

staires of the said turret or steeple are each of them nine handfulls in bredth, the vntmost side of the wall is ten, and * the thicknes of the turret is five. The saide turret hath seauen lofts, vnto which the staires ascending are very lightsome: for there are great store of windowes, which to the ende they may giue more light, are made broader within then without. Vpon the top of this turret is built a certaine spire or pinnacle rising sharpe in forme of a sugar-loafe, and containing five and twentie elles in compasse, but in height being not much more then two speares length: the saide spire hath three lofts one aboue another, vnto euerie of which they ascend with woodden ladders. Likewise on the top of this spire standeth a golden halfe moone, vpon a barre of iron, with three speares of golde vnder it; which golden speares are so fastened vnto the saide iron barre, that the greatest is lowest, and the least highest. It woulde make a man giddie to looke downe from the top of the turret; for men walking on the ground, be they neuer so tall, seeme no bigger then a childe of one yeere old. From hence likewise may you plainly eserie the promontorie of Azaphi, which notwithstanding is an hundreth and thirtie miles distant. But mountaines (you will say) by reason of their huge bignes may easily be seene a farre off: howbeit from this turret a man may in cleere weather most easily see fiftie miles into the plaine countries. The inner part of the saide temple is not very beautifull. But the rooffe is most cunningly and artificially vaulted, the timbers being framed and set together with singular workmanship, so that I haue not seene many fairer temples in all Italy. And albeit you shall hardly finde any temple in the whole worlde greater then this, yet is it very meanly frequented; for the people do neuer assemble there but onely vpon fridaies. Yea a great part of this citie, especially about the foresaid temple lieth so desolate and void of inhabitants, that a man cannot without great difficultie passe, by reason of the ruines of many houses lying in the way. Vnder the porch of this temple it is reported that in old time there were almost an hundreth shops of sale-bookes, and as many on the other side ouer against them: but at this time I thinke there is not one booke-seller in all the whole citie to be founde. And scarcely is the third part of this citie inhabited. Within the wals of Maroco are vines, palme-trees, great gardens, and most fruitfull corne-fields: for without their wals they can till no ground, by reason of the Arabians often inrodes. Know yee this for a certaintie, that the saide citie is growen to vntimely decay and old age: for scarcely five hundreth & fixe yeeres are past, since the first building thereof, forasmuch as the foundations thereof were laide in the time of *Ioseph* the sonne of *Tesfin*, that is to say, in the 424. yeere of the Hegeira. Which decay I can impute to none other cause, but to the iniurie of continuall warres, and to the often alterations of magistrates and of the common wealth. After king *Ioseph* succeeded his sonne *Hali*, and the sonne of *Hali* was ordained gouernour after his fathers decease. In whose time sprung vp a factious crue, by the meanes of a certaine Mahumetan preacher named *Elmaheli*, being a man both borne & brought

* *Obscurum.*
 Great store of
 bookes in olde
 time to be sold
 in Maroco.

vp in the mountaines. The saide *Elmaheli* hauing leuied a great army, waged warre against *Abraham* his soueraigne Lord. Whereupon king *Abraham* conducting another armie against him, had marueilous ill successe: and after the battaile ended, his passage into the citie of Maroco was so stopped and restrained, that he was forced with a fewe foldiers, which remained yet alieue, to flee eastward to the mountains of Atlas. But *Elmaheli* not being satisfied with expelling his true soueraigne out of his owne kingdome, commaunded one of his captaines called *Abdul Mumen*, with the one halfe of his armie to pursue the distressed king, while himselfe with the other halfe laide siege to Maroco. The king with his followers came at length vnto Oran, hoping there to haue renewed his forces. But *Abdul Mumen* and his great armie pursued the saide king so narrowly, that the citizens of Oran told him in plaine termes, that they would not hazard themselues for him. Wherefore this vnhappy king beeing vtterly driuen to dispayre, set his Queene on horsebacke behinde him; and so in the night time road forth of the citie. But perceiuing that he was deseried and knowen by his enemies, he fled forthwith vnto a certaine rocke standing vpon the sea-shore: where, setting spurs to his horse-side, he cast himselfe, his most deere spouse, and his horse downe headlong, and was within a while after found flaine among the rockes and stones, by certaine which dwelt nere vnto the place. Wherefore *Abdul Mumen* hauing gotten the victorie, returned in triumphant manner toward Maroco, where the foresaide *Elmaheli* was deceased before his coming, in whose place *Abdul* was chosen King and Mahumetan prelate ouer the fortie disciples, and tooke tenne persons to be of his priuie counsell, which was a new inuention in the law of Mahumet. This *Abdul Mumen* hauing besieged the citie of Maroco for the space of an whole yeere, at last ouercame it: and killing *Isaac* the onely sonne of King *Abraham* with his owne hand, he commaunded all the foldiers, and a good part of the citizens to be flaine. This mans posteritie raigned from the fve hundred sixteenth, to the sixe hundred sixtie eight yeere of the Hegeira, and at length they were dispossessed of the kingdome by a certaine king of the Tribe called *Marin*. Now, attend (I beseech you) and marke, what changes and alterations of estates befell afterwards. The family of *Marin* after the said kings decease bare rule till the yeere of the Hegeira 785. At length the kingdome of Maroco decreasing dayly more and more, was gouerned by kings which came out of the next mountaine. Howbeit, neuer had Maroco any gouernours which did so tyrannize ouer it, as they of the family called *Marin*. The principall court of this family was holden for the most part at Fez; but ouer Maroco were appointed Vice-royes and deputies: insomuch that Fez was continually the head and Metropolitan citie of all Mauritania, and of all the Western dominion: euen as (God willing) we will declare more at large in our brieve treatise concerning the law and religion of Mahumet. But now hauing made a sufficient digression, let vs resume the matter subiect where we left. In the said citie of Maroco is

The miserable
death of *Abraham*
king of
Maroco and of
his Queene.

a most impregnable castle, which, if you consider the bignes, the walles, the towers, and the gates built all of perfect marble, you may well thinke to be a citie rather than a castle. Within this castle there is a stately temple, hauing almost loftie and high steeple, on the top whereof standeth an halfe moone, and vnder the halfe moone are three golden spheares one bigger then another, which all of them together weigh 130000 ducates. Some kings there were, who being allured with the value, went about to take downe the saide golden sphears: but they had alwaies some great misfortune or other, which hindered their attempt: insomuch that the common people thinke it verie dangerous, if a man doth but offer to touch the said sphears with his hand. Some affirme that they are there placed by so forcible an influence of the planets, that they cannot be remooued from thence by any cunning or deuice. Some others report that a certaine spirite is adiueryed by Arte-magique, to defend those sphears from al assaults and iniuries whatsoeuer. In our time the king of Maroco neglecting the vulgar opinion, would haue taken downe the said sphears, to vse them for treasure against the Portugals, who as then prepared themselues to battell against him. Howbeit his counsellours would not suffer him so to doe, for that they esteemed them as the principall monuments of all Maroco. I remember that I read in a certaine historiographer, that the wife of King *Mansor*, to the ende she might be famous in time to come, caused those three sphears to be made of the princely and pretious iewels which her husband *Mansor* bestowed vpon her, and to be placed vpon the temple which he built. Likewise the said castle containeth a most noble college, which hath thirtie hals belonging thereunto. In the midst whereof is one hall of a marvellous greatnes, wherein publicke lectures were most solemnely read, while the studie of learning flourished among them. Such as were admitted into this college had their victuals and apparell freely giuen them. Of their professours some were yeerely allowed an hundred, and some two hundred ducates, according to the qualitie of their profession: neither would they admit any to heare them read, but such as perfectly vnderstood what belonged to those Arts which they professed. The walles of this beautifull hall are most stately adorned with painting and caruing, especially of that hall where lectures were wont publickly to be read. All their porches and vaulted roofes are made of painted and glittering stones, called in their language *Ezzellein*, such as are yet vsed in Spaine. In the midst of the said building is a most pleasant and cleare fountaine, the wall whereof is of white and polished marble, albeit low-built, as in Africa for the most part such wals are. I haue heard that in old time here was great abundance of students, but at my beeing there I found but fise in all: and they haue now a most sencelesse professour, and one that is quite void of all humanitie.

Three golden
sphears.

A great college.

In the time of mine abode at Maroco I grew into familiar acquaintance with a certaine Iewe, who albeit his skill in the law was but meane, was notwithstanding exceeding rich and well seene in histories. This Iewe in regard

gard of many singul^r duties which he performed to his prince, found the kings bountie and lib^{er}alitie extended vnto him. All others which beare any publike office are (in mine opinion) men of no high reach. Moreouer the foresaide castell (as I remember) hath twelue courts most curiously and artificially built by one *Mansor*. In the first lodged about fīue hundreth Christians, which carried crosse-bowes before the king whither soeuer he went. Not farre from thence is the lodging of the Lord Chancellour and of the kings priuie counsell, which house is called by them, The house of *af* faires. The third is called The court of victorie; wherein all the armour and munition of the citie is laide vp. The fourth belongeth to the great Master of the kings horse. Vpon this court three stables adioine, each one of which stables will containe two hundreth horses. Likewise there are two other ostleries, wherof one is for mules, and the other for an hundreth of the kings horses onely. Next vnto the stables were two barnes or garners adioining, in two seuerall places, in the lower of which barnes was laide straw, and barley in the other. There is also another most large place to laye vp corne in, euerie rōume whereof will containe moe then three hundreth bushels. The couer of the saide rōume hath a certaine hole whereunto they ascend by staires made of stone. Whither the beasts laden with corne being come, they powre the saide corne into the hole. And so when they would take any corne from thence, they do but open certaine holes below, suffering so much corne to come foorth as may serue their turnes, and that without any labour at all. There is likewise a certaine other hall, where the kings sonne, and the sonnes of noble men are instructed in learning. Then may you beholde a certaine fower-square building, containing diuers galleries with faire glasse windowes, in which galleries are many histories most curiously painted: heere likewise the glittering and gilt armour is to be seene. Next vnto this building is another, wherein certaine of the kings guard are lodged: then followes that wherein state-matters are discussed: whereunto adioineth also another, which is appointed for ambassadours to conferre with the kings priuie counsell in. Likewise the kings concubines and other ladies of honour haue a most conuenient place assigned them: next vnto which standeth the lodging of the kings founnes. Not farre from the castell wall, on that side which is next vnto the fields, may you behold a most pleasant and large garden, containing almost all kinde of trees that can be named. Moreouer, there is a sumptuous and stately porch built of most excellent square marble: in the midst whereof standeth a pillar with a lion very artificially made of marble, out of the mouth of which lion issueth most cleere and christall water, falling into a cesterne within the porch: at each corner of the saide porch standeth the image of a leopard framed of white marble, which is naturally adorned with certaine blacke spots: this kinde of particoloured marble is no where to be founde but onely in a certaine place of Atlas, which is about an hundreth & fīfue miles distant from Maroco. Not farre from the garden stands a certaine woode or parke wal-

Excellent spotted
marble.

led round about. And here I thinke no kinde of wilde beasts are wanting: for heere you may behold elephants, lions, stagges, roes, and such like: howbeit the lions are separated in a certaine place from other beasts, which place euen to this day is called The lions den. Wherefore such monuments of antiquity as are yet extant in Maroco, albeit they are but few, do notwithstanding sufficiently argue, what a noble citie it was in the time of *Mansor*. At this present al the courts and lodgings before described lie vterly voide and desolate: except perhaps some of the kings ostlety which tend his mules and horses do lie in that court, which we saide euen now was to lodge archers and crossebowe-men: all the residue are left for the fowles of the aire to nestle in. That garden which you might haue named a paradise in olde time, is now become a place where the filth and dung of the whole citie is cast foorth. Where the faire and stately librarie was of old, at this present there is nothing else to be founde, but hens, dooues, and other such like foules, which builde their nests there. Certaine it is, that the foresaid *Mansor*, whom we haue so often mentioned, was a most puissant and mightie prince: for it is well knowen that his dominion stretched from the towne of Messa to the kingdome of Tripolis in Barbary, which is the most excellent region of Africa, and so large, that a man can hardly trauell the length therof in fourescore & ten daies, or the bredth in fiftene. Likewise was in times past Lord of all the kingdome of Granada in Spaine. Yea, his dominion in Spaine extended from Tariffa to Aragon, & ouer a great part of Castilia and of Portugall. Neither did this *Iacob* surnamed *Mansor* only possesse the foresaid dominiōs, but also his grandfather *Abdul Mumen*, his father *Ioseph*, & his sonne *Mahumet Enasir*, who being vanquished in the kingdome of Valençia, lost 60000. soldiers horsemen & footemen: howbeit himselfe escaped & returned to Maroco. The Christians being encouraged with this victorie, refrained not from warre, till, within 30. yeeres space, they had woon all the townes following, to wit, Valençia, Denia, Alcauro, Murcia, Cartagena, Cordoua, Siuillia, Iaen, and Vbeda. After which unhappie warre succeeded the decay of Maroco. The said Mahumet deceasing, left behinde him ten sonnes of a full and perfect age, who contended much about the kingdome. Hereupon it came to passe, while the brethren were at discord, and assailed each other with mutuall warres, that the people of Fez called Marini, and the inhabitants of other regions adiacent, began to vsurpe the government. The people called Habdulvad enioyed Tremizen, expelling the king of Tunis, and ordaining some other, whom they pleased, in his stead. Now haue you heard the end of *Mansor* his progenie and successors. The kingdome therefore was translated vnto one *Iacob* the sonne of *Habdulach*, who was the first king of the familie called Marin. And at length the famous citie of Maroco it selfe, by reason of the Arabians continuall outrages, fell into most extreme calamitie: so great is the inconstancie of all earthly things. That which we haue here reported as touching Maroco, partly we saw with our owne eies, partly we read in the historie of one *Ibnu*

This king called Mansor was lie vnto whom Rasis that famous phisitian dedicated his Booke.

The huge dominions of king Mansor.

The Christians happie successe against the Moores.

Abdul Malich. *Abdul Malich*, a most exact chronicler of the affaires of Maroco, and partly we borrowed out of that treatise, which our selues haue written concerning the law of Mahumet.

Of the towne of Agmet.

THE towne of Agmet built of old by the Africans vpon the top of a certaine hill which beginneth almost from Atlas, is distant from Maroco about fower and twentie miles. In times past, when *Muschidin* was prince thereof, it containede moe then sixe thousand families: at what time the people were very ciuill, and had such plentie and magnificence of all things, that many would not stieke to compare this towne with the citie of Maroco. It had on all sides most pleasant gardens, and great store of vines, whereof some grew vpon the mountaine it selfe, and others on the valley. By the foote of this hill runneth a faire riuer, which springing foorth of Atlas, falleth at length into Tensift. The field which lieth neere vnto this riuer is said to be so fruitfull, that it yeeldeth euery yeere fiftie fold encrease. The water of this riuer looketh alwaies white; albeit if a man stedfastly behold the said riuer, it may seeme vnto him in colour to resemble the foile of Narnia, or the riuer Niger of Vmbria in Italie. And some there are which affirme, that the very same riuer runneth vnder ground to Maroco, and not to breake foorth of the earth, till it come to a certaine place very neere vnto the said citie. Many princes in times past, being desirous to know the hidden and intricate passages of the said riuer, sent certaine persons into the hollow caue, who the better to discerne the same, carried candles and torches with them. But hauing proceeded a little way vnder ground, there met them such a flaw of winde, that blew out their lights, and perforce draue them backe to the great hazard of their liues, so that they said they neuer felt the like. They affirme likewise, that, the riuer being full of rocks, which the water driueth to and fro, and by reason of the manifold chanel and streames, their passage was altogether hindred. Wherefore that secret remaineth vnknowne euen till this day, neither is there any man so hardie as to attempt the same enterprife againe. I remember that I read in some histories, that king *Ioseph* which built Maroco, being forewarned by the coniecture of a certaine astrologer, that the whole region should perpetually be vexed with warre, prouided by arte-magique, that the passage of this riuer should alwaies bee vnknown: least, if any enimie should afterward practise mischief, he might cut off the course thereof from the saide citie. Neere vnto this riuer lies the common high way, which crosseth ouer mount Atlas to Guzula a region of Maroco. Howbeit the citie of Agmet, which I haue now described vnto you, hath at this day no other inhabitants but woolues, foxes, deere, and such other wilde beasts. Except onely at my being there I found a certaine Hermite, who was attended vpon by an hundred persons of his owne sect: all of them were well-horsed, and did their best endeouour to become gouernours

A riuer running vnder the ground to Maroco.

The desolation of Agmet.

nours and commanders, but their forces were insufficient. With this Hermit I staid (as I remember) for the space of tenne daies, and founde one amongst his followers, with whom I had old acquaintance, and familiaritie: for we were certaine yeeres fellow-students together at Fez, where being of one standing and seniority, we heard that booke of the Mahumetan religion expounded, which is commonly called the epistle of *Nensefi*.

Iohn Leo student at Fez.

Of the towne of Hannimej.

Vpon that side of Atlas which lieth towards the plaine countrey, standeth a certain towne called by the inhabitants Hannimej, being about 40. miles eastward of Maroco: by which towne, on the same side of Atlas, lieth the direct way to Fez. From the said towne the riuer of Agmet is almost fiftene miles distant: and the fiede lying betweene the saide riuer and towne is a most fruitefull soile, like vnto the fiede adjoining vpon the cite of Agmet before mentioned. All the region betweene Maroco and the foresaid riuer is in subiection vnto the gouernour of Maroco, but from the riuer vnto Hannimej the townes-men of Hannimej beare rule. This towne had a famous yoong captaine, who maintained continuall warre against the gouernour of Maroco, and somtimes against the Arabians also. He had likewise a most ample dominion vpon the mountaines of Atlas: by naturall disposition he was right liberal & valiant, and hauing scarce attained to sixteene yeeres of age, he slue his owne vncler, and vsurped his gouernment. Whereof so soone as the Arabians had intelligence, ioining three hundred Christian horsemen, which came out of Portugale, vnto their great forces, they marched on the sodaine euen to the very gates of the towne. And the foresaide captaine with his armie containing scarce an hundred horsemen, with a very fewe footemen met the Arabians, and gaue them such a valiant onset, that the greater part of them was slaine, and the Christians were so discomfited, that (as I suppose) not one of them returned home into Portugale: which (they say) came to passe, both by reason that the Christians were ignorant of the place, and vnskilfull of the Africans manner of warfare. These things were done in the 920. yeere of the Hegeira, and in the yeere of our Lorde 1511. Afterward being wearied by the king of Fez his warres (which king demaunded tribute of the townes men of Hannimej) he was slaine with a bullet: whereupon the towne remained tributarie to the king of Fez. Yca, the deceased captaines wife deliuered as prisoners certaine burgeses of the towne vnto the king himselfe. And the king so soone as he had placed a lieutenant ouer Hannimej, departed from the same towne in the 921. yeere of the Hegeira, and in the yeere of our Lord 1512.

The captaine of Hannimej.

of



Having before described all the cities and townes of Maroco; it now remaineth that we briefly declare the situation and qualitie of the mountaines there. Wherefore we will begin with the mountaine of Niffa, from whence the region of Maroco it selfe beginneth westward, and is thereby diuided from the prouince of Hea. The said mountaine hath great store of inhabitants: and albeit the tops thereof are continually couered with snowe; yet doth it yeerely affoorde maruelous increase and abundance of barley. The rude people there are so destitute of all humanitie and ciuill behaiour, that they do admire not onely all strangers, but also do euen gaze and woonder at their apparell. I my selfe remained two daies among them, in which space all the people of the towne came flocking about me, greatly woondring at the white garment which I wore (being such as the learned men of our countrey are vsually clad in) so that euery one being desirous to handle and view this garment of mine, in two daies it was turned from white to blacke, and became all greasie and filthie. Here one of the rownes-men being allured with the strangenes and noueltie of my sworde, which I bought at Fez for halfe a ducate, woulde neuer leaue intreating of me, till I had exchanged it with him for an horse, which cost (as himselfe affirmed) aboue ten ducates. The reason of which fonde and childish behaiour I thinke to be, because they neuer trauaile vnto Fez nor to any other cities. And were they neuer so desirous to trauaile, yet dare they not aduenture vpon the common high waies, in regard of the great number of robbers and theeues. Of honie, goates, and oile Arganick they haue woonderfull store: for in this mountaine beginneth the saide oile to be put in vse.

Of the mountaine called Semede.



At the bounds of Niffa a certaine other mountaine called by the inhabitants Semede taketh his originall: and these two mountaines are separated by the riuer of Selsaua. Semede extendeth eastward almost 20. miles, the inhabitants whereof are most base & witlesse people. Great store of springs & fountaines are here to be found; the snowe is perpetuall; all good lawes, ciuilitie, and honestie are quite banished from hence, except perhaps the people be mooued thereunto by the aduise of some stranger, whom they finde to be of a modest and sober disposition. Here being entertained by a certaine religious man of the same place (who was had in great reputation by the people) I was constrained to eate of such grosse meats as the saide people are accustomed vnto, to wit, of barlie meale mingled with water, and of goats-flesh, which was extremely tough and hard by reason of the stalenes

nes and long continuance. After supper we had no other bed but the bare ground to lie vpon. The next morning being ready to take horse, and desirous to depart, fiftie of the people came about me, laying open each man their causes and suites vnto me, as our people vse to doe before a iudge. Vnto whom I answered, that I had neuer in all my life either knowen or heard of the manners and customes of that region. Foorthwith comes one of the chiefe men amongst them, affirming that it was their custome neuer to dismiss any stranger, till he had both heard and throughly decided all the quarrels and controuersies of the inhabitants. Which words he had no sooner vttered, but immediately my horse was taken from me. Wherefore I was constrained for nine daies, and so many nights, longer to abide the penurie and miserie of that region. Moreouer my trouble was the greater, for that, in such abundance of suites and affaires, there was not one man present, which could set downe so much as a word in writing: wherefore I my selfe was faine to play both the iudge and the notarie. Vpon the eight day they all of them promised to bestowe some great rewarde vpon me. Wherefore the night following seemed vnto me a yeere long: for I was in good hope the next morrow to haue receiued a masse of golde from my clients. So soone as the next day began to dawne, they placed me in a certaine church-porch: whither, after an vsuall and short praier ended, each man full reuerently presented his gift vnto me. Here some offered me a cocke, others brought me nuts and onions, and some others bestowed a handfull of garlick vpon me. The principall and head-men amongst them presented me with a goat; and so by reason that there was no money in all the said mountaine, they proffered me not one farthing for my paines: wherefore all the said gifts I bequeathed vnto mine oste for his woorthie entertaining of me. And this was all the notable reward which I reaped in regarde of so great and intolerable paines. All things being thus dispatched, they sent fiftie horsemen to accompanie and guard me from theeues in that dangerous way.

John Leo constrained to play the iudge.

Of the mountaine called Seusaua.

THis mountaine of Seusaua taketh his beginning where Seme de endeth, out of which springeth a certaine riuer, hauing one name with the said mountaine from whence it proceedeth. Neuer were the tops of this mountaine seene destitute of snowe. The inhabitants leade a brutish and sauage life, waging continuall warre with their next neighbours: for which purpose they vse neither swords, iauelins, nor any other warlike instruments, but onely certaine slings, out of which they discharge stones after a strange and woonderfull manner. Their victuals consist of barlie, honie, and goates-flesh. In the same mountaine great multitudes of Iewes exercising handy-craftes, doe inhabite: likewise they make sope, yron-hookes, and horse-shooes. Diuers masons are here to be found also. They build their walles of no other matter but onely of rough stone and lime, and the roofes

of their houses they use to couer with thatch: neither haue they any other kind of lime or bricks. They haue among them also abundance of learned men & of skilful lawyers, whose counsell they use at all times. Among whom I found some, who had heretofore beene my fellow-students at Fez, and for our old acquaintance sake, gaue me most courteous entertainment: and, to the end I might escape the danger of theeues, they conducted me a good part of my way.

Of the mountaine called Sefina.



Pon this most lofty and cold mountaine there is nothing almost to be found, but continuall snowe and woods. The inhabitants weare white caps: and the region in all places is full of springs and fountaines. Out of the said mountaine springeth a riuer, which in the discourse before-going we called Agifnuall. All ouer this mountaine are most deepe and hollow caues, wherein euerie yeere, for the three cold moneths of Nouember, Ianuarie, and Februarie they vsually winter their cattell, laying vp so much fodder, namely hay, and the leaues of certaine trees, as they thinke will suffice them. Most of their victuals are brought vnto them from the next mountaines, because their owne soyle yeeldeth no corne at all: onely in the spring time and in sommer, they haue good plentie of new cheefe and butter. Their old age they beare most lustily and stoutly, sometime at ninetie, and sometime at an hundred yeeres. They giue attendance to their cattell all their life long, neither doe they at any time, or seldome, see any strangers. They weare no shooes at all, but certaine sandals only, to defend the soles of their feete: and their legs they wrap in a certaine piece of cloath or list instead of an hose, to keepe themselues from the iniurie of the snow.

Of the mountaine called Tennella.



His high and cold mountaine hath verie many inhabitants: vpon the top whereof standeth a towne which is called by the name of the mountaine it selfe. In this towne are great store of dwellers, and a most stately and beautifull temple. It hath likewise a most pleasant and cleere riuer. This towne is adorned with the monuments of **Elmahdi* (who was in times past a most learned Mahumetan priest) and of *Abdul Mumen* his discipule. And albeit the inhabitants are accounted heretiques by all other Mahumetans, yet is there no kinde of learning which they will not arrogate vnto themselues: because perhaps they are well read in the workes of *Elmahdi*, who was notwithstanding the ringleader of all the saide heretiques: so that if any stranger come among them, they presently challenge him to dispute in matters of learning. In their apparell they goe verie ragged and beggerly, by reason that they haue

* Or *Elmaheli*.

no taylors in the whole towne. Their common-wealth is gouerned after a wilde and sayage manner, albeit they haue a certaine priest, which vseth all the policie and meanes he can to bring it into good order. Their victuals are barley-bread and oyle of oliues: likewise they haue great store of nuts, and of pine-trees.

Of the mountaine called Gedmeua.



Edmeua beginneth at the West frontier of the foresaide mountaine of Semede, and stretcheth Eastward almost fise and twentie miles, extending vnto the border of Mizmizi. All the inhabitants are rude, miserable, and hunger-starued people, being subiect to the Arabians, for that they border vpon those fields which adioine vpon the mountaine of Tennella. This hill of Gedmeua aboundeth with oliues, barley, wood, and fountaines.

Of the mountaine called Hanteta.



Euer did I see (to my remembrance) an higher mountaine, then that which the Africans call Hanteta. Westward it beginneth from Gedmeua, and stretcheth fise and fortie miles Eastward, to the mountaine of Adimmei beforenamed. The inhabitants are valiant and rich, hauing great store of horses. Heere likewise standeth a most strong and impregnable castle subiect vnto a certaine nobleman, which is reported to be of alliance vnto the prince of Maroco: howbeit they are at continuall warre for certaine landes situate within their dominions. Many Iewes exercising diuers handie-crafts doe here inhabite, and do yeerely pay vnto the gouernour of this mountaine great summes of money. As concerning religion, they follow them especially which are called Carrain. The top of this mountaine is continually covered with snow. VWhen I first beheld this mountaine, I thought it had bin clouds; so great is the height therof. The sides of this mountaine being altogether destitute of herbes and trees, are in many places stored with excellent white marble, which the people might dig, and make a good commodity thereof, were they not so sluggish and so ignorant in hewing and polishing of the same. In this place are many pillars and arches which were most artificially and sumptuously built by those mightie princes whom we haue often before made mention of: which pillers they would haue vsed for the building of water-conduits, had they not beene hindred by the violence of warres. To be brieft, in the said mountaine I saw many notable things, whereof I will here make no discourse at all, partly because they are out of my remembrance, and partly for auoiding tediousnes to the reader; because I haue determined to passe ouer these small matters, and to proceede vnto greater.

Of the mountaine called Adimmei.



From Hanteta beginneth another huge and high mountaine called by the inhabitants Adimmei, extending eastward to the riuer of Teſcut. Vpon this mountaine ſtandeth that citie, the prince whereof (as we ſaid before) was ſlaine in battell againſt the king of Fez. This mountaine is well ſtored with inhabitants and aboundeth with woods which bring forth acornes, oliues, and quinces. The people heere inhabiting are moſt valiant, poſſeſſing beaſts and cattell of all ſorts, their ayre being verie temperate, and their ſoile exceeding fruitfull. Springs they haue great plentie, and alſo two riuers iſſuing forth of the ſaid mountaine, whereof in due place we will diſcourſe more at large. Wherefore hauing deſcribed all the cities and mountaines of Maroco bordering ſouthward vpon Atlas, let vs now paſſe over the ſaid mountaine of Atlas, and take a view of the region beyond it commonly called Guzzula.

Of the region of Guzzula.



This region is exceeding populous: weſtward it butteth vpon Ilda a mountaine of Sus; northward it ioineth vnto Atlas, and eaſtward it ſtretcheth vnto the region of Hea. It is inhabited with ſauage and fierce people, beeing moſt needie of money, and yet abounding greatly in cattell. Great ſtore of copper and yron is here digged out of mines, and here are braſen veſſels made, which are carried into other countries to be ſolde: and theſe veſſels they exchange for linnen and woollen cloth, for horſes, and for other wares neceſſarie for the ſaid region. In all this whole region there is neither towne nor caſtle enuironed with walles. Great villages they haue, which containe, many of them, more then a thouſand families a peece. They haue neither king nor gouernour to preſcribe any lawes vnto them: but euerie one is hiſ owne captaine and commander; whereupon they are at continually wares among themſelues, neither haue they any truce at all, but three daies onely euery weeke; during which time euery man may ſafely and freely bargain with his enemye, and may trauell whither he liſteth. But theſe daies of truce being paſt, the wretched people of this region do continually commit moſt horrible ſlaughters. The foreſaide daies of truce a certaine Hermite appointed vnto them, whom they honoured and reuerenced like a god. This Hermite with one eie I my ſelfe ſaw, and found him to be a truſtie, ſincere, courteous, and moſt liberall perſon. The common attire of the people of Guzzula is a woollen iacket ſtreight to their bodies & without ſleeues. They weare crooked, broad, and two-edged daggers: and their ſwords are like vnto the ſwords of Hea. Once euery yeere they haue a faire of two moneths long:

Yron and copper mines,

Continuall wares in Guzzula.

all which time (though the number of merchants be neuer so great) they giue free entertainment vnto all such as either bring wares with them, or come thither to fetch away their wares. When the time of their faire approacheth, they forthwith make truce, and each faction appointeth a capitaine ouer an hundred soldiers, to the end they may keepe themselves in safetie, and may defend their said faire from the inuasion and iniurie of all lewd persons. If any offence be committed, the capitaines immediately giue sentence vpon the guiltie person: and whosoeuer bee convicted of theft, is forthwith flaine like a brute beast, and his theues care he is throwne out to be deuoured of dogs, wilde beastes, and rauenous foules. The saide faire is kept in a certaine plaine or valley betweene two hills. All the wares are contained in tents and in certaine cottages made of boughes, so that each particular kind of merchandize hath a seuerall place to lie in by it selfe. They which sell droues of cattell are remooued farre from the tents. And euery tent hath a cottage made of boughes belonging thereunto, for their principal and head men to repose themselves in. And in the said cottages or bowers are merchant strangers (as we noted before) freely entertained and boured. Also they haue certaine Caters & purueiers among them, which make prouision of victuals, and take vpon them the friendly and well entertaining of strangers. And albeit an huge deale of money is spent for this behalfe, yet make they a good gainne thereof: for thither doe resort all the merchants of that region for traffiques sake, yea and a great number out of the land of Negroes, who bring with them marvellous plentie of all kindes of wares. And although they are men of a dull and grosse capacitie, yet are they very industrious in gouerning and maintaining the said faire: the beginning whereof is vpon the birth-day of that great deceiuer Mahumet, that is, vpon the twelfth day of their moneth called Rabih, which is the third *Haraba* of the yeere, according to their account. I my selfe was present at this faire in the companie of my Lord the Seriffo for the space of fifteene daies, in the yeere of the Hegeira 920, which was in the yeere of our Lord 1511.

Free entertainment for merchants.

A briefe description of the region of Duccala.

This region beginneth westward from the riuer of Tenfist; northward it is bounded with the Ocean sea; the south part thereof keth vpon the riuer of Habid; and the east part abutteth vpon the riuer Ommirabih. It is three daies iourney long, and about two daies iourney broad. Very populous it is; the inhabitants being a rude people, and most ignorant of all ciuilitie and humanitie. Walled cities it hath but a few, of all which we will in their due places particularly discourse, neither will we (by Gods helpe) omit any thing which may seeme woorthie of memorie.

To measure all
To measure all
To measure all
To measure all

Of the towne of Azaphi.



IT was built by the Africans, and standeth vpon the shore of the Ocean sea, containing fower thousand families: inhabitants there are great store, being for the most part very vnciuill and barbarous. In times past there dwelt many Iewes in this towne, which exercised diuers handy-crafts. Their soile is exceeding fertill; but so grosse is their owne vnskilfulnes and negligence, that they know neither how to till their ground, to sow their corne, or to plant vineyards: except perhaps some few of them (who would seeme to be more prouident then the residue) sow a quantitie of pot-herbes in their smal gardens. After the kings of Maroco gaue ouer the gouernment of the saide region, the cite of Azaphi was vsurped by certaine which were said to fetch their originall from Farchon. Howbeit in our daies the said cite was gouerned by a certaine prince called Hebdurrahman: this man for a greedy and ambitious desire of raigaining murdered his owne vncler: after whose death he gouerned the towne for certaine yeeres. He had a daughter of most excellent beauty, who falling in loue with a certaine courtier (whose name was *Hali*, being sonne vnto one *Goesimen*) by the helpe of her mother and her wayting maide enioyed oftentimes the companie of her paramour. Which when her father had intelligence of, hee rebuked his wife, threatening death vnto her, if shee reformed not the manners of her daughter: howbeit afterwarde hee dissembled his furie. But the mother throughly knowing her husbandes intent, tolde her daughters paramour that the prince was not to be trusted, and therefore aduised him to take heede vnto himselfe. Whereupon *Hali* fearing least some mischiefe might light vpon him, began to determine with himselfe the princes death, and for his associate in this conspiracie he tooke a trusty friend of his who had been most familiar with him from his childhoode, and was captaine ouer a certaine band of footemen. Wherefore both of them being alike mischieuoufly bent against their prince, expected nothing else but a fit place and oportunitie to put their bloudie determination in practise. Contrariwise the king seeking by all meanes an occasion to effect his purpose, sent word vnto *Hali* vpon a certaine festiuall day, that after their Mahumetan deuotions were finished he should come and walke with him; appointing a place, where he had laide a troupe of men in ambush to kill *Hali* at his comming: which being done, he went to church. *Hali* suspecting no harme at all, tolde his associate, that now was the time wherein they might bring their purpose to effect. And this intent of theirs they foorthwith declared vnto ten other of their adherents: and to the end that the whole matter might go securely and certainly forward, they presently assembled a great multitude of footemen (which they fained that they would sende the next day vnto Azamor) that, if they were constrained to flie, they might haue aide and succour

The occasion of
the prince of
Azaphi's
death.

cour in a readines. All their complices being armed, they came to church at the very same time; when as the king with all his traine was entring thereinto, and had placed himselfe next vnto the Mahumetan preacher. The church was full of auditors, and the king had his guard attending vpon him, who bicause they knew the two foresaid yong gentlemen to be very familiar with the king, suspected none euill, but suffered them to draw neere vnto his person. Wherefore one of the saide yong courtiers, as though he would haue done obeizance vnto the king, came before him, but *Hull* got in at his backe and stabd him through with a dagger: and at the verie same instant the other thrust him in with his sworde, and so this unhappie king, imbrued in his owne bloud, gaue vp the ghost. The kings garde went about to apprehend the authors of this fact; but being ouermatched by the contrarie part, and suspecting, least the people were authors of this conspiracie, they sought to saue themselues by flight. And after them followed all the rest of the assemblie, till the authors of the saide murder were left alone. They also immediately came foorth, and perswaded the people with many words, that they had slaine the king for none other cause, but onely in regard that he had attempted the vtter ouerthrow both of themselues and of the whole people. The citizens beeing too credulous, aduanced the two foresaid conspiratours to the government of the kingdome: howbeit they agreed not long thereabout, but the common-wealth was diuersly tossed hither and thither, sometime inclining to one, & sometime to another. Wherefore the Portugall merchants which vsually frequented that citie in great numbers, wrote vnto their king to sende foorth with an armie of soldiers thither: for they were in good hope, that he shoulde most easily and with small disadvantage winne the saide citie. Howbeit the king being nothing mooued with this message of theirs, would not send any forces at all, til he was more certainly informed by his said merchants touching the death of the king of Azaphi, & the dissension betweene the two new gouernours. As also, that they had made such a compact with a certaine captaine of the contrary faction, that it was the easiest matter in the world for him to cōquer the towne. For they had built them a verie strong castell vpon the sea-shore, wherein their merchandize might safely be bestowed. For the Portugals had perswaded the townes-men, that during the great tumult about the kings death, they were all of them in danger to lose both their liues and goods. Wherefore into this castell, among their vessels of oile and other wares, they cunningly conueied gunnes and all other kind of warlike instruments: but the townes-men being ignorant heereof, exacted nothing of the Portugals saue onely custome due for their wares. Now after the Portugales had sufficiently provided themselues of all kinde of armour and warlike munitions, they sought by all meanes an occasion to fight with the citizens. At length it came to passe that a certaine Portugals seruant buying meat in the citie, did so prouoke a butcher, that after much quarrelling they fell to blowes, whereupon the seruant feeling himselfe hurt, thrust the butcher

The prince of Azaphi slaine, as he was hearing of a Mahumetan sermon.

with his sworde, and laide him along vpon the colde earth, and then fledde speedily to the castell, wherein he knewe the merchants to be: The people immediately rose vp in armes, and ranne all of them with one consent vnto the castell, to the end they might vtterly destroy it, & cut the throats of all them which were therein. But the guns and crosse-bowes which were there in a readines made such hauck among the townes-men, that it cannot be, but they were greatly daunted. At this first encounter there were an hūdrēth and fiftie citzens slaine outright; howbeit the residue woulde not therefore giue ouer, but gaue the castell daily assaults. At length the king of Portugall sent aide vnto his subiects, wth sixe thousand footemen, two hundreth horsemen, with a great number of gunnes. Which forces when the citzens sawe to approach, they presently betooke themselues to their feete, and fled vnto the mountaine of Benimegher: neither durst any man staie in the towne, but onely he that was the author of building the castell. And so it came to passe that the Portugall forces woon the towne without any perill or labour. Soone after the generall of the whole armie sent the builder of the castell vnto the king of Portugall. But the king sent him with a certaine number of attendants backe againe to Azafi, and appointed him gouernour of all the region adiacent. For the Portugall king was not acquainted with their customes, nether did he sufficiently know how they gouerned their common-wealth. Soone after ensued the miserable desolation and ruine, not onely of the citie but of the whole region thereabouts. In this discourse we haue beene somewhat tedious, to the end we might shew of how great euill a woman may be the instrument, and what intollerable mischiefs are bred by dissension. These things were a dooing (as I remember) when my selfe was but ten yeeres olde: and being fowerteene yeeres of age, I had some conference with the Portugall captaine aforesaide. This captaine with an armie of sixe hundreth Portugals, and more then twelue thousand Arabian horsemen giuing battaile to the king of Maroco, conquered all the foresaid prouince on the behalfe of his master the Portugall king, in the yeere of the Hegeira 920. as in our brieft treatise concerning the Mahumetan religion we will declare more at large.

*Azafi woon by
the Portugals.*

*John Leo ten
yeeres old at the
winning of
Azafi.*

Of Contra a towne in Duccala.

THis towne is situate from Azafi about 20. miles, & is said to haue bin built by the Gothes at the verie same time when they possessed the whole region of Duccala: but now it is vtterly layde waste: howbeit the field belonging thereto is in subiection vnto certaine Arabians which dwell in the said prouince of Duccala.

Of Tit a citie in Duccala.



His ancient citie of Tit built of olde by the Africans vpon the Ocean sea-shoare, is about twentie miles distant from Azamur. It hath most large and fruitfull fields belonging vnto it. The inhabitants are men of a grosse conceit, who regard neither husbandrie nor ciuilitie. Their apparell indeed is somewhat decent, by reason that they continually haue so great traffique with the Portugals. At the same time when Azamur was subdued, this citie also yeelded it selfe vnto the kings captaine, and for certaine yeeres paid tribute vnto the king. In our time the king of Fez attempted to set Duccala at libertie: howbeit not speeding of his purpose, he caused a certaine Christian (which was his owne treasurer) and a lewe, to be hanged. And that companie which remained with him, he brought vnto Fez, giuing them a certaine portion of grounde to dwell vpon, which was destitute of inhabitants, being distant about twelue miles from Fez.

*The citie of Tit
tributarie vnto
the King of
Portugall.*

Of the famous citie of Elmedina in Duccala.



Elmedina being in a manner the chiefe citie of the whole region, is (according to the manner there) enuironed with wals of no great force. The inhabitants are homely as well in witte and behauiour, as in apparell: wearing such cloth as is wouen in their owne countrie. Their women weare certaine siluer ornaments: the men are valiant, and haue great store of horses. They were all of them banished by the king of Fez out of his dominions, for that he suspected them to be friends to the Portugals. For he had heard that a certaine gouernour of that region had counselled his subiects to pay tribute vnto the Portugall king. This gouernour I sawe barefoote led so miserable captiue, that I could scarce refraine from teares; because he did not ought vpon trecherie, but being constrained. For, good man, he thought it much better to pay a little tribute vnto the Portugals, then sodainly to lose both his life and his goods. For the restoring of whom vnto his former libertie, diuers noblemen greatly laboured: and so at length for a great summe of money he was releasd. But after ward the citie remained voide of inhabitants, about the yeere of the Hegeira 921.

*Elmedina left
desolate*

Of the towne of Duccala called Centum putei.

This towne is built vpon a rocke of excellent marble: in the suburbes whereof are certaine caues, wherein the inhabitants vse to lay vp their corne: which is there so woonderfully preferued, that it will continue an hundred yeeres without any ill fauour or corruption. Of the number of

*Corne preferued
100. yeers.*

which caues resembling pits or wels, the towne it selfe is called Centum putei. The inhabitants are of small reckoning or account, hauing no artificers dwelling among them but certaine Iewes. When the king of Fez had forced the inhabitants of Elmadin to come into his dominions, he attempted also to bring thither the inhabitants of this towne: but they refusing to go into a strange place, chose rather to inhabite neere vnto the towne of Azafi, then to forsake their owne natieue soile. Which when the king vnderstoode, he presently caused the towne to be sacked; wherein nothing was found but corne, hony, and other things of small value.

Of the towne of Subeit in the same region.

Subeit is a small towne built vpon the south side of the riuer of Ommirabih. It is distant from Elmadin about fortie miles, and is said to be subiect vnto certaine Arabians dwelling in Duccala. Honie and corne they haue great abundance: but such is their vnskillfulnes and ignorance, that they haue neither gardens nor vineyardes. At the same time when Bulahuan was woon, the king of Fez brought all the people of Subeit into his dominion, and allotted vnto them a certaine peece of grounde neere vnto Fez which was neuer before inhabited: so that Subeit remaineth waste and void of inhabitants euen vntill this day.

Of the towne of Temeracoſt.

Alſo in Duccala neere vnto the riuer Ommirabih standeth a certaine small towne, which was built by the founder of Maroco, from whom the name thereof is thought to be deriued. Inhabitants it hath great store, and containeth more then fower hundreth families. It was subiect in times past vnto the people of Azamur; but Azamur being spoiled by the Portugales, this towne also came to nought, and the people heereof went to Elmadin.

Of the towne called Terga.

This towne being distant about thirtie miles from Azamur, is situate neere vnto the riuer Ommirabih: it is well peopled, and containeth about three hundreth families. In times past it was subiect vnto the inhabitants of Duccala; but after the sacking of Azafi, *Hali* which fought against the Portugals, for certaine daies lay with his armie in this towne. But afterward being repelled thence by the king of Fez, the towne became so waste and desolate, that from thencefoorth it was an habitation for owles & bats.

Of the towne of Bulahuan.

This towne likewise standeth vpon the banke of Ommirabih, & containeth about fiue hundreth families: in times past it had most noble and woorthie

woorthie inhabitants, especially in that streete which lieth next vnto the riuer, vpon the high way to Maroco. In this towne was a famous hospitall built, which had manie roomes and mansions; wherein all strangers trauieling that way, were sumptuously and freely entertained at the common charge of the towne. The inhabitants are most rich both in cattell & corne. Euery citiizen almost hath an 100. yoke of oxen, and some of them yeerly reape two thousand, some three thousand measures of corne: so that the Arabians do carrie graine from thence sufficient to serue them all the yeere following. In the 919. yeere of the Hegeira, the king of Fez sent his brother to gouerne and defende the region of Duccala, who comming vnto this towne, was informed that the captaine of Azemur approached thither with a great armie, of purpose to destroy the towne and to lead the people captiue. Whereupon the king of Fez his brother sent immediately vnto the saide towne two captaines with two thousand horsemen, and eight hundred archers. But the very same time when they entred the towne, they met there the Portugall soldiers accompanied with two thousand Arabians: by whom, being fewer in number, they were so miserablie slaine, that scarcely twelue archers of all the eight hundred could escape with the horsemen vnto the next mountaines. Howbeit afterward the Arabians renewed the skirmish, & 150. of the Portugall horsemen being slaine, they put the enimie to flight. Whereupon the king of Fez his brother passed on to Duccala, requiring tribute of the people, and promising that as long as he liued he would stand betweene them and their enemies. Afterward being vanquished, he returned home to Fez vnto the king his brother. But the inhabitants seeing that the kings brother had receiued tribute of them and had stood them in no stead, they presently forsooke the towne, and fled vnto the mountaine of Tedles: for they feared least the Portugals armie would come vpon them, and exacting a greater summe, would lead them presently captiue which could not disburse it. At all these accidents I my selfe was present, and saw the foresaid slaughter of the archers: for I stood about a mile distant from them, and was mounted vpon a swift courser. At the same time I was traueiling to Maroco, being sent by the king of Fez, to declare vnto the king of Maroco, and vnto the Seriffo, that the king of Fez his brother was presently to depart vnto Duccala: for which cause they were requested to prouide soldiers for the better resistance of the Portugals armie.

Of the citie of Azamur.



Zamur, a towne of Duccala, was built by the Africans vpon that part of the Ocea sea shore where the riuer of *Ommirabih disemboqueth; being distant from Elmadina southward about thirtie miles. Very large it is, and well inhabited, and containeth to the number of fise thousand families. Here

* Or Marba.

doe the Portugall merchants continually reside. The inhabitants are very ciuill, and decently apparelled. And albeit they are diuided into two parts, yet haue they continuall peace among themselues. Pulse and corne they haue great plentie; though their gardens and orchards bring forth nought else but figs. They haue such plentie of fishes, that they receiue yeerely for them sometime fixe thousand, and sometime seuen thousand duckats. And their time of fishing dureth from October to the end of Aprill. They vse to drie fishes in a certaine pan with oile, whereby they gather an incredible quantitie of trane: neither vse they any other oile to put into their lampes. Once a yeere the Portugals make a voiage hither, and doe carrie away so great abundance of fish, that they onely doe disburse the summe of duckats aforesaid. Hence it is, that the king of Portugall, being allured for gaine, hath often sent most warlike flectes to surprise this towne: the first whereof, in regarde of the Generals indiscretion, was the greatest part disperfed and funke vpon the sea. Afterward the king sent another nauie of two hundred saile well furnished, at the very sight whereof the citizens were so discomfited, that they all betooke themselues to flight; and the throng was so great at their entrance of the gates, that moe then fower score citizens were slaine therein. Yea a certaine prince which came to aide them, was, for his safetie constrained to let himselfe downe by a rope on the farther side of the citie. The inhabitants were presently disperfed hither and thither; some fleeing on horse-backe, and others on foote. Neither could you (I know) haue refrained from teares, had you seene the weake women, the silly old men, and the tender children run away bare-footed and forlorne. But before the Christians gaue any assault, the Iewes (which shortly after compounded with the king of Portugall, to yeeld the citie to him, on condition that they shoulde sustaine no iniurie) with a generall consent, opened the gates vnto them: and so the Christians obtained the citie, and the people went to dwell part of them to Sala, and part to Fez. Neither doe I thinke that God for any other cause brought this calamitie vpon them, but onely for the horrible vice of Sodomie, whereunto the greatest part of the citizens were so notoriously addicted, that they could scarce see any young stripling, who escaped their lust.

Of the towne called Meramei.

THIS towne was built by the Gothes vpon a plaine, almost fourteene miles distant from Azafi, and it containeth to the number of fower hundred families: the soile thereabout aboundeth greatly with oliues and corne. It was governed in times past by the prince of Azafi; but afterward being surprised by the Portugals, and the inhabitants being all put to flight, it remained well nigh one whole yeere destitute of people. Howbeit soone after making a league with the Portugals, each man retired vnto his owne home. And now I thinke it not amisse to report as concerning the mountaines of Duccala those things which may seeme woorthie of memorie.

*AZAFI WOOD
by the Portu-
gals.*

Of the mounaine called Benimegher.

Benimegher is distant from Azafi about twelue miles, containing diuers artizans of all sortes, euery one of which hath an house at Azafi. This mountaine is so exceeding fruitful for oile and corne, that a man would scarce beleuee it. It was once in subiection vnto the prince of Azafi, but the inhabitants of Azafi being put to flight, as hath beene aforesaid, had no other place for their refuge, but onely this mountaine of Benimegher. Afterward they paid tribute for certaine yeeres vnto the Portugals; but when the king of Fez came thither with his army, he caried with him part of them vnto Fez, and the residue returned to Azafi: for they were determined rather to indure any iniurie, then to submit themselues to the Christians gouernment.

Of the greene mountaine.

This mountaine is of an exceeding height, beginning eastward from the riuer of Ommirabil, and extending westward to the hils called in their language Hafara, and it diuideth Duccala from some part of Tedles. Likewise this mountaine is very rough and full of woods, affoording great store of acornes and pine-apples, and a certaine kinde of red fruit which the Italians commonly call Africano. Many Hermites also doe inhabite vpon this mountaine, liuing with no other kind of victuals, but such as the woods yeeld vnto them. For they are aboue fise and twenty miles distant from all townes and cities. Here are great store of fountaines and of altars built after the Mahumetan fashion, and many auncient houfes also erected by the Africans. At the foot of this mountaine there is a notable lake, very like vnto the lake of Bolsena in the Roman territorie. In which lake are found infinite numbers of fishes, as namely eeles, pickrels, and of diuers other sorts, which, to my remembrance, I neuer saw in Italie: but there is no man that goeth about to take any fish in this lake, no maruell therefore though the number be so great. Vpon a certaine time when Mahumet the king of Fez trauelled that way towards the kingdome of Maroco, he encamped his armie eight daies vpon the side of this lake. Some of his companie he licenced to fish the same, amongst whom I saw certaine that tooke off their shirts and coats, sowing vp their sleeues and collars, and putting certaine hoops within them to keepe them from closing together, and so vsed them in steed of nets, wherewith notwithstanding they caught many thousand fishes: but others which had nets indeed, got more then they. And all by reason that the fishes (as we will now declare) were perforce driuen into the nets. For king Mahumet being there accompanied with foureene thousand Arabian horsemen, which brought a great many more camels with them; and hauing fise thousand horsemen vnder the conduct of his brother, with an huge armie of footemen, caused them all at once to enter the lake, insomuch that there

The fruit called by the Italians Frutto Africano.

Great plensie of fish.

was scarce water ynough to satisfie the camels thirst: wherefore it was no maruell though the fishes came so fast into the nets. Vpon the banks of this lake are many trets bearing leaues like vnto pine-leaues, among the boughes whereof, such abundance of turtles doe nestle, that the inhabitants reape woonderfull commoditie by them. Mahumet hauing refreshed himselfe eight daies by the foresaid lake, was then desirous to view The Greene mountaine aforesaid: my selfe with a great number of courtiers and learned men attending vpon him. So often as he saw any altar, he would command his armie there to make a stand, and lowly kneeling on his knees, would say these words following: Thou knowest (oh Lord my God) that I came hither for
 none other cause, but to releafe the people of Duccala from the Arabians
 and cruell Christians: which attempt of mine if thou thinkest to be vniust,
 let me onely feele the punishment of this offence: for these my followers
 are guiltlesse. And thus we ranged vp and downe the Greene hill one whole day: but at night we returned vnto our tents. The next day it was king Mahumets pleasure to goe on hunting and hauking, whereupon his hounds and haukes (which he had in great abundance) were brought forth: howbeit that sport yeilded nought but wilde geese, duckes, turtle-doues, and other fowles. But the day following the king called for his hounds, faulecons, and eagles: their game were hares, deere, porcupikes, roe-deere, woolues, quailles and starlings: and by reason that none had hunted or hawked there an hundred yeeres before, they had very good pastime. And after we had here staid certaine daies, the king with his armie marching vnto the said Elmadin a towne of Duccala, willed all his learned men and priestes which hee had brought with him, to returne vnto Fez. But my selfe (as ambassadour) and a certaine number of soldiers he sent vnto Maroco: this was done in the 922. yeere of the Hegeira, and in the yeere of our Lord 1512.

*John Leo sent
ambassadour
from the King
of Fez vnto
Maroco.*

A description of the region of Hascora.

THis region is bounded northward with certaine mountaines which adioine vpon Duccala; westward with a riuer running by the foote of mount Hadimmei, which we called before Tensift; and eastward by the riuer *Quadelhabid*, that is, the riuer of seruants, which riuer diuideth Hascora from Tedles. And so likewise the hills of Duccala doe separate Hascora from the Ocean sea. The inhabitants of this region are far more ciuil, then the people of Duccala. This prouince yeeldeth great abundance of oyle, of Marockin skinned, and of goates, of whose haire they make cloath and sadles. And hither do all the bordering regions bring their goat-skins, whereof the foresaid Marockin or Cordouan leather is made. This people hath great traffique with the Portugals, with whom they exchange the foresaid leather and sadles, for cloath. Their coine is all one with the coine of Duccala. Also the Arabians vsually buy oyle and other necessaries out
 of

of this region. Now let vs in order describe all the townes and cities of the saide region.

Of Elmadin a towne in Hascora.



His towne of Hascora being called by the inhabitants Elmadin, is built vpon the side of mount Atlas, and containeth moe then two thousand families. It standeth almost fourescore and ten miles eastward of Maroco, and about 60. miles from Ducala. Heere may you finde many leather-dressers, and all other kinde of artizans, with a great multitude of Iewish merchants. This towne is enuironed with a certaine wood, which is full of oliue, and walnut-trees. The inhabitants are continually, in a manner, oppressed with warres among themselues, and against a certaine little towne beeing fower miles distant from thence. Neither dare any come vpon the plaine lying betweene these two townes, (saue women onely and slaues) except he be well and strongly guarded. So that euerie man is faine to maintaine an harquebusier or archer for his defence, whom he monethly alloweth ten or twelue pieces of gold, which are woorth sixeteene ducates Italian. Likewise in Elmadin there are certaine men of great and profound learning, which are appointed to be iudges and notaries. Whatsoever tribute or custome strangers doe pay, is deliuered vnto certaine treasurers and customers of the towne; which imploy it afterward for the publike benefite. They are likewise constrained to pay certaine tribute vnto the Arabians, for sundrie possessions which they enioy in the foresaide valley; but that money gaineth them at the Arabians hand ten times so much, or more. In my returne from Maroco I thought good to trauell by this towne, where I was right sumptuously entertained by one of Granada my countrey-man, who was exceeding rich, hauiug serued as an archer in this region for fifteene yeeres. And albei the towne of Elmadin had a stately hospitall, wherein all merchants traouelling that way, were entertained at the common charge; yet my countrey-man would not suffer vs there to lodge, but for three daies together most curteously welcommed my selfe, nine courtiers, and all the seruants and retinue which we brought with vs: vnto which companie of ours the townesmen presented, some of them calues, some lambes, and some other brought hens. Seeing vpon a time so many goates in the towne, I merily demaunded of my countrey-man, why he gaue vs no kids-flesh to eate: hee answered that that was accounted among them of all others the most base and homely meate. Their faire and beautifull women are so fonde of strangers that if secret occasion be offered they will not refuse their dishonest companie.

Of the citie of *Alemadin*.

Eere vnto the foresaide towne standeth another commonly called *Alemadin*, being situate fower miles to the west thereof in a valley, amidst fower most high hills, whereupon the place is exceeding cold. The inhabitants are merchants, artizans, and gentlemen, & families it containeth to the number of one thousand. This towne hath been at continuall war with the towne last before mentioned: but in our time both of them were by the meanes of a certaine merchant brought in subiection vnto the King of Fez, as we will now declare. There was a merchant of Fez which had a paramour in this towne, whom he determined forthwith to marrie; but when the marriage day was come, this merchant was beguiled of his loue by the gouernour of the towne himselfe, which disappointment grieued him full sore, albeit he dissembled the matter as well as he could. Returning home to the King of Fez, the said merchant presented vnto him most rich and costly gifts, making humble suite vnto his maiestie that hee would allow him an hundred principall archers, three hundred horsemen, and fower hundred footemen; saying, that himselfe would maintaine them all at his owne costs and charges, and would winne the said towne of *Alemadin* for the Kings behalfe, and would assure the King seuen thousand ducates for yeerely tribute. This offer pleased the King right well, and that he might declare his princely liberalitie, he would not suffer the merchant to giue wages vnto any, but onely to the archers. And so with all expedition he commanded his gouernour of Tedles to prouide the saide merchant so many horsemen and so many footmen, and two captaines ouer the armie. At length comming before *Alemadin* they besiged it fixe daies: which being expired, the townesmen told their gouernour in plaine termes, that they would not for his cause incur the king of Fez his displeasure, nor suffer any inconuenience. Whereupon he putting himselfe in a beggers weede, attempted to escape away: but being known and apprehended, he was brought before the merchant, who committed him to prison. And so the townesmen presently opening their gates receiued the merchant with all his troupes, & yelded themselues to him & to the king of Fez. The parents of the foresaid maid protested vnto the merchant, that the gouernour by maine force had deprived them of his paramour. Howbeit she herselfe was big with childe by the gouernour; but after the merchant knew that she was deliuered of her childe, he bore her affection againe, and at length married her. And the wretched gouernour was the same day by the iudges pronounced guiltie of fornication, and was stoned to death. Well, the merchant remained gouernour and Lord of both townes, establishing most firme peace between them, & duely paying vnto the king of Fez all the yeerly tribute which he had promised. I my selfe afterward comming to the foresaide towne grew familiarly acquainted with

By what means
the townes of
Alemadin and
Alemadin be-
came subiect
vnto the King
of Fez.

this famous merchant. The same yeere departing from Fez I tooke my journey towards Constantinople.

Of Tagodast a towne in Mascora.

THis towne is built vpon the top of a certaine high mountaine, hauing fower other high mountaines round about it. Betweene which fower mountaines and the said towne are diuers most large and beautifull gardens replenished with all kinde of fruits: quinces here are of an incredible bignes. Their vines dispersing themselues vpon the boughes of trees doe make most pleasant bowers and walkes: the grapes whereof being red, are for their bignes, called in the language of that people, hennes eggs. They haue here great abundance of oile and most excellent honie: some of their honie being white, and some yellow. This towne hath many fountains about it, which ioyning into one streame, do serue for many water-mils thereabouts. Here are likewise great store of artizans, who exercise themselues onely about things necessarie. The inhabitants are somewhat ciuill, their women are most beautifull, being most gorgeously decked with siluer iewels. Their oile they carrie vnto the next cities southward of them on this side Atlas: but they send their leather vnto Fez and Mecnafa. Their plaine is almost fixe miles long: the soile being most fruitfull for corne: in regard whereof the townes-men pay certaine yeerely tribute vnto the Arabians. This towne hath iudges, priestes, and a great number of gentlemen. Vpon a time as I trauelled this way, it was my hap to meete with a certaine ancient gouernour of the same place, who was growne blinde with extreme age. This aged fire (as by some I vnderstood) was in his youth a most valiant and stout person, infomuch that after many other noble exploits, he slew with his owne hand fower captaines which were most deadly enemies vnto the people of Tagodast. And afterward he handled the matter so wisely, that he ioyned those in perfect league which before time had waged continual warre. Here no commonwealth-matter is concluded by the magistrates of the towne without his speciall aduise and authoritie. By this worthie Senatour my selfe with fower-score horsemen were honorably entertained, and had dainty meates euery day set before vs, of game which was newly hunted. He recounted most familiarly vnto vs all his labours which he had bestowed in concluding of the foresaid league: neither had this good man any so entyre and hidden secrets, which he reuealed not vnto vs, as to his louing friends. At my departure I offered him money for my selfe and my companie: but he, like a liberall man, would by no meanes accept of it; saying, that albeit he ought the king of Fez much dutie and good will, yet did he not bestowe that liberalitie for his sake: but that whatsoeuer wealth he enioied, his parents bequeathed vnto him vpon this condition, that he should shew himselfe kinde and bountifull vnto all his kinred, acquaintance, and strangers traouelling that way: and although he were free from that condition, yet his loue towards God, and

Grapes of marvellous bignes. White honey.

the liberalitie which God had planted in him, could require no lesse at his hands. Yea, he said, that by Gods good blessing and prouidence he had reaped the same yeere seuen thousand bushels of corne: in so much, that himselfe and all his neighbours were provided for in abundance. Moreover, that he possessed of sheepe and goates more then an hundred thousand, the wooll whereof only, and some small portion of butter, he reserued to himselfe, but as for the cheese and milke, he gaue it all frankly vnto his shepherds. In this towne there is none that selleth either cheese, butter, milke, or any other such commoditie, though each one hath great abundance of cattell. Howbeit their hides, oile, and wooll they vter in the prouinces thereabout. The reuerend sire added this moreover: If it shall please (saith he) the king of Fez to returne home from Duccala through this my region, I will come foorth to meete him, and will submit my selfe wholly vnto him, as vnto my most liege and foueraigne prince. Thus my selfe a meere stranger being so honorably dismissed by this woorthie Senatour, could not sufficiently cominend his courtesie and bounteous dealing towards strangers.

Of the citie of Elgiumuha.

NEere vnto the foresaid towne, within five miles, standeth Elgiumuha. It was in our time built vpon the top of an high mountaine, and containeth to the number of five hundred families, besides so many families comprised in the villages of that mountaine. Here are innumerable springs and fountaines, and most pleasant and fruitfull gardens in all places. Here are likewise walnut-trees huge and tall. The little hils enuironing this mountaine doe yeeld barlie and oliues in great abundance. In the said towne are great numbers of artizans, as smithes, leather-dressers, and such like. And because they haue here notable yron-mines, they make plentie of horse-shoes. And whatsoeuer commoditie proceedeth of their labour, they carrie it to forren regions where they thinke it is wanting: from whence they bring home slaues, woad, and the skins of certaine beastes, whereof they make most defensiu and warlike shields: these shields they transport vnto Fez, exchanging them there for weapons, cloth, and other such things as they stand in neede of. This towne standeth so neere vnto the high way, that the boyes wil stand gazing and woondering at merchants as they come by, especially if they weare any strange attire. The residue of inhabitants vpon this mountaine are all commanded and gouerned by them of the towne. They say that the people of Tagodast afore said were the first founders of this towne: for so vpon a time it befell, that whereas the principall men of Tagodast grew to dissension among themselues, the common sort fauouring neither faction, built Elgiumuha, and left Tagodast to be inhabited by their gouernours: hence it is, that euen at this day they are here onely ignoble and base people, whereas there they are all gentlemen.

Of Bzo a towne in Hascora.

THE ancient towne of Bzo is built vpon an high hill about twenty mile westward from the towne last mentioned. Within three miles of Bzo runneth the foresaid riuer of Guadelhabid. The townesmen are honest people, exercising merchandize, and going decently apparelled: To them which inhabite the deserts they carie cloth, oile, and leather. Their mountaines abound with oliues, corne, and all kinde of fruits: and of their grapes they make euery yeere most excellent and sweete raisins. Figs they haue great plentie: and their walnut-trees are so high, that a puttocke may securely builde his nest vpon the tops: for it is impossible for any man to climbe vp. On each side of the way which leadeth from hence to the riuer Guadelhabid there are most pleasant and beautifull gardens. My selfe (I remember) was here present when their oranges, figs, and other fruits were growen to ripenes; and was entertained by a certaine priest, who dwelt not farre from a stately Mahumetan temple, standing by that riuer which runneth through the market-place of the towne.

Of the mountaine called Tenuees.

THis mountaine is situate ouer against Hascora vpon that part of Atlas which trendeth southward. It hath many most valiant and warlike inhabitants both horsemen and footemen; and a great number of horses of small stature. It yeeldeth abundance of woad & barlie: but other graine they haue none at all, so that they haue no other but barlie bread to eate. At all times of the yeere you shal here see plenty of snow. Here are likewise sundry noblemē & gentlemen, all which are subiect vnto one prince. To this prince they pay great yeerely tribute for the maintenance of his soldiers, for he waget continuall war with the inhabitants of mount Tensita. The said prince hath welnigh 1000. most valiant horsemen alwaies in a readines: & so many likewise do the noblemen of this mountaine continually keepe at their owne costs and charges. Moreover the prince hath an hundreth soldiers part of them bowmen, and part harquebusiers, to guard and attend vpon his person in all places. Comming my selfe to see this mountaine, it was my chaunce to finde out the saide prince, who was desirous exceedingly to be praised of all men: but for liberalitie, curtesie, and ciuilitie, his like I thinke was not to be founde. Vnto the Arabian toong (albeit he were ignorant thereof) he bore a marucilous affection: and was greatly delighted to heare any man expound a sentence or verse, which was penned to his owne commendation. At the very same time when mine vncke was sent ambassadour from the king of Fez to the king of Tombuto, I my selfe also trauailed in his company: we were no sooner entred the region of Dara (which is an hundreth miles distant from the saide princes dominions) but he hearing of my vncles fame (who was an excellent Oratour, and a most wittie Poet) sent

The vncke of John Leo sent ambassadour to the king of Tombuto

letters

letters vnto the prince of Dara, requesting him that he woulde perswade mine vnclē to trauaile vnto Tombuto by mount Tenuens: for he had a great desire to see him, & to speake with him. Howbeit my vnclē answered, that it becomed not a kings ambassadour to visite any princes farre out of his way, and so to deferre his masters waightie affaires. But, to the end that he might in some sort satisfie the saide prince, he promised to sende me his nephew vnto him, which might in his name salute him and do him due honour. Afterward he deliuered me certaine costlie gifts to present the prince withall: as namely a curious paire of stirrups double gilt and finely wrought after the Morisco fashon, which cost (as I remember) fiue and twentie ducates; and a rich paire of spurs of fiftene ducates price. Moreouer he sent two bands of silke artificially entwined with gold, one whereof was tawnie, and the other blew. He sent also a most excellent booke, containing the liues of certaine famous and deuout men of Africa, together with certaine verses in the commendation of the prince himselfe. Thus being furnished with the things aforesaid, I set forth on my iourney, taking two horsemen to accompanie me vnto the foresaid mountaine: and so as I rood, I inuented verses in the princes praise. At our first arriuall there, the prince with a great traine of his nobilitie was ridden soorth on hunting. Who being enformed of my comming, caused me soorthwith to be sent for, and after salutations had, he asked me how my vnclē did: I answered that he was in good health, and at his highnes disposition. Then he commanded me to be carried vnto a stately lodging, where, after my tedious iourney, I might repose my selfe, till he were returned from hunting. And so within night returning from his game, he sent for me immediately to come into his chamber of presence: where, hauing first performed due obeisance vnto him, I presented him with mine vnclēs gifts: which (as I suppose) were most acceptable vnto him. At length I gaue him the verses which mine vnclē had indited: which he presently commanded one of his secretaries to read. And as he was expounding each sentence and worde vnto the prince, it was a woonder to see, what exceeding alacritie and ioy appeered in his countenance. The verses being read, he fate downe to supper, willing me not onely to be his guest, but also to sit next vnto his person. His table was furnished with mutton, veale roasted and foddē, and with bread baked like a cake. Diuers other dishes likewise were serued in, but I remember not all the particulars. Supper being ended, I greeted the prince in this wise: Your highnes (my lord) hath receiued all those gifts, which your humble seruant mine vnclē (in token of his loiall disposition, and that he might be had of your highnes in reinembrance) hath sent you: Now I being both his sisters sonne and his scholler, haue nought else but a fewe wordes to present your princelines withall: may it please you therefore to accept of such homely stuffe as my witte could sodainly affoord in the time of my iourney. These words ended, I began to read my verses vnto him: and being as then but sixteen yeeres of age, the prince gaue right ioyfull and diligent care vnto me; and

*The excellent
wis do toward
linesse of Iohn
Leo at 16. yeeres
of age.*

and whatsoever he vnderstood not sufficiently, he woulde cause it to be interpreted. Now being wearie with his hunting, and perceiuing the night to be farre spent, he wished all of vs to goe to bed. Early the next morning I was sent for to a stately breakefast, after the conclusion whereof, he caused an hundreth ducates to be deliuered me for a present vnto my vncl, together with three slaues, which should attend vpon him in his iourney. But on me he bestowed fiftie ducates and a good horse; and to each of my two seruants he gaue ten ducates: giuing mine vncl to vnderstande, that his meane gift which he bestowed, was sent not in regard of his woorthy presents, but for a recompence of his excellent verses. For as touching mine vncl's gifts, he saide he woulde deferre the requitall thereof till his returne from Tombuto, what time he would more fully manifest his good will towards him. Then commanding one of his secretaries to direct vs on our way, & most courteously bidding vs farewell; he told vs that the same day he was going to make an assault vpon his enemies. And so departing from him, I returned to mine vncl. Thus much I thought good to set downe, for to shewe, that euen Africa is not vterly destitute of curteous and bountifull persons.

Of the mountaine called Tensita.

Tensita is a part of Atlas, beginning westward from the mountaine last before mentioned, eastward extending to mount Dedes, and southward bordering vpon the desert of Dara. This mountaine is well stored with inhabitants, hauing moe then fiftie castles about it, the wals whereof are built of lime and rough stone: and by reason of the southerly situation it is euer almost destitute of raine. All the said castles stand not far from the riuer of Dara, some being three, and some fower miles distant there from. The greatest prince in all this region hath vnder his command well nigh fiftene hundreth horsemen, and about so many footemen as the prince of Tenuées before named. And albeit these two princes are most neerely conioined in blood, yet can neither of them refraine from most cruel wars against the other. It is a woonder to see, what plentie of dates this mountaine affoordeth: the inhabitants giue themselues partly to husbandry, and partly to traffike. Barly they haue in great abundance: but of other graine and of flesh their scarcitie is incredible: for that region hath no flockes nor droues at all. The prince of this mountaine commonly receiueth for yeerly tribute twentie thousand peeces of golde: euery of which peeces containeth not so much by one third part, as an Italian ducate. There hath alwaies beene so great amitie betweene the king of Fez and this prince, that either often sendeth rich gifts vnto other. My selfe (I remember) once saw a most magnificent gift presented to the saide king in the name of this prince, to wit, fiftie men slaues, and fiftie women slaues brought out of the land of Negros, tenne eunuches, twelue camels, one Giraffa, sixteene ciuet-cats, one pound of ciuet, a pound of amber, and almost fixe hundreth skins

*A most stately
and rich pre-
sent.*

of a certaine beast called by them Elamt, whereof they make shieldes, euerie skin being woorth at Fez, eight ducates; twentie of the men slaues cost twentie ducates a peece, and so bid fifteene of the women slaues; every eunuch was valued at fortie, every damell at fiftie, and every ciuet-car at twentidreth ducates: and a pound of ciuet and amber is solde at Fez for threescore ducates. Besides these were sent diuers other particulars, which for breuities sake I omit. I my selfe was in presence when these gifts were offred to the king: the princes ambassadour was a Negro borne, being grosse and of a lowe stature, and for his speech and behaiour most barbarous: this fellow deliuered a letter vnto the king, which was most absurdly and rudely penned: but the Oration which he made in the behalfe of his prince was well woofe; so that at the pronouncing thereof the king and all that were in presence could hardly refraine from laughter, but were faine to hold their hands and garments before their faces, least they should haue seemed too vnciuile. Howbeit his oration being ended, the king caused him to be most honorable entertained by the priest of the chiefe temple; with whom himselfe and all his company hauing remained foureteene daies, were at length by the kings liberalitie frankely and freely dismissed.

Of the mountaine called Gogideme.



Eere vnto the foresaid mountaue standeth another called Gogideme. This mountaine is inhabited only vpon the north part therof: but the south side is vtterly destitute of inhabitants: the reason whereof they affirme to be, because that when *Abraham king of Maroco was vanquished and expelled out of his kingdom by his discipule *Elmaheli*, he fled vnto this mountaine. The inhabitants moued with the kings distresse endeuoured (though to small purpose) all that they could, to succour him: whereof his discipule *Elmaheli* was no sooner enformed, but comming with an huge armie and with great furie vpon them, he destroyed all their mansions and villages, and the inhabitants he partly put to flight, and partly to the sword. And those which now remaine there are most base, beggerly and slauish people: Howbeit they sell some quantitie of oyle and barley: neither indeed will their soyle affoorde any other commodities. They haue plentie of goates and mules; but their mules and horses are but of meane stature. The situation and qualitie of this mountaine will not suffer the inhabitants to be liberall.

*Read of this Abraham before in the description of the citie of Maroco.

Of the two mountaines called Teseuon.



Eseuon consisteth of two mountaines standing together, beginning westward from Gogideme, & ending at the mountaine of Tagodast. The inhabitants are oppressed with extreme pouerty: for their ground will yeelde nothing but barley and mill. Forth

of this mountaine springeth a certaine riuer, which runneth through most pleasant fields. But because the mountainers neuer descend into the same fields, hence it is that the Arabians onely enioy this riuer. To haue said thus much of these may suffice: now let vs come vnto the description of Tedles.

A description of the region of Tedles.

THE small region of Tedles beginneth westward at the riuer of Guadelhabid, and stretcheth to that part of the great riuer Ommirabih where Guadelhabid taketh his beginning; southward it bordereth vpon Atlas, and northward it extendeth vnto that place where Guadelhabid falleth into Ommirabih. This region is in a manner three square: for the said two riuers springing out of Atlas run northward, till approching by little and little, they meet all in one.

Of Tefza the principall towne in Tedles



Tefza the chiefe towne of all Tedles, was built by the Africans vpon the side of mount Atlas, some five miles from the plaine. The towne wals are built of most excellent marble, which is called in their language Tefza, and hereupon the towne was so called likewise. Heere doe reside most rich merchants of all sorts: of Iewes here are two hundred families, who exercise merchandise and diuers other trades. And here you shall finde many outlandish merchants which buy from hence certaine blacke mantles with hoods, commonly called *Ibernus*: of these there are great numbers both in Italy and Spaine. Neither are there in Fez any kinde of wares, which are not heere to be bought: if any merchant will exchange his wares for other, hee may the sooner be dispatched: for the townesmen are furnished with diuers kindes of merchandise, as namely with slaues, horses, woad, leather, and such like: whereas if the forreiners were desirous to sell their wares for ready money, they should neuer attaine to the value of them. They haue golden coine without any image or superscription: their apparell is decent: and their women are beautifull and of good behaiour. In this towne are diuers Mahumetan temples, and many priests and iudges. Their commonwealth was woont alwaies to be most prosperous and well-gouerned; but degenerating from better to woorse, they were afterward so turmoyled with dissensions and wars, that certaine being expelled hence, came vnto the king of Fez, humbly beseeching him that by force he would restore them to their natie countrey, conditionally that all matters wel succeeding on their side, they should deliuer the towne vnto the king. This condition was accepted, and the king hauing a thousand braue horsemen readie to doe the feat, ioynd five hundred horse, and two hundred gunners on horsebacke vnto

Ibernus.

them. Moreouer he wrote vnto certaine Arabians (which are commonly called *Zuair*, and haue almost fower thousand horsemen at commaund) that, if need so required, they would come in, and ayde his troupes. Ouer the saide armie the king appointed as captaine one *Eszeranghi*, a most valiant and redoubted Warriour. Who hauing pitched his ~~tees~~ ^{tees} ~~neere~~ vnto the towne, began presently to giue the townesmen an assault. But when he had done his best, the warlike citizens easily gaue him the repulse. Moreouer the Arabians called *Benigeber* were comming with fife thousand horsemen to succour the towne. Which so soone as Captaine *Eszeranghi* was aduertised of, he raised his siege, and went suddenly to meete with the foresaid Arabians; whom after he had discomfited in three daies, he then safely returned to lay new siege. The citizens seeing themselues cut off from all hope of the Arabians ayde, began seriously to treat of peace with the enemy; which the easlier to obtaine, they promised to defray all the kings charges layde out in this expedition, and to pay him for yeerly tribute moe then ten thousand ducates: howbeit with this prouiso, that they for whose cause the king had sent the said armie, if they entred the towne, should bee secluded from all Magistracie and government. But they hearing of these conditions, spake vnto the Captaine in manner following: Sir, if it shall please you to restore vs vnto our former dignitie and state, we will procure you aboute an hundreth thousand ducates. Neither is there cause why any man should feare any iniurie or violence; for we protest vnto you that no man shall be a farthing endamaged by vs: onely we will exact at our aduersaries hands the reuenues of our possessions which they haue these three yeeres vniustly detained from vs. The summe whereof will amount vnto thirtie thousand ducates, all which we are most willing to bestow vpon you, in regard of those labours which you haue vndergone for our sakes. Moreouer the reuenues of the whole region shall bee yours, which will come to twentie thousand ducates. And the Iewes tribute shall yeelde you ten thousand more. Vpon these speeches the Captaine returned answere vnto the citizens, that his master the king of Fez had most faithfully promised those which mooued him vnto this warre, that he would neuer forsake them till they had attained their harts desire: for which cause he was more willing to haue them gouerne, then the townesmen which were now in possession, and that for many reasons: wherefore (saith he) if you be determined to yeelde vnto the king, assure your selues, that no inconuenience shall light vpon you: but if you will to the ende remaine peruerse and obstinate, be yee assured also, that the king will deale most extremely with you. This message was no sooner knowen vnto the people, but forthwith they began to be distracted into diuers factions: some there were which stood for the king, and others chose rather manfully to fight it out, then that the king should be admitted: infomuch that the whole citie resounded with brawlings, quarels, and contentions. This tumult came at length by spies vnto the Captaines eare, who presently caused halfe his forces to take armes; and by their
means

meanes in three howers space he wan the citie with little slaughter on his part. For those townesmen that fauoured the king, did what they could on the inside, to set open the gates, and so did the assailants on the outside, neither did any resist their attempts, by reason of the foresaid ciuill dissensions. Whereupon Captaine *Ezzeranghi* entring the citie, caused the kings colours to be aduanced in the market-place, and vpon the wals, charging his horsemen to range about the citie, that no citizens might escape by flight; and last of all made a proclamation vnto all his souldiers, that they should not vpon paine of death offer any iniurie vnto the townesmen. Then he caused all the chieftaines of the contrarie faction to be brought prisoners vnto him: to whom he threatned captiuitie and thraldome, till they should disburse so much as the king had spent in that expedition: the totall summe was twelue thousand ducates, which the wiues and kinsfolkes of the captiues presently payde. Neither could they yet obtaine their libertie: for the exiles, for whose cause the king had sent that armie, demaunded restitution of all their goods, which the other had for certaine yeeres detained from them. The captiues therefore were committed that night, & the next morning lawyers & attornies came to plead on both sides before a iudge & the captaine. Howbeit after a great deale of tedious sending and proouing, hauing concluded nothing at all, the captaine was so weary, that he left them, and went to supper. Afterward he caused the captiues to be brought foorth, wishing them to pay the sums demaunded; for (saith he) If you come before the king of Fez he wil make you to disburse more then twise the value. At which words being terrified, they wrote vnto their wiues, if they would euer see them aliue, to procure them money by some meanes. Eight daies after, the women brought as many golde rings, bracelets, and other such iewels, as were valued at eight and twenty thousand ducates: for they had rather bestowe these for the ransome of their husbandes, then to reueale their great wealth; bringing foorth all their costly ornaments, as if their money had bene quite exhaust. When therefore the king and the exiles were fully satisfied, insomuch that nothing seemed nowe to let the said captiues from libertie, the captaine spake vnto them in this wise: Sirs, I haue signified (though vnwillingly) vnto my master the king all matters which haue here passed betweene vs: for I dare by no meanes release you, till the kings letters authorize me so to do: Howbeit, I wish you to be of good cheere; for sithens you haue honestly restored to euery man his owne, there is no doubt but your selues shall shortly be set at libertie. The same night the captaine called a friend of his, whose counsell he founde oftentimes to take good effect, and asked him by what meanes he might without suspicion of guile or trechery, wring any more sums of money from them. Whereunto his friend replied: make them beleue (quoth he) that you are willed by the kings letters to put them all to death: howbeit, that you will not, for pitties sake, deale so extremely with innocent persons: but that you will send them to Fez to receiue punishment or pardon at the kings pleasure. Heereupon

A notable and effectuall practise to wring more money out of the townesmen purses.

the kings letters were counterfeited, which the day following the captaine with a lamétable voice published vnto his two & forty prisoners. My friends (quoth he) so it is, that the king hauing receiued some sinister and wrong information, that you should go about to make a conspiracie: vnost ~~francely~~ enioineth me by these his letters, to put each one of you to death: which, though it be ful sore against my wil, yet needs I must obey my prince, if I wil not wittingly runne vpon mine owne destruction. And then shedding some fained teares: sithens (quoth he) we can vpon the sodaine deuise no better course, I thinke it most conuenient to send you with a troupe of horsemen vnto the king, whose wrath (perhaps) you may by some meanes pacifie. Whereupon the captiues growing farre more peniue then before, recommended themselues vnto God, and to the captaines clemencie, requesting his good will with many teares. And forthwith there comes one in among them, who aduised them to make vp some round summe of money, & therewithall to trie if they could appeale the king: and seemed likewise to intreat the captaine, that he woulde by his letters stande their friend to the king. Heereunto the captiues agreeing with one voice, promised that they would giue the king a great summe of golde, and woulde most liberally reward the captaine. The captaine, as though forsooth this condition much disliked him, asked at length how much golde they ment to send the king: one saide that he woulde disburse a thousand ducates, another, that he would giue five hundred, and the third, eight hundred. But the captaine making shew, that this was too little, saide that he was loth to make signification of so small a summe vnto the king: howbeit, better it were for you (quoth the captaine) to goe your selues vnto the king, with whom perhaps you shall make a more reasonable end then you are aware of. But they fearing hard measure, if they should be caried vnto the king, were far more importunate with the captaine then before, that he would (to his power) be good vnto them. Wherefore the captaine (as though at length he had been moued with their vehement petitions) spake vnto them in this wise: heere are of you (my masters) two and fortie noble & rich persons; if you wil promise two thousand ducates a man, I will signifie on your behalfe so much vnto the king, and so I hope to perswade him: but if this condition will not please him, then must I needs send you to make answer for your selues. This condition they al of them yeilded vnto; howbeit with this prouizo, that euery man should giue proportionable to his wealth, and that they might haue for the payment fiftene daies of farther respite. The twelfth day following the captaine fained, that he had receiued letters from his king, signifying that the king, for his sake, woulde shewe the captiues more fauour. The fiftenth day he had paid vnto him eightie foure thousand ducates: neither could he sufficiently wonder, how in so small a towne, among two and fortie inhabitants onely, such huge sums of money could so readily be found. Then wrote he vnto his king how all matters had passed, demanding what should be done with the gold. And the king forthwith sent two of his secretaries with an hundred horse-

men to fetch home the saide golde vnto Fez. The captiues being restored to their libertie, presented the saide captaine with horses, slaues, ciuet, and such like gifts, to the value of two thousand ducates: giuing him exceeding thanks for their libertie; and requesting him to take their presents in good worth: for, had not their treasure beene quite consumed, they saide, they woulde haue bestowed farre greater vpon him. Wherefore, from thence forward, that region was subiect vnto the king of Fez, and to the foresaide captaine *Ezzeranghi*, till he was trecherously slaine by certaine Arabians. Moreouer the king receiueth from that citie, euen at this present twentie thousand ducats for yeerely tribute. I haue in this narration beene indeede somewhat more large then neede required; howbeit perhaps I did it, because I my selfe was present in al the expedition, and was an earnest mediatur for the citizens release: neither saw I euer (to my remembrance) a greater masse of golde, then was by subtiltie drawne from them. Yea the king himselfe neuer had so much golde in his coffers at one time: for albeit he receiueth yeerely thirtie thousand ducates, yet neuer could he store himselfe with so much at once, nor his father before him. These things were done in the yeere of the Hegeira 915. and in the yeere of our Lord 1506. And here I would haue the reader to consider, what mans industrie and wit may doe in getting of money. The King maruelled much at this summe of gold; but afterward he had greater cause to woonder at the wealth of a certaine Iewe, who payed more out of his owne purse, then all the forenamed captiues. And his riches were the cause, why the King of Fez exacted fiftie thousand ducats from the Iewes, for that they were said to fauour his enimies. I my selfe bare him companie, that went in the Kings name to receiue the sayd summe of the Iewes.

Of *Efza* a towne of *Tedles*.



His towne standeth two miles from *Tefza*, and containeth almost sixe hundred families, being built vpon a little hill at the foote of mount *Atlas*. In this towne are many Moores and Iewes which make **Bernussi*. The naturall inhabitants are either artificers or husbandmen, being in subiection to the gouernours of *Tefza*. Their women are excellent spinsters, wherby they are saide to gaine more then the men of the towne. Betweene this towne and *Tefza* runneth a certaine riuer called by the inhabitants *Derne*, which springing forth of *Atlas*, runneth through the plaines of that region, till at length it falleth into *Ommirabih*. On both sides of this riuer are most beautifull and large gardens replenished with all kindes of fruits. The townesmen here are most liberall and curteous people, and will permit merchants traueilling that way freely to come into their gardens, and to take thence as much fruit as they will. No people are slower then they for paying of debts: for albeit the merchants lay downe readie money to receiue

** Or Ilbernis,
being a kinde of
garments.*

Bernussi within three moneths, yet are they sometime faine to stay an whole yeere. My selfe was in this towne when the kings armie lay in Tedles, and then they yielded themselves to the king. The second time that the kings generall of his armie came vnto them, they presented him with fifteen horses, and as many slaues. Afterward they gaue him fifteene kine, in token that they were the kings loyall subiects.

Of Cithireb.

* *libernus.*

THis towne was built by the Africans vpon an high hill, almost tenne miles westward of Efza. Well peopled it is with rich and noble inhabitants: and because Bernussi be here made, it is alwaies frequented with store of merchants. The top of the said high mountaine is continually couered with snow. The fields adioyning to the towne are full of vineyards and gardens, which bring foorth fruits in such abundance, that they are nought worth to be sold in the markets. Their women are beautifull, fat, and comely, being adorned with much siluer: their eies and haire are of a browne colour. The inhabitants are so stout and sullen, that when the other cities of Tedles yielded to the king, they alone stood out: yea they assembled vnder a certaine captaine an armie of a thousand horsemen, wherewith they so vexed the kings forces, that he was often in danger to haue lost al that which he had got. Afterward the king sent his brother with a new supply of men to aide his lieutenant; but he also had hard successe. At length hauing maintained waire for three whole yeeres, the king commanded a Iew to poyson their captaine. And so at last the king wan this citie also, in the yeere of the Hegeira 921.

Of the towne of Eithiad.

THis towne being built by the Africans vpon a certaine hillocke of Atlas, containeth to the number of three hundred families. It is walled onely towards the mountaine; for that side which respecteth the plaine, is so fortified naturally with rocks, that it seemeth not to need any wall. From Cithireb it is about twelue miles distant. The temple of this towne is little, but most beautifull, round about which runneth a mote, in manner of a riuier. The inhabitants are wealthie and noble: they haue great store of merchants, as well towneshmen as forreiners. The Iewes here inhabiting are partly artificers and partly merchants. About this towne are abundance of springs, which breaking through the rocks of the mountaine, doe fall into a certaine riuier vnder the towne. On both sides of this riuier are diuers gardens wondrously replenished with grapes, figs, and walnuts. Likewise the sides of the mountaine it selfe abound greatly with oliues. Their women are no lesse beautifull then ciuil, being adorned with much siluer, and wearing fine rings vpon their fingers and armes. Their vallie is fruitfull for all kinde of graine,

but

but their hill is meete onely for barly, and for goates-pasture. In my time one *Raoman Benguibazzan* vsurped this towne, and enioied it to his dying day. My selfe was once entertained by a ~~prie~~ priest of this place, in the yeere of the Hegeira 921.

Of Seggheme a mountaine of Tedles.

Albeit this mountaine standeth much southerly, yet is it to be accounted one of the mountaines of Tedles. Westward it beginneth from the mountaine of Tesaun, extending it selfe eastward to mount Magran, from whence the famous riuier of Ommirabih is said to take his beginning. The south part bordreth vpon mount Dedes. The inhabitants are said originally to bee descended from the people of Zanaga: they are personable, cheerefull, valiant, and warlike people. Their weapons are dartes, Turkish swords, and daggers. They sling stones likewise with great dexteritie and force. They are at continuall war with the inhabitants of Tedles, insomuch that no merchants can passe that way without publike safe-conduct, and without great expense of mony. Their houses are so homely built, that sometime three or fower roomes are contained in one. Of goates they haue great abundance, as likewise of mules scarcely so big as asses, which range so farre into the Forrest to seeke their foode, that they are often deuoured of lions. They would neuer submit themselues to any prince; for their mountaine is so rough and steepe, that it seemeth almost impregnable. In my time the same captaine which had woon the townes of Tedles went about to assaile them in like manner. Which when the mountainers vnderstood, assembling a great armie, they shrowded themselues in a certaine part of the mountaine, neere which they knew their enemies would passe. And so soone as they saw all the enemies horsemen ascended vp the hill, suddenly rushing foorth, they gaue them the onfet. The skirmish was not so long as bloodie: for the captaines armie being too weake for the mountainers, could neither march on, nor retire: wherefore they were constrained to fight it out by hand-blowes: many of them with their horses being thrown headlong downe the rocks, were miserably crushed in peeces: the residue were either taken or slaine, so that I thinke scarce one man of them escaped. But of all others the captiues were most miserable: for the mountainers themselues would not slay them, but deliuered them ouer to their wiuesto be tormented, who, as if they had beene she-tigres or lionesses, put them to a most horrible and vile death. From thencefoorth they had no traffique nor familiaritie with the people of Tedles, neither seemed they greatly to stand in need of their friendship (for they haue great store of barlie, of cattell, and of sweet fountaines) vlesse it bee for that they are excluded from all trade of merchandize.

IOHN LEO HIS THIRD BOOKE OF

the Historie of Africa, and
of the memorable things
contained therein.

A most exact description of the kingdome of Fez.



*Habab.
*Chau7. of
Chen7.

HE kingdome of Fez beginneth westward at the famous riuer Ommirabilh, and extendeth eastward to the riuer Muluia; northward it is enclosed partly with the Ocean, and partly with the Mediterran sea. The said kingdome of Fez is diuided into seuen prouinces; to wit, Temesna, the territorie of Fez, Azgar, *Elhabet, Er-rif, Garet, and *Elchaz: euery of which prouinces had in olde time a seuerall gouernour: neither indeed hath the cite of Fez alwaies bene the kings royall seate, but being built by a certaine Mahumetan apostata, was gouerned by his posteritie almost an hundred and fiftie yeeres. After which time the familie of Marin got the vpper hand, who here seding their aboad, were the first that euer called Fez by the name of a kingdome; the reasons why they did so, we will declare more at large in our small treatise concerning the Mahumetan religion. But now let vs as briefly as we may, describe the foresaid seuen prouinces.

Of Temesna one of the prouinces of Fez.



Estward it beginneth at the riuer Ommirabilh, and stretcheth to the riuer Buragrag eastward; the south frontire thereof bordereth vpon Atlas, and the north vpon the Ocean sea. It is all ouer a plaine countrie, containing in length from west to east almost fowerscore miles, and in breadth from Atlas to the Ocean sea about threescore. This prouince hath euer almost bene the principall of the seuen before named: for it contained to the number of fortie great townes, besides three hundred castles, all which were inhabited by Barbarian Africans. In the 323. yeere of the Hegeira this prouince was by a certaine heretike against the Mahumetan religion called *Chemim* the sonne of *Mennal* freed from paying of tribute. This bad fellow perswaded the people of Fez to yeeld no tribute nor honour vnto their prince, and himselfe he professed to be a prophet: but a while after he dealt not onely in matters of religion,

A dangerous
seducer.

religion, but in commonwealth-affaires also. At length waging war against the king of Fez (who was himselfe then warring with the people of Zenete) it so befell, that a league was concluded ~~betweene them~~ conditionally that *Chemim* shoulde enjoy Temefne, and that the king should containe himselfe within his signorie of Fez, so that from thencefoorth neither should molest other. The said *Chemim* governed the prouince of Temefne about fivc and thirtie yeeres: and his successours enjoyed it almost an hundred yeeres after his deccase. But king *Ioseph* having built Maroco, went about to bring this prouince vnder his subiection. Whereupon he sent sundry Mahumetan doctors, and priestes to reclaime the gouernour thereof from his heresie, and to perswade him, if it were possible, to yeele vnto the king by faire meanes. Whereof the inhabitants being aduertised, they consulted with a certaine kinsman of the foresaid gouernour, in the citie called *Ansa*, to murder the king of Maroco his ambassadours: and so they did. Soone after leuying an armie of fiftie thousand men, he marched towards Maroco, intending to expell thence the familie of Luntuna, and *Ioseph* their king. King *Ioseph* hearing of this newes, was driuen into woonderfull perplexitie of minde. Wherefore preparing an huge and mighty armie, he staid not the comming of his enemies: but on the sudden within three daies, having conducted his forces ouer the riuer of Ommirabih, he entred Temefne, when as the foresaid fiftie thousand men were so dismaied at the kings armie, that they all passed the riuer Buragrag, and so fled into Fez. But the king so dispeopled and wasted Temefne, that without all remorse he put both man, woman, and childe to the sword. This armie remained in the region eight daies, in which space they so razed and demolished all the towns and cities thereof, that there scarce remaine any fragments of them at this time. But the king of Fez on the other side hearing that the people of Temefne were come into his dominions, made a truce with the tribe of Zenete, and bent his great armie against the said Temefnites. And at length hauing found them halfe famished neere vnto the riuer of Buragrag, he so stopped their passage on all sides, that they were constrained to run vp the craggie mountaines and thickets. At last being enuironed with the kings forces, some of them were drowned in the riuer, others were throwne downe headlong from the rocks, and the residue were miserably slaine by their enemies. And for the space of ten moneths there was such hauock made among the Temefnites, that a sillie remnant of them was left alieue. But king *Ioseph* prince of the Luntunes returned foorthwith to Maroco for the repairing of his forces, to the end he might bid the king of Fez a battell. Howbeit Temefne being bereft of her people, was left to be inhabited of wilde beastes. Neither had that prouince any new colonie, or supply of inhabitants, till that about 150. yeeres after, king *Mansor* returning from Tunis, brought thence certaine Arabians with him, vnto whom he gaue the possession of Temefne. And these Arabians enjoyed the said prouince for fiftie yeeres: till such time as king *Mansor* himselfe was expelled out of his kingdom:

The horrible
desolation of
Temefne.

part of the
map

historical notes
continued

and then were they also expelled by the Luntunes, and were brought vnto extreme miserie. Afterward the kings of the familie of Marin bestowed the said prouince upon the people of Zenete and Haoara. Hence it came to passe that the said people of Zenete and Haoara were alwaies great friends vnto the Marin familie, and were thought to haue defended them from the furie of the king of Maroco. From which time they haue peaceably enjoyed Maroco, & now they are growne in lesse then an hundred yeeres so mighty, that they stand not in feare of the king of Fez. For they are able to bring threescore thousand horsemen to the field, and haue two hundred castles at their command. My selfe had great familiaritie and acquaintance with them, and therefore I will not stick to record all memorable things which I saw among them.

Of Ansa a towne in Temesna.

THis famous towne was built by the Romans vpon the Ocean sea shore, northward of Atlas sixtie, eastward of Azamur sixtie, and westward of Rebat fortie miles. The citizens thereof were most ciuill and wealthie people: the fields thereto adioyning are exceeding fruitfull for all kinde of graine: neither doe I thinke, that any towne in all Africa is for pleasant situation comparable thereto. The plaine round about it (except it be to the sea northward) is almost fower score miles ouer. In olde time it was fraught with stately temples, rich ware-houses and shops, and beautifull palaces: which the monuments as yet remaining doe sufficiently testifie. They had also most large and faire gardens, out of which they gather great abundance of fruit, especially of melons, and pome-citrons euen at this day: all which are perfectly ripe by mid-Aprill. So that the inhabitants vsually carrie their fruits vnto Fez, by reason that the fruits of Fez are not so soone ripe. Their attire is trim and decent, and they haue alwaies had great traffique with the Portugals and the English. Likewise they haue many learned men among them. Howbeit two reasons are alleaged of the destruction of this towne: first, because they were too desirous of libertie; and secondly, for that they maintained certaine gallies or foistes, wherewith they daily molested the Island of Cadiz and the Portugals. Wherefore at length the king of Portugall sent a strong nauic of fiftie sailes against them, the consideration whereof strooke such terrour into the inhabitants, that taking such goods as they could carrie, some fled to Rebat, and others to Sela, and so their towne was left naked to the spoile of the enemy. But the Generall of the kings flecte not knowing that they were fled, put all his forces into battell-array. Howbeit after a while being aduertised how the matter stood, he conducted his soldiers into the citie, which in one daies space they so defaced, burning the houses, and laying the walles euen with the ground, that vntill this day it hath remained voide of inhabitants. My selfe being in this place, I coulde scarce refraine from teares, when I seriously beheld the miserable ruine of

English traffique.

Ansa destroyed by the Portugals.

so many faire buildings and temples, whereof some monuments are as yet extant. The gardens, albeit they bring forth some fruit, yet are they more like vnto woods then gardens. And now by ~~reason~~ the king of Fez his weaknes and default, this place is fallen into so great desolation, as I vtterly despaire, that euer it will be inhabited againe.

Of the citie of Mansora.

THis towne was built by *Mansor* the king and Mahumetan patriarke of Maroco vpon a most pleasant field, being two miles distant from the Ocean sea, siue and twenty miles from Rebat, and siue and twenty from Anfa: it contained in times past almost fower hundred families. By this towne runneth a certaine riuer called by the inhabitants Guir, on both sides whereof in times past were most beautifull gardens, but now there are no fruits at all to be found. For vpon the surprize of Anfa the inhabitants of this towne fled vnto Rebat, fearing least they also should haue bene assailed by the Portugals. Howbeit the wall of this towne remained all whole, sauing that the Arabians of Temesne brake it downe in certaine places. This towne also I could not but with great sorrow behold; for easie it were to repaire it, and to furnish it with new inhabitants, if but a few houses were saued from ruine: but such is the malice of the Arabians thereabout, that they will suffer no people to reedifie the same.

Of the towne of Nuchaila.

THis little towne called by the inhabitants Nuchaila, is built almost in the midst of Temesne. It was well peopled in times past, and then (so long as the foresaid *Chemim* and his successours bare rule) there were fayres yeerely holden, whereunto all the inhabitants of Temesne vsually resorted. The townesmen were exceeding wealthie; for the plaines stretched almost fortie miles right foorth from each side of their towne. I red (as I remember) in a certaine storie, that they had in times past such abundance of come, as they would giue a camels burthen thereof for a paire of shooes. Howbeit when king *Ioseph* of Maroco destroied all the region of Temesne, this towne was laid waste, together with all the townes and cities of the same prouince: howbeit at this day certaine fragments thereof are to be seene, namely some partes of the towne-wall, and one high steeple. Here also in the large and pleasant gardens you may see many vines and trees planted, which are so olde and sear, that they yeeld no fruit at all. The husbandmen thereabout hauing finished their daies worke, doe lay vp their rakes and other such countrey tooles in the said steeple: supposing that by vertue of a certaine holy man which lieth there buried, no man dare remooue them out of their place. I haue often seene this towne, as I trauelled betweene Rebat and Maroco.

Of the towne of Adendum.

THis towne was situate among certaine hills almost fiftene miles from mount Atlas, and five and twenty miles from the towne last named. The soile neere vnto it is exceeding fruitfull for corne. Not farre from the walles thereof springeth a certaine riuer; about which place are great store of palme-trees, being but low and fruitles. The said riuer runneth through certaine vallies and rocks, where iron-mines are said to haue beene of olde, which may seeme probable, for the earth resembleth iron in colour, and the water in taste. Here is nothing now to be seene but a few reliques and ruines of houses and pillers ouerturned: for this towne was destroyed at the same time, when the whole region (as is before declared) was laid waste.

*Iron-mines.**Of the towne of Tegeet.*

THis towne was built by the Africans vpon the banke of Ommirabih neere vnto the high way leading from Tedles to Fez. It had in times past ciuill and wealthie inhabitants, for it stood not far from the way which passeth ouer Atlas into the deserts: hither were all the neighbour-people woont to resort for to buy corne. And albeit this towne was razed with all the residue in the province, yet is it after long time replanted with inhabitants. Hither doe all the Arabians of Temesne bring their corne, deliuering it vnto the townesmen, to be kept. Here are no shops nor artificers at all, but certaine smithes onely, which make tooles of husbandrie and horseshoes. The townesmen are streightly inioyned by the Arabians their gouernours courteously to entertaine all strangers traouelling that way. Merchants pay custome there for each packe of cloth to the value of a riall: but for their horses and camels they giue no custome at all. Often traouelling the same way, the towne did not greatly please me, albeit the grounds about it doe plentifully abound with cattell and corne.

Of the towne called Hain Elchallu.

THis small towne standeth on a certaine plaine not farre from Mansora. About this towne grow abundance of wilde cherrie-trees, and of other thornie trees, bearing a round fruit not much vnlike to a cherrie, sauing that it is yellow: it is somewhat bigger then an oliue, and the vtter part thereof is nothing pleasant in taste. The fennes and marishes on all sides of the towne are full of snailes and toades: which toades (as the inhabitants told me) are no whit venomous. There is not any African historiographer which maketh description or mention of this towne; because perhaps they thought it not woorthie the name of a towne, or for that it was long since destroyed. Neither was it (as I coniecture) built by the Africans, but either by the Romans or some other foren people.

A description of Rebat.

THIS great and famous towne was built not many yeeres agoe by *Mansor* for the king and Mahumetan patriarke of Maroco, vpon the Ocean sea shore. By the east part thereof runneth the riuer Buragrag beforenamed, and there dischargeth it selfe into the maine sea. The rocke whereon this towne is founded, standeth neere the mouth of the said riuer, hauing the riuer on the one side thereof, and the sea on the other. In building it much resembleth Maroco, which *Mansor* willed to be a paterne thereof: sauing that it is a great deale lesse then Maroco. Some say that the reason why it was built in this place was, for that king *Mansor* possessing the kingdome of Granada and a great part of Spaine besides, and considering that Maroco was so far distant, that if any warres should happen, he could not in due time send new forces against the Christians, determined to built some towne vpon the sea shore, where he and his armie might remaine all summer time. Some perswaded him to lie with his armie at Ceuta a towne vpon the streites of Gibraltar: but *Mansor* seeing that by reason of the barrennes of the soile he could not maintaine an armie royall for three or fower monethes in the towne of Ceuta, he caused this towne of Rebat in short space to be erected, and to be exceedingly beautified with temples, colleges, pallaces, shops, stoues, hospitals, and other such buildings. Moreouer on the south side without the walles he caused a certaine high tower like the tower of Maroco to be built, sauing that the winding staires were somewhat larger, inso-much that three horses a-breast might well ascend vp: from the top whereof they might escrie ships an huge way into the sea. So exceeding is the height thereof, that I thinke there is no where the like building to be found. And to the end that greater store of artificers and merchants might hither from all places make resort, he appointed, that euery man according to his trade and occupation should be allowed a yeerely stipend: whereupon it came to passe that within few moneths, this towne was better stored with all kinde of artificers and merchants, then any towne in all Africa besides, and that because they reaped a double gaine. Here vsed *Mansor* with his troupes to remaine from the beginning of April, till the moneth of September. And whereas there was no water about the towne meete to be drunke (for the sea runneth ten miles vp into the riuer, and the wels likewise yeeld salt-water) *Mansor* caused fresh water to be conueied to the towne by certaine pipes and chanel, from a fountaine twelue miles distant. And the conducts hee made arch-wise, like vnto the conducts of Italie in many places and specially at Rome. So soone as the said water-conduct was deriued vnto the towne, he caused it to be diuided and sent into sundry places, as namely some pipes thereof to the temples, some to the colleges, others to the kings pallace, and the rest into the common cesternes, throughout all the citie. Howbeit after king *Mansors* death this towne grew into such decay, that scarce the tenth

why king
Mansor buile
the towne of
Rebat vpon the
sea shore.

part thereof now remaineth. The said notable water-conduēt was vterly fordone in the warre betweene the Marin-familie and the successors of *Mansor*, and the famous towne it selfe decayeth euery day more then other: so that at this present a man shall hardly finde throughout the whole towne fower hundred houses inhabited; the residue are changed into fields and vineyards. About the foresaid rocke are two or three strectes with a few shops in them, which notwithstanding are in continuall danger, for they daily feare least the Portugals should surprize them; because the Portugall king often determined their ouerthrow, thinking if he might but win Rebat, that the kingdome of Fez were easie to be conquered. Howbeit the king of Fez hath alwaies endeouored to defend the same, and strongly to fortifie it against the enemye. But comparing their former felicitie with the present alteration wherinto they are fallen, I cannot but greatly lament their miserable case.

Of the towne of Sella.

THis towne was built by the Romans vpon the riuer of Buragrag, two miles from the Ocean sea, and a mile from Rebat: from whence, if a man will goe to the sea, he must take Rebat in his way. This towne also was destroyed when (as is aforesaid) king *Ioseph* spoyled all Temesne. Howbeit afterward king *Mansor* caused it to be walled round about, and built therein a faire hospitall and a stately pallace, into which his soldiers might at their pleasure retire themselues. Here likewise he erected a most beautifull temple, wherein he caused a goodly hall or chappell to be set vp, which was curiously carued, and had many faire windowes about it: and in this hall (when he perceiued death to seaze vpon him) he commanded his subiects to burie his corpes. Which being done, they laid one marble-stone ouer his head and another ouer his feete, whereon sundry epitaphes were engrauen. After him likewise all the honourable personages of his familie and blood, chose to be interred in the same hall. And so did the kings of the Marin-familie, so long as their commonwealth prospered. My selfe on a time entring the same hall, beheld there thirtie monuments of noble and great personages, and diligently wrote out all their epitaphes: this I did in the yeere of the Hegeira 915.

*Where King
Mansor was
buried.*

Of the towne called Mader Aruam.

THis towne was built in my time by a certaine treasurer of the Mahometan prelate *Abdulmumen*, vpon the banke of Buragrag. Some say it was built onely for yron-mines. From mount Atlas it is ten miles distant, and betweene it and Atlas are certaine shadie woods, full of terrible lions and leopards. So long as the founders posteritie gouerned this towne, it was well stored with people, with faire buildings, temples, innes, and hospitals: but, the Marin-familie preuailing daily more and more, it was at length by them

Iron-mines.

*Lions, and
leopards.*

them vtterly destroyed. Part of the inhabitants were slaine, and part taken prisoners, and the residue by flight escaped to Sella. The king of Maroco sent forces to succour the towne, but the citizens being vanquished before their comming, were constrained to forsake the same, and to yeeld it vnto the Marin-soldiers. Howbeit the king of Maroco his captaine comming vpon the Marin-captaine with round forces, draue him and his forth of the towne, and tooke possession thereof himselfe. At length the king of the said Marin-familie marching with an armie against Maroco, tooke his journey by this towne: whereat the gouernour being dismaied left the said towne, and before the kings approach betooke himselfe to flight. But the king putting all the inhabitants to the sword, left the towne it selfe so defaced and desolate, that by report it hath lien dispeopled euer since. The towne-walles and certaine steeples are as yet to be scene. My selfe sawe this towne, when the king of Fez hauing concluded a league with his cozen, tooke his journey to Thagia, for to visite the sepulchre of one accounted in his life time an holy man, called * *Seudi Buhafa*: which was in the yeere of the Hegeira * *Or Sidh*, 920. Anno Dom. 1511.

Of Thagia a towne in Temesne.

THis little towne was in ancient time built by the Africans among certaine hils of mount Atlas. The aire is extreme cold, and the soile drie and barren. It is enuironed with huge woods, which are full of lions and other cruell beasts. Their scarcitie of corne is sufficiently counteruailed with abundance of hony and goates. Ciuilitie they haue none at all; and their houses are most rudely built; for they haue no vse of lime. In this towne is visited the sepulchre of one accounted for a most holy man, who is reported in the time of *Habdulmumen*, to haue wrought many miracles against the furie of lions: whereupon he was reputed by many as a great prophet. I remember that I read in a certaine writer of that nation commonly called *Etdede*, a whole catalogue of the said holy mans miracles: which whether he wrought by arte-magique, or by some wonderfull secret of nature, it is altogether vncertaine. Howbeit his great fame and honorable reputation is the cause why this towne is so well fraught with inhabitants. The people of Fez hauing solemnized their passeouer, doe yeerely frequent this towne to visite the said sepulchre, and that in such huge numbers, that you woulde esteeme them to be an whole armie; for euery principall man carries his tent and other necessaries with him: and so you shall see sometime an hundred tents and sometimes more in that company. Fifteene daies they are in performing of that pilgrimage; for Thagia standeth from Fez almost an hundred and twenty miles. My selfe being a childe, went thither on pilgrimage oftentimes with my father; as likewise being growne vp to mans estate, I repaired thither as often, making supplication to be deliuered from the danger of lions.

Of the towne of Zarfa.



His towne the Africans built vpon a certaine large and beautifull plaine, watted with pleasant riuers, and christall-fountaines. About the ancient bounds of this citie you may behold many shrubs, together with fig-trees and cherrie-trees, which beare such cherries, as at Rome are called Marene. Here are likewise certaine thornie trees, the fruit whereof is by the Arabians called Rabich. Somewhat lesser it is then a cherie, resembling in taste the fruit called Ziziphum, or Iujuba. Here also may you finde great store of wilde palme-trees, from which they gather a kinde of fruit like vnto Spanish oliues, sauing that the stone or nut is greater, and not so pleasant in taste: before they be ripe they taste somewhat like vnto Seruice-apples. This towne was destroyed when king *Ioseph* aforesaid spoiled Temefne. Now the Arabians of Temefne sow their corne where the towne stood, with great increase and gaine.

Of the territorie of Fez.



* Or Sebū.

Eastward it beginneth at the riuer of Buragrag, and stretcheth eastward to the riuer called Inauen: which two riuers are almost a hundred miles distant asunder. Northward it bordereth vpon the riuer * Subu, and southward vpon the foote of Atlas. The soile both for abundance of corne, fruits, and cattell seemeth to be inferiour to none other. Within this prouince you shall see many exceeding great villages, which may for their bignes, not vnfitly be called townes. The plaines of this region haue bene so watted with former warres, that very few inhabitants dwell vpon them, except certaine poore silly Arabians, some of whom haue ground of their owne, and some possesse ground in common, either with the citizens of Fez, or with the king, or else with some courtier. But the fields of Sala and Mecnase are tilled by other Arabians of better account, and are for the most part subiect to the king of Fez. And now those things which are woorthy of memorie in this region let vs here make report of.

Of the citie or towne of Sella.

This most ancient citie was built by the Romans, and sacked by the Gothes. And afterward when the Mahumetans armie were entred into the same region, the Gothes gaue it to *Tarick* one of their captaines. But euer since the time that Fez was built, Sella hath bene subiect vnto the gouernours thereof. It is most pleasantly situate vpon the Ocean sea-shore, within halfe a mile of Rebat; both which townes the riuer Buragrag separateth insunder. The buildings of this towne carrie a shew of antiquitie on them,

them, being artificially carued and stately supported with marble pillars. Their temples are most beautifull, and their shops are built vnder large porches. And at the end of euery row of shops is an arch, which (as they say) is to diuide one occupation frō another. And (to say all in a word) here is nothing wanting, which may be required either in a most honourable citie, or in a flourishing commonwealth. Moreouer hither resort all kinde of merchants both Christians and others. Here the Genowaies, Venetians, English, and lowe Dutch vsed to traffique. In the 670. yeere of the Hegeira this towne was surprized by a certaine Castilian captaine, the inhabitants being put to flight, and the Christians enjoying the citie. And when they had kept it ten daies, being on the sudden assailed by *Jacob* the first king of the Marin-familie (who could not, they thought, surcease his warre against *Tremizen*) they were put to the woorst, the greater part being slaine, and the residue put to flight. From thencefoorth that prince fauoured of all his subiects, enioyed the kingdome, after whom lineally succeeded those of his owne race and blood. And albeit this towne was in so few daies recouered from the enemy; yet a worlde it was to see, what a woonderfull alteration both of the houses and of the state of gouernment happened. Many houses of this towne are left desolate, especially neere the towne-walles: which, albeit they are most stately and curiously built, yet no man there is that will inhabit them. The grounds adioyning vpon this towne are sandie: neither are they fit for corne, but for cotton-wooll in diuers places very profitable. The inhabitants, diuers of them, doe weaue most excellent cotton. Here likewise are made very fine combes, which are sold in all the kingdome of Fez, for the region thereabout yeeldeth great plenty of box, and of other wood fit for the same purpose. Their gouernment is very orderly and discreet euen vntill this day: for they haue most learned iudges, vmpires, and deciders of doubtfull cases in lawe. This towne is frequented by many rich merchants of Genoa, whom the king hath alwaies had in great regarde; because he gaineth much yeerely by their traffique. The said merchants haue their aboad and diet, partly here at Sella, and partly at Fez: from both which towns they mutually helpe the traffique one of another. These Genowaies I found in their affaires of merchandize to be exceeding liberall: for they will spend frankly to get a courtiers fauour, not so much for their owne priuate gaine, as to be esteemed bountifull by strangers. In my time there was an honorable gentlemā of Genoa in the king of Fez his court, called *Messer Thomaso di Marino*, a man both learned & wise, & highly reputed of by the king. This man hauing continued almost thirtie yeeres in the Fessan court, hee there deceased, and requesting on his death-bed to haue his corpes interred at Genoa, the king commanded the same to be transported thither. After his decease he left many sonnes in the Fessan kings court, who all of them prooued rich, and were greatly fauoured by the king.

English traffique.

Sella won by a captaine of Castilia, and recouered forthwith by the king of Fez.

A merchant of Genoa.

Of the towne called Fanzara.

THis towne being not very large, was built by a certaine king of the familie called Muachidin, on a beautiful plaine almost ten miles from Sella. The soile thereabouts yeeldeth come in great plenty. Without the towne-walles are very many cleere fountaines and wels, which *Abuchesen* the king of Fez caused there to be digged. In the time of *Abusaid* the last king of the Marin-familie, his cozen called *Sahid* was taken by *Habdilla* the king of Granada; whereupon by letters he requested his cozen the king of Fez to send him a certaine summe of money required by the king of Granada for his ranfome. Which when the Fessan king refused to yeeld vnto, *Habdilla* restored his prisoner to libertie, and sent him towardes Fez to destroy both the citie and the king. Afterward *Sahid*, with the helpe of certaine wilde Arabians besieged Fez for seuen yeeres together; in which space most of the townes, villages, and hamlets throughout the whole kingdome were destroyed. But at length such a pestilence inuaded *Sahid's* forces, that himselfe, with a great part of his armie, in the * 918. yeere of the Hegeira, died thereof. Howbeit those desolate townes neuer receiued from thencefoorth any new inhabitants, especially Fanzara, which was giuen to certaine Arabian captains, that came to assist *Sahid*.

Of the towne of *Mahmora*.

THis towne was built vpon the mouth of the great riuer Subu by a certaine king of the Muachidin-familie, being almost halfe a mile distant from the sea, and about twelue miles from Sella. The places neere vnto it are sandie and barren. It was built (they say) of purpose to keepe the enemies from entring the mouth of the said riuer. Not farre from this towne standeth a mighty wood, the trees whereof beare a kinde of nuts or acornes about the bignes of Damascen-plums, being sweeter in taste then chestnuts. Of which nuts certaine Arabians, dwelling neer vnto the place, conuey great plenty vnto the citie of Fez, and reape much gaine thereby: howbeit in going to gather this fruit, vnles they take good heede vnto themselues, they are in great danger of the most cruell and deuouring lions in all Africa, which there oftentimes doe seaze vpon them. This towne a hundred and twenty yeeres agoe was razed in the foresaid warre of *Sahid* against the king of Fez, nothing but a few ruines thereof remaining, whereby it appeereth to haue beene of no great bignes. In the 921. yeere of the Hegeira the king of Portugal sent an armie to build a forte in the foresaid riuers mouth; which they accordingly attempted to doe. But hauing laide the foundations, and reared the walles a good height, the king of Fez his brother so defeated them of their purpose, that he slue of them in one night almost three thousand in maner following: on a certaine morning before sun-rise three thousand

The occasion of the bloody warre moued by *Sahid*.

The citie of Fez besieged for seuen yeeres together.

* This number (as I take it) should rather be 819.

Most cruell and deuouring lions.

The Portugals attempting to build a forte within the mouth of the riuer Subu, defeated of their purpose, and slaine.

sand Portugals marching towards the king of Fez his campe, determined to bring thence all the ordinance and field-peeces vnto their new-erected fort: howbeit most rashly and inconsiderately, themselues being but three thousand, and the kings armie containing fiftie thousand footemen, and fower thousand horsemen. And yet the Portugals hoped so slyly and closely to performe this attempt, that before the Moores were ready to pursue them, they should conuey all their ordinance vnto the forte which was two miles distant. The Moores which kept the ordinance being seuen thousand men, were all asleepe when the Portugals came: whereupon the Portugals had so good successe, that they had carried the ordinance almost a mile, before the enemie was aware thereof. But at last, some rumour or alarme being giuen in the Moores campe, they all betooke themselues to armes, and fiercely pursued the Portugals, who likewise arranged their whole companie into battell-array. And albeit the enemie enuironed them on all sides; yet they made such stout and valiant resistance, that they had all escaped to their forte in safetie, had not certaine villains in the king of Fez his armie cried out amaine in the Portugall toong: Hold your hands (fellow soldiers) and throw downe your weapons, for the kings brother will make a truce. Which the Portugals no sooner yeilded vnto, but the sauage and merciles Moores put them euery one to the sword, sauing three or fower onely, who were saued at the request of a captaine in the Moores campe. The Portugals Generall being sore dismaied with this slaughter (for thereby he had lost all his principal soldiers) craued aide of a certaine other captaine, which by chance arriued there with a mightie fleete, being accompanied with a great number of noblemen and gentlemen. Howbeit, he was so hindred by the Moores (who daily did him all the villanie they could, and sunke diuers of his ships) that he was not able to performe that which he desired. In the meane space newes was published among the Portugals, of the king of Spaines death; whereupon diuers ships were prouided, and many Portugals were sent into Spaine. Likewise the captaine of the said new forte seeing himselfe destitute of all succour, leauing the forte, embarked himselfe in those ships, which then lay vpon the riuer. But the greatest part of the fleete were cast away at their setting forth, and the residue, to escape the Moores shot, ran themselues a-ground on the flats and shoulde of the riuer, and were there miserably slaine by the Moores. Many of their ships were here burnt, and their ordinance sunke in the sea. So many Christians were then slaine (some say *Alamentable slaughter* to the number of ten thousand) that the sea-water in that place continued red with their blood for three daies after. Soone after the Moores tooke vp fower hundred great peeces of brasse out of the sea. This huge calamitie befell the Portugals for two causes: first because they would with such a small number make so rash an assault vpon the Moores, whom they knew to be so strong: and secondly, whereas the Portugall-king might at his owne cost haue sent another fleete for a new supply, he would by no meanes ioine his owne people and Castilians together. For by reason of the diuerstitie of counsels

*John Leo his
voiage to Con-
stantinople.*

counfels and of people, there is nothing more pernicious then for an armie to consist of two nations: yea the Moores certainly expect the vpper hand, when they are to fight with such an armie. I my selfe was present in the foresaid warre, and sawe each particular accident, a litle before my voyage to Constantinople.

Of the towne called Tefselfelt.

Fierce lions.

THIS towne is situate vpon a sandie plaine, fiftene miles eastward of Mahmora, and almost twelue miles from the Ocean sea. Not far from this towne runneth a certaine riuer, on both sides whereof are thicke woods haunted with more fierce and cruell lions, then the last before mentioned, which greatly endanger those trauellers that haue occasion to lodge thereabout. Without this towne, vpon the high way to Fez, standeth an olde cottage with a plancherd chamber therein: here the mulettiers and carriers are said to take vp their lodging; but the doore of the said cottage they stop as sure as they can with boughes and thornes. Some affirme, that this rotten cottage (while the towne was inhabited) was a most stately inne. But it was defaced in the foresaid war of *Sahid*.

A description of Mecnase.

THIS towne was so called after the name of the Mecnasites who were the founders thereof. From Fez it is 36. miles, about fiftie from Sella, and from Atlas almost 15. miles distant. It is exceeding rich, and containeth families to the number of six thousand. The inhabitants hereof while they dwelt in the fields liued a most peaceable life: howbeit at length they fell to dissension among themselves, and the weaker part hauing all their cattell taken from them, and hauing nothing in the fields to maintaine their estate, agreed among themselves to build this citie of Mecnase in a most beautiful plaine. Neere vnto this towne runneth a litle riuer: and within three miles thereof are most pleasant gardens replenished with all manner of fruits. Quinces there are of great bignes, and of a most fragrant smell; and pomegranates likewise, which being very great and most pleasant in taste, haue no stones within them, and yet they are sold exceeding cheape. Likewise here are plentie of damascens, of white plums, and of the fruite called Iujuba, which being dried in the sunne, they eate in the spring, and carrie a great number of them to Fez. They haue likewise great store of figs and grapes, which are not to be eaten but while they are greene & new: for their figs being dried become so brittle, that they waste all to powder, and their grapes when they are made raisins, prooue vsiaurie. Peaches and oranges they haue in so great quantitie, that they make no store of them: but their limons are waterish and vnpleasant. Oliues are sold among them for a duekat and a halfe the Cantharo, which measure containeth a hundred pounds Italian.

Italian. Moreouer their fields yeeld them great plentie of hempe and flaxe, which they sell at Fez and Sela. In this towne are most stately and beautifull temples, three colleges, and ten bath-stoues. Euery monday they haue a great market without the towne-walles, whereunto the bordering Arabians doe vsually resort. Here are oxen, sheepe, and other such beastes to be sold: butter and wooll are here plentifull and at an easie rate. In my time the king bestowed this towne vpon a certaine noble man of his, where as much fruits are reaped as in the third part of the whole kingdome of Fez. This towne hath beene so afflicted by warres, that the yeerely tribute thereof hath beene diminished sometime fortie thousand, and fittie thousand duckats, and sometimes more: and I haue red, that it hath beene besieged for fixe or seuen yeeres together. In my time the gouernour thereof the king of Fez his cozen, relying vpon the fauour of the people, rebelled against his kinsman and foueraigne. Whereupon the Fessan king with a great armie besieged the towne two moneths together, and, because it would not yeeld, so wasted and destroied all the countrie thereabout, that the gouernour lost by that means fixe and twentie thousand duckats of yeerely reuenue. What then shall we thinke of the fixe and seuen yeeres siege before mentioned? At length those citizens which fauoured the king of Fez opened the gates, and stoutly resisting the contrarie faction, gaue the king and his soldiers entrance. Thus by their meanes the king wan the citie, carrying home to Fez the rebellious gouernour captiue, who within fewe daies escaped from him. This most strong and beautifull citie hath many faire streetes, whereinto by conductes from a fountaine three miles distant, is conueied most sweet and holesome water, which serueth all the whole citie. The mils are two miles distant from the towne. The inhabitants are most valiant, warlike, liberal, and ciuill people, but their wits are not so refined as others: some of them are merchants, some artificers, and the residue gentlemen. They count it vnseemely for any man to send an horse-lode of seede to his husbandman or farmer. They are at continuall iarre with the citizens of Fez; but whereupon this dissension of theirs should arise, I cannot well determine. Their gentlemens wiues neuer goe foorth of the doores but onely in the night season, and then also they must be so veiled and muffled that no man may see them: so great is the ielousie of this people. This towne is so durtic in the spring-time, that it would irke a man to walke the streetes.

Mecnase reduced vnder subjection by the king of Fez.

Of a towne called Gemha Elchmen.

THis ancient towne standeth on a plaine neere vnto certaine baths, being distant southward of Mecnase fifteene miles, westward of Fez thirtie, and from Atlas about ten miles. By this towne lieth the common high way from Fez to Tedle. The felde of this towne was possessed by certaine Arabians, and the towne it selfe vtterly destroied in the war of *Sahid*. Howbeit in certaine places the walles are yet remaining, and diuers towers and temples standing without roofes.

Of the towne called Cannis Metgara.

THis towne was built by certaine Africans in the field of Zuaga almost fifteene miles westward from Fez. Without this towne for two miles together were most pleasant and fruitfull gardens: but by the cruell warre of *Sabid* all was laide waste; and the place it selfe remained void of inhabitants an hundred and twenty yeeres. Howbeit when part of the people of Granada came ouer into Africa, this region began to be inhabited anew. And whereas the Granatines are great merchants of silke, they caused, for the breeding of silkwormes, great store of white mulberrie trees to be brought hither. Here likewise they planted abundance of sugar-canes, which prosper not so well in this place as in the prouince of Andaluzia. In times past the inhabitants of this place were very ciuill people, but in our time they haue not bene so, by reason that all of them exercise husbandrie.

Of the towne of Banibasil.

THis towne was built by the Africans vpon a certaine small riuer iust in the mid way betweene Mecnase and Fez, being distant from Fez about eighteene miles westward. Out of their fields many riuers take their originall, which fieldes are by the Arabians sowed all ouer with barlie and hempe: neither indeed will the soile yeeld any other commoditie, both by reason of the barrennes, and also for that it is for the most part ouerflowed with water. Whatsoever commoditie ariseth out of this place redoundeth to the priestes of the principall Mahumetan temple in Fez, and it amounteth almost yeerely to twenty thousand duckats. Here also in times past were most large, pleasant, and fruitfull gardens, as appeereth by the monuments and reliques thereof, howbeit they were, like other places, laide waste by the war of *Sabid*. The towne it selfe remained destitute of inhabitants an hundred and ten yeeres; but as the king of Fez returned home from Ducala, he commanded part of his people to inhabite the same: albeit their inciuilitie made them loth so to doe.

Of Fez the principall citie of all Barbarie, and of the founders thereof.

Fez was built in the time of one *Aron* a Mahumetan patriarke, in the yeere of the Hegeira 185. and in the yeere of our Lord 786. by a certaine heretike against the religion of Mahumet. But why it should so be called some are of opinion, because when the first foundations thereof were digged, there was found some quantitie of golde, which mettall in the Arabian language is called Fez. Which etymologic seemeth to me not improbable, albeit

albeit some would haue it so called from a certaine riuer of that name. But howsoeuer it be, we leaue that to be discuffed by others, affirming for an vn-doubted truth, that the founder of this citie was one *Idris*, being the foresaid *Aron* his neere kinsman. This *Idris* ought rather to haue bene Mahumetan patriarke, because he was nephew vnto *Hali* the cozen-german of Mahumet, who married *Falerna* Mahumets owne daughter, so that *Idris* both by father and mother was of Mahumets linage: but *Aron* being nephew vnto one *Habbus* the vncler of Mahumet, was of kinred onely by the fathers side. Howbeit both of them were excluded from the said patriarkship for certaine causes mentioned in the African chronicles, although *Aron* vsurped the same by deceit. For *Arons* vncler being a most cunning and craftie man, and faining himselfe to beare greatest fauour vnto the familie of *Hali*, and to be most desirous, that the patriarkship should light thereon, sent his ambassadours almost throughout the whole world. Whereupon the dignitie was translated from *Vmeve* to *Habdulla Seffec* the first patriarke. Which, *Vmeve* being informed of, waged warre against the familie of *Hali*, and so preuailed, that some of them he chased into Asia, and some into India. Howbeit an ancient religious man of the same familie remained still aliue at Elmadina, who being very olde, no whit regarded the dignitie. But this ancient sire left behinde him two sonnes, who when they were come to mans estate, grew into so great fauour with the people of Elmadin, that they were chased thence by their enemies; the one being taken & hanged; and the other (whose name was *Idris*) escaping into Mauritania. This *Idris* dwelling vpon mount Zaron about thirtie miles from Fez, gouerned not onely the commonwealth, but matters of religion also: and all the region adiacent paid him tribute. At length *Idris* deceasing without lawfull issue, left one of his maides big with childe, which had bene turned from the Gothes religion to the Moores. Being deliuered of her sonne, they called him after his fathers name, *Idris*. This childe the inhabitants chusing for their prince, caused him to be most carefully brought vp: and as he grew in yeeres, to the end they might traine him vp in feates of chiuallrie, they appointed one *Rasid* a most valiant and skilfull captaine to instruct him. In somuch, that while he was but fifteene yeeres of age, he grew famous for his valiant actes and stratagemes, and began woonderfully to enlarge his dominions. Wherefore his troups and familie increasing euery day more and more, he set his minde vpon building of a citie, and changing of his habitation: And so he sent for cunning builders into all nations, who hauing diligently perused all places in the region, at last made choise of that where the citie of Fez now standeth. For here they found great store of fountaines, and a faire riuer, which springing forth of a plaine not far of, runneth pleasantly almost eight miles amidst the little hils, till at length it casteth it selfe vpon another plaine. Southward of the place they found a wood, which they knew would be right commodious for the towne. Here therefore vpon the east banke of the said riuer, they built a towne containing three thousand families: neither omitted they

Idris the first founder of Fez.

Idris his great valour at fifteene yeeres of age.

ought at al which might be required in a flourishing commonwealth. After the decease of *Idris*, his sonne erected another towne directly ouer against the foresaid, on the other side of the riuier. But in processe of time either towne so encreased, that there was but a small distance betweene them: for the gouernours of each laboured might and maine to augment their owne iurisdiccions. An hundred and fower score yeeres after, there fell out great dissension and ciuill warre betweene these two cities, which by report continued an hundred yeeres together. At length *Ioseph* king of Maroco of the Luntune-familie, conducting an huge armie against both these princes, tooke them prisoners, carried them home vnto his dominions, and put them to a most cruell death. And he so vanquished the citizens, that there were slaine of them thirtie thousand. Then determined king *Ioseph* to reduce those two townes into firme vnitie and concord: for which cause, making a bridge ouer the riuier, and beating downe the walles of either towne right against it, he vnited both into one, which afterward he diuided into twelue regions or wardes. Now let vs make report of all such memorable things as are there to be seene * at this day.

* 1526.

A most exact description of the citie of Fez.



World it is to see, how large, how populous, how well-fortified and walled this citie is. The most part thereof standeth vpon great and little hils: neither is there any plaine ground but onely in the midst of the citie. The riuier entreth the towne in two places, for it is diuided into a double branch, one whereof runneth by new Fez, that is, by the south side of the towne, and another commeth in at the west side. And so almost infinitely dispersing it selfe into the citie, it is deriued by certaine conducts and chanelles vnto euery temple, college, inne, hospitall, and almost to euery priuate house. Vnto the temples are certaine square conducts adioined, hauing celles and receptacles round about them; each one of which hath a cocke, whereby water is conueied through the wall into a trough of marble. From whence flowing into the sinks and gutters, it carrieth away all the filth of the citie into the riuier. In the midst of each square conduct standeth a lowe cesterne, being three cubites in depth, fower in bredth, and twelue in length: and the water is conueied by certaine pipes into the foresaid square conducts, which are almost an hundred and fiftie in number. The most part of the houses are built of fine bricks and stones curiously painted. Likewise their bay-windows and portals are made of partie-coloured bricke, like vnto the stones of Majorica. The roofes of their houses they adorne with golde, azure, and other excellent colours, which roofes are made of wood, and plaine on the top, to the end that in summer-time carpets may be spred vpon them, for here they vse to lodge by reason of the exceeding heate of that countrie. Some houses are of two and some of three stories high, whereunto they make

make fine staires, by which they passe from one roome to another vnder the same rooſe: for the middle part of the house is alwaies open or vncouered, hauing some chambers built on the one side, and some on the other. The chamber-doores are very high and wide: which in rich mens houses are framed of excellent and carued wood. Each chamber hath a presse curiously painted and varnished belonging thereunto, being as long as the chamber it selfe is broad: some will haue it very high, and others but sixe handfuls in height, that they may set it on the tester of a bed. All the portals of their houses are supported with bricke-pillers finely plaistered ouer, except some which stand vpon pillers of marble. The beames and transoms vpholding their chambers are most curiously painted and carued. To some houses likewise belong certaine square cesterne, containing in breadth sixe or seuen cubites, in length ten or twelue, and in height but sixe or seuen handfuls, being all vncouered, and built of bricks trimly plaistered ouer. Along the sides of these cesterne are certaine cocks, which conuey the water into marble-troughes, as I haue seene in many places of Europe. When the foresaide conducts are full of water, that which floweth ouer, runneth by certaine secret pipes and conueiances into the cesterne: and that which ouerfloweth the cesterne, is carried likewise by other passages into the common sinks and gutters, and so into the riuer. The said cesterne are alwaies kept sweete and cleane, neither are they couered but onely in summer-time, when men, women, and children bathe themselues therein. Moreouer on the tops of their houses they vsually build a turret with many pleasant roomes therein, whither the women, for recreations sake, when they are wearie of working, retire themselues; from whence they may see well-nigh all the citie ouer. Of Mahumetan temples and oratories there are almost seuen hundred in this towne, fiftie whereof are most stately and sumptuously built, hauing their conducts made of marble and other excellent stonnes vnknown to the Italians; and the chapters of their pillers be artificially adorned with painting and caruing. The tops of these temples, after the fashion of Christian churches in Europe, are made of ioises and planks: but the pauement is couered with mats which are so cunningly sowed together, that a man cannot see the bredth of a finger vncouered. The walles likewise on the inner side are lined a mans height with such mats. Moreouer, each temple hath a turret or steeple, from whence certaine are appointed with a lowd voice to call the people at their set-time of praier. Euery temple hath one onely priest to say seruice therein; who hath the bestowing of all reuenues belonging to his owne temple, as occasion requireth: for thereby are maintained lampes to burne in the night, and porters to keepe the doores are paid their wages out of it, and so likewise are they that call the people to ordinarie praier in the night season: for those which crie from the said towers in the day-time haue no wages, but are onely released from all tributes and exactions. The chiefe Mahumetan temple in this towne is called *Caruuen*, being of so incredible a bignes, that the circuit thereof and of the buildings longing vnto it, is a

The number and statelines of the Mahumetan temples in Fez.

The principall temple of Fez called Caruuen.

good mile and a halfe about. This temple hath one and thirtie gates or portals of a woonderfull greatnes and height. The roofoe of this temple is in length 150. and in bredth about fowerfcore Florentine cubites. The turret or steeple, from whence they crie amaine to assemble the people together, is exceedingly high; the bredth whereof is supported with twentie, and the length with thirtie pillers. On the east, west, and north sides, it hath certaine walkes or galleries, fortie cubites in length, and thirtie in bredth. Vnder which galleries there is a cell or storehouse, wherein oile, candles, mats, and other such necessaries for the temple are laid vp. Euery night in this temple are burnt nine hundred lightes; for euery arch hath a feuerall lampe, especially those which extend through the mid-quire. Some arches there are that haue 120. candles apeece: there are likewise certaine brasse-candlestickes so great and with so many sockets, as they will holde each one fiftene hundred candles: and these candlestickes are reported to haue beene made of bels, which the king of Fez in times past tooke from Christians. About the wals of the said temple are diuers pulpits, out of which those that are learned in the Mahumetan lawe instruct the people. Their winter-lectures begin presently after sun-rise, and continue the space of an hower. But their summer-lectures holde on from the sunne going downe, till an hower and a halfe within night. And here they teach as well morall philosophie as the law of Mahumet. The summer-lectures are performed by certaine priuate and obscure persons; but in winter such onely are admitted to read, as be reputed their greatest clerkes. All which readers and professours are yeerely allowed most liberall stipends. The priest of this great temple is inioined onely to read praiers, and faithfully to distribute almes among the poore. Euery festiuall day he bestoweth all such corne and money as he hath in his custodie, to all poore people, according to their neede. The tresurer or collector of the reuenues of this church hath euery day a duckat for his pay. Likewise he hath eight notaries or clerkes vnder him; euery one of which gaineth sixe duckats a moneth: and other sixe clerks who receiue the rent of houses, shops, and other such places as belong to the temple, hauing for their wages the twentieth part of all such rents and duties as they gather. Moreouer there belong to this temple twentie factors or bailies of husbandrie, that without the citie-walles haue an eie to the labourers, plowemen, vine-planters, and gardeners, and that prouide them things necessarie: their gaine is three duckats a moneth. Not far from the citie are about twentie lime-kils, and as many bricke-kils, seruing for the reparation of their temple, and of all houses thereto belonging. The reuenues of the said temple daily receiued, are two hundred duckats a day; the better halfe whereof is laid out vpon the particulars afore said. Also if there be any temples in the citie destitute of liuing, they must all be maintained at the charges of this great temple: and then that which remaineth after all expences, is bestowed for the behoofe of the commonwealth: for the people receiue no reuenues at all. In our time the king commanded the priest

*The reuenues
of the great
temple, and
how they are
bestowed.*

of the said temple to lend him an huge summe of money, which he neuer repaied againe. Moreouer in the citie of Fez are two most stately colleges, of which diuers roomes are adorned with curious painting; all their beames are carued, their walles consisting both of marble and freestone. Some colleges here are which containe an hundred studies, some more, and some fewer, all which were built by diuers kings of the Marin-familie. One there is among the rest most beautifull and admirable to behold, which was erected by a certaine king called *Habu Henon*. Here is to be seene an excellent fountaine of marble, the cesterne whereof containeth two pipes. Through this college runneth a little streame in a most cleere and pleasant chanel, the brims and edges whereof are workmanly framed of marble, and stones of Majorica. Likewise here are three cloysters to walke in, most curiously and artificially made, with certaine eight-square pillers of diuers colours to support them. And betweene piller and piller the arches are beautifullly ouercast with golde, azure, and diuers other colours; and the roofoe is very artificially built of wood. The sides of these cloysters are so close, that they which are without cannot see such as walke within. The walles round about as high as a man can reach, are adorned with plaister-worke of Majorica. In many places you may finde certaine verses, which declare what yeere the college was built in, together with many epigrams in the founders commendation. The letters of which verses are very great and blacke, so that they may be red a far off. This college-gates are of brasse most curiously carued, and so are the doores artificially made of wood. In the chappell of this college standeth a certaine pulpit mounted nine staires high, which staires are of iuorie and eben. Some affirme, that the king hauing built this college, was desirous to knowe how much money he had spent in building it; but after he had perused a leafe or two of his account-booke, finding the summe of fortie thousand duckats, he rent it asunder, and threw it into the foresaid little riuer, adding this sentence out of a certaine Arabian writer: Each pretious and amiable thing, though it costeth deere, yet if it be beautifull, it cannot choose but be good cheape: neither is any thing of too high a price, which pleaseth a mans affection. Howbeit a certaine treasurer of the kings, making a particular account of all the said expences, found that this excellent building stood his master in 480000. duckats. The other colleges of Fez are somewhat like vnto this, hauing euery one readers and professors, some of which read in the forenoone, and some in the afternoone. In times past the students of these colleges had their apparell and victuals allowed them for seuen yeeres, but now they haue nothing gratis but their chamber. For the warre of *Sabid* destroyed many possessions, whereby learning was maintained; so that now the greatest college of al hath yeerely but two hundred, and the second but an hundred duckats for the maintenance of their professors. And this perhaps may be one reason, among many, why the government not onely of Fez, but of all the cities in Africa, is so base. Now these colleges are furnished with no schollers but such as are strangers, and

The suppressions of learning and learned men, a principall cause of disorderly & base government.

liue of the citie-almes: and if any citizens dwell there, they are not above two or three at the most. The professor being ready for his lecture, some of his auditors readeth a text, whereupon the said professor dilateth, and explaineth obscure and difficult places. Sometimes also the schollers dispute before their professor.

*A description of the hospitals and barbes in the
citie of Fez.*

MAny hospitals there are in Fez, no whit inferiour, either for building or beautie, vnto the foresaid colleges. For in them whatsoever strangers came to the citie were intertained at the common charge for three daies together. There are likewise as faire and as stately hospitals in the suburbs. In times past their wealth was marvellous great; but in the time of *Sabias* warre, the king standing in neede of a great summe of money, was counselled by some of his greedy courtiers to sell the liuings of the said hospitals. Which when the people would in no case yeeld vnto, the kings orator or speaker, perswaded them that all those liuings were giuen by his maiesties predeceffours, and therefore (because when the warres were ended, they should soone recouer all againe) that it were far better for them by that meanes to pleasure their soueraigne, then to let his kingly estate fall into so great danger. Whereupon all the said liuings being sold, the king was prevented by vntimely and sudder death before he could bring his purpose to effect: and so these famous hospitals were depriued of all their maintenance. The poore indeede and impotent people of the city are at this day relieved; but no strangers are entertained, saue only learned men or gentlemen. Howbeit there is another hospital for the releefe of sick & diseased strangers, who haue their diet onely allowed them, but no phisition or medicine: certaine women there are which attend vpon them, till they recouer their former health, or die. In this hospitall likewise there is a place for franticke or distraught persons, where they are bound in strong iron chaines; whereof the part next vnto their walks is strengthened with mighty beames of wood and iron. The gouernour of these distraught persons, when he bringeth them any sustenance, hath a whip of purpose to chastise those that offer to bite, strike, or play any mad part. Sometimes it falleth out that these franticke people will call vnto them such as passe by; declaring how vniustly they are there detained, and how cruelly they are handled by the officers, when as notwithstanding they affirme themselves to bee restored vnto their right minde. And hauing thus perswaded the commers-by, approching neerer and neerer vnto them, at length they take hold with one hand on their garments, and (like villans) with the other hand they shamefully defile their faces and apparell with dung. And though all of them haue their priues and close stooles, yet would they be poysoned in their owne filth, if the seruants did not often wash their lodgings: so that their abominable and continuall
stinke

stinke is the cause why citizens neuer visite them. Likewise this hospitall hath many roomes for the purueiors, notaries, cookes, and other officers belonging to the sicke persons; who each of them haue some small yeerely stipend. Being a yoong man I my selfe was notarie heere for two yeeres, which office is woorth three duckats a moneth.

John Leo in his youth a notarie of an hospitall for two yeeres together.

In this citie are moe then an hundred bath-stoues very artificially and stately built: which though they be not of equall bignes, yet are they all of one fashion. Each stoue hath fower halles, without which are certaine galleries in an higher place, with fise or fixe staires to ascend vnto them: here men put off their apparell, and hence they goe naked into the bath. In the midst they alwaies keepe a cesterne full of water. First therefore they that meane to bathe themselues must passe through a cold hall, where they vse to temper hot water and cold together, then they goe into a roome somewhat hotter, where the seruants clense and wash them; and last of all they proceede into a third hot-house, where they sweate as much as they thinke good. Of the said water they giue vnto euery man two vessels onely: but he that will haue more and will be extraordinarily washed, must giue to the seruant one Liardo at the least, and to the master of the stoue but two farthings. The fire that heateth their water is made of nought else but beastes dung: for which purpose many boyes are set on worke to run vp and downe to stables, and thence to carrie all the dung, and to lay it on heapes without the towne-walles; which being parched in the sunne for two or three monethes together, they vse for fiewell. Likewise the women haue their stoues apart from the men. And yet some hot-houses serue both for men and women, but at sundry times, namely for men from the third to the fourteenth hower of the day, and the residue for women. While women are bathing themselues, they hang out a rope at the first entrance of the house, which is a signe for men, that they may then proceed no farther. Neither may husbands here be permitted to speake with their owne wiues; so great a regarde they haue of their honestie. Here men and women both, after they haue done bathing, vse to banquet and make merrie with pleasant musicke and singing. Yoong striplings enter the bath starke naked without any shame, but men couer their priuities with a linnen cloth. The richer sort will not enter the common bath, but that which is adorned and finely set foorth, and which serueth for noblemen and gentlemen. When any one is to be bathed, they lay him along vpon the ground, annointing him with a certaine ointment, and with certaine instruments doing away his filth. The richer sort haue a carpet to lie on, their head lying on a wooden cushion couered with the same carpet. Likewise here are many barbers and chirurgions which attend to doe their office. The most part of these baths pertaine to the temples and colleges, yeelding vnto them a great summe of money for yeerely rent; for some giue an hundred, some an hundred and fiftie duckats a yeere. Neither must I here omit the festiuall day which the seruants and officers of the bathes yeerely celebrate. Who with trumpets and pipes calling their

friendes

friendes together, goe foorth of the towne, and there gather a wilde onion, putting it in a certaine brazen vessell, and couering the same with a linnen cloth wet in lee: afterward with a great noyse of trumpets and pipes they solemnly bring the said onion vnto the hot-house doore, and there they hang it vp in the little brazen vessell or lauer, saying that this is a most happy boading or signe of good lucke vnto their stoue. Howbeit I suppose it to be some such sacrifice, as the ancient Moores were wont in times past, when they were destitute of lawes and ciuilitie, to offer, and that the same custome hath remained till this very day. The like is to be seen euen among Christians, who celebrate many feasts whereof they can yeeld no reason. Likewise euery African towne had their peculiar feast, which, when the Christians once enioied Africa, were vtterly abolished and done away.

Of the Innes of Fez.



N this citie are almost two hundred innes, the greatest whereof are in the principall part of the citie neere vnto the chiefe temple. Euery of these innes are three stories high, and containe an hundred and twenty or moe chambers apiece. Likewise each one hath a fountaine together with sinks and water-pipes, which make auoidance of all the filth. Neuer, to my remembrance, did I see greater buildings, except it were the Spanish college at Bologna, or the pallace of the Cardinall *di San Giorgio* at Rome: of which innes all the chamber-doores haue walkes or galleries before them. And albeit the innes of this citie are very faire and large, yet they affoord most beggerly entertainment to strangers: for there are neither beds nor couches for a man to lie vpon, vnlesse it be a course blanket and a mat. And if you will haue any victuals, you must goe to the shambles your selfe, and buie such meate for your host to dresse, as your stomack stands to. In these innes certaine poore widowes of Fez, which haue neither wealth nor friends to succour them, are relieved: sometimes one, and sometimes two of them together are allowed a chamber; for which courtesie they play both the chamberlaines and cookes of the inne. The inne-keepers of Fez being all of one familie called *Elcheia*, goe apparelled like women, and shauie their beards, and are so delighted to imitate women, that they will not only counterfeite their speech, but will sometimes also sit downe and spin. Each one of these hath his concubine, whom he accompanieth as if she were his owne lawfull wife; albeit the said concubines are not onely ill-fauoured in countenance, but notorious for their bad life and behauiour. They buie and sell wine so freely, that no man controules them for it. None resort hither but most lewd & wicked people, to the end they may more boldly commit villany. The inne-keepers haue a consul ouer them, and they pay tribute vnto the gouernour of the citie. And when the king hath occasion to send foorth an armie, then they, as being most meete for the purpose, are constrained largely to victuall the campe.

campe. Had not the streit law of historie enforced me to make relation of the foresaid particulars as they stand, I would much rather haue smothered such matters in silence, as tend so extremely to the disgrace of Fez; which being reformed, there is not any citie in al Africa, for the honestie and good demeanour of the citizens, comparable thereunto. For the very companie of these inne-keepers is so odious and detestable in the sight of all honest men, learned men, and merchants, that they will in no wise vouchsafeto speake vnto them. And they are firmly enioined not to enter into the temple, into the burse, nor into any bath. Neither yet are they permitted to resort vnto those innes which are next vnto the great temple, and wherein merchants are vsually entertained. All men in a manner are in vtter detestation of these wretches: but because the kings armie hath some vse of them (as is aforesaid) they are borne withall, whether the citizens will or no.

Of the mils of Fez.

IN this citie are mils in fower hundred places at least. And euery of these places containeth siue or sixe mils; so that there are some thousands of mils in the whole citie. Euery mill standeth in a large roome * vpon some * *Like vnto our horse-mils.* strong pillar or post; whereunto many countrie-people vse to resort. Certaine merchants there are in Fez, which hiring mils and shops, buie corne and sell it ready ground vnto the citizens, whereby they reape exceeding gaine: for the greatest part of the citizens being poore, and not able to lay vp corne sufficient in store, are faine to buie meale of them. But the richer sort buie their owne corne, and send it to some common mill, where they pay a shilling for the grinding of each measure. All the saide mils pertaine either to the temples or colleges: for he must be very rich that hath a mill of his owne; for euery mill gaineth the owner two duckats.

A description of the occupations, the shops, and the market.

EAch trade or occupation hath a peculiar place allotted thereto, the principall whereof are next vnto the great temple: for there first you may beholde to the number of fowerscore notaries or scriueners shops, whereof some ioine vpon the temple, and the residue stand ouer against them: euery of which shops hath alwaies two notaries. Then westward there are about thirtie stationers or booke-sellers. The shoo-merchants which buie shooes and buskins of the shoomakers, and sell them againe to the citizens, inhabite on the south side of the temple: and next vnto them, such as make shooes for children onely, their shops being about fiftie. On the east side dwell those that sell vessels and other commodities made of brasse.ouer against the great gate of the said temple stands the fruit-market, containing fiftie shops, where no kinde of fruit is wanting. Next vnto them stand the

waxe-merchants, very ingenious and cunning workmen, and much to be admired. Here are merchants factors likewise, though they be but few. Then followes the herbe-market, wherein the pome-citrons, and diuers kindes of greene boughes and herbes doe represent the sweete and flourishing spring, and in this market are about twentie tauernes: for they which drinke wine, will shrowd themselues vnder the shadie and pleasant boughes. Next vnto them stand the milke-sellers, who haue great store of such earthen vessels by them, as the Italians call *Vasi di Maiolica*: but their milke they cause to be brought thither in certaine vessels of wood bound with iron-hoops, being narrow-mouthed and broad at the bottome. From these milke-sellers some there are which daily buie great store of milke to make butter thereof: and the residue of their milke they sell either crudded or sometimes sower vnto the citizens: so that I thinke there passeth scarce one day ouer their heads, wherein they vtter not foue and twentie tunnes of milke. Next vnto these are such as sell cotton, and they haue about thirtie shops: then follow those that sell hempe, ropes, halters, and such other hempen commodities. Then come you to the girdlers, and such as make pantofles, and leather-bridles embrodered with silke: next, their shops adioine that make sword-scabberds and caparisons for horses. Inimediately after dwell those that sell salt and lime. And vpon them border an hundred shops of porters, who frame all kinde of earthen vessels adorned with diuers colours. Then come you to the sadlers-shops: and next of all to the street of porters, who (as I suppose) are about three hundred: these porters haue a consul or gouernour, who euery weeke alloteth vnto part of them some set busines. The gaine which redoundeth thereof they put into a coffer, diuiding it at the weekes end among them, which haue wrought the same weeke. Strange it is to consider how exceedingly these porters loue one another; for when any of them deceaseth, the whole companie maintaineth his widow and fatherlesse children at their common charge, till either she die, or marieth a new husband. The children they carefully bring vp, till they haue attained to some good arte or occupation. Whosoeuer of them marieth and hath children by his wife, inuitheth most part of his companie vnto a banquet: who being thus inuited, present each of them some gift or other vnto the good man, or his wife. No man can be admitted into their companie, vnlesse first he banqueteth the principall men thereof: otherwise he is to haue but halfe a share of the common gaine. Free they are from all tributes and exactions: yea their bread is baked of free cost. If any of them be taken in any hainous offence, he is not publikely but priuately punished. While they are at worke they all weare short garments of one colour: and at vacant times they are apparelled as themselues thinke good: but howsoeuer it be, they are most honest and faire-conditioned people. Next vnto the porters companie dwell the chiefe cookes and victuallers. Here also stands a certaine square house couered with reed, wherein pease and turnep-roots are to be sold, which are so greatly esteemed of in Fez, that none may buie them of the countrey

people

people at the first hand, but such as are appointed, who are bound to pay toll & tribute vnto the customers: & scarcely one day passeth, wherein mo then 500. sacks of pease and turneps are not sold. And albeit (as we haue said) they are so much esteemed of, yet are they sold at a most easie price: for a man may buie 30. or at least 20. pound weight for one ^{*} Liardo. Greene beanes likewise in time of yeere are sold good cheape. Not far frō the place before mentioned are certaine shops, wherein lumps or steakes of flesh beaten in a mortar, & the fried with oile, & seasoned with much spice, are to be bought, euery one of the said lumps or steakes being about the bignes of a fig, & being made only of dried beefe. On the north side of the temple is a place whither all kind of herbes are brought to make sallets withall: for which purpose there are 40. shops appointed. Next wherunto is The place of smoke, so called by reason of continuall smoke: here are certaine fritters or cakes fried in oile, like vnto such as are called at Rome *Pan Melato*. Of these fritters great store are daily vttered: for euery day they vse to breake their fasts therewith, & especially vpon festiual daies: vnto which fritters they adde for a conclusion either rostmeat or honie: somtimes they steepe them in an homely kinde of broth made of bruised meat, which being sodden, they bray the second time in a mortar, making pottage therof, & colouring it with a kinde of red earth. They roste their flesh not vpon a spit, but in an ouen: for making two ouens one ouer another for the same purpose, in the lower they kinde a fire, putting the flesh into the vpper ouen when it is wel het. You would not beleue how finely their meat is thus roasted, for it cannot be spoiled either by smoke, or too much heat: for they are all night roasting it by a gentle fire, and in the morning they set it to sale. The foresaid steakes & fritters they sell vnto the citizens in so great abundance, that they daily take for them mo the 200. ducats. For there are 15. shops which sell nothing else. Likewise here are sold certaine fishes & flesh fried, & a kind of excellent fauorie bread, tasting somewhat like a fritter: which being baked with butter, they neuer eat but with butter and honie. Here also are the feet of certaine beasts sodden; wherewith the husbandmen betimes in the morning breake their fast, and then hie them to their labour. Next vnto these are such as sell oile, salt, butter, cheese, oliues, pome-citrons & capers: their shops are full of fine earthen vessels, which are of much greater value then the things contained in them. Their butter and honie they sell by certaine criers, which are porters appointed for the same office. Neither doe they admit euery one to fill their vessels; but that worke is reserued for certaine porters appointed to doe it, which also fill the measures of oile when merchants buie the same. The said vessels are sufficient to containe an hundred and fiftie pounds of butter; for so much butter the cuntry-people put into each vessell. Then follow the shambles, consisting of about fortie shops, wherein the butchers cut their flesh a peeces, and sell it by weight. They kill no beastes within the shambles, for there is a place allotted for this purpose neere vnto the riuier, where hauing once dressed their flesh, they send it to the shambles by certaine seruants appointed for

^{*} Ramusius in
his Italian copie
calleth it Bast-
oco.

original edition
Bastoco
Adrianus

The gouernour
of the Shambles
in Fez.

that end. But before any butcher dare sell his flesh vnto the citizens, he must carrie it to the gouernour of the Shambles, who so soone as he seeth the flesh, he sets downe in a peece of paper the price thereof, which they shew together with their meate vnto the people; neither may they in any case exceed the said price. Next vnto the Shambles standeth the market where course cloathes are sold, which containeth at least an hundred shops: the said cloth is deliuered vnto certaine criers (which are about threescore in number) who carrying the cloth from shop to shop tell the price thereof, and for the selling of euery duckats-worth they haue two * Liardos allowed them. This traffique of cloth indureth from noone till night, to the merchants great aduantage. Then follow their shops that scowre and sell armour, (wordes, iauclings, and such like warlike instruments. Next vnto them stand the fishmongers, who sell most excellent and great fish, taken both in the riuer of Fez and in other waters, exceeding cheape; for you may buie a pound of fish for two farthings onely. There is great abundance of the fish called in Rome *Laccia*, and that especially from the beginning of October till the moneth of Aprill, as we will declare more at large when we come to speake of the riuers. Next vnto the fishmongers dwell such as make of a certaine hard reed, coopes and cages for fowles; their shops being about fortie in number. For each of the citizens vseth to bring vp great store of hennes and capons. And that their houses may not be defiled with hennes-dung, they keepe them continually in coopes and cages. Then follow their shops that sell liquide sope, but they be not many, for you shall finde more of them in other partes of the citie. Neither make they sope at Fez onely, but also in the mountaines thereabout, from whence it is brought vnto the citie vpon mules backes. Next of all are certaine of their shops that sell meale, albeit they are diuersly disperfed throughout the whole citie. Next vnto them are such as sell seed-graine and seed-pulse: which you cannot buie of any citizen, because that euery one had rather keepe his corne in store: many there are likewise in the same place, that will carrie pulse or corne to mules or horses, whiche soeuer you will haue them. A mule vseth to carrie three measures of pulse vpon his backe (which the muliter is enioined to measure) in three sacks lying one vpon another. Then are there ten shops of them that sell straw. Next them is the market where threed and hempe is to be sold, and where hempe vseth to be kempt: which place is built after the fashion of great houses, with fower galleries or spare-rooms round about it: in the first whereof they sell linnen-cloth, and weigh hempe: in two other sit a great many women hauing abundance of sale-threed, which is there sold by the criers, who carrie the same vp and downe from noone till night. In the midst of this place growe diuers mulberie trees, affoording pleasant shade and shelter vnto the merchants: and hither such swarmes of women resort, that a man shall hardly withdraw himselfe from among them: good sport it is sometime to see how they will barret and scould one at another: yea and oftentimes you shall see them fall together by the cares. Let vs now

* In the Italian
copie they are
called *Bajoobi*.

come to the west part, which stretcheth from the temple to that gate that leadeth vnto Mecnase. Next vnto the smokie place before mentioned, their habitations directly stand, that make leather-tankards, to draw water out of wells; of whom there are some fourteene shops. Vnto these adioine such as make wicker-vessels and other, to lay vp meale and corne in: and these enioy about thirtie shops. Next them are 150. shops of tailors. And next the tailors are those that make leather-shieldes, such as I haue often seene brought into Europe. Then follow twenty shops of laundresses or washers, being people of a base condition; to whom the citizens that haue not maids of their owne, carrie their shirtes and other fowle linnen, which after few daies are restored vnto them so cleane and white as it is woonderfull. These laundresses haue diuers shops adioining together in the same place: but here and there throughout the citie are about two hundred families of such persons. Next vnto the laundresses are those that make trees for saddles; who dwell likewise in great numbers eastwarde right in the way to the college founded by king *Abubinan*. Vpon these adioine about fortie shops of such as work stirrops, spurres, and bridles, so artificially, as I thinke the like are not to be seene in Europe. Next standeth their street, that first rudely make the said stirrops, bridles, and spurres. From thence you may go into the street of sadlers, which couer the saddles before mentioned threefold with most excellent leather: the best leather they lay vppermost, and the woorst beneath, and that with notable workmanship; as may be seene in most places of Italic. And of them there are moe then an hundred shops. Then follow their long shops that make pikes and launces. Next standeth a rocke or mount, hauing two walks thereupon; the one whereof leadeth to the east gate, and the other to one of the kings pallaces, where the kings sisters, or some other of his kinred are vsually kept. But this is by the way to be noted, that all the foresaid shops or market begin at the great temple: howbeit, that I might not inuert my ser-order, I haue onely described those places that are round about the said temple, minding last of all to speake of the merchants station or burse.

Of the station or burse of merchants in Fez.

THis burse you may well call a citie, which being walled round about hath twelue gates, & before euery gate an iron chaine, to keepe horses & cartes from comming in. The said burse is diuided into 12. feuerall wards or partes: two whereof are allotted vnto such shoemakers as make shoes onely for noblemen and gentlemen, and two also to silke-merchants or haberdashers, that sell ribands, garters, skarfes, and such other like ornaments; and of these there are about fiftie shops. Others there are that sell silke onely for the embroidering of shirts, cushions, and other such furniture made of cloth, possessing almost as many shops as the former. Then follow those that make womens girdles of course wooll (which some make of silke)

but very grossely, for I thinke they are more then two fingers thicke, so that they may serue almost for cables to a ship. Next vnto these girdlers are such as sell woollen and linnen cloth brought out of Europe: which haue also silke-stuffes, caps, and other like commodities to sell. Having passed these, you come to them that sell mats, mattresses, cushions, and other things made of leather. Next adioineth the customers office; for their cloth is sent about by certaine criers to be solde, who before they can passe, must goe to the customers to haue the said cloth sealed, and to pay toll vnto the customers. Criers here are, to the number of sixtie, which for the crying of euery cloth haue one * Liardo allowed them. Next of all dwell the tailors, and that in three feuerall streetes. Then come you to the linnen-drapers, which sell smocks and other apparell for women: and these are accounted the richest merchants in all Fez, for their wares are the most gainful of all others. Next vnto these are certaine woollen garments to be sold, made of such cloth as is brought thither out of Europe. Euery afternoone cloth is sold in this place by the criers, which is lawfull for any man to doe, when necessarief occasion vrgeth him. Last of all is that place where they vse to sell wrought shirts, towels, and other embrodered works; as also where carpets, beds, and blankets are to be sold.

The reason whyt his part of the citie was called Cæsaria.

THe foresaid burse or station of merchants was in times past called Cæsaria, according to the name of that renowned conquerour *Iulius Cæsar*: the reason whereof some affirme to be; because all the cities of Barbarie were in those daies first subiect to the Romans, and then to the Goths. And each citie alwaies had either Romans or Goths to receiue and take charge of the tribute. Howbeit because the people often made ciuill wars and assaults vpon them, their determination was in euery citie to build some strong walled place, where both the tribute and the principall goods of the citizens might remaine in safetie: hoping by this meanes that the citizens would be as carefull of the princes goods as of their owne. Which course had the Italians imitated, they had neuer bene spoiled so often of their goods. For in ciuill wars it many times befalleth, that the greedie soldiers not being satisfied with the enemies goods, will prey vpon the wealth of their friends.

Of the grocers, apothecaries, and other tradesmen, and artizans of Fez.

NEXT vnto the said burse, on the north side, in a streight lane, stand an hundred and fiftie grocers and apothecaries shops, which are fortified on both sides with two strong gates. These shops are garded in the night season by certaine hired and armed watchmen, which keepe their station with

* Or Baiocco.

A meanes vsed
in Africa how
to keepe the
princes tribute
and merchants
goods in secu-
ritie.

with lanterhes and mastiues. The said apothecaries can make neither syrups, ointments, nor electuaries: but such things are made at home by the phisitions, and are of them to be bought. The phisitions houses adioine for the most part vnto the apothecaries: howbeit very few of the people knowe either the phisition or the vse of his phisicke. The shops here are so artificially built and adorned, that the like (I thinke) are no where else to be found. Being in Tauris a citie of Persia, I remember that I saw diuers stately shops curiously built vnder certaine galleries, but very darke, so that (in my iudgement) they be far inferiour vnto the shops of Fez. Next the apothecaries are certaine artificers that make combes of boxe and other wood. Eastward of the apothecaries dwell the needle-makers, possessing to the number of fiftie shops. Then follow those that turne iuorie, and such other matter, who (because their craft is practised by some other artizans) are but few in number. Vnto the turners adioine certaine that sell meale, sope, & brooms: who dwelling next vnto the threed-market beforementioned, are scarce twenty shops in all: for the residue are dispersed in other places of the citie, as we will hereafter declare. Amongst the cotton-merchants are certaine that sell ornaments for tents, and beds. Next of all stand the fowlers, who, though they be but few, yet are they stored with all kinde of choise and daintie fowles: whereupon the place is called the fowlers market. Then come you to their shops that sell cords and ropes of hempe: and then to such as make high corke slippers for noblemen and gentlemen to walke the streetes in, when it is fowle weather: these corke-slippers are finely trimmed with much silke, and most excellent vpper leathers, so that the cheapest will cost a duckat, yea some there are of ten duckats, and some of five and twentie duckats price. Such slippers as are accounted most fine and costly are made of blacke and white mulberie-tree, of blacke walnut-tree, and of the Iujuba-tree, albeit the corke-slippers are the most durable and strong. Vnto these adioine ten shops of Spanish Moores, which make crosse-bowes: as also those that make broomes of a certaine wilde palme-tree, such as are daily brought out of Sicilie to Rome. These broomes they carrie about the citie in a great basket, either selling them, or exchanging them for bran, ashes, or olde shooes: the bran they sell againe to shepherds, the ashes to such as white threed, & the old shooes to coblers. Next vnto them are smithes that make nailes; & coopers which make certaine great vessels in forme of a bucket, hauing come-measures to sell also: which measures, when the officer, appointed for the same purpose, hath made triall of, he is to receiue a farthing apeece for his fee. Then follow the wooll-chapmen, who hauing bought wooll of the butchers, put it soorth vnto others to be scowred and washed: the sheepe-skins they themselues dresse: but as for oxe-hides they belong to another occupation, and are tanned in another place. Vnto these adioine such as make certaine langols or withs, which the Africans put vpon their horses feete. Next of all are the braziers; then such as make weights and measures; and those likewise that make instruments to carde

*John Leo was
at Tauris in
Persia.*

wooll or flaxe. At length you descend into a long streete, where men of diuers occupations dwell together, some of which doe polish and enamell stirrops, spurres, and other such commodities, as they receiue from the smithes roughly and rudely hammered. Next whom dwell certaine cartwrights, plow-wrights, mill-wrights, and of other like occupations. Diers haue their aboad by the riuers side, and haue each of them a most cleere fountaine or cesterne, to wash their silke-stuffes in.ouer against the diers dwell makers of bulwarkes or trenches, in a very large place, which being planted with shadie mulberie-trees is exceeding pleasant in the summer-time. Next them are a companie of farriers, that shooe mules and horses: and then those that make the iron-worke of crosse-bowes. Then followe smithes that make horse-shooes; and last of all those that white linnen-cloth: and here the west part of the citie endeth, which in times past (as is aforesaid) was a citie by it selfe, and was built after the citie on the east side of the riuier.

A description of the second part of Fez.

THe second part of Fez situate eastward, is beautified with most stately palaces, temples, houses, and colleges; albeit there are not so many trades and occupations as in the part before described. For here are neither merchants, tailors, shoemakers, &c. but of the meaner sort. Here are notwithstanding thirtie shops of grocers. Neere vnto the walles dwell certaine bricke-burners and potters: and not far from thence is a great market of white earthen vessels, platters, cups, and dishes. Next of all standes the come-market, wherein are diuers granaries to lay vp come. ouer against the great temple there is a broad street paved with brick, round about which diuers handy-crafts and occupations are exercised. There are likewise many other trades diuersly disperfed ouer this east part of the citie. The drapers and grocers haue certaine peculiar places allotted vnto them. In this east part of Fez likewise there are five hundred and twenty weauers houses, very stately and sumptuously built: hauing in each of them many worke-houes and loomes, which yeeld great rent vnto the owners. Weauers there are (by report) in this citie twenty thousand, and as many millers. Moreouer in this part of Fez are an hundred shops for the whitening of threed; the principall whereof being situate vpon the riuier, are exceedingly well furnished with kettles, cauldrons, and other such vessels: here are likewise many great houes to saw wood in, which worke is performed by Christian captiues, and whatsoeuer wages they earne, redoundeth vnto their Lordes and masters. These Christian captiues are not suffered to rest from their labours, but only vpon fridaies, and vpon eight seuerall daies of the yeere besides, whereon the Moores feastes are solemnized. Here also are the common stews for harlots, which are fauoured by great men, and sometime by the cheefe gouernours of the citie. Likewise there are certaine vintners, who are freely permitted to keepe harlots, and to take filthie hire for them. Here are also