

A TRUE and IMPARTIAL
JOURNAL
OF A
VOYAGE
TO THE
SOUTH-SEAS,
AND

~~ROUND the GLOBE,~~
In His Majesty's Ship the *Centurion*,
~~Under the Command of~~
Commodore *George Anson*.

WHEREIN

All the material Incidents during the said Voyage, from its Commencement in the Year 1740 to its Conclusion in 1744, are fully and faithfully related, having been committed to Paper at the Time they happen'd. Together with some historical Accounts of *Chili*, *Peru*, *Mexico*, and the Empire of *China*; exact Descriptions of such Places of Note as were touch'd at; and Variety of occasional Remarks.

To which is add'd,

A large and general Table of Longitudes and Latitudes, ascertain'd from accurate Observations, or (where those are wanting) from the best printed Books and Manuscripts taken from the *Spaniards* in this Expedition: Also the Variations of the Compass thro'gout the Voyage, and the Soundings and Depths of Water along the different Coasts: And lastly, several curious Observations on a Comet seen in the *South-Seas* on the Coast of *Mexico*.

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Teacher of the Mathematicks on board the CENTURION.

LONDON,

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which they would give almost any thing. There grows a Tree also, called by the *Europeans* Stink-wood, from the nauseous Scent it gives at the first cutting and hewing of it.

The *Dutch* have also introduced several exotick or Foreign Trees and Plants from *Asia*, *Europe* and *America*; and particularly the Fir-tree, which was first brought to the Cape about the Year 1690, and planted in the Company's Garden, being then about three Foot high, and now they are forty.

Three or four Sorts of Almond-trees also have been brought hither, which bear Fruit once in three Years; and, as they have large Plantations of them, yield the *Dutch* a considerable Profit.

The Ananas, or Pine-apple, a most delicious Fruit also, is planted in their Gardens. We see also in their Kitchen Gardens red and white Beets, Cabbages and Colliflowers: And here are four Sorts of Camphire-trees, the best whereof were transplanted from *Borneo*, the other three from *Sumatra*, *China* and *Japan*, and soon grow to the Bigness of a Walnut-tree, the Leaves of a Grass green, and, being rubbed between the Fingers, smell strong of Camphire.

The Animals that are found in this Part of *Africa* are, the Lion, Tyger, Elephant, Rhinoceros, wild Dogs, Wolves, Buffaloes, Elk, the fine wild As, Goats, Hogs, Porcupines, Monkeys and Horses.

The Rhinoceros is something less than the Elephant, but of equal, if not greater, Strength; at least, the Elephant runs away and avoids him, whenever he discovers him: His Skin resembles that of the Elephant, being without Hair, of a dark Ash Colour, inclining to black, and so hard that scarce any Weapon will pierce it; but he is not armed with Scales, as our Painters frequently represent

represent him ; tho' the Scars or Scratches he gets by forcing his Way through the thick Woods, look something like Scales at a Distance : He has a Snout like a Hog, upon which there grows a solid Horn, of a dark grey Colour, that turns upwards a little, being from a Foot to two Foot in Length : With this, when he is enraged, he rends up the Earth, and tosses it over his Head, as he does the Stones that lie in his Way, throwing them to a great Distance behind him ; on his Forehead he has another Convex Horn, almost of the Shape and Size of a Hat-crown ; he has the Sense of smelling very quick, and when he has the Scent of his Prey in the Wind, forces his Way to it in a direct Line, thro' the thickest Woods, tearing up every Thing that obstructs his Passage, grunting as he goes like a Hog ; but is discovered the soonest by his throwing about the Stones, and breaking his Way through the Thickets. He seldom falls upon a Man, unless he has a red Coat on, and then he attacks him with all his Fury, flinging him over his Head with such Force, that he is killed, or rendered insensible by the Fall ; and then, with his rough prickly Tongue licks the Flesh off his Bones ; his Eyes are small, and he looks only right forward, not easily turning his Neck ; and though he is pretty swift of Foot, a Traveller, by a sudden Turn, may avoid him ; for then he loses Sight of the Man : The Rhinoceros does not feed much on Grass, but delights more in Broom, Shrubs or Thistles. The Flesh of this Beast is frequently eaten ; and his Horn, his Skin, and his Blood are used in Medicine. The Horn will not endure the Touch of Poison : They make Cups of it at the Cape, tipped with Gold and Silver ; and if Wine be poured into one of them, it will immediately rise and bubble up, as if it boiled ;
and

and if there be Poison in it, the Cup will split : If Poison be put into one of these Cups alone, it immediately flies in Pieces. They carefully preserve the very Chippings of the Horn, being esteemed a great Remedy in Convulsions, fainting Fits, and other Diseases : The Blood also is dried and preserved by their Physicians, being of great Service in Obstructions.

Wolves are of two Sorts at the Cape ; the one like to the *European* Wolf, and the other called the Tyger-Wolf, supposed to be begot between a Tyger and a Wolf.

There are great Numbers of Buffaloes in the *Hottentot* Countries, larger than the Buffaloes of *Europe*, being of a brownish red, and having short Horns that turn inwards, and almost meet : Their Hides are so hard and tough, that a Musket Ball will scarce enter them. If a Gun be let off at a Buffaloe, he will run with the utmost Rage at the Man that fires it ; neither Fire nor Water will stop him. The Flesh of a Buffaloe is not so tender as that of an Ox.

The Elk is about five Foot in Height ; has a fine slender Neck, and a beautiful Head, not much unlike that of a Deer : His Horns are about a Foot long, rough and twisted towards the lower Part, but smooth and pointed at the Ends : The Hair of his Body is smooth and soft, and of an Ash Colour ; his Legs long and slender, and his Tail about a Foot long. His Flesh is good either roasted or boiled, and much like tender Beef ; he frequents the Mountains, and will climb the steepest Rocks with great Celerity, but sometimes comes down into the Valleys, and does considerable Mischief to the Gardens of the *Europeans*, who thereupon set Traps for the Beast, or shoot him.

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