

moe then fixe hundred cleere fountaines walled round about and most charily kept, euery one of which is feuerally conueied by certaine pipes vnto each house, temple, college, and hospitall: and this fountaine-water is accounted the best: for that which commeth out of the riuer is in summer oftentimes dried vp: as likewise when the conducts are to be cleansed, the course of the riuer must of necessitie be turned out of the citie. Wherefore euery familie vseth to fetch water out of the said fountaines, and albeit in summer-time the chiefe gentlemen vse riuer-water, yet they will often call for fountaine-water, because it is more coole and pleasant in taste. But in the spring-time it is nothing so. These fountaines haue their originall for the most part from the west and south, for the north part is all full of mountains and marble-rocks, containing certaine caues or cels, wherein corne may be kept for many yeeres; of which caues some are so large, that they will holde two hundred bushels of corne. The citizens dwelling neere those caues, and such as possesse them, do sufficiently maintaine themselues in taking yeerely euery hundred bushell for rent. The south part of east Fez is almost halfe destitute of inhabitants: howbeit the gardens abound with fruites and flowers of all sortes. Every garden hath an house belonging thereunto, and a christall-fountaine enuironed with roses and other odoriferous flowers and herbes; so that in the spring-time a man may both satisfie his eies, and solace his minde in visiting this part of the citie: and well it may be called a Paradise, sithence the noblemen doe here reside from the moneth of April till the end of September. Westward, that is, toward the kings palace, standeth a castle built by a king of the Luntune-familie, resembling in bignes an whole towne: wherein the kings of Fez, before the said palace was built, kept their royal residence. But after new Fez began to be built by the Marinings, the said castle was left onely to the gouernour of the citie. Within this castle standes a stately temple built (as aforesaid) what time it was inhabited by princes and nobles, many places being afterward defaced and turned into gardens: howbeit certaine houses were left vnto the gouernour, partly to dwell in, and partly for the deciding of controuersies. Here is likewise a certaine prison for captiues supported with many pillers, and being so large, that it will hold (as diuers are of opinion) three thousand men. Neither are there any feuerall roomes in this prison: for at Fez one prison serueth for all. By this castle runneth a certaine riuer very commodious for the gouernour.

*Of the magistrates, the administration of iustice, and of
the apparell used in Fez.*

IN the citie of Fez are certaine particular iudges and magistrates: and there is a gouernour that defineth ciuill controuersies, and giueth sentence against malefactors. Likewise there is a iudge of the canon law, who hath to doe with all matters concerning the Mahumetan religion. A third
iudge

judge there is also that dealeth about marriages and diuorcements, whose authoritie is to heare all witnesses, and to giue sentence accordingly. Next vnto them is the high aduocate, vnto whom they appeale from the sentence of the saide iudges, when as they doe either mistake themselues, or doe ground their sentence vpon the authoritie of some inferiour doctor. The gouernour gaineth a great summe of money by condemning of parties at seuerall times. Their manner of proceeding against a malefactor is this: hauing giuen him an hundred or two hundred stripes before the gouernour, the executioner putteth an iron-chaine about his necke, and so lea-
 deth him starke-naked (his priuities onely excepted) through all partes of the citie: after the executioner follows a sergeant, declaring vnto all the people what fact the guiltie person hath committed, till at length hauing put on his apparell againe, they carrie him backe to prison. Sometimes it falleth out that many offenders chained together are led about the citie: and the gouernour for each malefactor thus punished, receiueth one duckat and one fourth part; and likewise at their first entrance into the iaile, he demaunds of each one a certaine dutie, which is paid particularly vnto him by diuers merchants and artificers appointed of purpose. And amongst his other liuings, he gathereth out of a certaine mountaine seuen thousand duckats of yeerely reuenue: so that when occasion serueth, he is at his proper costs to finde the king of Fez three hundred horses, and to giue them their pay. Those which follow the canon-lawe haue neither stipend nor rewarde allowed them: for it is forbidden by the law of Mahumet, that the iudges of his religion should reape any commoditie or fees by their office; but that they shoulde liue onely by reading of lectures, and by their priesthood. In this facultie are many aduocates and proctors, which are extreme idio-
 tes, and vterly voide of all good learning. There is a place also in Fez whereinto the iudges vse to cast the citizens, for debt, or for some light offence. In all this citie are fower officers or sergeants onely; who from midnight till two a clocke in the morning doe walke about all partes of the citie; neither haue they any stipend, but a certaine fee of such malefactors as they lead about in chaines, according to the qualitie of euery mans crime; more-
 ouer, they are freely permitted to sell wine, and to keepe harlots. The saide gouernour hath neither scribes nor notaries, but pronounceth all sentences by word of mouth. One onely there is that gathereth customes and tributes ouer all the citie, who daily paieth to the kings vse thirtie duckats. This man appointeth certaine substitutes to watch at euery gate, where nothing, be it of neuer so small value, can passe before some tribute be paid. Yea sometime they goe forth of the citie to meete with the carriers and muliters vpon the high waies, to the end they may not conceale nor closely conuey any merchandize into the citie. And if they be taken in any deceite, they pay double. The set order or proportion of their custome is this, namely to pay two duckats for the woorth of an hundred: for Onix-stones, which are brought hither in great plentie, they pay one fourth part: but for wood,
 come,

The punish-
 ment of male-
 factors in Fez.

come, oxen, and hennes, they giue nothing at all. Neither at the entring of the citie doe they pay any tribute for rammes, but at the shambles they giue two * Liardos apeece, and to the gouernour of the shambles one. * Or Baiochi.

The said gouernour of the shambles hath alwaies twelue men waiting vpon him, and oftentimes he rideth about the citie to examine the weight of bread, and finding any bread to faile of the due waight, he causeth the baker to be beaten with cudgels, and to be led in contempt vp and downe the citie. The said office was woont to be allotted vnto men of singular honestie; but now adaiies euery ignorant and lewd person enioieth it. The citizens of Fez goe very ciuilly and decently attired, in the spring-time wearing garments made of outlandish cloth: ouer these shirtes they wear a iacket or cassocke being narrow and halfe-sleeued, whereupon they wear a certaine wide garment, close before on the breast. Their caps are thinne and single, like vnto the night-caps vsed in Italie, sauing that they couer not their eares: these caps are couered with a certaine skarfe, which being twise wreathed about their head and beard, hangeth by a knot. They wear neither hose nor breeches, but in the spring-time when they ride a iourney they put on bootes: mary the poorer sort haue onely their cassocke, and a mantle ouer that called * Barnussi, and a most course cap. The doctors and ancient gentlemen wear a certaine garment with wide sleeues, somewhat like to the gentlemen of Venice. The common sort of people are for the most part clad in a kinde of course white cloth. The women are not altogether vnseemely apparelled, but in sommer-time they wear nothing saue their smocks onely. In winter they wear such a wide sleeued garment, being close at the breast, as that of the men before mentioned. When they goe abroad, they put on certaine long breeches, wherewith their legs are all couered, hauing also, after the fashion of Syria, a vaile hanging downe from their heads, which couereth their whole bodies. On their faces likewise they wear a maske with two little holes onely for their eies, to peepe out at. Their eares they adorne with golden eare-rings & with most pretious iewels: the meaner sort wear eare-rings of siluer and gilt only. Vpon their armes the ladies and gentlewomen wear golden bracelets, and the residue siluer, as likewise gold or siluer-rings vpon their legs, according to each ones estate and abilitie. * Or Ilbermy.

Of their manner of eating and drinking.

LEt vs now speake somewhat of their victuals and manner of eating. The common sort set on the pot with fresh meat twise euery weeke: but the gentlemen and richer sort euery day, and as often as they list. They take three meales a day: their breakefast consisteth of certaine fruits and bread, or else of a kinde of liquid pap made like vnto frumentie: in winter they sup off the broth of salt flesh thickened with course meale. To dinner they haue flesh, sallets, cheefe, and oliues: but in summer they haue greater cheere. Their supper is easie of digestion, consisting of bread, melons, grapes, or milke:

*A kinde of
meate called
Cuscusu.*

milke: but in winter they haue sodden flesh, together with a kinde of meate called Cuscusu, which being made of a lumpe of dowe is set first vpon the fire in certaine vessels full of holes, and afterwarde is tempered with butter and pottage. Some also vse often to haue roste-meate. And thus you see after what sort both the gentlemen & common people lead their liues: albeit the noblemen fare somewhat more daintily: but if you compare them with the noblemen and gentlemen of Europe, they may seeme to be miserable and base fellows; not for any want or scarcitie of victuals, but for want of good manners and cleanlines. The table whereat they sit is lowe, vncouered, and filthie: seats they haue none but the bare ground, neither kniues or spoones but only their ten talons. The said Cuscusu is set before them all in one only platter, whereout as well gentlemen as others take it not with spoones, but with their clawes siue. The meat & pottage is put al in one dish, out of which euery one raketh with his greasie fists what he thinkes good: you shall neuer see knife vpon the table, but they teare and greedily deuoure their meate like hungrie dogs. Neither doth any of them desire to drinke before he hath well stuffed his panch; and then will he sup off a cup of cold water as big as a milke-bowle. The doctors indeede are somewhat more orderly at meales: but, to tell you the very truth, in all Italie there is no gentleman so meane, which for fine diet and stately furniture excelleth not the greatest potentates and lords of all Africa.

The manner of solemnizing mariages.

AS touching their mariages, they obserue these courses following. So soone as the maides father hath espoused her vnto her louer, they goe foorthwith like bride and bridegroome to church, accompanied with their parents and kinsfolkes, and call likewise two notaries with them to make record before all that are present of the couenants and dowrie. The meaner sort of people vsually giue for their daughters dowrie thirtie duckats and a woman-slave of fifteene duckats price; as likewise a partie-coloured garment embrodered with silke, and certaine other silke skarfs or iags, to weare vpon her head in stead of a hood or vaile; then a paire of fine shooes, and two excellent paire of startups; and lastly many pretie knackes curiously made of siluer and other metals, as namely combes, perfuming-pans, bellows, and such other trinkets as women haue in estimation. Which being done, all the guests present are inuited to a banquet, whereunto for great dainties is brought a kinde of bread fried and tempered with honie, which wee haue before described; then they bring roste-meate to the boord, all this being at the bridegroomes cost: afterward the brides father maketh a banquet in like sort. Who if he bestow on his daughter some apparell besides her dowrie, it is accounted a point of liberalitie. And albeit the father promiseth but thirtie duckats onely for a dowrie, yet will he sometimes bestow, in apparell and other ornaments belonging to women, two hundred, yea sometimes

times three hundred duckats besides. But they seldome giue an house, a vine-
yarde, or a field for a dowrie. Moreouer vpon the bride they bestowe three
gownes made of costly cloth; and three others of silke chamlet, or of some
other excellent stuffe. They giue her smockes likewise curiously wrought,
with fine vailes, and other embroidered vestures; as also pillowes and cushi-
ons of the best sort. And besides all the former giftes, they bestow eight car-
pets or couerlets on the bride, fower whereof are onely for seemelines to
spread vpon their presses and cupboords: two of the courser they vse for
their beds; and the other two of leather, to lay vpon the floore of their bed-
chambers. Also they haue certaine rugs of about twenty elles compasse or
length; as likewise three quilts being made of linnen and woollen on the
one side, and stuffed with flockes on the other side, which they vse in the
night in manner following. With the one halfe they couer themselues, and
the other halfe they lay vnder them: which they may easily doe, when as
they are both waies about ten elles long. Vnto the former they adde as many
couerlets of silke very curiously embroidered on the vpper side, and beneath
lined double with linnen and cotton. They bestow likewise white couerlets
to vse in summer-time onely: and lastly they bestow a woollen hanging di-
uided into many partes, and finely wrought, as namely with certaine peeces
of gilt leather; whereupon they sowe iags of partie-coloured silke, and vpon
euery iag a little ball or button of silke, whereby the saide hanging may for
ornaments sake be fastened vnto a wall. Here you see what be the appurte-
nances of their dowries; wherein some doe strue so much to excell others,
that oftentimes many gentlemen haue brought themselues vnto pouertie
thereby. Some Italians thinke that the husband bestowes a dowrie vpon his
wife; but they altogether mistake the matter. The bridegroom being ready
to carrie home his bride, causeth her to be placed in a wooden cage
or cabinet eight-square couered with silke, in which she is carried by por-
ters, her parents and kinsfolkes following, with a great noise of trumpets,
pipes, and drums, and with a number of torches; the bridegroomes kinmen
goe before with torches, and the brides kinsfolkes followe after: and so they
goe vnto the great market place, and hauing passed by the temple, the bride-
groome takes his leaue of his father in lawe and the rest, hying him home
with all speed, and in his chamber expecting the presence of his spouse. The
father, brother, and vncl of the bride lead her vnto the chamber-doore, and
there deliuer her with one consent vnto the mother of the bridegroome;
who, as soone as she is entred, toucheth her foote with his, and forthwith
they depart into a seuerall roome by themselues. In the meane season the
banket is comming forth: and a certaine woman standeth before the bride-
chamber doore, expecting till the bridegroome hauing deflooured his bride
reacheth her a napkin stained with blood, which napkin she carrieth in con-
tinent and sheweth to the guesstes, proclaiming with a lowd voice, that the
bride was euer till that time an vnspotted and pure virgine. This woman to-
gether with other women her companions, first the parents of the bride-
groome

groome and then of the bride doe honourably entertaine. But if the bride be found not to be a virgine, the mariage is made frustrate, and she with great disgrace is turned home to her parents. At complete mariages they make for the most part three bankets: the first the same day when the bridegroome and bride are ioined in wedlocke; the second the day following for women onely; and the third seuen daies after; whereat all the kinsfolks and friends of the bride are present; and this day the brides father, according to his abilitie, sendes great store of daintie dishes vnto his Sonne in lawe: but so soone as the new married man goeth foorth of the house (which is for the most part on the seuenth day after the mariage) he buieth great plentie of fishes, which he causeth his mother or some other woman to cast vpon his wiues feete; and this they, from an ancient superstitious custome, take for a good boading. Likewise at the bridegroomes fathers they vse to make two other feasts; the one vpon the day before the bride is married; and so that night they spend in dauncing and disport. The morrow after a companie of women goe to dresse the bride, to combe her locks, and to paint her cheekes with vermillion; her hands and her feete they die blacke, but all this painting presently looseth the fresh hew; and this day they haue another banquet. The bride they place in the highest roome that she may be seene of all, and then those that dressed the bride are condignely entertained. Being come to the bridegroomes house, his parents salute the new bride with certaine great cups full of new wine and cakes, with other iuncats, (which wee wil here passe ouer in silence) all which are bestowed vpon the bridegroomes companions. The same night which we said was spent in dauncing, there are present at the bridall-house certaine minstrels and singers, which by turnes sometimes vse their instruments and sometimes voice-musicke: they daunce alwaies one by one, and at the end of each galliard they bestow a largesse vpon the musitions. If any one wil honour the dancier, he bids him kneele downe before him, and hauing fastened peeces of money all ouer his face, the musitions presently take it off for their fee. The women daunce alone without any men, at the noise of their owne musitions. All these things vse to be performed when the bride is a maide. But the mariages of widowes are concluded with lesse adoe. Their cheere is boiled beete and mutton, and stued hens, with diuers iuncating dishes among. In stead of trenchers, the guesstes being ten or twelue in number, haue so many great round platters of wood set before them. And this is the common custome of gentlemen and merchants. The meaner sort present their guesstes with certaine sops or bruesse of bread like vnto a pan-cake, which being dipped in flesh-pottage, they eate out of a great platter not with spoones but with their fingers onely: and round about each great platter stand to the number of ten or twelue persons. Likewise they make a solemne feast at the circumcision of their male children, which is vpon the seuenth day after their birth; and at this feast the circumciser, together with all their friends and kinsfolks is present: which being done, each one, according to his abilitie, bestoweth

*The marriage
of widowes.*

*The circumci-
sion of their
children.*

a gift vpon the circumcifer in manner following. Euery man laies his money vpon a lads face which the circumcifer brought with him. Whereupon the lad calling euery one by his name, giueth them thanks in particular: and then the infant being circumcised, they spend that day with as great iollitie as a day of mariage. But at the birth of a daughter they shew not so much alacritie.

Of their rites obserued vpon festiuall daies, and their manner of mourning for the dead.



Among the people of Fez there haue remained certaine reliques of festiuall daies instituted of olde by the Christians; whereupon they vse certaine ceremonies which themselves vnderstande not. Vpon Christmas euen they eate a sallet made of diuers herbs: they seeth likewise that night all kind of pulse, which they feede vpon for great dainties. Vpon New-yeeres day the children goe with maskes and vizards on their faces to the houses of gentlemen and merchants, and haue fruits giuen them for singing certaine carols or songs. When as the feast of Saint *Iohn* Baptist is hallowed among Christians, you shall here see all about great store of fires made with straw. And when their childrens teeth begin to grow, they make another feast called, according to the Latines, *Dentilla*. They haue also many other rites and customes of diuining or soothsaying, the like wherof I haue seene at Rome and in other cities of Italie. As touching their feasts prescribed by the Mahumetan lawe, they are at large set downe in that brieue treatise which we haue written concerning the same law. The women hauing by death lost their husbands, fathers, or any other of their deere friends, assemble foorth with a great multitude of their owne sexe together, who stripping themselves out of their owne attire, put on most vile sackcloth, and defile their faces with much durt: then call they certaine men clad in womens attire, bringing great fower-square drums with them, at the noise of which drums the women-mourners sing a funerall song, tending as much as may be, to the commendation of the partie deceased: and at the end of euery verse, the said womē vtter most hideous shrieks & outcries, tearing their haire, & with much lamentation beating their cheekes & breasts, till they be all-imbrued with blood: and so these heathenish superstitions continue for seuen whole daies together. At which seuen daies ende they surcease their mourning for the space of 40. daies, & then they begin anew to torment themselves for three daies together in maner aforesaid: howbeit these kinds of obsequies are obserued onely by the baser people, but the gentlemen and better sort behaue themselves more modestly. At this time all the widowes friends come about her to comfort her, and send diuers kinds of meats vnto her: for in the mourning house they may dresse no meate at all, till the dead corpes be carried foorth. The woman her selfe that looseth her husband, father, or brother,

Reliques of Christian ceremonies obserued among the Moores.

Their funeralls.

neuer goeth forth with the funerall. But how they wash and burie the dead corpes, and what superstitions they vse thereabout, you shall finde recorded in my litle treatise about mentioned.

Of their done-houses.

Diuers there are in this citie, that take much pleasure in keeping of doves, which are here in great plentie, of all colours. These doves they keepe in certaine cages or lockers on the tops of their houses, which lockers they set open twise a day, to wit, morning and euening, delighting greatly to see them flie, for those that out-flie the residue are accounted the best. Oftentimes it falleth out, that neighbours doves will be mingled together, for which cause you shall see the owners goe together by the eares. Some haue a certaine net bound vnto two long canes, wherewith they vse to take their neighbours doves, as they come flying forth of their louers. Amongst the colliers you shall finde seuen or eight lhops onely of those that sel doves.

Their manner of gaming at Fez.

THe citizens vse most of all to play at chesse, and that from ancient times. Other games there are also, but very rude, and vsed onely by the common people. At certaine times of the yeere the boies of one street wil fight with clubs against the boies of another street, and that sometimes with so great furie, that they betake themselues to other weapons and slay one another, especially vpon their festiuall daies, what time they will challenge and prouoke one another forth of the citie-walles. And hauing fought hard all the whole day, at night they fall to throwing of stones: till at length the citie-officers come vpon them, taking some, and beating them publicly throughout the citie. Sometimes it falleth out, that the yong striplings arming themselues, and going by night out of the citie, range vp and downe the fields and gardens: and if the contrarie faction of yoonkers and they meete, it is woonderfull what a bloodie skirmish ensueth: howbeit they are often most seuerely punished for it.

Of the African poets.



IN Fez there are diuers most excellent poets, which make verses in their owne mother toong. Most of their poems and songs intreat of loue. Euery yeere they pen certaine verses in the commendation of Mahumet, especially vpon his birthday: for then betimes in the morning they resort vnto the palace of the chiefe iudge or gouernour, ascending his tribunall-seate, and from thence reading their verses to a great audience of people: and hee whose verses are most elegant and pithie, is that yeere proclaimed prince of the

the poets. But when as the kings of the Marin-familie prospered, they vsed to inuite all the learned men of the citie vnto their palace; and honourably entertaining them, they commanded each man in their hearing to recite their verses to the commendation of Mahumet: and he that was in all mens opinions esteemed the best poet, was rewarded by the king with an hundred duckats, with an excellent horse, with a woman-slaue, and with the kings owne robes wherewith he was then apparelled: all the rest had fiftie duckats apeece giuen them, so that none departed without the kings liberalitie: but an hundred and thirtie yeeres are expired since this custome, together with the maiestie of the Fessan kingdome, decaied.

A description of the grammar-schools in Fez.



F schooles in Fez for the instructing of children, there are almost two hundred, euery one of which is in fashion like a great hall. The schoolemasters teach their children to write and read not out of a booke, but out of a certaine great table. Euery day they expound one sentence of the Alcoran: and hauing red quite through they begin it againe, repeating it so often, til they haue most firmly committed the same to memorie: which they doe right well in the space of 7. yeeres. Then read they vnto their scholers some part of orthographie: howbeit both this and the other parts of Grammar are far more exactly taught in the colleges, then in these triuiall schooles. The said schoolemasters are allowed a very small stipend; but when their boies haue learned some part of the Alcoran, they present certaine gifts vnto their master, according to each ones abilitie. Afterward so soon as any boy hath perfectly learned the whole Alcaron, his father inuitheth all his sonnes schoole-fellowes vnto a great banquet: and his sonne in costly apparell rides through the street vpon a gallant horse, which horse and apparell the gouernour of the royall citadell is bound to lend him. The rest of his schoole-fellowes being mounted likewise on horse-backe accompany him to the banketing house, singing diuers songs to the praise of God and of Mahumet. Then are they brought to a most sumptuous banquet, wherent all the kinsfolkes of the foresaid boyes father are vsually present: euery one of whom bestoweth on the schoolemaster some small gift, and the boyes father giues him a new sute of apparell. The said scholers likewise vse to celebrate a feast vpon the birth-day of Mahumet, and then their fathers are bound to send each man a torch vnto the schoole: whereupon euery boy carrieth a torch in his hand, some of which waigh thirty pound. These torches are most curiously made, being adorned round about with diuers fruits of waxe, which being lighted betimes in the morning doe burne till sun-rise, in the meane while certaine fingers resound the praises of Mahumet, and so soone as the sunne is vp, all their solemnitie ceaseth: this day vseth to be very gainfull vnto the schoolemasters, for they sell the remnant of the waxe vpon the torches for an hundred

dred duckats, and sometimes for more. None of them paies any rent for his schoole: for all their schooles were built many yeeres agoe, and were freely bestowed for the training vp of youth. Whatsoeuer ornaments or toyes are vpon the torches, the schoolemasters diuide them among their scholers and among the singers. Both in these common schooles and also in the colleges they haue two daies of recreation euery weeke, wherein they neither teach nor studie.

Of the fortune-tellers and some other artizans in Fez.

WE haue said nothing as yet of the leather-dressers, who haue diuers mansions by the riuers side, paying for euery skin an halfe peny custome, which amounteth yeerely almost vnto three hundred duckats. Here are likewise chirurgions & barbers, whom, because they are so few, I thought not to haue mentioned in this place. Now let vs speake of the fortune-tellers and diuiners, of whom there is a great number, and three kinde. For one sort vseth certaine Geomanticall figures. Others powring a drop of oile into a viall or glasse of water, make the saide water to bee transparent and bright, wherein, as it were in a mirrour, they affirme that they see huge swarmes of diuels that resemble an whole armie, some whereof are traueling, some are passing ouer a riuer, and others fighting a land-battell, whom when the diuiner seeth at quiet, he demandeth such questions of them as he is desirous to be resolued of: and the diuels giue them answer with beckning, or with some gesture of their hands or eies: so inconsiderate and damnable is their credulitie in this behalfe. The foresaid glasse-viall they will deliuer into childrens hands scarce of eight yeeres old, of whom they will aske whether they see this or that diuell. Many of the citie are so besotted with these vanities, that they spend great summes vpon them. The third kinde of diuiners are women-witches, which are affirmed to haue familiaritie with diuels: some diuels they call red, some white, and some blacke diuels: and when they will tell any mans fortune, they perfume themselues with certaine odours, saying, that then they possesse themselues with that diuell which they called for: afterward changing their voice, they faine the diuell to speake within them: then they which come to enquire, ought with great feare & trembling aske these vile & abominable witches such questions as they meane to propound, and lastly offering some fee vnto the diuell, they depart. But the wiser and honest sort of people call these women *Sahacat*, which in Latin signifieth *Fricatrices*, because they haue a damnable custome to commit vnlawfull Venerie among themselues, which I cannot expresse in any modest termes. If faire women come vnto them at any time, these abominable witches will burne in lust towards them no otherwise then lustie yoonkers doe towards yong maides, and will in the diuels behalfe demaunde for a rewarde, that they may lie with them: and so by this meanes it often falleth out, that thinking thereby to fulfill the diuels command

Three sorts of
diuiners in
Fez.

command they lie with the witches. Yea some there are, which being allured with the delight of this abominable vice, will desire the companie of these witches, and faining themselves to be sicke, will either call one of the witches home to them, or will send their husbands for the same purpose: and so the witches perceiuing how the matter stands, will say that the woman is possessed with a diuell, and that she can no way be cured, vnlesse she be admitted into their societie. With these words her silly husband being persuaded, doth not onely permit her so to doe, but makes also a sumptuous banquet vnto the damned crew of witches: which being done, they vse to daunce very strangely at the noise of drums: and so the poore man commits his false wife to their filthy disposition. Howbeit some there are that will soone coniure the diuell with a good cudgell out of their wiues: others faining themselves to be possessed with a diuell, wil deceiue the said witches, as their wiues haue been deceiued by them.

Of the coniuers, inchanters, and iuglers in Fez.

IN Fez likewise there are a kinde of iuglers or coniuers called *Muhaz-zimin*: who of all others are reported to be most speedie casters out of diuels. And because their Necromancie sometimes taketh effect, it is a wonder to see into what reputation they grow thereby: but when they cannot cast foorth a diuell, they say it is an airie spirite. Their manner of adiuring diuels is this: first they drawe certaine characters and circles vpon an ash-heape or some other place; then describe they certaine signes vpon the hands and forehead of the partie possessed, and perfume him after a strange kinde of manner. Afterward they make their inchantment or coniuration; enquiring of the diuell, which way or by what meanes he entred the partie, as likewise what he is, and by what name he is called, and lastly charging him to come foorth. Others there are that worke by a certaine Cabalisticall rule called *Zairagia*: this rule is contained in many writings, for it is thought to be naturall magique: neither are there any other Necromancers in all Fez, that will more certainly and truly resolue a doubtfull question; howbeit their arte is exceeding difficult: for the students thereof must haue as great skill in Astrologie, as in Cabala. My selfe in times past hauing attained to some knowledge in this facultie, continued (I remember) an whole day in describing one figure onely: which kinde of figures are described in manner following. First they draw many circles within the compasse of a great circle: in the first circle they make a crosse, at the fower extremities whereof they set downe the fower quarters of the world, to wit, East, West, North, and South: at each end of one of the said crosse lines, they note either pole: likewise about the circumference of the first circle, they paint the fower elements: then diuide they the same circle and the circle following into fower partes: and euery fourth part they diuide into other seuen, each one being distinguished with certaine great Arabian characters, so that

euery element containeth eight and twentie characters. In the third circle they set downe the seuen planets; in the fourth the twelue signes of the Zodiacke; in the fift the twelue Latine names of the moneths; in the sixt the eight and twentie houses of the moone; in the seuenth the 365 daies of the yeere, and about the conuexitie thereof, the sower cardinall or principall windes. Then take they one onely letter of the question propounded, multiplying the same by all the particulars aforesaid, & the product or summe totall they diuide after a certaine manner, placing it in some roome, according to the qualitie of the character, and as the element requireth wherein the said character is found without a figure. All which being done, they marke that figure which seemeth to agree with the foresaid number or sum produced, wherewith they proceed as they did with the former, till they haue found eight and twentie characters, whereof they make one word, and of this word the speech is made that resolueth the question demanded: this speech is alwaies turned into a verse of the first kinde, which the Arabians call *Ethauil*, consisting of eight *Stripites* and twelue *Chordi*, according to the meeter of the Arabian toong, whereof we haue intreated in the last part of our Arabian grammar. And the verse consisting of those characters, comprehendeth alwaies a true and infallible answer vnto the question propounded, resolving first that which is demanded, and then expounding the sense of the question it selfe. These practitioners are neuer found to erre, which causeth their arte of Cabala to be had in great admiration: which although it be accounted naturall, yet neuer saw I any thing that hath more affinitie with supernaturall and diuine knowledge. I remember that I saw in a certaine open place of king *Abuluman* his college in Fez, vpon a floore paved with excellent smooth marble, the description of a figure. Each side of this floore or court was fiftie elles long, and yet two third parts thereof were occupied about the figure, and about the things pertaining thereto: three there were that made the description, euery one attending his appointed place, and they were an whole day in setting it downe. Another such figure I saw at Tunis, drawn by one that was maruellous cunning in the arte, whose father had written two volumes of commentaries or expositions vpon the precepts of the same arte, wherein whosoever hath exact skill, is most highly esteemed of by all men. I my selfe neuer sawe but three of this profession, namely one at Tunis, and two other at Fez: likewise I haue seene two expositions vpon the precepts of the said arte, together with a commentarie of one *Margian* father vnto the foresaid Cabalist which I sawe at Tunis: and another written by *Ibnu Caldin* the historiographer. And if any were desirous to see the precepts and commentaries of that arte, he might doe it with the expence of fiftie duckats: for sailing to Tunis a towne neere vnto Italic, he might haue a sight of all the particulars aforesaid. I my selfe had fit oportunitie of time, and a teacher that offered to instruct me gratis in the same arte: howbeit I thought good not to accept his offer, because the said arte is forbidden and accounted hereticall by the law of Mahumet: for Mahumets

An Arabian
grammar writ-
ten by Iohn Leo.

Diuination and
soothsaying
forbidden by
the lawe of
Mahumet.

law affirmeth all kinde of diuinations to be vaine, and that God onely knoweth secrets and things to come: wherefore sometimes the saide Cabalifites are imprisoned by the Mahumetan inquisitours, who cease not to persecute the professours of that arte.

*Of certaine rules and superstitions obserued in the
Mahumetan law.*

Here also you may finde certaine learned men, which will haue themselves called wizards and morall philosophers. They obserue certaine rules which Mahumet neuer prescribed. By some they are accounted catholique or true Mahumetans, and by others they are holden for heretiks, howbeit the greatest part of the common people reuerence them as if they were gods, notwithstanding they commit many things vnlawfull and forbidden by the Mahumetan lawe, as namely; whereas the said lawe forbiddeth any loue-matters to be expressed in any muscicall ditties or songs, these moralists affirme the contrarie. In the foresaid Mahumetan religion are a great number of rules or sectes, euery of which hath most learned patrones and protectours. The foresaid sect sprang vp fower score yeeres after Mahumet, the first author thereof being called *Elhesen Ibnu Abilhasen*, and being borne in the towne of Basora: this man taught his disciples & followers certaine precepts, but writings he left none behinde him. About an hundred yeeres after there came another notable doctor of that sect from Bagaded, called *Elharis Ibnu Esed*, who left volumes of writings vnto his disciples. Afterward those that were found to be his followers, were all condemned by the Mahumetan patriarke and lawyers. Howbeit 80. yeeres after, that sect began to reuiue againe vnder a certaine famous professour, who drew after him many disciples, vnto whom he published his doctrine. This man at length and all his followers were by the patriarke and lawyers condemned to die. Which he vnderstanding, wrote foorthwith vnto the patriarke, requesting that hee might be licenced to dispute with the lawyers as touching his doctrine, of whom if he were conuincid, he would most willingly suffer death; otherwise that it would be against all equitie, that so many innocents should perish vpon an vniust accusation. The patriarke thinking his demand to be reasonable, condescended wholly thereunto. But when the matter came to disputation, the partie condemned soone put all the lawyers to silence. Which when the patriarke perceiued, he reuoked the sentence as vniust, and caused many colleges and monasteries to be erected for the said partie and his followers. After which time this sect continued about an hundred yeeres, till the emperour *Maliesach* of the Turkish race came thither out of Asia the greater, and destroied all the maintainers thereof. Whereupon some of them fled vnto Cairo, and the rest into Arabia, being disperfed here and there for the space of twenty yeeres, till in the raigne of *Caselsab* nephew vnto *Maliesach*, *Nidam Elmule* one of his counsellors, and a man of an high spirit,

Diuers Mahumetan sects.

which when the fillie cuckold her husband vnderstood, he shewed himselfe thankfull to his false god with a solemne banquet, and with liberall giuing of almes. The magistrates of the citie would haue punished the adulterer, but they were in hazard to be slaine of the people for their labours, who (as is before said) adore these varlets for saints and men of singular holines. Other more villanous actes I saw committed by them, which I am ashamed to report.

Of the Caballistes and certaine other sectes.

Likewise there is another sort of men, which we may fitly call Caballists. These fast most streitly, neither doe they eate the flesh of any liuing creature, but haue certaine meates and garments allotted vnto them: they rehearse likewise certaine set-prayers appointed for euery hower of the day and for the night, according to the varietie of daies and monethes, and they vse to carrie about certaine square tables with characters and numbers engrauen therein. They faine themselues to haue daily conference with the angels, of whom they learne (they say) the knowledge of all things. They had once a famous doctor of their sect called *Boni*, who was author of their canons, prayers, and square tables. Which when I saw, me thought their profession had more affinitie with magique then with Cabala. Their arte was diuided into eight partes; whereof the first was called *Elumba Enornita*, that is, the demonstration of light: the which contained prayers and fastings. The second called *Semsul Meharis*, that is, the sunne of sciences, contained the foresaid square tables, together with their vse and profit. The third part they call *Sirru Lasmei Elohusne*; this part contained a catalogue of those 99. vertues; which (they say) are contained in the names of God, which I remember I saw at Rome in the custodie of a certaine Venetian Iew. They haue also a certaine other rule called *Suzach*, that is, the rule of heremites, the professors and followers whereof inhabite woods and solitarie places, neither haue they any other food, but such as those wilde deserts wil afford: the conuersation of these heremites no man is able exactly to describe, because they are estranged from all humane societie. But if I should take vpon me to describe the varietie of Mahumetan sectes, I should digresse too farre from my present purpose. He that desireth to know more of this matter, let him read ouer the booke of *Elefacni*, who discourseth at large of the sectes belonging to the Mahumetan religion, the principall whereof are 72. euery one of which defend their opinions to be true and good, and such as a man may attaine saluation by. At this day you shall finde but two principall sects onely, the one of *Leshari* being dispersed ouer all Africa, Egypt, Syria, Arabia, and Turkie: the other of *Imamia*, which is authorized throughout the whole kingdome of Persia, and in certaine townes of *Corasan*; and this sect the great Sophi of Persia maintaineth, insomuch that all Asia had like to been destroyed therabout. For whereas before they followed the sect of

72. principall
sectes in the
religion of
Mahumet.

Leshari,

Leshari, the great Sophi by force of armes established his owne of *Imamia*: and yet one onely seēt stretcheth ouer all the Mahumetans dominions.

Of such as search for treasures in Fez.

Moreouer in the citie of Fez there are certaine men called *Elcamesin*, who supposing to finde treasure vnder the foundations of old houfes, doe perpetually search and delue. These grosse fellowes vse to resort vnto certaine dennes and caues without the citie-walles, certainly perswading themselues, that when the Romans were chased out of Africa, and driuen into Bætica or Granada in Spaine, they hid great abundance of treasure in the bowels of the earth, which they could not carrie with them, and so enchanted the same by art-magique, that it can by no meanes be attained vnto but by the same arte; wherefore they seeke vnto inchanters to teach them the arte of digging vp the said treasures. Some of them there are that will stedfastly affirme, that they sawe gold in this or that caue: others, that they saw siluer, but could not digge it out, by reason that they were destitute of perfumes and enchantments fit for the purpose; so that being seduced with this vaine opinion, and deeply deluing into the earth, they turne vpside downe the foundations of houses and sepulchers, and sometimes they proceede in this manner ten or twelue daies journey from Fez: yea so fond they are and so besotted, that they esteeme those booke that professe the arte of digging gold, as diuine oracles. Before my departure from Fez these fantastical people had chosen them a consul, and getting licence of certaine owners to dig their grounds, when they had digged as much as they thought good, they paid the said owners for all dammages committed.

Of the Alchymistes of Fez.

IN this citie likewise there are great store of Alchymists which are mightily addicted to that vaine practise: they are most base fellowes, and contaminate themselues with the steam of Sulphur, and other stinking smels. In the euening they vse to assemble themselues at the great temple, where they dispute of their false opinions. They haue of their arte of Alchymie many booke written by learned men, amongst which one *Geber* is of principall account, who liued an hundred yeeres after Mahumet, and being a Greeke borne, is said to haue renounced his owne religion. This *Geber* his works and all his precepts are full of allegories or darke borrowed speeches. Likewise they haue another author, that wrote an huge volume of the same arte, intituled by the name of *Attogrehi*: this man was secretarie vnto the Soldan of Bagaded, of whom we haue written in the liues of the Arabian philosophers.

Also the songs or articles of the said science were written by one *Mugairibi* of Granada, whereupon a most learned Mamaluch of Damasco wrote a commentarie; yet so, that a man may much more easily vnderstand the text

A booke written by Iohn Leo of the liues of the Arabian philosophers.

then

then the exposition thereof. Of Alchymistes here are two sorts; whereof the one seeke for the *Elixir*, that is, the matter which coloureth brasse and other metals; and the other are conuerfant about multiplication of the quantities of metals, whereby they may conueniently temper the same. But their chiefest drift is to coine counterfeit money: for which cause you shall see most of them in Fez with their hands cut off.

Of charmers and inchanters of snakes.

IN this citie likewise there is a great swarme of base people, such as the Italians commonly call Ciurmatori: these sing foolish songs and rimes in all the streets of the citie, and broching meere trifles with the musicke of drums, harpes, and citterns, they sell vnto the rude people certaine scroules or brieve charmes instead of preferuatiues. Vnto these you may adde another kinde of reffuse people of one family and disposition with the former, who carrie dauncing apes vp and downe, and haue their neckes and armes all entwined with crawling snakes. These also professe Geomancie, and perswade women that they can foretell them their fortune. Likewise they carrie stone-horses about with them, which for a certaine fee, they will let others haue to couer their mares. I coulde heere reckon vp more sorts of people; but let it suffice to haue admonished in this place, that the greatest part of the forenamed are people of most base condition, and such as beare little good will to strangers, albeit there are but a fewe in this citie, by reason it is distant more then an hundreth miles from the sea, the way thither also being rough and dangerous. Their gende men are very stately and high minded, and will haue little or no familiaritie at all with the citizens: so likewise the doctors and iudges of principall account will admit but fewe vnto their acquaintance. This citie it selfe is most beautifull and right commodiously situate; where albeit in winter time the streetes are so mirie, that you cannot walke in them without startups, yet they let passe such abundance of water out of their conducts, that all the filth is washed cleane away. Where conducts are wanting, they carry all the durt in carts vnto the next part of the riuier.

A description of the suburbes without the foresaid citie of Fez.

Without the wals of this citie westward standeth a suburbe containing almost fise hundreth families, the houses whereof are but meane, and the inhabitants base, as namely driuers of camels, water-bearers, and cleauers of woode for the kings pallace. Yet here you may finde diuers shops, and all kinds of artificers. Here likewise dwell all the charmers and roguith minstrels before named; as also great swarmes of sluttish and filthie harlots. In the principall streete of this suburbe, you shall finde certaine caues most artificially hewen out of excellent marble, wherein the noble

men of Fez were wont to lay vp their corne: but after that by reason of the warres it was often taken from thence, they haue since vsually conueied their corne into new Fez, and there stored it vp: and from that time to this the marble-caues haue remained desolate. It is a woonder to see howe wide and large these caues are; for the least of them will containe more then a thousand measures of corne, there being aboute an hundreth and fiftie of them in all, but now they lie waste and open, insomuch that diuers fall into them at vnawares, for which cause their brimmes are enuironed with wals. Here euery one may play the vintener and the baud; so that this suburbe may iustly be called the sinke of Fez. From the twentieth hower you shall see none at all in their shops: for then euery man runs to the tauerne to disport, to spend riotously, and to bee drunken. Another suburbe there is allotted vnto the lepers, of whom there are two hundreth families: these leprous persons haue a gouernour, which gathereth certaine yeerely reuenues from the noble-men, and taketh such care of the saide lepers, that they want no necessarie thing. He is bound by his office to discharge the citie of all leprous persons, and to compell all such as he vnderstandes to be infected with that disease, to depart into the foresaide suburbes. If any leper chanceth to die without issue, part of his goods are employed to the common benefite of the lepers, and part fall to the gouernours share: but if he hath any children, they enioy his goods. Among the lepers also those are placed, which are infected with white botches, or with any other incurable maladie. Next beyond standeth another suburbe inhabited onely with muleters, plaisterers, and wood-mongers: which although it be but little, yet containeth it about an hundreth and fiftie families. Moreouer vpon the way leading westward from the citie there is another great suburbe of moe then fower hundreth houses: howbeit they are low & base, and the inhabitants are beggerly, which neither can nor will dwell among any other people. By this suburbe there is a certaine broad plaine which leadeth to the riuer two miles off, and extendeth westward almost three miles. Vpon this plaine euery weeke there is an exceeding great market of cattell. Likewise the shopkeepers of the citie resort hither and sell their wares in tents. Also a certaine companie of gentlemen vse to come hither, and to diuide a ramme among themselues, leauing the head vnto the butcher for his fee, but the feete and the skin they sell vnto the wooll-chapmen. For those wares that are heere sold they pay so little tribute to the king, that it is not woorth the mentioning. But this one thing I must in no wise passe ouer in silence, namely, that I neuer sawe neither in Asia, Africa, nor Italy, a market either more populous, or better furnished with wares. Not farre from Fez stand certaine high rockes enuironed with a ditch of two miles compasse, out of which rockes certaine matter is hewed to make lime withall. Neere vnto the saide ditch are many furnaces, some whereof are so large, that they will containe moe then fixe thousand measures of lime: and this lime is made at the costes of the richest citizens in Fez. Westward without the wals of Fez by the riuers side stande about an hundred

*The habitation
of lepers in Fez,
and their gouernour.*

dred cottages, which are onely inhabited by them that white linnen cloth. Hither in the spring and in summer vse the citizens to bring their linnen cloth, spreading it vpon the medowes, and as often as they see it drie in the sunne, casting water thereupon, which water they fetch either out of the riuer or out of some cesterne in certaine lether rankards made for the same purpose: but at night each one carrieth his cloth into the foresaid cottages. Neither are the medowes wherein they bleach their cloth euer destitute of grasse. A most gallant prospect it is to beholde a farre off the white clothes dispersed ouer the greene medow, and the christall streames of the riuer, which seeme to be of an azure hue, running along: all which the Poets haue celebrated in their verses.

*A description of the common place of buriall
without the citie.*

MAny fieldes there are without the citie, which haue been giuen by certaine noblemen for the buriall of the dead. Vpon their sepulchers for the most part they lay a long three-square stone. When any noble man or any principall citizen deceaseth, they lay one stone ouer his head and another ouer his feete, whereon vseth to bee engrauen some epitaph, with the day and yeere when the partie deceaseth. I my selfe bestowed much labour in gathering of epitaphes, which I sawe both about Fez and in other places of Barbary; all which being set downe in a booke I gaue vnto the kings brother. The matter of their epitaphes is diuers, some tending to consolation, and others to sorrow.

Of the sepulchres of the kings of Fez.

NOrthward of the citie vpon a certaine high hill stands a palace, wherein are the monuments of diuers Marin kings, being most artificially hewen out of marble with epitaphes vpon them, so that I cannot condignely expresse the maiestie and beautie thereof.

A description of their gardens.

Without the north, east, and south parts of the citie are great store of gardens, replenished with all kinde of fruite and with stately trees. Through the midst of these gardens, they deriue some small vaine of the riuer, some whereof are so full of trees, that you woulde take them for groues rather then for gardens. These gardens they manure not at all, but only water them continually in the moneth of May, whereupon they haue great abundance of fruit. All their fruits, saue their peaches onely, are of a most delicate taste, whereof, so soone as they are ripe, about fife hundred cart-loads are daily carried into the market, besides grapes, which here I do not mention.

tion. But the *side* fruits are carried vnto a certaine place in Fez, where tribute being paide for them, they are solde by criers vnto the fruiterers there present. In the same place likewise after paying of tribute, they sell certaine Negro-slauers. Towards the east of Fez lieth a plaine fiftene miles broad, and thirtie miles long: this plaine is full of fountaines and freshets, and is reserved for the vse of the great temple. It is farmed out vnto gardiners, who sowe thereupon such abundance of hemp, melons, turneps or nauewes, radish, and other such like rootes and herbes, that euery summer there are saide to be gathered thereof aboute fiftene thousand cart-loads, and as many in winter. Howbeit the aire is verie vnholosome thereabout, for the inhabitants are continually vexed with feuers, and are of a yellowish colour.

Of that part of Fez which is called new Fez.

NEW Fez beeing enuironed with an high and impregnable wall, and situate on a most beautifull plaine not farre from the riuers side, is almost a mile distant from old Fez, and that vpon the east and south side thereof. Betweene the wals of either towne, to the northward, entereth a certaine arme of the riuier, where the foresaid milles do stande, and the other part of the riuier is seuered into two branches, one whereof runneth betweene new Fez and old Fez, not farre from the edge of the rocke, and the other passing through certaine vallies and gardens, trendeth at length southward. The other part of the riuier holdeth on his course by the rocke, and so by the college of king * *Abutiman*. This citie of new Fez *Iacob* the sonne of *Abdul-tach* caused to bee built, who was the first king of the Marin family, and expelled the kings of Maroco, and vsurped the kingdome vnto himselfe: but the king of Telenfin, to the end he might make the people of Maroco beholding vnto him, and might subuert the prosperous successe of the Marin family, went about to hinder the king of Fez his attempts against Maroco: wherefore king *Iacob* hauing finished the wars of Maroco, determined to reuenge himselfe to the vttermost for the iniuries offered by them of Telenfin. But considering with himselfe, that the strong townes of his owne kingdome were farre distant from Telenfin, he thought it a better course to builde this citie, whereunto the seate roiall of all Maroco might be translated: which being erected, he called The white citie, but it was after ward named by the inhabitants new Fez. This citie king *Iacob* the founder diuided into three parts, whereof the first contained his roiall pallace, and diuers noble mens houses, vnto euery one of which he allotted a most pleasant garden. Not farre from his pallace he built a most stately and sumptuous temple. In another part of this citie he built a large and faire stable for the kings horses to stande in. Then also he caused other palaces to be erected for his captaines and principall courtiers. From the west gate to the east he appointed the market place, the distance betweene which gates is a mile and an halfe, and on both sides he placed artificers and merchants shops. At

* Or *Aburinan*.
The founder of new Fez.

the west gate he caused a faire portall to be set vp, to harbour the watchmen and warders of the citie. Not far from thence he erected two stables sufficient to containe three hundredth horses, which he might vse for the protection of his owne palace. The third part of the citie was appointed for the kinges garde and attendants, which were most of them borne eastwarde of Fez, neither had they any other weapons but hand-bowes (for crosse-bowes were not then vsed in that kingdome) vnto which attendants the king allowed a large stipend: but now the same place is full of beautifull temples and stoues. Neere vnto the kings palace standes the mint, hauing in the midst a fower-square court with certaine portals or cels rounde about it, wherein the money-minters dwell. Likewise there is another lodging in the midst of the same court, where the gouernor of the mint with his scribes and notaries haue their aboad. Here, as well as in any other places, whatsoeuer commoditie is raised, redoundeth wholly to the king. Neere vnto the mint stande the gold-smiths shops, whose Consul or gouernour keeps the seale and stamps of the coine. In Fez neither ring nor any other Jewell or commoditie can bee made of siluer or golde, before the metall bee sealed, for the offenders are most seuerely punished. And, the metall being sealed, whatsoeuer is made thereof is weighed as if it were money. The greatest part of goldsmiths dwelling in new Fez are Iewes, who carrie their vessels of gold and siluer vnto a certaine place of old Fez, neere vnto the grocers shops, and there sell them. For in old Fez neither gold nor siluer is coined, nor any Mahumetans are suffered to be goldsmiths, because they haue vsurers among them, which will sell any peece of wrought siluer or golde deerer then the weight requireth; albeit the same priuilege is by the gouernours of the citie granted vnto the Iewes. Some there are also that onely make plate for the citizens, who are paid hire onely for their worke. That part of the citie which the kings attendants or guard once possessed, is now inhabited by Iewes: for now a daies the kings vse no such guard. The Iewes indeed first dwelt in old Fez, but vpon the death of a certaine king they were all robbed by the Moores: whereupon king *Abusabid* caused them to remooue into new Fez, and by that means doubled their yeerely tribute. They therefore euen till this day doe occupie a long streer in the said new citie, wherein they haue their shops and synagogues, and their number is maruellously encreased euer since they were driuen out of Spaine. These Iewes are had in great contempt by all men, neither are any of them permitted to weare shooes, but they make them certaine socks of sea-rushes. On their heads they weare a blacke * dulipan, and if any will goe in a cap, he must fasten a red cloth thereunto. They pay vnto the king of Fez monethly fower hundred duckats. At length within the space of an hundred and forty yeeres this new citie was enuironed with most impregnable walles, and adorned with temples, colleges, palaces, and other such buildings as serue to beautifie a citie, so that I thinke there was more bestowed in garnishing of the citie, then in building of the walles. Without the citie-walles are built many huge wheelles or engins

* Orisybant.

Engins for the
conuenance of
water.

gins, for the conueying of riuer-water ouer the said walles into cesterne, from whence it is conueied in certaine chanel and pipes vnto the temples, gardens, & palaces. The said wheelles were built not fully an hundred yeeres past, before which time water was brought vnto the citie by a certaine conduct, from a fountaine ten miles distant. Of which artificiall conduct a certaine Genouiese, beeing then in great fauour with the king, is reported to haue been the author: but the wheelles (they say) were inuented by a Spaniard: and in them there is maruellous cunning workmanship: for to the conueiance of so huge a quantitie of water, each wheele is turned about but fower and twentie times onely in a day and a night. To conclude, here are but few gentlemen in this citie, except such as attend vpon the court, for the residue are base and mechanicall people: but such as carie any shew of honestie, doe so hate and disdain the kings courtiers and gentlemen, that they will by no meanes vouchsafe to marie their daughters vnto them.

Of the fashions and customes vsed in the kings court.

Amongst all the princes of Africa, I neuer red of any that was created by the common suffrages and consent of the people vnto hiskingdome or princedome, or that was called from any strange prouince or citie to beare rule. Also by the law of Mahumet no man may beare any secular authoritie, which may be called lawfull, saue onely the Mahumetan patriarkes and prelates: howbeit the saide patriarkes authoritie decreasing daily more and more, the ringleaders of such people as ranged vp and downe the deserts began to inuade places inhabited & ciuized, and by force of armes, against Mahumets lawe, and maugre his prelates, to ordaine fundrie princes: As for example in the East, whereas the Turkes, Cordians, and Tartars, haue vsurped dominion ouer such as were not able to repell them. So likewise in the west parts first the families of Zeneta and Luntuna, then the seditious Mahumetan preachers, and afterward the family of Marin got the vpper hand. Howbeit the family of Luntuna is reported to haue aided the western regions, & to haue released them from the furie of the seditious heretiques, wherein they shewed themselues friends and not enimies: but afterward their tyrannie began to shew it selfe. And this is the reason why they do not now a daies attaine vnto gouernment by hereditarie succession or by election of the people, or of the nobilitie. But the prince himselfe when he feelles death seazing vpon him, calleth about him all his peeres and nobles, and bindeth them by oath, to establish his sonne, brother, or anie other whom he most fauoureth, in his kingdome. But they after the princes decease neglecting their oath, will chuse any other whom they list. And this is ordinarily the election of the king of Fez, who, so soone as he is proclaimed king, chuseth forthwith some one of his nobles to be his chiefe counsellour, and on him he bestoweth the thirde part of all his kingly reuenues. Then chuseth another to be his secretarie, treasurer, and high steward of his household. Then is created the captaine of the horsemen appointed

The manner of choosing officers in the court of Fez.

for the kings guard, and these horsemen with their horses liue most commonly in the fieldes. Lastly he appointeth a new gouernour ouer euery citie, vnto whom all the tributes and reuenues of the same place redound, with condition, that as often as any warres betide, he shall maintaine a certaine companie of horses to the kings seruice. After a while also he placeth certaine deputies and commissioners ouer his people inhabiting the mountaines, and ouer the Arabians subiect vnto him. The gouernours of cities diuersly administer iustice, according to the custome of the place. Some there are also appointed by the king to collect all the tributes and reuenues of his kingdome, and duly to paie the same vnto him. Likewise there are others chosen, whom they call in their language keepers or guardians, and vnto euery one of these the king giueth some castle or village, whereby he may procure his owne maintenance, and be able to serue the king in time of warre. Moreouer the king of Fez maintaineth a troupe of light horsemen, who so long as they serue the king in his campe, haue their diet allowed them out of the kings prouision: but in time of peace, he findeth them corne, butter, and pouldered flesh for the whole yeere, but money they haue very seldom. Once a yeere they are apparellled at the kings cost; neither do they prouide for their horses either within the citie or without, for the king furnisheth them with all necessaries. Those that giue attendance to their horses are Christian captiues, which go shackled in great chaines and fetters. But when the armie remooueth any whither, the saide Christians are carried vpon camels backs. Another officer there is that giueth attendance onely to the camels, assigning certaine pastures vnto the heards-men, and diuiding fields among them, and making such prouision for the kings camels, as himselfe shall thinke expedient. Each camel-driuer hath two camels, which are laden with the kings furniture, according to the appointment of the gouernour. Likewise the king hath a certaine purueiour or steward, whose office is to prouide, keepe, and distribute corne both to the kings household and to his armie. This man in time of warre hath tenne or twelue tents to lay vp corne in, and euery day with change of camels he sendeth for newe corne, least the armie shoulde be vnprouided of victuals: he hath also cooks at his command. Moreouer there is a gouernour or master-groome of the stables, who prouideth for the kings horses, mules, and camels, and is furnished with all necessaries by the steward. There is another also appointed ouerseer of the corne, whose durie it is to prouide barley and other prouender for the beasts: and this man hath his scribes and notaries about him, who diligently set downe all particular expenses, for they must giue vp a perfect account vnto the chiefe steward. They haue also a certaine captaine ouer fiftie horsemen, which horsemen may well be called purseuants, for they are sent by the secretarie in the kings name to do his busines. Likewise the Fezzan king hath another captaine of great name, being as it were gouernour of his guard, who in the kings name, may compell the iudges to do iustice, and to put their sentences in execution. This mans

authoritie

authoritie is so great, that sometimes he may commit principal noblemen to ward, & may seuerely punish them, according to the kings commandement. Moreover the said king hath a most trusty chancefor, who keepeth the great sea'e, and writeth and signeth the kings letters. He hath also a great number of footemen, the gouernour of whom accepteth and dismisseth whom he thinkes good, and giueth to euery one wages according to his agilirie and desert. And whensoever the king commeth in place of iudgement, the saide gouernour alwaies attendeth vpon him, and is in a manner his high chamberlain. Also there is another that taketh charge of the carriages and baggage of the armie, and causeth the tents of the light horsemen to be carried vp and downe on mules, and the tents of the other soldiers on camels. There are likewise a company of ensigne-bearers, who in marching on a iourney carrie their colours wrapped vp: but he that goeth before the armie hath his banner displaid, and of a great height. And euery one of the saide standard-bearers knoweth most exactly alwaies, fords of riuers, and passages through woods, wherefore they are for the most part appointed to guide the armie. The drummers (of whom there are great store in the kings host) plaie vpon certaine drums of brasse as bigge as a great kettle, the lower part whereof is narrow, & the vpper broad, being couered with a skin. These drummers ride on horsebacke, hauing alwaies on the one side of their horses a great waight hanging downe, to counterpoize the heauines of their drums on the other side. They are allowed most swift horses, bicause the Moores account it a great disgrace to loose a drum. The said drums make such a loude and horrible noise, that they are not onely heard a farre off, but also strike exceeding terrour both vpon men and horses, and they are beaten onely with a bulspizzle. The musitions are not maintained at the kings charge, for the cities are bounde at their costs to send a certaine number of them to the warres, who, according to their demeanour in the warres, are admitted or not admitted vnto the kings table. This king hath also a certaine master of ceremonies, who sitteth at his feete in the senate-house, and commandeth each man to sit downe, and to speake according to his dignitie. All the maideservants in the kings familie are Negro-slaues, which are partly chamberlains, and partly waiting-maids. And yet his Queene is alwaies of a white skin. Likewise in the king of Fez his court are certaine Christian captiues, being partly Spanish, and partly Portugale women, who are most circumspectly kept by certaine Eunuchs, that are Negro-slaues. The king of Fez hath very large dominions, but his reuenues are small, to wit, scare three hundreth thousand ducats, the fift part whereof redoundeth not to the king: for the remainder is diuided into sundrie portions, as we haue before signified. Yea, the greater part of the said reuenues is paid in corne, cattle, oile, and butter, all which yeeld but small store of money. In some place they pay a ducate and one fourth part, tribute for euery acre, but in other places a whole family paieth but so much. In some other regions each man aboue fifteene yeeres of age paieth as much tribute also. Neither are the people

of this great citie more vexed with any thing then with paying of their tributes and impositions. Heere also is to be noted, that the Mahūmetān gouernours (the priests onely excepted) may not exact greater reuenues then those that Mahūmet hath allotted vnto them, namely of euery of their subiects which possesseth 100. ducates in ready money, they are to haue two ducates & an halfe for yeerely tribute. Euery husbandman likewise is bound to pay for tribute the tenth part of all his corne. And all the saide tributes he appointed to be paid vnto the patriarke, who should bestow that which was superfluous for the Prince to haue, vpon common vses; namely for the relieuing of poore impotent people and widowes, and for maintaining of wars against the enemie. But since the Patriarches began to decay, the Princes (as we haue before saide) exercised tyrannie. For it was not sufficient for them to exact all the forenamed tributes, and riotously to consume the same, but also to vrge people vnto greater contributions; so that all the inhabitants of Africa are so oppressed with daily exactions, that they haue fearely wherewithall to feed and apparell themselues: for which cause there is almost no man of learning or honesty, that will seeke any acquaintance with courtiers, or will inuite them to his table, or accept any gifts (bee they neuer so pretious) at their hands: thinking that whatsoeuer goods they haue, are gotten by theft and briberie. The King of Fez continually maintaineth fixe thousand horsemen, siue hundreth crossebowes, and as manie Harquebustiers, being at all assayes prepared for the warres, who in time of peace, when the king goeth on progresse, lye within a mile of his person: for being at home in Fez, he needeth not so strong a guard. When he wargeth warre against the Arabians that be his enemies, because the forenamed garison is not sufficient, he requireth ayde of the Arabians his subiects, who at their owne costs finde him a great armie of men better trained to the warres, then his owne souldiers before-mentioned. The pompe and ceremonies of this king are but meane, neither doth he willingly vse them, but onely vpon festiuall daies, and when meere necessitie requireth. When the king is to ride foorth, the master of ceremonies signifieth so much vnto certaine herbengers or postes, whereupon the herbengers giue notice thereof vnto the kings *parents, vnto his nobilitie, his senatours, captaines, guardians, and gentlemen, who presently arrange themselues before the palace gate. At the kings comming foorth of the palace, the herbengers appoint vnto each man his place and order of riding. First and foremost go the standard-bearers, next the drummers, then followeth the chiefe groome of the stable with his seruants and family; after him comes the kings pensioners, his guard, his master of ceremonies, his secretaries, his treasurer, and last of all his chiefe Iudge and his captaine generall, at length comes the king accompanied with his principall counfeller, or with some other great peere. Before the king also ride certaine officers belonging to his person, whereof one carries his sword-royall, another his shield, and the third his crosse-bow. On each side of him march his footemen, one carrying a payer

The king of
Fez his guard.

How the king
of Fez rideth
on progresse.

*Or kingsfolkes.

of stirrups, another the kings partizan, the third a couering for his saddle, and the fourth a halter for his horse. And so soone as the king is dismounted, they forthwith couer his saddle, and put the foresaide halter vpon his horse-head. Likewise there is another footeman that carrieth the kings pantofles most artificially wrought. After the king followeth the capraine of the footemen, then the eunuches, the kings family, the light horsemen, and last of all the crosse-bowes and Harquebusiers. The apparell of the king is then verie moderate and plaine: insomuch that if a man knew him not, he would thinke him to be absent: for the attendants be far more sumptuously attired. Moreouer no Mahumetan king or prince may weare a crowne, diadem, or any such like ornament vpon his head, for that is forbidden by the law of *Mahumet*. VVhen the king lyeth with his armie in the fields, first his owne great tent is pitched in a fower square forme like vnto a castle, each side of the saide square being fiftie elles in length. At euerie of the fower corners standeth a little sharpe turret made of cloth, with a gallant spheare on the top which glistereth like gold. This royall pauilion hath fower gates, euerie one of which is kept by eunuches. Within the saide pauilion are contained diuers other tents, among which is the kings lodging, being framed in such wise, that it may easily be remooued from place to place. Next vnto it stand the tents of the noblemen, and of such as are most in the kings fauour; then the lodgings of the principall guard beeing made of goatskinnes, after the Arabian fashion; and in the midst of all stands the kings kitchin and his pantrie. Not farre from hence the light horsemen haue their abode, who all of them are victualled out of the kings storehouse, notwithstanding their attire be verie base. Next of all are the stables, wherein their horses are maruellous well tended. Without this circuit keepe such as carrie the tents and the kings furniture from place to place. Here are also butchers, victuallers, and such like. All merchants & artificers that resort hither, take vp their aboad next vnto the tent-carriers: so that the kings pauilion is pitched like a strong citie, for it is so enuironed with the lodgings of the garde, and with other tents adioining, that there is very difficult passage to the king. Round about the saide roiall pauilion, there are certaine appointed to watch and ward all night long, howbeit they are base and vnarmed people. In like sort there is a watch kept about the stables, but sometimes so negligently, that not onely some horses haue bene stolne, but there haue bene founde enimies in the kings owne pauilion, that came to murder him. The king liueth the greatest part of the yeere in the fieldes, both for the safegard of his kingdome, and also that he may keepe his Arabian subiects in obedience, and sometimes he recreateth himselfe with hunting, and sometime with playing at chesse. I know right well how tedious I haue bene in the description of this citie: but bicause it is the metropolitan not onely of *Barbary*, but of all *Africa*, I thought good most particularly to decypher euerie parcell and member thereof.

The king of Fez his maner of warfare.

Of the towne of Macarmeda.

THis towne standeth almost twentie miles eastward of Fez, and was built by the familie of Zeneta, vpon the banke of a most beautifull riuer. It had in times past a large territorie, and great store of inhabitants. On both sides of the saide riuer are many gardens and vineyards. The kings of Fez were wont to assigne this towne vnto the gouernour of their camels; but in the warre of Sahid it was so destroied and wasted, that at this day scarce is there any mention of wals to be found. But the fields thereof are now in the possession of certaine gentlemen of Fez, and of the pesants.

Of the castle of Hubbed.

THis castle standeth vpon the side of an hill, about sixe miles from Fez, and from hence you may beholde the citie of Fez, and all the territorie adiacent. It was founded by a certaine hermite of Fez, being reputed for a man of singular holines. The fields thereto belonging are not verie large, bicause the houses being demolished, it is vtterly destitute of inhabitants, the wals onely and the temple as yet remaining. In this castle I liued fower summers, bicause it standeth in a most pleasant aire, being separate from concurse of people, and a solitarie place fitte for a man to studie in: for my father had got a lease of the ground adioining to this castle from the gouernour of the temple, for many yeeres.

Of the towne of Zauia.

THe towne of Zauia was founded by *Ioseph* the second king of the Marin-family, and is distant from Fez about fowerteene miles. Heere king *Ioseph* built a stately hospitall, and commanded that his corps shoulde be interred in this towne. But it was not his fortune heere to be buried, for he was slaine in the warres against Tremizen. From thencefoorth Zauia fell to decay and grew destitute of inhabitants, wherein at this present the hospitall onely remaineth. The reuenues of this place were giuen vnto the great temple of Fez, but the felde thereof was tilled by certaine Arabians dwelling in the region of Fez.

Of the castle of Chaulan.

THe ancient castle of Chaulan is built vpon the riuer Sebu, eight miles southward of Fez. Not farre from this castle there is a certaine hot bath, whereunto *Abulhezen* the fourth king of the Marin-family added a faire building, vnto this bath once a yeere in the moneth of Aprill the gentlemen of Fez vsually resort, remaining there fower or fixe daies together.

There

There is no faultie to be found in this castle: for the inhabitants are base people, and exceeding couetous.

Of the mountaine of Zelag.

THis mountaine beginneth eastward from the riuer of Sebu, extending thence almost fowerteene miles westward, and the highest part thereof to the north, is seuen miles distant from Fez. The south part of this mountaine is vterly destitute of inhabitants; but the north side is exceeding fertile, and planted with great store of castles and townes. Most of their fields are imployed about vineyards, the grapes whereof are the sweetest that euer I tasted, and so likewise are their oliues, and other fruits. The inhabitants being verie rich, haue most of them houses in the citie of Fez. And so likewise most part of the gentlemen of Fez haue vineyards vpon the saide mountaine. At the north foote of this mountaine the fields are replenished with all kinde of graine and fruits. For all that plaine is watered southward with the riuer Sebu: and here the gardiners with certaine artificiall wheelles and engines draw water out of the riuer to moisten their gardens. In this plaine are wel-nigh two hundreth acres of ground, the reuenues whereof are giuen vnto the kings master of ceremonies, howbeit he maketh thereof not aboute siue hundreth ducates a yeere: the tenth part of all which reuenues, amounting to three thousand bushels of corne, belongeth to the kings prouision.

Of mount Zarbon.

THis mountaine beginneth from the plaine of Esais lying ten miles distant from the citie of Fez; westward it extendeth thirtie miles, and is almost ten miles broad. This mountaine is all couered with waste and desert woods, being otherwise well stored with oliues. In this mountaine there are of sheepe-foldes and castles to the number of fiftie, and the inhabitants are very wealthy, for it standeth betweene two flourishing cities, that is to say, Fez on the east, and Mecnase on the west. The women weaue woollen cloth, according to the custome of that place, and are adorned with many siluer rings and bracelets. The men of this mountaine are most valiant, and are much giuen to pursue and take lions, whereof they send great store vnto the king of Fez. And the king hunteth the said lions in manner following: in a large field there are certaine little cels made, being so high, that a man may stand vpright in them: each one of these cels is shut fast with a little doore; and containe within euery of them an armed man, who opening the doore presents himselfe to the view of the lion: then the lion seeing the doores open, comes running toward them with great furie, but the doores being shut againe, he waxeth more furious then before: then bring they foorth a bull to combate with the lion, who enter a fierce and bloudie

Hunting of lions used by the king of Fez.

bloudie conflict, wherein if the bull kill the lion, that daies sport is at an end; but if the lion get the victorie, then all the armed men, being ordinarily twelue, leape foorth of their cels, and inuade the lion: each one of them hauing a iauelin with a pike of a cubite and an halfe long. And if these armed men seeme to bee too hard for the lion, the king causeth their number to be diminished: but perceiuing them too weake, the king with his companie from a certaine high place, where he standeth to behold the sport, kill the lion with their crossebowes. And oftentimes it falleth out, that before the lion be slaine, some one of the men dies for it, the residue being fore wounded. The reward of those that encounter the lion is ten duckats apeece, and a new garment: neither are any admitted vnto this combat but men of redoubted valour, and such as come from mount Zelagi: but those that take the lions first are inhabitants of mount Zarhon.

Of Gualili a towne of mount Zarhon.

THIS towne was built by the Romanes vpon the top of the foresaide mountaine, what time they were lordes of Granada in south Spaine. It is enuironed around with mighty thicke walles made of smdothe and hewen stones. The gates are large and high, and the fields are manured for the space of fixe miles about: howbeit this towne was long sithence destroyed by the Africans. But afterward when the schismatike *Idris* came into this region, he began to repaire this desolate towne, and to replant it so with inhabitants, that within short time it grew very populous: howbeit after his decease it was neglected by his sonne, being wholly addicted (as is before-said) vnto the building of Fez. And yet *Idris* lieth buried in this towne, whose sepulchre is visited with great reuerence almost by all the people of Barbarie, for he is as highly esteemed as if he had beene some patriarke, because he was of the linage of Mahumet. At this present there are but two or three houses in all the towne, which were there built for the honour and maintenance of the sepulchre. The fields adiacent are exceedingly well husbanded: and their gardens are most pleasant by reason of two sweet freshets running through them, the which diuersly winding themselues about the little hills and vallies, doe water all that plaine.

Of a certaine towne called the palace of Pharao.

THIS towne was founded by the Romans vpon the top of an hill, about eight miles distant from Gualili. The people of this said mountaine, together with some historiographers are most certainly perswaded, that this towne was built by *Pharao* king of Egypt in the time of *Moses*, and tooke the name from the first founder, which notwithstanding I thinke to be otherwise: for I can read in no approoued author that either *Pharao* or any other Egyptians euer inhabited these regions. But I suppose that this fond opinion

opinion was taken out of that booke which one *Elcabi* wrote concerning the words of Mahumet. For the said booke affirmeth from the authoritie of Mahumet, that there were fower kings onely that gouerned the whole world, two whereof were faithfull, and the other two ethnikes: the faithfull he saith were *Alexander* the great, and *Salomon* the sonne of *Dauid*: and the ethnikes were *Nimrod* and *Pharao*. But I am rather of opinion, by the Latine letters which are there engrauen in the walles, that the Romanes built this towne. About this towne run two small riuers on either side thereof. The little hills and vallies adiacent doe greatly abound with oliues. Not far from hence are certaine wilde deserts frequented with lions and leopards.

Of the towne called Pietra Rossa or The red rocke.

Pietra Rossa is a small towne built by the Romans vpon the side of the foresaid mountaine, being so neere the Forrest, that the lions will come Tame lions. daily into the towne and gather vp bones in the streets, yea, they are so tame and familiar, that neither women nor children are afeard of them. The wals of this towne are built very high and of great stones, but now they are ruined in many places, and the whole towne is diminished into one streete. Their fields being ioyned vnto the plaines of Azgara, abound with oliues and all kinde of pulse.

Of the towne of Maghilla.

Maghilla is a little towne founded of old by the Romans vpon that side of the foresaid hill which looketh toward Fez. About this towne are most fertill fields, and greatly enriched with oliues: there is a plaine likewise containing many fresh fountaines, and well stored with hempe and flaxe.

Of the castle of Shame.

This ancient castle is built at the foote of the said mountaine neer vnto the high way from Fez to Mecnase: and it was called by this name, because the inhabitants are most shamefully addicted to couetise, like vnto all the people thereabouts. In old time it is reported that a certaine king passed by, whom the inhabitants of the castle inuited to dinner, requesting him to change the ignominious name of the place: which when the king had condescended vnto, they caused, according to their custome, a companie of rams to be slaine, and certaine bladders and vessels to be filled with milke, to serue for the kings breakfast the morrow after. But because the said vessels were very large, they consulted together to put in halfe milke and halfe water, hoping that the king should neuer perceiue it. The day following albeit the king was not very hastie of his breakfast, yet, his seruants vrging him thereunto, he perceiued the milke to be halfe water; whereat smiling he said: Friends, that which nature hath giuen, no man can take away. And with that

saying he departed. Now this castle is razed to the ground & vt'erly destroyed, but the territorie thereof is occupied by certaine miserable Arabians.

Of the region of Beni Guariten.

THe region of Beni Guariten lieth eastward of Fez about eighteene miles. It is altogether hillie and mountainous, abounding with all kind of pulse, and with store of good pasture and meadow-ground, and containing almost two hundred villages. Their houses are in all places rudely built, and the inhabitants are base people, neither haue they any vineyards or gardens, nor any tree that beareth fruit. This region the king of Fez vsually diuideth among his yongest brothers and sisters. The inhabitants haue great store of corne and wooll: and albeit they are passing rich, yet go they very meanly attired: they ride onely vpon asses, for which cause they are had in great derision by their neighbours.

Of the region called Aseis.

THis region is distant to the west of Fez almost twentie miles, and is by the inhabitants called Aseis; it consisteth of a perpetuall plaine, whereupon some coniecture, that it hath had in olde time many villages and castles, whereof now there is no mention at all, nor so much as a signe of any building, onely the names of places yet remaine. This region extendeth westward eighteene, and southward almost twenty miles. The soile is most fertile, and bringeth forth blacke and small graines. Wells and fountaines are here very rare. It was wont to be subiect vnto certaine Arabian husbandmen, but now it is assigned by the king vnto the gouernor of that citie.

Of mount Togat.

THis mountaine standeth almost seuen miles westward of Fez, being very high, and but of small bredth. Eastward it extendeth to the riuer Bunafe being about fiue miles distant. All that side which looketh towards Fez, and the top thereof, and that part which lieth ouer against Essich are woonderfully replenished with vines, and with all kinde of graine. Vpon the top of this mountaine are diuers caues and hollow places, where the searchers of treasure suppose that the Romans hid vp their wealth, as we haue before signified. The said treasure-searchers, so soone as the vintage is past, vse to take great paines in digging of the rocke, and albeit they finde nothing, yet will they not giue ouer. All the fruits of this mountaine are most vnpleasant both to the eie and to the taste, and yet they are sooner ripe, then the fruits of other places thereabout.

Of mount Guragura.

THis mountaine being neer vnto Atlas is almost fortie miles distant from Fez. From hence springeth a certaine riuer, which running westward falleth into the riuer Bath. This mountaine standeth betweene two most large and spacious plaines, whereof the one to Fez ward is (as we haue before said) called Afeis: and the other lying southward is named Adecsen. Which Adecsen is most fertile both for corne and pasture. And they are possessed by certaine Arabians called Zuhair being vassals vnto the king of Fez: but the king assigneth for the most part this plaine vnto his brother or some other of his kinsfolkes, out of which they yeerely gather ten thousand duckats. The foresaid Arabians are continually molested by certaine other Arabians called Elhusein, which liue in the deserts: for in summer-time they vsually inuade the plaines: wherefore the king of Fez for the defence of this region maintaineth a certaine number of horsemen and of crosse-bowes. This plaine is watered with christall-fountaines and pleasant riuers. Neere vnto the said plaine are diuers woods and forrests, where lions keepe Tame lions. which are so gentle and tame, that any man may driue them away with a staffe, neither doe they any harme at all. Now let vs proceede vnto the description of Azgara.

A description of Azgara, one of the seuen principall regions belonging to the kingdome of Fez.



This region bordereth northward vpon the Ocean-sea; westward vpon the riuer of Buragrag; eastward vpon the mountaines partly of Gumera, partly of Zarhon, and partly of Zalag; and southward it is inclosed with the riuer of Bunafar. This region consisteth altogether of plaine ground being a most fertile soile, and in olde time very populous, and adorned with many townes and castles, which are now so defaced and ruined by reason of wars, that small villages onely are left for the inhabitants to hide their heads in. The length of this region is about fower score, and the bredth almost three score miles. Through the midst thereof runneth the riuer of Subu. The Arabian inhabitants are called Elculoth, being descended from the familie of Muntafic; they are subiect to the king of Fez, and pay vnto him large tributes: howbeit they are rich, and curious in their apparell, and are such valiant soldiers, that the king of Fez leuieth his whole armie of them onely, when he hath any warres of great moment to atchieue. This region abundantly furnisheth not onely Fez, but all the mountaines of Gumera with victuals, horses, and other cattell; and here the king of Fez vsually remaineth all winter and the spring, by reason of the temperature and holefomnes of the aire. Here is great plentie of roes and hares, and yet very few woods.

Of *Giumha* a towne in *Azgara*.

THis towne the Africans built in our time by a riuers side vpon that plaine ouer which the way lieth from Fez to the citie of Harais, and it is distant from Fez about thirtie miles. It was in times past very populous, but now it lieth so desolate by reason of the war of *Sahid*, that it serueth onely for caues and receptacles for the Arabians to lay vp their corne in, for the sauegard whereof they pitch certaine tents neere vnto the place.

Of the towne of *Harais*.

THis towne was founded by the ancient Africans vpon the Ocean sea shore, neere vnto the mouth of the riuier *Luccus*, one side thereof adioining vpon the said riuier, and the other side vpon the maine Ocean. When the Moores were lords of *Arzilla* and *Tangia*, this towne was well inhabited: but those two townes being woon by the Christians, *Harais* remained destitute of inhabitants, almost twentie yeeres together: howbeit afterward the king of Fez his sonne, fearing the Portugals inuasion, caused it strongly to bee fortified and kept with a perpetuall garrison. The passage vnto this towne by the riuers mouth is very dangerous and difficult. Likewise the kings sonne caused a castle to be built, wherein is maintained a garrison of two hundred crosse-bowes, an hundred Harquebufiers, & three hundred light horsemen. Neere vnto the towne are diuers medowes and fennes where the townesmen take great store of celes and of water-fowles. Vpon this riuers side are huge and solitarie woods haunted with lions and other wilde beastes. The inhabitants of this towne vse to transport coales by sea to *Arzilla* and *Tangia*, whereupon the Moores vse for a common prouerbe, A ship of *Harais*, which they alleage when a man after great brags and promises performeth trifles; for these ships hauing sailes of cotton, which make a gallant shew, are laden with nought but base coales: for the territorie of this citie aboundeth greatly with cotton.

Of the towne called *Casar Elcabir*, that is,
The great palace.

THis large towne was built in the time of *Mansor* the king and parrake of Maroco; of whom this notable historie is reported, namely, that the said king, as he rode on hunting, being separated from his companie by tempestuous weather, came vnto a certaine vnknownen place, where if he continued all night, fearing least he should die in the fens, he looked round about him, and at length espied a fisher getting of celes: can you, my friend (quoth the king) conduct me to the court? The court (saith the fisher) is ten miles distant. Howbeit, the king intreating hard to be conduc-

A pleasant discourse how king *Mansor* was entertained by a fisher.

ted;

ted; if king *Mansor* himselſe were preſent (quoth the fiſher) I could not at this preſent conduct him, for feare leaſt he ſhould be drowned in the fennes. Then answered *Mansor*: what haſt thou to doe with the kings life or ſafetie? Marie (quoth the fiſher) I am bound to loue the king as well as mine owne life. Then haue you obtained ſome ſingular benefite at his hands, ſaid the king. What greater benefit (quoth the fiſher) can be expected at the kings hand, then juſtice, loue, and clemencie, which he vouchſafeth vnto his ſubjects; by whoſe fauour and wiſedome I ſillie fiſher with my poore wife and children liue a moſt quiet and contented life, ſo that I can euen at midnight haue free egreſſe and regreſſe vnto this my cottage amidſt theſe vallies and deſert fennes, no man lying in wait to doe me iniurie? But (gentle Sir) whatſoever you be, if you pleaſe to be my gueſt for this night, you ſhall be right welcome, and to morrow morning betimes I will attend vpon you at your pleaſure. Then the king went vnto the fiſhers cottage, where after his horſe was provided for, the fiſher cauſed ſome eeles to be roſted for his ſupper, while he ſate drying of his garments by the fire: but the king not being contented with this fare, demanded if his hoſt had any fleſh in the houſe: Sir (quoth he) I haue a ſhee-goate and a kid, and they are all my ſubſtance of cattell: but becauſe by your countenance you ſeeme to be ſome honourable perſonage, I will aduenture my kid for your ſake; and ſo without any more words he cauſed his wife to kill it & roſte it. Thus the king remained the fiſhers gueſt all night: and the next morning about ſun-riſe, being ſcarcely gone out of the doores with his liberall hoſt, he eſpied a great companie of his gentlemen and hunters whooping and hallowing for their king amidſt the fennes, but when they ſaw him, they all greatly reioiced. Then *Mansor* turning him to the fiſher, told him what he was, promiſing that his liberallitie ſhould not be vnrewarded. Neere vnto the place were certaine faire caſtles and palaces, which the king at his departure gaue vnto the fiſher in token of thankfulnes; and being by the fiſher requested, for declaration of his farther loue, to enuiron the ſaid buildings with wals, he condeſcended thereunto. From thenceforth the fiſher remained lord and gouernour of that new citie, which in proceſſe of time grew ſo large, that within theſe fewe yeeres it contained fower hundred families. And becauſe the ſoile neer vnto it is ſo fertile, the king vſed to make his aboad thereabout all ſummer time, which was a great benefit to the towne. By the walles of this towne runneth the riuer Luccus, which ſometimes encreaſeth ſo, that it floweth to the citie-gates. In this towne are practiſed diuers manuarie artes and trades of merchandize: alſo it hath many temples, one college of ſtudents, and a ſtately hoſpittall. They haue neither ſprings nor wels, but onely ceſternes in ſtead thereof. The inhabitants are liberall honeſt people, though not ſo wittie as ſome others. Their apparell is but meane, being made of cotton-cloth, and wrapped often about their bodies. In the ſuburbes are great ſtore of gardens replenished with all kinde of fruits. Their grapes are vnſauourie, becauſe the ſoile is fitter for medow-ground. Euery munday they haue a market vpon

*Read Oſorins
lib. 2. de rebus
geſtis Eman.
concerning this
towne.*

the next plaine, whither their neighbours the Arabians vsually resort. In the moneth of May they goe soorth of their towne a fowling, and take great store of turtles. Their ground is exceeding fruitfull, and yeeldeth thirtie fold increase: but it cannot be tilled for fixe miles about, bicause the Portugals garrison at Arzilla which is but eighteene miles distant, doth so molest and endamage them: whom likewise the gouernour of this towne with three hundred horsemen continually encountereth, and sometime proceedeth euen to the gates of Arzilla.

Of the region of Habat.

THis region beginneth southward from the riuer of Guarga, and bordereth northward vpon the Ocean, westward it adioineth vnto the fennes of Argar, and eastward it abutteth vpon those mountaines which are next vnto the streites of Gibraltar. In bredth it stretcheth fower score, and in length almost an hundred miles. The fruitfulness of the soile, and the abundance of corne cannot easily be described: it is almost a perpetuall plaine, watered with many riuers: howbeit heretofore it hath bene more noble and famous, by reason of the ancient cities built partly by the Romans & partly by the Goths: and I thinke it to be the same region which *Prolemey* calleth Mauritania; but since Fez was first built, it hath fallen into woonderfull decay. Moreouer *Idris* the founder of Fez leauing ten sonnes behinde him, bestowed this region vpon the eldest: afterward ensued a rebellion of diuers Mahumetan heretiques and lords, one faction of whom suing for aide at the gouernour of Granada, and others seeking aide from certaine gouernours of Cairaoan, they were all vanquished and put to flight by the Mahumetan patriark of Cairaoan: who hauing thus subdued the region, left it vnder garrison and returned home. Afterward the great chancelour of Cordoua leuying an huge armie, conquered all this countrey euen to the borders of the region of Zab. Fiftie yeeres after king *Ioseph* of the Luntine family, chasing out the people of Granada, obtained the saide prouince by force: and last of all the king of Fez enioied it.

Of Ezaggen a towne of Habat.

THis towne was built by the ancient Africans vpon the side of a mountaine, almost ten miles distant from Guarga: all which distance being plaine ground, serueth for corn-fields and gardens: howbeit the hilles are farre more fruitfull. This towne is distant from Fez almost three-score and ten miles, and containeth to the number of fise hundred families, out of the territorie whereof there is the summe of tenne thousand ducates yeerely gathered for tribute, with which tribute the gouernour of the same towne is bound to maintaine on the kings behalfe fower hundred horsemen, for the defence of the whole region. For they are often molested with inuasions

sions of the Portugals, who proceed wasting and spoiling the countrey, sometimes fortie, and sometimes fiftie miles. Here is but little civility to be found, neither are the people but homely appavelled, though they be verie rich. They haue a priuilege granted them by the ancient kings of Fez to drinke wine, which is otherwife forbidden by the law of Mahumet, and yet none of them all will abstaine from drinking it.

Of the towne called Bani Teude.

THis ancient towne was built also by the Africans on a large plaine by the riuier of Guarga, fiue and fortie miles from the citie of Fez. In the prosperitie thereof it contained to the number of eight thousand families, but afterward it was so destroyed by the wars of the Patriarkes of Cairoan, that now the towne wall is only remaining. At my being there I sawe diuers monuments and sepulchres of noblemen, and certaine conducts curiously built of excellent marble. From this towne mount Gumeria is almost fowerteene miles distant: the fieldes adiacent being good arable, and very fruitfull.

Of the towne of Mergo.

Mergo standing vpon the toppe of a mountaine is from Bani Teude about ten miles distant. Some thinke that the Romans were founders of this towne, because there are found vpon the ancient ruines certaine Latine letters ingrauen. But now it is quite destitute of inhabitants, howbeit vpon the side of the same mountaine standeth another small towne inhabited with weauers of course cloth; from whence you may behold the riuier Subu to the south, and the riuier Guarga to the north, from which riuers the saide towne is fiue miles distant. The inhabitants loue to bee accounted gentlemen, albeit they are couetous, ignorant, and destitute of all goodnes.

Of the towne of Tansor.

Tansor standeth vpon a little hill, almost ten miles from Mergo, and containeth three hundred families, but very fewe artificers. The inhabitants are rude and barbarous people, hauing neither vineyardes nor gardens, but onely exercising husbandry, and possessing abundance of cattle. This towne standeth in the midde way between Fez and mount Gumeria, which (I thinke) is the occasion, that the inhabitants are so couetous and void of humanitie.

Of the towne of Agla.

THis ancient towne was built by the Africans vpon the bank of the riuier Guarga. The fruitfull fields thereof are manured by the Arabians: but the towne it selfe hath bene so wasted with warre, that nowe there

there is nothing to be seene but in a few places the ruines of houses & wals, & certaine pits. In the suburbes there is euery weeke a great market, wherunto the next Arabians vsually resort; and so do some merchants of Fez likewise, to buie oxe-hides, wooll, and waxe, which are the principall commodities of that place. Hereabouts keepe great store of lions, but they are by nature so fearefull, that they will flee at the voice of a childe: hence cometh the prouerbe so rife in Fez; A lion of Agla; which they applie vnto such a one as maketh great brags, and is but a meere dastard.

The occasion
of a prouerbe.

Of the castle of Narangia.

THe castle of Narangia built by the Africans vpon a little hill not farre from the riuer Luccus, is almost ten miles distant from Ezaggen. It hath most fruitfull corn-fields, but no plaines belonging vnto it. Along the riuers side are huge deserts, wherein grow great store of wilde fruits, especially cherries, such as the Italians call *Ciriegie marine*. This castle was surprisid and sacked by the Portugals in the yeere of the Hegeira 895. which was in the yeere of our Lord, 1486.

Of the Isle of Gesira.



THe Isle of Gesira lying not farre from the mouth of the riuer Luccus, is distant from the sea about ten, and from Fez about an hundred miles. There was in times past a little ancient towne vpon this Island, which was abandoned when the Portugals first made warres vpon Barbarie. About the saide riuer are many deserts, but very fewe corn-fields. In the yeere of the Hegeira 894. the king of Portugall sent hither a great armie, which being landed on the Isle, the generall of the field built a strong fort thereupon, by meanes whereof he hoped to be free from the enimies inuasion, and to enjoy the fields adiacent. But the king of Fez, namely his father that nowe reigneth, foreseeing the damage that he shoulde sustaine, if he permitted the saide fort to be finished, leuied a mightie armie to withstand the Portugals proceedings. Howbeit, so great was the force of their ordinance, that the Moores durst not approach within two miles of the Portugal campe. Wherefore the Fessan king being almost out of hope, was perswaded by some that were about him to stoppe vp the riuer with postes and raftes two miles from the Island: by which meanes the Moores being defended, and hauing cut downe all the woodes adioining, the Portugals perceiued the passage of the riuer in short time to be choaked and stopped vp with great trees, and that there was no possibilitie for them to depart. Then the king hoping easily to ouercome the Portugals, determined to assaile their fort: but considering he could not do it without great slaughter of his people, he couenanted with the Portugall generall, that besides a great summe of money paide vnto him, the saide generall shoulde

An attempt
and defeate of
the Portugals.

1562.

obtaine of the Portugall king to haue certaine daughters of the king of Fez his gouernour (which were at that time prisoners in Portugall) to be restored, and that then he would freely dissmisse him and his companie: which being done, the Portugall armie returned home.

Of the towne of Basra.



His towne containing almost two thousand families, was built by Mahumet the sonne of *Idris*, which was the founder of Fez, vpon a certaine plaine betweene two mountaines, being distant from Fez about fower score, and from Casar southward almost twentie miles. And it was named Basra for the memorie of a citie in Arabia Foelix called by that name, where *Hali* the fourth Mahumetan patriarke after *Mahumet*, and great grandfather vnto *Idris* was slaine. It was in times past enuironed with most high and impregnable wals: and so long as it was gouerned by the posteritie of *Idris*, the people were verie ciuill; for *Idris* his successours vsed alwaies to remaine there in sommer time, by reason of the pleasant situation of the place, the hills and valleies being beautified with sweete gardens, and yeelding corne in abundance: and that both by reason of the vicinitie of the towne, and of the neighbour-hood of the riuer Luccus. Moreouer, in old time this towne was verie populous, being adorned with many faire temples, and inhabited with most ciuill people: but the family of *Idris* decaying, it became a pray vnto the enimie. At this present the ruines of the wals are onely to be seene, and certaine forlorne gardens, which, because the ground is not manured, bring fourth naught, but wilde fruits.

Of the towne called Homar.

THis towne was built by one *Hali* a disciple of the foresaid Mahumet vpon a little hill, and by a riuers side, being situate about fourteene miles to the north of Casar, and sixteen miles to the south of Arzilla: which although it be but a small towne, yet is it well fortified and fairely built, and enuironed with fruitfull fieldes, vineyardes, and gardens replenished with woonderfull varietie of fruits. The inhabitants being most of them linnen-weauers, gather and prouide great store of flaxe. But euer since the Portugals woon Arzilla, this towne hath remained desolate.

A description of the citie of Arzilla.

THe great citie of Arzilla called by the Africans Azella, was built by the Romans vpon the Ocean sea shore, about seuentie miles from the streits of Gibraltar, and an hundred and fortie miles from Fez. It was in times past subiect vnto the prince of Septa or Ceuta, who was tributarie to the Romans, and was afterward taken by the Goths, who established the said

saide prince in his former government: but the Mahumetans wan it in the yeere of the Hegeira 94. and helde the same for two hundred and twenty yeeres, till sitch time as the English at the perswasion of the Goths besieged it with an huge armie; and albeit the Goths were enemies to the English, because themselves were Christians, and the English worshippers of idols, yet the Goths perswaded them to this attempt, hoping by that meanes to draw the Mahumetans out of Europe. The English hauing good successe tooke the citie, and so wasted it with fire and sword, that scarce one citizen escaped, so that it remained almost thirtie yeeres voide of inhabitants. But afterward when the Mahumetan patriarks of Cordoua were lords of Mauritania, it was againe reedified, and by all meanes augmented, enriched and fortified, The inhabitants were rich, learned, and valiant. The fields adiacent yeeld graine and pulse of all sorts in great abundance, but because the towne standeth almost ten miles from the mountaines, it sustaineth great want of wood; howbeit they haue coales brought them from Harais, as is aforesaid. In the yeere of the Hegeira 882. this citie was suddenly surprisid and taken by the Portugalles, and all the inhabitants carried prisoners into Portugall, amongst whom was *Mahumet* the king of Fez that now is, who together with his sister being both children of seuen yeeres old, were taken and led captiue. For the father of this *Mahumet* seeing the prouince of Habar reuolt from him, went and dwelt at Arzilla, the very same time, when *Esserif* a great citizen of Fez, hauing slaine *Habdulac* the last king of the Marin familie, was by the fauour of the people aduanced vnto the Fes-fan kingdome. Afterward one *Saic Abra* being pricked forward with ambition, went about to conquer the citie of Fez, and to make himselfe king; howbeit *Esserif* by the aduise of a certaine counsellour of his, being couzin vnto *Saic*, vanquished and put to flight the saide *Saic* to his great disgrace. Moreouer while *Esserif* had sent his saide counsellour to Temesna, to pacifie the people of that prouince being about to rebell, *Saic* returned, and hauing for one whole yeere besieged new Fez with eight thousand men, at length by treason of the townesmen he easily wan it, and compelled *Esserif* with all his familie, to flee vnto the kingdome of Tunis. The same time therefore that *Saic* besieged Fez, the king of Portugall (as is aforesaid) sending a flecte into Africa, tooke Arzilla, and then was the king of Fez that now is with his yoong sister caried captiue into Portugall, where he remained seuen yeeres, in which space he learned the Portugall-language most exactly. At length with a great summe of money his father ransomed him out of Portugall, who afterward being aduanced to the kingdome, was by reason of his long continuance in Portugall called king *Mahumet* the Portugall. This king afterward attempted very often to be auenged of the Portugals, and to recover Arzilla. Wherefore suddenly encountering the saide citie he beat down a great part of the wall, and entering the breach, set all the captiue-Moores at libertie. The Christians retired into the castle, promising within two daies to yeeld vnto the king. But *Pedro Xamarro* coming in the meane season with

The taking of
Arzilla by the
English.

Arzilla taken
by the Portu-
gals.

Habdulac the
last king of the
Marin family.

Read Osorius
lib. 5. de rebis
gestis Eman.

a great fleet, they compelled the king with continuall discharging of their ordinance, not onely to relinquish the citie, but also to depart quite away with his whole armie: afterward it was so fortified on all sides by the Portugals, that the said king attempting often the recouerie thereof, had alwaies the repulse. I my selfe seruing the king in the foresaid expedition could find but five hundred of our companie slaine. But the warre against Arzilla continued from the yeere of the Hegeira 914. to the yeere 921.

John Leo serued the king of Fez in his wars against Arzilla.

Of the citie of Tangia.



He great and ancient citie of Tangia called by the Portugals Tangiara, according to the fond opinion of some historiographers, was founded by one *Sedded* the sonne of *Had*, who (as they say) was emperour ouer the whole world. This man (say they) determined to build a citie, which for beautie might match the earthly paradise. Wherefore he compassed the same with walles of brasse, and the roofes of the houses he couered with gold and siluer, for the building whereof he exacted great tributes of all the cities in the world. But the classicall and approoued authors affirme that it was built by the Romanes vpon the Ocean sea shore, at the same time when they subdued the kingdome of *Granada. From the streites of Gibraltar it is distant almost thirtie, and from Fez an hundred and fiftie miles. And from the time that the Goths were first lordes of Granada, this citie was subiect vnto *Septa* or *Centa*, vntill it and Arzilla were woon by the Mahumetans. It hath alwaies beene a ciuill, famous, and well-peopled towne, and very stately and sumptuously built. The field there-to belonging is not very fertill, nor apt for tilth: howbeit not far off are certaine vallies continually watered with fountaines, which furnish the said citie with all kinde of fruits in abundance. Without the citie also growe certaine vines, albeit vpon a sandie soile. It was well stored with inhabitants, till such time as Arzilla was surprized by the Portugals: for then the inhabitants being dismaied with rumours of warres, tooke vp their bag and baggage and fled vnto Fez. Whereupon the king of Portugall his deputie at Arzilla sent one of his captaines thither, who kept it so long vnder the obedience of the king, till the king of Fez sent one of his kinsmen also to defend a region of great importance neere vnto the mountaines of *Gumera*, being enemie to the Christians. Twentie five yeeres before the Portugall king wan this citie, he sent forth an armada against it, hoping that the citie being destitute of aide, while the king of Fez was in warres against the rebels of *Mecnase*, would soone yeeld it selfe. But contrarie to the Portugals expectation the *Fessan* king concluding a sudden truce with them of *Mecnase*, sent his counsellour with an armie, who encountering the Portugals, made a great slaughter of them, and amongst the rest slue their generall, whom he caused to be caried in a case or sacke vnto new Fez, and there to be set vpon an high place where all men might behold him. Afterward the king of Portugall sent a

* Or *Batica*.

new supply, who suddenly assailing the citie in the night, were most of them slaine, and the residue enforced to flee. But that which the Portugall-king could not bring to passe with those two Armadas, he atchieued at length (as is aforesaid) with small forces and litle disadvantage. In my time *Mahumet* king of Fez left no meanes vnattempted for the recouerie of this citie, but so great alwaies was the valour of the Portugals, that he had euer ill successe. These things were done in the yeere of the Hegeira 917, which was in the yeere of our Lord 1508.

*Of the towne called Casar Ezzagbir, that is,
the little palace.*



His towne was built by *Mansor* the king and Patriarke of *Maro* vpon the Ocean sea shore, about twelue miles from *Tangia*, and from *Septa* eightene miles. It was built (they say) by *Mansor*, because euerie yeere when he passed into the Prouince of *Granada*, hee was constrained with his whole annie to march ouer the rough and ragged mountaines of *Septa*, before he could come vnto the sea shore. It standeth in an open and pleasant place ouer against the coast of *Granada*. It was well peopled in times past, part of the inhabitants beeing weauers and merchants, and the rest mariners, that vsed to transport the wares of *Barbarie* into *Europe*. This towne the king of Portugall tooke by a sudden surprife. And the *Fessan* king hath laboured by all meanes to recouer it, but euer with ill successe. These things were done in the yeere of the Hegeira 863.

Casar Ezzagbir
taken by the
king of Portu-
gall.

Of the great citie of Septa.



Epta, called by the Latines, *Ciuitas*, and by the Portugals, *Seupra*, was (according to our most approoued Authors) built by the Romanes vpon the streits of *Gibraltar*, being in olde time the head citie of all *Mauritania*; wherefore the Romanes made great account thereof, insonuch that it became verie ciuill, and was throughly inhabited. Afterward it was woone by the *Gothes*, who appointed a gouernour there; and it continued in their possession, till the *Mahumetans* inuading *Mauritania* surprifed it also. The occasion whereof was one *Iulian* Earle of *Septa*; who being greatly iniuried by *Roderigo* king of the *Gothes* and of *Spaine*, ioyned with the infidels, conducted them into *Granada*, and caused *Roderigo* to loose both his life and his kingdome. The *Mahumetans* therefore hauing taken *Septa*, kept possession thereof on the behalfe of one *Elqualid*, sonne of *Habdulmalic* their Patriarke, who then was resident at *Damasco*, in the yeere of the Hegeira 92. From thencefoorth till within these fewe yeeres, this citie grew so ciuill and so well stored with inhabitants, that it proued the most worthie and famous

The entrance of
the Moores into
Granada.

citie of all Mauritania. It contained many temples and colledges of students, with great numbers of artizans, and men of learning and of high spirite. Their artizans excelled especially in workes of brasse, as namely in making of candlesticks, basons, standishes, and such like commodities, which were as pleasant to the eie, as if they had beene made of siluer or gold. The Italians haue great cunning in making of the like, but their workmanship is nothing comparable to theirs of *Septa. Without the citie are diuers faire villages and granges, especially in that place which for the abundance of vines is called The vineyards: howbeit the fields are verie barren and fruitles, for which cause their corne is exceeding deere. Both without and within the citie there is a pleasant and beautifull prospect to the shore of Granada vpon the streits of Gibraltar, from whence you may discern living creatures, the distance being but 12. miles. Howbeit this famous citie not many yeeres since was greatly afflicted by *Habdulmumen* the king and patriarke: who hauing surprised it, razed the buildings, and banished the principal inhabitants thereof. And not long after it sustained as great damage by the king of Granada, who (besides the foresaide harmes) carried the nobles and chiefe citizens captiues into Granada. And lastly in the yeere of *Mahumet* his Hegeira 818. being taken by a Portugall-armada, all the citizens did abandon it. *Abu Sahid* being then king of Fez, and a man of no valour, neglected the recouerie thereof: but in the midst of his dauncing and disport being aduertised that it was lost, he would not so much as interrupt his vaine pastime: wherefore by gods iust iudgement, both himselfe and his fixe sonnes were all slaine in one night by his Secretarie, in whom he reposed singular trust, because hee would haue deflowered the said Secretaries wife. These things came to passe in the yeere of the Hegeira 824. Afterward, the kingdome of Fez being eight yeeres destitute of a king, a sonne of the murdered king whom he begot of a Christian woman, and who the same night that his father was slaine fled vnto Tunis, succeeded in the government: this was *Habdulac* the last king of the Marin family, who likewise (as is foresaide) was slaine by the people.

* Or centa.

The streits of Gibraltar from Septa but 12. miles broad.

Septa taken by the Portugals.

Abu Sahid king of Fez and his fixe sonnes slaine all in one night.

Of the towne of *Tettequin*, now called *Tetuan*.



His towne being built by the ancient Africans eightene miles from the streits of Gibraltar, and fixe miles from the maine Ocean, was taken by the Mahumetans at the same time when they woon Septa from the Gothes. It is reported that the Gothes bestowed the government of this towne vpon a woman with one eie, who weekly repairing thither to receiue tribute, the inhabitants named the towne *Tettequin*, which signifieth in their language an eie. Afterward being often assayed and encountered by the Portugals, the inhabitants forsooke it, and it remained fowerscore and fiftene yeeres desolate: which time being expired, it was reedified and replanted a new with

inhabitants by a certaine captaine of Granada, who together with his king being expelled thence by *Ferdinando* king of Castile, departed vnto Fez. This famous captaine that shewed himselfe so valiant in the warres of Granada was called by the Portugals Almandali. Who hauing obtained the gouernment of this towne, and gotten licence to repaire it, enuironed the same with new wals, and built an impregnable castle therein compassed with a deepe ditch. Afterward making continuall warre against the Portugals, he extremely molested and endamaged their townes of Septa, Casar, and Tangia: for with three hundred valiant horsemen of Granada he made daily incursions and inroades vpon the Christians, and those that he tooke, he put to continuall labour and toile about the building of his forts. Vpon a time I my selfe traouelling this way saw three thousand Christian captiues, who being clad in course sacke-cloth, were constrained in the night to lye fettered in deepe dungeons. This captaine was exceeding liberall vnto all African and Mahumetan strangers that passed by: howbeit within these few yeeres one of his eies being thrust out with a dagger, and the other waxing dim with age, he deceased; leauing the towne after his death vnto his nephew, who was a most valiant man.

Of the mountaines of Habat.

Amongst the mountaines of Habat there be eight more famous then the rest, all which are inhabited by the people of Gumera, who vse one generall forme and custome of liuing: for all of them maintaine Mahumets religion, albeit they drinke wine contrarie to his precept. They are proper men of personage and much addicted to industrie & labour, but for the wars they are verie vnfit. Subiect they are vnto the king of Fez, who imposeth such heauie tribute vpon them, so that besides a few (of whom we will speake hereafter) the residue are scarce able to finde themselues apparell.

Of mount Rahona.

This mountaine being neere vnto Ezaggen, containeth in length thirtie miles, and in breadth twelue miles. It aboundeth with oyle, hony, and vines. The inhabitants are principally imployed about making of sope and trying of waxe. Wines they haue great store both browne and white. They pay vnto the king of Fez for yeerely tribute three thousand ducates, which being allowed vnto the gouernour of Ezaggen, he maintaineth fower hundred horsemen in the kings seruice.

Of the mountaine called Beni-Fenescare.

This mountaine of Fenescare adioyning vnto mount Rahon, is about fise and twentic miles long, and eight miles broad. It is better peopled
then

then Rahon, hauing many leather-dressers, and weauers of course cloth, and yeelding great abundance of waxe. Euery saturday they haue a great market, where you may finde all kinde of chapmen and of wares; insomuch that the Genoueses come hither to buy oxehides and waxe, which they conuey into Portugall and Italy. Out of this mountaine is yeerely collected for tribute the summe of fixe thousand ducates, three thousand whereof are allowed vnto the gouernour of Ezaggen, the residue being payd into the kings exchequer.

Of the mountaine called Beni-Haros.

THis mountaine standing neer vnto Casar extendeth northward eight, and westward 20 miles. It containeth but fixe miles only in bredth. It was wont to be well peopled and inhabited with gentlemen, who, when the Portugals woon Arzilla, cruelly vsurping ouer the people, compelled them to flee and leaue the mountaine desolate. There are at this present certaine cottages vpon the mountaine; but all the residue lyeth wast. While this mountaine continued in good estate, it allowed yeerely vnto the gouernor of Casar three thousand ducates.

Of mount Chebib.

VPon this mountaine are fixe or seuen castles inhabited with ciuill and honest people: for when the Portugals wan Tangia, the citizens fled vnto this mountaine beeing but twentie miles distant. The inhabitants are perpetually molested with the Portugals inuasions: the tributes of this mountaine being halfe diminished since the losse of Tangia, waxe euery day woorse and woorse, because the garrison is thirtie miles distant, and cannot come to succour them so often as the Portugals come to waste and spoyle their territories.

Of the mountaine called Beni Chessen.

THis mountaine is of an exceeding height, and very hard to be encountered: for besides the naturall fortification thereof, it is inhabited with most valiant people. These inhabitants being oppressed with the tyranny of their gouernours, rose vp at length in armes against them, & brought them to great miserie and distresse. Whereupon a yoong gentleman, one of their said gouernours, disdaining to submit himselfe vnto the yoke of his inferiours, went to serue in the king of Granada his warres, where being trained vp a long time in martiall discipline against the Christians, he prooued an expert warrior: and so at length returning vnto one of his natiue mountaines, he gathered a certaine troupe of horsemen, and valiantly defended the said mountaine from the Portugals inuasions: whereof the king of Fez

being aduertised, sent him an hundred and fiftie crossebowes, which he imployed to the subduing of that mountaine, and to the conquest of the mountaines of his enemies. But after he began to vsurpe the kings tribute in the same mountaine, the king waxing wroth sent foorth an huge armie against him. Howbeit vpon his repentant submission, the king pardoned him, and ordained him gouernour of Seusauon, and of all the region adiacent. After him succeeded in the same government one of the linage of *Mahumet*, and of *Idris* the founder of Fez. This man became very famous among the Portugals, and by reason of his nobilitie (for he was of the familie called *Heli-brenes*) he grew vnto great renowme.

Of mount Angera.

IT standeth southward of Casar the lesse almost eight miles, being tenne miles long and three miles broad. The soile thereof is exceeding fruitful, and in times past greatly abounded with woods, which being cut downe by the inhabitants, were sent to Casar for the building of ships: which at that time had a great fleete belonging thereunto. This mountaine likewise yeilded abundance of flaxe; and the inhabitants were partly weauers and partly mariners. Howbeit when the foresaid towne of Casar was woon by the Portugals, this mountaine also was forsaken by the inhabitants: and yet at this day all the houses stand full, as if the inhabitants had not forsaken it at all.

Of mount Quadres.

THis high mountaine standing in the midst betweene *Septa* and *Tetteguin*, is inhabited with most valiant and warlike people, whose valour sufficiently appeered in the warres betweene the king of Granada, and the Spanyards; where the inhabitants onely of this mountaine preuailed more then all the armed Moores beside. Vpon the said mountaine was borne one called by them *Hellul*: this *Hellul* atchieued many woorthie exploits against the Spanyards; the historie whereof is set downe partly in verse and partly in prose, and is as rife in Africa and Granada, as is the storie of *Orlando* in Italie. But at length in the Spanish warre (wherein *Ioseph Enefir* king and patriarke of Maroco was vanquished) this *Hellul* was slaine in a castle of Catalonia, called by the Moores, The castle of the eagle. In the same battell were slaine threescore thousand Moores, so that none of them escaped saue the king and a few of his nobles. This was done in the yeere of the Hegeira 609, which was in the yeere of our Lord 1160. From thenceforth the Spanyards had alwaies good successe in their warres, so that they recouered all those cities which the Moores had before taken from them. And from that time till the yeere wherein king *Ferdinando* conquered Granada, there passed (according to the Arabians account) 285. yeeres.

Threescore
thousand
Moores slaine.

Of the mountaine called Beni Guedarfeth.

THis mountaine standing not farre from Tetteguin (although it be not very large) is well fraught with inhabitants. The people are very warlike, being in pay vnder the gouernour of Tetteguin, whom they greatly honour and attend vpon him in all his attempts against the Christians: for which cause they pay no tribute vnto the king of Fez, vnlesse it be for their fieldes, which is very little. They reape much commoditie out of those mountaines, for there groweth great abundance of boxe, whereof the Fessan combes are made.

A description of Errifone of the seuen regions of Fez.

Westward this region beginneth neere vnto the streites of Gibraltar, and extendeth eastward to the riuer of Nocor, which distance containeth about an hundred and fortie miles. Northward it bordereth vpon the Mediterran sea, and stretcheth fortie miles southward vnto those mountains which lie ouer against the riuer Guarga and the territorie of Fez. This region is very vneuen, being full of exceeding colde mountaines and waste deserts, which are replenished with most beautifull and straight trees: Here is no come growing, they haue great store of vines, figs, oliues, & almonds. The inhabitants of this region are valiant people, but so excessiuely giuen to drinking, that they scarcely reserue wherewithall to apparell themselues. Head-cattell they haue but fewe: howbeit vpon their mountaines they haue great plentie of goates, asses, and apes. Their townes are but few: and their castles and villages are very homely built without any plancher or stories, much like to the stables of Europe, and are couered with thatch or with the barke of trees. All the inhabitants of this region haue the balles of their throate-pipes very great, and are vnciuill and rude people.

Of the towne of Terga.

THis small towne (as some thinke) built by the Goths vpon the shore of the Mediterran sea, is distant from the streites of Gibraltar about fower score miles, and containeth to the number of fise hundred families. The towne wall is of no force. The inhabitants are most part of them fishers; who getting great abundance of fish, salt them, and carrie them to sell almost an hundred miles southward. This towne was in times past well stored with people, but since the Portugals entered the same region, it hath fallen greatly to decay. Not farre from this towne groweth abundance of wood vpon the ragged and cold mountaines. And albeit the inhabitants are valiant, yet are they rusticall and void of all humanitie.

Of *Bedis*, otherwise called *Velles de Gumera*.



His ancient towne built vpon the Mediterran sea shore, & called by the Spaniards *Velles de Gumera*, containeth about fixe hundred families. Some writers there are that affirme it to be built by the Africans, and others by the Gothes; so that it remaineth as yet vncertaine who were the true founders thereof. It standeth betweene two high mountaines: and not farre from it there is a faire and large valley, from whence comineth a little riuer or streame to the towne, alwaies when it raineth. In the midst of the towne standeth the market place, which containeth great store of shops. Here is also a verie stately temple to be seene. Water for drinke is exceeding scarce among them, for they are all constrained to resort vnto one pit or well, being in the suburbs, neere vnto the sepulchre of a certaine man, that was in times past very famous among them. Howbeit in the night it is dangerous to fetch water from thence, because it is so full of blood-suckers or horse-leeches. The townemen are of two sorts: for some be fishers, and the residue are pirates, which daily doe great harme vnto the Christians. Vpon the mountaines grow great store of wood, verie commodious for the building of ships and of galleies. The inhabitants of which mountaines are almost wholly employed about carrying of the said wood from place to place. They haue very little corne growing, for which cause most of them eate barley bread. Their principall foode are certaine fishes (which the Italians call *Sardelli*) together with other like fishes. They haue such abundance of fish, that one man alone is not able to draw vp a net; wherefore whosoeuer will assist the fishermen in that busines, are rewarded with good store of fishes for their labour: yea sometimes they will freely bestow fishes vpon such as passe by. They salt the foresaid *Sardelli*, and send them to the mountaines to be sold. In this towne there is a long street inhabited with Iewes, wherein dwell sundry vintners that sell excellent wines. So that in calme euenings the citizens vse to carrie wine aboard their barkes in the sea, and to spend their time in drinking and singing. In this towne standeth a faire castle, but not strong, wherein the gouernour hath his aboad. And neere vnto this castle the saide gouernour hath a palace, whereunto belongeth a most pleasant garden. Vpon the shore the gouernour buildeth galleies and other ships wherewith they greatly molest the Christians. Whereupon *Ferdinando* king of Spaine taking a certaine Iland within a mile of the towne, built a fort thereon, and so planted it with ordinaunce and souldiers, that neither their temples nor themselves walking in the streets were free therefrom, but were daily slaine. Wherefore the gouernour of the towne was constrained to craue ayde from the king of Fez, who sent out a great armie against the Christians; but they were partly taken, and partly slaine, so that verie few escaped backe vnto Fez. The Christians kept this isle almost two yeeres: and then

it was betrayed by a false trecherous Spaniard (who flew the gouernour of the isle, because he had taken his wife from him) into the Moores possession, and all the Christians were slaine: not a man of them escaped, saue onely the Spanish traitour, who in regard of his treason was greatly rewarded, both by the gouernour of Bedis, and also by the king of Fez. Being at Naples I heard the whole relation of this matter from a certaine man that was present at all the former exploits, who said that they were done about the yeere of our Lord 1520. But now the said island is most diligently kept by a garrison of souldiers sent from Fez: for Bedis is the neereſt hauen-towne vnto Fez vpon the Mediterran sea shore, although it be an hundred and twenty miles distant. Euerie yeere or euerie second yeere the Venetian galleies vse to resort vnto this isle, and to exchange wares for wares with the inhabitants, or sometimes to buy for readie money: which wares the Venetians transport vnto Tunis, Venice, Alexandria, and sometime to Barutto.

Of the towne of Ielles.

THis towne being built vpon the Mediterran sea shore is almost fixe miles distant from Bedis: the hauen thereof is very commodious and much frequented by ships in fowle and tempestuous weather. Not farre from this towne are diuers mountaines and waste deserts growing full of pine trees. In my time it remained voide of inhabitants, by reason of certaine Spanish pyrates which haunted the same; and now there are but a few poore cottages of fishers, who standing in dayly dread of the Spaniards, keepe continuall and circumspect watch to see if they can escrie any ships making towards them, which if they do, they flee soorthwith vnto the next mountaines, bringing from thence a sufficient number of armed men to withstand the attempts of the Spaniards or Portugals.

Of the towne of Tegassa.

THis towne though it be but little is well stored with inhabitants, and standeth vpon a riuers side, about two miles from the Mediterran sea. Families it containeth to the number of siue hundreth, the buildings thereof being very rude and homely: all the inhabitants are fishers and sea-faring men, who from thence carrie victuals vnto other cities; for their own towne being enuironed with mountaines and woods, they haue no corne at all. Howbeit certaine vines there are, and very fruitfull trees, without which the whole region were in a miserabie case. Besides barley-bread the inhabitants haue nought to liue on, sauing a fewe little fishes and onions. I my selfe coulde hardly for one day endure the extreme stinking smell of their fishes, which stinch miserabie infecteth the whole prouince.

Of the towne of Gebha.

Gebha is a little towne walled round about, and built by the Africans vpon the Mediterran sea shore. From Bedis it is aboute fower and twentie miles distant. Sometimes it hath inhabitants and sometimes none, according to the custome of that region. All the fields adiacent are vsfite for corne, being full of fountaines and woods. Here also are certaine vines and other fruits, but no buildings of any account.

Of the towne of Mezemme.

IT is a very large sea-towne standing vpon a certaine hill which bordereth vpon the prouince of Garet. Neere vnto this towne lieth a verie large plaine, the length whereof stretching southward is eight and twentie, and the breadth almost ten miles; and through the midst of it runneth the riuier called Nocore, which diuideth the region of Errif from that of Garet. This plaine is occupied by certaine Arabian husbandmen, who reape such plentie of corne there, that they are constrained to pay about fise thousand bushels a yeere vnto the gouernour of Bedis. This citie was woont in times past to be well peopled, and was the metropolitan of the whole region, although it were continually molested with inconueniences. For first it was almost vterly destroyed by the patriarke of Cairaoan: who, bicause the townesmen refused to pay him his woonted tribute, burnt it downe, and beheaded the gouernour thereof: whose head was carried to Cairaoan vpon the pike of a iaueline. This was done in the yeere of the Hegeira 318. From thencefoorth for fifteene yeeres after it remained destitute of inhabitants: and then vnder the same patriarke the foresaide towne was by certaine noblemen inhabited a newe. Lastly it was taken by a certaine great man of Cordoua. He seeing this citie stande within fower-score miles of his confines (for so broad is the sea betweene Malaga in Granada, and this part of Barbarie) began to demaund tribute of the citizens: which when they refused to pay, he tooke their towne with a small number of men: for the patriark coulde not in so short space succour it, by reason that Cairaoan is distant from thence aboute *three and twentie hundreth miles. Wherefore this towne being taken and vterly razed, the gouernour thereof was sent captiue vnto Cordoua, where he spent the residue of his daies in prison. And now the wals of this towne are onely to be seene. This was done in the yeere of the Hegeira 892. Now let vs speake somewhat of the mountaines of Errif.

* Here seemeth
to be an error in
the originall.

Of mount Benigarir.

THis mountaine is inhabited by certaine people which came first from the mountaines of Gumeria. It standeth neere vnto Terga, and is ten miles long, and almost fower miles broad. Vpon this mountaine are great store of woods, as likewise abundance of vines and oliues. The inhabitants are miserable and poore people. Cattell are very scarce among them: they vse to make much wine and foddren must. Neither haue they any store of barly growing vpon this mountaine.

Of mount Beni Mansor.

THis mountaine containeth in length fiftiene, and in bredth almost siue miles. Vpon this mountaine are great store of woods and fountaines: All the inhabitants are most valiant, and yet poore and miserable people, for the whole mountaine yeeldeth nothing but vines: they haue indeed some small number of goats. Euery weeke they haue a market, whereunto is brought nothing but garlike, onions, raisins, salt fishes called before Sardelli, together with some corne and panicke, whereof they make bread. This hill is subiect to the gouernour of Bedis.

Of mount Bucchua.

THis mountaine is fowertene miles long, and almost eight miles broad. The inhabitants are richer and somewhat better apparelled then they of other mountaines, & possesse great store of horses. Corne it yeeldeth in abundance: neither are the people constrained to pay any great tribute, by reason of a certaine holy man buried at Bedis, and borne vpon this mountaine.

Of mount Beni Chelid.

By this mountaine lieth the high way from Bedis to Fez. It is a verie cold place, and containeth great store of wood and fountaines. It yeeldeth no corne, but vines onely. The inhabitants being subiect to the gouernour of Bedis, are by reason of continuall exactions so impoucrished, that they are faine to rob and steale for their liuing.

Of mount Beni Mansor.

THis mountaine extendeth eight miles, standing an equall distance from the sea with the mountaines aforesaid. The inhabitants are valiant and stout people, but too much addicted to drunkennes. Wine they haue great store, and but little corne. Their women keepe goates and spinne

spinne vpon the distaffe both at one time: the greater part of whom will not refuse the dishonest company of any man.

Of mount Beni Ioseph.

THE length of this mountaine is twelue miles, and the bredth about eight miles. The inhabitants are poore, and basely apparelled: neither haue they any corne but panicke, whereof they make blacke and most vnfauoric bread. They liue also vpon onions, and garlike. Their fountaines are very muddie. They haue great store of goates, the milke whereof they keepe as a most precious thing.

Of mount Beni Zaruol.

VPon this mountaine are great store of vines, olines, and other frutes. The inhabitants are poore miserable people, being subiect to the gouernour of Seusaoen, who exacteth so great tribute at their handes, that all which they can scrape and get out of the mountaine will hardly maintaine them. Euery weeke they haue a market, wherein nothing is to be solde, but onely dried figs, raisins, and oile. Likewise they vse to kill their hee and three goats, whose flesh is so vnfauoric, that it cannot be eaten, vnlesse it be fried.

Of mount Beni Razin.

THIS mountaine bordereth vpon the Mediterran sea, not farre from Terga. The inhabitants liue a secure and pleasant life; for the mountaine is impregnable, and aboundeth with all kinde of graine, neither are they constrained to pay any tribute at all. They haue likewise good plentie of oliues and wine; and their ground is exceeding fruitfull, especially vpon the side of the mountaine. Their women partly keepe goates, and partly till the ground.

Of mount Seusaoen.

THERE is no mountaine in all Africa for pleasant situation comparable to this: hereon standeth a towne inhabited with all kinde of artificers and merchants. Vpon this mountaine dwelleth one called *Sidi Heli Berrased*, being lord ouer many mountaines. This *Sidi Heli* brought some ciuilitie into this mountaine, rebelled against the king of Fez, and maintained continuall warre against the Portugals. The inhabitants of the villages of this and the foresaid mountaines, are free from all taxation and tribute, because they serue vnder their captaine as well for horsemen as for footemen. Corne heere groweth small store, but great plentie of flaxe. There are great woods, and many fountaines vpon this hill: and the inhabitants go all decently apparelled.

Of mount Beni Gebara.

THis mountaine is very steepe, and of a woonderfull height, out of the foote whereof spring certaine riuers. Vines and figges here are great store, but no corne at all: and the inhabitants weare most base attire. They haue abundance of goats, & oxen of so little a stature, that a man would take them to be calues of halfe a yeere olde. Euery weeke they haue a market, being furnished with very few commodities. Hither doe the merchants of Fez resort, and the muletters or carriers, which conueie fruits out of this mountaine vnto Fez. In times past it was subiect vnto a certaine prince of the king of Fez his kinred: and there were collected out of this mountaine almost two thousand ducates of yeerely tribute.

Of mount Beni Ierso.

THis mountaine in times past was exceedingly well peopled. Heere was likewise a faire colledge built, wherein the Mahumetan lawe was publicly taught, for which cause the inhabitants were freed from all tributes and exactions. Afterward a certaine tirant being assisted by the king of Fez, made this mountaine to become tributarie vnto him; but first he put the inhabitants to flight, and then destroied the colledge, wherein were founde bookes woorth more then fowre thousand ducates, and the learned and famous men he cruelly put to the sword. This was done in the 918. yeere of the Hegera, which was in the yeere of our Lord 1509.

Of mount Tezarin.

THis mountaine called by the inhabitants Tezarin, standeth neer vnto the foresaid Beni Ierso, & aboundeth greatly with fountaines, deserts, & vineyards. Vpon the top thereof stand diuers ancient buildings, which (so farre foorth as I can coniecture) were erected by the Romains. And here (as is before signified) certaine fond people continually search in caues and holes of the earth for the Romains treasure. All the inhabitants of this mountaine are most ignorant people, and greatly oppressed with exactions.

Of mount Beni Busibet.

THis is a most cold mountaine, and therefore it yeeldeth neither corne nor cattell, both by reason of the extreme coldnes, and the barrennes thereof. Moreouer the leaues of the trees are not fit for goates to feede vpon. They haue so great plentie of nuts, that they abundantly furnish the citie of Fez, and all other neighbour cities and townes therewith. All their grapes are blacke, whereof they make a certaine pleasant meate called Zibibbo.

Zibibbo.

Zibibbo. They make likewise great store of must and wine. They are clad in certaine woollen clokes or mantles, such as are vsed in Italy: these mantles haue certaine hoods, which couer their heads and visages so, that you can scarce discern them to be men: and they are particoloured with blacke and white spots. In winter the merchants that resort vnto this mountaine to carrie away nuts and raisins vnto Fez, can scarce finde any meate to eate, for there is neither corne nor flesh, but onely onions and certaine salt fishes, which are extreme deere. They vse likewise to eate sodden must and beanes dressed after their manner, and this is the daintiest fare that this mountaine can afford; and their sodden must they eate with much bread.

Of mount Beni Gualid.

IT is an exceeding high and steepe hill, and the inhabitants are very rich, for of their blacke grapes they make the foresaid meate called Zibibbo. Almonds, figges, and oliues they haue in great abundance: neither pay they any tribute vnto the king of Fez, but onely each family one fourth part of a ducate, to the end they may haue free libertie to buie and sell in Fez market. And if any citizen of Fez doth them any wrong, when they take him or anie of his kinted in their mountaine, they will not suffer him to returne home to Fez, till sufficient recompence be made. These people go decently apparelled, and they haue a privilege granted, that whatsoeuer persons are banished out of Fez, may freely remaine in their mountaine; yea, they will bestow their liuing gratis vpon such banished persons, so long as they continue amongst them. And doubtles if this mountaine were subiect vnto the king of Fez, it would afford him yeerely for tribute fixe thousand ducates: for it containeth mo then fixe hundreth rich families.

Of mount Merniza.

THIS mountaine standeth iust by the former, the inhabitants being endued with the same nobilitie, libertie, and wealth; that the people of the former are endued with. The women of this mountaine for any light iniurie offered by their husbands, leauing foorthwith their saide husbands and children, will depart vnto some other mountaine, and seeke them newe paramours fit for their humor. For which cause they are at continuall warre one with another: neither will they be reconciled till he that is last possessed of the woman pay her former husband all such money as he spent in the solemnizing of her marriage: and for this purpose they haue certaine iudges, that make their poore clients spend almost all their whole substance.

Of mount Haugustian.

IT is an exceeding high and a cold mountaine, containing great store of springs, and abundance of vines bearing blacke grapes, together with plen-

plentie of figs, of honie, and of quinces: howbeit the sweetest and fairest quinces grow vpon a plaine at the foote of the hill. Likewise they are well stored with oyle, and are free from all tribute, and yet there is not one of them, but in token of a thankfull minde will sende great gifts vnto the king of Fez: hence it is that they may freely and securely traffique with the people of Fez, of whom they buie great store of corne, wooll, and cloth. They are most ciuilly and decently apparelled, especially such as dwell vpon the principall part of this mountaine, who are most of them either merchants or artificers, and a great many of them gentlemen.

Of Mount Beni Iedir.

This is a great and well peopled mountaine, but it yeeldeth nought but grapes, whereof they vse to make the foresaid Zibibbo and wines. The inhabitants were in times past free from all tribute; howbeit in regard of their daily robberies and outrages committed against other people, the gouernour of Bedis being aided with some souldiers of Fez, subdued them all, and deprived them of their libertie: in this mountaine there are about fiftie farmes or granges, which scarcely pay fower hundred ducates for tribute.

Of Mount Lucai.

This mountaine is of a wonderfull height, and verie difficult to ascend. The inhabitants are exceeding rich, hauing great abundance of raisins, figs, almonds, oyle, quinces, and pome-citrons: and dwelling but fise and thirtie miles distant from Fez, they carrie all their fruits and commodities thither. They are almost all gentlemen, and verie proude and high minded, so that they would neuer pay any tribute at all: for they know that their mountaine is so fortified by nature, that it cannot easily be subdued: here likewise all such as are banished out of Fez, except onely adulterers, are friendly entertained: for the inhabitants are so iealous, that they will admit no adulterers into their societie. The king of Fez granteth them many priuileges and fauours, in regard of the great commodities which he reapeth out of their mountaine.

Of mount Beni Guazua.



His mountaine is almost thirtie miles long, and about fifteen miles broad: it is diuided into three parts, and betweene this and the mountaines afore said run certaine little riuers. The inhabitants are most valiant & warlike people, but extremely oppressed and burthened with exactions by the gouernor of Fez, who euery yeere demaundeth of this mountaine for tribute eighteen

thousand ducates: the mountaine indeed aboundeth with grapes, oliues, figs, and flaxe, wherby great summes of mony are raised; howbeit whatsoever they can getteth goeth presently to the gouernour of Fez, who hath his officers and receiuers in the mountaine, which doe miserably oppresse and bribe the inhabitants: in this mountaine are a great number of villages and hamlets, that containe some an hundred, and some two hundred families and aboue: of most expert & trained soldiers they haue aboue fīue & twentie thousand, & are at continuall war with those that border vpon them. But the king of Fez for those that are slaine on both parts requireth great sums of mony, so that he gaineth much by their dissensions. In this mountaine there is a certaine towne indifferently well peopled, and furnished with all kinde of artificers; whereunto the fields belonging maruellously abounde with grapes, quinces, and pome-citrons, all which are sold at Fez: here are likewise great store of linnen weauers, and manie iudges and lawyers. They haue also a good market, whereunto the inhabitants of the neighbour mountaines resort. Vpon the top of this mountaine there is a certaine caue or hole that perpetually casteth vp fire. Some woondering greatly at the matter, haue cast in wood, which was suddenly consumed to ashes: I my selfe neuer saw the like miracle in any other place, so that a great manie thinke it to be hell-mouth.

*A caue or hole
that perpetually
casteth vp fire.*

Of mount Beniqueriaghell.



T standeth neer vnto the mountaine last mentioned, and yet the inhabitants of these mountaines are at continuall warre and discord. At the foote of this mountaine there is a large plaine which extendeth to the territorie of Fez, and through the same runneth that riuer which the inhabitants call Guarga. This mountaine greatly aboundeth with oyle, corne, and flaxe, for which cause here are great store of linnen-weauers. The greatest part of al their commodities is gathered for the kings vse, so that they which otherwise would prooue exceeding rich, becom by this meanes starke beggers, and that especially by reason of the courtiers continuall extortions. They are people of an ingenuous and valiant disposition. Souldiers they haue almost twelue thousand, and to the number of threescore villages.

Of mount Beni Achmed.

This mountaine is eightene miles long and seuen miles broad. It is verie steepe and containeth many waste deserts, and yeeldeth likewise great store of grapes, oliues, & figs: howbeit the soile is not so apt for corne. All the inhabitants are continually oppressed with the exactions of the Fessan king. At the foote of this mountaine are diuers springs and small streames, the water whereof is muddie and vnpleasant in taste, for in regard

gard of the nature of the sande or earth it tasteth of chalke. There are many in this place, the balles of whose throte-pipes are verie great and sticke farre out, like vnto those abouementioned. All of them drinke pure wine, which being boyled will last fifteene yeeres, howbeit they boyle not all their wine, but some they keepe vnboyled, and they yeerely make great quantity of boyled wine, which they vse to put in vessels, that are narrow at the bottome, and broad at the top. They haue euerie weeke a great market, where wine, oyle, and raisins are to bee sold. The people of this mountaine likewise are extreme poore and beggerly, as a man may coniecture by their apparell. They haue had continuall and ancient quarrels among themselues, which make them oftentimes fall together by the eares.

Wine that will last fifteene yeeres.

Of mount Beni Ieginesen.

THis mountaine bordereth vpon Beni Achmed, & stretcheth in length almost ten miles. And betweene it and mount Beni Achmed runneth a certaine small riuer. The inhabitants are too much addicted to drunkennes, by reason that their wines are so excellent. No fruits grow vpon this mountaine but onely great abundance of grapes. Goates they haue which liue continually in the woods, neither haue they any other flesh to eat but goates-flesh. I my selfe had great acquaintance with the inhabitants, by reason that my father had some possessions vpon the mountaine: but he hardly got any rents or money at their hands: for they are the woorst paymasters that euer I knew.

Of mount Beni Mesgald.



THis mountaine bordereth vpon the mountaine last mentioned, and vpon the riuer of Gurga. The inhabitants make great store of liquid sope, for they know not how to make hard sope. At the foote of this mountaine there is a large plaine possessed by certaine Arabians, who haue often combates with them of the mountaine. They pay yeerly to the K. of Fez an huge summe of mony, and it is a woonder to see with what new exactions they are daily burthened. In this mountaine are many Doctours of the Mahumetan lawe, and diuers inferior students: who put the inhabitants to great damage. Themselues forsooth will drinke wine, and yet they perswade the people that it is vnlawfull for them to drinke it, albeit some do giue them little credit. The inhabitants of this mountaine pay in respect of others no great tribute, and that perhaps, because they maintaine the foresaid Doctours and students.

Of mount Beni Guamud.

THis mountaine standeth so neere vnto the territorie of Fez, that they are diuided onely by a riuer. All the inhabitants make sope, out of which commoditie the king of Fez reapeth fixe thousand ducates of yeerely tribute. The villages of this mountaine are about fise and twentie in number. All the sides thereof bring foorth corne and cattell in great abundance, sauing that they are sometimes destitute of water. The inhabitants are verie rich and carrie all kinde of wares to Fez, where they gaine exceedingly by them. This mountaine yeeldeth nothing, but is commodious for mans vse. From Fez it is almost ten miles distant.

Of Garet, one of the seuen Prouinces of the Fessan kingdome.

HAuing described all the chiefe townes and mountaines of the prouince of Errife, it now remaineth that we say somewhat of Garet, which is the sixt Prouince of Fez. This Prouince beginneth westward from the riuer Melulo, and bordereth eastward vpon the riuer Muluia; southward it is enclosed with the mountaines next vnto the Numidian desert, and northward it extendeth to the Mediterran sea. The bredth of this region along the sea shore stretcheth from the riuer Nacor to the foresaide riuer of Muluia: the southern bredth is bounded with the riuer Melulo, & westward with the mountaines of Chauz. The length of this Prouince is fiftie, and the bredth fortie miles. The soyle is rough, vntilled, and barren, not much vnlike to the deserts of Numidia. The greater part hath bene destitute of inhabitants, especially euer since the Spaniards tooke two of the principall townes in all the Prouince, as we will in due place record.

Of the towne of Mellela in Garet.

His great and ancient towne built by the Africans vpon a certaine bay or hauen of the Mediterran sea, containeth almost two thousand families. It was in times past well stored with inhabitants, as being the head-citie of the whole prouince. It had a great iurisdiction or territorie belonging thereto, and collected great abundance of yron and honie, whereupon the towne it selfe was called Mellela, which word in their language signifieth honie. In the hauen of this towne they fish for pearles, and get great store of oysters wherein pearles doe breed. This towne was once subiect vnto the Goths, but fell afterward into the Mahumetans possession. The Goths being chased thence, fled ouer to Granada, which citie is almost an hundred miles distant, to wit, so farre as the bredth

of the sea is ouer. In my time the king of Spaine sent a great armie against this towne: before the arriuall whereof, the townesmen sent vnto the king of Fez for aide, who making warre as then against the people of Temesna, could send but small forces to succour them. Which the townesmen being aduertised of, and fearing least their small forces would prooue too weake for the Spanyards great armada, they tooke all the bag and baggage that they could carrie, and fled vnto the mountains of Buthoia. Howbeit the captaine of the Fessan soldiers, both to be reuenged vpon the townesmens cowardice, and also to leaue nothing for the Spanyards to inioy, burnt downe all the houses, temples, and buildings. This was done in the yeere of the Hegeira 896, which was in the yeere of our Lord 1487. But the Spanyards, for all they found the citie so wasted, would not depart thereupon, but first builde a strong castle, and afterward by little and little repaired the towne-walles, and by that meanes haue kept possession thereof euen till this day.

*Mellala enioyed
and reedified
by the Spaniards.*

Of the towne of Chasafa.

THis towne is from Mellala about twenty miles distant. It hath bene a famous towne and strongly walled, with a royall hauen belonging thereunto, which was yeerely frequented by Venetian ships. The townesmen haue alwaies had great traffique with the people of Fez, to the exceeding commoditie of them both. At length, while the king of Fez was seriously employed in the warres, Don *Ferdinando* king of Spaine came with great forces against it, and wan it very easily; for the inhabitants being aduertised of the Spanyards approach, betooke themselues wholly to flight.

*Chasafa taken
by the Spaniards.*

Of the towne of Tezzora.

IT standeth vpon an high gravelly hill almost fiftene miles from Chasafa, and hath but a narrow passage to ascend vp vnto it. Within the towne they haue no water but onely out of one cesterne. The founders hereof are reported to haue bene some of the familie of *Beni Marin*, before they attained vnto great dominions, and in this towne they laid vp their corne and other of their commodities. At that time were all the deserts of the region adiacent void of danger, for the Arabians were not as yet possessed of *Garet*: but after the familie of *Beni-Marin* began to flourish, they left this towne and all the region of *Garet* vnto their neighbours, and went to inhabit better prouinces. Howbeit in the meane season *Ioseph* the sonne of king *Iacob* of the *Marin*-familie (I know not vpon what occasion) in a manner vtterly destroyed *Tezzora*: but after the Christians were possessed of *Chasafa*, one of the king of Fez his captaines being a valiant man and borne in *Granada*, got licence of his prince to reedifie it againe. The inhabitants of this reedified towne are Moores, and are at continuall warre with the Christians of *Chasafa*.

Of the towne of Meggeo.

Iron-mines.

THis little towne standeth vpon the top of an exceeding high mountaine, being westward from Tezzota ten miles, & almost 6 miles southward of the Mediterran sea. Founded it was by the Africans, and is inhabited with people of a noble and liberall disposition. At the foote of this mountaine there are most fruitfull corne-fields. Likewise great store of iron is digged out of the mountaines adioining. The gouernment of this towne was committed vnto one of the blood-royall, namely of the familie of *Muachidin*, whose father was not very rich, but being a weauer, he taught his sonne the same occupation. Afterward the valiant yoong man being aduertised of the estate and nobilitie of his ancestors, left his loome, and went to serue the king at Bedis, where he continued an horseman for a certaine time: but because he was an excellent musitian, the king loued him most intirely for his skill in musick. A while after, the gouernour of Tezzota requiring the kings aide against the Christians, this woorthie yoong gentleman with three hundred horsemen was sent to succour him, who as he had valiantly behaued himselfe oftentimes before, so now also he appeered to be a most resolute commander. Howbeit the king regarded not his valour so much as his excellent skill in musicke: which the yoong gallant disdainig, went at length to Garet vnto certaine gentlemen of his acquaintance there, who ioining fiftie horsemen vnto him, appointed him gouernour of the castle of Meggeo: and afterward he was so wel beloued by all the inhabitants of the next mountaines, that each man according to his abilitie pleased and gratified him. At length the gouernour of Bedishauing assembled an armie of three hundred horsemen and a thousand footmen, went about to expell the foresaid yoong gouernour out of Meggeo; who presently with that small troupe which he had, so valiantly encountred his enemies, that he put them to flight, and so growing famous in regarde of his manifolde victories, the king of Fez bestowed very large reuenues vpon him (which he had giuen before-time vnto the gouernours of Bedis) to the ende he might wholly indeuour himselfe to expell the Spanyards out of that region. And of this noble gouernour the Moores learned great skill in warlike affaires. The king of Fez hath now doubled his yeerely allowance, so that at this present he hath two hundred horsemen at command, who are of greater force, then two thousand soldiers of any other captaines thereabout.

Of mount Echebdeuon.

THis mountaine extendeth from Chasasa eastward as farr as the riuer Muluia; and from the Mediterran sea southward it stretcheth vnto the desert of Garet. The inhabitants are exceeding rich and valiant; and the mountaine it selfe aboundeth with honie, barlie, and all kinde of cattel. Here

are likewise great store of pleasant and greene pastures. But since that Chafasa was taken by the Spanyards, the people of this mountaine seeing that for want of soldiers they were not able to withstande the violence of their enemies, abandoned their owne mountaine, burnt their houses, and fled vnto the mountaines next adioining.

Of mount Beni Sabid.

Westward this mountaine extendeth almost to the riuer Nacor, for the space of fower and twentie miles. The inhabitants are rich, valiant, and liberal, and entertaine all strangers with great courtesie and bountie. They haue abundance of iron and of barlie; and their pastures are very commodious, abounding with store of cattell; and yet in those pastures are their iron-mines, where they sometime lacke water; neither pay they any tribute at all. Their houses that dig the iron are not farre distant from the iron-mines. This iron the merchants sell at Fez in rude lumpes, because they vse not to frame it into barres, neither indeede haue they the cunning so to frame it. Also they make culters, spades, and such like tooles of husbandrie, and yet their iron hath no steele at all in it.

Of mount Azgangan.

This mountaine beginning southward from Chafasa is inhabited with most rich and valiant people: for besides the great plentie of all things in the mountaine it selfe, it hath the desert of Garet adioining vpon it. The inhabitants of which desert haue great familiaritie and traffique with the people of the said mountaine: howbeit this mountaine also hath remained void of inhabitants, cuer since the taking of Chafasa.

Of mount Beni Teuzin.

The south part of this mountaine bordereth vpon the mountaine last mentioned, the length whereof from the desert of Garet to the riuer Nacor is almost ten miles; and on the one side thereof lie most beautifull & pleasant plaines. The inhabitants are all free, paying no tribute at all, and that perhaps, because they haue more soldiers, then Tezzota, Meggeo, and Bedis can afford. Moreouer they are thought in times past so to haue assisted the gouernour of Meggeo, that by their aide he attained vnto that gouernment. They haue alwaies been great friends with the people of Fez, by reason of that ancient familiaritie which they had, before Fez was gouerned by a king. Afterward a certaine lawyer dwelling at Fez, who was borne in this mountaine, so represented vnto the king the said ancient familiaritie, that he obtained freedome for his cuntry-men. At length also they were greatly beloued by the Marin-familie, perhaps bicause the mother of *Abu-Sahid*

fabid the third ying of the saide familie was borne of noble parentage in the forefaide mountaine.

Of mount Guardan.

THe north part of this mountaine ioineth vnto the former; and it stretcheth in length toward the Mediterran sea twelue miles, and in bredth to the riuier of Nocor, almost eight miles. The inhabitants are valiant & rich. Euery saturday they haue a great market vpon the banke of a certaine riuier: and hither resort many people from the mountaines of Garet, and diuers merchants of Fez, who exchange iron and bridles for oile, for in these mountaines grow great plentie of oliues. They haue little or no wine at all, notwithstanding they are so neere vnto mount Arif, where the people caroufe wine in abundance. They were for a certaine time tributarie to the gouernour of Bedis, but afterward by the meanes of a learned Mahumetan preacher, the king granted them fauour, to pay each man so much tribute as themselues pleased. So that sending yeerely to the king some certaine sum of money, with certaine horses and slaues, they are put to no further charge.

Of the extreme part of the desert of Garet.

THe prouince of Garet is diuided into three parts: the first whereof containeth the cities and townes, the second the forefaide mountaines, (the inhabitants whereof are called Bottoia) and the thirde comprehendeth the deserts, which beginning northwarde at the Mediterran sea, and extending south to the desert of Chauz, are bounded westward with the forefaide mountaines, and eastward with the riuier of Mulua. The length of these deserts is 60. miles, and the bredth thirty. They are vnpleasant and dry, hauing no water but that of the riuier Mulua. There are many kinds of beasts in this desert, such as are in the Lybian desert next vnto Numidia. In sommer time many Arabians take vp their abode nere vnto the riuier Mulua; and so do another kinde of fierce people called Bata-lifa, who possesse great abundance of horses, camels, and other cattell, and maintaine continuall warre against the Arabians that border vpon them.

A description of Chauz, the seuenth prouince of the kingdome of Fez.

THis prouince is thought to comprehend the thirde part of the kingdome of Fez. It beginneth at the riuier Zha from the east, & extendeth westward to the riuier Gpuigara: so that the length thereof is an hundred fower score and tenne, and the bredth an hundred threescore and ten miles: for all that part of mount Atlas which lieth ouer against Mauritania, ioineth vpon the bredth of this region. Likewise it containeth

containeth a good part of the plaines and mountaines bordering vpon Lybia. At the same time when *Habdulach* the first king of the Marin-family began to beare rule ouer Mauritania and those other regions, his kinred began also to inhabite this region. This king left fower sonnes behinde him, whereof the first was called *Abubdar*, the second *Abuichia*, the third *Abusabid*, and the fourth *Iacob*: this *Iacob* was afterward chosen king, because he had vanquished *Muachidin* the king of Maroco, & had conquered the city of Maroco it selfe: the other three brethren died in their nonage: howbeit before *Iacob* had woon Maroco, the old king assigned vnto each of them three, one region a peece. The other three parts were diuided into seuen, which were distributed among the fower kinreds of the Marin-family, and two other tribes or families that were growen in great league with the same family: infomuch that this region was accounted for three regions. They which possessed the kingdome were ten in number, and the regions onely seuen. The foresaid king *Habdulach* was author of the saide partition, who left the region of Chauz after his decease in such estate, as we will foorthwith orderly describe.

Of the towne of Teurerto.

THis ancient towne was built vpon a mountaine by the Africans not farre from the riuer Zha. The fields hereof not being very large, but exceeding fruitfull, adioine vpon a certaine dry and barren desert. The north part of the same bordereth vpon the desert of Garet, and the south vpon the desert of Aduria: eastward thereof lieth the desert of Anghad, which is neere vnto the kingdome of * *Telensin*, and westward it is enclosed with the desert of Tastrata, which bordereth likewise vpon the towne of Tez-za. This Teurerto was in times past a most populous and rich towne, and contained about three thousand families: heere also are stately palaces, temples, and other such buildings to be seene. The towne wall is built of most excellent marble. Euer since the Marin-familie enioied the westerne kingdome of Fez, this towne was an occasion of great warres: for the Marin-family woulde haue it belong to the crowne of Fez: but the king of *Telensin* chalenged it as his owne.

* Or Tremiscu.

Of the towne of Haddagia.

THis towne was built by the Africans in manner of an Isle, for it is enuironed with the riuer Mululo, which not far from hence falleth into the riuer Muluia. It was in times past a most populous & flourishing towne: but after the Arabians became lords of the west, it fell by little and little to decay: for it bordereth vpon the desert of Dahra, which is inhabited with most lewde and mischieuous Arabians. At the same time when Teurerto was sacked, this towne was vtterly destroyed also, whereof nothing remaineth at this day but the towne wals onely.

of

Of the castle of Garfis.

IT standeth vpon a rocke by the riuier Muluia, fiftene miles distant from Teurerto. Here, as in a most impregnable place, the familie of Beni Marin laide their prouision of corne; when as they inhabited the deserts. Afterward it became subiect vnto *Abubenan* the fift king of the Marin-familie. It hath no great quantitie of arable or pasture ground belonging thereto: but it hath a most pleasant garden replenished with grapes, peaches, and figges, and enuironed on all sides with most thicke and shadie woods, so that it is a paradise in respect of other places thereabout. The inhabitants are rude and vnciuill people, neither do they ought, but keepe such corne as the Arabians commit vnto their custodie. If a man behold the castle a farre off, he woulde thinke it rather to be a cottage then a castle: for the wall being in many places ruined, maketh shew of great antiquitie, and the rooffe is couered with certaine blacke stones or slates.

Of the towne of Dubau.

THis ancient towne was built by the Africans vpon an exceeding high and impregnable mountaine, and is inhabited by certaine people of the familie of Zeneta. From the top of this mountaine diuers springs come running into the towne. From this towne the next plaines are distant almost fiuē miles, and yet they seeme to be but a mile and an halfe off; for the way is very crooked and winding. All the iurisdiction longing to this towne is onely vpon the toppe of the mountaine, for the plaine vnderneath is vnpleasant and barren; except certaine gardens on either side of a little riuier running by the foote of the hill: neither haue the townesmen corne growing vpon the same hill sufficient for their prouision, vnlesse they were supplied with great store of corne from Tezza: so that this towne was built for a fortresse onely by the family of Marin, what time they were dispossessed of the westernne kingdome. Afterward it was inhabited by a certaine family called Beni Guertaggen, who are lords of the saide towne euen till this day. But when the Marin-family were expelled out of the kingdome of Fez, the next Arabians endeuoured to winne the towne: howbeit by the aide of one *Mose Ibnu Chamu*, who was one of the saide family, the Arabians were so valiantly resisted, that they concluded a truce with the people of Marin: and so *Mose Ibnu* remained gouernour of the towne; after whose death his sonne *Acmed* succeeded him; who treading iust in his fathers vertuous steps, kept the saide towne in great tranquillitie euen till his dying day. After him succeeded one *Mahumer*, a man highly renowned for his noble valour and great skill in martiall affaires. This *Mahumer* had before time conquered many cities and castles vpon the foote of the mount Atlas, southward whereof bordereth the land of Numidia. But hauing gotten this

towne in possession, he beautified it exceedingly with store of faire houses and buildings: likewise he greatly altered and reformed the government of this town; and shewed such extraordinarie curtesie vnto all strangers, that he grew very famous. Moreouer the saide *Mahumet* consulted howe to get *Tezza* from the king of Fez, & offered great matters to the performance of his intent: and that he might the easlier attaine his purpose, he determined to go to the market of *Tezza* in a simple habite, and so to make an assault vpon the capraine of the town: for he hoped that a great part of the townesmen, whom he knew to be his friends, woulde assist him in that enterprise. Howbeit this practise was at length discovered vnto the king of Fez (which king was called *Saich*, and was the first of the family of *Quattas*, and father vnto the king that *now reigneth) who presently assembled an huge armie, * 1526. and marched of purpose against *Dubdu*, vnto to destroy it: and so coming vnto the foote of the mountaine he there encamped. The people of the mountaine hauing gathered an armie of sixe thousand men, hid themselves craftilie behinde the rockes, suffering their enemies to ascende by certaine difficult & streite passages, from whence they were sure they could hardly escape, & so at length they brake forth on the sodaine & encountered their said enemies being wearie of ascending; and because the way was very troublesome and narrow, the king of Fez his soldiers could not endure their assaults, but being constrained to giue backe, were moe then a thousand of them throwne downe headlong and slaine. In this skirmish were slaine in all to the number of three thousand Fessan soldiers: and yet the king not being dismaied with so great an ouerthrow, prepared forthwith a band of five hundred crossebowes, and three hundred Harquebuziers, and determined to make a newe assault vpon the town. But *Mahumet* seeing that he could no longer withstand the king, resolved to goe himselfe vnto him, that he might, if it were possible, obtaine peace, and to release his countrie from the furie of the enemy. Wherefore putting on the habit of an ambassadour, he went and deliuered a letter with his owne hand vnto the king. Which the king hauing perused, asked him what he thought concerning the gouernour of *Dubdu*? Mary I thinke (quoth *Mahumet*) he is not well in his wits, in that he goeth about to resist your Maiestie. Then said the king, if I had conquered him (as I hope to doe within these few daies) I would cause him to be dismembred and torne in peeces. But what if he should come hither (saith *Mahumet*) to submit himselfe; and to acknowledge his offence; might it then please the king to admit him into fauour? Then the king answered: I sweare vnto thee by this my head, that if he will come and acknowledge his fault in manner as thou hast said, I will not onely receiue him into fauour, but will espouse my daughters vnto his sonnes, and will bestowe most ample and princely dowries vpon them. But I am sure, being distraught of his wits (as thou hast said) that he will by no meanes come and submit himselfe. Then said *Mahumet*: he would soone come (I assure you) if it pleased the king to protest this for a certaintie vnto his nobles. I thinke (said the king) it hath bene

beene sufficiently protested and affirmed, sithence I haue bound it with a solemne oath in the presence of these fower; for heere stande my chiefe secretarie, the generall of my forces, my father in lawe, and the chiefe iudge and patriarke of Fez; the testimonie of which fower may well satisfie you. Whereupon *Mahumet* humble falling at the kings feete: lo heere the man (quoth he) that submissely acknowledgeth his fault, and craueth the kings gracious pardon. With that the king himselfe lifted him from the ground, embraced him, and saluted him with friendly speeches. Then caused he both his daughters to be called, which he bestowed vpon *Mahumets* sonnes: all which being done, he remooued his armie from that mountaine, and returned conquerour vnto Fez. This was done in the yeere of the Hegeira 904. which was in the yeere of our Lord 1495. And in the yeere of the Hegeira 921. I my selfe was at the citie of *Dubdu*, where I was most curteously entertained by the foresaid *Mahumet*, in regard of certaine letters of commendation which I brought from the king of Fez and his brother. Neither would he cease enquiring how all things passed at the king of Fez his court.

Of the citie of Teza or Tezza.

THis great, noble, and rich citie of *Tezza* was built by the Africans, siue miles from mount *Atlas*, being distant from *Fez* fiftie, from the Ocean an hundred and thirtie, and from the *Mediterran* sea seuen miles, and standing in the way from *Garet* to *Chafasan*. It contained in times past about siue thousand families: the buildings of the towne are not very stately, except noblemens palaces, colleges, and temples, which are somewhat beautifull. Out of *Atlas* springeth a little riuer which runneth through the chiefe temple of this citie: and sometimes it falleth out, that certaine people bordering vpon the citie, vpon some quarrell with the citizens will cut off this riuer from the citie, and turne the course thereof some other way, which breedeth great inconueniencies vnto the citizens: for then they can neither builde houses, nor get any water to drinke, but onely corrupt water which they take out of certaine cisterns, for which cause they are often constrained to make a league with those borderers. This citie both for wealth, ciuilitie, and abundance of people is the thirde citie of all the kingdome, and hath a greater temple then that at *Fez*: heere are likewise three colleges, with diuers bath-stoues, and a great number of hospitals. Each trade and occupation hath a seuerall place in this citie, like as they haue in *Fez*: the inhabitants are of a more valiant and liberall disposition, then they of *Fez*: heere are also great store of learned and rich men: and the fieldes adiacent are exceeding fruitfull. Without the citie wals are verie large plaines, and many pleasant streames, that serue to water their gardens which are replenished with all kinde of fruits: heere are abundance of vines also yeelding verie sweete grapes, whereof the *Iewes* (being siue hundreth families) make excellent wine, such as I thinke all *Africa* scarce affordeth better. In this
towne

towne standeth a faire castle, where the gouernour hath his abode. The king of Fez assigned the gouernment of this towne vnto his second sonne, being rather a meete place for the kings owne residence, in regard of the wholesome aire both in sommer and winter: heere were the nobles of the Marin-family woont to remaine all summer, both in respect of the holesomenes of the place, and also that they might defend those regions from the Arabians dwelling in the deserts: which Arabians resorted yeerely to Tezza, to the end they might there furnish themselues with victuals and other necessaries, and brought dates thither from Segelmese to exchange for corne: the citizens also receiued of the Arabians for corne great summes of money, whereupon all of them in a manner grow exceeding rich, neither are they annoied so much with any inconuenience, as with durtie streetes in winter. I my selfe was acquainted in this citie with a certaine aged sire, whom the townesmen adored as if he had bene a god: he was maruelous rich both in fruits, grounds, and other commodities, which the people bestowed vpon him in great abundance. The citizens of Fez vsed to come fiftie miles (for so farre is Fez distant) onely to visite the saide olde man. My selfe conceiued some great opinion of this aged sire: but after I had seene him, I could finde no such superexcellencie in him, saue onely that he deluded the fonde people with strange deuises. The iurisdiction of this citie is very large, containing diuers mountaines vnder it, as we will forthwith declare in order.

Of mount Margra.

THis mountaine is very high & difficult to ascend, both by reason of the vast deserts & the narrow passages, and it is distant from Teza almost siue miles: the top of this hill is most fruitefull grounde, and full of cleere fountaines: the inhabitants being burthened with no exactions, gather yeerely great store of corne, flaxe, and oile: they haue likewise abundance of cattell, and especially of goates: neither doe they any whit regard princes. Hauing vpon a day vanquished the king of Fez in battell, they carried a certaine captaine of Fez taken prisoner vnto the toppe of the hill, where in the kings owne presence they put him to a most cruell, and miserable death: whereupon the saide inhabitants haue bene at continuall discord with the people of Fez: they haue almost a thousand soldiers, and their mountaine containeth about fiftie villages and hamlets.

Of mount Gaata.

THis mountaine being as difficult to ascende as the former, standeth westward of Fez, almost fiftene miles: both the sides and top of this mountaine are very fruitefull for barley and flaxe: it is extended in length from east to west eight miles, and in bredth about siue miles: manie deserts here are, haunted with apes and leopards. The greater part of the

inhabitants are Linnen-weauers; people they are of a franke disposition, neither can they till the fields adioining to their mountaine, by reason of their continuall diffension with the king of Fez, vnto whom they will pay no tribute nor custome at all, perhaps because of the strong situation of their mountaine, & for that it aboundeth with all things necessarie for mans sustenance: so that albeit this mountaine were besieged ten yeeres together, yet could it by no meanes be woon; neither is it euer destitute of water, for thereupon are two huge fountaines, which running downe into the plaine, become the heads of two riuers.

Of mount Megefa.

THis mountaine also is somewhat difficult to ascend: it is rough and full of woods, and yeeldeth little come, but great plentie of oliues. The inhabitants being most part weauers (for their soile yeeldeth good store of flaxe) are in the warres right valiant both on foote and horsebacke. Their faces are white, and that perhaps for the coldnes of the mountaine: neither doe these pay any tribute at all. Here also the exiles of Fez and Teza haue safe aboad, and albeit they haue great store of gardens and vineyards, yet are they no wine-drinkers. Soldiers they haue to the number of seuen thousand, and almost fortie villages.

Of mount Baronis.

THis mountaine standeth fifteene miles northward of Teza. The inhabitants are rich and mighty, and possesse great store of horses: neither doe they pay any tribute at all. This hill aboundeth with plentie of come, fruits, and grapes, and yet they make no wine at all. Their women are white and fat, and adorne themselues with much siluer. In this place also they entertaine exiles, but if any of them offer to haue familiaritie with their wiues, they punish him most seuerely; for of all iniuries they cannot indure this.

Of the mountaine called Beni Guerrenage.

THis is an exceeding high and impregnable mountaine, both in regard of the ragged rocks, and of the vast desertes, being distant from Teza about thirtie miles. This mountaine affoordeth great store of come, flaxe, oliues, pome-citrons, and excellent quinces. They haue likewise all sorts of cattell in great abundance, except horses and oxen. The inhabitants are valiant and liberall, and as decently apparelled as any citizens. The villages and hamlets of this mountaine are about thirtie fiue, and the soldiers almost three thousand.

Of mount Gueblen.

THis high, cold, and large mountaine containeth in length about thirty, and in bredth about fifteene miles. Eastward it bordereth vpon the
mountaine

mountaine of Dubdu, and westward vpon mount Beni-Iazza, and it is distant from Teza almost fiftie miles southward. At all times of the yeere the top of this mountaine is couered with snowe. The inhabitants in times past were most rich and valiant people, and liued in great libertie: but afterward when they began to play the tyrants, the people of all the mountaines adioyning hauing gathered great forces, inuaded this mountaine, slew them euerie one, and so burned and wasted their townes and villages, that vnto this day it hath remained voide of inhabitants: except onely a few, which detesting the cruell tyrannie of their parents, conueied themselues and all their goods vnto the top of the mountaine, where they liued an abstinent and vertuous life; wherefore these were spared, and their posteritie remaineth in the mountaine till this present: they are all learned and of honest conuersation, and well esteemed of by the king of Fez: one of them in my time being a very learned and famous old man was vsed by the king of Fez, both about treaties of peace, and in other serious affaires: and in this man the king reposed all his confidence, as if he had beene some petie-god: for which cause all the courtiers had him in great detestation.

Of mount Beni Isseten.

THis mountaine is subiect vnto the gouernour of Dubdu, being inhabited with most base and beggerly people. Their houses are made of sea-rushes, and so likewise are their shooes made of such rushes when they trauel any iourney, whereby a man may coniecture the miserable estate of this people. The mountaine yeeldeth nought but panicke, whereof they make bread and other victuals: but at the foote thereof are certaine gardens replenished with grapes, dates, and peaches. Their peaches they cut into fower quarters, and casting away the nuts or stones, they drie them in the sunne, and keepe them an whole yeere, which they esteeme for great dainties. Vpon this mountaine are many iron-mines: and they frame their iron in manner of horse-shooes, which serueth them sometimes in stead of money, whereof they haue great want in this mountaine, vnlesse the smithes by their arte keepe this money in store: who, besides horse-shooes, make certaine daggers with blunt points. Their women weare iron-rings vpon their fingers and eares for a great brauerie, but they are more basely apparelled then the men, and remaine continually in the woods, both to keepe goates, and to gather fewell. They haue neither ciuilitie nor learning, but liue after a brutish manner without all discretion and humanitie.

Of mount Selelgo.

THis woodie mountaine is full of pine-trees and fountains. Their houses are not made of stone, but of sea-rushes, so that they may easily be remooued from place to place, which is very commodious to

the inhabitants, for euery spring they leaue the mountaine and descend into the vallies, from whence about the end of May they are expelled by the Arabians which inhabit the deserts: who by reason of their abundance of goates and other cattell, forsaking the said deserts, seeke vnto the fountaines and moist places: but in winter, because their camels are so impatient of cold, they resort vnto the woods, and warme regions. In this mountaine are great store of lions, leopards, and apes. And from the said mountaine runneth a certaine streame of water with such violence, that I haue seene a stone of an hundred pound waight carried with the force thereof: and here Subu taketh his beginning, which is the greatest riuer of all Mauritania.

*Lions, leopards,
and apes.*

Of mount Beni Isaga.

THe inhabitants of this mountaine are rich, and ciuill people: it standeth so neere the mountaine last mentioned, that they are onely separated with the foresaid riuer: and to the end they may the easilier passe from one mountaine to another, they haue made a certaine strange bridge in the midst, and that in manner following: on either side stand certaine postes, through the which runneth a rope vpon a truckle or pulley, vnto which rope is fastened a great basket, that will containe ten persons, and that in such sort, that so often as they will passe ouer to the opposite mountaine, they enter into the basket, and drawing the rope whereon it hangeth, they are easily carried aloft in the aire ouer the riuer by the helpe of the foresaid pulleyes, but sometimes with great hazard of their liues, especially if the basket or the rope be worne in any place: yea and the distance of place is often an occasion of great terrour. In this mountaine there is great store of cattel, but little wood. It aboundeth likewise with most excellent fine wooll, whereof their women make cloth comparable vnto silke, which is solde at Fez for a great price. Here also is great plentie of oile. The king of Fez is lord of this mountaine, the yeerely tribute whereof amounting wel nigh to eight thousand duckats, is paid to the gouernour of old Fez.

*A wonderful
bridge.*

Of mount Azgan.

THis mountaine bordring eastward vpon Selego, westward vpon mount Sofroi, southward vpon the mountaines by the riuer Maluia, and northward vpon the territorie of Fez, containeth in length fortie, and in bredth about fiftene miles. It is of an exceeding height, and so intolerably cold, that onely that side therof is habitable which looketh towards Fez. It aboundeth greatly with oliues and other fruites: and from thence also run great store of fountaines into the plaines and fields adiacent, which are most fruitfull for barlie, flaxe, and hempe. In my time there were abundance of mulberie-trees planted vpon this plaine, which beare white berries, and bring forth silke-wormes. The inhabitants in winter dwell in most base cortages.

Their