

SEMPER EADEM

IOHN
HVIGHEN VAN
LINSCHOTEN.
his Discours of Voyages
into of East & West
Indies.

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THE KING
OF COO

THE KING
OF LANG

Wilms Rogers
cuis Lond

Francis Inuitor
of sculptor.

I W

they are to draw, they binde the fat of packe
sack with a rope that he may feele the weight
thereof, and then the keeper speaketh unto
him: whereupon he taketh the corde with
his stout, and walketh it about his neck, and
thrusteth the end into his mouth, & so draweth
it hanging after him, whether they desire
to haue it. If it be to be put into a boate, then
they bring the boate close to the thozze of the
kepy, and the Elephānt putteth it into the
boate himselfe, and with his stout gathereth
flances together, which he laith vnder the fat
pipe, or packe, & with his teeth stretcheth & thrusteth
the packe of itselfe, so that it is fast or
not. It will draw any great thozze or other
ran load, as metall all being made fast vnto it,
he is neuer to beane, they draw fishes, small
Galles, and other great boats, as Caruels,
and such like, as easily out of the water vpon
the land, as if no man were in them: so that
they serue their turnes there. euen as our
ships or carts with boxes doe here to carrie
our wares and marchandises, their meates
eise and water, they deserpe like lime, oren,
hoses, and all foure footed bestes, and bow
their lines and all their members as other
bestes doe. In winter when it begetteth to
raue, then they are vniquer, and altogether
mad, so that their keepers cannot rule them,
and then they are let loose whether out of the
toluue to a great tree, and there tyed vnto
it by the legs with a great iron chaine, where
they carv him in, and to be lieth in the
open aere, as long as he is mad, which is from
April to September, all the winter time
when it raieth, and then he cometh to land
selfe, and begetteth to beane againe as be-
fore, that a man may see vnder his belley, so you
see him no hurt: but he that hurteth him, he
must take heed, for they neuer forget when
any man doth them iniurie, vntill they be re-
uenged. Their teeth which is the Iuoy, bone,
is much used in India, specially in Cambau,
wherof they make many curious pieces of
lookmanship, the women weare manillas,
or some bracelets thereof, ten or twelue about
each arme, whereby it is there much worn,
and are in great numbers brought out of A-
ethiopia, Molandique and other places. In
the Island of Seilon and Pegu, they fight
most vpon Elephānts, and bind woodden
spikes vpon their teath, they haue likewise
woodden Castles vpon their backs, wherem
are five or six men that are with bows,
or peeces, and all cut out wildfire. They do
no other hurt but onely serue to put the
enemie out of order, and to scatter them out
of their ranks, but if any one of them once
tweareth his backe, then they all begin to
raue on their owne people, and put them
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all out of order. They are very fearefull of
a rat or a moule, and also of the Panther,
because they feare they would creepe into their
flouts. They are likewise afrade of ginning
thoz and of fire, wile they are by length of time
they are vnto them. When they haue the com-
panie one of the other, the male Elephānt
standeth vpon the higher ground, and the fe-
male somewhat lower. As they goe along
the way, although you fee them not, you may
heare them a farre off by the noyse of their
feet and clapping of their eares, which they
continually doe. They are as noist in going
as most of a horse, and are very proud, and
ofious of honour. When there is any great
feast or holday kept in Goa, with solenne
procession, commonly the Elephānts goe with
them, the yong before, and the old behind, and
are all painted vpon their bodies with the
Armes and Crowns of Portugall, & haue
euery one one of six trumpeters or players
vnder the Souldiers, sitting vpon them that
sound very pleasantly, wherewith they are as
well pleased, and goe with as great grauitie,
and in as good order as if they were men. It
happes in Goa, that an Elephānt shuld draw
a great full out of the water into the land,
which full was so great and heaue, that hee
could not do it alone, so that they must haue
another to help him: whereupon the keeper
cried him, vntill many hard wordes, saying,
that he was idle and weak, and that it would
be an euersailing shame for him, that they
must fetch another to help him, wherewith
the Elephānt was so desperate, that he thrust
away his fellow, which was brought to help
him, and beg in himselfe againe to draw, with
so great a force, more then hee was well able
to doe, that with extreme labour hee burst
and fell downe flake dead in the place. At
such time as I was to make my voyage frō
Cochin to Portugall, the Rudder of our
ship was out of order, so that it must of
force be brought on land to make it fit againe,
and so it was drawn to the river side at the
fermo of the land, which the Elephānt shuld draw
on land vpon two bestes, that it might
stand, and because it was heaue, (as the Rudder
of a ship of 1400. or 1600. tonnes requir-
eth) as also that the Elephānt was as yet
but yong, and not growne to his full strength,
so that hee could not draw it out alone, yet he
did the best hee could: but seeing hee could not
do it, he fell on his fore legges, and began to
creepe and weape, that the teares ran out of
his eyes, and because many of vs stood vpon
the thoz to behold this sight, the keeper began
to chide him, and with hard wordes to curse
him, because hee thamed him thus in presence of
many

many men, not to be able to draw vs such
a thing, but what strength or labour suer the
Elephānt used hee could not doe it alone, but
when they brought another Elephānt to help
him, they both together drew it halfe out of
the water, so that it lay partly vpon the
bestes. The first Elephānt, perceiving that
with his head and teath thrust the other Ele-
phānt away, and would haue no more helpe,
but drew it out himselfe: wherby it may be
considered, that they are in understanding,
and desire of commendation like vnto men.
They are likewise very thankfull and
mindfull of any good done vnto them. When
my ventres day cometh, their keepers vnder
of common custome to giue new peeces gifts of
the Cicerros, the Archbishops, and other Gou-
ernours and Gentlemen, and then the Ele-
phānts come to the base and bow their heads
downe, and when any thing is giuen, they
luncke at their lunces with great loudness,
and thankfulness: for the good bestes do
vnto their keepers, which they thinke to be
done vnto themselves. They bee as they
saie by such bestes, to bow their heads at the
bestes, as also when they passe by the Church
doores, and by Crosses, which their Masters
teach them. They haue a custome that they
goe often into the market where herbes are
sold, as Kibballs, Lettice, Colwortes, and such
like stult, and those that are liberall to the
Elephānt, doe vnto thoz some thing before
him. Among the rest there was one Heath-
en which alwaies used to thoz some thing
of other wares before the Elephānt, so that
the time came on that the Elephānt groweth
mad, as I said before, they vnto to goe with
them thize or foure dayes or a weeke about
the streets before they burne them, (seeing
as they set halfe mind to aft something of
my body for the feasting of the mad Elephānt
at the winter time. And going thus about
the streets, the maker is not able to rule him,
so hee cometh about with his head downe-
wards, and by his roaring greeue the people
warning to be beware, and when hee smiteth
or smeth no man, hee leapech and ouerthroweth
whatsoeuer he meeteth withall, whereby he
maketh great spoyle and pastime, much like
to the baiting of Wrenn in Spaine, which ne-
uer ceaseth, vntil one, two, or moze of them
be slaine, the like rule is kept vnto the mad
Elephānt in India. It chanced in this run-
ning about, that the Elephānt ran through
the streets, and in haste at vntwaires came
into the market, shouling downe all that was
in his way, wherat euery man was abash-
ed, and leanting their wares, came to see them-
selves from being ouer run by the Elephānt,
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and by means of the noyse and peale of peo-
ple, they fell one another, as in such ca-
ses is commonly seene. Among them was
the woman, that alwaies used to giue the
Elephānt some thing to eat, which had a lit-
tle child in the market long by her in a bak-
ket, and by the haste rising vp and thozing
of the people, the woman ran into a house, not
hauing time to snatch by her Child, and take
it with her, and when the Elephānt was a-
lone in the market place, where hee roared by
and downe, ouerthrowing all things that
were before him, hee came by the child
as I said last fall in the market, and as euery
man looked, specially the mother, which cried
out, I verily thought that the Elephānt had
eaten it, and call it on his thoubler and spoiled
it as hee doo all other things. Yet on the con-
trarie notwithstanding all his noyse, hee
ing mindfull of the good will and liberallitie
of the childes mother hauly vnto him, toke
by the child hand softly and tenderly with his
stout and lapeth it fast vpon a stall by a shop
side, which done, hee began againe to vie the
same order of stamping, crying, and clapping
as hee had done at the first, to the great won-
dering of all that beheld it, specially to the eare
and top of the mother, that had reconered
her child found and well againe. These and
such like examples do often happen in India,
which would be too long to rehearse, and there-
fore I thought good onely to tell these or
foure before your eyes, as things worthy me-
morie, thereby to teach vs to be mindfull of
all good deeds done vnto vs, and with thank-
fulness to requite them, considering that these
dumbe bestes doe thus, vs as if we were in a
glasse, that wee should doe so as they doe,
not onely when they haue therefore and vnder-
standing, but (which is more to be wonderd
at) when they are out of their wits a sturke
mad: whereas men many times hauing all
their understanding, and their fine wits ruled,
doe call the benefitt, which they haue receiued
beyond their backs, yet, and at this
day doe reuward all good deeds
with thankfulness,
God amend it.

The 47. Chapter.

Of the Abadas or Rhinoceros.



The Abada or Rhinoceros is not in India, but onely in Bengala, and Patane. They are lesse and lower than the Elephant. It hath a short horne upon the nose, in the upper part sheweth big, & toward the end it tapers, of a yellowe blew, and whitish colour: it hath a front like a hogge, and the skin upon the upper part of his body is all bristlye, as if it were armed with shewles as Taraget. It is a great enemye of the Elephant. Some thinke it is the right Antelope, because that as yett there hath no other be found, but only by hearinge, and by the pictures of them. The Portugales and those of Bengala affirme, that by the River Ganges in the Kingdome of Bengala, are many of these Rhinoceros, which when they will hunke, the other beastes stand and waite upon them, till the Rhinoceros hath hunke, & then they hurie into the water, for hee cannot drink but his horne must be under the water, because it standeth so close unto his nose, and muzzle: and then after him all the other beastes doe drinke. Their homes in India are much esteemed and used against all venime, popson, and many other diseases: like unto his teeth, claws, flesh, skin and blood, and his very dung and water and all whatsoever is about him, is much esteemed in India, and used for the curing of many diseases and sicknesses, which is very good and most true, as I myselfe by experience have found, but it is to be understood, that all Rhinoceros are not a like good, for there are some whose homes are sold for one, two, or three hundred Barabales the pece, and there are others of the same colour and greates that are sold but for three or four Barabales, which the Indians know and can discern. The cause is that some Rhinoceroses, which are found in certaine places in the countree of Bengala have this vertue, by reason of the herbes which that place only beareth and bringeth forth, which in other places is not so, and this estimation is not onely of the horne, but of all other things in his whole body, as I saide before. There are also by Malacca, Siam, and Bengala some goates that are wild, whose homes are esteemed for the best homes against popson, and all venime that may be found: they are called Carbas de Mato, y is, wilde Goates. The best homecare of great ac-

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count in India, and much esteemed, and are sometimes by experience found to be verie good, whereof I myselfe am a good witness, having written the same. In the yeare 1581. as King Philip was at Lisbon, there was a Rhinoceros and an Elephant brought him out of India for a present, and he caused them both to be led with him unto Madrid, where the Spanish Court is holden. This hath sufficed as touching beastes and birdes in those countrees. Although there are many others which are not so well knowne: therefore I have here set downe none but such as are usually found there in the land, and well known by every man in the countree.

The 48. Chapter.

Of the Fishes and other beastes in the Seas of India.



Fish in India is verie plentiful, and some very pleasant and sweete. The best fish is called Mordexin, Pampano, and Tattingo. There is a fish called Pixee Serra, which is cut in round peeces as we cut Salmon, and sale it. It is very good, and will endure long to carrie over sea in ships for victuals. Spott of their fish is eaten with rice, that they seth in broth which they put upon the rice, and is saime what lotze, as if it were sodden in good berries, or wringe grapes but it is rather well, and is called Carril, which is their best meat, the rice is in steed of bread: there are also good Sables, Scotes, and other fishes of fishes. The Garmon is the best & greatest that ever I saw any, for that hath a dore of them a man may make a good meale. The Crabbe and Crustacee are verie good and marvellous great, that it is a wonder to tell, and that which is more wonderful, when the moon is in the full, here is to be seen a common saying, that then Crabbes, and crustacee are at the best, but there it is cleare contrarye: with a full moon they are emptye and out of season, and with a new moon good and full. There are also Spunkles and fish like shellfishes of many sorts, others very many, specially at Cochim, & from thence to the cape de Comorin. Fish in India is very good cheape, for y with the tale of a fishers of their money, a man may buy as much fish and rice to it, as will serve five or six men for a good meale, after the Spanish manner, which is very good cheape, in respect

of

of their victuals in Spaine and Portingall.

There is in the rivers and also in the Sea along the coast of India, great trapes of fishes, which the Portugalls call Tubaron, or Hawen. This fish hath great miltchee, and bestridde many men that fish for pearles, and therefore they are not swimme in the rivers for feare of these fishes, but see Vie to bath themselves in reference, made for the same purpose, as I said before. As our ship lay in the River of Cochim, came to barge that as we were to hang on our rutter, which as then was mended, the master of the ship, with 400. saylers, went with the Boat to put it out, and another Sailer beinge made fit with a corde about his middle, and tied to the Ship, hung downe with halfe his body into the water to place the same upon the boltes, and while hee hung in the water, there came one of these Hawens, and bit one of his legs, to the middle of his thigh, and cleave off at a bit, notwithstanding that the Spakler brake at him with an oare, and as the poore man was putting ashore hee came to feele his wound, the same fish at the same time too: another bit downe off his hand and arme above the elbow, and also a pece of his buttocke.

The Master and all the Sayers in the Boate not being able to help him, although they both strooke and sang at it with staves and oares, and in that miserable case the poore man was carried into the Hospital, where we left him with small hope of life, and how he speed after that, God knoweth, for the next day we set saile and put to Sea. These and such like chances happen daily by these fishes in India, as well in the sea, as in the Rivers, specially among the Fishers of Pearles, whereof many loose their lives.

In the River of Goa in winter time when the month of the River was there up, as commonly at that time it is, the fishermen tooke a fish of a most wonderful and strange forme, such as I thinke has never bene seen in India, or in any other place, which had the strangest figure of wate pastured to my Lord the Archbishop, the picture whereof by his commandment was painted, and for a wonder sent to the King of Spaine.

It was in bigges as great as a middle sized Dogge with a front like a hogge, small eyes, no eares, but two holes where his eares should bee, it had four feet like an Elephant, the tayle beginning somewhat upon the backe of his head, and then flatte, and at the very end round and somewhat sharpe. It came a

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a long the ball upon the nose, and in everye place of the body fastening like a hogge. The whole body, head, taile, 4 legs beinge covered with scales of a thicke blacke, harder than Iron, or Steele: The heare and hair upon the body with weapons, as if men should beate upon an Iron, and when wee strake upon him hee smelt himselfe in a heape, head and feete altogether, so that hee lay like a round ball, wee not beinge able to misse where hee closed himselfe together, neither could wee with any instrument or strength of hands open him againe, but letting him alone and not touching him, hee opened himselfe and came away as I saide before.

And because I am now in hand with fishes of India, I will here declare a short and true discourse of a fish, although to some it may seeme incredible, but it is indeede painted in the Hieroglyphes of allude in India, and was first downe by true and credible witnesses that it was so, and therefore I thinke there for memorie of a wonderful thing, to gether with the names and particulars of the say, Captaine say, when it was seen, and as yet there are many men living at this day, that were in the same shippe and adventure, for that it is not long since, and it was thus. That a ship sailing from Molambique into India, and they havinge faire weather, a good favourable wind, as much as the sayples might beare before the wind for the space of fourteen dayes together, directing their course towards the Equinoctiall line, every day as they took the height of the Sunne, in steed of diminishing or lessening their degrees, according to the Custom and course they had and held, they found them selves still continue, and every day further backwardes then they were, to the great admiration and wondering of them all, and contrarye to all reason and mans understanding, so that they did not only wonder thereat, but were much slought beinge themselves perswaded that they were bewitched, for they knew very well by experience, that the decrease of course of the water in those countrees was not due to them backe, nor withholde them contrarye to all Art of Navigation, whereupon they were all in great perplexitie and feare, it beinge light and beholding each other, not concluding the cause thereof.

At last the chief Westeron who they call the makers mate, looking by chance overboard towards the backe of the ship, he espied a good broad taile of a fish that had wounded it selfe as it were about the beakes head the body thereof beinge under the keeke,

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