pulpit or high seate, where-into they would  
nimble ascend, and take the captiue vp with them, and  
there cut his throate ouer the caldron, and euer as the  
bloud distilled and ranne into the kettle, they would  
pronounce their prophecies: of some they would rippe  
the bellies and bowell them, prophesing by their intralls  
of their successe in the warres: And euery fift yeere they  
would sacrifice one of their owne people, that was guil-  
ty and condemned of some crime, by fixing him quicke  
vpon speares or stakes: and all the beasts and cattaille,  
that they tooke from their enemies, they would kill and  
slay as well as the captiues, and either burne them vpon  
piles of wood, or put them to death by some other kinde  
of torture, and the Cimbrian women as they were very  
beautiful



beautifull and goodly women, so were they maruelous luxurious and wanton : There beds were beasts skinnnes laide vpon the bare ground, vpon which when they slept, they would haue vpon each side of them, an excubitor or watchman : there carts also when they had any warres were couered with skinnnes, whereon they would labour and strike so hard, as they would make a horrible and ill fauored noyse and clankering : But their impudency was of all things most admirable and odious, for they so far exceeded the bounds of modestie, as they would offer their naked bodies to men in the open streetes, esteeming it no fault, but rather condemning those for dastards and fainte-hearted cowards, that should refuse their offered fauours : *Valerius Maximus* reporteth, that the *Cimbri* and *Celtiberi* would exult and reioyce when they were in the warres, because if they died there their ends were honourable and happie, but if they languished in any disease, they would lament and bee sorrowfull, accounting that kinde of death as base and reprochfull.

*Of Gallia, and of the ancient customes  
and latter manners of the  
Frenchmen.*

CAP. 22.

*The bounds of  
Gallia.*



ALLIA a broade Countrie of Europe, is scituated betwixt the inner French sea and the Britaine Ocean, the riuer of Rhene, the Alpes and the Pyrenean hils. The Pyrenean hils include it in vpon the West and the Britaine Ocean.



Ocean vpon the North : vpon the East lieth the riuer of Rhene, which inuironeth as much of France from the Alpes to the Ocean, as the Pyrenæan hills doe from the inmost to the vttermoſt ſea, and vpon the South it is incloſed with the Narbon ſea: It is called Gallia of the whitenesse of the people for (*gala*) in Greeke ſignifieth milke. All that part of France which is called *tonſa* or *togata* Gallia is alſo named Cifalpina, and is comprehended within the limits of Italy, and all that part which is called Tranſalpina, or France beyond the Alpes, is ſurnamed Gallia Comata, and is by Hiftoriographers deuided into three Prouinces, of the three ſorts of people that inhabite therein (to wit) Belgica, Celtica and Aquitanica, which three Prouinces be thus bounded and limited: Belgica is all that Country which lieth betwixt the riuers Scaldis and Sequana, from thence then to the riuer Garumna is the Prouince of Celtica, which is all that which is now the countrie of Lyons, and from that againe vnto the Pyrenæan hills, is the country of Aquitanica, once called Armorica: *Augustus* deuideth France into foure parts, by adding to thoſe three the Prouince of Lyons: And *Ammianus* maketh many ſubdiuiſions, by diſtributing the country of Lyons into two parts, and Aquitanica into two parts. Braccata Gallia which is alſo called Narbon, was ſo called of a certaine faſhion of mantles or breeches called Braccæ which by them were much worne: Gallia Belgica which adioyneth vnto Rhene, ſpeaketh for the moſt part the Almaine tongue, and comprehendeth many prouinces, as Heluetia, Alſatia, Lotharingia, Luxenburg, Burgundy, Brabant, Gelderland, Holland & Zeland, all which may bee more rightly accounted part of Germany then of France, but that the riuer of Rhene hath deuided

Gallia whyſo  
called.

The diuiſion of  
France.

The ſeueral  
prouinces of  
Gallia Belgica.



it from Germany : And surely I see no reason why hills & riuers should limit & bound Kingdoms, but rather the language and gouernment, and that each Country should extend as farre as his owne proper language is spoken. The Romanes called the people of Gallia by one generall name *Celtæ*, after the name of their King, and *Gallatæ* of *Galata* his mothers name: but they bee now called *Franci* and *Gallia France*, of those people of Germanie so called by whom it was at subdued, as *Baptista Mantuanus* writeth in his booke intituled *Dionysius*, and *Antoninus Sabellicus* in his third booke of the tenth *Æneade*. The *Dictator Cesar* saith that the French men doe differ much amongst themselues, both in language, lawes and institutions, and that many things be common to most of them, as to bee factious, which is a general aspersion not only vnto Citizens and Burgeses, but in priuate families also, for euery one as he excelleth others in wealth or wisdom, contendeth to haue the souerainty, and to aduance his owne faction, coueting to haue all things done by his owne direction rather then by others, though as wise & wealthy as himself: an other institution they haue very ancient and grounded vpon good reason, that is, that the common people should liue in security and not bee iniured by the nobility, for but for that, there is no country in the world wherein the clownes liue in greater contempt and flauery then in France, for there was held little difference betwixt them and slaues, being neuer called to any publike council but oppressed with tributes, or constrained to lend their money without security, in so much as they were content to retaine to noble men and gentlemen, yeelding themselues as slaues and bondmen vnto them, only to bee freed from other mens extortions and wrongs:

The French  
men a factious  
people.



wrongs : There were two sorts of men that caried most estimation amongst them, which were the Equites and the Druides, some likewise did attribute as much honour to Poets and Prophets, as vnto the *Druides*, for that the Prophets bended their whole courses to finde out the causes of natural things, & the Poets wholly imployed themselves in praises and poems : and all these were by *Cesar* called by the name of *Druidæ* : These *Druidæ* had the charge and ouersight of al sacrifices both publike and priuate, their function was also to expound and interpret their religion, and to instruct and bring vp children and young men in learning and decipline, for the assemblies and troupes of such youth were much accounted of; to them was committed likewise the disciding of controuersies, the bounding & limitting of mens grounds, & power to punish offenders by death, torments, or otherwise, and if either priuate person or Magistrate offered to withstand or gainsay any of their decrees, or refused to stand to their awarde, they would interdict and forbid him to come to their sacrifices, which amongst that people was the greatest punishment that could bee inflicted : The Druides shunned the communication and company of all men, least they should bee polluted, and no one could haue iustice, or bee honoured and reuerenced according to his place, dignity and deserts, if any of these Druides were against it.

The office of  
the Druides.

They had one that was the gouernor and Arch-priest ouer them, who bore the chiefeft sway, as head of the whole order, and euer as one of those prouosts or gouernors died, an other was elected in his roome out of those Druides, either by worthinesse of person or plurality of voices. This councel or Senate of Druides assemb-



led at one time of the yeere at Lyons, which is about the middle of France, and there they kept their Sessions for the hearing and determining of all controuersies that were brought before them from al parts of the Country, which kinde of Iudgement, and establishing of lawes and statutes was afterwards receiued amongst al the nobles & commons of France (the superstition beeing first brought out of Britany) and by them called the Parliament, of which I will speake more hereafter. The Druides were exempted from the warres, and had immunity from tribute, and whosoever addicted himselfe to that kinde of profession must learne by heart thousands of verses, yea so many as some of them spent twenty yeeres in conning verses without booke, nor was it lawfull for them to commit any thing to writing, that belonged to the knowledge of that science, for that they auoided all meanes that might either bee a helpe vnto their memories, or anywise concerne the authority of that discipline, and also that their idle superstitious rites might not bee laide open to the common people: and yet all other sorts of Gaules and themselues in all other matters, both publike & priuate, vsed at that time the Greeke character: The Druides beleeued and preached the immortality of the soule, & that after her departure out of one body, shee remooued into an other, by which means al feare of death being taken away, they were more hardy and venturous to vndergo al dangers.

They would reason and dispute much of the stars and of their motion, of the magnitude the worlde and sytuation of the earth, and of the naturall causes of things, and power of their prophane gods, they held a position likewise that the world was eternall  
and



*The Equites,  
an other sort  
of people.*

and that the elements of fire and water preuailed one against an other by turnes : An other sort of religious persons and which were most deuoute of all others, were those they called Equites, and they, when they fell into any dangerous disease, or any other perill of their liues, would offer for the recouery of their health, or auoiding of imminent danger, a humane sacrifice, which sacrifice must euer bee solemnized by the assistance of some one of the Druides : Some others of that sect had great huge Images made hallow and couered with twigges, into the concauity whereof they would put men aliue, and then set fire about the Image vntill all were consumed away.

The punishment inflicted vpon theeues and offenders, they esteemed most gratefull and acceptable to their gods, and all those ancient Gaules held the god *Mercury* in great veneration, as first founder and inuention of all arts and misteries, the chiefe guide and conductor in all their trauels, and very propitious vnto them in trafficke and trading. All the spoiles they tooke in the warres, they vowed and consecrated vnto *Mars* for their victory obtained, so as in many Cities you might see great heapes of warlike spoiles laide together, and if any one stole any part of the prey to his owne purse, hee was seuerely punished.

The Gaules perswaded themselves that they were the of-spring of *Pluto* the god of riches, and therefore they celebrated the beginning of their feasts the night before the feast day, supposing that night to bee consecrated vnto *Dis* : The men suffered not their children once to come into their fights, before they were growne to mans estate, that they were able to manage armes, holding it vnfitting



vnfitting and absurde, that the sonne while hee is a childe should approach neere the presence of his father: The husbands looke how much money they receiued with their wiues in portion, so much did they adde vnto it out of their owne stocke, and all the increase that came of that coyne, was reserued and kept for him or her that was suruiuer.

Husbands had  
power to kil  
their wiues.

The husbands had power and authority of life and death, as well ouer their wiues as ouer their children: and if any mans wife were conuicted of witch-craft or forcery, she was put to death by her husbands neighbours and friends, either by fire, or by some other greuous torments: In their funerals, all those things which the deceased person held deere vnto him in his life time, yea the beasts he loued best, were burned with him: and not much before the Country was conquered by *Iulius Caesar*, their seruants and retainers were burned with their Maisters dead bodies.

In their Cities (which were maruellous wel gouerned) a few of the most worthy and substantialest men amongst them, ruled the rest, hauing at the first one chiefe ruler ouer them, who continued his office for a yeere, and in warres they vsed likewise to appoint one to take the charge and command vpon him of al matters belonging to the warres.

If any priuate person heard any thing spoken by strangers touching the common-wealth, they were to make report thereof to the Magistrates, though some things they might conceale without danger. It was not lawfull for any one to mutter any thing in secret of the common-wealth but in publike places, and hee that came last into the council-house was put to death. If any factious fellow



fellow raised any tumult or mutiny, there was sent vnto him an officer with a sword in his hand ready drawne, to proclaime silence, and if hee desisted not at the second or third proclamation, the officer would curtaile so much of his cloake or cassocke (thereby to put him to disgrace) as the remnant that was left would serue him to no purpose. The chiefe Magistrates had golden maces carried before them, they wore chaines about their neckes and bracelets on their armes. The common people wore short cloakes, and in steed of coates a loose garment slit on the one side, that would scarce couer halfe their buttocks: their wool is very rough, long and shaggy, so as their cassockes they called (*Lene*) were maruellous rugged and hairy.

They tooke great delight in trimming & dressing their haire; They be tall of stature and for the most part pale of complexion, and their armor and weapons are answerable to the proportion of their bodies, for they wore long swords hanging at their right sides, and long shields proportionable to their speares, wherewith they might couer their thighes, some of them also had bowes and were very good archers, but yet they vsed shooting more in fowling and birding, then in the warres, and few of them would goe into the field either with slings or clubs.

They lay vpon the ground and ate their meate sitting vpon straw, the substance of their meate was either milke or flesh, and especially hogs-flesh, for they haue such store of swine feeding in their fields, and so large, so strong, and so swift, that strangers that know not their nature, are as fearefull of them, and in as much daunger as if they were wolues. They haue sheepe in as great abundance as swine, whereof when they bee fed and



powdred they send many to Rome and diuers other parts of Italy and there sell them.

Their buildings & dwelling houses were made of wood in proportion of shels, beeing very large with many spars or rafters. They bee naturally cruell and simple withall, and in the warres more valiant then politike, and much more addicted to follow the warres then husbandry: The French women be exceeding fruitful, in so much as *Gallia Belgica* alone, sent vnto the warres at one voyage, about three hundred thousand fighting men: when they haue had any victory they bee wonderfull ioyfull, and as much amazed after an ouerthrow: Their custome was when the battaile was ended and the souldiors departed the field, to cut off the heads of their vanquished foes, and to hange them at there horse neckes, and so to carry them home, and there to sticke them vpon poles, for a spectacle vnto others. But the heads of worthy and renowned souldiors (if any such were slaine) they would season with odors of Cedar-tree, and keepe them for strangers to looke vpon, not suffering them to bee ransomed for their weight in gold: The ancient Country guise was to wear chaines of gold, bracelets and garments spangled with gold.

In their Diuinations their manner was to strike a man (ordained for that purpose) vpon the backe, and then by his impatience and manner of affliction in his death to Iudge of future euent. They had other sorts of humaine sacrifices also, for some they would shoot to death and then hang them vpon gibbets within their Temples, and some of them would make a great huge Image, and put therein men, wood, sheepe and diuers other sorts of cat-taile, and so sacrifice them altogether.

The



The Frenchmen by reason of their continuall labour, and exercise, were wont to bee very macilent, leane and lanck bellyed, for they were so carefull to auoyde all pampering and excesse, that if any young mans belly did outgrow his girdle, he was openly punished.

But at this day the French-men by reason of their commerce, conuersation, and continuall acquaintance with the Romaines, are greatly altered from what they were, and their manners much bettered: for they bee now most ardent professors of the true Religion, and all vnder the gouvernement of one King. Their marriages be solemnized after the Italian rites: they be very studious in all the liberall arts, and in diuinity especially, which is well demonstrated by the great multitude of Students in the city of Paris, which is now the most famous and renowned Vniuersitie in all Christendome.

*The latter customs of the French.*

The lawes in France be executed by Magistrates, but instituted by the kings: their horsemen in time of warres go al in compleat armor, and their footmen in light harnessse: they haue many good archers that shoote well in long bowes, and their bowes be not made of Cornell trees like vnto their bowes in Scythia, and in all the East countrey, but of Yew, or some other hard wood: their Ordinance is caried along with their armies in carts, & they fight more rather in order, one seconding another, then in troupes, & with more courage & cruelty, then skil or policy, although their cunning be sufficient to manage their military businesses. Their Embassadors to denounce wars, or treatate of peace, they call Heralds, who bee loyall subiects to their Soueraign. The French-men be very religious, their Bishoppes of mighty power and dignitie, and all the Clergie in general of high reuerence & veneration: in their diuine ceremonies



ceremonies they vse much singing, by reason whereof the studie of musicke is in a manner peculiar to that nation: Their fashions in their apparell and shooes be much altered in our age: for (sayth *Sabellicus*) when I was a boy, all the Courtiers and Gentlemen of France (the Clergie only excepted) wore short cloakes with sleeues, that would hardly reach to their mid thighes, pleated from the top to the bottome, and stuffed or quilted about the shoulders. Their shooes were tipped on the snoutes with thin horns, halfe a foote long, such as are pictured in arras and tapestrie, and their bonnets which they called (*Bireta*) were high and sharpe towards the Crowne: but all these auncient fashions be now laid away, and new fangles inuented: for the shooes they now weare be broad-nosed, (like a Beares foot) and narrow heeled, and their garments bee much more loose & long then before they were, reaching down to the calues of their legges, with loose sleeues slit on one side, and laced all ouer with lace of diuers colours, set on lattise-wise: their hats bee for the most part redde and very large, but their bonnets called (*Bireta*) bee much bigger then their ordinary hats, and very vnfitting for their heads; but otherwise, were it not for these vnhandsome hats, no nation could compare with them for neatnesse and gallantnesse in apparell. And now of late yeares their maner of attire is much imitated by the Italians, who do wholly follow the French fashion, manifestly presaging thereby what afterwards came to passe. The women be not so variable & fickle in following euery new fashion, as the men be, but keepe their old fashion still. *Baptista Mantuanus* in his booke intituled *Dionysius*, maketh a description of France to this effect:

of



Of all the parts of th<sup>e</sup> Vniuerse faire France is not the least,  
 A wide, a large, and spacious land, and equall to the best:  
 It east-ward ioynes to Italy, and west-ward vnto Spaine,  
 And compassed vpon the South with the huge Ocean maine,  
 And wholly bounded on the north with f. mon. ri. er Rh. i. e.  
 With men, beasts, and all sort of graine this land doth much abound.  
 The earth is fruitfull, and the ayre is wh. l. some, sweet, and sound,  
 Not p. stred with such poysonous be. sts, as is the Lybian coast,  
 Nor like th<sup>e</sup> Hyperborean hills still wantled or'e with frost:  
 It is not fryde like India pale, with Phœbus scorching beames,  
 Which barren makes the fattest fields, in whom l. e. sp. eads l. is gleams,  
 Nor is there such extreame sharpe cld, nor such perpetuall night,  
 Like Isl. and, and th<sup>e</sup> frigid Zone, where Sol scarce shewes his light:  
 Nor doth their land lye soakt in fennes, like vnto Aegypts soyle,  
 But temperate heate and moyst doth yeeld increase with little soyle.

And a litle after the same Author sayth:

The Gauls are of a fiery mind, and of complexion wh. i. e.,  
 Which is the cause they were so cald, as diuers Authors write:  
 Nature beheld the Paphian Queen when she gaue th. m. their hon.,  
 Whereby of colours wh. ite and red a perfect vni. on grew.  
 In dancing, pl. yes, and pleasant verse consist their chieftest ioyes,  
 Most prone they are to banquetting, most prone to Venus toyes:  
 Yet be they zealous towards their God, and for they are free borne,  
 Tabase themselues with scrutude, their haughty minds do scorne:  
 No l. ing, nor hypocrisie can harbor in their best,  
 But like free men, so free of spe. ch, all rudenes they detest.  
 To hunt fish, f. wle, the fields, and fouds, and hills they often launt:  
 Long wars hath so inured them, no foes their minds can daunt.  
 Their chiefest delight is barbed horse, with jerking spur to gall,  
 Bowes speares, sh. elds swords, and Brigandines to them are naturall.  
 By day to suffer heate of Sunne, to watch in fields all night,  
 To beare huge armor on their backs, amid their foes to fight.  
 To run through dangers, swords and pikes, to oppose themselves to death  
 For king, or kin, or country deare, to spend their dearest breath.

They



Capricorne  
ruleth in  
France.

*They much delight, and therein thinke their honor most doth stand.  
And for the Goate (if stars speake truth) is ruler of their land:  
From's influence (if we so may iudge) this is th' effect insues,  
A wauering heart, vnconstant brest, mind greedy still of newes.*

The Parliament  
of France.

I thinke it not amisse in this place to make some description of the Parliament of France, which is the worthiest commendation, and greatest ornament belonging to the Court of France: by whom, or from whence this court of Parliament was first instituted and deriued I can gather no more certaintie by writers than I haue signified before, that by all likelihood the Druides were the first authours thereof, and that it hath continued euer since, though now much differing from what it then was: for the Parliament (as the Councell of the Druides before) was held yearely at Lyons, at times appointed by the King in this manner:

They assembled thither frō each seuerall city of the Province, all such as were skilfull in their lawes and customs, (beeing thereto chosen aforehand) to do equitie and iustice vnto all that would bring their causes before them by way of appeale: but because this institution was at the first vncertaine, and not well settled: the seate of this Court of Parliament was afterwards translated from Lyons, and is now established at Paris, and certaine Iudges appointed to heare, and finally to determine all appeales whatsoever: of these Iudges there be foure-score which haue annuall stipends out of the Kings Exchequer, for their better maintenance. They be diuided into foure Courts, and euery Court aboue other, and each hath his proper Presidents, or chiefe Iustices.

In



In the first Court or Chamber (as they call it) sit foure chiefe Iudges or Presidents, and thirtie Councillors or Assistants, and these heare all complaints, controuerfies, and delayes, and set downe what is Law in euery case: and if the matters be light, or lately begun, they and deter- mine them. In the second and third Court or Chamber, sit in each eightene, whome they call *Aequati*, as hauing equall authoritie, and these be called Councillors of Inquests & Inquisitions, because they haue the chiefe stroke in Inquisitions and verdicts; and of them, some be lay, and some Clergie-men, and each of these chambers or courts hath foure Presidents: These when they haue set downe their opinions touching any matter in question, some one of the Presidents at certaine times appointed, delivereth their sentence to the first Court of Parliament, which is there by them so ratified and confirmed, as no one can appeale from it; and he which is found guiltie before them, must pay vnto the Courts three-score pounds of Tours weight; and some are adiudged to pay more, according to the quality of the offence: but if the party so condemned thinke, that his cause was not well vnderstood and discus- sed, and that he had some iniurie done him, thereby recei- uing some losse or hinderance, hee may bring the matter (thus crazed by mis-information) againe into question be- fore the Iudges, but it shall not be heard, vnlesse he pawne and put into their hands, an hundred and twenty pounds to stand to their censure.

The fourth Court is the Court of Requests, and is kept by the Masters of the Kings pallace, or Masters of requests and supplications, and none shall haue their causes heard there, but only the kings seruants, or such as haue some pri- uiledges from the King, and they shall not be molested in  
other



other Courts: of this Court there be onely fixe Iudges, & it is lawfull to appeale from them to the Parliament. If in handling controuersies any great difficulty arise, it must be decided by the assembly of all the Iudges and Councillors of euery Court together, which happeneth oftentimes in matters proposed by the King, touching the gouernment of the Commonwealth: for no law can be thoroughly established without the consent of this Senate or Parliament-house.

In this Parliame<sup>nt</sup> the Peeres of France, and other masters of Requests that be the kings fauorites, may sit as assistants vnto the Iudges, and their places be next vnto the Presidents of the first Court or Chamber: but all matters touching the king, or any of the Peeres be defined and determined by the Peeres themselves, and the Iudges of the first Court.

The 12. Peeres  
of France.

There be twelue chiefe Peers elected out of all the Nobility of France, whereof fixe be spirituall men, & six temporall: the spirituall Peeres be the Bishop of Rhemes, the Bishop of Lavdunum, and the Bishop of Langres, (which be called *Episcopi Duces*, or chiefe Bishops) the Bishop of Beauvois, the Bishop of Noyon, and the Bishop of Châlons, (which be *Episcopi Comites*, or secundarie Bishops:) The fixe secular Peeres be the Duke of Burgundie, the Duke of Normandie, and the Duke of Aquitania, (which be chiefe Princes or Arch-dukes) the Duke of Flanders, the Duke of Tholoufa, and the Duke of Campania, which be secundary Princes.) These twelue (according to the opinion of *Robertus*) were first instituted by *Charles* the great, who taking them with him into the warres, called them his Peeres, as hauing equall power in assisting of the King, and they were euer present at his coronation, and yeelded obedi-



obedience to no other Court but onely to the King, and his Court of Parliament.

And these be the ancient and later maners of the Gauls and French-men, and their customes most worthie of memorie.

*Of Spaine, and of the manners of the Spaniards.*

CAP. 23.



SPAIN, the greatest country in Europe, is situated betwixt France and Affricke, and bounded with the Ocean sea, and the Pirenæan hills: It is comparable to any other country, both for fertilitie of soyle, and abundance of fruites and vines, and so sufficiently stored with all kind of commodities, that be either necessarie or behoofull, as it affordeth great part of her superfluitie to the city of Rome, and all Italy ouer. If you require gold, siluer, or pretious stones there they are in abundance, if mynes of Iron, and sundry other mettals, you shall find no defect; if wines, it giueth place to none; and as for oyles, it excelleth all other nations of Europe: besides that, they haue such store of salt, as they neuer boyle it, but dig it out of the earth in full perfection. Yea there is no part of their ground (be it neuer so barren) but it yeeldeth increase of one thing or other the heate of the Sunne is not there so violent as in Affricke, nor be they tossed with such continuall stormes and tempestuous winds, as France is, but there is an equall temperature of the heauens, and wholesomnes of the ayre ouer all

*The commendations and riches of Spain and her bounds*



all the Region, it beeing greatly wasted with marine winds, without such foggie mists and infectious exhalations as proceed from fennes and moorish grounds. There is great plenty of hempe, flaxe and broome, the pill or skin whereof serueth to tye vp their vines: and it affordeth more vermillion then any other cuntry besides. The currents of their riuers be not so swift and violent, as they thereby become hurtfull, but gentle and mild to water and manure their fields and medowes, and the armes of the Ocean sea which adioyne vnto them, affoord great store of fish: and yet for no one thing was Spaine more commended in times past, then for the swiftnesse of their horses, whereof grew this fiction, That the Spanish horses were conceiued of the winds.

Spaine taketh her beginning at the Pyrenæan hilles, and winding by *Hercules* pillars, extendeth to the Northerne Ocean, so as all places contained within that compasse, may iustly be said to be of Spaine. The breadth of Spaine, (as *Appianus* writeth) is ten thousand *stadia*, & the length much answerable to the breadth: it ioyneth vnto France only at the Pyrenæan hils, and on al other sides it is inclosed with the sea: it is distinguished and knowne by three names, Tarragon, Bethica, and Lusitania: Tarragon (the chiefe citties whereof were called Pallantia, and Numantia, now called Soria) at the one end ioyneth vnto France, and vnto Bethica and Lusitania at the other: The Mediterranean sea runneth by the South-side thereof, and vpon the North it lyeth opposite to the Ocean: the other two prouinces be diuided by the riuer Anas, so as Bethica (the chiefe citties whereof were Hispalis and Corduba) looketh West-ward into the Atlanticke sea, and into the Mediterranean vpon the South: Lusitania lyeth opposite onely to the  
the



the Ocean, the side of it vnto the Northerne Ocean, and vnto the Western at the end: the city Emerita being once the chiefe Cittie of that Province.

Spaine was first called Iberia, of the riuer Iberus, and after that Hesperia, of *Hesperus* the brother of *Atlas*, and lastly, it was named Hispania, of *Hispalis* now called Sibia. Their bodies bee very apt to indure both hunger and labour, and their minds euer prepared for death: they bee very sparing and strict both in their diet and euery thing else, and they be much more desirous of warres then of peace. So much, as if warres be wanting abroad, they wil grow to ciuill dissention and home-bred garboiles among themselves: They will suffer torments euen vnto death, rather than reueile a thing committed to their secrecie, hauing more care of their credits, and trust reposed in them, then of their liues. They be maruellous nimble and swift of pace, and of an vnquiet and turbulent disposition: their horses be both speedie and warlike, and their armes more deare vnto them then their blood.

Spaine why so  
called.

They furnish not their tables with daintie and delicate meates, vnlesse vppon festiuall dayes, and they learned of the Romanes (after the second Carthaginian warres) to wash themselves in cold water: but for all this in so many ages as haue passed since their first originall, they neuer had any notable or famous Captaine, that euer atchieued any great Conquest, but *Variatus* onely, and hee indeed held the Romaines in play some ten yeares with variable successe of fortune.

The women dispatch all businesse both within dores and without, & the men imploy themselves either in wars, or to purloining & stealing from others: they weare short black garments made of rough woll like goats haire: their shields



or bucklers which they vse for their defence in the warres, be little ones made of nerues and sinewes, which they will weeld with such agilitie, as they auoid all dangers both of darts, arrowes, and hand-blowes. Their darts bee all of Iron and crooked, their helmets of brasse and crested, and their swords of Iron, and as broad as the palme of ones hand; wherewith in a troupe or croude, they will make great slaughter.

They haue a deuise to make Iron very tough and strong for weapons, which is, to beate and hammer it into thinne plates or sheetes, and then to lay those sheetes in the ground so long, till the weakest of the Iron bee rusted away, and none left but what is maruellous pure & strong, and of this they make their swords, and other weapons for the warres, which be so substantiall and good, as neither shield nor helmet can withstand them, but that they kill all before them: and of these swords euery one commonly carrieth two. Those which haue any regiment in the camp, after they haue escaped the conflict on horiebacke, forsake their horses, and helpe the footmen, they will sling their darts a great way from them, & that with great skil, & they will indure the fight a long time, & their bodies be so nimble and quicke, as they can easily fly from their foes, and set vpon them againe as occasion is offered. They be so desirous of wars, that for the least cause that is, they will swarme together by troupes, and sing for ioy when they incounter their foes.

In peaceable times they practise singing and dancing; for which exercise they be very light and actiue: towards their enemies and euil persons they practise great cruelty, but to strangers much bounty and humanity: for they bee so forward to intertaine strangers and trauellers, as they will



will euery one strue to exceed other in courtesie, with a kind of emulation, esteeming those most worthy of honor and in greatest fauour with God, that haue most strangers to accompany them: The women weare yron chaines or iewels about their neckes, with crooked or bending crests, that compasse the head from the necke behind ouer the crowne, and so hang downe vpon their fore-heads, vnto which they fasten their veiles when they please to maske their faces, which they account a great ornament vnto the.

In like manner in some part a little strake of a wheele compasseth their heads, and is bound to the sinewes in the hinder part of the head, and reacheth downe to the lappes of their eares, waxing, by little and litle, sharper and narrower towards the top. Some shauce off all the haire of the forepart of their heades, and some others haue a pillar of a foot long, standing vpright vpon their foreheads, to which they fasten their haire, and then couer it with a blacke cap or bonnet. They feed of diuers sorts of flesh, and make drinke of hony, whereof the country hath sufficient store, and such wines as are wanting in their owne, are brought vnto them out of other countries: and although they bee very neate and cleanly in their diet, yet is it strange to see, what a beastly and filthy custome they generally obserue, which is, to wash their whole bodies, yea and to rub their teeth with vrine, accounting it very good and wholesome for their bodies. But (to omit nothing that may bring vs to a perfect knowledge and vnderstanding of the country) all the Region now called Spaine, was heretofore diuided into the further and nearer Spaine; the nearer Spaine is that which is now called Tarragon, extending to the Pyrenæan hils: & the further Spaine by reason of the length, is diuided into two Prouinces, Bethica, and Lusitania:



Spaine also was once diuided into fiue kingdomes, which were, Castile, Arragon, Portugall, Nauarre, and Grana-  
nata.

*Of Lusitania, and of the auncient manners  
of the Portugals.*

CAP. 24.

*The bounds of  
Portugall.*



**L**USITANIA, a Prouince in the further-  
most part of Spaine, and at this day called  
Portugall, hath Bethica on the South, Tar-  
ragon on the East, and the Ocean sea vppon  
the West and North. It was first called Lusi-  
tania, (according to *Pliny*) of *Lusus* the father of *Bacchus*,  
and *Lysa* his luxurious and dissolute companion.

Of all Spaniards, the Portugals bee most valiant, sub-  
till, actiue and nimble, and through their extraordinarie  
skill in nauigation haue found out more strange and vn-  
knowne lands, than any people in the world againe: Their  
shields which they vse in the warres be two foote broad,  
and made crooked towards the vpper end where they hold  
their hands, (for other handle they haue none) and these  
will they vse with such agility, as they will thereby easily  
auoide both arrowes, darts, and hand-blowes: They haue  
also short swords or poynards hanging by their sides, and  
some haue brest-plates made of linnen cloth, and yet but  
few weare other priuie coats or crested helmets, but onely  
such as be made of nerues or sinewes.

They be very skilfull in darting, & can cast them a great  
way from them, they continue the battell long, and by rea-  
son of their nimblenes, quicke agility, and lightnesse,  
they



they will easily flie from their enemie, and againe pursue him, as makes most for their aduantage: foot-men haue their legs harnesssed, and euery one a bundle of darts, and some carrie Iauelins pointed or headed with brasse. There be some Porringals dwelling neere the riuer Durus, which are said to liue like vnto the Spartanes: these vse two kind of oyntments, and sulphury or fierie stones to warm them withall, and all cold things are washed. They eate all one kind of meate, which is wholesome, though it be homely: when they sacrifice, they cut not the beast in peeces, but opening his belly, they looke into the bowels or garbage of the oblation, as also into the veines of his side, and by handling of them coniecture of things to come. Another kind of diuination they haue by mens intrals, and especially captiues; in doing whereof they first couer the man ordained for that purpose, with a cassocke, and then the Augur or Southsayer maketh an incision in the bottome of his belly, and by his fall prophesieth of future euent, which done, they cutte off the right hands, and offer them to their gods.

Those Portingals which inhabite on hils fare but meanly, they drinke water, and lye vpon the bare ground: They suffer their haire to grow long, and to hang downe about their shoulders dangling like women, and they fight with Myters vpon their heades, in stead of helmets. Their daintiest meate is bucke goates, which they also sacrifice to *Mars*, as they do captiues and horses.

They haue also (in imitation of the Greekes) their Hecatombes, which are sacrifices made with an hundred beasts of all sorts, and (as *Pindarus* is of opinion) they sacrifice and offer euery hundreth thing likewise. They haue their Gymnick playes, (which are so called, for that they be



done by naked men) and these playes are exercised with weapons, horses, plummetts of Leade, called the Whirle-about, running and disordered fighting: and sometimes they diuide themselves into parts, and fight one side against another.

These mountainous Lusitanians feede two parts of the yeare vppon Acornes, which when they haue dried and ground into meale, they make bread thereof and so eat it: In stead of wine (wherof those parts are barren) they haue drinke made of barley, and that they euer drinke new, as soone as it is brewed.

When kinsfolke and friends are assembled together to banquet, in stead of oyle they vse butter, and haue seates made in the walles for them to sit in; where euery one taketh his seate according to his worth or grauitie, and euer in their drinking, they vse to sing and dance after musicke; leaping and capering for ioy, as the women in Boerica do, when they ioyne all their hands together, and so fall a dauncing: Their apparell (for the most part) is black cassockes, which they will wrap about them, and so lye themselves downe to sleepe vppon straw or litter: They eate their meate in earthen platters, as the French-men do, and women weare for the most part red garments.

In steade of money they vse thinne plates of siluer, or else exchange and barter one commoditie for another. Those which are condemned to dye, are stoned to death, and Parricides are carried from out the confines of their hilles, or beyond some riuer, and there couered and overwhelmed with stones. They contract matrimonie after the manner of the Greekes, and (according to the custome of the Aegyptians) bring those which are sick into the streets, to the end that those which haue beene troubled with the  
like



like griefes themselves, may shew them how they were cured. And these be the customs vsed in those mountainous and northerne countries of Spaine.

It is reported, that those Spaniards which inhabite the vtmost parts of Portingall, when they be taken prisoners by their enemies, and readie to bee hanged, they will sing for ioy: That the men there giue dowers to their wiues, and make their sisters their heires, who do also marry their own brothers. And that they be so barbarous and bloudy-minded, that mothers will murder their owne children, and children their parents, rather then that they should fall into the hands of their enemies. They do sacrifice to a god, whose name is vnknowne: when the Moone is in the full, they will watch all night euery one at his owne dore, dancing and skipping all the night long. The women haue as good part of all profits and increase as men haue, for they practise husbandry, and be obedient and seruiceable to men, when they themselves are with child.

The Spaniards make poyson of a kind of herbe much like vnto Persley, which offendeth not vppon a sodaine, but by litle and litle, and this they alwaies haue in readinesse for any one that wrongs them, in so much as it is sayd to be proper to the Spaniards to be great poysoners, and that their custome is also to offer themselves to bee slaine and sacrificed for those to whome they are newly reconciled.



Of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of many other Islands, and of the manners and customes of the Inhabitants.

## CAP. 25.



England also called great Brittain.

England once called Albion.

The Saxons once Lords of England.

Anglia why so called.

ENGLAND, otherwise called great Brittain, is the greatest Island contained within the bosome of the Ocean: It is in the forme of a triangle, much like vnto the Ile of Sicily, and is wholly imbraced and infolded within the armes of the Ocean, in no part touching, but altogether diuided from the continent. It was first called Albion, of the white cliffes or rockes that shew the country a far off vnto passengers. Some are of opinion, that after the destruction of Troy by the Greekes, the Troianes (guided by the Oracle of *Pallas*) rigged a nauie, betooke them to the seas, and (arriuing in this Island) fought many battels with the Gyants, which then inhabited the country, destroyed some, expelled the rest, and possessed the soyle themselves. These also (continuing their possession many yeares together) were afterwards driuen thence by the Saxons, a warlike people of Germany, vnder the conduct of *Angla* their Queene. The Inhabitants wholly vanquished and expelled, and their soyle and substance shared amongst souldiers, vtterly to extinguish and roote out all memorie of the former name and nation, they called the country *Anglia*, after the name of *Angla* their guide and gouernesse. Some others are of opinion, that it was called *Anglia*, as beeing an angle or corner of the world.

Vpon



Vpon the North it lieth opposite to France and Spaine, and the circuit or vtmost bounds of the whole Island, is about 1836. English miles. Their longest day consisteth of seuentene houres: their nights are light in the Sommer season: the eyes of the Inhabitants are gray, their stature tall, and their naturall complexions so comely, so faire and so beautifull, as Saint *Gregory* seeing by chance certaine English boies in Rome, and demaunding of what Country they were, said that they might well bee called, *Angli*, their faces and countenances resembling the Angels, and lamenting that such diuillish Idolatry should harbor in such diuine features, he shortly after effected, that the faith of Christ was planted in the Country.

*The compasse  
of England.*

In warre they are vndaunted, and most expert Archers, their women bee maruelous comely and beautifull, their common sort of people rude, barbarous and base, their nobility and gentry, curteous, ciuill and of singular humanity. They salute one an other with cappe and knee, and incounter the women with kisses, leade them into Tauernes and there drinke together, which they deeme no touch to their reputations, if therein bee discovered no lasciuious intent.

If they haue warres, they delight not in subuerting cities, destroying, burning, and consuming, corne, cattaille or country, but bend their forces wholly to the destruction of their enemies, and he that is vanquisher hath command of all.

England of al other prouinces, was the first that imbraced the Christian religion: The country aboundeth with cattaille and wool: wolues it breedeth none, nor norisheth any that are brought thither, in so much that their flockes may

*England the  
first Christian  
Island.*



may feed at liberty without feare or guide. The country is rich in mettals, as lead, copper especially and some filuer, there is also the Magerite or pearle, and the stone Gagates (there called Lette) which burneth in water and is extinguished with oyle. In steed of wine (whereof the land is barren) they vse a kinde of licor which they cal Ale and Beare, and they haue much wines brought them out of other countries.

*London the  
chiefe city.*

There bee many villages, borrowes and cities, whereof London is the chiefeft of the nation, the Kings seat, and the most famous for trafficke and trading.

*The auncient  
manners of  
the Britans.*

These are their customes and manners they vse in this age, which are much differring from their customes they vsed in the time of *Iulius Caesar*, for at that time it was not lawfull for them to eate Hare, Hen or Goose, and yet would they norish and keepe them for their pleasures. The people that inhabited the middle part of the country, liued (for the most part) vpon milke, and flesh (beeing vtterly destitute of corne) and cloathed themselves with skinnes. Their faces they would die with woad, to the end that in battaile they might breed a great terror to their enemies: They wore long haire hanging downe about their shoulders, and shaued all parts of their bodies but their heads: one woman would haue tenne or more husbands at one time, and it was lawfull for the brother to enioy his brothers wife, the father the sonnes, and the sonne the fathers, and the children were accounted children to them all: *Strabo* (dissenting from the opinion of *Caesar*) saith, that the English are farre taller then the Frenchmen, and of a shorter haire: Thicke woods serued them in steed of cities, wherein they builded them cabbines and cottages, harboring themselves and their cattaile



cattaile vnder one roose. The country is more subiect to raine then snow, and when the weather is faire, the earth is couered sometimes with a blacke clowde, that for the space of foure houres together you shall see no Sunne at high noone

Scotland the vttermoſt part of Britan towards the North, is deuided from the other part of the Island onely with a riuer or small arme of the sea. *Scotland de-  
nided from  
England.*

Not farre distant from Scotland lieth Ireland, the people whereof vse one kinde of habite, in no point differing one from an other. They speake all one language and vse the selfe same customes. They haue nimble wits and are very apt to reuenge, vsing great cruelty in the warres, though otherwise they bee sober and can indure all manner of wants with great facility. They are naturally faire, but nothing curious in their apparel.

The Scots of whom I spake before (as some are of opinion) were so called of the paynting of their bodies, for it was an vsual and auncient custome there (and especially amongst the rudeſt and barbarous kinde of people) to paint and die their bodies, armes and legs with varnish or vermillion, which custome (if all bee true as is written by ancient authors) was practised by the Britans, especially in time of warre, the more to terrifie the enemy as before is said. *Of Scotland.*

*Aeneas Siluius* saith, that the shortest day in winter there, is not aboue three houres long, and it is a thing worthy the noting to see how poore folkes there stand about the Temples of their gods, begging stones of passengers for them to burne, for the country affoordeth but small store of fuell, and the stones which they craue and get together in this manner, are of a fat and sulphery condition,



condition, and wil burne like coles: *Aeneas* saith that hee heard there was a tree in Scotland, that in Autumne whē the leaues were withered, they fell of the tree into a riuer, & by vertue of the water were turned into birds. This tree he saith hee sought for in Scotland, but could not find it, and that lastly it was told him, by some that knew the Country well, that this strange miracle was to be seene in one of the Isles of Orcades.

*And thus farre mine Author, concerning the estate of this Island, by which appeareth the little acquaintance both hee and those writers out of which hee frameth this collection had with it, for else would they not so sleightly haue slippt ouer the commendation of so worthy a Country, and therefore I thought it not amisse, in this place to supply their defects with this short addition of mine owne, wherein happely you may perceiue a more liuely description of this our Realme of Great Britany, and the condition of the inhabitants then could well bee expected from meere strangers.*



**B**RITANNIA, sometimes called Albion, the worthiest and renownedst Island of all the world, is in compasse as is said before (according to the opinion of the best writers) about 1836. English miles: It is syruated in a most milde & temperate clymate, the ayre beeing neither too hot in Sommer, nor too cold in winter, through which temperature it aboundeth with all sorts of graine, fruits and cattaile, that be either necessary or behoueful for mans life: for besides that the Country



is wholesome, pleasant and delightfome, there bee such store of ponds, riuers and running waters for fish and foule, such abundance of forrests and chases for timber and fuel, such large fields & champion grounds for corne and graine, such pastures and meadowes for sheepe and cattaile, such orchards and gardens for pleasure and profit, such hunting and hawking in fields, fluds and forrests, such strong castles, such stately buildings, such goodly cities and walled townes, such beautifull houses of the Nobility disperced in all parts of the country, such large territories, such renowned vniuersities for the aduancement of learning and good letters, such practise of religiō, such places for pleading, such trafficke and trading, such maintainance of Iustice, such generous dispositions in the nobles, such ciuility amongst citizens, such intercourse amongst the commons, in a word such is the pompe, riches & flourishing state of this Reahne, vnder the gouernment of our most gracious Prince King *Iames*, that England at this day is so amply stored with natures richest gifts that she is not onely furnished with things sufficient to serue her selfe, but sendeth forth sundry of her superfluous commodities into other countries also, and for al things may iustly bee compared, if not preferred to any country in Christendome: who were the first inhabitants of this Island, and why it was so called, I finde it so diuersly reported that I rather leaue euery man to his opinion, then by setting downe mine owne incurre the censure of ignorance and indiscretion: but howsoever, although it hath bin inhabited by sundry nations, and deuided into seuerall Kingdoms, yet doe I not finde that euer it admitted any other forme of gouernment but the Kingly authority only, no not when it was dismembered into many Kingdomes, but



but that then euery King had a perfect and absolute command ouer his subiects, nor that any King of England, either then, or since it grew into a Monarchy, did euer receiue his authority from any other Prince as his supreme, but that euery King within the limits of his Kingdome was (next vnto God) sole and absolute gouernor, the idle example of King *John* onely excepted, who without consent of his commons, or establishment by act of parliament, forced therevnto by the rebellion of his Nobles aided by the Dolphin of France, resigned his crowne to the Popes Legate, and receiued it againe at his hands onely to appease the Pope being then his enemy.

To passe ouer the seuerall peoples that haue inhabited this Island, and the times of their continuance, as Britans, Romans, Danes and Saxons, and to come to times more nere vnto vs, for that my purpose is not to wade in vncertaine waters, but briefly to touch the present state and condition of my country, too sleightly slipt ouer by mine author.

*William* surnamed the Conqueror bastard sonne to *Robert* the sixth Duke of Normandy, and cousin germaine vnto King *Edward* the Confessor by the mothers side, pretending a title vnto this Kingdome by the guift of *Edward* his kinsman, and also by a couenant confirmed by oth betwixt *Harrold* and him, entred this land, slue King *Harrold* in battaile and obtained the crowne by conquest, vpon the fourteenth day of October 1066. Hee altered the whole state of the country, dispossessed the Inhabitants, and distributed their lands by portions vnto his people that came in with him, he raigned twenty yeeres, eight monthes and sixteene daies, and left the Kingdome to *William* his third sonne, surnamed *William Rufus*, who was  
slaine



slaine in hunting, after hee had raigned twelue yeeres, eleuen months and eighteene daies, and hauing no issue, left the gouernment to *Henry* his brother, and youngest sonne to *William* the Conqueror.

*Henry* the first, surnamed *Henry Beuclarke*, raigned five and thirty yeeres, foure months and eleuen daies, and dying without issue male, left the crowne vnto *Stephen* Earle *Morton* and of *Bologne*, sonne to the Earle of *Blois*, and *Adela*, *William* Conquerors daughter, and nephew to King *Henry* the first.

*Stephen* raigned eighteene yeeres, eleuen months and eighteene daies, and *Henry* sonne to *Maude* the Empreffe, whose mother was *Maude* Queene of England, wife to King *Henry* the first and daughter to *Margaret* Queene of Scots, who was daughter to *Edward* the sonne of *Edmund*, surnamed *Ironsyde* (by which meanes the Saxon line was againe restored) succeeded in his Kingdome.

*Henry* the second raigned foure and thirty yeeres, nine months and two daies, and then departing this life left the managing of the estate vnto his third sonne *Richard* surnamed *Richard Ceur de Lyon*.

*Richard* the first raigned nine yeeres, nine months and two and twenty daies, and dying without issue, his brother *John* (disinheriting *Arthur* and *Eleanor*, the right heires to the crowne, as being the issue of *Jeffrey* Duke of Britan his elder brother, who was fourth sonne to *Henry* the second, and died before his father) tooke vpon him the gouernment. *John* raigned seuentene yeeres, seuen monthes, and *Henry* his eldest sonne raigned in his steed.

*Henry* the third raigned fixe and fiftie yeeres, and one month, and left his sonne *Edward* surnamed *Long-shankes* to rule after him.

*Edward*.



*Edward* the first raigned foure and thirty yeeres, eight monthes and nine daies, and exchanging his Kingdome, for the Kingdome of heauen, left the crowne to his sonne *Edward* of *Carnarvon* so called because hee was borne there.

*Edward* the second raigned nineteene yeeres, seuen months and sixe daies, and beeing then deposed, the gouernment was committed to *Edward* his sonne.

*Edward* the third raigned fifty yeeres, foure monthes and seuen daies, and left the Kingdome vnto *Richard* his grand-child, the sonne of *Edward* the *Blacke Prince*, who died before his father.

*Richard* the second was deposed, when hee had raigned two and twenty yeeres, foureteene weekes and two daies, and *Henry Plantagenet*, sonne to *Iohn* of *Gante* Duke of Lancaster, fourth sonne to *Edward* the third got possession of the crown rather by force then by lawful succession.

*Henry* the fourth raigned thirteene yeeres, six months, and foure daies, and his sonne *Henry* succeeded him in the Kingdome.

*Henry* the fifth, whose valor France well knew, raigned nine yeeres, five months, and foure and twenty daies, and left the gouernment to his sonne *Henry* likewise.

*Henry* the sixth raigned eight and thirty yeeres, six months and nineteene daies, and *Edward* Earle of March, eldest sonne to *Richard* Duke of Yorke, clayming the crowne by liniall discent, from *Lionel* Duke of *Clarence*, third sonne to *Edward* the third, and elder brother to *Iohn* of *Gante* Duke of Lancaster, succeeded him in the gouernment.

*Edward* the fourth raigned two and twenty yeeres five weekes & one day & left the Kingdom to his son *Edward*.

*Edward*



*Edward* the fifth was murdered by *Richard* Duke of Gloucester, youngest sonne to *Richard* Duke of Yorke, and youngest brother to *Edward* the fourth, when hee had raigned onely ten weekes and foure daies.

*Richard* the third hauing butchered his Nephewes, and vsurped the crowne of England, was slaine by *Henry* the Seuenth when hee had raigned two yeeres, two monthes and fiue daies, and left the Crowne vnto the said *Henry*, who was next heire from the house of Lancaster, and married *Elizabeth*, Daughter vnto *Edward* the Fourth, next heire from the house of Yorke, by which marriage hee reunitied the two long deuided houses of Yorke and Lancaster.

*Henry* the Seuenth, raigned three and twenty yeeres, eight monthes and nineteene daies, and left the Kingdom to *Henry* his Second sonne, for his eldest sonne *Arthur* died before his father without issue.

*Henry* the Eight, raigned seuen and thirty yeeres, ten monthes and one day, and left the charge of the gouernment to *Edward* his sonne.

*Edward* the Sixth, raigned fixe yeeres, fiue monthes and nineteene daies, and Queene *Mary* his eldest sister succeeded him.

Queene *Mary* raigned fiue yeeres, fiue monthes and two and twenty daies, and her sister Queene *Elizabeth* raigned after her.

Queene *Elizabeth* raigned foure and forty yeeres foure monthes and foureteene daies. Shee was the mirror of the world for Gouerament and (her sex considered) beyond compare admirable, religious, prudent, magnanimous, mercifull, beloued, euill spoken of



by none but onely the wicked, neuer to bee remembred of any true hearted Englishman, but which reioycing for her birth, and sorrowing for her death. Her Virgine life was such, as that (for politike respects) beeing moo-ued to marry in the first yeere of her reigne, her answere was that that estate liked her best, wherein she then liued with all concludng for satisfaction to her subiects with a *Deus Providebit*, God shall prouide an heire for this Kingdome, which blessed bee God therefore, our eyes haue after foure and forty yeeres of her gracious raigne now to our comfort seene. But for your better satisfaction, I will here set downe her words at large as they are penned by Maister Stow in his Annals of England.

Stowes An-  
nal.  
Anno Eliz.  
primo.

” AS I haue had good cause, so doe I giue you all my  
” hearty thankes, for the good zeale and louing care  
” you seeme to haue, as well towards mee, as the whole  
” estate of your Country: your petition, I perceiue, con-  
” sisteth of three partes, and mine answere to the same  
” shall depend of two.

” And to the first part, I may say vnto you, that from  
” my yeeres of vnderstanding, sith I first had consideration  
” of my selfe, to bee borne a seruitor of almighty God,  
” I happily chose this kinde of life, in the which I yet  
” liue, which I assure you, for my owne part, hath hi-  
” therto best contented my selfe, and, I trust, hath beene  
” most acceptable to God. From the which, if either  
” ambition of high estate offered to mee in marriage by  
” the pleasure and appointment of my Prince, whereof I  
” haue some records in this presence (as you our Trea-  
” surer well knew) or if the eschewing the danger of  
” mine



mine enemies, or the avoyding of the perrill of death, whose messenger, or rather a continuall watch-man, the Princees indignation was no little time daily before mine eyes, by whose meanes, although I know, or iustly may suspect, yet I will not now vtter, or if the whole cause were in my sister her selfe, I will not now burthen her therewith, because I will not charge the dead: if any of these, I say, could haue drawne, or diswaded mee from this kinde of life, I had not now remained in this estate wherein you see mee, but so constant haue I alwaies continued in this determination, although my youth and wordes may seeme to some hardly to agree together, yet is it most certaine and true, that at this day I doe stand free from any other meaning, that either I haue had in times past, or haue at this present, with which trade of life I am so thoroughly acquainted, that I trust in God, who hath hitherto therein preferred, and led mee by the hand, will not of his goodness suffer mee to goe alone.

For the other part, the manner of your petition I doe well like, and take it in verie good part, because that it is simple, and containeth no lymitation of place or person: if it had beene otherwise, I must needs haue misliked it verie much, and thought it in you a verie great presumption, beeing vnfitting, and altogether vnmeet for you to require them that may commaunde, or those to appoint, whose partes are to desire, or such to binde and limit, whose duties are to obey, or to take vpon you to drawe my loue to your likings, or to frame my will to your fantasie: For a guerdon constrained, and a gift freely giuen, can



„ neuer agree together . Neuerthelesse if any one of  
„ you bee in suspect , that whensoever it may please God  
„ to incline my heart to another kinde of life , you may  
„ well assure your selues , my meaning or resolution is not  
„ to doe or determine any thing , wherewith the Realme  
„ may , or shall , haue iust cause to bee discontented , or com-  
„ plaine of imposed iniurie . And therefore put that  
„ cleane out of your heads , and remooue such doubtfull  
„ thoughts , for I doe assure you , what credit my assu-  
„ rance may haue with you I cannot tell , but what cre-  
„ dit it shall deserue to haue , the sequell shall declare ; I  
„ will neuer in that matter conclude any thing that shal-  
„ be preiudiciall to the Realme , for the benefit , weale ,  
„ good and safetie whereof , I will neuer shunne to spend  
„ my life .

„ And whomsoever my chance shalbe to light vpon ,  
„ I trust he shalbe such , as shalbe as carefull for the Realme ,  
„ and you , I will not say as my selfe , because I cannot  
„ so certainelie determine of any other , but at the least-  
„ wise , by my good will and desire , hee shalbe such , as  
„ shalbe as carefull for the preservation of the Realme ,  
„ and you , as my selfe . And albeit it might please Al-  
„ mightie G O D to continue mee still in this minde , to  
„ liue out of the estate of marriage , yet is it not to bee  
„ feared , but hee will so worke in my heart , and in your  
„ wisdomes , as good prouision by his helpe may bee  
„ made in conuenient , whereby the Realme shall not  
„ remaine and stand destitute of an heire to succeed mee ,  
„ that may bee a fit Gouvernour , and peraduenture more  
„ beneficiall to the Realme and generality , then such off-  
„ spring as may come of mee .

For



For though I bee neuer so carefull of your well do-  
ings, and minde euer so to bee, yet may issue growe  
out of kinde, and become perhaps vngratious. And  
in the end this shalbe for mee verie sufficient, that a  
marble stone shall declare, that a maiden Queene ha-  
uing raigned and ruled such a long time, liued, and died  
a virgine.

And heere I end, and take your comming vnto mee  
in good part, and giue vnto you all est-somes my hear-  
ty thanks, more yet for your zeale and good meaning,  
then for your petition.

*And thus farre Stowe.*

**T**HIS good Queene ELIZABETH was the last of  
the Royall issue of King Henry the eight, shee di-  
ed without any issue her selfe and left the Kingdome vn-  
to James King of Scotland, and next heire to the crowne  
of England.

King James the first of that name since the Conquest  
by the death of Queene Elizabeth, vnited the two fa-  
mous Kingdomes of England and Scotland, which had  
beene long deuided, the crowne of England rightful-  
ly and linially descending vnto him from Margueret,  
eldest daughter to Henry the seuenth, and Elizabeth wife  
of the sayd Henry, & eldest daughter to Edward the fourth,  
which Margueret was married to James the fourth King  
of Scotland, who had issue James the fifth, father vnto  
Mary the last Queene of Scots, who was mother vnto



*James* the sixth King of Scotland, and of great Britan France and Ireland the first.

To omit Ireland an Island vnder our Kings dominion, the people wherof of late yeeres haue growne to more ciuility, by conuersing with other nations, and to speake something more in perticular of this Island as now it is, wee may deuide the whole Island of Britanny into three partes, that is to say England, Wales and Scotland.

Scotland the North of this Island, hauing for a long time beene a Kingdome of it selfe seuered and distinct from England, is now by this happy vnion (as I said before) made one againe with England, and both of them gouerned by one King and Monarch.

This Country in respect of England is very barren and mountanous, and the Inhabitants, especially the vulgar sort, farre more rude and barbarous: their language in effect is all one with the English, the Northerne Scots excepted, which speake and liue after the Irish fashion, nor is their any difference in their religion, but all causes and controuersies bee there determined by the ciuill law, as in most other Countries, for with our common lawes of England they are little acquainted.

Wales an other part of this Island, and the proper habitation of the Britans, expelled thither out of England by the Englishmen, was gouerned by Princes of their owne bloud vntil the raigne of *Henry* the third, who slue *Llewellen ap Griffith*, the last Prince of the British race, vnted that Prouince vnto the Kingdome of England, and forced the Inhabitants to sweare fealty and alleagiance vnto *Edward* of *Carnaruan* his eldest sonne, whom hee made Prince of Wales: After the decease of *Edward* the



the first, this title of Prince of Wales lay dormant during all the raigne of *Edward* the Second, and was againe renewed by *Edward* the Third, who created his sonne *Edward* surnamed the *Blacke Prince*, Duke of Cornwall, Earle of Chester and Prince of Wales, and euer since hath this title beene duely conferred vnto the eldest sons of the Kings of England, for the time being, and now lastly, and but lately by our dread soueraigne Lord King *James*, vnto *Henry Fredericke* his eldest son, the hopefull issue of a happie father, borne certes (as evidently appeareth in his minority) to bee a perfect mirror of chivalry, for the aduancement of our country and common wealth, and the subuersion of his enemies.

The Inhabitants of Wales, though they bee much improved, yet do they not equall the English in ciuility, nor their soile in fertility: Their whole Country consisteth of twelue shires (that is to say) Anglesea, Brecknocke, Cardigan, Carmarden, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Glamorgan, Merionneth, Montgomery, Pembroke, and Radnor-shire, and foure bishops Seas (to wit) the Bishopricke of Saint Dauids, the Bishopricke of Landaffe, the Bishopricke of Bangor, and the Bishopricke of Saint Asaph. They haue a language peculiar to themselves, yet do they liue vnder the self same lawes the Englishmen do, but for because that part of the Island is far remote from London, the Kings seat and chiefe tribunal of Iudgement, where the lawes are executed and pleas heard for all the Realme, and by reason of their different language, the King by his commission maketh one of his nobles his deputy or lieutenant vnder him, to rule in those parts and to see the peace maintained, and Iustice ministred indifferently vnto all. This gouernor is called the Lord pretident



of Wales, who for the ease and good of the country, associate with one Iudge and diuers Iustices, holdeth there his Tearmes and Sessions for the hearing and determining of causes within Wales and the Marches. This Court is called the Court of the councill of the Marches of Wales, the proceedings whereof are in a mixt manner betwixt our common law, and ciuill law.

England, accounting Cornwall for one, though much differing in language, is deuided into 41. parts, which are called counties or shires, the seuerall names whereof are these following, viz.

<i>Berck-shire.</i>	<i>Lancaster-shire.</i>
<i>Bedford-shire.</i>	<i>Middle-sex.</i>
<i>Buckingham-shire.</i>	<i>Monmoth-shire.</i>
<i>Bishoppricke of Durham.</i>	<i>Northumberland-shire.</i>
<i>Cambridge-shire.</i>	<i>North-folke.</i>
<i>Cornwall.</i>	<i>Northampton-shire.</i>
<i>Cumberland.</i>	<i>Nottingham-shire.</i>
<i>Cheshire.</i>	<i>Oxford-shire.</i>
<i>Devon-shire.</i>	<i>Rutland-shire.</i>
<i>Dorset-shire.</i>	<i>Richmond-shire.</i>
<i>Darby-shire.</i>	<i>Sussex. Surrey.</i>
<i>Essex.</i>	<i>Suffolke.</i>
<i>Glocester-shire.</i>	<i>Somerset-shire.</i>
<i>Huntingdon-shire.</i>	<i>Stafford-shire.</i>
<i>Hertford-shire.</i>	<i>Shrop-shire.</i>
<i>Hereford-shire.</i>	<i>Wilt-shire.</i>
<i>Hampt-shire.</i>	<i>Westmore-land.</i>
<i>Kent.</i>	<i>Worcester-shire.</i>
<i>Lincolne-shire.</i>	<i>Warwicke-shire.</i>
<i>Lecoster-shire.</i>	<i>Torke-shire.</i>

Euery



Euery shire is diuided either into Hundreds, Lathes, Rapes, or Wapentakes, and euery of those into sundry parishes, and Constable-weekes, and ouer euery shire is one principall gouernor, called the Lieutenant of the shire, and a Sheriffe to collect money due vnto the King, and to account for the same in the Exchequer; as also to execute his writs and processses: and for the more particular peace of each seuerall part of the country, there be ordained in euery Countie, certaine of the worthiest and wisest sort of Gentlemen, who are called Iustices or conseruators of the peace; vnder whom high Constables, Coroners, petty cō-stables, headboroughs, and tything-men haue euery one their seuerall offices.

England moreouer, is diuided into two ecclesiasticall prouinces, which are gouerned by two spirituall persons called Archb. to wit, the Archb. of Canterbury, (who is primate and Metrapolitan of all England,) and the Archb. of Yorke, and vnder these two Archb. are 26. Bishops, that is to say, 22. vnder the Archb. of Canterbury, and 4. vnder the Archbishop of Yorke.

*In the Prouince of Canterbury are these Diocesses  
bounded as followeth.*

1 & 2 The Diocesses of Canterbury and Rochester, which haue vnder them all the Countie of Kent:

3 The Diocesse of London, which hath Essex, Middlesex, and a part of Hartford shire.

4 The Diocesse of Chichester, which hath Suffex.

5 The Diocesse of Winchester, which hath Hamptshire, Surrey, and the Iles of Wight, Gernsie and Iersey.

6 The Diocesse of Salisbury, which hath Wiltshire and Barkshire.

7 The



7 The Diocesse of Excester, which hath Deuonshire and Cornwall.

8 The Diocesse of Bath and Wels, which hath Somersetshire onely.

9 The Diocesse of Glocester, which hath Glocestershire.

10 The Diocesse of Worcester, which hath Worcestershire, and a part of Warwicke shire.

11 The Diocesse of Hereford, which hath Herefordshire, and a part of Shropshire.

12 The Diocesse of Couentrie and Liechfield, which hath Staffordshire, Derbyshire, and the rest of Warwicke shire, with some part of Shropshire.

13 The Diocesse of Lincolne, which hath Lincolne shire, Leicestershire, Huntingtongshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and the rest of Hartfordshire.

14 The Diocesse of Ely, which hath Cambridgeshire, and the Ile of Ely.

15 The Diocesse of Norwich, which hath Northfolke and Suffolke.

16 The Diocesse of Oxford, which hath Oxfordshire.

17 The Diocesse of Peterborow, which hath Northamptonshire and Rutlandshire.

18 The Diocesse of Bristow, which hath Dorcetshire.

*And to these are added the foure Bishop-  
pricks of WALES. viz.*

19 The Bishop of S. Davids.

20 The Bishop of Landaffe.

21 The Bishop of Bangor.

22 The Bishop of S. Asaph.



*In the Pronince of Yorke are these foure Diocesses  
comprehended within these limits  
following. viz.*

1 The Diocesse of Yorke, which hath Yorke-shire, and Nottinghamshire.

2 The Diocesse of Westchester, which hath Cheshire, Richmondshire, a part of Flintshire, and Denbighshire in Wales.

3 The Diocesse of Duresme, which hath the Bishoppricke of Duresme and Northumberland.

4 The Diocesse of Carlile, which hath Cumberland, and Westmerland.

And to these are added the Bishoppricke of Sodor in the Ile Mona.

The whole number of Parish Churches, and impropriations in all these seuerall Diocesses are reckened about 131209.

Hauiug thus diuided the whole kingdome of England into shires and Bishops seas; it resteth, to say something of the Citties and Corporations, whereof there be so many, and that so goodly and so well gouerned, by sundry Orders of Officers, as I thinke but few countries in Christendome go beyond it: of all which, London the Metrapolitan citty of the Iland, is most famous, both for the great concourse of strangers, that continually flocke thither from all parts of the world: some for merchandize, some for manners: as also for the conueniencie of the place, being situated vpon the famous riuer of Thames, beautified with rare & sumptuous buildings, both of Prince and Peeres: (who for the most part keepe their residence in or neare vnto the same,



as being the only place of Parliament, and holding of pleas for the whole Realme.) And for the great multitude of Students and practitioners in the lawes, which there keepe their Termes of pleading foure times in the yeare, which set together, is about one quarter, during which time the Iudges and all other Courts keepe their Courts and Sessions, and at other times is vacation and ceasing from execution of the lawes: These Iudges, Sergeants, and other Students and practitioners of all sorts haue their lodgings, and dyets in 14. seuerall houses, whereof two are only for Iudges and Sergeants, and are therefore called the Sergeants Innes: the next foure are the foure famous houses of Innes of Court, the onely receptacle of Gentlemen, students and Councillors, & the other eight be inferior houses to the Innes of Court, furnished with Attorneys, Solicitors, and young Gentlemen and Clerkes, that are to liue and study there for a space as probationers, before they be thought fit to be admitted to the Innes of Court, which eight houses be called the Innes of Chancery.

This citty and suburbs is diuided into fixe and twenty wards, and about an hundred and twenty Parishes: The chiefeft Magistrate there vnder the King, is the Lord Maior, vnder whome are diuers inferior Officers ouer euery seuerall company and ward, who do all of them attend the Maior when he takes his oath in such seemely manner, as he that beholds their stately Pageants and deuises, their passage by water to Westminster and backe againe: their going to Paules, the infinit number of attendants of Aldermen, and all sorts of people: their rare and costly banquers, and all their forme of gouernement, surely I suppose, he will hold opinion, that no citty of the world hath the like.

This



This superficial commendation of this renowned city of London shall suffice for all: and therefore I will passe ouer the rest in silence, for that there is no one thing worthy memorie in any cittie or towne of the whole Realme, that the like or better is not to bee found in the city of London: the Vniuersities onely excepted, which are the nurse-gardens, and Seminaries of all good arts and sciences. And of these there be two, Oxford and Cambridge, which consisting of sundry Colledges and Hals erected and founded by godly and deuout founders and benefactors, and endowed with large rents, and reuenues, for the maintenance of poore schollers, who are there maintained, and instructed in learning of all sorts: and beeing next vnto London, the two VVorthies of our kingdome; and in truth the most famous Vniuersities in Christendome. I thinke it not amisse (omitting to speake any thing of the cittizens and townsmen, or the diuided gouernement betwixt them & the Vniuersities) to recite in particular the names of the Colledges and Hals in both Vniuersities, their founders & benefactors, and the times of their seuerall foundations.

First therefore of Oxford, (without addition of superiority, for that (as the Prouerbe is) *As proud goes behind as before*;) there be contained in that Vniuersitie, (besides nine hals, *viz.* Glocester hall, Broad-gate, S. Mary hall, Albaine hall, VVhite hall, New Inne, Edmund hall, Hart hall, and Magdalin hall; which differ from the Colledges, for that the Colledges haue lands to maintaine their Societies, which the hals in Oxford do want; and therefore though al scholer-like exercises bee there practised as well as in the Colledges, yet in respect of the want of maintainance they do in part resemble the *hous* in court) sixteene Colledges, that is to say:

I Vni-



- 1 Vniuersitie Colledge founded by *Alured* king of the Saxons, in the yeare of our Lord, 872.
- 2 Baylyoll Colledge founded by *John Baylyoll*, king of the Scots, in the yeare of our Lord, 1263.
- 3 Martin Colledge, founded by *Walter Martin*, bish. of Rochester, in the yeare of our Lord, 1273.
- 4 Excester Colledge, and Hart hall founded by *Staphelin* bishop of Excester, in the yeare of our Lord, 1316. which said Colledge was much augmented by Sir *Willia Peeter*, Secretary to king *Henry* the eight, in the yeare of our Lord, 1566.
- 5 Oriall Colledge, founded by *Adam Browne*, brought vp in the Vniuersity of Oxford by king *Edward* the second, in the yeare of our Lord, 1323.
- 6 Queenes Colledge, founded by *Robert Eglesfield*, Chaplin to *Philippe*, king *Edward* the thirds wife, in the yeare of our Lord, 1349.
- 7 New Colledge, founded by *Willyam VVicham* bishop of VVinchester, in the yeare of our Lord, 1375.
- 8 Lincolne Colledge, founded by *Richard Flemming*, Bishop of Lincolne, and increased by *Thomas Rotheram*, Bishop of the same Diocesse, in the yeare of our Lord, 1420.
- 9 All Soules Colledge, founded by *Henry Checkelsey*, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the yere of our Lord, 1437.
- 10 Magdalin Colledge, and Magdalin Hall, founded by *VVillyam VVainflet*, Bishop of Winchester, and Chancellor of England, in the yeare of our Lord, 1456.
- 11 Brazen-nose Colledge, founded by *VVillyam Smith*, Bishop of Lincolne, in the yeare of our Lord, 1513 and lately increased by Doctor *Nowell*, Deane of Paules.
- 12 Corpus Christi Colledge, founded by *Richard Fox* Bishop



Bishop of Winchester, in the yeare of our Lord, 1516.

13 Christs Church, founded by Cardinall *Wolsey*, in the yeare of our Lord, 1526. and indowed with lands by king *Henry* the eight.

14 S. Iohns Colledge, founded by Sir *Thomas white*, Maior of London, in the yeare of our Lord, 1557.

15 Trinity Colledge, founded by Sir *Thomas Pope* Knight, in the yeare of our Lord, 1566.

16 Iesus Colledge, founded by *Hugh Price*, Doctor of the ciuill Law.

There is another Colledge now in building, the foundation wherof is alreadie laid by M. *Waddam* of Merryfield in Somersetshire.

C Ambridge was first a common schoole, founded by *Sigebert*, king of the East English, in the yeare of our Lord God, 637. since which time it hath beene so increased and augmented, that at this day it is equall to Oxford: it consisteth (reckoning *Michaell* house, and Kings hall for two, which haue beene since added to Trinity Colledge) of eightene Halles & Colledges, the Halls hauing lands belonging to them as well as the Colledges: for there is no difference there betwixt Halles and Colledges, but in name onely, sauing that the Colledges haue more lands then the Hals, and therefore maintaine more Schollers then the hals do: the names of the houses, and by whome and when they were founded and augmented, is as followeth:

1 Peter-house, founded by *Hugh* Bishop of Ely, in the yeare of our Lord, 1280.

2 Michaell-house, founded by Sir *Henry Stanton* Knight, one of the Iudges of the common Bench, in the yeare of our Lord, 1324.

3 Trin-



3 Trinity hall, founded by *William Bateman*, in the yeare of our Lord, 1354.

4 Corpus Christi Colledge, founded by *John of Gaunt*, Duke of Lancaster, in the yeare of our Lord God, 1344.

5 Clare hall, was first called Scholer hall, and afterwards the Vniuersitie hall, and being burnt with fire, was afterwards re-edified by *Elizabeth*, daughter of *Gilbert Clare*, Earle of Leicester, in the yeare of our Lord God, 1326. and by her called Clare hall.

6 Pembroke hal founded by *Mary Countesse of Pembroke*, in the yeare of our Lord, 1343.

7 Kings hall, repaired by king *Edward* the third, in the yeare of our Lord, 1376.

8 Kings Colledge, founded by king *Henry* the sixt, in the yeare of our Lord, 1441.

9 Queenes Colledge, founded by *Margaret* wife to king *Henry* the sixt, and finished by *Elizabeth*, wife to K. *Edward* the fourth, in the yeare of our Lord God, 1448.

10 Katherine hall, founded by Doctor *Woodlabe* Prouoost of Kings Colledge in Cambridge, in the yeare of our Lord, 1459.

11 Iesus Colledge, founded by *John Alcocke*, Bishop of Ely, in the yeare of our Lord, 1504.

12 Christs Colledge, founded by *Queene Margaret*, Grandmother to King *Henry* the eight.

13 Saint Iohns Colledge, founded by the sayd *Queene Margaret*, in the yeare of our Lord God, 1506.

14 *Magdalin* Colledge, founded by the Lord *Audley*, in the yeare of our Lord, 1509. and enlarged by Sir *Christopher Wrey*, Lord chiefe Iustice of England.



15 Trinity Colledge founded by k. *Henry* the 8. for the inlarging whereof he added thereunto Michael house and Kings hall, and made therof one Colledge in the yeare of our Lord, 1546. so as now the names of Michael house, and kings hall is almost worne out of memorie.

16 Gonvel and Caius Colledge, first founded by one *Gonwell*, about the yeare of our Lord, 1348. and perfected by *John Caius* Doctor of Physicke, and by him called *Gonuell* and Caius Colledge, in the yeare of our Lord, 1557.

17 Emanuell Colledge, founded by Sir *Walter Mildmay*, in the yeare of our Lord, 1588.

18 Sidney-Sussex Colledge, founded by *Francis Sidney*, Countesse of Sussex, for the erecting whereof she bequeathed at her death five thousand pounds, it was begun in the yeare of our Lord, 1597.

Now hauing thus farre spoken of the Country in particular, it resteth to say something with like breuity of the seuerall sorts of people that inhabite the same, their proceedings in courses of law, as well spirituall as temporall, and their seuerall Courts. The whole number of English men may therefore be diuided into these foure ranckes or degrees of people, that is to say, Gentlemen or Noblemen, Cittizens, Yeomen, and artificers or labourers.

Of Gentlemen or Nobility there be two sorts, to wit, the king himselfe, the Prince, Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, Vicounts and Barons. And this sort of Gentlemen are called *Nobilitas maior*, and the second sort of Gentlemen or Nobility, which are also called *nobilitas minor*, consisteth of Knights, Esquires, and priuat Gentlemen, into which ranke of gentry are added Students of the lawes and scholars in the Vniuersities: next vnto the Gentry are cittizens whose fame and authority (for the most part) extendeth no



further than their owne citties and borowghes wherein they liue, and beare rule, sauing that some few of them haue voices in our high Senate of Parliament: The third order or degree are the Yeomanrie, which are men that liue in the country vppon competent liuings of their owne, haue seruants to do their businesse for them, serue vpon Iuries and Inquests, and haue generally more employment in the gouernement of the common-wealth, then citizens haue. And the last and lowest sort of our people are artificers or labourers, which though they be rude and base in respect of our gentry, yet are they much improoued and bettered by conuersing with Gentlemen, citizens, and yeomen: so as if those authors were now liuing, that haue written so contemptuously of all estates of our people vnder the degree of gentry, and saw the ciuilitie now generally practised amongst most of vs, they would not for some few of the rascalitie, censure and condemne all as base and ignoble.

All these seuerall sorts and degrees of people in our kingdome, may more briefly bee deuided into two Orders or ranckes, that is to say, the Nobilitie and the Commons: vnder the title of Nobilitie are comprehended all the *Nobilitas maior*, together with the Bishops that haue place in the vpper house of Parliament: and by the commons are meant the *nobilitas minor*, citizens, yeomen, and labourers, who by common consent elect from amongst them Knights and Burgeses to possesse the lower house of Parliament, who haue their voices there in the name of the whole multitude of commons, for the making and establishing of lawes, ordonances, and statutes.

The Parliament therefore is the highest & most absolute Sessions or iudiciall Senate in the whole kingdome, consisting



sisting of the King himselfe: and the Lords spirituall and temporall in their own persons, which is the higher house, and the whole body of the commons represented by the Knights and Burgeses lawfully elected, and those are called the lower house.

In this high Court of Parliament are such new lawes made and ordained, and such old statutes abrogated and annihilated in part or in all, as are agreed vpon by consent of both houses, and confirmed by the King, so as whatsoeuer is there decreed and constituted, is inuiolably to be obserued, as established by the generall assembly of the whole kingdome.

There be three manner of wayes by one custome of England, whereby definitiue iudgements are giuen, by act of Parliament, by battell, and by great assise. The manner of giuing Iudgement in the Parliament in matters depending betwixt Prince and subiect, or partie and party, concerning lands and inheritances, is by preferring of billes into the houses of Parliament, and by the allowance or disallowance thereof: but such billes are seldome receiued, for that the Parliament is chiefly summoned and assembled, for the settling and establishing of matters for the good of the King and common-wealth, & not to busie themselves in priuate quarrels.

The triall by battell likewise, though it bee not vtterly abrogated, and altogether annihilated, yet is it quite growne out of vse at this day.

So as the most vsuall manner of Iudgement, is by the verdict of twelue men, lawfully impaneled and sworne to giue a true verdict concerning the matter in question, be it for life or land, or any thing tending to the hurt or good of any subiect whatsoeuer.



These twelve men ought to be *Legales homines*, as wee terme them, that is, men of good quality, fame, and abilitie, and they are to giue their verdict according to their euidence, before a lawfull Iudge, in their Sessions, at termes and times vsually appointed for those purposes. And for that there be many suites of diuers natures, therefore bee the trials therof in diuers courts, and before diuers Iudges, whereof the chiefeft bench or tribunall seate of Iudgement is the Kings bench; so called, for that the Kings of England haue sat there theselues in person, and this Court is chiefly for pleas of the Crowne, the Iudges whereof bee called Iustices of the Kings bench, and they be commonly foure or fve in number, whereof one is head, and therefore called the Lord chiefe Iustice of the Kings bench, and by that place he is also Lord Chiefe Iustice of England.

Next vnto the Kings bench, is the Court of Common pleas, which is for all matters touching lands and contracts betwixt partie and partie: and of this Court be likewise foure or fve Iudges, the chiefeft whereof is called the Lord chiefe Iustice of the Common pleas, and this court may well be called the Common pleas, as being the chiefeft place for the exercise of the Common law. And there may none plead at the Common pleas barre, but Sergeants at the law onely; wheras in all other Courts, counsellors that be called to the barre may plead their Clyents causes, as well as Sergeants.

The third Court for practise of the common law, is the Exchequer, where all causes are heard that belong to the Kings Treasury. The Iudges of this Court are the Lord high Treasurer of England, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Lord chiefe Baron, and three or foure other Barons, which be called Barons of the Exchequer.

Besides



Besides these three Courts of the common law, and the court of the Councell for the Marches of Wales, whereof I haue spoken before, there is a Court for the North part of England, which is likewise called the Councell, hauing a President, Iustices and assistants, as in the Councell of Wales, and the same forme of proceeding. And for the more ease and quiet of the subiect, the King by his commission sendeth the Iudges and Barons of the Exchequer, twise a yeare into euery seuerall County of the countrie, as well to see the lawes executed against malefactors, as for the triall and determining of causes depending betwixt partie and party.

These two Sessions are vsually called the Assises or Goale-delivery, and their manner of proceedings, is by Iurors who are to giue their verdicts according to euidēce.

And for because the time of these Iudges commission, is ouer short to determine all matters, that may arise in halfe a yeare, the Iustices of peace in their seuerall Counties, haue their Sessions likewise, which be kept foure times in the yeare, and be therefore called the quarter Sessions; in which Sessions are heard and determined all pettie causes, for the more ease of the Iudges in their circuits.

And for the better maintenance of peace in euery part of the Realm, there be diuers other petty Courts, as county Courts, hundred Courts, towne Courts, Leets, Court Barons, and such like: all which hold plea according to the course of the common law.

Next vnto these Courts of common law is the Court of Star-chamber, which is the court of the kings Councell: & therein sit as Iudges the L. Chancellor as chiefe, the L. Treasurer, and the rest of the priuy Councel both spirituall and tēporall, together with the chiefe Iustices of both benches.



And in this court be censured all criminall causes, as per-  
iurie, forgerie, couzenage, ryots, maintenance, and such  
like. The court of Wards and Liueries is next, which is a  
court of no long continuance, being first ordained by *Hen-  
ry* the 8. the matters that are determinable in that court,  
are as touching wards and wardships: and the Iudges are  
the Master of the wards and liueries, the Atturney of the  
court of wards, and other officers and assistants.

Then is there the Admirals court, which is only for pu-  
nishment of misdemeanors done at sea, the Iudges of  
which court be the Lord high Admirall of England, and a  
Iudge, with other officers.

The Duchie court, which is a court for the determi-  
ning of matters depending within the Duchy of Lanca-  
ster, wherein be Iudges, the Chancellor of the Duchie, and  
the Atturney.

And a late erected court called the court of the Queens  
reuenues, for the deciding of controuersies amongst the  
Queenes tenants.

Next vnto these, are the courts of Equity, which are, the  
Chancery, and the court of Requests. The court of Chan-  
cery, which is commonly called the court of conscience, is  
chiefly for the mitigation of the rigor of the cōmon lawe,  
wherein the Lord high Chancellor of England is chiefest  
Iudge and moderator, to whom are ioyned as assistants,  
the M. of the Rolles, and certaine graue Doctors of the ci-  
uill law, which are vsually called Masters of the Chancery.

The court of Requests is much like to the Chancery, and  
is chiefly for the kings seruants: the Iudges wherof, are the  
Masters of Requests, which bee alwaies reuerent men, and  
well seen in the ciuill law: and one of them is euer atten-  
dant on the King to receiue supplications, and to answer  
them



them according to the Kings pleasure.

Having thus passed ouer the seuerall courts of common law, the courts of Equity, and those which are of a mixt nature, betwixt the common & ciuill law, I wil only name the spirituall courts, the chiefest wherof are these:

The first and most principal, is the conuocation of the Clergy, which is a Synod of the chiefest of the Clergie of the whole Realme, held only in Parliament time, in a place called the Conuocation house, where cannons are ordained for church-gouernment. And this court may be called a generall Councell: next vnto which are the particular Synods of both Prouinces, Canterbury and York, and are called prouinciall Synods. Then is there the Archb. of Canturburies court, called the Arches: the court of Audience: the Prerogatiue court: the court of Faculties: & the court of Peculiars; with many other courts in each seuerall Dioceses. In all which courts, what matters are there handled, their Iudges and assistants, and all their whole manner of proceedings, I leaue to the report of such, as are better acquainted in those courts.

*And thus much may suffice for the present estate of our country, as it is now in the ninth yeare of the raigne of our dread Soueraign Lord, K. James the first, whome God graunt long to rule and raigne ouer vs.*

#### OF IRELAND.

**H**IBERNIA, an Iland bordering vpon Brittain on the North and West side, and much about halfe as big as Brittain, was so called (according to some) *ab hyberno tempore*, that is to say, of the winter season. The ground there is so exceeding rancke, and the grasse so pleasant and delicious withall, that their beasts in Sommer time will



kill themselves with feeding and superfluously grazing, if they be not driuen from pasture some part of the day.

This Island breedeth neither spider nor toade, nor any other venomous or infectious creature, nor will any liue that are brought thither out of other Countries, but dye instantly as soone as they do but touch this Countries soyle.

Bees there be none, the aire is very temperate and the earth fruitfull, and yet be the people exceeding barbarous, vnciuill, and cruell. For those which prooue vanquishers in their battels, swill and drinke vp the bloud of their flaine enemies, and then defile and gore their owne faces with it. And whether they do right or wrong, it is all one vnto them.

When a woman is deliuered of a male child, the first meate she giueth him, shee putteth into his mouth with her husbands sword point, signifying by that manner of feeding, (and also praying after her countrey fashion) that the child may dye no other death, but in the field amongst his enemies. Their greatest gallants adorne the hilts and pummels of their swords, with beasts teeth, which bee as white as Iuorie, and brought thither out of other countreys. And their chiefeft delight and greatest glorie is to be souldiers.

Those which inhabite the hilly and mountainous part of the countrey, liue vppon milke and apples, and are more giuen to hunting and sporting, then to husbandrie. The Sea betwixt England and Ireland is very raging, vnquier, and troublesome all the yeare long, and (but in summer) hardly nauigable: Yet do they sayle ouer it in boates or whirries made of Ozier twigs, and couered with Oxe hides or buffe skins: they abstaine from meate all the while they  
are



are vpon the seas. And this sea ( according to the opinion of the best writers) is in breadth one hundred and twenty English miles. The inhabitants of the Ile of Sillura, *Syllura.* re-  
taine as yet their old customes and course of life, money they haue none, nor no marketting, but giue and take one of an other, furnishing themselves rather by exchanging one thing for an other, then by buying and selling: They beleue in the gods, and aswell women as men, bee very skilful in predictions and sooth-saying.

Those which possesse the Iles called Eubudes ( where-  
of there be fīue) liue altogether on milke and fish, not ca-  
ring for corne nor any kinde of fruites. These Islands *The Iles cal-  
led Eubudes.*  
are seperated one from an other onely by a little riuer,  
and are all vnder the gouernment of one King, who pos-  
sesseth nothing in priuate to himselfe, but occupieth all  
in commune with his subiects.

Their lawes inforce him to equity and right, and least  
coueteousnesse should diuert him from truth, hee learn-  
eth Iustice through pouerty, as being maintained at the  
publike charge, without hauing any thing proper to him-  
selfe, no not so much as a wife, in so much as enioying  
the company of women by turnes with his subiects, hee  
is vtterly deprīued of all hope of issue, that hee may iustly  
say are his owne.

The vtmost Island in the British seas is Thyle, wherein, *The Island cal-  
led Thyle now  
called Island.*  
in the Sommer solstice, when the Sunne is in Cancer,  
there is almost no night, and as little day in the winter sol-  
stice: The Inhabitants in the beginning of the spring liue  
amongst their cattaille with herbes and milke, and in win-  
ter with fruites of trees, for the Island yeeldeth great store  
of apples: They haue certaine mariages, but enioy their  
women in commune like the Inhabitants of the Eubudes.

There



*The Gymnesia  
or Baleares.*

There bee other Islands also in the Mediterranean sea towards the West, which of the Greekes bee called Gymnesiæ, because the people thereof goe naked, but of the Romans, and by the Inhabitants themselves, they are called Baleares, of slinging or casting of stones, because they bee more expert in that exercise, then any other people. The biggest of these Islands, is the greatest Island that is excepting seven, which are Sicilia, Sardinia, Creta, Eubæa, Cyprus, Corsica and Lesbos: It is distant from Iberia now called Spaine one daies sayling.

The lesser of them lieth more East-ward, and aboundeth with all kinde of cattaille, and especially mules, which bee greater then other country mules, and will bray louder: both of these Islands are fertile and fruitfull, and well replenished with people. They bee very greedy of wine (whereof their country yeeldeth none) and in steed of oyle (which is also wanting) they anoint their bodies with swines grease, and masticke mingled together. Women there are in farre more estimation then men, in so much as if a woman bee taken prisoner, they will ransom her with three or foure men.

Their dwellings are in hollow caues, made in steepe rockes, which are their onely couering and defence for their bodies: And they are so farre out of loue with gold and siluer, as they forbid it to bee brought into their Island, supposing that by wanting money, they are in security from all plots of treason: And therefore at such time as they serued in the Carthaginian warres, they brought home nothing with them, but wine and women, which they bought with the money they receiued for pay. Their manner of marriages are both strange and prodigious, for all the brides family and friends that are present  
at



at the nuptials, lie with her one after an other according to their age, and the bride-groome last of all: the forme of burials also is proper to themselves, and different from all other people, for they dismember and cut the dead bodie into small peeces, and put them into a vessel and so couer the vessel with stones.

Their weapons are euery one a sling, and there budgets to put stones in, the one hee hangeth about his necke, an other hee guirdeth about his waste, and the third hee carrieth in his hand, their stones are bigger then other men are well able to throw, and yet will throw them so strongly that they flie with such violence as if they were shot out of a peece: And with these stones when they assault any citty, will they wound and kill their enemies that gard and defend the walles and bulwarkes of the cittie, and breake their shields and helmets, and all other kinde of armor: and they will leuell so rightly, as they will verie seldome misse the marke they aime at, for they bee trained vp in this kinde of excercise from their childhood, and therevnto constrained by their mothers, who will set a peece of bread vpon a stake for them to throw at, and giue them nothing to eate, before they haue stroke the bread off the stake with a stone.

Now hauing entred into the relation of Islands, oportunitie is offered to speake somewhat of a new found Island fytuated in the South part of the Ocean sea, and of the strange things that are reported to bee in that Island, as also of the cause and manner of the finding thereof, which was thus.

One *Iambolus* being in his youth trained vp as a scholar, after the death of his father (who was a merchant) be-  
tooke himselfe to merchandize, and sayling into Arabia  
for

*Of the Island  
found out by  
Iambolus.*



for spices, he with all his partners were surpris'd and taken by Pyrats and Robbers, and one of his fellowes and himselfe beeing by those theeues set into the fields to keepe sheepe, were afterwards found and taken away by certaine maritime Æthiopians, and by them carried ouer into Aethiopia, where (for because they were strangers) they were assigned to bee a sacrifice and expiation to the gods of that Country, for those Aethiopians which liued vpon the sea coast, had an ancient custome of fixe hundred yeares continuance, which they receiued by Oracle from their gods, to expiate and make satisfaction to their gods with two men: the manner whereof was this: They had a little barke or boate, prouided for that purpose, that was able to brooke the seas, and which two men were able to gouerne: and into this vessel they put *Iambolus* and his companion, and victuals for fixe monthes; commanding them that (according to their Oracle) they should direct their ship and saile South ward, and that then they should attaine to a fortunate Island, the people whereof were maruelous curteous and ciuil & florished in great felicity: Into which Island if they arriued in safety, their owne Country should for six hundred yeeres after enioy perfect peace and happinesse: But if (through the terror or tediousnesse of the seas) they diuered their course, that then (as impious and wicked varlers) they were causers of great calamities that should fall vpon their region.

This done and the boate lanch'd out, those maritime Aethiopians are said to keepe that day holy, and to doe sacrifice to the seas, praying for their good successe, and that their expiation, may take good effect: When *Iambolus* and his companion were thus committed to the  
mercy



mercy of the sea, and had beene long tossed in stormes and tempests, after foure monthes sayling, they arriued into an Island in forme round, and in compasse about fūe thousand stadia, into which when they were entred, some of the Inhabitants came to meete them, and some others runing towards them (being greatly amazed, and wondering at the comming of strangers into their Island) receiued them very curteously, and bountifully offered them such things as their country afforded.

The Inhabitants of that Island, are nothing like to vs, either in stature or manners, for though they carry the same proportion of body and members, yet bee they farre taller then wee are, the most of them being aboue foure cubits hie, and notwithstanding their exceeding height, their bones bee not solid like ours, but flexible like nerues or sinewes, by which meanes they exceed vs in agility and nimblenesse of body, and they are so strong with al, as what euer they grasp with their hands can hardly bee wrested from them. They be a very beautiful, comely and well featured people, and their skinnēs so smooth and so slike, as you can hardly perceiue any wrinkle or haire vpon any part of their bodies.

The hollownesse of their eares is much wider then ours, and their tongues as farre different, for nature (assisted with their ingenious wits and dispositions) hath indued them with this extraordinary priuiledge, that their tongues are naturally so cleft and deuided from the roote to the tip, as they seeme to haue euery one two tongues, by which meanes they doe not onely speake a humaine and intelligible voice, but they can truely imitate the chirping and singing of diuers birdes likewise, and that which is more strange, they will talke and confer



conferre with two seuerall persons, of seuerall matters, at one and the selfe same time, the one part of the tongue speaking and giuing answere vnto one, and the other part to the other: The ayre is there very pure and wholesome all the yeere long ( according to the saying of the poet, that apples, peares and grapes will rotte and corrupt vpon the trees and vines ) and the daies and nights are euer of an equall length, and when the Sunne is directly ouer their heads, there is no shadow of any thing towards the South.

All the people of one stocke or kindred liue together, so as they exceed not the number of foure hundred: their chieftest abode is in the fields, for the earth naturally produceth great store of fruits, without tillage or trauell, in so much as through the vertue and quality of the Island, and temperature of the aire, they haue more then they are able to spend.

There be a kinde of reeds growing in that Island, which beare great store of fruite like vnto white vetches, the fruite of these reedes they gather and sprinkle with warme water, and then euery graine will bee as bigge as a Doves egge, which they afterwards grinde or beate into meale, and make thereof a kinde of bread, which in taste is most pleasant and delicious.

There bee many great springs, and fountaines of water, whereof some bee hot and serue for bathes, and to cure diseases, and some cold, and withall maruelous sweete and very phisicall likewise.

They be a people very industrious and greedy of learning, and especially of Astrology: Their letters which they vse in sence and signification, are eight and twentie, but their carecters are but seuen in number, for euery  
character



character hath foure severall significations or interpretations, and they write not from the left hand towards the right, as wee doe, but beginne at the top and write downwards.

They be very long of life, the most of them living the full age of a hundred and fifty yeeres, and (for the most part) without any sicknesse at all: and if any hap to fall either into an ague or any other infirmity of body, they are compelled by their law to die forth-with: They are also appointed how long they shall live, which age when they haue accomplished, they willingly procure their owne deaths, some by one meanes and some by an other: There is an herbe in that countrie, vpon which if any one lay his body, hee falleth into a sweete and delectable slumber, and in that sleepe departeth his life without paine.

*They haue a  
time prefixed  
how long to  
live.*

*An admirable  
herbe.*

Mariages they haue none, but women bee there common to all, & children equally loued of al and brought vp in common amongst al, so as no man can say, this is my wife, or this is my child: yet oftentimes they take the children from their nurses, least mothers should afterwards reknowledge their owne sonnes: through which community it happeneth that (being voide of ambition and affectation, or curious desire of that which nature denieth them) they liue quietly, and peaceably without sedition or dissention. There bee also in that Island certaine beasts, which though they bee little of body, yet in respect of their nature and vertue of their bloud, they bee most rare and admirab, they bee of a round body like vnto a Tortoise or Seacrab, and haue two lines crossing their middle, vpon euery end whereof standeth an eare and an eye, so as they heare with foure eares and see with foure

*A rare beast.*



four eyes, and yet haue but one belly or paunch that receiue their meate, and round about their body grow many feete, with which they can goe backward and forward at their pleasure, the blood of this beast is said to be of a maruelous strange efficacy, for if a body bee cut and mangled into peeces (so as it appeare to haue life in it) & be anointed with the blood of this beast, every part wil instantly grow to other, and the body will bee whole againe.

Euery family or company that liue together, doe likewise breed and norish vp great birds of a diuerse nature, and by those birds they make triall how their children will prooue afterwards, for they set them when they bee very young vpon the backes of the birds, and if they sit fast when the birds biginne to flutter and flie, without feare of falling, those children they bring vp, but if they shew themselves dastardly and timerous, they are reiected and thrust away, and suffered to liue no longer, as beeing vnprofitable for any excercise of the minde: And the eldest of euery kindred or company that so liue together is Lord, and commander ouer the rest, to whom they yeeld obedience, as to their King, and when he accomplisheth the age of an hundred and fifty yeers, he depriueth himself of life (for so their law commands) and hee that is next vnto him in age taketh the gouernment vpon him: The sea that incloseth the Island is very boysterous & rugged, yet is the water most pleasant & delightfome in taste, the North pole and many other starres which are seene in our Horison appeare not in theirs.

*Seven other  
Islands.*

There bee other seven Islands of like quantitie, and of like distance one from an other, and indued with like manners and lawes as this is: The Inhabitants of these Islands



Ilands vse the fruites of the earth ( which shee bountifully affordeth of her owne accord ) very sparingly , for their dyet is simple , and they couet for nothing but to suffice nature, they eate flesh some-times boylde and some-times broyld , and dresse their meate them-selues , reiecting the Arte of Cookery , and all seasoning of their meates with salte or spices, as friuolous and vnnecessary. They worship the Firmament, the Sunne, and the rest of the celestiaall bodyes , they catch diuerse sorts of fishes and birds , and they haue great store of Olyue trees and Vines , which naturally hold their increase , so as they haue Oliues and Grapes in aboundance, without trauell or cost.

These Ilands also produce serpents that bee great ones, but nothing hurtfull, the flesh whereof is maruelous sweete and delicious. Their garments are of a fine white Cotton or Downe, which groweth in the middle of Reedes, which being dyed with the Iuyse of these sea fishes that coloureth purple : they make themselues purple garments thereof. There be also diuerse sorts of liuing creatures of strange and almost incredible natures : They obserue a certaine order and strict course in their dyet , eating but onely one kinde of meate vppon one day, for some day they eate fishes, an other day fowles, an other flesh of beasts , and some-times Oyle , and the table where they eate theyr meate is very meane and simple.

They bee addicted to diuerse exercises, for some serue and are serued in course, some are imployed in fishing, some in fowling, some in sundry Artes and manuall occupations , and all of them in generall are busied in some



one thing or other that redoundeth to their common good.

In their sacred ceremonies, and vpon holy dayes, they sing lawdes and himnes in honor of their gods, and especially of the Sunne, to whome they dedicate themselves and their Islands.

They bury their dead bodyes vpon the sea coast, couering the carcasfe with sand, that by the flowing and inundation of the waters, there may bee a great heape of sand in the place where the corpes are buried.

The canes whereof they eate the fruite ( as they say ) doe increase and decrease according to the disposition of the Moone: The water of their fountaines is both sweet and holsome, alwayes hotte, vnlesse it bee mingled either with wine or cold water.

VWhen *Iambolus* and his companion had liued in that Iland seauen yeares, they were forced to depart, for the Islanders held them to bee euill liuers, and of bad behaviour and conuersation, and therefore prouiding their shippe ready, and victualling her, they set forward on their iourney, though sore against their wills, and at the foure months end they came to the King of India, by whome they were afterwards safely conducted through Persia, and brought into Greece.



*Of the Iland called Taprobane and of the  
manners of the inhabitants.*

## CAP. 26.



TAPROBANE before mans venturousnesse (by exquisit, searching into <sup>of Tapro-</sup> euery creeke and corner of the sea) had <sup>bane.</sup> truely and thoroughly discovered it, was held to be (as it were) an other world, & that wherein the Antipodes were supposed to dwell: But *Alexander the great*, by his prowesse and valour, remooued the ignorance of this common error, which did much augment and increase the glory of his name: for *Onesicritus* the præfect of his nauie, being by him sent to search out what manner of land it was, what commodities it yeelded, and how and by whom it was inhabited, made it most apparent and manifest vnto vs.

The length of the Iland is seauen thousand *stadia*, and five thousand in breadth, and it hath a riuer running through the middle of it, that deuideth it into two parts: Some part of this Iland is wholly replenished with beasts, and Elephants, which be farre bigger then India breedeth any, and some part of it is well peopled: There bee great store of Pearles and precious stones of diuerse kindes: It is situated East and West, and beginneth at the sea called *fretum Indiæ*: from *Prasîa* a countrie in India into Taprobane, at the first discouery thereof, was the space of 25. dayes sayling, but it was with such boates as the riuer of Nilus carried, that were made of reedes,



for at this day with our shippes it is not aboute seven dayes sayle.

The sea that deuideth the Iland in twaine, in many places is very shallow, being not aboute seven foote deepe, but in some other places againe, the channell is so exceeding deepe that no anchor can reach the bottome : In sayling they obserue not the course of the starres, for the North-pole and the seauen starres doe neuer appeare to their view, and the Moone is no longer seene in their Horizon, but from the sixt day after his change to the sixteenth, but the cleere and radiant starre called Canopus shineth there very bright, and the Sunne riseth vpon their right hands and setteth vpon their left. With coyne they were altogether vnacquainted, vntill the raigne of the Emperour *Claudius*, and it is reported that they were greatly amazed at the sight of money, because it was stamped with sundry figures and similitudes, and yet in weight and substance was all one: In stature and bignesse of body, they exceed all other men, of what nation so euer.

They dye and coulour their hayre browne, their heires bee gray or blew, their visage grimme and sterne, and their voyce harsh and terrible. Those which dye an vntimely death, liue commonly till they bee a hundred yeare old, but those which spend out the full course of nature, liue till they bee maruelous old, farre exceeding mans ordinary frayltie: They neuer sleepe in the day time, and but part of the night neyther, for they rise exceedingly early: Their buildings bee meane and lowe, and their victualls alwayes alike, they haue great store of Apples, but no Vines.

They



They honor *Hercules* as their God. Their Kings are elected as well by the voyces of the commons, as by the nobility, for the peoples care is to choose one of great clemencie, and vnprooueable manners, and such a one as is well stricken in yeares, and withall that hath no children, for he which is a father, is not there admitted to be a King, be he neuer so good and vertuous: and if the King at any time during his raigne, hap to haue a child, he is therefore instantly deposed, and depriued of all Princely iurisdiction: and this they doe, for because they will not haue their kingdome become hereditary: Moreouer, bee their King neuer so iust and vpright, yet will they not commit the absolute gouernment wholly into his hands, for to the end he should not be sole Iudge in capitall causes, there be forty Rectors or Guides annexed vnto him as his assistants, and if the iudgement of the King, and his forty assistants seeme partiall or distastfull to any one, he may from them appeale to the people, who haue likewise seuentie Iudges allowed them for the determining of such causes as come to them by way of appeale, and the sentence that is pronounced by these seuentie Iudges must of necessity stand inuiolable.

The King in his apparell differeth much from the people, and if he be found guilty of any offence, and thereof conuicted, he dyeth for it, yet not with such a death as any one should lay violent hands vpon him, but by common consent hee is shut vp in some close place from the sight and company of all men, and there famished to death.

This people bee generally addicted to husbandry, and hunting of Tygers and Elephants, for other common beasts they little regarde: and some delight in fishing for shell fishes, the shells weereof bee so bigge, as one shell



will make a house sufficient to containe a whole family: The greater part of this Iland is burned with the heate of the Sunne, and is therefore desert, vppon the side of the Iland beateth a sea that is very greene. They esteeme much of gold, whereof, and of all sorts of precious stones, they garnish and beautifie their pots. They haue great store of Marbles and Margarites, and very bigge ones.

*The conclusion  
of the booke.*

And these bee the people, countries and nations, whose manners, customes and institutions, are commended vnto vs by Historiographers, and which by any meanes I could collect out of them: yet I confesse there be many other, which I haue eyther wholly omitted, or lightly passed ouer, because I could not write more of them, than I found in other Authors, hauing neuer by traouelling into those parts, beene eye witnesse of them my selfe, nor could otherwise attaine to the perfect knowledge thereof, neyther doe I thinke it possible for mee or any man else, to know and declare the manners of all nations, but God onely, to whom nothing is hidden, nor nothing vnpossible, for hee onely it is that first laide the foundation of the earth, it was hee that first founded the depth and bottome of the sea, and pointed vnto vs the passages through the deepe, hee onely it is that so bountifully hath bestowed vpon vs, wealth, dignities, honor and riches, and all other commodities necessary for our beeing, and hee it is that hath allotted vnto euery one his profession and course of life wherein to imploy himselfe, for some hee hath ordained to bee husbandmen, permitting them to growe wealthy by vnripping the bowels of the earth, to some others hee hath giuen the sea, wishing them to provide their liuings, some by fishing, and some by  
mer-



merchandize, some others he hath addicted to the study of Sciences and Philosophie, that thereby they may attaine to honor and estimation, and some others he hath put in places of authority to gouerne and præcede the rest: And therefore it is no maruell, that all men are not of one condition, nor of one nature, nor yet indued with like manners, seeing wee perceiue such difference and variety in kingdomes and countries, as that one country produceth white people, an other swarthy, an other tawny, and some cleane black, or like vnto flowers which grow in Assyria: and euen so hath God appointed, that people should be of variable mindes and dispositions, as other things are, and that euery one should rest contented with that course of life, that God hath appointed for him.

FINIS.

Ff 4



The manners of diuerse nations,  
collected out of the workes of  
NICHOLAS DAMASCEN.

Of the Thyni.



HE Thyni ( which bee a people of Thrace ) receiue such as haue suffered shipwracke, or fallen into pouerty by their owne defaults, very courteously and friendly, and all strangers likewise which come willingly vnto them, are highly honored; but those which come perforce, whether they will or no, are as seuerely punished.

Of the Aritioni.

The Aritioni kill no kinde of beast, they haue their Oracles written in lots, which they keepe in golden couers.

Of the Dardani.

The Dardani ( a people of Illyrium ) bee washed onely three times in all their liues, that is to say, when they bee borne, when they be marryed, and when they lye a dying.

Of the Galactophagi.

The Galactophagi ( a people of Scythia ) liue not in houses as most of the other Scythians doe, their sustenance consisteth for the most part of Mares milke, which serueth them both for meat and drinke: They bee seldome ouer-come in battaile, for that their prouision of victuals is in euery place and at all turnes in readinesse. This people forced *Darius* to returne home without conquest: they bee maruellous iust one towards an other, as hauing both wiues and wealth in common to all: they salute old men by calling them their fathers, the yong men their children, and their equals brethren: of this people was *Anacharsis*, one of the seuen wise men, who came into Greece to learne the laws & ordinances of other nations:

*Homer*



*Homer* remembreth this people, where he saith, the *Myfi* fight nigh at hand, the *Agau* milke Mares, and the *Galactophagi* and *Abij* be most iust men. And the reason why he calleth them *Abij*, is, either because they would not till the earth, or for that they liued without houses, or else because they onely vsed bowes in the warres (for a bow of the Poets is often called *Bios*: there is not one amongst them all (as is reported) that is either stirred with enuy, swelled with hatred, or stricken with feare, by reason of their exceeding great Iustice, and communitie of all things. The women there be as warlike as the men, and go with them to the warres when need requireth, and therefore it may well be true, that the *Amazons* be women of such valerous and generous spirits, as that they went forth with an army vnto *Athens* and *Scicily*, at such time as their abode was about the poole of *Mæotis*.

The women of *Iberia* do once euery yeare bring their whole yeares worke, into an open and publicke place, in presence of all the people, where certaine men be elected by voyces, as Iudges to censure of their labours, and those which by them are adiudged most laborious, are most honored, and in highest estimation: they haue also a girdle of a certaine measure, within the compasse whereof, if the belly of any will not bee comprehended, they be thereby much disgraced.

The *Vmbrici* in their battels against their enemies, hold it vnfitting for the vanquished to suruiue, and that it is necessary eyther to ouer-come the enemy, or to bee slaine themselves: This people when any controuersie happeneth amongst themselves, fight armed, as if they made warre against their open enemies, and hee which killeth



killeth his aduersary in fight, is supposed to haue the iustest cause.

*Of the Celtæ.*

The Celtæ (a people inhabiting neere the Ocean) account it a disgrace for any one to withdraw himselfe, or leane his body to a wall, or house: when any inundation commeth towards them from the sea, they arme themselves to meete the flood, and make resistance vntill they be drowned, neuer retiring back, nor shewing the least feare of death any manner of way: They weare their swords aswell when they bee occupied in the affaires of their common-wealth, as in the warres, and a greater punishment is inflicted vpon those which kill strangers then Cittizens, for the first is punished with death, the other with banishment: And those aboue all others bee most honoured, which atchiuing any victory, haue thereby purchased any ground for their publicke vse: the gates of their houses be neuer shut but stand alwayes open.

*Of the Pedalij.*

Amongst the Pedalians (a people of India) not hee which is cheefe in the sacrifice, but hee that is most prudent of all those which be present, deuineth, and they desire nothing of the gods in their prayers but Iustice, onely the Praysij or Phrasij succour with sustenance their neighbours afflicted by famine.

*Of the Telchines.*

The people called Telchines dwelled first in the Ile of Creete, and afterwards inhabited the Ile of Cyprus also: from whence they remooued into Rhodes, and inioyde that Iland, where they began to bee very malicious and enuious, and exercising themselves in Mechanicall Artes and imitating the workes of their elders, they were the first that erected the Idoll of Telchinian Minerua, which



is as much to say, as enuious Minerva.

It is not lawfull amongst the Tartessians, for the younger to giue testimony against the elder.

*Of the Tartessians*

The people of Lucania excercise iudgement and inflict punishment as well for luxury and sloth, as for any other offence what-so-euer, and hee which is proved to lend any thing to a luxurious person, is fined at the value of the thing lent.

*Of the Lucanians*

Amongst the Saunites or Samnites is once euery yeare a publike Iudgement pronounced, both of young men and maides, and which of the youngmen is adiudged best, by the censure of the Iudges, shall first make his choyse which of the Virgins hee will haue to his wife, and the second to him, chooseth next, and so of all the rest in order.

*Of the Samnites*

The Limyrnij haue their wiues in common, their children be likewise brought vp at their common charge, vntill they accomplish the age of five yeares, and in the sixt yeare they be brought together, into one place, where all the fathers be assembled to make coniecture whom euery childe doth most resemble, which done they assigne vnto euery father the child that is likest vnto him, and by that meanes euery one acknowledgeth his owne child as neere as he can, and bringeth him vp as his owne, whether he be so or noe.

*Of the Limyrnij*

The Sauromatae or Sarmatae pamper and gorge themselves with meate for the space of three daies together, that they may be thoroughly filled: they obey their wiues in all things, as their Ladies and Mistresses, and noe maide there is admitted to marry, before she hath beene the death of som enemy.

*Of the Sauromatae*

The



*Of the Cercetæ.* The Cercetæ punish all offenders so severely, as they prohibite them to sacrifice : And if any marryner or gouernor of a boate, split, or runne his shippe or boate vpon a rocke, all men that passe by him spit at him in contempt.

*Of the Mosyni* The Mosyni keepe their Kings in strong castles, and if any of them be adiudged carelesse of the common-wealth hee is there famished to death: The graine which the earth yeeldeth there, is equally distributed amongst the people, sauing some small part thereof which is reserued in common, to relecue strangers.

*Of the Phryges* The Phryges or Pryges abstaine from al swearing, so as they will neither sweare themselues, nor constraîne others to sweare : And if any man amongst them kill a labouring or draught oxe, or priuily taketh or stealeth any instrument of husbandry, he is punished with death : They bury not their Priests when they bee dead in the ground, but place or set them vpright vpon pillers of stone of tenne cubits high.

*Of the Lycij.* The Lycij attribute more honor to their women then to men, and all of them take their names after their mothers : In like manner they make their daughters their heires, and not their sonnes, And if any freeman be conuicted of theft, hee is punished with perpetuall seruitude: They giue not their testimony in deciding controuersies at an instant, but alwaies at the Months end, that they may haue time inough to deliberate what testimony to giue.

*Of the Pisidæ.* The Pisidæ at their bankets sacrifice the first of their feasts to their parents, as vnto the Gods, the protectors of alliance and friendship; Their sentence for the misusing of things laid to gage is most seuer, for hee which is there conuicted deceytfully to put them to other vse, then



taken in adultery, he together with the adulteresse woman, are for a punishment led through the citty sitting vpon an asse, and that for the space of certaine dayes appointed.

The Æthiopians attribute the chiefeft honour vnto their sisters, and the Kings leaue their sisters children to succeed them in their Kingdomes, and not their owne, but if there bee no such children, to whome the right of succession belongeth, then they choose for their King hee that is most indued with valour and comlineffe of personage: piety and iustice are much practised amongst them; dwelling houses they haue none but liue altogether without doors, and when (as many times it happeneth) much of their goods lieth abroad in the common waies, yet they be so true as no one stealeth any thing from them.

*Of the Æthiopians.*

Amongst the Buæi ( a people of Libia or affricke ) a man hath dominion ouer the men, and a woman ouer the women.

*Of the Buæi.*

The Basulæi ( a people of Lybia ) when they make wars ioyne their battells in the night and keepe peace all the day.

*Of the Basulæi.*

The Dapsolybies assemble them-selues together into one place, and marry at the same time they be so assembled after the setting of the seauen starres: their manner of marrying is thus; after they haue banqueted a while their lights or torches ( for their meetings for this purpose are in the night ) are put forth and extinguished, and then they go vnto the women sitting by themselves in the darke, and which of the women any man shal take at aduentures, her hee hath to his wife.

*Of the Dapsolybies.*

Amongst the Ialchleueians ( a people of Libya, ( when many corriuals goe about to obtaine the loue of one woman,

*Of the Ialchleueians.*



woman, they suppe all together with the father of the woman they desire in mariage, where they spend the supper time in taunting and scoffing one another with pleasant quippes and Iests, and hee whome the woman doth most arride, and best conceiue of hath her to his wife.

*Of the Sardolybics.*

The Sardolybics make no prouision of household stuffe, but onely of a cuppe and a sword.

*Of the Alytemij*

The Alytemij (a people of Libia) choose the most pernicious Kings, they can get, but for the rest of the people hee which is most iust, is of greatest dignity.

*Of the Nomades.*

The Nomades (a people of Libia also) in their computation of times, account by the nights and not by the dayes.

*Of the Apharantes.*

The Apharantes (a people of Libia) are not distinguished and knowne by proper names, as other people bee, they reuyle the Sunne at his ryfing, because hee produceth and bringeth all euills to light, and they account those daughters the best, which keepe their virginity longest.

*Of the Bæoti.*

When any of the Bæotians are become bankrupts, and not able to pay their debts, they are brought into the common market place, and there constrained to sit together and be couered all ouer with a basket, and those which haue this punishment inflicted vpon them, are accounted for euer after for infamous persons, which punishment (as some thinke) was imposed vpon the father of Euripydes, who had his beginning from the people of Bæotia.

*Of the Assyry.*

The Assyrians sell their virgins in the open market to any that desire to marry them, and those which be most beautyfull, bee first sould, and then the rest, but when they come to the most deformed they make proclamation  
by



by a common cryer how much mony any one will take to marry them; and so by this meanes that which is gotten for the saile of the faire virgins, is bestowed in placing the foule, in like-manner they ioyne together those that in their manners bee most like for grauity and humanity.

With the Persians that which is esteemed dishonest to bee done is held vnfitting to bee spoken, if any one kill his father they esteeme him a changeling and not a naturall childe, if the King command any one to bee beaten or whipped, hee is as thankfull, as if he had receued a great benefit, because the King remembred him: they which haue many children are for that cause regarded of the King, and they teach their children as well to speake the truth as to learne any art whatsoeuer. *Of the Perses.*

Amongst the Indians when any one is deceiued or co- *Of the Indi.* zoned of that which hee lent or left in trust with an other, he bringeth not his action against him that deceiued him, but imputeth the fault to him selfe, because he trusted him: if any one cut of the hand or pull out the eye of an artificer hee is punished with death for it: hee which is guilty of any haynous offence, is by the Kings command shauen, which is the greatest ignominy amongst them that may bee: when an Indian man dyeth, one of his wiues which hee most loued in his life time is layde on the pyle and burned with him: And there is great controuersie and stryfe amongst them, (euery one hauing their friends to speake and plead for them) who shall bee shee that shall bee burned, with her deceased husband, for each one desireth it.

The Lacedemonians thinke it not fitting nor honest *Of the Lacede-*  
*mony.*



to bestow themselves in learning any other arts when such as belong to the warres : the men dyet all together in one place, they reuerence all old men as their parents : and as the men haue exercises proper to them-selues, so haue the maides likewise to themselves : It is not lawfull for strangers to dwell at Sparta, nor for a Spartane to trauell into other countries : they giue power and licence to their wiues to take the fairest men they can finde to beget children of them, whether they be Citizens or strangers. It is vnseemly for a Spartane to make any gaine of any thing: their money is made of Lether, and if any man haue either gold or siluer found in his house, hee dyeth for it: They account it the greatest glory that may bee, to shew themselves humble and obedient vnto Magistrates : and farre more happy are they accounted amongst them, that dye an honourable death, then those which liue in great prosperity : Their children (by a certaine custome they vse) are whipped round about a pillar, till most of them bee runne away, and those which tarry still vnder the whippes, haue Garlands giuen them for a reward, for they hold it vn honest to take any dastard for their companions schoole-fellowes or friends. Old men when they draw neere their deaths, bee censured who of them haue liued well, and who otherwise: when an armie is conducted without the limitts of their country, a certaine Priest which they call (*Pirphorus*) that is to say, a fire-bearer, maketh and kindleth a fire at the Altar of *Iupiter* their guide, which fire he carieth before the King, keeping it euer from going out. The King when he goeth to the warres is attended with Prophets and Soothsayers, Phisitions and Minstrils, and they vse Pipes or Flutes in the warres in stead of trumpets, and those which fight be adorned with

Garlands



garlands. All men arise to the King to doe him reuerence, but the officers called *Ephori*: and the King is sworn before he enter into his Kingdome, to gouerne according to the lawes of the common-wealth.

The Cretenses were the first of all the Grecians that obeyed the lawes ordained by King *Minos*, who was first that obtained dominion of the sea: This *Minos* when hee inuented and framed those lawes fained that hee learned them of *Iupiter*, and therefore for the space of nine yeeres, together he would vsually goe vnto a certaine hil, wherein was a denne consecrated to *Iupiter*, and euer when hee returned backe, hee brought some new lawes to the Cretenses, as though hee had beene their instructed by *Iupiter*. Of this *Minos* and his fained conference with *Iupiter*, *Homer* speaketh thus. *Amongst them (saith hee) is the City called Gnoffus, where Minos who had often conference with the great god Iupiter, raigned nine yeeres.*

The Cretensian children be brought vp altogether in one publike place, and that very hardly and painefully, for they be much accustomed to hunting when they bee yong, and to run barefooted, as also to goe armed to the Pirrichian vawting or leaping (whereof *Pyrnichicus*, *Cydoniates* a Cretensian born, is said to be the inuentor) which is a very laborious & difficult exercise for youth: The men in like maner eate together in one publike place, & by reason of their sustenance and prouision, all things be indifferently ministred vnto them: the gifts or presents which amongst them be in most request, be weapons.

The *Autariatæ*, if any of there souldiors faint or sick, by the way, wil rather kil them, then leaue them liuing in a strang place. The *Triballi* set their army in foure squadrons, or orders, the first ranke consisteth of those which be feeble and weake, the next vnto it of such as be

G g

strong

*Of the Cretenses.*

*Of the Autariatæ.*

*Of the Triballi.*



stronge and lustie, the third of horse-men, and the last of women, which (when all the rest be put to flight) sticke to their enemies, still pestring and afflicting them with their reuilings and skoldings.

*Of the Cusiani.*

The Cusiani bewaile those which bee borne into the world, and account them happy and blessed that depart out of this life.

*Of the Cij.*

The Cij whē they haue burned their dead bodies, gather vp all their bones and beate them to poulder in a mortar, and then taking ship, they lanch into the deepe, where putting the poulder into a siue, they scatter and disperse it in the winde, till all be blowne away and consumed.

*Of the Tauri.*

The Tauri (a people of Scythia) when their King is dead, bury with his body such of his friends as hee loued best in his life time, and on the other side the King when any of his friends die, cutteth off part of the lap of his eare, either more or lesse as his deceased friend was of deserts.

*Of the Sindi.*

The Sindi, when they bury any one, looke how many enemies hee slew in his life time, iust so many fishes doe they cast into his sepulcher with him.

*Of the Colchi.*

The Colchi bury not their dead bodies in the ground, but hang them vp vpon trees.

*Of the Panebi.*

The Panebi (a people of Libya) when their King is dead, bury his whole body in the ground, but cut off his head, and reserue it, gilding it with gold, and esteeming it as a sacred relieke.

FINIS.

Certaine



# Certaine things concerning America or Brasil, collected out of the Hi-

storie of IOHN LERIVS.



**T**He Barbarous Americans that inhabite the land of Brasil, be called *Tououpinambatty*: their bodies bee neither prodigious nor monstrous, but in stature much like vnto ours that liue in Europe: yet be they more lusty and strong then we, sounder and lesse subiect to diseases, few of them being either lame or binde, so much as of one eye, neither bee any of them deformed, and although they liue vntill they be a hundred and twenty yeeres of age (reckoning their yeeres by the Moones, which computation they onely obserue) yet doe few of them wax gray or hore, which argueth the country to bee of a maruellous temperature, which beeing neuer dried with any colds or frosts, hath both herbs, fields and trees evergreene and flourishing. And the people themselues being voide of all cares and troubles, which age men before their times, seeme as the prouerbe is, as though they had drunk of the fountaine of youth: and for because they goe not into muddy and vnholosome waters or pestilent springs, which be the causes of many diseases, that consume vs before our time, weaken and make feeble our bodies, exerceate and vexen our mindes, and in the end destroy both the one and the other, therefore be they free from all such infirmities: Distrust, couetousnesse, strife, enuy & ambition, haue no place amongst them, their complexions bee not altogether blacke, but by reason of the vehement heate of the Sunne,

*The stature  
and dispositi-  
on of the Bar-  
barians.*

*The age of the  
Barbarians.*

*The Barbari-  
ans neglect all  
worldly  
things.*



*All Barbarians  
go naked.*

somewhat swarthy, like vnto the Spaniards : Both men, women and children goe altogether naked without couering any part of their bodies, as beeing ashamed of their nakednesse, nor bee their bodies full of heares (as some are of opinion) but euen as any heares appeare vpon their bodies they plucke them off, either with their nailes, or else with certaine little pincers or nippers which they haue from the Christians, their beards and the haire that doe grow vpon their eye liddes and eye-browes, they pull vppe by the rootes, the which is the cause that many of them bee purblind and squint-eyed, which same fashion is vsed of the Peruerfes in the Isle of Cumana.

The haire of the hinder partes of their heads they let growe, and shauē all the fore part of the heades of their male children when they bee young, beginning at the crowne like vnto the religious order of Munkes, suffering it to grow long behinde downe to their neckes like old men.

In that same country there bee certaine herbes of the breadth of two fingers, and some-what crooked, which doe grow vp long and rounde, like the reede that couereth the eare of that great millet, which the French men call Arabian wheate, and with two leaues of this herbe, stitched together with a cotton threede, some old men (but neither young men nor children, nor yet all old men neither) doe couer their priuy partes, and sometimes also they hidethem with little rags or clouts; wherein at the first sight, may seeme to appeare some little sparke of natural shamefastnesse, if the did it for that cause, but it is more probable they doe it to hide some disease or



or infirmity, where-with those parts bee molested and greued in their old age: Moreouer their custome in that country, is to make a hole in the neither lip of euery child when hee is young, and to put into the hole a certaine bone, polished and made smooth and as white as Iuory, in fashion bigge and square at the one end, and sharpe at the other, this bone is placed in good and exact order, vpon the broder part of the grinding teeth, and there-with a deuise they haue, skrewed in and set fast hauing the sharpe end standing an inch or two fingers breadth out of the lippe, and is so artificially fastned to their goomes, as they will take it out and put it in againe at their pleasure: And this sharpe and white bone they weare onely when they be young, for when they grow in yeeres, that they bee called in their language (*Coromi Ouaßau*) that is to say tall and well growne stripling, then in steed of this bone they put into the hole a certaine greene stone, beeing a kinde of counterfeit Emerald.

The *Tououpinambaultij* will often times for their delight take these stones out of their lippes, and put their tongues through the holes, so as they may seeme to those that behold them to haue two mouthes, but whether this strang spectacle bee pleasing, or whether it doth make them more deformed, it is easie for to bee iudged: Some of them also, not contented to carry these greene stones in their lips, make holes through both their cheekes, and put stones into them for the same purpose.

As for their noses, whereas the mid-wiues with vs, vse when a child is new borne to stretch forth his nose with their fingers, to make it more comely and sharpe, the custome of the people of America is cleane contrary,



for they account those children most comely that haue the flattest noses, and therefore as soone as an infant is borne, they presse his nose downe flat to his face, with their thombes (much like as they vse to doe, to certaine whelpes in France :) in this point those people disagree very much, from the Americans that dwell in a certaine country of the Kingdome of Paruania, who are said to haue such great noses, as they vse to hange at them, in golden threeds, Emeralds, Saphires, and other little stones both white and red.

These Brasilians die and varnish their bodies with diuers paintings and collours, stayning their legges and theighes so blacke, with the iuise of a certaine fruite, which they call *Genipat*, as they seeme to such as behold them a farre off, to weare blacke breeches like Churchmens sloppes : and that iuise which is strained or pressed out of that blacke fruite called *Genipat*, entreth so deepe into their skinnes, as it will hardly be got out in ten or fiftene daies, though they wash them neuer so often in that time.

They weare also about their neckes a Iewell made of a kinde of bone that is very smooth and slike, and as white as Alabaster, this bone they call *Raci* (borrowing that name of the moone, which in their language is so called) it is aboue two handfull long, and is tied about their neckes with a cotten threed, and so hangeth downe vpon their breasts.

In like manner they polish and make smooth and euen with a stone they haue, diuers little peeces of shelles, workeing them till they bee thinne and round like vnto a penny, and then boring a hole in the middle of them, they put a great many together vpon a cotton threede, and



andweare them about their neckes like a chaine, these chaines in their language bee called (*Bou-re*) and they weare them in imitation of the little chaines of gold, which are vsually worne amongst Christians, and that which of many is called *Buccinum*, may very well bee the same, whereof wee see many women to weare girdles with vs. These barbarous people likewise make these chaines, they call *Bou re* of a certaine kinde of wood that is blacke and harde, and namely, as *Matheolus* witnesseth of the tree called *Sicomorus*, which is much like vnto a wilde figge tree, and this tree is much vsed in those chaines, because in weight and brightnesse it is very like vnto lette.

Furthermore the Americanes haue great store of hennes, the breede whereof they first had from the Portingals, from these hennes they plucke all the white fethers, and with their instruments of iron (which now they haue) and before when they had none of those instruments, then with sharpe stones, they hacke and choppe into very small peeces the softest of those fethers, and putting them, when they bee chopped small into hot and seething water, dye them with a certaine red collour of Brasile, this being done they annoint their bodies with a clammy gum, for to make the fethers sticke on, and then couer and decke themselues all ouer both bodie, armes and legges with those fethers, painting them also with diuers collours, so as they seeme to bee couered with a downe, or soft wooll like vnto young pigions, and other birds new hatched.

Wherevpon it is verie likely, that when diuers of our Countrimen came first into those coastes, and sawe them so attired, and not searching out the reason



thereof, spread abroad this rumor, that the barbarous Americans were hairy all ouer their bodies, though the matter bee farre otherwise, for they bee not naturally so, but this rumor arose by the ignorance of the cause, and beeing once spread abroad was easily beleeu-  
ed to bee true.

There is one hath written that the Cumani vse to annoint themselues, with a certaine gumme or clammy ointment, and then trimme themselues with fethers of diuers collours, like these Americans.

The manner how the *Tououpinamkij* (for so they bee also called) attire their heads is thus, besides the shauing of the fore-part of their heads, in manner of a Monkes crowne, and the haire of the hinder partes, hanging downe long to their neckes (as is sayd) their manner is to weare frontlets or ornaments for their fore-heads of fethers of sundry collours, orderly disposed and set together, these frontlets doe much resemble the Periwigs, vsed to bee worne, by noble women, who may iustly bee said to receiue that kinde of attire from the Barbarians: they be called in their language *Yempenambi*.

They weare earrings also made of very white bones, not much vnlike vnto those bones which (as wee haue sayd before) yong men put into the holes of their lips: In that country is a birde which they call *Toucan*, all her body is as blacke as a rauen, and about her gorge she hath a ring of downy fethers that be yellow, and vnder that an other ring of vermillion collour, from this part of the birde that is yellow, they pull of the skinne (the birde beeing neuer the worse) and drie it, and so lay a round peece thereof vpon each of their cheekes, making them for to sticke on with a kinde of waxe that they had which they  
call



call *Trayetic*: which being fastened and made fit, one would thinke they had bridles in their mouthes, and that the yellow rounds were bosses gilded with gold.

These people, if they either prepare themselves to the warres, or (according to their custome and sollemne pompe) to kill any captiue, to be deuoured, to the end that nothing may bee wanting, to make them fine and braue, they put on their garments, settle on their cappes, put bracelets vpon their armes, of diuers coloured fethers, as greene, red, yellow, blew, and such like, so artificially and cunningly compacted and ioyned together, with slender Canes, and cotton threedes, as I thinke there is scarce any imbroderer in all France, that can set in order, and make fit those fethers, with more industrie and curiositie then they do: in so much as the garments wouen and trimmed in this precise manner, may be thought to bee made of a hairie kind of silke: the same kind of trimming do they likewise bestow vpon their wooden clubbes.

The last kind of their garments are made of Estridge fethers, which in colour bee browne or russet, and which they get from their borderers, (wherby we may guesse, that those great birds be bred in those parts) the garments be made in this manner:

They sow all the quilles of the fethers together in ranke one by another, disposing of them so orderly, as no one fether stand out longer than another, which done, they put the one side to the other, and make it round like a rose or canopie: and this strange garment in their language is called *Araroye*.

This bundell they put vpon their backs, binding it fast with a cotton threede, and the stalkes nearest vnto their skinner, wherewith when they be decked & arrayed, they



they seeme as though they carried vpon their backs, a cage or coupe to put young chickins in.

Those which would be accounted most warlike, (that they may better manifest their strength, & shew that they haue slaine many enemies, and also for a vaunt how many captiues they haue killed, to be deuoured) cutte and gash their breasts, armes, and thighes, and then staine and color the wounds and gashes with a certaine blacke dust, the prints of which gashes remain in their flesh to their deaths, representing to those which behold them, brest-plates and floppes cut after the Heluetian manner: When they giue themselues to banquetting, carrousing, and dauncing, (wherin they spend much time) the more to stirre vp their minds thereunto, besides their horrible clamors, outcries, and houlings, they haue a certaine fruite that hath a hard shell, in forme and bignesse like vnto a Chesnut: out of this shell they take the kernell, and put litle stones into the place where the kernell was, so tying a great many of them vpon a threed, put them vpon their legges, like vnto bells vsed here in England by morris-dancers: no lesse noise would they make in their hopping and skipping, if the shels of snayles were vsed in the same manner, which do not much differ from those ratling instruments they vse in dancing. And in these things the barbarous people exceedingly delight, and take surpassing pleasure in them when they be brought vnto them.

In that Countrey also groweth a certaine kind of tree, the fruite whereof in fashion and thickenesse is like vnto an Estridge egge, through which they bore a hole, in such manner and fashion as boyes with vs bore holes in nuttes to make Whirligigges, and put therein litle stones, or the bigger cornes or graines of miller, or any other conuenient



uenient thing, and then putting through the hole a sticke of a foote and a halfe long, make thereof an instrument which they call *Maraca*, which will make a huge noyse and rattle lowder than a swines bladder with peas in it: & therefore those barbarous people carry them euer about with them in their hands.

And thus farre haue I spoken in brieft, of the disposition, manners, customes, apparell, and behauior vsed by the *Tououpinambaltii*.

There is brought vnto them from the Christians a curled or wrinkled cloth, some red, some Greene, and some yellow, whereof they make them all manner of garments, these the Christians do giue vnto these barbarous people, and haue for them in exchange, victuals, marmosets, munkies, Parrats, Brasile wood, cotton, Indian pepper, and many such like things, which are very good merchandize: And most of them weare loose and flaggring breeches, & all the parts of their bodies else bare, some of them againe will weare no breeches, but a cote reaching downe to their buttockes, wherewith when they be clothed and readie to go abroade, they will behold themselues oftentimes, and instantly put it off againe, and leaue it at home, vntill it be their humour to weare it again, which maketh all our people that behold them to laugh at them, and in like manner do they with their shirts and caps.

But for as much as can be said of the externall habit of their bodies, both of men and children, I suppose I haue spoken sufficiently, and therefore if out of this my description, any one desire to represent vnto his mind one of these barbarous men, let him first imagine, that he beholds the shadow and resemblance of a naked man, with all his members and lineamentall proportion fitly framed and set



set together, the haire of his bodie plucked off with pincers, all the fore-part of his head shaven, with holes in his lippes and cheekes, in which be put either sharpe bones or greene stones, eare-rings thrust through his eares, his bodie dyed with diuers colours, his thighes and legges stained and coloured with that blacke painting called by them *Genipat*, and about his necke a chaine made of the shell which they call *Vygnoll*, and then you shall see and easily discern the perfect picture of those that liue in that countrey.

The *Tovovpinambaltian* women do vsually carry their little children in their armes, wrapped and swaddled in a Cotton scarffe, who imbrace and wind about their mothers sides with both their legges: They haue beddes also made of Cotton like nettes, and hanged vppe from the ground: Their best fruite is that which they call *Ananas*.

But now if you will imagine in your mind, a barbarous man in another fashion, he shall be disrobed of that ridiculous attire and anticke habite, and his whole bodie dawbed with a glewish and slimie gumme, and their fethers chopped small, shall be cast vppon his bodie: and when he is attired with this artificiall Wooll, or Feather-downe, how fine a fellow hee will seeme vnto you, I neede not to shew.

Moreouer, whether he retaine his naturall colour, or be disguised in diuers colours, or in fethers: yet let him haue those garments, cappe, and fether bracelets, which wee haue described, and then certainly he is arrayed in the best manner he can be: but if you please to giue him his garment made of that curled cloth, and (as we haue said their custome is) to cloath him with his cote, all the other parts of



of his bodie being naked, and one sleeue yellow, and the other greene: by these markes you may suppose him to be either an ideot, or an artificiall foole: To conclude, if you will adde to these, his instrument called *Maraca*, and his bundell of fethers, which they call *Araroye*, set handsomely vppon his backe, his ratling instruments also made of shelles, with stones in them bound vnto their legs, by this representation you must imagin, hee is dancing and drinking.

Many patternes and figures are not sufficient to expresse the extraordinary care and industrie of those barbarous people, in attiring their bodies, according to the whole description which before we haue set forth: for no similitude can make a liuely representation of the whole matter as it is, vnlesse every thing be in their proper colours, but the attyring of those women, which they call *Quoniam*, and in some places where they haue acquaintance and commerce with the Portugals, they name them *Maria*, how much more excellent it is than the others, let vs diligently make and consider. For first of all, as we said in the beginning of this chapter, the women goe naked as well as the men, and all of them plucke off their haire as men do, leauing not a haire vpon their eye-browes or eyelids: but as concerning the haire of their heads, they differ much from men: for the men (as is said) shaue all the fore-parts of their heades, and let the hinder parts grow long, but women there do not onely nourish their haire on their heades, but (like our Country-women) vse often to combe and wash them, as also to bind and wrappe them vp, with Cotton head-laces dyed blacke, though for the most part they go with their hairs loose and spred abroad, like vnto those ancient mad-brained *Bacchides* of Rome:  
for



for they much delight to haue them hanging downe, and flaggering about their shoulders.

In another thing also the women differ from the men; for they make no holes in their lippes as men do, and therefore they adorne not, nor beautifie their faces with Iewels and stones, but they make such great holes in their eares; as when their eare-rings bee foorth, they may put in their fingers: and their eare-rings bee made of that great shell, which they call *Vignol*, beeing in whitenesse and length, like vnto a midling candle, so as if you behold them as farre off hanging vppon their shoulders, and dangling vppon their breasts, you would iudge them like the hanging eares of a hound.

As for their faces, they trimme them in this fashion, and in doing thereof, euery one helpeth other: first, they paynt with a pencill a circle in the middle of their cheekes, either redde, blew, or yellow, in forme of a cockle or snayle-house, sterring them vntill their faces be varied and distinguished all ouer, with those sundry colours: in like manner do they paynt the place, where the haire of their eye-lids and eye-browes did grow, (which fashion I haue heard, is vsed of some light house-wiues in France.) They haue bracelets also made of peeces of bones, cutte like fish-scales, or Serpents scales, ioyned and made fast with waxe mingled with gumme, so artificially and finely, as they cannot be amended by any artificiall skill or cunning, they be an hand-breadth in length, and do somewhat resemble the bracelet or wrist-band, which is vsed with vs in blowing of bellows.

They vsually also weare bright and exceeding white chaines, which they call *Bou-re*, but they weare them not about their neckes as men do, but about their armes in  
stead



stead of bracelets: and for this purpose they haue a great desire of glasse-buttons, either yellow, blew, or greene, with holes in them, and put vpon a threede: these they cal (*Maurobi*) and whether we go into their villages or marches, or that they approch neere vnto our castels or bulwarkes, they vrgently seecke to get of vs some of these buttons, offering vs their fruites, and other commodities in exchange: and oftentimes they will vrge vs for them with these glauering words: *Mair Deaqatorem amabe mauroubi*, that is to say, You are a good French-man, giue vs some bracelets of your glasse buttons. In like manner do they importunately require of vs combes, which they call *Guap* or *Kuap*: glasses also which they call *Araua*, and other such like trinkets, wherein they take great delight. But about all things, this seemeth most strange, that although their bodies, armes, thighes, and legges, bee not distinguished with diuers colors like men, and that they vse not those ornaments of fethers, yet could wee neuer intreate them, to put on any clothes made of that curled cloth, or smocks, though we oftentimes offered them: for they persisted in that stubbornnesse, from the which I thinke they be not yet reclaimed, alledging for excuse, the auncient receiued customes of all the borderers. For all of them vse when they come neere any waters or riuers, to fall downe and to take vp water with their hands, to wash their heads, and oftentimes (like duckes) they will plunge and diue into the water tenne times in one day, and then to put off their garments so oftentimes in the day, would bee very troublesome vnto them: an excellent and goodly reason sure, yet must wee needes allow it, for wee could nothing alter or dissuade them by disputing with them, for so great a delight is nakednesse vnto them, that not  
onely



onely the free Tovovpinambaltian women, which lived vppon the Continent, would thus stubbornly reiect all apparell, but the captiues also and slaues, which wee bought of them, and which we vsed as villaines, and drudges, to defend our castels, could not bee restrained, but would euery night before they slept, put off their smockes and all their other apparel, and wander naked vp and down the Iland.

To conclude, if the power were in themselves either to take or leaue their garments: (for wee could hardly force them to put them on by beating) they had rather indure the heate of the Sunne, and hurt their armes and sholders with carrying stones and earth naked, then to put on any clothes. And thus much is sufficient to speake of the ornaments, bracelets, and all the other compleat attire of the American women, and therefore without any further Epilogue to my speech: I leaue it for euery one to conceiue of, as to him seemeth good, & will in this place adde a word or two of the bigger sort of children, those which be three or foure yeares of age, and which they commonly call *Canomi mitri*: for in these we were much delighted: they be fatter of their bodies, & of a whiter bone then any children with holes in their lips, their haire of their heads shorne round, and their bodies oftentimes painted: And in this manner they would come dancing by flockes to meet vs, when we came to their villages. And for to haue vs giue them some things, they would often repeate these flattering words, *Coutovassat amabe pinda*: that is, good fellow giue mee these hookes: and if they obtained of vs, what they desired, as oftentimes they did, and that wee threw some tenne or twelue little hookes vppon the sand, they would striue and scramble for them, and greatly exult



exult and reioyce, and lying along vpon the ground, would scrape in the earth like Conneys, which was no little pleasure vnto vs : Finally, although I diligently perused and marked those barbarous people, for a whole yeare together, wherein I liued amongst them, so as I might conceiue in my minde a certaine Idea, or proportion of them, yet I say, by reason of their diuerse gestures and behauiours, vtterly different from ours it is a very difficult matter to expresse their true proportion, either in writing or painting : but if any one couet to inioy the full pleasure of them, I could wish him to goe into America himselfe. But perhaps you will say it is more then one dayes iourney: that is truth indeed, and therefore I will not perswade any one to enterprise the matter ouer rashly.

But before I conclude my speech, I must say something to answere those that either thinke or write, that the often familiarity with those barbarous naked people, and especially with the women is a great prouocation to lust and lasciuiousnesse, I say therefore, that although at the first sight that nakednesse may iustly bee accounted the nourishment of concupiscence, yet notwithstanding as experience hath made manifest, it is most true, that men by that vnciuill and vncomely nakednesse, are not so much as stirred in their mindes to lust, so as I dare presume to affirme, that gallant and gorgeous attire, painted beauties, counterfeit haire, crisped and frisled lockes, those great and costly rayles which women weare so artificially folded, and wreathed, those lawne gorgets, loose and flaggering garments, and such other like, where-with our women doe so busily

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falsify and counterfet them-selues, are more hurtfull and dangerous, then the nakednesse of those barbarous women, although in beauty they bee nothing inferiour vnto them, so as if it were lawfull for others, (observing a decorum) to follow their fashions, I could alledge very substantiall reasons to make good my opinion, and refute all arguments that can bee obiected for prooffe of the contrary.

But not to dwell longer vpon this matter, I referre mee to the testimonie of those which sayled with mee into Brasilia, and which haue beheld both the one and the other, yet would I not haue my words wrested to that sence, as though I any wayes approoued that nakednesse, against the authority of the holy Scripture, which saith, that *Adam* and *Eua* perceiuing they were naked after their sinne, were ashamed, for I detest the heresie of those, which hauing violated the law of nature, (not well obserued in this case, of those wretched and miserable Americans,) doe their vttermost indeuours, to bring in this wicked and beastly custome.

But what I haue sayd touching these rude people, tendeth to no other end, but that it may appeare, that we are no lesse faultie, who condemning them that goe naked without regarde of shamefastnesse, doe our selues offend as greuously in the contrary, to wit, in sumptuous and gorgious apparell: And now hauing described the externall habit and trimming of the Barbarians, it will not breake square or order to say some-thing in this place, of their manner of dyet: And this is chiefly to be noted, that although they neither sowe nor haue  
any.



any kinde of corne or graine, nor plant any Vines, yet notwithstanding (as I haue often found true by experience) doe they liue most finely and daintily, though they bee vtterly destitute of bread and wine: for they haue two sorts of rootes, the one called Aypi, the other Manyot both of which waxe so exceedingly within three or foure moneths, that they will bee a foote and an halfe long, and as thicke as a mans thigh: these the women (for men bee neuer troubled with the businesse) plucke vppe and drye against the fire, mingling them with that which they call Boucano, some-times also they bruse and breake them in peeces, when they bee greene and fresh, with sharpe flint stones fastned to a beame, as wee are wonte to grate Cheese and Nutmegs, and make thereof a very fine white meale or flower, so as that new meale beeing steeped in water, the whole Iuise which is pressed out of it, (of which I will speake by and by) doth taste and saueur like new and moyste Wafers made of Wheate: insomuch, as after my returne into France, euery place where I came smelled thereof; which renewed the memory of that where-with those barbarous and rude peoples houses or roomes bee vsually washed and sprinckled, with so great hindrance and losse is that meale made of those kinde of rootes.

For the preparation of this meale, the women of Brasilia deuise great earthen Vessels, very fitte for that vse, containing euery one a bushell, or thereabout, which beeing set vpon the fire, they put there-vnto the meale, and euer as it boyleth, the gourd being cut in the middle,

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they



they take out that which is within, and vse the vtmost rinde in steed of dishes to eate pottage, and this when it is boyled is like vnto little comfits. Of this flower or dowe they make two sorts, for one manner is throughly boyled and hard, which they call (*Ouy-entan*) and this they carry into the warres with them, because it will keepe longest, the other sort is lesse boyld and softer, and that they call *Ouy-pov*, in this respect this is better then the former, because it tasteth like the crummes of white bread, but that first sauour whereof I spake before, becommeth more pleasanter and sweeter by boyling; And as this meate, especially when it is new, is of an excellent sauour and taste, so is it very nourishing and easily concocted, yet notwithstanding (as I haue tryed) they cannot by any meanes make bread thereof: but they will make it into a lumpe, which smelleth like a batch of wheat dowe, and is maruellous faire to looke vpon, and as white as fine wheate flower, yet in boyling it is so dyed and crusted vpon the out-side, that it beeing cut or broken, the inner part thereof is maruelous drye, and like as it was before it was boyled. Whereby I am induced to thinke, that hee was much deceiued, which first reported (not well regarding my speeches) that those which dwell two or three degrees beyond the *Æquinoctiall* line (which people bee certainly the *Tououpinambaltij*) did eate bread made of rotten wood, which is to be vnderstood of these rootes whereof wee spake. And both sorts of meate in making a kinde of gruell which they call *Myngant*, especially if it bee mingled with fat broth or liquor, is then like vnto Ryce, and beeing so seasoned, it tasteth very well and delicately. But the *Tououpinambaltij*, both men, women and children, from theyr Cradles vpwards,



vpwards, doe eat this kinde of drye meale or dowe instead of bread: wherevnto they are so apt by often vse, that with the ends of their fingers they will take it out of their earthen vessels, and throw it stedfastly into their mouthes, without loosing the least crumme, and therein we oftentimes assaide to imitate them, but beeing little exercised, wee spilled it vpon our faces, and therefore vnlesse wee would bee ridiculous, wee must needs vse spoones. Moreover those rootes called Aypi and Manyot be some-times chopped when they bee greene into little gobbets, of the meale whereof being moyste, the women make round balls, which being pressed betwixt their hands, they wring out of them a certaine liquid white Iuise like vnto milke, and putting it into earthen vessels, set it out in the sunne, by the heate whereof it doth curde and creame ouer like milke, and when they eat it they powre it into dishes made of shels, wherein it is boyled as wee are wont to boyle egges.

Moreover, the roote Aypi is not onely accustomed to bee made into meale, but it eateth also very well beeing roasted in the Ashes, whereby it will waxe tender and cleaue, and bee very like in taste vnto Chesnuts broyld vpon the coales, and being so ordered it is very good to eate, but the roote called (Manyot) is farre otherwise, for vnlesse it bee made into dowe and boyled, it is a very dangerous meate; the stalkes of both those rootes be like one vnto an other, and of the bignesse of lowe Iuniper, and the leaues bee like vnto an herbe called Peony or Pyony. But that which is most to bee wondred at in these rootes of Brasile called Aypi and Manyot, is the great abundance of them, for the branches of them which be as brittle as hempe stalkes, how many so euer of them be broken



and put deepe into the earth, without any husbandry at all, within two or three moneths space, will bring forth a great aboundance of rootes.

The women in like manner doe plant that great Millet whereof we spake before, which we commonly call Sarra-  
fins wheat, or Arabian wheate, and which those barbarous people call *Anati*, and of that also they make a certaine meale which they boyle and eate, in the same manner, as I said they do the other: And thus much sufficeth to say of the manners, apparell and diet of the Americans: and he which desireth to vnderstand more, let him read the Indian history of *Iohn Lerius*, out of whom wee haue gathered that which we haue here set downe.

*FINIS.*

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## The faith, religion and manners of the *Æthiopians*,

Living within the dominion of *Precious Ioan* (commonly called *Prestor Iohn*) together with a declaration of the league and friendship established betwixt the Emperors of *Æthiopia* and the Kings of Portugall.

*Damianus a Goes* a Portugall Knight, being  
Author and interpreter.

Herevnto is added certaine Epistles of *Helena*, who was grandmother to *Dauid Precious Ioan*, and from the same *Dauid*, to the Bishop of Rome, and to *Emanuel*, and *Iohn* Kings of Portugall: very worthy the reading the same: *Damianus a Goes* and *Paulus Iovius* being interpreters.

The deploration of the people of *Lappia*, collected by  
the same *Damianus a Goes*.

*Dami-*



*Damianus a Goes, a Knight of Portugall, to Pope  
Paulus the third, health.*



Here is nothing wherein wee ought to be more carefull and vigilant, and more diligently to indeuour our selues, than that by our labour, cost, punishment of our bodies, yea martirdome it selfe (if by other meanes it cannot be effected) all people of the world may bee brought and wonne to the faith of Christ, and being once wonne, may then be reduced to liue in an vniformity and one manner of liuing. The care and regard whereof doth more especially belong to you (right reuerent Pope *Paulus*) than to all the rest of vs, as being high Bishop ouer all, the Vicar of Christ, and head of the vniuersall Church vnder him; Wherefore it is your part (which with the great hope of all men you haue already begun) to cure the calamities where-with the Church is dayly oppressed, and with your care and industrie so to effect it, that all the whole world may obey and beleue in one onely Christ, and imbracing the true beleefe, may be obedient vnto you (as vnto *Peters* successor) and to your admonitions in all things which pertaine to the saluation of their soules: which when you haue brought to passe, wee will say that by your meanes, the Prophecie of one sheapheard, and one flock is fulfilled, the true commendations whereof when you haue obtained, which of the Popes may bee deemed so famous as your self, either in honor, happinesse or merit, or to whom with so much right may wee yeeld the triple Crowne, as to your selfe? For the obtaining whereof, although the times



be otherwise very vnfortunate, yet haue you many occasions ministred vnto you. I call the times vnfortunate by reason of those calamities, which in Europe are by your selfe to be cured, for of none be we more strongly resisted, then of the enimie that liueth at our elbow, but let vs now omitte to speake of those troublesome cares, which, (wee bee well assured), are euer in your minde, and come to other matters more calme and temperate, which carry great hope, that as it were an other new world imbracing the faith of Christ, may acknowledge your holinesse, Maiestie and Empire; Wherefore if you shall so handle these businesses, that the Church both in Æthiopia, and Europe (hauing you her gouernour and protector) may escape and auoide all perill and shipwrack, and arriue into the hauen of saluation, wee shall then sing in your praise that Prophetickall Canticle contained in the Booke of Wisdome, *viz.* I will passe through all lower parts of the earth, I will behold all those that sleepe, and illuminate all those that trust in the Lord, behold I haue not laboured for my selfe onely, but for all those that seeke the truth. Now at length is the time wherein wee trust, that this Prophecie will bee fulfilled by you, behold here the Æthiopians, a large and spacious nation, and most desirous of Christ, whose Emperour a man of great sanctitie, desiring the amity and friendship of the Christian Princes of Europe, hath sent his Embassadors vnto you, and to the mighty and inuincible Kings of Portugall, by whom (as by his letters doth appeare) hee doth not onely couet Christian friendship and charity betwixt him-selfe and the Princes of Europe, but also (perceiuing the bitter discords and dissentions that continually raigne amongst them) doth most deuoutly and seruently ad-  
monish



monish and exhort them to Christian peace and con-  
corde, a matter whereof all of vs may bee ashamed, for  
now the Queene of Saba riseth vp and calleth vs into  
iudgment, reprehending our faults, Christs Prophecies  
bee now fulfilled: And those which hee elected are by lit-  
tle and little fallen out of his fellowship, and his com-  
mandements and promises are come vnto those, which  
were reputed Ethnicks and strangers vnto Christ: for the  
Emperour of Æthiopia with all the kingdomes vnder his  
dominion, as by this our declaration shall appeare, couet  
nor desire nothing more, then to liue vnder your disci-  
pline, neither is hee ignorant by the doctrine of the  
Apostles, which hee hath deuided into eight bookes, that  
the gouernment and principallity of all the Bishops of  
the world, belongeth and is due to the Bishop of Rome,  
whom plainly and godlyly hee is willing to obey, desi-  
ring of him to be well and holily instructed in the institu-  
tions and ordinances of the Church of Christ, for which  
purpose he coueteth with great desire, to haue learned mē  
sent vnto him, and not contented there-with, to the end  
that the memory of his desires may remaine to all poste-  
rity, hee intreateth that the truth of this matter may bee  
recorded and registred in the Popes Annals, that so his  
Epistles and most godly requests, may bee inlightned by  
the Ecclesiasticall history, and that those which shall bee  
borne hereafter, may know at what time and vnder what  
Pope these things were done: And I nothing doubt but  
that your holinesse hath already sent, or forthwith will  
send vnto him, learned men and skilfull in the Scriptures;  
and well instructed in other artes, by whose learning and  
industry, and also by the preaching and labour of many  
others, already sent thither by the renowned Kings of  
Portugall



Portugall *Emanuel* and *John* his sonne, you will so handle the businesse, that all the Christians living in Æthiopia and India, may by little and little, yeeld obedience to the lawes of the Romaine Bishops, whom they feare not already to confesse to bee the Vicars of Christ; and so they being once, by your indeuour, ioyned vnto vs by the true religion, and gathered together into one fold, vnder one shepheard Christ, we may perceiue that the mercy of our Lord is confirmed ouer vs, that his kingdome indureth for all ages, and that his power extendeth vnto all generations, and then all flesh shall praise his holy name for euer and euer. But least my exhortation may seeme more tedious then is needfull, especially vnto him of whose life and doctrine, we are, and ought, all of vs to be imitators, I will proceed to my declaration, which I will set out more at large, that thereby I may more plainly shew vpon what grounds and principles, this sacred league and amitie betwixt *Prestor Ioan* and the Kings of Portugall was established, hoping that in declaring those things which bee true and lawfull, I may inflame the mindes of the Readers, and accite them to those designements, whereby the faith of Christ may bee more abundantly planted, preached, and reuerenced in all corners of the earth.

In the yeare from the birth of our Sauour and redeemer Iesus Christ, one thousand, foure hundred thirty and three, *John* the first King of Portugal, surnamed of famous memory, he which freed Portugall from the often incursions and assaults of the Castilians, wherewith it was almost made vast & desolate, departing out of this mortall life, of all his other sonnes which hee left behind him, his  
sonne



sonne *Henry* excelled in learning, and especially in the study of Mathematickes, who for the great desire hee had to know the motion of the heauens, liued a single life, and for that hee might more deeply and accurately meditate and consider the course of the starres, he liued in a holy promontory called *Saint Vincents* head, which place he chose out, for that the heauens bee there for the most part calme and temperate, least the clouds interposing themselues betwixt the heauens and his instruments, his consideration, and iudgment of the course of the heauens, might be thereby hindred.

This *Henry* to the end he might receiue some fruite of his studies, determined to seeke out with his owne ships, and at his owne charge, that which by often watchings he had found out to be so, to wit, that the Atlantick Ocean floweth into the Indian, and the Indian againe into the Atlanticke, and therevpon sending ships thither diuerse times, they entred into great part of the Atlantick shore, wherein many townes, citties, and Islands were discovered and found forth: in all which places by his meanes, the faith of Christ was made knowne, and Churches there erected, especially in those Islands which before lay desert, the principall whereof was the Iland of Wood, commonly called *Medeyra*, now a most famous and fruitfull Iland. But in the end, (as there is no certaintie in mortal matters) in the yeare of our Sauour Christ, one thousand, foure hundred and three score, this *Henry* was surprised by death, and for that he was neuer married, he had left al which he had got by his voiages & traueling by sea vnto the crown of Portugal as his proper inheritance: which being giuen by his own hands, continued vnto the  
time of



of *Iohn* the second of that name, without enuy or emulation of other forraine kings or Princes, in which Kings daies *Columbus* a Genoan borne a very skilfull Sayler, being repulsed, vnregarded and dismissed, by the same King *Iohn*, (to whome he promised to discover the West Indies,) by the ayde and furtherance of *Ferdinand* and *Elizabeth* King and Queene of Castile, he most fortunately attempted the voyage, and found out those large and ample prouinces, to their great and vnspeakeable profit, shewing also how they might come to them by shippes: This *Iohn* oftentimes reuoluing in his minde the affaires of the East Indies, of whose fruitfulness many and sundry things were deliuered by auncient writers

Amongst his other great labours and costes, whereof hee was no niggard, hee determined to send certaine men skillfull in the Arabian tongue vnto those prouinces, and especially vnto *Prestor Iohn*, whereof two of them which hee sent were *Alfonfus* of Payua borne at the white Castell, and another *Iohn Peter* of Couilham both Portingales. These luckely began their iourney from Schalabiton, the seauenth day of May, in the yeare of our Sauour Christ, one thousand foure hundred foure-score and six, and fayning them selues to be Marchants for their more quietter passage, they iournyed first to Barchiona, from thence to Naples and so to Rhodes: then taking their iourney from Alexandria, they arriued lastly at Cayre, and their getting the company of some Marchants they tooke their iourney towards Thor: where taking shipping they arriued neere a certayne citty called Cuaquen, sytuated on the *Aethiopian* shore, from thence they sayled towards Adenes, where they agreed betwixt themselves, that



that *Alphonsus* should returne againe into *Æthiopia* vnto *Prestor Iohn*, and that *Peter* should go forward into *India*, but *Iohn* hauing found out *Calecut Goa*, and the whole shore of the *Malabars*, sayled to *Zofala*, and from thence againe to *Adenes*, & so went straight to *Caire*, expecting to finde his companion there and that they might returne together into *Portingale* to their king (for they appointed when they went from *Adene*, to meete againe, at a time limited, at the same *Cayre*) whither when he was returned he receyued letters from King *Iohn* out of *Portugale*, by the hands of two *Iewes*, whereof one was called *Rabbi Abraham* a *Biensian*, and the other *Ioseph* a *Lamacensian*, by which letters he was certified, that his fellow *Alfonsus* was there dead, and whereby hee was also commanded not to returne into his country before hee had vewed *Ormuzia* and saluted *Prestor Iohn*, of whose state the king did greatly desire to be certified.

Wherefore *Iohn Peter* not knowing what his companion *Alphonsus* had done in his life time, went backe againe to *Adenes* accompanied with the same *Rabbi Abraham* and sent *Ioseph* backe againe to the King with letters, signifying his trauels and what he had done, & so taking water sayled from *Adenes* to *Oromuzia*, where leauing *Abraham* the *Iew* and dispatching him with more letters to the King, he determined to saile towards *Mecha*, which when hee had descryed he earnestly desired to see mount *Synai*, from thence hee departed to *Thor*, and againe taking shipping and passing ouer the straights of the *Erythrean sea*, hee came to *Zeila* and from thence went all the rest of the way on foote, vnto the court of *Prestor Iohn*, who was then called *Alexander*, of whome beeing very curteously receiued hee deliuered vnto him the letters which he



hee had from King *John* offering into his hands also the Topography or Mappe, wherein he might see all our voyage. This *Alexander* determining to send him backe to his King, was preuented by death that hee could not doe it, who being dead his brother surnamed *Nau*, succeeded him in his place, of whome this *John Peter* could neuer obaine licence to depart into his country; and *Nau* dying likewise, his liberty to depart was in like manner denied him by *David* the Sonne of *Nau* and next heire to his Kingdome, but seeing hee could by no meanes haue leaue to depart from that prouince, and to mitigate and assuage the exceeding desire he had to returne home, the King bestowed vpon him most ample and large gifts, and then he tooke to his wife a noble woman, of whome hee begot many children.

This man our Embassadors found out in the court of *Prestor John*, and had conference with him, from whence when they departed in the yeare of our Lord one thousand siue hundred twenty and sixe, they were very desirous to take him with them into their country, and he himselfe was as willing to depart, but they could neuer get leaue of king *David*, for hee euer answered to their desires, that hee receiued that man of his father *Nau* when he receiued his Kingdomes, and that hee would regard him with the like care and loue as he did his Kingdomes.

And that there was noe cause why it should bee irksome to him to liue amongst the *Æthiopians*, where, both from his fathers liberality and his owne he had receiued great welth and riches: This *John Peter* (as our Embassadors reported) was skilfull almost in all languages, for which cause, and more especially for his wisdome (which was very great,) was he so earnestly retayned of the *Æthi-*  
opians



opian Emperors, from whome they exactly vnderstood the estate of Portugall and their nauigations, by the often recytall whereof, (as he was very learned and eloquent,) he purchased the loue and affections of the people of Æthiopia, both to him-selfe and to vs all, After *Iohn* the second King of Portugall was dead, and *Emanuell* most happily succeeded him in his Kingdome, he sent a nauy whereof *Vascus a Gama* was gouenor, in the yeare of our redemption one thousand foure hundred ninty and seauen, for Æthiopia, who disankerring at Vlysbone, and recouering and escaping that dangerous poynt, called *caput bone spei* at last arriued in East India, where by armes they reduced many prouinces and citties vnder our subiection, and gouernment; which newes being made knowne in Æthiopia by the borderers; as also by some Portugalls which at that time came out of India to *Prester Iohns* Court, *Helena* the grand-mother of *Dauid*, (who by reason of *Dauids* nonage, had the administration and gouernment of his Kingdomes) sent one *Mathew Armenius* a skilfull man and learned in many languages, into Portugale to King *Emanuell*, and (that his Embassage might carry more credit and authority) she sent with him a noble yong man called *Absynus*, which two I haue often met in our Court, and haue had familiar conference with them, This *Mathew* came by diuers iournies to Goa vnto *Alphonfus Albuquerque* vice-roy there, of whome hee being receiued very curteously, and dispatched thence liberally rewarded, he arriued in our nauy at Vlisbone, in the yeare of Christ 1513. who shewing to the King the cause of his Ambassage, presented him with a crosse finely wrought, made of that tree whereof our Sauour Christ was Crucified, which crosse I haue oftentimes seene and worshipped, while my brother

*Eructus*



*Fruetus a Goes* was the Kings chamberlaine and had it in his custody : the Queenes letters which hee brought vnto King *Emanuel* purported thus much.

*A letter of Helena the grand-mother of Dauid Precious Iohn Emperor of Ethiopia, written vnto Emanuel King of Portugall in the yeare of our Lord.*

1509.

**I**N the name of God the Father the Sonne and Holy Ghost, one God in three persons, the health grace and benediction of our Lord and Redeemer Iesus Christ, Sonne of the blessed Virgin *Mary*, borne in Bethlem, bee vpon our deere brother, the most Christian King *Emanuel*, gouernor of the sea, and conqueror of the Barbarous and incredulous Moores : Our Lord God prosper thee and giue thee victory ouer all thine enimies, and that your Kingdomes and dominions (by the deuout prayers of the Messengers of our Sauour Christ, to witte the foure Euangelists *S. Iohn, Luke, Marke* and *Mathew*, whose sanctity and prayers be euer thy defence, may extend and stretch them-selues wide and broad.

These are to certyfie you most deere brother, that there came vnto vs from your great and famous Court, two Messengers, whereof one was called *Iohn*, who affirmed him selfe to be a Preeft, and the other *Iohn Gomez*, and desired of vs souldiors and prouision for the warres, wherefore wee haue sent vnto you our Embassador *Mathew*, the Brother of our seruice, with the lycence of *Marke* the Patriarch, who giueth vs his benediction, sending vs Preefts from Ierusalem, hee is our father, and father of all our dominions, the pillar of the faith of Christ, and of the Holy Trynitie, hee at our request  
sent



sent vnto your great Captaine and leader of those Souldiers, which make warres in *India* for the faith of our Saviour Iesus Christ, to signifie vnto him, that wee were ready and willing to send vnto him Souldiers and prouision for the warres, if neede required; and because wee haue heard it reported that the Prince of *Caire* hath sent forth a great Nauy against your Forces, to be reuenged (as we be well assured) of the losses and dammages which hee hath often receiued of the Captaines of your Armie which you haue in *India*, whom God of his great goodnesse vouchsafe to assist, and so to prosper their proceedings euery day more and more, that all those vnbeleeuers may once become subiect to your gouernment. We therefore to withstand their assaults will forthwith send an Armie which shall stay at the sea of *Meeha*, that is to say, at *Babelmendell*, or if you thinke it more fitting, at the hauen of *Inda*, or *Thor*: that so you may destroy, and roote out all those *Moores*, and miscreant vnbeleeuers from the face of the earth, so as the gifts and oblations which be brought and offered at the holy Sepulcher be no more deuoured of dogges: for now is come that time promised, which (as is said) Christ and his mother *Mary* foretold, to wit, that in the latter daies a King should arise from out some Christian Region, that should abolish and bring to nought the vniuersall stocke of the *Barbarians* and *Moores*. And now certainly is that time come, which Christ promised to his blessed Mother. Moreover, what euer our Embassador *Mathew* shall say vnto you, accept it, and giue credit vnto it, as that which proceedeth from our owne person, for he is one of the chiefest of our Court, and therefore haue wee sent him vnto you: Wee would haue committed these things vnto your Messen-



gers, which you sent hither, but that wee were afraide lest our businesses might bee taken otherwise then wee intended. We haue sent vnto you by this *Mathew* our Embassador, a Crosse made (vndoubtedly) of a peece of that Tree, whereupon our Sauour Christ was crucified at Ierusalem. Which peece of sacred wood was brought to vs from Ierusalem, and thereof wee made two Crosses, whereof one remaineth with vs, the other we haue deliuered to our Embassador to be presented to you, the wood is of a blacke colour, and hangeth at a little siluer ring.

Furthermore, if it shall seeme good vnto you, either to giue your daughters in marriage to our sonnes, or that we shall giue oue our sonnes to your daughters, it shall be very acceptable vnto me, and profitable to vs both, and the beginning of a brotherly league betwixt vs, which coniunction of matrimony, we shall euer desire to enter into with you, as well hereafter, as for the present time.

And thus wee end with our praier vnto God, that the saluation and grace of our redeemer Iesus Christ, and of our blessed Lady the Virgin *Mary*, may extend and remaine both vpon you, your sonnes and your daughters, and all your family. *Amen.*

Moreouer, these are to certifie you, that if wee would make warres, and ioyne our Armies together, wee should (by Gods helpe) be strong inough, vtterly to destroy and root out all the enemies of the faith of Christ. But our kingdomes and dominions are so scituated in the middle of the land, as by no meanes wee can haue passage into the sea. In the sea therefore wee haue no power, wherein (praise be giuen to God) you bee the strongest of all Princes. Iesus Christ bee your guide, for your affaires, which



which you haue done and atchieued heere in *India*, seeme rather to bee done by miracle, then by man; but if you would furnish a Nauy of a thousand shippes we will giue you prouision, and abundantly minister vnto you all things necessary for such a Nauy.

This letter, with some other Articles of the Faith, religion, manners, and state of the *Ethiopians*, which *Mathew* expressed before King *Emanuel* and his Councell, I haue by the intreaty of *Iohn Magnus Gothus*, Archbishop of *Vpsalia* in the kingdome of *Suetia*, with whom I had extraordinary familiarity and frindship in *Prussia*, translated out of the *Portingall* language, wherein I found it written, into Lattine: which letter, together with the said articles, were afterwards imprinted at *Antwerp*, without my priuity.

These things vnderstood from the *Ethiopian* Embassadors, King *Emanuel* (as he was exceeding wise, and most desirous to encrease the Christian religion) instituted an Embassage sufficiently furnished with very graue and reuerend men, the chiefeft whereof were *Edward Galuanus*, a man well stricken in yeares, and of great wisedome and experience. And *Francis Alvarez*, a Priest, and of very renowned authority with the King, who was also old, and of vnreproueable manners: both which I haue knowne by sight. These two, and *Mathew* the *Ethiopian* Embassador, sayled towards *India*, vnder the conduct of *Lupo Soares* the Viceroy, and after his death, vnder Viceroy *Didaco Lupeza a Sequeira*. who was *Lupos* successor, with a Nauy well furnished, which hee had prepared against the *Turkes*, by whom they were brought to a hauen called *Arquicum*, situated vpon the *Erythraean* shore, & vnder the dominiõ of *Prestor Iohn*, into which hauen the ship ariued



vpon the second day of Aprill, in the yeare of Christ 1520. In which iourney *Edward Galuanus* dyed in *Camara*, an Island in the Erythraean sea, & *Rhodericus Limius* was placed in his stead, who with his fellowes in Embassage set forwards on their iourney from the said haven of *Arquicum*, towards the Court of *Prestor Iohn*, hauing *Mathew* with them as their guide and companion (for that young man *Abesynus*, whom I formerly mentioned, was dead before this time.) And in this iourney *Mathew* dyed likewise, and was buried in a famous Monastery called *Bisayn*, after whose funerals performed, they set forwards on their intended iourney, and after great trauels, infinite labours, and many dangers, they arriued at the Court of *Prestor Iohn*, of whom, *Rhodoricke* with his associates, were very honorably receiued, and he hauing perfected his businesse, and receiued new message, was sent backe againe vnto King *Emanuel*: which done, hee went to the haven of *Arquicum*, but found not the Nauy there of whom *Ludonicus Menesius* was gouernour, and which came purposely thither to carry them backe againe: for they stayed so long, that the ship could no longer expect their comming, by reason of the outragious and vehement tempests within those coasts, by an admirable secret of nature, blow sixe monethes together from one climate, and the other sixe monethes from the other.

At *Arquicum* hee found letters with the Gouvernor of the towne, left there by *Pretor Ludonicus*, perporing the death of king *Emanuel*: wherefore he determined to returne againe to *Prestor Iohns* Court, at whose returne *Prestor Iohn* writ letters vnto the Pope of *Rome*, committing them to *Francis Alvarez*, to bee carried to him at *Rome*.  
All



All these hauing remained in those prouinces for the space of sixe yeares, in the the end, together with the *Ethiopian* Embassador, whom *Prester Iohn* sent anew vnto our King, entred into one of the Kings ships at *Arquicum*, which was there laid for the purpose, in the moneth of Aprill in the yeare of Christ 1526. and disankering thence, sailed towards *India*, and at length by tedious trauels at sea, they returned to King *Iohn* at *Lisbon*, in the moneth of Iuly, in the yeare 1527. who retained the *Ethiopian* Embassador with him, touching certaine poynts of his Embassage, vnto the yeare 1539. and sent *Francis Alvarez* vnto Pope *Clement* the seuenth, with letters from *Prester Iohn*, from whom he came as Embassador. Which letters the Pope receiued at the hands of the said *Francis Alvarez*, at *Bononia*, in the moneth of Ianuary 1533. In the presence of the Emperour *Charles* the fift; of which letters, and of others written to *Emanuel*, and *Iohn* King of *Portugall*, *Paulus Iouius*, a very learned man was interpretor, who hath translated them out of the *Portingall* language, wherein they were written, into Latine, as here you may see.

*A letter from Dauid the most renowned Emperour of Ethiopia, written to Emanuel, King of Portugall, in the yeare of our Lord 1521. Paulus Iouius being interpretor.*

**I**N the name of God the Father, as hee alwaies hath beene, voyd of all beginning: in the name of God his onely sonne, who is like vnto him, and was before the starres gaue light, and before hee laid the foundation of the Ocean, who at another time was conceiued in the



wombe of the blessed Virgin, without the seede of man, & without mariage, for in this maner was the knowledge of his dutie: in the name of the holy Ghost, the Spirit of sanctity, who knoweth all secrets that be, where he was before, that is of al the altitudes of heauen, which is sustained without any pillers or props, hee who amplified the earth, which before was not created nor knowne through all parts, from the east to the west, & from the north to the south. Neither is this the first or second, but the vndiuided Trinity in the only eternall Creator of all things, of one only councell, and one word for euer and euer *Amen*.

These letters are sent by *Atani Thingil*, that is to say, the incense of a virgin, which name was giuen him in baptisme, but now at his first entrance into his kingdome, he tooke the name of *Dauid*, the beloued of God, the pillar of faith, a kinsman of the tribe of *Iuda*, the son of *Dauid*, the son of *Salomon*, the son of the pillar of *Sion*, the son of the seed of *Iacob*, a son of the hand of *Mary*, and the carnal son of *Nau* Emperour of great and high *Ethiopia*, and of great kingdoms, lands, and dominions, king of *Xoa*, *Cassate*, *Fatigar*, *Angote*, *Boru*, *Baaligaze*, *Adea*, *Vangue*, *Goiame* (where is the head of the riuer *Nilus*) of *Damaraa*, of *Vaguemedri*, *Ambeaa*, *Vagne*, *Tigri Mahon*, of *Sabain*, where *Saba* was Queene, and of *Bermagae*, and Lord vnto *Nobia* the end of *Egypt*.

These letters I say, bee sent from him, and directed to the high, mightie, and inuincible Lord *Emanuel*, who dwelleth in the loue of God, and remaineth firme in the Catholicke faith; the sonne of the Apostles *Peter* and *Paul*, King of *Portingall*, and of the *Algarbians*, friend of Christians, enemy, iudge, Emperour and vanquisher of the *Moores* and of the people of *Affricke* and of *Guiennea*,  
from



from the Promontory and Island of the Moone, of the redde sea of *Arabia*, *Persis* and *Armutia*, of great *India*, and of all places, and of those Islands and adiacent Countries: spoyler and ouerthrower of the *Moores*, and strange Paganes, Lord of Castles, high Towers, and Walles, and increaser of the faith of Christ. Peace be vnto you King *Emanuel*, who (by Gods assistance, destroyest the *Moores*, and with your Nauy, your Armie, and your Captaines, driuest them vp and downe like vnbeleeuing dogges. Peace be vnto your wife the Queene, the friend of Iesus Christ, hand-maide of the virgine *Mary*, the mother of the Sauour of the world. Peace bee vnto your Sonnes, who bee as a Table well furnished with dainties, in a greene Garden amongst the flourishing Lillies. Peace bee vnto your Daughters, who are attired with garments, and costly ornaments, as Princes Palaces bee garnished with Tapestry. Peace bee vnto your kinsfolkes, which bee procreated of the seede of the Saints, as the Scripture saith, the sonnes of the Saints be blessed both within doores and without. Peace be vnto your Councillors & officers, your Magistrates & Lawyers. Peace be vnto the captains of your castles & borders, and of all matters of munition. Peace bee vnto all your Nation, and to all your inhabitants (*Moores* and *Iewes* excepted.) Peace be vnto all your parishes, and to all that be faithfull to Christ and to you. *Amen.*

I vnderstand my Lord, King, and Father, that when the report of my name was brought vnto you by *Mathew* our Embassador, you assembled a great number of your Archbishops, Bishops, and Prelates, to giue thanks vnto Christ our God for that Embassage, and that the same *Mathew* was receiued very honorably, and ioyfully,



which thing did exceedingly reioice mee, and for which I in like manner, and all my people with me, praised God, with great deuotion. But it grieved mee when I vnderstood that *Mathew* was dead in the Monastery of *Bisain* in his returne home, when hee should haue entred into the limits of our Countrie, yet I my selfe sent him not, because I was then a childe of eleuen yeares of age, and had scarce taken vpon me the gouernment of my kingdome after the death of my father, but *Helena* the Queene, whom I did reuerence as my mother, and who gouerned the kingdome for me, she sent him. That *Mathew* was a Marchant, and his right name was *Abraham*, but he called himselfe by another name, that he might trauell more securely through the *Moores*, yet notwithstanding he being knowne to be a Christian by the *Moores* in *Dabull*, was there cast into prison, which when hee had signified vnto the Praefect of your Armie, the same praefect sent diuers valiant men to deliuer this Christian out of that vile prison, which he did more willingly, vnderstanding that he was my Embassador, and when he had deliuered him from the hands of his enemies, hee committed him to your ships, to be brought vnto your presence. That *Mathew* declared his message in my name vnto your King, and writ vnto me that hee was honourably receiued, and abundantly rewarded with gifts of all sorts, which is likewise affirmed by your messengers, which *Didacus Lopez de Sequeira*, chiefe Gouernour of your Fleete, sent vnto vs, who presented those letters vnto vs which *Edward Galuanus* that died in the Isle of *Cameran*, should haue brought. Vpon view of which letters I greatly reioyced and praised God, conceiuing great pleasure, when I beheld the breasts of your Messengers marked with  
Crosses,



Crosses, and proued by enquiring of them, that they obserued the Ceremonies of the Christian Religion, which be most infallible true: and I was exceedingly stirred vp with a singular deuotion, when I vnderstood that they founde their way into *Ethiopia* by miracle: for they told vs that the Captaine of the ship wandring long by the *Arabicke* sea, and therefore despairing to finde our hauen, determined to leaue this busines vndispatched, and to returne into *India*, the rather for the cruell tempests wherewith they were tossed vpon the sea, but in the same morning betimes that hee entended to retire, a red Crosse appeared vnto him in heauen, which when he had worshipped, hee commanded the Mariners to turne the foredeckes of their shippes that way as the Crosse stood, and so by Gods appointment was our hauen discouered and found out, which thing I held to be miraculous. And surely the Gouvernor of that Nauy is beloued of God, seeing he obtained so great felicity, as no man before him had obtained of God. This mutuall Embassage was formerly spoken of by the Prophet in the booke of the life and passion of *S. Victor*, and in the bookes of the holy Fathers, that a great Christian King should make peace with the King of *Ethiopia*: yet did I not thinke that this would haue come to passe in my dayes, but God knew the certainty, that his name might bee extolled, who directed the Messenger vnto me, that I might send the like vnto you againe, my Father, and friend in Christ, that wee may remaine in our Faith, seeing I neuer had any Messenger, nor certaine knowledge from any other Christian King.

Hitherto the *Moores* haue beene about mee the sonnes of *Mahomet* and Gentiles, some of them bee slaues, which



which know not God, some others worship the fire and blockes, some others adore the Sunne, and some suppose Serpents to bee Gods. With these I neuer had peace, because they refuse to come vnto the truth, and to these I preach the faith in vaine. But now I am at quiet, and God hath giuen mee rest with all mine enemies, and yours, for when I march in Armes against them in the boundes of my Countrie, they turne their faces and flye from vs, and our Captaines and Souldiers haue the conquest of them and their Campes: neither is God angrie with me (as the *Psalmist* saith) and God fulfilleth the desires of those Kings which require iust things, yet this belongeth not to our praise, but the praises are to bee giuen vnto God, for hee it is that hath giuen the world vnto you, and hath granted vnto you the lands of the Gentiles for euer, and the landes of other people from the limits of your owne Countrie, euen to the entrance into *Ethiopia*. Wherefore I giue incessant thanks vnto God, and declare his great and incomprehensible power and maiesty, conceiuing great hope that the sonnes of those people which come vnder your dominion, shall vndoubtedly bee partakers of the truth of religion, and therefore I praise God, and hope that your sonnes, and my selfe, and you also, shall exceedingly reioyce for the good successe of these things. And you ought continually to pray vnto God, vntill hee giue you his grace to obtaine the holy Temple in *Ierusalem*, which is now in the power of the enemies of Christ, the *Moores*, *Gentiles*, and Heretickes, which if you bring to passe, your estimation and renown shall be replenished with all praise.

But three of those Embassadors which came vnto mee  
with



with the said *Mathew*, and the great Præfect of your Nauie came downe to *Macua* to commune with the King of *Bernagaes*, who is subiect to our gouernment, and forthwith sent Embassadors vnto me, and great gifts which were most deere and acceptable vnto me: but yet your fame and renowne was more deere and precious vnto me then all iewels and treasures whatsoeuer. But let vs omit these things, and conferre amongst our selues how wee may inuade and take the infidels Countries, for which purpose I shal willingly giue *one hundred thousand thousand drachmaes of gold*, & as many fighting men, timber, yron, and copper likewise, for to build and furnish a Nauie, besides great store of furniture and prouision for warres, and wee will accord and agree friendly together, and for because it is not my custome, nor fitting for my dignitie, to send embassadors to require peace, and seeing you your selfe haue formerly required it, with great sincerity (to confirme the sayings of our Sauour Christ, for it is written: *Blessed bee the Feet which bring peace*,) therefore I my selfe am most ready to embrace it, after the manner of the Apostles, which were of one consent, and of one heart. O King, and my Father *Emannell*, God who is only one, the God of heauen, and alwaies of one substance, neuer waxing yonger or older, preterue and keepe thee in safety. He which brought the message from you vnto vs was called *Rhodericus Lima*, hee was the head and chiefeest man of that embassage, and with him was *Francis Aluarez*, whom for his honesty of life, singular religion, and iustice, I haue held most deere, and especially for that being demanded of his faith, he answered thereunto very fitly and truely. And therefore you ought to exalt him, and to call him maister, and to imploy him in conuerting  
the



the people of *Macua*, and of *Dalaca*, of *Zeila*, and of all the Islands of the red sea, because they bee in the bounds of my kingdomes.

And I haue granted vnto him a Crosse, and a staffe in token of his authority, and doe you commaunde that these things may be giuen vnto him, and that hee may bee made Bishhop of those Countries and Islands, because hee well deserueth it, and is very fitting to administer that office, and God shall doe good unto thee that thou maiest bee alwaies strong against thy enemies, and constraîne them to prostrate themselues at thy feet, I pray God prolong thy life, and make thee partake of the kingdome of heauen, in the best place, euen as I wish for my selfe, for with my eares haue I heard much good of you, and I see with mine eies that which I thought I should neuer haue seene, and God will make all things to goe well with you, and your seate shall bee vpon the tree of life, which is the seate of the Saints. *Amen.*

As a young child I haue done what euer you commanded mee, and will doe if your Embassadors come hither, that we may aid one another by our mutuall forces: & I shall giue, and cause to bee giuen vnto all your Embassadors which shal come hither, what euer you will signifie to be done, and as you did at *Macua*, at *Dalaca*, and at the ports in the streights of the redde sea, that wee may bee prosperously ioyned together, both in Councell and action, as I doe chiefly desire: for when your Forces shall come to those Coastes, I will speedily bee with them with my Armie also, and because there bee no Christians in the Marches of my Countrie, nor any Churches for Christians, I will giue vnto your people those lands to dwell in, which be neereft vnto the  
dominion



dominion of the *Moores*, for it behoueth that you bring your beginnings to a good end. In the meane space send to me learned men, and caruers of Images of gold and filuer, workers of copper likewise, and of Iron, of tinne, and of lead, and Artificers to imprint bookes for the Church in our language, and some that can make gold foyle, or thin plates, or raies of gold, and with the same can guild other mettals, these shall bee courteously entertained in my house, and if they shall desire to depart, I will giue vnto them large & ample rewards for their labours. And I sweare by God, Iesus Christ the sonne of God, that I will freely suffer them to depart when they please. This I most boldly and confidently desire, because your vertue is apparant vnto me, and your goodnesse well knowne. And for that I know you loue me well, whereof I am most assured, because for my sake you receiued *Mathew* very honourably, and liberally, and so sent him backe againe: and therefore I couet to desire those things, neither be thou ashamed of it, for I will truly accomplish and performe all things. That which the Father desireth of the Sonne, cannot bee denied, and you are my Father, and I your Sonne, and wee bee coupled and ioyned together, and as one bricke is ioyned to another in a wall, so we being so to agree together, in one heart, and in the loue of Iesus Christ, who is the head of the world, and those which be with him be likened to bricke: ioyned together in a wall.

*Letters*



*Letters from the said D A V I D, Emperour of Ethiopia  
vnto Iohn the third of that name, King of Portu-  
gall, written in the yeare of our redemption  
1524. and interpreted by Pau-  
lus Iouius.*

**I**N the name of God the Father almighty, maker of hea-  
uen and earth, and of all things that be made either vi-  
sible or inuisible: in the name of God the sonne Christ,  
who is the sonne and Councell, and prophet of the Fa-  
ther: in the name of God the holy Ghost, the Aduocate  
of the liuing God, equall to the Father and the Sonne,  
who spake by the mouth of the Prophets, breathing vpon  
the Apostles, that they might giue thanks and praise vnto  
the holy Trinity, which is euer perfect in heauen, and in  
earth, in the sea, and in the deepe. *Amen.*

I surnamed *Virgins Frankincense*, which name was giuen  
me at my baptisme, and now taking vpon me the gouern-  
ment of my kingdome, I haue also assumed the name of  
*Dauid*, the deerely beloued of God, the pillar of the faith,  
the issue or stocke of *Iuda*, the sonne of *Dauid*, the sonne of  
*Salomon* Kings of *Israell*, the sonne of the columnne, or pil-  
ler of *Sion*, the sonne of the seed of *Iacob*, the sonne of the  
hand of *Mary*, and the son of *Naz* by the flesh, send these  
letters and message vnto *Iohn* the most high, mighty, and  
potent King of *Portugall*, and of the *Algarbians*, the sonne  
of King *Emanuel*: Peace bee vnto you, and the grace of  
our Lord Iesus Christ remaine alwaies with you. *Amen.*

At that time that the power of the King your father  
was reported vnto me, who made war against the *Moors*,  
the sons of the abhominable & accursed *Mahomet*, I gaue  
great



great thanks vnto God for your increale & greatnes, and for the crown of your conuersation in the house of Christianitie. In like manner I tooke pleasure by the comming of your Embassadors, which reported vnto me that kings speeches, whereby a singular loue, knowledge, & friendship was established betwixt vs, vtterly to extirpe & driue away those wicked & accursed *Moores*, and vnbeleeuing *Gentiles*, which dwell betweene your kingdomes & mine. But while I was thus ioyfull, I heard that your father and mine was departed out of this life, before I could dispatch my Embassadors from hence vnto him: and therefore my ioy was suddenly turned into sadnes, so that in the great sorrow of my heart all the States and Noble men of my Court, and Ecclesiasticall Prelates, and all which liue in Monasteries, and all our subiects wholly, made great lamentaion with me, so as the pleasure we conceiued of the first message, was equalled and extinguished with the sorrow of the last.

Sir, from my first entrance into my kingdomes vnto this present time, no message nor messenger hath come vnto me either from the King or kingdome of *Portu-gall*; but in the life time of the King your Father, who sent his Captaines and Gouvernours vnto mee, with Clearkes and Deacons, which brought with them all solemne prouision and apparell for the *Maße*, for which I reioyced greatly, and receiued them honourably, and shortly after dismissed them, that they might returne with honour and peace. And after they came to a Hauen of the sea, which is within my limits in the redde sea, they found not the great Gouvernour of the Naue there, whom your father had sent, for he expected not their comming, but certified mee that hee could not stay



stay their comming, for that your custome is to create a new chiefe Gouvernour of the Fleete once euery three yeares, in which meane time hee that was newly created, came thither, and this was the cause that the Embassadors staied longer then was needfull. But now I send my Messages by *Christopher*, the brother of *Licontius*, whose name at his baptisme is *Zoga Zabo*, which is as much to say, as the grace of the Father, and hee shall manifest my desires before you.

In like manner I send *Francis Alvarez* vnto the Pope of *Rome*, who in my name shall yeeld my obedience vnto him, as is fitting.

O Sir King, & my brother, giue care and attend, & in-deuor to embrace that friendship which your Father opened betwixt vs, and send your Messengers and Letters often vnto vs, for I greatly desire to see them, as from my brother, for so it should be, seeing wee are both Christians. And seeing the *Moores* which be wicked and naught, accord and agree together in their sect. And now I protest I will neuer hereafter admit any Embassadors from the Kings of *Egypt*, nor from other Kings, which send Embassadors vnto me, but from your highnesse, which I much desire should often come: for the Kings of the *Moores* account me not their friend, by reason of our disagreement, and disparitie in religion: yet they faine friendship, that by that meanes they may more freely and safely exercise merchandise in our kingdomes, which is very profitable vnto them, for they carry great store of gold (wherof they be very greedy) out of my kingdomes: though they be but hollow friends vnto me, and their commodities bring me but little pleasure, but this hath beene tollerated, because it hath been an ancient custome  
of



of our former Kings, and though I make no warres vpon them, nor vtterly ouerthrow them, and bring them to destruction, yet in this I am to be borne withall, lest, if I did so, they should violate and pull downe the holy Temple which is at *Ierusalem*, wherein is the sepulcher of our Sauiour Christ, which God hath suffered to be in the power of the wicked *Moores*, and also lest they should make leuell with the ground other Churches which be in *Egypt* and *Syria*. And this is the cause why I doe not inuade and subdue them; which thing greatly irketh me, and I am the rather perswaded so to doe, seeing I haue no bordering Christian king to assist me, and to cheere and encourage my heart in that, or the like enterprise.

And therefore my selfe (O King,) haue no great cause to reioyce of the Christian Kings of *Europe*, vnderstanding that they agree not together in one heart, but that warres bee very rife amongst them. Bee you all of one Christian-like minde, for you ought all of you to bee content of a firme peace amongst you.

And certainly, if any of my neighbouring Christian Kings were ioyned with me in an amiable league (as they ought) I would neuer depart from him one houre. And of this I know not well what I should say, or what I should do, seeing they seeme to be so ordained by God.

Sir, send your Messengers more often vnto mee, I beseech you, for when I looke vpon your letters, then mee thinkes, I behold your countenance. And surely greater friendship ariseth betwixt those which bee farre distant, then those which dwell neere together, by reason of the great desire wherewith they bee delighted,



for he which hath hidden treasures, though he cannot see them with his eyes, yet in his heart hee euer loueth them most ardently, as our Sauour Iesus Christ saith in the Gospell, where thy treasure is, there is thy heart also.

And in like manner ought you to make mee your treasure, and to cowple your heart sincerely with mine. O my Lord and brother, keepe this word, for you bee most prudent, and (as I heare) much like vnto your Father in wise-dome, which when I vnderstood, I forthwith gaue praise vnto God, and laying aside all griefe, conceiued ioy and said: Blessed is the wise sonne, and of great estimation, the sonne of King *Emanuel*, which sitteth in the throne of his fathers kingdomes. My Lord beware then, faint not, seeing thou art as strong as thy father was, nor shew thy forces to be weake against the *Moores* and *Gentiles*, for by the assistance of God, and thine owne vertue, thou shalt easily vanquish and destroy them, neither shalt thou say that thou hast small power left thee by thy father, for truely it was great enough, and God shall euer bring thee helpe.

I haue men, money, and munition, in aboundance, like the sands of the sea, and the starres of heauen, and we ioyning our forces together, may easily destroy the rudenes and barbarousnes of the *Moores*. And I desire nothing else of you but skilfull men, which bee able to instruct my souldiers to keepe their orders and rankes in battell. And thou, O King, art a man of perfect age, King *Salomon* tooke vpon him the gouernment of his kingdome when he was but twelue yeares of age, yet of great power and more wise then his father. And my selfe likewise was but a childe of eleuen yeares of age when my father



ther *Nav* departed this life, and being entred into my Fathers seate, by Gods ordinance, I obtained greater wealth and forces then euer my Father had: for in my power bee all the borderers and Nations of the Kingdome. Wherefore both of vs ought to giue incessant thanks vnto God for so great benefites receiued.

Giue care vnto mee my brother and Lord, for this at one word I desire of you, that you will send vnto mee learned men, that can carue images, imprint bookes, and make Swordes, and all kinde of weapons for the warres: head Masons likewise, and Carpenters, and physitions that haue skill to make medicines and cure wounds.

I would also haue such as can drawe gold into thin plates, and bee able curiously to carue and ingraue gold and siluer, and such likewise as haue knowledge to get gold and siluer from out the veines of the earth, and to worke in all manner of mettall mines: Besides these, I shall much esteeme of such as can make couerings for houses of leade, and will teach others how to make tiles of chalke or clay.

To conclude, I shall haue vse of all manner of Artificers, and especially of such as can make Gunnes. Helpe mee therefore, I pray you, in these things, as one brother should helpe another, and so God will helpe you, and deliuer you from all euill, God will heare thy prayers and petitions, as hee hath receiued holy sacrifices at all times, as first of all, the sacrifices of *Abell*, and of *Noe* when hee was in the Arke, and that of *Abraham* when hee was in the land of *Madian*, and that of *Isaac* when hee departed from the Ditch or Trench of the Oath, and that of *Iacob* in the house



of *Bethlem*, and of *Moses* in *Egypt*, and *Aaron* in the Mount, and of *Ieson* the sonne of *Nav* in *Galgale*, and of *Gedeon* in the Coast, and of *Sampson* when hee was a thirst in the land of drought, and of *Samuell* in *Rhama*, of the Prophet, and of *David* in *Nacira*, and of *Salomon* in the Cittie of *Gabeon*, and of *Helias* in mount *Carmell*, when hee raied from death the Widdow womans sonne, from *Rhicha* aboue the pit, and of *Iosaphat* in battell, and of *Manasses* when hee sinned, and conuerted againe vnto God, and of *Daniell* in the Lyons Denne, and of the three brethren, *Sydrach*, *Mysaach*, and *Abednago* on the firy furnace, and of *Anna* before the Altar, and of *Nehemias*, which made walles with *Zorababell*, and of *Mathathia* with his sonnes, ouer the fourth part of the world, and of *Esaue* vppon his blessing, euen so our Lord wil receiue your sacrifices, and supplications, and will helpe you, and stand with you against all persuersnes, and ouerthwartnes at all seasons, and euery day.

Peace bee with you, and I embrace you with the armes of sanctitie, and in like manner I embrace all those which be of your Councell of the kingdome of *Portugall*, Archbishops likewise, and Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and all men and women whatsoeuer.

The grace of God, and blessing of the Virgine *Mary* the mother of God be with you, and with you all. *Amen.*



*Letters from the same most renowned Dauid, Emperour  
of Ethiopia, vnto the Pope of Rome, written in the  
yeare of our Lord 1524. and translated into  
Latine by Paulus Iouius.*

**I**N the name of God the Father Almighty, maker of  
heauen and earth, and of all things visible and inui-  
sible: in the name of God the Sonne Iesus Christ,  
which is the same with the Father from the beginning of  
the world, and is light of light, and true God of true God:  
in the name of the holy spirit of the liuing God, who pro-  
ceeded from God Father.

These letters I the King doe send, whose name the  
Lyons doe worship, and by the grace of God, I am  
called *Athani Tinghil*, that is to say, the incense of a vir-  
gin, the Sonne of King *Dauid*, the sonne of *Solomon*,  
the sonne of a king by the hand of *Mary*, the son of *Naru*  
by the flesh, the son of of the holy Apostles, *S. Peter* and  
*S. Paul* by grace.

Peace bee vnto you most iust Lord, holy, mighty,  
pure, and sacred Father: vnto you, which are the head  
of all Princes, and fearest no man, seeing no one can  
speake euill of thee: vnto you, which are the most vigi-  
lant Curate and obseruer of soules, and friend of stran-  
gers and and peregrines.

O holy maister, and preacher of the faith, enemy of all  
those things which offend the conscience, loue of good  
manners, sanctified man, whom all men laud and praise.

O happy and holy Father, I yeeld obedience vnto  
you with great reuerence, for you are the peace of all  
things, and deserue all good, and therefore it is fitting



that all men should shew their obedience vnto you, as the holy Apostles command to yeeld obedience to God. This truly belongeth vnto you; for so also they command vs to worship Bishops, Archbishops, and Prelats. In like manner that we should loue and reuerence you, as our father, feare you as our King, and haue confidence in you as in God. Wherefore I humbly confesse, and with my bending knees say vnto you, O holy father, that you are my father, and I your son. O holy & most mighty father, why did you neuer send any vnto vs, that you might better vnderstand of my life and health, seeing you be the shepheard, and I your sheepe? For a good shepheard will neuer forget his flocke, neither ought you to thinke that I dwel so farre remote from your regions, that messengers cannot come vnto mee, seeing your sonne *E. manuell*, the King of *Portugall*, hath sent Embassadors vnto me, very conueniently, from his kingdome, which is the furthest from vs in the world, and if God had spared him life, and not incited him so suddenly to heauen, (without doubt) those things which we then had in hand, had beene brought to a happy conclusion. But now I much desire to bee certified by some trusty messengers, of your holinesse health and happinesse, for I neuer yet heard any message from your holinesse, but something I heard of our owne people, who to performe their vows, went a pilgrimage into those parts, but seeing they went not in my name, nor brought with them my letters from you, their reports are but an vncertaine beleefe: for I questioning with them, they said they came from Ierusalem, where hauing performed their vowes, they went to *Rome* to visite the Churches of the Apostles, vnderstanding that they might easily come to those places



places which bee inhabited by Christians. And surely I take great pleasure in their speeches, because in my sweete cogitation, I doe behold the similitude of thy holy countenance, which seemeth vnto mee like the countenance of an Angell. And I confesse, that I doe loue and reuerence that image as an Angellicall likenesse, but yet were it more acceptable and pleasant vnto mee, deuoutely and diligently to consider and view your words and Letters.

And therefore I most humbly beseech you to send Messengers vnto me with your benediction, thereby to cheere and exhilarate my heart, for seeing wee agree in faith and religion, before all things I desire and intreate that you will set my loue and friendship in the principallest part of your heart, as the ring which you weare vpon your finger, and the chaine of gold which you put about your neck, that so the remembrance of me may neuer be blotted out of your memory: for with thankfull words & letters friendship is increased, it is embraced with sacred peace, from whence all humane ioy springeth & ariseth, for euen as hee that is thirsty greatly desireth cold water (as the scripture saith) so doth my heart conceiue an incredible ioy from the messengers & letters which come to me from the furthest parts of the world: neither shall I only reioice to heare from your holines, but also I shall be glad to heare certaine newes from all the Kings of Christendome. And full as ioyfull as those that in battell doe get the best spoyles. And this may bee done with great facility, seeing the King of *Portugall* hath made the whole iourney plaine vnto them, who long since hath sent his Embassadors vnto vs with strong Armies: but neither when my father was liuing,



nor sithence, haue wee receiued any Message or Letters from any other Christian King, or from the Pope himselfe, although in our treasuries of Monuments, and Charters of my great Grand-father, is prelerued the memory of those Letters which Pope *Eugenius* sent into this Countrie, when the King of Kings, of all *Ethiopia*, being the seede of *Iacob*, and a King to bee feared, had the gouernment of this kingdome.

The forme of which letters were thus. *Eugenius* the Bishop of *Rome* to our beloued sonne the King of the seede of *Iacob*, the King of all the kings of *Ethiopia*, and chiefly to be feared, &c.

And in the conclusion of the same letters is mentioned that his sonne *John Paleologus*, which dyed about two yeares before, the King of the *Romean* Kings, was called to the celebration of the sacred Synode. And that *Ioseph* the Patriarch of Constantinople, came with him with a great number of Archbishops, and Bishops, and Prelates of all sorts, among whom were the *Proctors* or *Factors* of the Patriarckes of *Antioch*, *Alexandria* and *Ierusalem*, who when they had ioyned themselues together in loue of holy faith and religion, the vnity of the Church being ordained and established, all the difficulties and troubles of ancient time, which seemed erronious, & contrary to religion, were (by Gods diuine assistance) vterly taken away & abolished: which things being rightly established and set in order, the Pope himselfe brought great ioy vnto them all.

This booke of Pope *Eugenius* wee haue sent vnto you, which wee haue kept vncorrupted, and wee would haue sent vnto you the whole order and power of the Popes blessing, but that the volume of these things would seeme  
too



too great, for it would exceed in bignes the whole booke of *Paul* to all the nations he writ vnto.

The Legates which brought these things vnto vs from the Pope, were *Theodorus, Peter, Didymus, and George*, the seruants of Iesus Christ, and you shall do well (most holy Father) to command your bookes to be looked ouer, where (I suppose) some memory of these things which we write of, may be found out. Wherefore holy father, if you will write any thing vnto vs beleue it confidently, that we will most diligently commit it to our bookes, that the eternall memory of those things may remaine to our posterity, and surely I account him blessed whose memory is preferued in writing in the sacred citty of *Rome*, and in the seate of the Saints, *S. Peter* and *S. Paul*, for these bee Lords of the kingdome of heauen, & iudges of the whole world. And because that this is my beliefe, I therfore send these letters, that I may obtaine grace of your holines, and your most sacred Senate, that from thence may come vnto me a holy benediction, & increase of all good things. And I most earnestly beseech your holines to send vnto me some images & pictures of the Saints, & especially of the virgin *Mary*, that your name may be often in my memory, & that I may take continuall pleasure in your gifts. Furthermore I heartily intreate you to send vnto me men learned in the Scriptures, workmen likewise that can make images & swords, and all maner of weapons for the warre, grauers also of gold and siluer, and Carpenters, & Masons, especially which can build houses of stone, and make co-uering for them of lead and copper, wherby the roofes of the houses may be defended. And besides these, such as can make glasse & instruments of musicke, and such as be skilfull in musicke, those also that can play vpon Flutes, Trumpets



Trumpets, and psalmes, shall be most welcome & deere vnto vs: and these workmen I much desire should bee sent me from your Court: but if there be not sufficient store in your court, your holines may command them of other Kings, who will obey your command most readily. When these shal come to me, they shall bee honorably esteemed of according to their deserts, & from my liberality shall be amply rewarded, and if any shall desire to returne home, he shall depart with liberall gifts whither hee please: for I will not detaine any one against his will, though I should haue great fruit and benefite by his industry.

But I must now speake of other matters, & demand of you (most holy father) why you exhort not the Christian kings, your children, to lay aside thir armes, and as becometh brethren, to accord and agree amongst themselues, seeing they be thy sheepe, and thou their sheeheard? for your holines knoweth right well what the Gospell commandeth, where it is said: *That euery kingdome diuided in it selfe shall be desolated, and brought to ruine.* And if the Kings would agree in their hearts, & conclude an assured league and peace together, they might easily vanquish all the *Mahometans*, and by their fortunate entrance, and sudden irruption vtterly burst, and throw downe the sepulcher of that false Prophet *Mahomet*. For this cause (holy father) in deuour your selfe that a firme peace and assured league of friendship may bee concluded and established amongst them, & admonish them to be assistant & aiding vnto me, seeing in the confines of my kingdomes, I am on all sides inclosed and incompassed about with those most wicked men the *Mahometane Moores*, for those *Mahometane Moores* yeeld mutual aid one to another, & the kings with kings, petty kings with petty kings, do sincerely and constantly assemble



assemble themselves against vs. There is a *Moore* very neere neighbour vnto me, to whom the other bordering *Moores* minister weapons, horses, and munition for the warres. These be the kings of *India*, *Persis*, *Arabia*, and *Egypt*, which things grieue and molest mee exceedingly euery day, when I behold the enemies of the Christian religion ioyned together in brotherly loue, and to enioy peace, & to see the Christian kings my brothers to be nothing at all moued by these iniuries, nor to yeeld mee any helpe, as assuredly behoueth Christians to doe, seeing the impious brood of *Mahomet* do aid and assist one another: neither am I he, that for that purpose should require Souldiers & prouision for warres of you, seeing I haue Souldiers left of mine owne: but onely I desire your praiers and orisons, wishing also fauour & grace with your holines, & with all Christian Kings my brethren: for I must seeke to obtaine friendship of you, that I may bee fully instructed and furnished of those things which I formerly desired, to the terror of the *Moores*, & that my neighbours, the enemies of the Christian faith may vnderstand that the kings do fauor & aid me with a singular care & affection, which surely will redound to the praise of vs in common, seeing we agree together in one verity of religion and faith, and in this councell wee will conforme, which shall be firme and absolute with that which shal fall out to be more profitable. God therefore fulfill all your desires about the praises of Iesus Christ, and of God our Father, to whom all men giue praises for euer and euer. And you most holy Lord and father embrace me, I beseech you, with all the Saints of Iesus Christ which be at *Rome*, into which embracings let all the boderers of my kingdomes, and those which dwell in *Ethiopia* be receiued, & giue thanks to our  
Lord



Lord Iesus Christ with your spirit. These letters your holinesse shall receiue at the hands of my brother *John* King of Portugall, the sonne of the most mighty King *Emanuel*, by our Embassador *Francis Alvarez*.

*Other letters from the same Dauid, Emperour of Ethiopia, written to the Pope of Rome in the yeare of our Lord God 1524. and interpreted by Paulus Iouius.*

**H**Appy and holy father, which art ordained of God to be the consecrator and sanctifier of all nations, and the possessor of Saint *Peters* seate: to you bee giuen the keyes of the kingdome of heauen, and whatsoeuer you either binde or loose vpon earth, shall be bound or loosed in heauen, as Christ himselfe hath said, and as *S. Mathew* hath written in his Gospell.

I the King, whose name the Lyons doe worship, by the grace of God, called *Athani Tingil*, that is to say, virgins incense, which name I receiued in baptisme, but now, when I first tooke vpon mee the gouernment of the kingdome, I assumed vnto me the name of *Dauid*, the beloued of God, the pillar of faith, the kinsman of the stock of *Iuda*, the son of *Dauid*, the son of *Salomon*, the son of the pillar of faith, the son of the seed of *Iacob*, the son of the hand of *Mary*, the son of *Nau* by the flesh, Emperour of great & high *Ethiopia*, and of great kingdomes, dominions & lands King of *Xoa*, of *Cassate*, of *Fatigar*, of *Angote*, of *Baru*, of *Baaligaze*, of *Adea*, of *Vangue*, of *Goiame* (where is the head of the riuer *Nilas*) of *Damaraa*, *Vaguemedri*, *Ambeaa*, *Vague*, *Tigri Mahon*, of *Sabain*, where *Saba* was Queene, & of *Bernagaes*, and Lord vnto *Nobia* in the end of *Egypt*. All these Prouinces



Prouinces be within my power, and many other, which now I haue not reckoned : nor haue I expressed these kingdomes & prouinces in their proper names, for pride or vaine-glory, but for this cause onely, that God may be praised more and more, who of his singular benignity hath giuen vnto the kings, my predecessors, the gouernement of such great and ample kingdomes of the Christian religion, and yet surely hee hath made me worthy of a more excellent fauour and grace, then other Kings, that I might continually deuote my selfe to religion, because he hath made me *Adell*, that is, the Lord and enemy of the *Moores*, and *Gentiles* which worship idols, I send vnto you to kisse your holines feete, after the manner of other Christian Kings my brethren, to whom I am nothing inferior, neither in religion nor power, for I within mine owne kingdomes am the pillar of faith, neither am I aided with any forreine helpe; for I repose my whole trust and confidence in God alone, who gouerneth and sustaineth me vp, from the time wherein the Angell of God spake vnto *Phillip*, that hee should instruct in the true faith, the Eunuch of the mighty Queene *Candace*, the Queene of *Ethiopia*, as shee was going from *Ierusalem* to *Gaza*. And *Phillip* did then baptize the Eunuch, as the Angell commaunded, and the Eunuch baptized the Queene, with a great part of her household, and of her people, which hath euer since continued Christians, remaining for all times after that, firme and stable in the faith of Christ. And my predecessors hauing no other aid but onely Gods assistance, haue planted the faith in very large kingdomes, which I my selfe doe likewise daily contend to effect. For I remaine in the great bounds of my kingdomes, like a Lyon incompassed about with a  
mighty



mightie wood, and hedged and inclosed against the *Moores* that lye in waite for me, and other nations which bee enemies to the Christian faith, and refuse to heare the word of God, or my exhortations. But I my selfe being girded with my sword, doe persecute and expell them out by little & little, indeed by Gods diuine helpe, which I neuer found wanting, which happeneth otherwise to Christian kings, for if the limits of their kingdoms be large, it may easily be obtained, for that one may assist & minister helpe vnto another, and receiue further helpe by your holines benediction, of which I am partaker, seeing in my booke be contained certain letters, which long since Pope *Eugenius* sent with his benediction, vnto the king of the seed of *Jacob*, which blessing giuen by his own hands, being accepted and taken, I do enioy, and thereof greatly reioyce. And I haue the holy temple, which is at *Ierusalem* in great veneration, vnto which I oftentimes send oblations due by our pilgrimes, and many more and fatter I would haue sent, but that the passages bee hindred by *Moores* and *Infidels*: for (besides the taking away from our messengers our gifts and treasures) they will not suffer them to passe freely, but if they would suffer vs to trauell, I would come into the familiarity & fellowship of the *Romane* Church, as other Christian Kings do, to whom I am nothing inferior in the christian religion, for euen as they belieue, I confesse one true faith, and one Church, and I most sincerely beleue in the holy Trinity, & in one God, and the virginity of our Lady the virgin *Mary*, and I hold and obserue all the articles of the faith, as they were written by the Apostles. Now our good God hath by the hand of the most mighty and Christian King *Emanuel*, made the passage open and plaine, that we may meete by  
our



our Embassadors, and that we being Christians ioyned in one faith, might serue God with other Christians. But while his Embassadors were in my Court, it was reported vnto me, that *K. Emanuel* was dead, & that his son my brother *Iohn* had the rule of his fathers kingdome, wherupon as I was sorrowful for my fathers death, euen so I reioyced greatly at the happy entrance of my brother into his kingdome, so as I hope that we joining our power and forces together, may make open the passages both by sea and land, by the regions of the wicked *Moores*, and greatly terrifying them, vtterly expell them from their seates and kingdomes, that the way being made fit & peaceable, christians may frelie come and go to the temple of *Ierusalem*. And then shall I bee pertaker of his diuine loue in the Church of the Apostles *S. Peter* and *S. Paul*. And I couet greatly to obtaine the sacred benediction of the Vicar of Christ, for without doubt your holinesse is Gods Vicar, and when I heare many things of your holines by trauellers & pilgrimes, that go and come miraculously from our countries to *Ierusalem*, & from thence to *Rome*, they breed in me an incredible ioy & pleasure, but I should bee more glad if my Embassadors could make a shorter cut in their iourneies to bring newes vnto me, as my hope is they will once do before I dye, by the grace of almighty God, who euer keepe you in health and holines, *Amen*.

And I kisse your holines feet, and humbly beseech you to send me your blessing. These letters also your holines shall receiue at the hands of my brother *Iohn* King of *Portugall* by our said Embassador *Francis Aluarez*.

These Epistles translated by *Paulus Iouius* I haue ioined to this worke, for the better knowledge of this historie, wherein we haue changed nor altered nothing (although  
in



in many places they require alteration) some few excepted, which being badly translated into Spanish, out of the *Arabian* and *Abesenicke* language, did cleane alter the whole order of the Epistles. The same *Ionius* also in his declaration of these Epistles, hath promised to translate into Latine the booke which *Francis Alvarez* composed, concerning the scituation, manners and behaviour of the *Ethiopians*, in which booke he expresseth and setteth forth his whole iourney or trauels. One copy of which booke I my selfe haue in my keeping. But if *Ionius* surcease to translate it, I would not bee strange to take the matter in hand, although not willingly, vnlesse (most holy father) it please you to command, and then shall I be more free and safe from all malicious detractors, who may happily suppose that I vndergoe the busines not with a desire to further the Christian common-wealth, but rather in æmulation of *Ionius* glory. For the doing of which busines effectually & faithfully, I suppose I am sufficiently instructed, for when I had executed my embassage into *Germany* and *Sarmatia*, & was returned vnto my king, *John* the third of that name, (of whose great courtesie and bountie in receiuing of me, I had sufficient triall) I fell in conference with the *Ethiopian* Embassador at *Lisbon*, a man honoured, and indued with the dignity of a Bishop, admirable for his credit, doctrine, and eloquence in the *Chaldean* and *Arabian* tongue, and in briebe, a man most fit to bee sent from the most mighty Emperour of *Ethiopia*, vnto great and potent princes, for vrgent and weightie affaires, his name was *Zaga Zabo*, and after an assured and firme friendship was established betwixt vs, I had often conference with him, and reasoned and debated with him, especially of the manners and Religion of the  
Christians



Christians of Aethiopia: for I desired to know those things, not by the bare narration of traueilling interpreters, but from a man borne in that Country; and that in his presence, and receiuing it from his mouth. Amongst other things, I shewed vnto him an Epistle sent into Portugall by *Mathew* the Embassador, which Epistle together with the Articles which he proposed before King *Emmanuel*, I translated (as I haue sayd) into the Latine tongue, and many things I haue corrected by his direction, where the interpretation obtained not sufficient credit, nor likelihood, which he affirmed, did oftentimes happen both to me and to *Iouius*: for as then I had with me the Epistles of the same *Iouius*, which we conferred with great diligence, and after vnfaigned friendship and the true loue of Christ flourished and was esteemed amongst vs, I was imboldened to require of him a plaine and sincere declaration of the faith and religion of the Aethiopians, and to haue it penned downe with his owne hands, which hee graunted vnto me with great alacritie, and forthwith beganne to make description thereof, which relation of his, I haue faithfully translated into Latin, as by the sequelle will appeare, wherein I went forward with greater desire, my conscience vrging me that I was not ignorant, that if these things should haue perished with me, they could neuer after that be published by any other man: for because they were so framed and composed after the Chaldean and Aethiopian phrase, as they could hardly of any man bee vnderstood but of my selfe, who by much familiaritie, might attaine to the knowledge of all those things, as well from the mouth, as from the writings of the sayd Aethiopian Ambassadour.



*In the name of our Lord Iesus Christ, Amen.*

THEse be the things which be vsed & obserued amongst vs Aethiopians, as touching our faith and religion:

First, we beleeue in the name of the holy Trinity, the Father, Sonne, and holy Ghost, who is one Lord, three in name but one in Diuinity, three representations but one similitude, the coniunction of the three persons is equall; equall I say in Diuinitie, one Kingdome, one throne, one Iudge, one Charity, one Word, and one Spirit: but the word of the Father, and of the Sonne, the word of the holy Ghost and the Sonne, is the same word; and the word with God, and with the holy Ghost, and with himself without any defect or diuision, the Sonne of the Father, and the Sonne of the same Father, without beginning, to wit, first the Sonne of the Father without mother: For no one knoweth the secret and mysterie of his Natiuity, but the Father, Sonne, and the holy Ghost, and the same in beginning was the Word, & the Word was the Word with God, and God was the Word, the Spirit of the Father, the holy Spirit, and the Spirit of the Sonne is the holy Spirit, but the holy Spirit of his Spirit, is without any diminution or augmentation: for that the holy Ghost, the Aduocate, or Comforter, the true God which proceedeth from the Father and the Sonne, spake by the mouth of the Prophets, and descended in the fierie flame vppon the Apostles in the porch of Syon, who declared and preached throughout the whole world, the Word of the Father, which Word was the Sonne himselfe.

Moreouer, the Father is not first, in that hee is Father, nor the Sonne last, in that he is the Sonne, euen so the  
holy



holy Ghost is neither first nor last; for they be three persons, but one God, which seeth, and is seene of no man, and who by his onely counsell created all things: and after that, the Sonne of his owne accord, for our saluation, (the Father himselfe being willing, and the holy Ghost consenting thereunto,) descended from his high and heavenly habitation, and was incarnate by the holy Ghost of the Virgin *Mary*; which *Mary* was adorned with a double Virginitie, the one spirituall, the other carnall: he was also borne without any corruption: the same *Mary* his mother after her child-bearing remaning a Virgin, & inspired with great wonder, and hidden fire of Diuinity, brought forth without bloud, paine, or dolours her Sonne Iesus Christ, who was a man innocent, and without sinne, perfect God, and perfect man, hauing one onely aspect. As he was an infant he grew vp by little and little, sucking the milk of his mother *Mary* the Virgin, and when he attained to the age of thirty yeares, he was baptized in Iordan; he walked like other men, he was wearie, he sweat, he was both hungrie and thirstie, and all these things he suffered freely and voluntarily, working many miracles, and by his Diuinitie he restored sight to the blind, healed those which were lame, cleansed the lepers, and raised vp the dead, and last of all, he was willingly apprehended and taken, scourged, beaten with buffets, and crucified, he languished and died for our offences, and by his death he ouercame death and the diuell, and by his sorrow in his life time, hee dissolued our finnes, and bare our griefes, and with the Baptisme of his bloud, (which Baptisme was his death) he baptized the Patriarchs and Prophets, and he descended into hell, where was the soule of *Adam* and his sons, & the soule of Christ himselfe which is of *Adam*; which soule of *Adam* Christ



himself took of the blessed Virgin *Mary*: and in the brightness of his diuinity, and strength of his crosse, he brake the brazen gates of hell, binding Satan in chaines of yron, and redeeming thence *Adam* & his sons. Al these things Christ did, wherfore he was replenished with diuinity, and that diuinity was with his soule, & also with his most holy body: which diuinity gaue vertue to the crosse, & which diuinity he euer had, & yet hath commune with the Father in Trinity & Vnity: nor did that Christ, while he walked vpon the earth, euer want his diuinity, for the least twineking of an eye. After this he was buried, and the third day the same Iesus Christ, the Prince of resurrection, Iesus Christ the chiefe of the Priests, Iesus Christ the King of Israel, arose againe with great power and fortitude, and after all things were fulfilled which the holy Prophets fore-shewed, hee ascended with great glorie & triumph into heauen, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father: and he shall come againe in glorie, carrying his crosse before his face, and the sword of iustice in his hand, to iudge both the quicke and the dead; of whose kingdome shall be no end. I beleeeue one holy Catholike and Apostolike Church: I beleeeue one Baptisme, which is the remission of sinnes, I hope for and beleeeue the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

I beleeeue in our Ladie, the blessed Virgin *Mary*, a Virgin I say, both in spirit and flesh, who (as the mother of Christ) is the charity of all people, the Saint of Saints, and Virgin of Virgins, whome I do worshippe all manner of wayes. I beleeeue the sacred wood of the crosse, to bee the bed of the sorow of our Lord Iesus Christ, the son of God; which Christ is our saluation, by whome wee be saued, a scandall to the Iewes, and foolishnesse to the Gentils.

Buc



But we preach and belecue the strength of the Crosse of our Lord Iesus Christ, euen as *S. Paul* our Doct<sup>r</sup> hath taught vs. I belecue *S. Peter* to be the rocke of the lawe; which law is founded vpon the holy Prophets, the foundation and head of the Catholike and Apostolike Church, both east and west, where euer is the name of our Lord Iesus Christ: the power of which Church, *Peter* the Apostle hath, and the keyes of the kingdome of heauen, with which he can shut and open, loose and bind, and hee shall sit with the other Apostles his fellowes, vpon twelue seats (with honor and praise) with our Lord Iesus Christ, who in the day of Iudgement shall pronounce the sentence vpon vs, which day to the Saints, shall be cause of ioy; but to the wicked, grieve and gnashing of teeth, when they shall bee cast out into the burning flames of hell fire, with their father the Diuell. I belecue that the holy Prophets and Apostles, Martyrs, and Confessors, were the right imitators of Christ, whom with the most blessed Angels of God, I worship & honor: & in like maner also do I embrace, & affect as their followers. Also I belecue that vocall and auricular confession of all my sinnes is to bee made to the priest, by whose prayers (through Christ our Lord) I hope to obtain saluation. Moreouer, I acknowledge the B. of Rome to bee the chief Pastor of the sheep of Christ, yeelding obedience vnto all Patriarks, Cardinals, Archb. & Bishops, of whom he is head, as vnto the Ministers of Christ himfelfe. This is my faith and law, and of al the people of Aethiopia, that be vnder the power of Precious *Iohn*; which faith & the loue of Christ, be so confirmed amongst vs, as (with the help of our Sauour) I shall neuer deny it, neither by death, fire, nor sword; which faith all we shall carry with vs in the day of iudgment, before the face of the same Lord Iesus Christ.



Now hauing gone thus farre, I will expresse the discipline, doctrine, and law, which the Apostles in their holy books of Councils and Canons, (which we call *Manda & Abethylis*) haue taught vs: and of those bookes of the ordinances of the Church there be 8. all which were compiled by the Apostles when they were assembled together at Ierusalem: wherof making great inquiry of many Doctours, after I came into Portugall, I found none that did remember them. The obseruatiōs which the Apostles prescribed vnto vs in these bookes, be these following: First, that we ought to fast euery wednesday in remembrance of the Iewes Councell; for vpon that day they consulted and decreed amongst themselves, that Christ shold be killed: and that we shold fast euery Friday; vpon which day Christ Iesus was crucified, and died for our sins: and vpon these two dayes we are commanded to fast till the Sun-setting. They also inioyned vs to fast with bread & water the forty daies of Lent, and to pray seuen times in the day and night. By those edicts also we be bound to celebrate our sacrifice vpon Wednesdayes and Fridayes in the euening, because at that time our Lord Iesus Christ yeelded vp the ghost vpon the holy Crosse. They willed also, that vpon Sundaies we should al assemble together in the holy church at the third houre of the day, from the Sun-rising, to reade and heare the bookes of the Prophets; and that after that we should preach the Gospell, and celebrate Masse. Moreouer, they appointed nine festiuall daies to be celebrated in memorie of Christ, to wit, the Annunciation, the Natiuity, the Circumcision, the Purification, or Candlemas, his Baptisme, Palm sunday vnto the octaues of good Friday, (as we term it) which be 12. dayes, the Ascension also, and the Feast of Pentecost, with their holy dayes. And by the precepts of these



these bookes, we eate flesh euery day without any exception, from the Feast of Easter vnto Penticost: neither bee we bound to fast in all this time vnto the octaues of Penticost; which thing we do for the more honour & reuerence of the resurrection of our Lord Iesus Christ. They will vs also to celebrate the day of the death & assumption of the Virgin *Mary*, with all honor. Moreouer, besides the precepts of the Apostles, one of the Precious *Iohns*, surnamed, The seed of *Iacob*, ordained, that besides these dayes euery thirtieth yere, 3. dayes should be celebrated in honor of the same blessed Virgin, he also commanded one day in euery moneth to be celebrated for the Natiuity of our Sauior Christ, which is euer the 25. day of the month: in like manner he appointed one day in euery moneth to be kept holy in honor of S. *Michael*. Furthermore, by the cōmandement of the Apostles Synods, wee celebrate the day of the Martyrdom of S. *Stephen*, and of other Martyrs. We be bound also (by the institution of the Apostles) to sollemnize two dayes, to wit, the Sabbath, and the Lords day, in which daies it is not lawfull for vs to do any manner of businesse, no not the least trifle. The Sabbath day we obserue for this cause, for that God hauing perfected the Creation of the world, rested vpon that day; which day, as it was his will it should be called the Holy of Holies, so if that day should not be reuerenced with great honor and religion, it would seeme to be done directly against the will and commandement of him, who had rather that heauen and earth should perish, then his word, especially seeing Christ himselfe came not to destroy the law, but to fulfill it: wherfore we obserue that day not in imitation of the Iewes, but at the bidding of our Lord Iesus Christ, & his holy Apostles: the grace of which Iewes is translated vnto vs Christians.



And vpon this sabbath day, Lent excepted, wee euer eate flesh: which vse is not obserued in the kingdome of Bernagues and *Tygrī Mahon*: the naturall people of which two kingdomes, by an ancient custome, eat flesh vpon the sabbath daies and Sundaies in Lent: now wee celebrate the Lords day, as other Christians do, in memory of Christs resurrection, but we know that the Sabbath day is to be obserued and kept holy by the books of the law, and not by the Gospell: and yet notwithstanding we be not ignorant that the Gospel is the end of the Law, and of the Prophets: And vpon these two daies, we belecue that the foules of the godly departed which remaine in Purgatorie, bee not there tormented, which rest God hath granted vnto those foules vpon these most holy daies: vntill (the end of their punishments due for their offences in this world being determined) they be deliuered thence: for the diminishing of which paines, and to extenuate & shorten the time of their punishments: we belecue, that almes deedes done for the dead, be very profitable vnto those souls which liue in purgatory. To the remission of which foules the Patriarke giueth no Indulgence, for that we beleue doth belong vnto God only, and to the constitution of the time of their punishment: neither doth the Patriark allow any daies for Indulgēces, By the reading of the Gospel, we be only bound to keep 6. precepts, which Christ explained with his owne mouth: *I was an hungred (saith he) and you gaue me to eate, I was thirstie, and you gaue me to drink: I was a stranger, & you tooke me in: naked, and you clothed me: sicke, and you visited me: I was in prison, and you came vnto me:* Which words Christ will onely pronounce in the day of Iudgement, because the law (as Paul witnesseth) sheweth vnto vs our sins; which law (Christ Iesus excepted) no one can keepe.

And



And *Paul* also saith, that we be all borne in sinne for the transgression of our mother *Eua*, and for her curse and malediction: and the same *Paul* further saith, that wee die through *Adam*, and liue through Christ, which Christ of his abundant mercy hath giue vnto vs these six precepts, to the end that we might be saued, when hee shall come in his Maiesty, to Iudge both the quick & the dead, by which words and commandements in that fearefull and terrible day of Iudgment, hee will pronounce and shew vnto the good euerlasting glory, and to the wicked fire and eternall damnation. And wee reckon but only fiue deadly finnes (as they terme them) which wee gather out of the last Chapter of the Reuelation, where it is sayd, *For without shalbe dogs, and inchanters, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoener loueth or maketh lies.* It is ordained by the holy Apostles in their bookes of counsels, that it is lawful for the Clergy to mary, after they haue attained to some knowledge in diuinity, and being once married they be receiued into the order of priests, into the which order none is admitted before hee accomplish the age of 30. yeeres, neithery bee any bastards by any meanes allowed to enter into that most holy order: & these orders be giuen by no other but by the Patriarch onely, & where the first wife of a Bishop or Clercke, or Deacon is dead, it is not lawful for them to mary an other, vnlesse the Patriarch dispence therewith (which sometimes for a publike good is granted to great men) nor is it lawful for them to keepe a concubine, vnlesse they wil refuse and put themselves frō saying seruice, which if they once do, they may neuer after meddle in ministring diuine matters: and this is obserued so strictly that those priests which haue beene twise married, dare neuer take in their hands so much as a  
candle



candle that is consecrated to the Church, and if any Bishop or Deacon be found to haue any bastard child, hee is deprived from all his benefices, and from his holy orders, & his goods (if he decease without lawful heires) come vnto *Prestor Iohn*, and not to the Patriarch: and the warrant that we haue that our priests may marry is taken out of *Saint Paul*, who had rather that both Clergy and Laity should marry then burne: And he also saith that a bishop ought to be the husband of one wife, and that he should be sober and irreprehensible, and in like manner would he haue Deacons: and further, that Ecclesiasticall persons should haue their proper wiues by lawfull marriage, euen as secular people haue, but Munckes marry not at all, and both Lay men and Clergy haue but one wife a peece, and matrimony is not contracted before the gates of the holy Church, but in the priuate houses of those that beare most sway at the bridall: wee haue also receiued from the ordinance of the Apostles, that if a priest bee found in adultery, or committing manslaughter, or theft, or bearing false witnesse, he shalbe deprived and put from his holy orders and punished like other malefactors: againe by the institution of those Apostles, if any person, either Ecclesiastical or Lay, doe lie with his wife, or bee polluted in sleepe, hee cometh not into the Church for the space of foure and twenty houres after: nor is it lawfull for menstruous women to come into the Church, vnlesse vpon the seuenth day after their sicknesse, and then to haue all their garments throughly washed, which they wore during the time of their monthly disease, and they themselves purged from all filth: A woman also that bringeth forth a man child, must not come into the Church till after the fortieth day, and if she brought forth a woman child



child then shee must not come into the Church till after the eighteenth day: This is our custome founded vpon the ancient law, and also vpon the Apostolicke law, which lawes, ordinances and precepts, wee obserue as diligently in al points as possible may bee: Moreouer we bee prohibited, that neither swine nor dogs, nor other such beasts shall enter into our Churches: Also wee may not goe to the Church but bare-footed, neither is it lawfull for vs to laugh, walke, or talke of prophane matters in the Church, nor once there to spit, hawke or hem, because the Churches of Aethiopia bee not like vnto that land, where the people of Israell did eate the Paschall lambe departing from Egypt, in which place God commanded them to eate it with their shooes on, and girded with their girdles, by reason of the pollution of the earth, but they bee like vnto Mount Synai, where the Lord spake vnto *Moyse* saying, *Moyse, Moyse, put off thy shooes from thy feet, because the ground whereupon thou standest is holy ground,* and this Mount Synai is the mother of our Churches, from whom they tooke their beginning, as the Apostles did from the prophets, and the New Testament from the Old: Furthermore it is not lawfull for Lay-men or Clergy, or for any other person of what condition soeuer hee bee, after hee hath receiued the blessed Sacrament of the Altar to spit or cast, from the morning till the sunne setting, and if any doe spit hee is seuerely punished: Also in memory of Christs Baptisme, wee be all euery yeere baptised vpon the feast day of the Epiphanie of our Lord, and this we doe, not that we beleue that it pertaineth to our saluation, but for the laude, praise and glory of our Saviour: neither doe wee celebrate any other feast more solemnly or bountifully, with shewes, plaies and ceremonies,  
then



then wee doe this, because vpon this day the holy Trinity did first manifestly appeare, when our Lord Iesus Christ was baptised in the riuer of Iordan, when the holy Ghost descended vpon his head in forme of a Doue, and a voice proclayming from Heauen, *This is my beloued Sonne in whom I am well pleased*: which holy Ghost appearing in forme of a white Doue, appeared in shew and figure of the Father and Sonne in one Diuinity: In like manner Christ was seene of the holy Prophets in many similitudes, formes and likenesses, first in forme of a white Ram for the preseruatiō of *Isaack* the Sonne of *Abraham*.

And in like manner, hee named *Iacob*, *Israel* and *Iacob*: *Iudas* the Lions whelpe, to whom hee gaue power ouer his other brethren, saying, thou didest rise vp my sonne to the prey, and when thou didest rest thou didest lie still like a Lion and Lionesse: who shall raise him vp.

Hee also manifested himselfe to *Moyſes* in Mount Synai, in forme of a flame of fire, hee shewed himselfe to the holy Prophet *Daniel*, in similitude of a Rocke, hee appeared also to *Ezechiell* the Sonne of Man, and to *Isaias* in likenesse of an infant, he declared himselfe to King *Dauid*, and to *Gedron* like a frost vpon a fleese of wool, and besides these similitudes recited, hee was seene of his holy Prophets in many other formes, and notwithstanding hee was seene in so many sundrie formes, yet hee alwaies represented the similitude of the Father and of the holy Ghost.

And when GOD created the world hee said, *Let vs make man according to our similitude and likenesse*, and hee made *Adam* after his owne similitude and likenesse, wherefore wee say that the Father, Sonne and holy Ghost are  
three



three countenances in one similitude and diuinity: Wee haue receiued circumcision euer from the time of Queene *Saba*, which wee obserue vntill this day.

The proper name of this Queene *Saba* was *Maqueda*, who was a worshipper of Idoles after the manner of her auncestors; into whose eares when the fame of the wisdom of *Solomon* was entred, shee sent a certaine wise man vnto Ierusalem, to finde out the truth, and to certifie her of the wisdom of that King, who beeing returned and shewing the truth vnto her, shee sodainely provided her selfe to take her iourney towards Ierusalem: and when shee was thither come, besides many other things which King *Solomon* taught her, shee learned the law and the prophets, and returning into her country, hauing obtained libertie to depart, in her iourney, shee brought forth a sonne, which was gotten by a King, whom she called *Meilech*, and him the Queene brought vp with her selfe in Aethiopia, vntill hee was 20. ycers of age; and then sent him back vnto *Solomon* his father, that of him he might learne vnderstanding and wisdom, desiring by her letters, that he would consecrate and make his Sonne *Meilech* King of Aethiopi a before the Arke of the couenant of the will, or testament of the Lord, and that from thence forth women should gouerne no more in Aethiopia, as then the custome was, but that the male children, should lineally succeed in the Kingdome.

When *Meilech* came to Ierusalem, he easily obtained of his father, his mothers requests, & for *Meilech* was called *Dauid*, whom (when he was sufficiently instructed in the law, & in other disciplines) his father *Solomon* determined to send him back to his mother decked in gallat attire  
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and furniture fit for a King, and the more to shew his bounty he gaue vnto him noble followers & companions, and the sonnes of great men, who should serue him as their King, Moreouer he decreed to send with him *Azarias* the high priest, the sonne of *Zadoch* the high priest likewise, which when *Azarias* vnderstood, he exhorted *Dauid* that he would intreat liberty of his father for him to sacrifice (for good successe in their iourney) before the Arke of the couenant of the Lord: which beeing obtained of *Solomon*, *Azarias* as sodainely and as secretly as he could, caused tables to be hewen and squared like vnto the tables of the Testament of the Lord, and when they were perfected, he went to sacrifice, and in the time of sacrifice hee priuily, and very cunningly stole the true tables of the couenant of the Lord from the Arke, and set in there places the counterfeit tables, which hee brought with him, without the priuity of any man but only God and himself. This declaration wee Aethiopians receiue as most holy and most approued, as by the History of the same King *Dauid* (which is most pleasant to read) doth appeare: the volume of which History is full as thicke as all Saint *Pauls* Epistles.

When *Dauid* was come into the borders of Aethiopia, *Azarias* entred into his tent, & disclosed and reuealed vnto him that which thetherto hee had kept secret to himself, that is to say, that he had the Tables of the couenāt of the Lord, which whē *Dauid* vnderstood he ran hastily to the tent where *Azarias* had the tables of the couenāt of the Lord, and there in imitation of King *Dauid* his grand-father, he began to daunce (for exceeding ioy) before the Arke wherein the tables were, which when the people saw, and vnderstanding the matter, they all of them  
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in like manner exulted with mirth and great ioy : And then *Dauid*. passing through much part of Aethiopia came lastly to his mother, who forth-with yeelded vp into his hands the gouernment of all the prouinces, laying vp-  
on his shoulders the whole care of the Kingdome : And from that time euen vntill this day (being almost the space of two thousand and fixe hundred yeeres) the Kingdome of Aethiopia hath lineally descended from male heire to male heire, and since that time wee obserue the law of the Lord and circumcision as before is said, and likewise since that time hitherto, the offices which *Solomon* ordained for his sonne *Dauid*, for the guiding of his Court, are kept and obserued in the same order and families as they were at that time, neither hath the Emperor himselfe power to assigne others of other kinreds, to execute those offices of the court : the women likewise by the commandement and decree of the same *Maqueda*, be circumcised, thee being induced therevnto by this reason, that euen as men haue a fore-skinne that couereth their yards, in like manner haue women a certaine kernelly flesh which is called *Nympha*, arising vp in the middle of their priuy partes, which is very fit to take the character of circumcision : and this is done both to males and females vpon the eight day, and after circumcision the men children be baptised vpon the fortieth day, and the women children vpon the eighteenth day, vnlesse any sicknesse or infirmity hapneth, which may cause it to bee done sooner, but if any children be baptised before the time appointed, it is not lawfull to giue them sucke of their mothers milke, but onely of their nurses, vntill their mothers bee purified, and the water wherein they bee baptised, is consecrated and blessed with exorcismes, and that very same day wherein children bee  
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baptised they receiue the blessed bodie of our Lord in a little forme of bread : wee receiued baptisme almost before all other Christians from the Eunuch of *Candace* Queene of Aethiopia, whose name was *Indich*, as it is said in the Acts of the Apostles, which together with circumcision ( which wee had at that time as before is sayd ) wee obserue most holily and Christian like, and by Gods assistance euer shall obserue, nor doe we obserue or admit of any thing but of those onely which are expressed in the law and the prophets, and in the Gospell, and in the bookes of the counsels of the Apostles, and if wee receiue any things besides those, they bee onely obserued for the time, for that they seeme to appertaine to the gouernment and peace of the Church, and that without any bond of sinne : Wherefore our circumcision is not vncleane, but the law and grace is giuen to our father *Abraham*, which hee receiued of God as a signe, not that either he, or his children should be saued through circumcision, but that the children of *Abraham* should be known from other nations : And that which is inwardly vnderstood by the signe or mistery of circumcision wee doe highly obserue, that is, that wee may bee circumcised in our hearts : neither doe wee boast of circumcision, nor therefore thinke our selues more noble then other Christians, nor more acceptable vnto God, with whom is no acception of persons, as *Paul* saith, who also sheweth vs that wee bee not saued through circumcision but by faith, because in Christ Iesus, neither circumcision nor the cutting off the foreskinne preuaileth, but the new creature, but *Paul* preached not to destroy the law, but to establish it, who was also baptised, and beeing of the seed of *Beniamin*, hee also circumcised *Tymothy*, who was become a Christian,



Christian, his mother beeing an Hebrew and his father a Gentile, knowing that God doth iustifie circumcision by faith, and the fore-skinne by faith: and as he himselfe was made all to all that hee might saue all. To the Iewes hee was as a Iew, that thereby hee might winne the Iewes, and to those which were vnder the law, hee was as one vnder the law, although hee was not vnder the law, to the end hee might gaine those which were vnder the lawe, and to those which were without the law, hee was as one without the law, although hee was not without the law of G O D, but vnder the law of Christ, that hee might get those which were without the law: and hee became weake, that hee might gaine those which were weake, which he did to shew that we bee saued not by circumcision but by faith.

And therefore when he preached to the Hebrewes hee spake vnto them in diuers speeches, like an Hebrew, saying, God heretofore spake many waies and in many manners to our fathers in the prophets, shewing vnto them out of the same prophets, that Christ was of the seed of *Dauid* after the flesh. Moreouer he preached vnto them that Christ was with our fathers in the tents in the Desert, and that he led them into the Land of promise by the hand of *Iosua*.

And *Paul* also testifieth in the same place, that Christ was the chiefe of priests, and that hee entred into a new tent, which is the *Sanctum sanctorum*, *The holy of holies*, and that with the sacrifice of his bodie and bloud, hee abolished the bloud of goates and bulles, whereby none that killeth them shall bee iustified: and so hee spake sundry waies to the Iewes, and also suffering himselfe to bee worshipped of his people, by many ceremonies in a

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holy and vncorrupted faith : Moreouer those children with vs bee accounted halfe Christians , which here I vnderstand in the Romane Church bee called Paganes, who because they die without baptisme ought to bee called halfe Christians, because they be children of the sanctified bloud of parents baptised , and of the holy Ghost, and of the bloud of our Lord Iesus Christ , by which three Testimonies all Christians bee so reputed : because there bee three things which giue testimony in earth , the spirite, water and bloud , as Saint *Iohn* witnesseth in his first canonicall Epistle : the Gospell also saith , *a good tree bringeth forth good fruite , and an euill tree bringeth forth euill fruite* , and therefore the children of Christians are not like vnto the children of the Gentiles , and of the Iewes, and of the Moores, which bee withered trees without any fruit , but the Christians bee elected in their mothers wombes, as holy *Ieremias* the prophet, and Saint *Iohn Baptist* were : Furthermore the children of Christian women are elected and consecrated by the communication and imparting of the body & bloud of our Lord Iesus Christ : for when women great with child do take the most blessed body of our Lord and Sauour Iesus Christ, the infant in the wombe receiuing nutriment is thereby sanctified, for euen as the child in the mothers wombe , conceiueth either sorrow or ioy, according as the mother is affected, so also is it nourished by the mothers norishment, and as our Lord saith in his holy Ghospell , if any one eate my body and drinke my bloud , hee shall not tast of eternall death : and againe , if any one eate of my body and drinke my bloud hee shall remaine with mee : and *Paul* the teacher of the Gentiles saith , the vnbeleeuing husband is iustified by the beleeuing wife, & the vnbeleeuing wife is sanctified by



by the beleeuing husband, otherwise your children should be vncleane, but now they bee sanctified, which, if it bee so that the children of an vnbeleeuing mother bee sanctified by the faithfulnessse of the father, then be they much more holy that bee borne of faithfull fathers and mothers : for which cause it is farre more holy to call children before they bee christned halfe Christians, then Pagans : and the Apostles also haue said in their bookes of counceles, that al which beleeu and be not baptised, may iustly bee termed halfe Christians, who also say in the said bookes : if Iew, Moore, or Gentile will receiue the faith, hee is not forthwith to be admitted, but they will that hee first come vnto the gate of the Church, and there to heare Sermons, and the words of our Sauour Christ, that before he be incited and brought, as it were, by stelth vnto the faith, hee may know the yoke of the law, which when hee hath done hee may be called halfe a Christian, although he be not baptised, as the Ghospel teacheth, he that beleueth, and is baptised shal bee saued, and hee which beleueth not shall bee damned. And our custome is that women with child before they be deliuered should be confessed, and that then they should receiue the Lords body, and those which doe not this, as also the fathers of those children which compel not their wiues to doe it, bee accounted wicked and euill Christians : Moreouer you must vnderstand that confirmation and chrisme, or extreame vnction of oyle, bee not accounted Sacraments, nor bee in any vse with vs, as I see they bee heare by the custome of the Romane Church. Also by *Moyse*s lawes and the ordinance of the Apostles it is not lawfull for vs to eate vncleane meates, and this wee doe for the full obseruation of the law and the Scriptures, which consist of one and foure score bookes in



both Old and New Testament, that is to say forty and sixe bookes of the Old Testament, and thirty five of the New, which expresse number of bookes of the Scriptures wee haue by computation from the Apostles themselues, from which bookes of the Old and New Testament it is not lawful for vs to ad or diminish any thing, no though an Angell from heauen should indeauour to perswade vs therevnto. And hee which dare to attempt any such thing ought to be reputed as accursed: Wherefore neither the Patriarcke nor our Bishops, by themselues, nor in their counsels, doe thinke or suppose that they can make any lawes whereby any one may bee bound to a mortall or deadly sinne: for in those bookes of counsels it is ordained by the holy Apostles, that wee should confesse our sins, and what penance wee ought to take, according to the heinousnesse of each sinne, is there set downe. They instruct vs also how we should pray, fast, and doe deedes of charity: and this is very familiar in vse amongst vs, that as soone as wee haue committed any sinne, we forthwith, runne to the feete of the confessor, and this is vsed both of men and women, of what estate or condition soeuer they bee of: And as oft as wee bee confessed we receiue the bodie of our blessed LORD in both kindes, in sweete or vnleauened wheaten bread: and if wee should bee confessed euery day, wee should likewise euery day receiue the most blessed and reuerent Sacrament, and this custome is common as well to the Clergie as to Lay people: And the Sacrament of the Altar is not kept with vs in Churches, as it is heere amongst the people of Europe. Neither doe those which be sick receiue the Lords body, vntill they begin to waxe strong and recouer there helth: and this is done because all men both Lay and Clergy,



Clergy, doe vsually receiue it euery weeke twice, and all which bee willing so to doe come vnto the Church, for it is ministred to none but in the Church, not so much as to the Patriarch or to *Prestor Iohn* himselfe: We alwaies vse one confessor, and doe neuer take any other vnlesse he bee absent, and at his returne wee goe to him againe, and the confessors (by there power they haue from the Church) giue vs absolution of all our sinnes, reseruing no case to the Bishops or Patriarcke, though it bee neuer so heinous.

Moreouer the Priests may not heere their confessions, to whom they bee confessed themselves: Both priests also and Munkes, and all Ecclesiasticall Ministers with vs liue by their owne labour, for the Church neither hath nor receiueth any tithes. Yet it hath reuenewes and lands which both Clerkes and Monkes digge and till, either by there owne or other mens labour, and other almes haue the none but such as bee freely offered in the Churches, for the buriall of the dead, and other Godly matters: neither is it lawfull for them to begge in the streetes, nor to extorte or wrest any almes from the people.

In our Churches also is euery day onely one Masse celebrated, which we account as a sacrifice, nor is it lawfull (by our old ordinances) to solemnize more then one in a day; & for this Masse we take no hire nor reward: and in the ministry thereof, the Sacrament of the Altar is not shewed as heere I perceiue it is. And with vs, all Priests, Deacons and Sub-deacons, and those which come vnto the Church, receiue the bodie of our Lord: and wee say no Masse for the remission and forgiuenesse of soules departed; but the dead bee buried with crosses and



Orizons, in a certaine place, and ouer the dead bodies wee chiefly amongst other praier recite the beginning of Saint *Iohns* Ghospel, and the day following the buriall of the corpes, wee offer almes for him which wee doe vpon certaine daies after, vpon al which daies we keepe funerall bankers: and thus far I haue spoken of our faith and religion. But now, for that after our comming into Portingal, we had many and often disputations and contentions with diuers Doctores, & especially with our Maisters *Didacus Ortysius* Bishop of Saint *Thomas* Isle, and Deane of the Kings Chappel, and with *Peter Margalhus*, concerning the choise and difference of meates, it shal not be vnfitting to say something of that matter.

First you must vnderstand, that wee obserue a difference of meates out of the Old Testament, which difference is appointed by the word of GOD it selfe, which word was afterwards borne of the Virgine *Mary*, and walked and was conuersant with his Disciples, and that word of God I haue alwaies accounted an euer liuing, whole and inuiolated word, neither did that mouth which heeretofore forbad to eate of vncleanesse, say afterwards in any part of his Gospell, that wee should eate.

And whereas it is said in the Gospell, that which entereth in by the mouth defileth not the man, but such things as proceed forth of the mouth, hee pronounced not this speech, for because hee would breake that which before hee had appointed, but that hee might refute the superstition of the Iewes, which taxed and blamed the Apostles, because they did eate meate with vnwashed hands, for neither the Apostles at that time that they liued with our Lord Iesus Christ, did euer vse any vncleane things, or tasted of those things which bee forbidden in  
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the law, nor yet did any of the Apostles transgresse the law, nor can it bee prooued by any of our writings, that the Apostles at those times which followed our Lords passion when they beganne to preach the Gospell, did either eate or kill any vncleane things, and yet it is true that *Paul* sayd, eate of euery thing that commeth into the shambles making no question for conscience sake, and after that, if an Infidell call you to supper, and that you will goe, eate of all things which be set before you, making no question for conscience sake: and againe, if any one shall say, this is sacrificed to Idols, eate not of it because of him that shewed you, and for conscience sake &c.

All these things *Paul* speaketh to please those which were not yet confirmed in the faith, because there arose many disputations and contentions betwixt those and the Iewes, for the appeasing whereof he did more easily yeeld vnto them, and conforme himselfe vnto their will, which were not thoroughly confirmed in the faith. And this hee did not that he would breake the law, but that by gratifying others in releasing them from ceremonies, hee might thereby winne them to the faith: The same Apostle saith, *Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not, & let not him that eateth not condemne him that eateth, because hee which eateth, eateth to the Lord, and hee which eateth not, eateth not to the Lord*, wherefore it is very vnworthily done to reprehend strangers that bee Christians so sharply and bitterly, as I haue beene oftentimes reprehended my selfe, both for this matter and for other things which belonged not to the true faith: but it shal be better and more standing with wisdom, to sustaine such Christians whether they bee Greekes, Americans, or Aethio-  
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prians, or of any other of the seuen Christian Churches in charity and imbracings of Christ, and to suffer them to liue and be conuersant amongst other Christian brothers, without contumelies or reproches; for we bee al the sons of baptisme, and ioyne together in opinion concerning the true faith: and there is no cause why wee should contend so bitterly touching ceremonies, but that each one should obserue his owne ceremonies, without the hatred rayling or inueighing of other: neither is he that hath travelled into other nations, and obserueth his owne country ceremonies therefore to be excluded from the society of the Church. Moreouer that which we haue in the Acts of the Apostles, to wit, how *Peter* saw Heauen opened, & a certaine vessel descending like vnto a great sheet, bound or closed vp at the foure corners, wherein were all kind of foure footed beasts and serpents of the earth, and foules of the aire, and a voice said vnto *Peter*, *arise Peter, kil and eate*, to whom *Peter* said, *God forbid Lord, for I did neuer eate of any thing commune or vncleane*, and the voice replied vnto him againe saying, *that which God hath made cleane doe not thou cal commune or vncleane*: which words being repeated three times, the vessel was againe taken vp into Heauen: which done the spirit sent him into Cæsaria vnto *Cornelius* a deuout man, and one that feared God, with whom when *Peter* spake, the holy Ghost fell vpon all those which heard the word of God, and when they had receiued the holy Ghost, *Peter* commanded that all *Cornelius* household should be baptised: But when the other Apostles and brethren which were in Iudea, heard that *Cornelius* was baptised, they were displeased at *Peter* that hee had giuen Baptisme, and the word of God to the Gentiles, saying, why wentest thou to men that be not circumcised  
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and didst eate with them, but when *Peter* had declared vnto them the whole vision, they were pacified and gaue thanks vnto God, saying, And therefore hath hee giuen repentance vnto the Gentiles for their saluation. And they remembred the word of the Lord, which hee spake when he ascended vp into heauen: *Go throughout all the world and preach the Gospell vnto all creatures: he that beleeueth and is baptized, shall be saued, but hee which beleeueth not shall be damned.*

Then the Apostles began to preach the Gospel throughout all the world vnto euery creature, in the name of the Father, and of the Sonne, and of the holy Ghost; and the sound of them went throughout all the world. And this vision wherein both cleane and vncleane things did appeare, we in Aethiopia expound thus: That by the cleane beasts was meant the people of Israel: and by the vncleane beasts the people of the Gentiles. And for this cause be the Gentiles called vncleane; for that they bee worshippers of Idols, and willingly do the workes of the diuel, which be vncleane: and whereas the voyce sayd vnto *Peter*, *Kill*, that we interprez in this manner, *Peter*, baptize: and when it is said, *Peter*, eate; that is interpreted, as if he had sayd, Teach and preach the lawe of our Lord Iesus Christ, to the people of Israell, and to the Gentiles.

Moreouer, it is most certaine, that it cannot bee found in any place of the Scriptures, that either *Peter* or the other Apostles did kill or eate any vncleane beast, after this vision.

And also we must vnderstand, when the Scripture speaketh of bread, he meaneth not meate or corporal nourishment therby, but the explication and exposition of Christ his doctrine, and of the Scriptures.

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And surely it were well done for all teachers and preachers of this sheet, which was shewed vnto *Peter*, to teach high and great matters, and not pettie or light things, and such as do seeme little to appertaine vnto saluation, nor thereby cunningly to hunt after this document, as though it should be conuenient or lawfull for vs to eate vncleane things, seeing no such thing can bee gathered out of the Scriptures: for what is the cause, that the Apostles in their bookes of Conncels haue taught vs not to eate beasts that be strangled, suffocated, or killed of other beasts, or bloud, because the Lord loueth cleannes and sobriety, and hateth gluttony and vncleannesse. And our Lord also greatly loueth those that abstaine from flesh, but much more those that fast with bread and water, and herbes, as *John Baptiste* the Eremite did beyond Iordane, who did euer eat herbes: and *S. Paul* the Eremite, who remained in the wildernesse fourescore yeares euer fasting: and *S. Anthonie*, and Saint *Macarius*, and many other their spirituall children, which did neuer tast flesh.

Therefore my brethren we ought not to despise and inueigh against our neighbors, because *James* saith, Hee which detracteth his brother, or condemneth his brother, detracteth the law, and condemneth the law: *Paul* also teacheth, That it were better for euery one to liue contented with their owne traditions, then to dispute with his Christian brother of the law: and againe, Not to know more than is behoofull, but to be wise vnto sobriety, and vnto euery one as God hath diuided the measure of faith: wherefore it is vndecent to dispute with our brethren of the law, or of the difference of meates, because the meate doth not commend vs to God, especially seeing *Paul* the Apostle saith: We shall neither abound if we do eate; nor want, if we



we do not eat. And therefore let vs seek those things which be aboue, and the celestiall food, and leaue off these vaine disputations. Al these things which I haue written concerning Traditions, I haue not done to breed disputation, but that as much as in me lyeth, I may defend and protect my country-folkes against the bitter taunts and reprehensions of many, who setting aside all reuerence, will not stick to defame & reuile that most potent Prince precious *Iohn* and vs his subiects, with slanders and reproches, calling vs Iewes and Mahometans, because we obserue Circumcision, and keepe holy the Sabbath day, like vnto the Iewes: and also for that like the Mahometans, wee fast vntill the Sunne going downe, which they alledge is vnfit for a Christian man to do: and this they obiekt against vs most bitterly, that we allow and hold it as lawfull for Priests to marry, as for lay people: this also they omit not to speake against vs, and that most nippingly; for that we, as it were, distrusting in our first Baptisme, be re-baptized once euery yeare, & that women be circumcised as well as men, which custome was neuer vsed amongst the Iewes.

Furthermore, because we hold, that a difference of meats is most religiously to be obserued: and last of all, because we call those children halfe Christians, which before Baptisme be wont to be called Pagans: to which slanders and misreports, I am inforced to say thus much, that I may purge our people from such reproches and calumnies, & that I may make the Doctours of the holy Romane church more affable vnto vs, by whom (how holily I know not) I haue bin forbidden to receiue the body of our Lord euer since I came into Portugall, which is the space of 7.yeaeres, and that (which I speake with grieve and teares) I am reputed amongst the Christian brethren as an Ethnicke, and  
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one accursed, which he that quickeneth and refresheth all things, may see and discern, to whose Iudgement I commit all these matters.

And I am not sent from my most mightie Lord the Emperour of Aethiopia, vnto the Bishop of Rome, and vnto *John* the most renowned king of Portugall, to mooue disputations and contentions: But to begin friendship and fellowship, and not either to increase or diminish humane traditions: but that I should inquire and diligently vnderstand, touching the Heresies of *Arrius*, Prince of Hereticks: whether the Christians of Europe would meete with vs to ouerthrow the opinions of this man, for the destroying of whose errors, there was a Councell assembled together at Nicea, vnder Pope *Iulius*, consisting of three hundred and eightene Bishops; and withall, that I might know, whether that be obserued among the Christians of Europe, which the Apostles teach in their bookes of Synods: that is, That a Councell should be celebrated in the church of Christwise euery yeare, to dispute of matters of faith: the first of which Councils (by the Apostles desire) should be assembled at the feast of Pentecost, the other the tenth of October: as also to vnderstand, how we did agree together, touching the errors of *Macedonius*; for which cause there was a Council of an hundred and fifty bishops assembled together at Constantinople, vnder Pope *Damasus*: and likewise of the errors of *Nestorius*, for whome there was a Councell of two hundred Bishops, assembled together in Ephesus vnder Pope *Celestine*. Lastly, that I might also know of the fourth Chalcedonian council; wherein, for the errors of *Eutiches*, were assembled 632. bishops, at which time *S. Leo* was bishop of Rome, from which Councell, after many disputations, and nothing concluded



concluded for the peace of the church, the matter beeing left as it was, they all departed home euery one remaining in his owne opinion: The bookes of which Councils and of others which were celebrated afterwards, our most mightie Lord the Emperour of Aethiopia hath in his keeping: and of this cockle which the enemy of truth, the diuel, hath sowne amongst Christians, my Lord is much grieved and all his subiects which beleene in Christ.

Our countri-men euen from the beginning of the primitive Church, haue acknowledged the bishop of Rome to be the chiefe Bishop, whome at this day wee obey as the Vicar of Christ: In whose court we would often bee, but that the iourney is ouer long, and many kingdomes of the Mahometanes betwixt vs, that may hinder our passage: so as, though you should enter into all those great dangers, yet you can effect nothing, although that most wise and inuincible King *Emanuel*, of happie memorie, who was the first that by his nauigations, (not without Gods celestially assistance) made passage into East India, gaue great hope that it might afterwards be done more commodiously: for he hauing overcome the Ocean with his nauie, brought the red sea into his subiection, being no whit deterred with the greatnesse of the coast, so as hee might increase the faith of Christ, and (as it were) make a way open to make vse of our friendship.

And seeing that is now done, and that each nation may receiue ayde from the other, wee hope that in short time, by the Portugals forces and our owne, all the Mahometans, and other vnbeleeuing Ethnickes, shall be drinen and expelled from the whole Erithraean sea, and from all Arabia, Persis, and India.

In like manner we trust, by the power of Iesus Christ,  
that



that it will come to passe, that (peace beeing established amongst all the Christians of Europe) the enemies of the crosse shall bee expelled also from the mediterranean places, Pontus and other Prouinces, that according to the words of Christ, There may be vpon earth, one lawe, one fold, and one shepheard.

Of which thing we haue two Oracles or predictions: one, out of the Prophecy of *S. Ficator*, the other of *S. Synoda* the Eremit, who was borne in the vttermost rock of Egypt: neither of which two differeth from other. And since the time that my most mighty Lord receiued the ambassadors of the most famous king *Emanuel*, the truth of these oracles doth seeme to hasten to an end; for truly our Prince thinks of nothing more, than of that: meditating also (both by his councell & forces) how he may root out all Mahometans from the face of the earth. For these causes, and for others which I haue layd open before the most famous King *Iohn*, the sonne of *Emanuel*, was I sent hither by my most mightie Lord as an Ambassadour, and not for friuolous and vaine disputations: And I pray with an vnfained heart, that the great and mighty God may bring the decrees and indeauours of our Prince, for which I was sent, to a happie end, and to his glorie. *Amen.*

Hauiing gone thus far, I will now briefly expound something by the way, of the state of our Patriarke and Emperour. And first you must vnderstand, that (by a sollemne custome) our Patriarke is created by the voyces of our Monkes of Hierusalem, which remaine there about the sepulcher of our Lord, his election & creation is in this manner: The Patriarke being dead, our Emperour *Prestre Iohn* sendeth forthwith a speedie messenger vnto Hierusalem, vnto the Monkes there, (as is sayd) who receiuing the



the message and the gifts which our Lord the Emperour sendeth vnto the holy Sepulcher, they presently, and with all possible expedition, elect another Patriarch by the most voyces: but it is not lawfull to elect any other, than one of Alexandria, and one of incorrupt manners, and vntainted conuersation; who being created, they signe their suffrages, and giue them into the Legates hands that came for that purpose: he forthwith goeth to Cayre, whither when he is come, he offereth that creation vnto the Patriarch of Alexandria, whose seate is alwaies there, to be read.

And when he perceiueth which of the people of Alexandria they haue elected, he forthwith sendeth the man ordained to such honors, with the Legate into Aethiopia, who by an old ordonance ought alwaies to be an Eremit, of the Order of *S. Anthony*: with whom the Ambassadour goeth straight into Aethiopia, where he is receiued of all men with great ioy and honor: in which busines sometimes is spent a yere or two; in al which time, precious *John* doth dispose of the reuenues of the Patriarke according to his pleasure. Now the chiefeest office of the Patriarch, is to giue orders; which none but he can either giue or take away, but he can bestow vpon none, either Bishopricke, or other Church-benefice: this onely belongeth to precious *John*, who dispenceth of all things according to his will. And the Patriarch beeing dead, he whose power and yerely reuenues is the largest, is made heire of the whole substance of all his goods. Moreouer, the office of the Patriarch is to proceed to excommunication against the stubborn, the obseruation whereof is so strict, as the punishment of perpetuall steruing to death is inflicted vpon the offenders.

Indul-



Indulgences he giueth nor granteth none, neither bee any interdicted the Sacraments of the church, for any offence whatsoeuer, be it neuer so hainous, but onely for homicide: the name of the Patriarchship in our speech is called *Abunna*: but he which now executeth the office is called *Marcus*, which was the proper name giuen him in Baptisme, he is a man of an hundred yeares of age or aboue.

And you must note, that we begin our yeare in the Kallends of September, which day alwaies falleth vpon the vigill of Saint *John* Baptist, the other festiuall dayes, as the Feast of the Natiuity of our Lord, Easter and the rest, bee celebrated with vs at the same times they be in the Roman Church.

And this I may not obscurely passe ouer as though it were not so, that Saint *Philip* the Apostle did preach the Gospell and faith of our Saviour Iesus Christ our Lord in our countrie.

Now if you desire to know of the name of our Emperour, he is fully perswaded, that hee was euer called precious *John*, and not Presbiter *John*, as is falsly bruted abroad: for in one speech it is written with Characters, that signifie *Ioannes Belull*, that is as much to say, as precious or high *John*: and in the Chaldaean tongue it is *Ioannes Encoe*, which beeing interpreted, doth signifie precious or high *John*. Neither is hee to be named Emperour of the Abyssini, as *Matheus* hath vnruly declared, but Emperour of the Aethiopians: and *Mathew* beeing an Armenian, could not thoroughly vnderstand our matters, especially those which appertained vnto faith and Christian Religion: and therefore he related many things in the presence of the most prudent and most potent king *Emanuel* of happy memory, which



which with vs are nothing foe, and this hee did not with a desire to speake vnruths, for hee was a good man, but for that hee was not throughly instructed in matters concerning our religion: The succession of his Kingdomes and Empire doth not alwaies descend vpon the eldest sonne, but vnto him vpon whome the father pleaseth to bestow it, And hee which now gouerneth the Empire was his fathers third sonne, which hee merited and obtrayned by an awfull and holy reuerence to his father, for when his father lay a dying, he commanded all his sonnes to sit downe vpon his throne, which all the rest of his children did sauing he, and he refused, saying, God forbid that so much should be attributed vnto me, that I should sit in my Lords chaire, whose deuotion when his father saw, hee indued him with all his Kingdomes & Empire, he is called *Dauid*, the power of whose Empire, as well ouer Christians as Ethnickes, is large and ample, wherein be many Kings and petty Kings, Earles, Barons and Peeres, and much Nobility, all which be most obedient to his command: In all whose dominions there is no money vsed, but such as is brought from other places, for they giue and receiue siluer and gold by weight: wee haue many citties and great townes, but not such as we see here in Portugall, the reason whereof (for the most part) is, that precious *Ioan* liueth alwaies in campos and tents, which custome is vsed for this purpose, that the nobility may continually excercise themselves in military affaires: And this I may not omit to tell you, that wee bee compassed about on all sides with the enemies of our faith, with whom we haue many and euer prosperous conflicts, which victories we attribute to gods diuine assistance: written lawes we haue none in vse amongst vs, neither be the complaints of those which sue others expressed



in libellis or writings but by words, which is done least by the couetuousnesse of Iudges and counsellors controuersies should be protracted. And this more I thinke fit to shew you, that this *Mathew* was not sent by *Dauid* our Emperor vnto the most inuincible and potent King *Emanuel* of happy memory, but by *Queene Helena* the Emperors wife, surnamed the hand of *Mary*, who at that time by reason of *Dauids*, nonage, tooke vpon her the gouernment of the Kingdomes, being a woman without doubt most prudent and holy: And the same *Helen* (as shee was exceeding well learned) writ two bookes in the Chaldean tongue, one of the which is called *Enzera Chebaa* that is to say, praise God vpon the Organes and instruments of Musicke, in which booke shee disputeth very learnedly of the Trinitie, and of the virginity of *Mary* the mother of Christ. The other booke is called *Chedale Chaay*, that is to say, the sonne beame, contayning very acute disputations of the law of God. All these things concerning our faith, religion and state of our country, *I Zaga Zabo*, by interpretation the grace of the father, both Bishop and Preeft, and *Bugana Raz* that is Captaine, Knight and Viceroy of the Prouince, haue declared, which I could not deny at your request my most deere Sonne in Christ *Damianus*, nor yet any other man desiring to be instructed there in, neither is it lawfull to deny it for two causes, the first whereof is, for that I am commanded by my most mighty Lord Precious *John* Emperor of the *Æthiopians*, to satisfie euery one that demandeth of me, concerning our faith, religion, and prouinces, & that I should conceale nothing, but faithfully declare vnto them the truth of all things both by words and writing; the other reason is, for that I deeme it very fitting and labour well spent, that our names, customs and ordinances, and the sytuation of our countries should bee publikely knowen, which matters I neuer writ

vnto



vnto any one till this time, nor yet declared in words, not that I was sparing of my labour, but because no Christian, after my comming into portugall, desired to know such things of me, whereof I could not, nor cannot but greatly maruell. And seeing by many arguments I perceiue that you much desire the knowledge of our affaires, I beseech you by the wounds of our Sauour Christ and by his crosse to put this my confession of our faith and religion into the latine tongue, that by your meanes all the Godly Christians of Europe, may vnderstand our customes & the integrity of our maners. Moreouer if in your traueils you hap to goe to Rome, then let mee intreat you to salute in my name, the Pope & the most reuerent Cardinalls, Patriarches, Archbishops and Bishops, and all other the true worshippers of Christ, by Christ Iesus in a kisse of peace, and that you will desire of the Pope, that hee will send vnto me *Francis Alvarez* furnished such letters, wherby he may answer my Lord the Emperor of Æthiopia, that after my long stay I may returne into mine owne country and visit my owne mansion house, for I haue bin long here detained, that before my death (which by reason of my great age is at the dore) I may effect that which I am commâded. And that hauing furnished this Embassage I might dedicat the residue of my life vnto God, & only spend my time in deuotion, moreouer I intreate you if you finde any thing in my writings not well penned, that you will frame it to the latine phrase, but in such manner as in no point you alter the sence: & lastly I desire you that in your translation you wil search the old & new testament, that you may know from what place I haue alleaged my authorities, that you may be more certain in your translation: but if I haue not handled euery thing so happily as may satisfie those which bee curious, I am to be pardoned by reason of my want of *Chaldean* bookes whereof I haue none, for those I had I lost by



misfortune in my iourney: wherefore being destitute of the vse of all bookes, I could speake of nothing but what was fresh in my memory, yet haue I deliuered all things most faithfuly.

Farwel my deare beloued sonne in Christ. Vlispe the twenty foure day of Aprill, in the yeare of our Lord God 1534.

When I had finished this busines I remembred my selfe of that place whereas I say that Christ descended into hel for the soule of *Adam*, and for the soule of Christ, which the same Christ receiued of his mother *S. Mary* the virgin.

Of which thing wee haue an assured testimony in those bookes which wee call the bookes of gouernance, which Christ Iesus deliuered vnto his Apostles, in which bookes be expressed these words, which be called the misteries of doctrines, by whose authority and testimony we all of vs continue in this opinion without doubting: but after I came into Portugall I found diuines teaching a contrary doctrine against all our opinions, which is so certaine, as wee doe not onely beleecue this, but also affirme that the soules of all men had their beginning from *Adam*, and that as our flesh is of the seed of *Adames* flesh so like-wise our soule being, as a candle, kindled by the soule of *Adam*, had her originall and nature from *Adam*, whereby it appeareth that we bee all the seede of *Adam* both of the flesh and of the soule.

All the relation aboue sayd was written and subscribed with the Embassadors owne proper hand with the Chaldean characters.



*The deploration of the people of Lappia by the  
same Damianus a Goes.*



Thinke it not vnfitting (most worthy Bishop) to make some mention in the end of this treatise (because this also appertaineth to faith and to the vnion of the Church) of *Iohn Magnus Gothus* Archbishoppe of Vpsalia in the Kingdome of Suetia, that by him we may be moued to take compassion of the people of Lappia: for this *Iohn Magnus Gothus* was borne of very good parents and rich, maruelous well seene in the Scriptures, and of an honest conuersation, and so adicted to the Roman Church, that for the zeale therevnto, he lost the great Archbishoppricke of Vpsalia with all the reuenues thereunto belonging, amounting to forty thousand crownes a yeare, and al his patrimony besides, and hauing lost both dignity and goods, and tossed in the variable streames of fortune he lay close in Prussia, liuing poorely a long time at the Citty Daniz in Germany, where (while I was dispatching my Kings affaires in those parts of Germany) I grew into great familiarity and indissoluble friendship with him, and with *Olaus Magnus Gothus* his brother: which two I afterwards found vnlooked for, at Vecenza, in poorer estate then befor they wer, vnto which place they went purposely, by reason of a councel divulged, wherby they conceiued much hope for themselves and redresse of their calamities: And when the councell was discontinued & adorned, those good mē being vtterly depriued of al their goods, wherwith while they inioyed them, they often in those Northerne parts contended



much in defence of the Roman Church, and yet would haue contended (if matters had prospered) remoued to Venice, there to get their liuing either vpon others liberality, or by their owne industry, and labour, which was cheefly in teaching and instructing others, for other succor could they get none, but that they reposed their whole confidence in Gods assistance: whither when they were come, they were very curteously intertained, only of *Hieronymus Quirinus* the Patriarke of Venice in his Patriarchship, and ther they remaine to this day expecting the divulging of that council; vnder the Archbishoppricke of Vpsalia is contained a great part of that large and vast prouince of Lappia, the people wherof be ignorant of the laws of our Sauour Christ, which (as I vnderstand by many good and credible men) proceeded from the abhominable extortion and couetuousnesse of the prelates and nobles, for if they were Christians they should bee free from those taxations and tributes, wherwith they as Ethnicks be punished: on the other side the nobility and Bishops wax rich and welthy, and therefore they forbid them to be Christians, least bearing the sweet and delectable yoke of Christ, they might withdraw from there tirany, and extortion, some part of their gaines, and diminish some parte of their taxations, wherby that miserable nation is most beastly and insatiably vexed and oppressed by those Monarches, bearing the burthen most impatiently, for if they were Christians they should pay no more tribute vnto them than other Christians pay vnto their princes: And therefore nothing regarding the saluation of so many soules, they preferre their horrible & sacrilegious gaine, before the true Faith and Christian religion: so as they may rightly bee said to carry the keies, and neither enter them-selues, nor suffer others to enter. O insatiable couetousnes and intollerable impiety, and  
from



from Godly breſts to be expelled both by weapons, writings and all our forces: and without doubt it had beene quenched and buried by this time, if this good man were reſtored to his former dignity, for he deſireth nothing more, nor meditateth of any thing more earneſtly, than that this people may be reduced to the faith of Chriſt: nor doth he lament for any thing more, than that by his means (as he euer deſired in his hart) theſe miſerable beaſts (as yet by reaſon of their impious religion) be not made the flocke of Chriſt, by imbracing the Chriſtian faith: nether doth he complaine ſo much for the loſſe of his Archbiſhoppricke, nor that he was thruſt from his goods, left him by his anceſtors, as for that hee wanteth ſtrength, aid and ſubſtance where-with to cure this plague of Lappia, to bring them vnder the yoke of Chriſt, and to vnite them to the Roman Church: And this hee often-times confirmed by his letters ſent me: wherewith my ſelfe not fully contented made earneſt mention of this buſineſſe, in the end of that firſt Embaſſage of precious *Ioan*, which I dedicated to the ſame *Iohn Magnus Gothus*: neither did I then ſatiſſie my ſelfe in this buſineſſe, but by my letters dealt with *Eraſmus Rothrodamus*, that hee would commit the cauſe of this matter to writing. Afterwards liuing in his company (for I was with him at Friburg Briſgoia the ſpace of 5 months) I had ſpeeches with him of that buſines, by which meanes he was induced and appoynted to frame a iuſt volume of this matter, but being preuented by death, the ſubſtance of the buſines he had vndertakē was vtterly diſſolued, notwithstanding vpon his death, he concealed not the wicked Eccleſiaſtical impiety, which truly he did, that he might accuſe al Chriſtians to whome God hath graunted power and learning, and cry for reuengement againſt them in the laſt iudgment before Chriſt the iuſt Iudge of all men.



the Christian Princes & Monarches may now see what account and reckoning of so many lost soules they can make at the last day before the Tribunall seate of Christ, where is no place for pardon or grace, and where no excuse nor faire speeches will be receiued. And you, most reuerent Bishop, are only he that can cure this infirmity, you only are hee that can shew vnto this people the waies of the Lord, and direct them, that they may walke rightly in the same: you onely are able to redeeme them from the lowest hell: by you little children may come vnto Christ, and by the power of thy right hand bee deliuered from the bondage and deceits of the Diuell, and inioy the plentiful redemption of Christ, both in this world and in an other. Behold what reward thou shalt obtaine if by your labour that great haruest may be carried into Christs barne, and no doubt you will carry it in, if once you begin.

There be at this day with *Gostavus* King of Suetia and Gothia some great peeres & states that be fallen from the Romaine Church: there be some in those Kingdomes also that do altogether dissent and disagree from the right Diameter and true course of religion, vnto these by your dignity & pastoral function, may you direct your letters, requiring them by the woundes of our Sauour Christ, (whome all men, though neuer so farre differring from the Roman Church, doe acknowledge to bee Gods sonne and our Sauour) that they will permit and suffer this East and West Lappia, with those large prouinces of Finmarchia Scirfinia and Biarmia (the greatest part whereof knoweth not Christ) to come and imbrace the sweet yoke of Christ: and that they wil extort no more from them, then other Christian Princes are accustomed to take from their subjects, either by course of law or by voluntary extorsions.

And



And it were good, not onely to send letters, but learned men also, and men of approoued sanctity and holynesse of life, that these Prouinces may be annexed to the Romaine Church by the faith of Christ : whom ( together with the people of Æthiopia ) being reduced to the right law of Christ, although the people be offended, yet the Lord shall raigne, sitting vpon the Cherubins, and although the earth be mooued, it shall reioyce, and all Ilands shall bee ioyfull. Farewell right reuerend and high Bishop in Christ Iesus, Amen.

*From Louaine, in the Calends of September, in the yeere of our Lord God 1540.*

Of the situation of Lappia, and of the  
*inhabitants of that country : by the same*  
DAMIANVS A GOES.



THE country of Lappia ( through which runneth the Botnian sea ) is deuided into East and West Lappia, the vtmost part of which sea is Tornia, vpon the East part it ioyneth vnto the white lake, towards the North it compasseth diuers Prouinces, and so extendeth it selfe to a place vnknowne, and inclining Westwa- ds towards Island, it ioyneth vnto part of Noruegia: vpon the South it is compassed about with the other part of Noruegia, with Suetia, Finland and both the Botnias.

East Lappia hath in it a church dedicated to Saint *Andrew*, in the eighty fourth degree of the eleuation of the pole,



pole, which is adorned and beautified with a magnificent and sumptuous Sepulcher, and with men skilfull and learned in the holy Scriptures. This Church is vnder the Archbishop of Upsall, within whose Diocesse it is, and yet, notwithstanding the neighbors round about that church, whether it be by the carelesnesse & negligence, or through the couetousnesse of the Prelates, and great men, do not acknowledge Christ (as is reported). *Lappia* in the Latine tongue is interpreted a foolish and sottish or hartlesse nation, which name (as I thinke) is imposed vpon them, for that the soile by the continuall and binding cold, being as it were dull, is lesse apt eyther to receiue or bring forth fruites: the naturall borne people of *Lappia* be very strong set, and of a middle stature, they be maulous nimble and dexterious in vsing their bowes and darts, which practise of throwing the dart they exercise euen from their infancy, in such sort, that if a boy shoote at a marke and misse it, he hath no meate giuen him vntill he haue hit the marke: instead of other garments they weare skins finely sowed together, where-with they defend them-selues from the cold; which they be so accustomed to indure, that if need bee, they will ouer-come it without any defence at all of those skinnes: their dwellings are in tents, for of houses they haue no vse, because they often remooue out of one place into another: other course of life haue they none then hunting, fishing, and fowling, wherein they bee maruellous expert and skilfull, for in that Prouince is great abundance of those things. They vse no tillage, and they haue ships made without any Iron nailes or pins, which being charged and burdened with fishes dried in the ayre, and with pelts, or skinnes, they transport them to their neighbours, and bordering people, and get for them in exchange



exchange victuals and money, in dooing whereof they vse no speach but signes and becks, which onely hapneth through the barbarousnesse and harshnesse of their language, which their neighbours can by no meanes vnderstand, for otherwise they bee very wise and cunning in their exchanges.

The people be very valiant and warlike, in steed of horses they vse a kind of beasts, which in their language bee called *Raingi*, beeing of the stature and coulour of Asses, hauing clouen hooves: they be made & horned like Bucks, but that they be couered ouer with a kind of downe, & be not so long, nor haue so many branches as Bucks hornes haue (as we our selues haue seene:) these beasts be of such wonderfull swiftnesse, that in the space of twelue houres, they will draw a chariot thirty Germaine miles, and in their going, whether they go swift or softly, by the stirring of the ioynts of their legges, you may heare a noyse like vnto the cracking of nuts. The religion of this people is to worship the fire and pillars of stone for gods. They presage and iudge the euent of the whole day, by euery liuing thing that meeteth them in the morning: they obserue matrimony, and bee exceeding ieaious: they bee so famous in inchantments, that amongst many other very strange and almost incredible things to bee reported, which I omit to speake of, they will by their inchantments stay a ship vnder full saile, so stone still as no force of windes can remooue her: which euill is cured with Virgins excrements, beeing layde vppon the hatches of the shippes, and vppon the benches where the rowers sit to rowe, for these Virgins excrements (as I haue heard reported by the inhabitants) those spirits doe naturally abhorre.



*Certaine things concerning the Æthiopians, collected  
out of Ioseph Scaliger his seventh Booke :  
De emendatione temporum.*



His is not the first time that the name of the Christian Æthiopians, hath beene heard amongst vs, for their Churches be not onely at Ierusalem and Constantinople, but for a space it hath beene lawfull for them to solemnize and celebrate their sacrifices at Rome and Venice, and many things may be vnderstood of them and of their customes, both by the Portugals nauigations, and by the booke of *Francis Alvarez* trauels, who went himself into Æthiopia. For as yet wee haue onely heard of the name of Æthiopia, but it is strange that the name of the Emperour of Æthiopia, in our great grand-fathers dayes, was first knowne to vs out of Asia, not out of Æthiopia: for before these three hundred yeares the Æthiopian Kings had euer large dominions in Asia, especially in Drangiana in the confines of Susiana, in India and in Sinus, vntill the Tartarian Emperours expelled them from their gouernment in Asia: for the Abyssini beeing vanquished and expelled from the country of the people of Sinæ, by *Cingis* King of Tartary, *Vncan* the great Emperour of Æthiopia being slaine, shortly after *Cincan* the sonne of *Cingis*, and *Cincanus* sonne *Bathincan*, did vtterly expell and driue out all the Abyssini, from Moin and the kingdome of Sinæ, and compelled them to flye into Affrick.

Surely wee haue often wondred, that a nation at this day altogether ignorant in sea-faring businesse, should be  
so



so mighty and potent, both by sea and land, that they haue enlarged their dominions from Æthiopia to the people of Sinæ.

In those dayes the knowledge of that Emperor came vnto vs, but by the name of *Prestigian*, which in the Persian tongue (now vsed almost throughout all Asia, as Latium is in the West) signifieth *Apostolicke*, vnder which name is certainly vnderstood, a rightfull and Christian King.

That the gouernment of the Aethiopians was great and large in Asia, is signified by the Aethiopian crosses which are in Giapan, Syna, and other places, as also by the Temple that is situated in the Region of Maabar, and dedicated to Saint *Thomas*, which hath crosses, and many other things in it, as are in Aethiopia, and is builded after the Aethiopian fashion, and (that which is more) retaineth as yet the Aethiopian name.

FINIS.



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