

1634 – Herbert, A relation of some years travaile

Thomas Herbert, 1606-1682

He was gentleman of the bedchamber to King Charles I from 1647. In his earlier years he went in connection with an embassy to Persia.

1634 A relation of some yeares travaile: begunne anno 1626. Into Afrique and the greater Asia, especially the territories of the Persian monarchie: and some parts of the orientall Indies, and iles adiacent. Of their religion, language, habit, descent, ceremonies, and other matters concerning them. Together with the proceedings and death of the three late ambassadours: Sir D.C., Sir R.S. and the Persian Nogdi-Beg: as also the two great monarchs, the King of Persia, and the Great Mogol. London: printed by William Stansby and Iacob Bloome, pp. i-xii, 1-225, i-xv; folio.

The illustrations for this volume were prepared by William Marshall (fl. 1617-1650). On p.58 there is a illustration showing 'Ruines of Persaepolis', with an entrance gate guarded by an elephant (left) and a rhinoceros (right). The statues are quite small, and the rhinoceros probably exhibited just one horn on the nose. There is no text about these animals.