

**Travels in Palestine in 1789 and 1790 ... And a particular description of the city of Jerusalem, in its present state / [John Smith].**

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SMITH, John



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[P.] TRAVELS

I N

PALESTINE,

*In 1789 and 1790:*

*Cursorory Remarks on Genoa, Florence, Naples, Rome,  
Malta, Sidon, Tyre, Joppa, Egypt, the Nile, &c.*

A N D A

PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION

OF THE CITY OF

JERUSALEM,

IN ITS PRESENT STATE;

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By JOHN SMITH.

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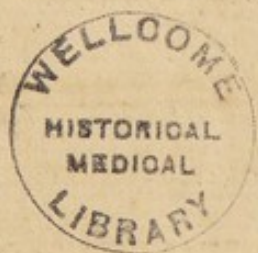
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## P R E F A C E.

THE Author of the following Pages conscious of great deficiency in point of Learning, &c. presumes not to entertain the *refined Critic* with elegant Language, or beautiful descriptions: His motive for travelling was enthusiastic curiosity, a disposition yet unsatiated, and in which neither interest nor ease had the smallest share; his difficultys in travelling were many, for want of the Languages, connections, and property, especially the latter, which at last put a total check to his proceeding any farther.

It is chiefly at the instigation of his Bookfeller, that he intrudes upon the  
public,

public, this short and imperfect account of his travels, which though brief, unconnected, and inelegant, contain nothing but real descriptions, unmixed on his part with fable or extravagance.

*Adelphi,*

*June 10th 1792.*



# TRAVELS

T O

J E R U S A L E M, &c.

**U**NENCUMBERED by wealth, friends, or the ties of Relationship: A servant in a country where wages are not high, and excited by a curiosity nearly irresistible, with my staff in my hand, and a little well earned money in my pocket, I left my native place, on the 18th of *November 1788*; intending by any means possible to gratify an irresistible impulse of visiting those parts of the *Ancient World*, the scenes of so many wonderful and interesting transactions, described in the sacred pages of unerring truth.

I went on board the Ship *Fame* at *Liverpool*, and after a very stormy passage on the coasts of *Portugal*, *Spain*, and *Morrocco*, arrived at *Genoa*; the ship much shattered, and one man lost, on approaching this city from the sea, it has a very fine appearance, standing on the

B

declivity

declivity of the hills, the houses which are very high, rising regularly one above the other, and are not blackened with the coal smoke as are those in *England*, they are likewise interspersed with many small vineyards, the streets are narrow, and there are few carriages, the women being chiefly carried in sedans.

The city itself is inclosed by a wall, of about six miles in circumference, which wall is also inclosed by another of about fourteen, which takes in the hills and suburbs, it has a commodious mole which may be locked with a chain at night, and a lighthouse on a rock, which makes a very good appearance, with two others, one at each extremity of the mole. The city is govern'd by a Doge, or Chief Magistrate whose office continues two years, then another is chosen: from *Genoa* I went by water to *Leghorn*, the distance is about one hundred and thirty miles; here is an English Factory, a Chaplin, and a Consul, it is a place of great trade; but there, being no antiquities to attract notice, I travelled on to *Pisa*, about fourteen miles distance along a plain good road; at this place is seen the *Leaning Tower* so called, on account of its leaning fifteen feet off its perpendicular; it is built of marble, has two hundred and seventy-nine steps to its top, round which are twelve arches, for as many bells, the *Cathedral* is a handsome building, with beautiful brass gates, fine Paintings, &c.

From

From *Pisa*, I travelled to *Florence*, distant fifty miles, on a most pleasant road, along the banks of the river *Arno*.—As yet however I could not speak the language of the country, and although *Tuscany* is the most civil state in *Italy*, was generally charged two shillings, where one might serve.

*Florence* is a large, elegant, and plentiful city, situated on the river *Arno*, divided into two unequal parts, connected together by four bridges, two of which have houses erected on them, for shops, &c. here the Museum of curiosities, the gallery of sculpture, and paintings, and the gardens of the Grand Duke, by the *New Palace*, are most worthy attention.

I passed on to *Bologna*, over the *Appenine Mountains*, a very rugged and troublesome journey; at the bottom of the hills they put on oxen to assist the horses; arrived at *Padua*, once a great place but at present seems to have lost much of its ancient grandeur, the *Cathedral* is that of *Saint Anthony*; and there the beggars ask alms in the name of that Saint. As the time of ascension drew near which was the 21st of *May*, I set out to see the Doge of *Venice Marry*, the Adriatic, he was on board a richly gilded galley, surrounded by his Nobles, and rowed by forty-two hands; he sails some way, and then drops a ring into the sea, after this ceremony he returns to

church, thence to the palace where an elegant entertainment is provided.

I returned to *Leghorn*, to embark for *Naples*, a voyage of four hundred miles, but exceedingly pleasant, along the coast; after passing a number of islands, on our way, we saw a barbary galley, coming right a head of us, every one on board attempted then to hide his little stock. I took the liberty however of advising the captain, as we had many passengers on board, that we should all stand along the gunnel of the ship, and make a formidable appearance, which being complied with, had the desired effect, and the *Turk* sheered off, we arrived at *Naples*, which I believe is as populous as any part of the world, and likewise as wicked, although it is said here are thirty thousand clergy; the first place I went to see here was *Pitzalo*, (or *Puteoli*,) where *Saint Paul* last landed, and remained two whole years, *Acts*, chap. xxviii. v. 13; this formerly was a great city till overthrown by an earthquake; near this place is what is called the new *Mount*, which arose in two days time; also many ruins occasioned by Earthquakes, and several old heathen temples; here is a curious *hot bath* underground, into which a naked man went through a long passage, and returning with a pail full of the liquor, we put in eggs which were fit to eat in about five minutes time; I went from here to *Pompea*, this city was over-

thrown

thrown by a drift of cinders and ashes from the *Mount*; at that time it was a sea port, but at present is one mile distant from the sea; 'tis said the King of *Naples*, employs a number of work men to dig up the ruins, in search of antiquities, which when found, are laid up in the *Museum* at *Portecea*; from here I returned to the subteraneous *Theatre* at *Herculancum*, sixty feet underground, it was buried with the *Lava* that came down from the *Mount*, and covered that city; I next ascended *Mount Vesuvius*, a most fatiguing journey, as the *Lava* is very bad to walk on for two miles before we reach the top; I omit any description of this wonderful place, it being already done by superiour hands: after a months stay here, I set out for *Rome*, one hundred and fifty miles distant, along a pleasant road, with a view of the sea a great part of the way, where I arrived on the 1st of *October*, 1789, and stayed till the *May* following\*; then receiving letters of recommendation from *Thomas Coutts*, Esq. and *Sir John Macpherson*, I sailed down the *Tiber* to the ancient *Astia*, which is now quite in ruins although it was once the port for *Rome*, it is now a grazing-field for cattle; 'tis four miles round, with a lake of fresh water in the middle of about half that circumference, I was desirous

\* The Author does not attempt any description of this once mistress of the world, but now apparently forsaken place, it belongs to the pen of ingenuity and literature, in him would be presumptuous.

ons of knowing whether it had always been a lake, or whether it was not a part of the city which had been overthrown, and was told it had been so from time immemorial; its spring must be very small, the brook that flows from it, being such, there is a fort at the mouth of the brook; I stayed to see the people take the bark of the cork tree, and the process of making it into hives for their bees; we then sailed to *Civita Vecchia* a very pleasant place, with a good mole for shipping, this is the only port belonging to his holiness, on this side of *Italy*; from here I at last, and with some difficulty got to *Leghorn*, where I found a *Ragusa Ship*, bound for *Cyprus*, but there being a disturbance here between the Jews and Christians, our ship was detained till matters were accomodated; I then paid my passage, which was no less than seven pounds, and embarked, after taking leave of a worthy friend *Dr. Bates*, from whom I had received many favors, (during my stay at *Leghorn*.) On setting sail they fired the guns, and all hands went to prayers, (the usual custom) to supplicate for a good voyage, at 12 o'clock we dined, supped at 6, and at 8 to prayers again; the next morning I was alarmed by the firing of our guns, went up to see what was the occasion, and saw two galleys of war full of men bearing upon us, the one on the larboard, the other on the starboard side, we greatly feared they were *Algerines*, but on hoisting their flags, we discovered

covered Saint *Mark*, (the flag of *Venice*.) One of the captains came along side of us, and demanded what people were on board, and some other questions, which being answered to his satisfaction, wished us a good day.

On sailing along the coasts of *Corfica* and *Sardinia*, was amazed to see those islands covered with snow, in the month of *June*; on the 9th we saw a *sea monster*, which, (or others of the same kind) appeared several times the same day, spouting the water from its nose to a great height, it is called *Caldelia*, and is said to appear frequently before a storm: A storm came on next morning, which continued four days, and all on board suffered very much; we came to an island near the coast of *Sicily*, called *Maratimo*, it has no inhabitants, but a few soldiers in a small fort on a rock; it is very high, consequently seen at a great distance, and is thirty eight miles south east of *Valencia*; we next came to *Malta*, St. *Luke* mentions it in the xxviii chap. of the *Acts*, and it is noted for the hospitable reception, which the inhabitants though *Barbarians*, gave to St. *Paul*, and the other passengers that were ship-wreck'd on their coast; the common people spake *Arabic*, but the people of fashion *Italian*, this is the residence of the Knights of *Malta*; they consist of seven different nations, are all of ancient noble families, they are all subject to the *Pope* in spirituals,  
and

and are obliged to suppress all *Pirates*, which engages them in perpetual war with the *Turks*, *Algerines*, and other *Mahometans*, they make vows of celibacy and chastity, but notwithstanding keep *Grecian* ladies as concubines; 'tis said there is no beast of venom in this island, since *St. Paul* shook the *Viper* from his hand. *Acts*, chap. xxviii. v. 5.

The next island we saw was *Candia*, the ancient *Crete*, one of the largest islands in the *Mediterranean*, above one half of this country consists of nothing but barren and rocky mountains, among which is the famous mount *Ida*; the valleys and plains are uncommonly fruitful, yielding corn, red and white wine; honey and wax: the greatest part of the country is uncultivated, has many rivulets, of which *Lethe* is the largest: we now had another storm and were tossed near the coast of *Egypt*, where we spoke with three ships from *Alexandria*; and on *July* 4th arrived at *Larneca*, the chief port in the island of *Cyprus*, it is however but a mean sort of a place, although there are three foreign Consuls, each of whom have a pole, like the mast of a ship erected on the top of their houses, on which they hoist the flag of their nation; here is a British Consul, who acts both for this place and *Alleppo*, the British Trade being much upon the decline in the *Levant*, (as instance,) eighty years ago in *Aleppo* were forty English people, at present

sent (1790) there are only two persons; as soon as we went on shore, we were met by the monks of the *Latin Convent*, who invited us to a refreshment, after which we passed the time in the gardens till evening, when we all (23 in number) partook of a lentren repast, it being saturday.

The next morning I found a ship bound to *Sidon*, and paying at the rate of twenty-three shillings for my passage, embarked for that place, which according to tradition was the second city built after the flood, in forty-eight hours we arrived there and met with a factory of Franks, who dwell in a great square building by themselves, among them is a Priest, and a Proconsul, who is under the French consul at *St. John D' Acres*, this is but a small place at present, the walls are in ruins, with two old castles, the one upon a hill on the south end of the town, and the other stands on a rock, in the water, with a bridge of eight arches to go to it; the water of this place is good, and comes from mount *Lebanon*; here are very good gardens, and some small cedar trees, but the place from which *Solomon* got his cedars, is a considerable distance from this. Near the *Mole* is a ridge of rocks, where ships ride at anchor, as they cannot come near the shore; I was now only one hundred and fifteen miles distant from *Jerusalem*.

After remaining here two days I set out for *Tyre*, formerly the ancient capital of *Phœnicia*, and about twenty miles distant from *Sidon*; it is famous in sacred, as well as in profane history; for its trade, opulence, and strength; but I could scarcely believe it to be the place, that stood against *Nebuchadnezzar*, the King of *Babylon*, thirteen years; or, that *Alexander* the great found the most difficult of all his conquests; all is at present only a pile of venerable ruins. In this place I was much at a loss for want of knowing the language, but they brought me a *Turk*, who spoke the *Lingua Franca*, I then did very well.

One day satisfied me of this place, and I embarked for *St. John D' Acre*, which was formerly a place of great note, when the *Knights of St. John of Jerusalem* resided here; but when they were drove away, it never more flourished: The things most remarkable in this place are, the walls of *St. Andrews Church*, the cathedral of *St. John*, the convent of the *Knights Hospitallers*, the palace of the grand master of that order, and lastly some remains of a large church, formerly belonging to a nunnery, of which they tell the following story,\*

I enquired

\* The *Turks* having pressed this city with a long siege at last entered it by storm, *May 19, 1291*, in which extremity

I enquired at Mr. *Richard Aufgate*, the British consul when he had any ships, he said none from *Brittain* these four years: From here I crossed a bay of the sea, about three leagues; into this bay comes the brook *Kishon*, mentioned in the *lxxxiii. Psalm*; on the south side of this is a small walled town called *Cyffa*; from this, I ascended mount *Carmel* by a narrow road, at the top of which is a very good square stone building; as a convent for the order of the *Carmelites*, they are natives of *Germany*, and the convent is built on the place where *Elijah* the Prophet dwelt on this mount.

This mount is very barren and stony, yet the *Fryers* have dug and made a small garden by the wall of the convent; they have also sunk a well of twenty fathom, which affords them very good water, and they dig up some bramble-bushes

C 2

from

extremity, the *Abbess* fearing that herself and her nuns should be subjected to such bestialities, as is usual in such cases, exhorted them all to cut and mangle their faces, as the only way to preserve their virgin purity, and to encourage them she made herself the first example of her own counsel, which the nuns instantly followed; cutting off their noses and disfiguring their faces, with such terrible gashes as might excite horror, rather than lustful desires; the consequence of this was, that the soldiers breaking into the nunnery, instead of seeing beautiful ladies, such sad spectacles, put them all to the sword, in revenge for disappointing their lusts.

from among the stones, which serve them for fire. Near this is a small *Greek-Church*, and a *Watch-Tower*, *St. Helena* in her life-time caused many of them to be built, on most of the capes from *Constantinople* to *Joppa*; the view from this place is delightful, after staying forty-eight hours I returned to *Acre*, with intent to visit *Galletee*, but as a vessel was bound to *Joppa*, and three franks going thither, I accompanied them; we came to *Cecaria*, formerly a place of note, (*Acts*, chap. x.) but now intirely in ruins: *Joppa* appears beautiful when viewed from the sea; it stands on a side of a small hill, the houses rising regularly one above the other, but no ships can go near the shore, on account of a range of rocks; they ride at some distance and every thing is carried to them in boats. Mr. *John D' Amianne*, who acts as consul for *Brittain*, *France*, *Sweden*, and *Ragusia*, received me with the most obliging politeness, and hoisted the British-flag; I asked him when he had any British ships, he told me not these sixteen years; he has no pay from *Brittain*.

I payed at the rate of twenty-two shillings for landing only; next day set out with some others, (each of us on an afs) for *Ramata*, three hours journey inland, over a flat sandy ground; we arrived at the *Latin-Convent*, where all the Franks lodge in going to, or coming from *Jerusalem*;

it was formerly a great place by the many ruins that still remains. The Fathers of the Convent walked out to shew me the ruins of an old Monastery which had been very extensive, it was broke into by the *Turks*, and forty Christians put to death.

After staying here two days, I was informed that a company of twenty persons were going to *Jerusalem*, I joined them, and in the evening about sun-set, each man mounted his mule, one person excepted, who, being taken ill, was obliged to return to the Convent: We traveled for some time over a flat country, but coming to the *Mountains*, our difficulty in passing them is almost inexpressible, there being no beaten path, the mules go winding among the rocks; our continued fear of the wild *Arabs*, likewise increased our trouble; we had still two hours journey to *Jerusalem*, when day-light began to appear, I had now a view of the country, the face of which is barren, beyond description, and firmly as I believed in the scriptures; I confess at that time, a doubt of their veracity arose in my mind, the eye searches in vain, for that luxuriant fertility of which this country was formerly described as the seat. In its stead it meets nothing but rocky mountains shelved round by the stones, to preserve the earth

earth from tumbling, and here the inhabitants sow their grain.

We now came near the *Holy City*, my sensations at sight of which, I will not trouble the reader with: The west wall and the steeples were all that could be seen, till we arrived at *Joppa-Gate*; I had been told that at this gate strangers are obliged to alight from their mules; It was not so however, and we were permitted to ride along the streets, such as they are, till we arrived at the *Latin Convent*, where all European Christians must go, there being no Inns nor Merchants houses to receive them. So *July 16, 1790*, I arrived safe here, where I was kindly received, by the Father Guardian, who bid me welcome to the *Holy-City*.

The Father Guardian is a native of *Spain*, and had resided here thirty-eight years; I was presented with coffee, and then shewn where I was to sleep; there are two rooms more pleasant than the rest, on the top of a terras, with curtains round the beds, (the others have none,) where strangers who are not of the clergy sleep; after viewing my resting place, I went down stairs to take a walk before dinner, but the porter informed me it was unsafe to go over the gate alone, so was obliged to content myself with a walk round the Convent. They have a gran-

ry for their corn, the mill of which is turned by a horse, as are all those which I saw, either in *Asia* or *Africa*, except small ones, which are turned with the hand; they have their own oven, which they bake full of bread every day; their own shoe-maker, taylor, blacksmith, and doctor, who is a native of *Spain*, as most of the fryers also are.

When any person is taken ill, he is carried to a part of the Convent called the infirmary, where every man has a bed-room to himself, and every attendance necessary.

At eleven o'clock we went to dinner in the long room, there is a table on each side, and occasionally one in the middle, every man has a napkin spread before him, a glass tumbler, knife and fork, spoon, and two pewter jugs, the one filled with water, the other wine; all their plates are of pewter.

The Father Guardian sits alone, at a small table at the head of the room, over his head is written *Silence*;\* the company enter with great reverence, and stand till grace is said (in latin;) then every man takes his place, and not a word is spoken, during the whole time of dinner, nor is the dining-room door opened; the food is brought in through a small place like a window,

at

\* In latin.

at the lower end of the room, and the plates are conveyed back again through the same place; dinner over, the Father Guardian rings a little bell, all rise, grace is said in latin, the company return to wash their hands in a marble font at the door, then dispose of themselves variously till five o'clock, when the little bell invites them to supper, with the same ceremony as at dinner. They have no pork, little beef; mutton and fowls are the chief of their food, eggs are in great plenty, but fish are very scarce, the *Mediterranean* being forty-six miles distant, and the *Dead-Sea* affords none.

Devotions begin at four o'clock in the morning, at the church of the Convent, where are five alters for saying mass: fifteen silver lamps and one of gold are kept constantly burning; here is likewise a good organ, and an apartment for the singers; the Convent pays to the *Turk* a rent of 700l. per annum.

July 18th. I went with a company to visit *St. John's* in the *Desert*, we went out at *Joppa-Gate*, and passing over the mount *Gibon*, where *Soloman* was anointed King; after an hours walk arrived at a strong Convent in a valey, built over the place where the tree grew, on which our *Saviour* was crucified, it is in the hands of the *Greeks*; we entered in at a small iron door  
the

the Convent itself is furrounded by a strong wall, the windows looking to the inner court; we went into the chapel, here is a large plate of silver laid over the stump of the tree, visited the dining-room, which was in the Turkish fashion; afterward, the drawing-room where we were seated on mats, and presented 1st with Sherbet, 2d Marmele in a silver dish, 3d a cup of Coffee, and 4th a glass of Spirits. We pursued our journey to St. Johns, on the left hand stands the ruins of *Simons House*, an hours walk from here, The *Holy Cross* (as it is called) brought us to St. Johns; here formerly stood a city, at present, however only a poor village, with a good Convent, built in the year 1693; an elegant Fabrick, with a beautiful Chapel in it, indeed, the finest that I saw, belonging to the Latins, in all the *Holy-Land*.

Near the *Great-Altar*, we descend into a place where are some silver lamps burning; in this place they say St. *John the Baptist* was born, as the *Turks* neither make nor drink wine, the *Franks* buy their grapes, and make their own, and here we were regaled with their super-excellent: I next day went to see the place where the Baptist dwelt in the wilderness, when his food was "lo-custs and wild honey." On the declivity of a mountain is a grate in a rock, with a bench on the right hand, where 'tis said, he usually slept;

and a spring of water comes from the rock, which supplied him with drink; a short distance from this is the Sepulchre of *Elizabeth*: After wandering about here for some time, and viewing the tombs of the *Maccabees*, I returned along the valley of *Rophaim*, where *David* gathered the five pebble stones, to combat *Goliath* of *Gath*; returned to the Convent, and after dinner we all went to see the house of the father and mother of the *Baptist*; its walls are very thick, and in it is a well from which we drew water, and mixed with some wine; in the part where the *Virgin* saluted her cousin *Elizabeth*, the Fryers went in and said prayers; here I was taken ill and returning to the Convent at *Jerusalem* in great pain, was placed in the *Infirmary*, above mentioned, here I remained twelve days, and received every attention I could wish for.

*August 1st.* I went to see *Bethlehem*, going out by *Joppa-Gate*, I turned to the left hand, where the *Virgin* sat down to give the child suck when coming from *Bethlehem* to *Jerusalem*; a little farther is the well where the wise men saw the star, and a Convent called that of *Elijah* the Prophet, where he dwelt when in this part, they shew us a bench in a rock, which they say was his sleeping place; this Convent is in the hands of the *Greeks*; adjoining to this is the field where *Habakkuk* was taken up by the hair of his head,  
(when

(when carrying meat to the reapers,) and carried to *Daniel* in the Lions den at *Babylon*; a little farther brought me to the place where *Jacobs* house was, near it is *Rachels* grave with a Tower built on it, which is taken great care of both by the Jews Christians and Turks; farther on I came to *Betlebem*, a small village without walls, there are only about thirty eight Turks in it, all the other inhabitants are Christians.

Over the place where our *Lord* was born is a strong large place built by *St. Helena*, mother to *Constantine* the great, (she raised many large Fabricks about the *Holy-Land*,) it has only one small door to enter into a large church, with forty-four Pillars, each about three yards high; in this church are three doors, which lead to three different apartments, one for the Latins, one for the Greeks, and a 3d for the Armenians, each of them have a chapel apart for themselves, and each of them I visited, and afterwards the place of our *Lords* nativity, which is near the center of this great building; we went down some steps (leaving our slippers at the top.) In this place which was once a stable, six and thirty silver lamps are continually burning; on one hand is the manger, the other the place where the three wise men stood; here are three large pictures, set in silver frames, a grotto underground, leads to the hole where the children

slain by *Herods* cruelty were laid; near this is the place where dwelt St. *Jerom* when he translated the bible into Latin; here is his tomb, the tomb of *Josephus*, and the tombs of many others: Over the stable in the great church is the alter of circumcision, where our *Lord* was circumcised, it belongs to the Greeks. After dinner went to see, the 1st small Grotto, where the Virgin hid herself, while *Joseph* was getting the ass, &c. to flee into *Egypt*; 2d where *Josephs* house stood; 3d the field of the Shepherds, about two miles from *Bethlehem*, where formerly was a Monastery, but they were drove away by the *Arabs*; this is the only part that I can call a field about this country; from this place I saw at a distance a Camp of *Arabs*, and requesting my guide to accompany me to them, he answered me, it was most probable they would strip me, although they would do me no other injury; so we went down to them, it was only a small camp of about eight tents, covered with black hair cloth; we entered into the largest of them, they gave me a bag with some barley straw to sit on; there were two women in a corner of the tent, grinding corn, in a small handmill; their camels, horses, and asses were lying among the tents; they desired my guide to ask if I would take any refreshment, I requested a draught of water; in the tent was a large skin, from which they brought me some

in a peice of wood, with a hole cut in it which served them for a cup.

I observed before that on leaving *Ramata* one of our company was taken ill, and obliged to return; this man was a Priest, a native of *Rome*, and sent from there as a missionary to *Jerusalem*, at the end of six days he recovered, and set forward, accompanied by a single guide, who not being well acquainted with the spot where the *Arabs* were encamped, unfortunately fell in among them, and was detained as a prisoner; the guide immediately set forward for *Jerusalem*, to inform the Father Guardian of the accident, who immediately sent the Druggier-man to the Governor to know what steps should be taken for his recovery, so whatwith a fee to the Governor, and a ransom to the *Arabs*; it cost 700l. for his recovery\*. Had it been my fate to have fallen among them in the like manner, I must have remained till death had relieved me, for I never could have advanced even a much lesser sum.

I now went to see a well, to which (they affirm) when the Virgin *Mary* (being thirsty) came to drink, the people refusing to draw her some water, the well immediately overflowed; there is

\* This money, as well as the grater part of what supports the Convent is sent from *Spain*.

is a stone which goes round the wells mouth, and on one side an impression as if made in clay: I now went to *Bethlehem* and slept, and next morning I was desirous of seeing the famous Cisterns of *Solomon*, about an hour and halfs walk, from *Bethlehem*, adjoining to them is an old castle in ruins, with an iron gate, and a parcel of old people dwelling among the ruins, who gain their miserable living by gathering sticks among the mountains, and carrying them to *Jerusalem* to sell.

Near the castle is a strong spring of good water, which running through an arch or grotto, falls into a large cistern, dug in the earth about 90 paces broad, and 160 in length; thence it runs into another of about 160; thence to a third of about 220: I cannot ascertain their depth, the first was full of water, the second about half full, the third had less in it; I went down fifty-four stone steps, before I came to the water, where I went in and bathed; when the first is full it runs into the second; which when full runs into a third; thence, along an aquaduct in pipes of clay, sunk a small way into the ground, and built over with stones and lime, to hinder the feet of the cattle from breaking them: This aquaduct goes winding round the Mountains to serve *Jerusalem*, there being scarce any water there, except what is caught from

from the rain? Between these Pools and *Bethlehem* is a fine spring which waters a small valley where *Solomon* had a Garden, and as the plot of ground was small, he had the village built on the side of a hill among the rocks, where is a parcel of old arches, and some poor people dwelling among them; these three are the only springs I saw round about *Jerusalem*.

In the gardens are some fig-trees, cucumbers, and onions, but very little else. Not far from here, is the field where the Angel smote 185,000 of *Senacherib's* army, in one night, when he was going to besiege *Jerusalem*. At a distance is the *Franks-hill*, as it is called, not unlike a sugar-loaf; it was defended for 40 years after the loss of *Jerusalem*; I now returned to the Convent.

I next went to view the Sepulchres, of the Kings, going out at the gate of *Damascus*, on the north side, on the right hand in passing the gate is an old fish pond; it contained at this time but little water: About a mile farther, is a square pit, dug in a rock, on one side is a shade or hall, on the other a small door almost chock'd up with rubbish; through this we crept into a square room of about eight yards, cut out of the natural white rock; from this room I passed into six others, all of the same fabrick; from these rooms  
are

are small vaults for burying Places; in the best of them is said to be the coffin of *Nehemiah*; there is the lid of a coffin, worked in the form of sprigs and leaves; there are in all forty-two burying places; but the most astonishing thing is the doors, which are of one solid plank of stone six inches thick, about the size of a common door, they turned upon two hinges, of the same stone as the door, these works are all of the same white marble, with the rooms. I now returned by the Grotto of the Prophet *Jeremiah* which is under a hill, near the walls of the city; it is a large wide place, but does not go deep, on the left hand is a kind of bench of rock, four or six feet high, on which the Prophet usually slept: In this Grotto he wrote his book of the Lamentations. Here is a draw-well of good water.

My next desire was to see the plate of the *Holy-Sepulchre*, and being informed it would be open on the 5th of *August*, attended there at 10 o'clock; there were many people waiting, till the two Caddeys came, from the Governor with the 2 keys, it being secured with two locks, and each of these men having one; it cannot be opened but in their presence; they also place their seal, so that no false key may be used; the Turk only opens it when he thinks proper sometimes he allows it to stand open half an hour

hour, and at other times an hour or two, during which time, those who reside within may go out, visit their friends, &c. and the people of *Jerusalem*, &c. may join, pay their devotions, and come out again, warning being given, before the doors are shut again; if any person visiting the place, is shut in, he must remain a week, fortnight, or perhaps a month, till the Turk permits the door to be opened again. The *Temple* or building which contains the *Holy-Sepulchre*, &c. is a very spacious and roomy place built by *St. Helena*, and intended to contain as many holy or remarkable places as possible; within it are four principle sects of Christians; 1<sup>st</sup> the Greeks, who are most in number, and have the greatest sway; 2<sup>nd</sup> the Latins; 3<sup>d</sup> the Armenians; 4<sup>th</sup> the Gofites or ancient Egyptain Christians; I payed at the rate of 2l. 10s. for admittance, and went to reside in the Latin Convent till the next time the gate should be opened.

I now accompanied the Fryers to visit the various remarkable, places in this Fabrick; 1<sup>st</sup> where our Lord was derided; 2<sup>nd</sup> where the foldiers parted his garments; 3<sup>d</sup> where he was shut up, while things were getting ready for his execution; 4<sup>th</sup> where he was crowned with thorns; 5<sup>th</sup> where he was scourged; 6<sup>th</sup> where he was nailed to the cross, on mount *Calvary*,

it is only eighteen steps up to the top of this mount, we leave our slippers at the bottom of the stairs; 7th where the cross was set up, there is a hole in the rock where the foot of the cross was placed; it is lined round with silver, with a plate of the same metal on the top, close by here is the cleft in the rock, which was rent when our *Lord* expired, we descended from the mount, and 8th saw the anointing stone where our *Lords* body was anointed for his burial; it is a marble stone, and lies flat on the ground, close by it are the tombs of *Godfrey* and *Baldwin*, Kings of *Jerusalem*; 9th the *Sepulchre*, where his body was laid, there is a porch at the door of it, and within is a dun coloured stone, of about a foot each way, on which the *Angel* was sitting the morning of his resurrection; the door of this Holy place is so small, that a stone rolled against it might secure it, its height is about three feet, and breadth about two; in this small place is room only for three people at a time, and that on their knees on the right hand going in, is a bench of white marble, under it was the body of our *Lord* laid; over it are forty-four silver lamps continually burning; at the porch are eighteen, and at the anointing stone eight large ones, and at the mount *Calvary* twenty-five, besides some others in the temple, in all one hundred and ninety-two of silver, besides those of glass and brass almost without number;

number; I then went to the other end of the *Temple*, and descended twenty-eight steps to a chapel, dedicated to *St. Helena*, thence thirteen steps more to a Grotto under the rock, where *St. Helena* found part of the Holy Cross; all this time we went in procession, with every one a wax candle in his hand and a Latin book of hymns, which we sung at every place, our procession was thus, one went before with a pot of incence, to perfume every Holy Place; three, had each of them a garment of gold lace, the others had white robes over their cloaths, the procession, &c. being ended, we returned each to his apartments.

The Latins have a good organ at their chapel, and a bell to ring when they go to their devotions, which is at twelve at night, four in the morning, and almost constantly through the day; whatever the world may say or think, these people are certainly far from being idle; the Greeks instead of a bell, have a board hung up with holes in it, which they beat with a wooden mallet, at other times they have a hoop of iron which they beat with a hammer; the Armenians have the same; the Gophits have something like two pewter plates, which they rub on each other: Next day went to take a more minute view of this place which has all the conveniences that can be supposed, here is a draw-well which  
serves

serves them all with water, in the gate is a hole  
 so large that a small child may creep through,  
 and by this the people that dwell within have a  
 communication with their friends in the city to  
 get their oil for the lamps, bread, flesh, and  
 every thing they want, as to the lamps in this  
*Temple*, every class of these people have their  
 own, and trim them when wanted; formerly  
 there hung a silver lamp at the door of the  
*Holy Sepulchre*, so large that two men could  
 scarcely embrace it, I took the liberty of enquir-  
 ing what was become of it, and was informed  
 that about thirty-two years ago, a dispute arising  
 among the Christians, the Greeks broke it with  
 their sticks\*: Instead of the large silver lamp  
 there are three of brass, but the wheel still re-  
 mains which hoisted and lowered it.

In one end of this *Temple* is a round building  
 not unlike the *Rotunda* at *Rome*, higher, but  
 not so wide, the apperture of that at *Rome*, is  
 open, but that at *Jerusalem* has a wire knitting  
 over it, to hinder the birds from coming in;  
 exactly under the apperture is the *Holy Sepulchre*,  
 and when any rain falls, it must fall on it; but,  
 as there are only three small holes in the roof, to  
 let

\* It is a melancholy truth, that these religious people  
 instead of being brotherly, and in friendship, are free-  
 quently at variance, and even rail with bitterness against  
 each other.

let out the smoke of the lamps, and over the lamps is a canopy, so no rain can get in; near this, is a place called by the Greeks, "the middle of the world;" over the door of the porch is a picture of Christ coming in his "Power and great Glory," and in the *Sepulchre* is a picture of him in the grave, both set in frames of silver: In this place a vast number of candles are continually burning, some of which I measured and found twelve inches round, each of the candlesticks are a sufficient load for one horse to draw in a cart, they were cast by St. *Helena*. This *Temple* hath in it at the time of the holy week, or Easter, 1500 lamps and four thousand wax candles; near this place (but without the walls) I was told *Abraham* attempted to offer his son *Isaac*. August 11th the door was opened and I came out of the *Temple*.

It appears wonderful to me, that the Priests are not wearied by the continued dull round of devotions in this place; it is true, they may change their situation when they think proper; but one of them told me he had been there upwards of thirteen years.

After this, I amused myself in viewing the several places most remarkable in the city, viz. 1<sup>st</sup> the church of St. *Ann*, where the *Virgin Mary* was born, it is now partly in ruins; 2<sup>nd</sup> where  
our

our *Lord* stood when he had pardoned *Mary Magdalene* her sins; the Priests affirm it is the print of his foot, which is there seen on a stone\* ; 3<sup>d</sup> where our *Lord* was imprisoned, it is now a stable; 4<sup>th</sup> the Pool where the Angel went down at a certain season, and troubled the water; 5<sup>th</sup> the Palace of *Pontious Pilate*, we go up stairs, into a room which they say was the *Judgement-Hall*, it is now a Granary; from the window we see the spot of ground on which *Solomons Temple* stood, it is at present a square peice of ground, with some trees on it; in the middle is a square building of eight angles, and four doors in the Mosaic order, it was built by *St. Helena*, but falling into the hands of the Turk, it is now converted into a *Mosque*, into which no christian is permitted to enter, or even to walk on the square, on forfeiture of their life, or their religion.

This Palace of *Pilate* has formerly been a large building, at present only a small part of it is in repair, and in it the Governor dwells, it occupied both sides of the street, having an arch'd passage from

\* The Author purchased of the Priests a peice of skin of pasteboard, cut, exact to the size of this mark in the rock for 2s. and 6d. it is now in his possession; likewise, some corn from the hall of *Pontious Pilate*: Money appears very acceptable to many of those persons, who are possession of curiosities or reliques, whether real or fictitious.

from one side to the other, with a window on each side, the passage, and into this was our *Lord* brought, when he was shown to the Jews, and they standing below in the street, heard ECCE HOMO.

*August* 13th. I went out at the gate of *St. Stephen*, it was near here that Martyr was stoned to death; on the other side is the valley of *Jehosaphat*, at the bottom of this is the brook *Cedron*, so much spoken of, it has however so little the appearance of a brook, that except in time of rain it is perfectly dry; near this is a large building, chiefly underground, called the *Sepulchre* of the *Virgin Mary*; I entered in by an iron gate, and descended forty-eight steps of stairs, on the left hand is the tomb of *Joseph*, opposite to which, on the right is that of *Joachim*, &c. the bottom is large, and hath a well of good water: Here is the *Sepulcher* of the *Virgin* and many lamps round it, and seven alters for as many sects of Christians.

Near this spot are many places accounted remarkable. The Grotto where *Judas* came to betray his master; where *Christ* sweat blood when at prayer; the rock where were his Disciples when he found them asleep; the place where the *Virgin* prayed for *Stephen*, when the Jews were putting him to death; where *Christ* wept

wept, over *Jerusalem*, which is about half way up Mount *Olivet*; a cellar with twelve arches where the apostels composed the creed; I came to the top of Mount *Olivet*; where is a small chapel, going down on the other side, is where our *Saviour* took the ass to ride to *Jerusalem*, on palm Sunday; saw the part where stood the house of *Mary Magdalene*, also of *Martha*: Here is the stone where *Christ* was sitting, when they told him their brother was dead; came on my return to *Bethany*, where *Lazarus* dwelt, there still remains the ruins of his house, and the narrow stone stairs down which he was buried when *Christ* raised him to life, and a few steps higher is the place where he was afterward buried; came to the spot where stood the barren Fig Tree; several trees of that kind grow on the spot at this time; came where *Judas* hanged himself, it is exactly opposite the *East Gate* of the *Temple*; I therefore suppose when he threw down the money he came out of the *Temple* and took the first tree that presented itself. Arrived at a Village cut out in small closets, out of the rock, it is called the Village of *Concubines*, and here they tell us that *Solomon* kept his women, and on the hill above worshiped *Moloch*; saw the fountain of the blessed Virgin; the Pool of *Siloam*, the water comes from under *Sion-Hill*, it is not clean, only fit to water the Kings garden, as it was called, this is the only garden about *Jerusalem*.

*Jerusalem*, and stands at the bottom of the valley of *Jehosaphat*, near this place was *Isaiab* sawn assunder. Went to see the well where *Nehemiah* hid the Holy-Fire, and found it after the Babylonish captivity, it is cut in a rock very deep, and when the brook *Cedron* over-flows, it runs into it. Went to the Potters-Field, purchased with thirty pieces of silver (about 3l. 12s.) it is like a pit dug in the rock, done over with an arch, and five holes to let the coffins down, I went in under the rock, and looking through a hole saw several bones; it is still a burying place for strangers, and formerly was such for the Latins, but the Pope purchased some time ago, a piece of ground from the Turk, because he would not have the Christians thrown in there any more.

I now went up Mount *Sion*, to see the burying ground for the Christians and Greeks, on the top of this hill is an Armenian Church, where they have under the Alter the stone which was rolled to the mouth of our *Lords* Sepulchre, this hill was in ancient times the middle of *Jerusalem*. Entered in at *Sion-Gate*, and came to the church of *St. James*, the brother of *John* that was beheaded, it is adorned with mother-pearl, tortois-shell, &c. is in the hands of the Armenians, and is by far the finest church in *Jerusalem*,

*August* 15th. Being the ascension of the blessed Virgin, I went out with many others to visit her Sepulchre, we were at the Gate of *St. Stephen* before it was opened, and while we waited here, all the Christians in *Jerusalem* gathered to the Gate, which was no sooner opened than they ran as if they were all mad, down the valley, to her Sepulchre; in the crowd I made my escape from my companions, and resolved to take a ramble at large, into some corners where I had not yet been, but first I ran up to the top of *Mount Olivet*, to see the dead sea, and *Arabia* the stony, which, when I saw, was sorry I could not reach; this sea is eighty miles long, and about sixteen over; it is fifteen miles east from *Jerusalem*; the river *Jordon* runs into it, at the north end; although it is so near to *Jerusalem*, it is eastly to go to it, on account of the *Arabs* that rove about the coast, so any persons journeying there, must have a guard of soldiers to protect them.

I walked round *Jerusalem*, which is called three miles in circumference, but I paced it round and made it exactly 4630 paces, which according to my best judgment is exactly two miles and a half; the walls are in good order, being all built with good square stones, with a foot-path round the top; on the east and opposite to where the Temple was, at the bottom of the wall are some large

large stones that belong'd to the ancient walls, on the west is a castle with some brass guns and a trench round it, with a bridge; in the walls of this city are four gates, *Joppa* on the west, *Damascus* on the north, *St Stephens* on the east, and *Sion* on the south; on my return to the Convent, the Porter told me I had done very wrong in going alone, and that they had been very uneasy, least I had been in confinement by the Turks, he said I was not sufficiently sensible of the danger I had been in.

*August* 17th. I was informed a small company intended to set out for *Joppa*, so I made ready to join them, and leave *Jerusalem*; I therefore desired to have my account, as I never paid any money myself, the Druggerman does all that business; one of the articles viz. for entering the *Holy-Sepulchre* 2l. 10s. a something for the Governor, Druggerman, &c. &c. and a something for almost every place I visited, in all about 8l. sterling; I then got a certificate to certify that I had been there, four weeks and three days, and at four o'clock in the afternoon we each had a mule a-peace, and the Priests accompanying me to *Joppa-Gate*, wished me a safe journey to *Europe* again.

Instead of returning from *Jerusalem* the same way I entered it, we turned to the north, and as

two of the company spoke the *Lingua Franca* I asked the reason, they informed me that part was at present much infested by the *Arabs*, we came along as rugged a path as can be imagined; on the top of a high place we passed a town in ruins, I asked its name, which they could not inform me, but said it formerly belonged to the *Knights of St. John of Jerusalem*; about the middle of the night we descended to the shell, saw two fires, our guide bid us make no noise, for yonder was a camp of *Arabs*, our company were all alarmed, not knowing what might be the consequence; a little farther passed a thicket, from whence two stones were cast at us, suppose it was from some person or persons who were afraid to attack us, our number being no less than twenty; before day got to *Ramata* and knocked at the Gate of the Convent, they asked from within who was there, our guide answered "Christians from *Elkuds*," that is the *Holy-City*, for in that place *Jerusalem* is so called; here we were refreshed with some cakes and wine, then shewed to bed, where we rested twenty-four hours; we then went on to *Joppa*, to the house of the British Consul, which happened to be full of Jews from *Constantinople*, bound for *Jerusalem* and *Hebron*, I therefore went to lodge at the Latin Convent, which is built on the spot where *Simon Peter* a tanner dwelt, by the sea side; here I had in my journey to *Jerusalem*, left some money, not knowing what might happen to me there,  
here

here I found the Captain that brought me from *Acre*, had called for payment of my passage, which by the bye I had payed him before. Enquired which way I should get to *Egypt*, found a ship bound for *Damiata*, and contrary to the advice of the Consul went on board, *August* 21<sup>st</sup> there was not a Christian on board, myself excepted, we were full of passengers, had contrary winds, and being close with the shore the dry sands reflected a heat, which became very troublesome; our water was very brakish, as all the water at *Joppa* is, and we had three bulls on board which consumed a great deal of it: when we got to the coast of *Egypt* the Captain wished to send the bulls on shore, and a man with them, hoisted out one of them, who after swimming half way to the shore returned, and although the Captain and others swam out to beat him, and did every thing they could to drive him on shore, he effected his return to the ship.

Next day met a vessel belonging to *Damaiata*, into which myself, the other passengers, and three bulls were put, and we steered for the mouth of the Nile.

Many leagues before we came to this river I observed the water was red, it was the time the Nile overflowed; when we entered its mouth, so strong did the sea go with the west wind, that we narrowly escaped being overset on a bank.

Passed

Passed on the east a town called *Isbeck*, on each side of the Nile are abundance of palm and rice trees; came to the ancient *Pelufium*, now called *Damaita*, fifteen miles from the main sea, it is a long town without walls, has many inhabitants; coming to the landing place I was in trouble how I should find any franks, when looking on my letters, a man came up to me and without any ceremony, took them out of my hand, and looking over them found one directed to himself; he returned me the others, and speaking to me in the *Lingua Franca*, took me to a kane where the Franks dwell in a large building, by themselves; there was a sort of inn, where the Europeans lodge, and here I remained three days and nights before the vessel sailed for *Grand Cairo*: I then embarked in a boat *September 1st* going up the river saw many villages, but all had the miserable aspect of poverty, they are generally built of bricks, burnt by the sun only, which (there being little or no rain) hardens them sufficiently. Most of these Villages have the form of a wall round them, though it only serves to turn aside the cattle.

Half way from *Damaita* to *Cairo* is a large town called *Monseura*, it has fifteen steeples, on both sides of this river are engins for throwing water to the land, some of which are worked by men, and others by oxen; their ingenuity has never  
yet

yet erected such waterworks as those at *London-Bridge*, &c. some of the Villages have vast quantities of doves, their eggs are very plentiful. This is a flat country, and has no water but the Nile: On the east side of this branch is the land of *Goshen*; after seven days from *Damaita* arrived at *Bullock*, which is the Port for Cairo, being about two miles distant.

I had a letter written in *Arabic*, to a gentleman of the Customhouse, directing him to send me to the Latins Convent, in what they call the *Venechen-Street*, in Cairo, and my Captain had orders to see this put in execution; when the Gentleman had read the letter, he ordered a lad and an afs to take me to that place; I took money from my pocket and made signs to the boy to make his demand, which he made me understand was ten Medens (six-pence,) I then mounted the afs, the boy running after it to switch it along.

When I came there (*September 7th*) I was kindly received, and informed there were three Englishmen in the town, on enquiry however, found one was dead, another gone away, and a 3d. remained; I then sent the Druggerman to request an audience, he sent for me directly, and when I went made me exceedingly welcome; but told me he could speak no English, as he  
was

born at *Rome*, and his Grand-Father only was a native of *Scotland*, and related to the Stewart's family: I asked him if any English was spoken in that City, he answered no, and although he went under the name of a *Britton*, he did not understand any of that language; he invited me to dwell with him, but I informed him of my intention, to quit *Cairo* in a few days: He told me he was a single man, and if I would except of his service, he would make as happy as he possibly could, at least said he you shall be much more at your ease, than your circumstances can allow at *Brittain*, and it is my wish to learn the English Language; the offer was kind, but nothing could induce me to live in a country, where so few of the comforts of life are to be had, there is neither fruit, vegetables, wine, nor beer; they have bread to eat with their meat, and water to drink; but neither milk or butter to be found, and every three or four years they are visited by the Plague, which sweeps away vast numbers of the inhabitants; it is however very populous, for in the busy time of the day, the streets are so crowded with people that one passes with difficulty.

Here are no carriages of any kind, goods are all carried on camels, and people ride upon what animal they can afford, except Christians, who are not permitted to ride on any thing but asses, which

which are to be hired in the streets (ready saddled,) as hackney-coaches in London; the bettermost sort of inhabitants, ride upon fine Arabian horses, which make a very beautiful appearance.

In this city are twenty-four Governors, when any of them go out, they are mounted on fine Arabian horses, surrounded with footmen, with long white poles in their hands; if a Christian on an ass meets them, he must dismount, or he will soon feel the weight of them.

The present head Governor of this place, is the son of a Christian Priest, he keeps his palace in the castle, which they say was built by the Patriarch *Joseph*; it is about two miles in circumference, and has two gates, a number of inhabitants, many granate stones among the old ruins, and in the highest part a well, which the inhabitants call "Josephs well," it is an oblong square, cut into a rock, and is supposed to be the deepest in the world; a stair case goes two thirds down, winding round the well, at the bottom of which is a wheel, which is turned round by bullocks and draws water from the bottom, which being emptied into a cistern, another wheel worked also by bullocks at the top, draws it up; it is then dispersed to all parts of the castle.

The water of this well is supposed by many to be that of the Nile, I think otherwise, being guided by the following reasons, 1<sup>st</sup> it is much deeper than the Nile; 2<sup>d</sup> it possesses neither its colour or taste.

Near this castle is a very high rocky mount, which commands a fine prospect of the Nile, *Cairo*, and the adjacent country; but on requesting my guide to ascend with me, he said it was as much as my life was worth, to attempt it without a guard: I therefore walked on to view old *Cairo*, at about three miles distance; it was built from the ruins of the ancient *Memphis*; most of the houses are uninhabited, and it is said this is the place where our *Saviour*, his mother, and *Joseph* fled, from *Herods* cruelty; here are some old buildings which are called *Josephs* store-houses, I much doubt however their being so ancient; on the west side is the place where *Moses* was exposed to the water, and from this place I had a view of the wonderful *Pyramids*, so much spoken of, and so well described by other people, that I shall only say, there are many of them in *Egypt*; the great one is said to be 700 feet high, and to cover eleven English acres of land; in the middle of this part of the Nile is a little island, in which stands a speckled pillar, the marks of which describe the rising and falling of the river.

I embarked for *Rosetta*, where I arrived in three days; this is a trading town, as all the goods that come from *Cairo* for *Alexandria* are brought hither, in flat bottom boats, then shipped for the latter place; from here I was desirous of going overland to *Alexandria*, but I was advised to the contrary, on account of the Arabs, who infested the country; I also must have gone a long way round, the Nile having overflowed the country, I therefore took ship and arrived there in three days.

This city is at present mostly in ruins, it has still a sample of the strong wall, formerly built by the *Saracens*, with the ruins of fifty-four towers, but of the original city built by *Alexander* the great, no vestige remains, except Pompeys pillar, which stands in a barren desert full half a mile from the walls of the city, and consists of three peices, the *Pedestal*, the *Shaft*, and the *Top*, the shank is eighty-eight feet nine inches high; one entire peice of granite, with some Heathen figures and inscriptions, it is matter of astonishment by what means so great and weighty a body was first set up.

Opposite to *Alexandria*, in the *Mediterranean* stands the small island of *Pharos*; here stood the famous light-house, which was built by *Sostrates*; it had a great number of lights at the

top, to direct the ships into the harbour, and was recorded one of the seven wonders of the world.

September 20th. I was casting in my mind how I should return to *Europe*; a French ship came from *Constantinople*, with the plague on board, of which three of their men had died: Determined to go on board the first ship I could; entered on board a Ragusia ship bound to *Leghorn*; set sail with a contrary wind, and instead of sailing for the west, passed the mouth of the Nile, and coasted *Syria*, *Cyprus*, and the lesser *Asia*, and found ourselves on the twenty-eight by what is called the *Red Castle*, where we were over-hauled by a vessel under Russian colours, but received no injury: On the 30th a great sea, a ship going a long side, had like to endangered themselves and us, but luckily no damage was done to either.

October 6th. Came to *Rhodes* for a supply of water and provisions, but could get nothing but bread: This city is about three miles in circumference, its fortifications are now in a ruinous state, it has a convenient and good harbour; the inhabitants consists of Jews, Turks, and Christians, but the latter are not allowed to remain within the walls at night: On the mouth of the harbour formerly stood the famous Colosses recorded one of the seven

seven

seven wonders of the world; it was seventy cubits high, and between its legs the ships sailed into, and out of the harbour, its head represented the sun, in one hand, it held a light-house for the direction of shipping, and in the other a sceptre, it stood sixty-six years and was thrown down by an earthquake.

We departed from *Rhodes* and sailed into the Archipelago; *October* 9th having contrary winds and a dark night, we went into a bay of the isle of *Pescopé* for shelter, where we dropt anchor in company of a Turkish Pirate; who ordered our Captain on board, and asked him many questions, at the same time ordered the three passengers to be sent on board, which was likewise complied with, as he said he wished to see them, we were taken into the cabin where the Turkish Captain was sitting cross legged on a carpet, with a long pipe in his mouth, our Captain was sitting by him; we were examined by an interpreter, who asked who that young man was, the answer was "His father is a merchant in *Leghorn*, and he had been at grand *Cairo* for three years to learn the Arabic language;" he then enquired who is that other man, and was answered, "A native of *Damascus*;" he next asked who I was, I answered "English;" he said he was very glad to find an Englishman, as  
very

very few came that way, he then turned his whole discourse to me, asked me many questions, particularly of what rank I was, I told him I was only a servant, and had traveled in consequence of a strong desire of seeing the ancient world, he said I might tell him so, but he could not believe me, for no servant could go such a journey; therefore I must be some Lord, Knight, or man of rank, and that he should expect a ransom for me; then he ordered our Captain and crew on board their own ship, but the three passengers must remain with him; we were then put into three different apartments in the ship, that we might have no discourse together; in the room where I happened to be, were two Italian lads, which he had caught upon the coast of *Syria*, I was glad of their company as I could converse with them in their own language; they told me since he had took them, he had robbed one French, two Ragusian, and two Venitian ships, and in all probability he would serve us the same; immediately upon this I heard some groans overhead, I asked of some of the men what was the matter, but they made me little answer, till after I was set at liberty, they then told me the Captain was informed one of the men was about to set the ship on fire, and that immediately on his coming on deck, he drew his sword, and clove his head, then ordered his body to be cast into the sea, as  
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the ships were near each other, those on board ours, were fearful he had set upon us passengers, which (thank God) was not the case.

Next morning our Captain came on board to see what was to be done with us, and after some discourse was ordered to return to the ship, and take with him the two other passengers, but that the Englishman must stay a little longer.

I told my Captain that I would not remain behind, and he requested the Turk not to detain me, assuring him there would be no ransom, and that the European merchants in *Egypt* had given him certain information what I was; he said no matter he should detain me a little longer; so when our Captain was gone with the other two passengers, I was ordered into the cabin, when the Turk asked me many questions, among others, if the young Italian had any money, and what goods were in the ship, I told him I was quite ignorant of the whole, as I never saw the ship nor any person belonging to her, till I went on board at *Alexandria*; he then ordered his boat to be manned, and arming himself and his men, took me with them into the boat, and went on board our ship, it being in the forenoon our Captain presented him and his Officers with coffee; after which, the Turk in return ordered his men to take what he thought proper; so he  
robbed

robbed our ship of many articles, and then left us. All this day we were in great fear, not daring to go on the island or do any thing, we lay quite still till the evening, when they called our Captain to go on board; he went, not daring to refuse, and was interrogated respecting the course he intended to steer; he answered it would be as the wind permitted; the Turk then gave him a black sheep, which he had taken from off the island and dismissed him; our Captain now told us he thought them a "Bad sort of Turks," and feared they would come on board at night and put us all to death; he therefore ordered us to put on warm cloathing, to arm ourselves, and have the long-boat ready, that in case we saw them coming toward us in the night, we might make for the isle; I told the Captain I feared the isle being so small, we could do little good in attempting to resist him; then he looked up and said, "Let us trust in God;" we lay awake undisturbed all night, and in the morning had the pleasure of seeing them hoist sail and make away; this ship had four masts, the only one I ever saw of the kind.

When they were gone we threw the net, and got some small fish of various kinds; we then went on shore to a village near the middle of the isle, where were only a few women and children, the men being hid among the rocks, on account of that *devil* as they called him; having  
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been there six days; we could only procure a little bread, a few eggs, and chickens, water was very scarce; the inhabitants are Greeks, and are subject to the Turks.

September 12th. The wind being favorable we sailed for the isle of *Stanco* or *Stagno* where we were supplied with plenty of water, bread, fruit, and white wine, which latter we purchased by weight. Our Captain went to the Council and declared in what manner he was treated, by the Turkish pirate, which Council immediatly wrote to the Minister at *Constantinople*, an account of the whole transaction. We left *Stanco*, and passed the isle of *Patmas*, it is eighteen miles round, but has scarcely either wood or water, here *St. John* wrote his Revelation; the Greeks have a place of worship on the Grotto, where he composed the work, and over-head is a chink in a rock, where they say the Holy Ghost revealed the mysteries to him. Passed *Malta*, *Sicily*, *Corcica*, *Sardinia*, &c. &c. and after a very tedious passage of forty-two days from *Alexandria* arived at *Leghorn*.

Here are three Lazarettos, into one of which I was obliged to go and remain thirty days quarantine, these Lazarettos are upheld by the Grand Duke of *Tuscany*, a whole ships company may remain, or associate together; but persons

coming in different ships, may not approach one another: this place is in the form of a Garrison, a range of houses with a canal round about; at sun set every person his locked in his room, and at sun rising the doors of every room are set open, and we were allowed to walk in the court the whole day if we choose it; this place is guarded by soldiers, both day and night: Every person has a room and water, for which he pays nothing; but they must have a servant, or some person in town to bring them what they want; they may take any thing in, but give nothing out, except papers, which must be smoaked with brimstone; and money, which is cast into water; all this is a precaution against the Plague.

*December 1st.* I got out of this prison, and was glad to walk in a free country once more; and after visiting my friends in *Leghorn*, and spending eight agreeable days among them, I set out for *Rome*, where I arrived on the 15 of *December*, and remained till the 26th of *March*; when taking leave of my friends I embarked at 12 o'clock, and *May 26th*, at the same hour I arrived at *London*.

I shall conclude this short narrative by dissembling the rout by which I returned; I returned three stages on the *Florence-road*, then took that of *Loretta*, the first town I came to is called *Castellana*,

*Lana*, it has formerly been a strong place; the next was *Narni*, hanging on the side of a hill, with the river below, here is a most pleasant prospect of a fruitful plain, very much like the land about *Piza*. Four miles south of this is the greatest cascade of water in *Italy*; from this, is a most pleasant road winding among the mountains, to the city of *Spolletto*, standing in the midst of a most beautiful landscape: *Poligne* next presents itself, and from here I ascended a very high mountain (I believe one of the *ap-penines*;) to the city of *Tolentina*, arrived at *Loretta* a very small city, but supposed to be the richest of its size in the world; it stands on a hill, with a river on either side, and the sea on the east; from here in clear weather may be seen the mountains of *Crocea*. Went to see the holy house, in which our Lord dwelt at *Nazareth*, in *Gallilie*, they believe it was carried by *Angels* to *Dalmatea* in *Greece*, on the east side the Gulf of *Venice*, but the people then, not paying proper veneration to it: After three years stay was removed to *Loretta*, where it now remains.

The rich presents bestowed on this place is utterly astonishing; I asked the keeper of the treasury, at what he valued this building, he answered "ten million sterling;" a church surrounds this house, with many silver lamps which

are continually burning; at the end is the treasury where presents are received, and kept in framed glasses, in the center is this small *Holy-House*, it is an oblong square, without any roof, there are two doors opposite to each other, and that end which hath the chimney, hath also a small door to itself, being in fact a small room, walled in from the rest of the house, and intirely laid round with gold and silver; over the chimney stands a statue of the blessed Virgin, with the child *Jesus* in her arms; the whole of entire gold, set with dimonds, and a treple crown on her head; the house itself is full of silver lamps always kept burning.

Continued my journey, and two stages brought me to *Ancona*, the best port which the *Pope* possesses on the *Adriatic-sea*; the castle stands on a hill above the town; the cathedral on another, a handsom new quay for shipping, and a good lazeret for those who perform quarrantine. Passed fundry places of little note, and arrived at *Modena*, journeyed to *Mantua*, thence to *Lignago*, *Padua*, sailed down to *Venice* where I stayed twelve days.

Continued my journey, arrived at *Vicenza*, this city is four miles in circumference; the next place of note is that *Romantic* looking place *Verona*, standing on the river *Poo*, on the banks  
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of this river are many engines for throwing water into the Gardens; an amphitheatre the most complete in *Europe*, though not so large as that at *Rome*.

Arrived at *Turin*, the seat of the King of *Sardinia*, it is only two miles and a half in circumference, but beautiful and pleasant; here I was permitted to see the Palace, but find myself totally incapable to describe it, the furniture and paintings are so inexpressibly elegant; had the pleasure of seeing the King and Royal Family go to church, which is their custom every day at 12 o'clock; he his in is sixty-six year of his age; the chapel royal is in no means rich in proportion to the Palace.

Arrived at the bottom of the *Alps*, thence along a pleasant valley to *Susa*, a retired like place, where his Sardinian Majesty has a Fort; here the *Alps* stands very high, and sparkle with bushes, huts and houses, which as it were, hang over the precipices; a little farther our carriage was taken to pieces, and carried over the mountains on mules; arrived at the half-way house and changed horses, this post-house is in a miserable place, nothing all round to be seen but snow, although it was now the 2d of *May*. Travelled on to *Genoa*, the capital of *Switzerland*; *John Calvin* was a native of this place, and most of  
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the inhabitants are of his sect: From *Genoa* I passed through *France*, and as before said arrived in *London*, May 26, 1791.

Though often in danger, I never received any material injury in the whole of my travels, and with much fatigue have also received much satisfaction: My best thanks are due to the *Almighty* for his protection hitherto, and my humble hope is, that he will yet enable me to visit those parts of the world, which in my former journey unsurmountable difficulties impeded.

F I N I S.

